The team's guidelines were simple — outlined by Guy's coined "L.K. 10 Principle" — his biblical method of outreach to remote, uncharted areas.

In Luke 10, "Jesus sends his followers out to the harvest fields," Guy explained. "First, he reminds them that he is sending them out as lambs among the wolves.

"Then, Jesus gives specific instructions for engagement: Don't take much with you; when you enter a home, give it your blessing; when you enter a town, don't move around — find the man of peace and stay there; don't hesitate to accept hospitality; if a town welcomes you, eat what is offered and pray for the sick; if a town refuses you, wipe the dust off and move on; tell them 'the Kingdom of God is near you now.'"

More than once, the team saw the Gospel in action, most memorably one day as they sat in the dirt in the middle of a village, trying to communicate with the oldest man in the village.

— See Tennessee, page 4
Tennesseans share Gospel in Benin

Baptist Press

ADJOHOUN, Benin — More than 250 people of Benin’s Wome people group accepted Christ when Southern Baptist volunteers conducted eye and dental clinics in eight villages.

Medical outreach plays a key role in the strategy missionaries Bob and Becky Couts are using to share the good news of salvation in Jesus with the Wome. Bob Couts is a native of Springfield.

The clinics provide inroads for the Gospel by showing compassion and meeting physical needs in Jesus’ name, said Becky Couts. After being treated, each patient hears a personal witness and has the opportunity to accept Christ.

“This often gives us credibility and receptive hearts in the community,” Couts said.

Jim Butzer, an ophthalmologist from Virginia, and John Williams, a dentist in Geeteville, provided volunteer optical and dental services.

Alabama judge displays Ten Commandments

Baptist Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — A monument with the Ten Commandments has been placed in the Alabama Supreme Court’s rotunda at the order of Chief Justice Roy Moore, who was elected to the position last November.

Moore as chief justice has declared to be the United States of America, our forefathers recognized the sovereignty of God.”

Moore, a Baptist layman who came into the national spotlight for fighting to display the Ten Commandments in a Montgomery courthouse, also said in his remarks to several dozen people, “When I ran for the office of chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, I made a pledge to restore the moral foundation of law. May this day mark the beginning of the restoration of the moral foundation of law to our people and a return to the knowledge of God in our land.”

A new study with the American Civil Liberties Union, Joel Sokol, said his group is exploring possible legal action and believes that “courts should enforce secular law and not God’s law.”

Canada legalizes medical marijuana

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The Canadian government has made it legal for terminally ill patients and those with chronic conditions to use marijuana to relieve their symptoms, making Canada’s neighbor to the north the first country to allow marijuana use for certain medical conditions.

For more information on classes, contact Bruce Tin, coordinator of the West Coast Baptist Bible College (863) 552-5555 or call the campus at (863) 573-8321.

ALSO

HCA Bible center offers fall classes

Baptist and Reflector

SEYMOUR — The Bible Training Center of Harris Childress, Baptist Academy, will offer two classes this fall.

The first class, “Genesis, Genesis, the Bible,” will be taught in the basement and begin Oct. 20.

Classes meet for eight sessions on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m.-noon in classrooms of The King’s Academy on the HCAT campus.

Situation of the Covered Dish

By Tom Ta
World Changers impact Tennessee...

State has second highest number of SBC messengers

NASHVILLE — Tennessee provided the second highest number of messengers to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention held in June in New Orleans, La., according to statistics provided by Lee Porter, SBC registration secretary from Lawrenceville, Ga.

The final messenger count for the SBC annual meeting was 9,584 from 3,926 churches. There are more than 41,000 Southern Baptist churches in the nation.

The 2001 attendance was the lowest for an annual meeting held in the center of the country or what generally is considered Baptist territory since 1949 when 9,393 messengers attended the annual sessions of Oklahoma City, said Porter. In 1949, former Tennessee Baptist pastor at Bell Road Baptist Church, Nashville, served as the project coordinator. This was the third year for Nashville to participate in World Changers.

In Memphis
Around 310 World Changers from 17 churches worked on 13 construction projects in Memphis. Students worked on 13 construction sites, located near the McLean and Liberty Bowl areas of Memphis. Students also worked on 24 ministry sites doing BYBCs, church survey work, adult VBS, car washes, painting a mural on the back of the Overton Park Band Shell, teaching art classes, relating to Alzheimer’s adult day care patients, and other ministries. The students who ranged from middle school to college age were lodged at Colonial Baptist Church, Central Baptist Church, and White Station Baptist Church. Serving as the project coordinator was the third year for Nashville to participate in World Changers.

In Chattanooga
Around 36 World Changers from 17 churches worked in the Chattanooga area on 18 community ministry sites and 17 construction sites. The majority of the construction sites were in downtown Chattanooga in the North Orchard Knob area with two sites located in Ringgold, Ga.

Students from middle school and senior high worked together in recreation at adult day care centers, VBS at childcare centers, repairing and cleaning facilities at the Community Kitchen, BYBCs at the Salvation Army Pearsall recreation at a Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes campus, day camps, and nursing homes. The students were based at Ooltewah Baptist Church, Ooltewah.

SARAH SHRUM paints a home during a World Changers work project in Memphis. (Photo by Marcy Knox)

The commercial appeal in Memphis reported July 25 that Bruce Kramer, general counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee said, “I believe to a reasonably objective person that it is a religious mural of a particular religious doctrine and is not secular. I believe it would run afoul of the separation of church and state. There is an incredible amount of religious symbolism in that mural.”

A representative for the Save Our Shell group, which financially oversees the building, agreed to let the World Changers paint the mural, but were not told of its religious content, the paper reported.

The volunteers from the Shell Group painted over the mural.

Volunteers from the Shell Group painted over the mural.
Tennessee trekkers reach the unreached...

-Continued from page 7

"After all," Guy said with a hint of a smile - a new light coming to his eyes. "We took heads. A respectful hush comes, as onlookers grow silent to hear the feeble voice, which strengthens with his smile. "I was 24 when I took a head," he said. "It was an argument over land. I caught him from behind."

With another fierce grin, the old man dragged an imaginary blade across his throat. No more explanations would suffice.

Kneeling on the ground beside him, Guy scratched a cross in the dirt and asked the gathered crowd of villagers if anyone had ever heard the name of Jesus. Responses were negative until the old man spoke again.

"I don't love you very much, for giving you another opportunity to hear about Jesus," Guy said, as he once again drew with his stick, etching into the red clay earth pictures and words explaining the promise of God's redemption.

Sowing seeds

The reality that they were, indeed, carrying the Gospel to frontiers without a road sunk in with the group of trekkers. Despite the hardship of extreme mountain hiking, exposure to elements, and sometimes fierce opposition from local authorities, the trekkers could only rejoice at what they knew was God's Word reaching the ends of the earth.

That's what pioneer mission work is all about, Guy reminded them again and again. "Regardless of how hard it is, the progress we make - the doors that are knocked on and the seeds that are sown - makes it a little easier for the next group."

"It's like the passage in Isaiah where the Word of God is a hammer against a rock," he added. "It will wear down and break through barriers to take hold."

Opportunities to share the Gospel "are around us every day at home (in the United States)," he noted. "When we reach deeper, we find there's a work of God among the pagan that never before has been done, and it makes a little easier for the next group."

"It's the same in the mission field," Guy said. "The Word must be sown and cultivated so that it will grow."

IN A mountain village, Tennessee Baptist hikers showed the Gospel film on a small, portable DVD player.

where the largest concentration of lost people live.

"The Gospel that we've been given is not a complex thing," he said. "You can take a stick and scratch in the dirt and make men who have never heard understand that they need God to be blessed in their lives. You don't have to be a biblical scholar to do that. We've learned that this week."

Life-changing trip

Standing on a peak overlooking a valley dotted with lush rice fields, Josh, 21, a student and member of Forest Hill Baptist Church in Maryville, said he knew his life would never be the same as a result of the trek.

"Seeing how these people live, it makes me feel so wasteful," he said. "I live in a nice house and drive a good car - I live the good life. (These people) lives in huts and they work to the bone just to get through the day. I don't know why God has given me what he has.

"I'll never be the same after this trip. This impacts for a lifetime. Sometimes, I wish people could feel in their hearts what I do. We're here to worship God that is what missions is to me. That is what I want to do with my life."

Trapped by tradition

Life for this particular unreached people group is anything but comfortable. For centuries, the animistic mountain-dwellers took the heads of their enemies to appease their gods and to ensure a good crop.

Guy said: "The promise of God's redemption means that we've been given is not a complex thing, but a simple, down-to-earth example of Jesus' teaching our life."

"This was a very difficult trip," Alan readily admits. "But God provided for our need. When we were out of water and struggling to make a hill, not knowing if it was a stream on the other side, I knew God sustained us."

And more memorable than the scenery and sweat was the fact that few will be impacted for eternity because we came. God gave his example, and we follow that.
Use wise judgment outside this summer

Editorial/opinion

w can you, as a parent, your teen avoid negative pressure? How can you in
Christian values that will them into adulthood, as serve them in the pres-
teres and some suggestions parents find helpful.

Guide into wholesome ac-
s: Encouraging your teen
e in wholesome
 enzyme activities is es-
ential to a healthy self-concept. Can wanted to try in a
g school marching band. “My best friend plays the flute,” says Carla. “I would love
to learn to play an instrument, also. The
trip and extra activities appear to be so much fun. Plus,
I’ve always maintained a high grade point average.” Her dad
agreed this seemed like a wholesome
some school function.

Guiding your teenager into
some activities in which they achieve success helps
them mature into competent
adults. It’s also important for
their immediate present. It
helps them feel good about
themselves, be accepted by
their peers, conquer a new
skill, and learn to cope. This is
part of our duty as parents.

To receive the benefits of
the sun without the impending dangers, some tips that will be helpful.

(1) Stay out of the sun for
long periods of time during
the peak hours between 10 a.m.
and 3 p.m. These are the hours
when the sun’s rays are most
direct and can cause the most
skin damage. If you must be
outside, stay in the shade as
much as possible. But, for the
most protection, stay indoors.

(2) Use sunscreen with a
sun protection factor (SPF) of
15 or all exposed skin—face,
hands, feet, neck, and ears.
This should be done to prevent
sun damage even in the spring,
summer, and fall. Be sure to
put it on for long periods of time
in the direct sun, use SPF 30 for
more protection and reapply
every three to four hours or
more often if you are in water
or sweating heavily.

(3) Protect your eyes with a
good pair of sunglasses with
UV (ultraviolet) ray protection.
Your eyes can burn as easily as
your skin if left unprotected.
Be aware that reflection of the
sun on water is very damaging
to the eyes.

(4) Use sunscreen with a
sun protection factor (SPF) of
15 on all exposed skin—face,
hands, feet, neck, and ears.
This should be done to prevent
sun damage even in the spring,
summer, and fall. Be sure to
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more protection and reapply
every three to four hours or
more often if you are in water
or sweating heavily.

(5) Protect children with
sunscreen and shaded areas
for play. Keep babies younger
than six months old out of the
sun. Sunburns start most skin

cancers in childhood. Children
have delicate skin that must be
protected from sun damage.

(6) Know your skin type to
judge the level of sun exposure
you can handle. If you are
dark-skinned with the blond or
light eyes, you are most
susceptible to skin damage and
possibly skin cancer. The darker
skin the hair is, the lower your
risk of skin cancer. Darker skin
tones have a higher level of
natural protectors. How-
ever, precautions should be taken
to avoid damage. If you have
moles, your skin may be
more susceptible to skin cancer as
well. Report any suspicious
dark spots to your doctor or der-
matologist for examination and
treatment.

While God created the sun
as the greatest light in the sky,
we nevertheless should be
diligent in using sunscreen when
enjoying the outdoors this summer.
- Polk is the health ministry specialist at Life-
Way Christian Resources in
Nashville.

Writer offers suggestions to help teens develop self-respect

In the July 25 issue, re-
porter Ken Walker of Baptist
Press quoted the president of
Broadman & Holman, with re-
gard to the new Holman Chris-
tian Standard Bible: “Our goal
is to have a Bible that simply,
accurately, and reliably ex-
presses in good, understand-
able English what the original
manuscript says.

Since no living person in the
world today has ever seen any
such “original manuscript” of
either Testament or any book,
chapter, verse, or even word of
the Bible, much less the “ori-
ginal manuscript” of the entire
Book itself, how is it possible
that anyone would know what
the original manuscript said?

Just like the Holman Chris-
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and “readable” predecessors of
the past 300 years or so, this
current novelty too will be nothing
more than a Bible by our tem-
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publishers, and book sellers.

Words
Greenfield 38220

Who has seen it?

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Who has seen it?
WASHINGTON — Christians and non-Christians remain divided in their opinions about abortion and homosexuality, a Barna Research Group survey shows.

Researchers found that 23 percent of born-again Christians think abortion should be legal in all or most circumstances while 69 percent of people of non-Christian faiths think the procedure should be legal all or most of the time. Sixty-eight percent of atheists, 50 percent of people attending mainline Protestant churches, 33 percent of Catholics, and 29 percent of people attending non-mainline Protestant churches share that view.

When asked if homosexual relations between consenting adults should be legal or illegal, 48 percent of adults said they should be legal and 42 percent said they should not be illegal. Forty-five percent said homosexuality should be legal.

SBC CP gifts below July 2000 receipts

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Gifts to the Southern Baptist Convention’s Cooperative Program in July of $12,792,018.34 were 12.19 percent below the total for July 2000, according to the treasurer of the SBC, Morris H. Chapman.

For the fiscal year to date, October 2000 through July 2001, CP giving is 1.50 percent less than the same period a year ago, $146,014,641.04 compared to $148,696,892.03.

July’s $12,792,018.34 total was $1,776,562.27 below July 2000 gifts of $14,568,580.61. In designated giving during July, the total of $7,698,529.83 was 11.86 percent below July 2000’s $8,700,117.97. For the fiscal year to date, designated giving remains 3.00 percent above last year’s pace.

For the SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget, the year-to-date receipts are $6,017,653.54 above the budgeted $139,966,876.50.
Obeying the risen Lord
By Paul Fries

Focal Passages: Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:8

When you have been taught Southern Baptists for any length of time, you have probably heard about the Great Commission. Some Baptists may argue that we don’t have to be concerned about it. In Baptist history strong Calvinistic preachers taught that God did not need human intervention to save the world. Rather, the most important thing for Baptist preachers to do was to continue the dispensational missions program in order to carry out the Great Commission.

In this week’s lesson, we study one of the final appearances of Jesus Christ before he ascended to the Father, as recorded for us by Matthew. Jesus announced to them that all authority on heaven and earth had been given to him. This authority and power is given in part to the Great Commission. Spreading the Gospel has always been a challenge. For this challenge to be met, the follow-up work must be done. We must be prepared to do the work of God.

Love’s persistence
By Marty Comer

Focal Passage: Hosea 11:1-11

The late evangelist Vance Havner was asked to take a meal out to dinner in a dimly lit restaurant. It was so busy that they found a person needed a flashlight in order to read the menu. Havner said that when the food arrived "set it by faith and not by sight." However the longer he stayed in the dark environment the more clearly he was able to see. Isn’t it interesting that the longer we stay in the darkness the more we get used to it?

By the time Hosea began to prophesy in the eighth century Israel had long since adjusted to the darkness caused by the sin that permeated the nation. Despite God’s repeated calling to them to turn from their evil ways, they remained steadfast in their refusal to return to God. Even so, Hosea 11, perhaps as clearly as anywhere in the Bible, Testament, reveals the depth of God’s love for sinners. In fact, we learn three things about God’s love in this passage. His love is not temporary or inconstant, it is persistent and it is purposeful.

The opening verse of chapter 11 reveals that God viewsIsrael as "son." Two of the most joyful days of my life were the days on which my two children were born. When my newborn children were laid in my arms nobody had to give me a lecture on "how to love a child." Even though I had never before laid eyes upon them I was overwhelmed by love for them.

Just as God’s love is persistent, love is also purposeful. Because of his abiding, persistent love God didn’t want his "fierce anger" to be his last word to Israel. Instead, he wanted to demonstrate his "compassion upon his beloved people." Thus he declares that the day will come when his people will respond to his love. They will follow the Lord and come to him "trembling from the west." The final verses of our text reveal that God loves his people steadfastly in order that they might repent and be restored.

Vance Havner made another keen observation when he said, "The same sun that melts ice also hardens clay." The love of God, like the sun, is constant. It is in how we respond to his love that determines whether we melt in repentance and are restored or are hardened in rebellion and are rebuked! Comer is pastor, Sand Ridge Baptist Church, Lexington.

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Former TBC president challenges C-N grads

JEFFERSON CITY — Former Tennessee Baptist Convention President Jerry Tidwell told 92 summer graduates of Carson-Newman College that life is God's letter to humanity.

Tidwell, pastor of West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, gave the commencement address during the ceremony held on the Carson-Newman campus.

Taking his text from Paul's first letter to the Christians at Corinth, Tidwell said each person's life is like a holy communication from God in that it is private and intended especially for the recipient.

Each life is like a personal letter from God because it also

ter of music.

Bob Perry has been called as minister of education and administration at First Baptist Church, Tullahoma.

Jason Cruise has been called as pastor of Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville.

Dixie Lee Baptist Church, Lenox City, has called Roger Hanel as minister of worship and education.

Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville, has called Chad Kirkpatrick as pastor.

Charles Hunt has been called as pastor of Old Sweetwater Baptist Church, Sweetwater.

Mount Gilead Baptist Church, Harrogate, has called Dennis Cosby as pastor.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Tazewell, has called Leonard Hatfield as pastor.

Roy Fisher, former pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, has called Chris Beaver as minister of music.

The church also had a youth group participate in a Habitat for Humanity project in Jackson. They did various activities for children including distributing Bibles.

at First Baptist Church, Naples, Fla.

FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES from Parkburg Baptist Church, Pinson, served as summer missionaries in Townsend as part of Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries. The group held VBS at a campground and ministered to an average of seven children each day. The church also had a youth group participate in a Habitat for Humanity project in Jackson. They did various activities for children including distributing Bibles.

on Sunday, Aug. 26, with one massive service at the Bruceton Church. Other activities include a "fifth quarter" event following the Bruceton-Huntington football game on Friday night. Churches in the area are invited to join the sponsoring churches in prayer and in person for the event. For more information, contact Steve Frederick, minister of music and youth at First Church, Bruceton, at (901) 586-4212.

The church also had a youth group participate in a Habitat for Humanity project in Jackson. They did various activities for children including distributing Bibles.

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THE NEWSPAPER OF THE TENNESSEE BAPTISTS

July 26, 2001

By Robin W. Howlett

THE WRITINGS

Wright has been church treasurer and a deacon since 1960 while his wife has been a nursery director for more than 40 years. They have been involved in various other roles. Wright has been member of the church since 1953 and his wife since 1957.

By no means are Wright's responsibilities "its important for us as a church to thank you and show those who are valued for whom they are," said Pastor Bill Sorrell.

The church presented some gifts to Wright and his wife for their contributions to the church.

The church honored the retiring organist Helen Fountain early this year and plans to honor several other members later this year.

WILSONVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH, Newport, recently toasted its second trip to Michigan to conduct Vacation Bible School. The team assisted Thornhill Baptist Church in Pincon.