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IMB missionary killed at airport in the Philippines

Baptist Press

RICHMOND — A Southern Baptist missionary was killed and another missionary and her child were injured when a bomb exploded March 4 at the airport in Davao City, Philippines.

William P. "Bill" Hyde, 59, died in surgery from severe head and leg injuries. Barbara Wallis Stevens, 33, was slightly injured and her 10-month-old son, Nathan, also was wounded.

"Our hearts go out to these families and their coworkers," said Larry Cox, a spokesman for the Southern Baptist International Mission Board in Richmond, Va. "We are moving quickly to assist the missionaries affected by this tragedy. We ask Christians everywhere to pray that God would show himself strong for these families, their coworkers, and the other members of the Southern Baptist missionary family."

At least 19 people were killed and 144 injured in the attack, which occurred outside the arrival terminal of the Davao airport in the Philippines' second-largest city.

The blast ripped through a shelter outside the terminal in which scores of people were huddled to escape a downpour.

Barbara Stevens was injured by shrapnel in her left side and foot and was released from the hospital. Tim Warren, pastor of the church where she grew up, First Baptist in Willard, Mo., said the prayer chain was activated around 5:30 a.m. March 4 with a special focus on her son, who has a bleeding disorder. "The bleeding just miraculously stopped," Warren told *The Pathway* newsmagazine of the Missouri Baptist Convention. According to reports relayed from Barbara Stevens' mother, Warren said, "They didn't have to do surgery."

He has since been released from intensive care and is listed in stable condition, according to a report on March 5.

"I think there was so much prayer going up, and God just honored it," Warren said.

Mark Stevens was uninjured in the blast. The couple's daughter, Sarah, 4, was treated and released with minor injuries. □

BWA cuts budget by 20 percent

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — A revised budget to address a \$650,000 deficit was adopted by the Baptist World Alliance Executive Committee during its March 3-5 meeting at the BWA headquarters in suburban Washington.

The 53-member BWA committee also addressed the controversy involving the application of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship for BWA member-

Iowa Baptists mourn loss of native son

Baptist Press

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — Bill Hyde, killed March 4 at a Philippines airport, and his wife, Lyn, were "well-loved missionaries all across Iowa."

O. Wyndell Jones, retired executive director of the Baptist Convention of Iowa, described the Hydes as key missions advocates as Iowa Baptists grew from fellowship status in the Southern Baptist Convention in the early 1970s to state convention status in 1995.

"They were kept real busy" during their furloughs in Iowa, said Jones, who led Iowa Baptists for 15 years and is now interim pastor of the Hydes' home church, Immanuel Baptist in Cedar Rapids. "Everywhere they ever spoke, people really did appreciate them. Iowa Baptists felt real proud to have them as foreign missionaries."

Hyde, a native of Cedar Rapids, was among 19 people killed when a bomb exploded in Davao City, the Philippines' second-largest city. He had gone to the airport to pick up a fellow missionary family, Mark and Barbara Stevens and their two children. Barbara Stevens and her 10-month-old son were among nearly 150 people in-

ship, affirming the process being followed by the BWA membership committee but also apologizing to Southern Baptists for any hurts caused by the deliberations.

Explaining to committee members why the BWA is currently operating with a \$650,000 deficit, BWA General Secretary Denton Lotz pointed to a volatile and declining stock market, decreased membership support, and a shift in local church giving patterns from traditional institutions to independent organizations and individuals, all of which have taken a severe financial toll.

Lotz cited the inability of many of the 206 Baptist conventions and unions in the BWA to increase their giving over the past 10 years from areas of the world where financial realities make it very difficult to contribute.

The BWA "cannot continue to function in a deficit situation continually using its reserves," Lotz said. "Drastic situations require drastic measures."

Among the measures taken, the executive committee adopted a new budget of \$1,688,416 for 2003, enacting a 20 percent decrease from the \$2,114,111 budget approved by the BWA General Council during its July 2002 meeting in Seville, Spain.

Staff travel and BWA publications will be reduced. The cuts also mean that BWA staff, for the first time in recent history, will not receive any salary or cost of living increases.

The new budget figure in-

jured in the attack.

Describing the Hydes as "very warmhearted missionaries," Jones said their enthusiasm and commitment made Iowa Baptists certain that the duo were "very conscientious about their work" in the Philippines, where they had served since their 1978 appointment by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

Jimmy Barrentine, executive director of the Baptist Convention of Iowa, in a statement issued March 4, said, "This is a terrible loss to the people and churches of our state. But at times like this it is good to remember that a life entrusted to God is never lost, never wasted. Even beyond death, God preserves life and extends the reach of Christian witness from one generation to another."

"Our duty now is to pray for the people of the Philippines until each and every one has experienced the love of Jesus. It is also our duty to continue to love, pray for, and forgive those who mistreat us and those who count us as their enemy. This



THE HYDES

tragedy will also serve to strengthen our resolve to fully pray for the Hyde family and for the missionaries serve throughout the world. Ed Gregory, missions leader for the Baptist Convention of Iowa, described Hyde as "the epitome of missionary spirit. Amid periodic family needs and concerns, with urging them to stateside by saying 'it's safer, it's better,' Gregory Hyde and his 'just kept on going back to the field where God called them.' Gregory and I first met during the early 1980s during Gregory's 17 years as Immanuel's pastor.

Over the years, Hyde kept training ... fulfilling different roles ... teaching, church planting. He was constantly developing Filipino pastors, helping them get new work started and then mentoring them in their roles."

His wife likewise has been devoted to missions. "She constantly preparing for leading ... conferences for women there," Gregory said.

speaker for its seventh annual scholarship banquet Oct. 11 at the Carl Perkins Civic Center here.

Netanyahu's address was titled "Terrorism: How the Constitutional Democracies Win."

The youngest prime minister in Israeli history, Netanyahu was elected in 1996. He negotiated the Wye River Agreement in 1998 and reduced the incidence of terrorism in Israel during his term.

"Union University is pleased to have a leader of this caliber for our seventh annual scholarship banquet," Union President David S. Dockery said. □

Israel's Netanyahu to speak at Union

Baptist Press

JACKSON — Union University has announced former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will be the keynote



MEETING RECENTLY at the TBC Baptist Center, Brentwood, was the allocations committee of the Golden Offer for Tennessee Missions. Members included, from left, Laurann Whetham of Luttrell; Martha Pitts of Bartlett; Tom DeYoung, pastor, First Baptist Church, Whitwell; Doris Large of Knoxville; Charles Manley of Jackson; Garry Yarbrough of Covington, and Nancy Hammons of Kingston.

annual meeting in September

Association to consider ouster of Glendale

Lorie Wilkey
and Reflector

HVILLE — Messengers annual meeting of the Baptist Association consider disfellowshiping a which has called a less minister during its annual in September.

Tennessean daily news reported Jan. 26 that le Baptist Church had April Baker as associate with responsibilities primarily to children and last May.

er is a lesbian, according Tennessean article.

ts Feb. 17 Executive meeting, members ap the following motion:

"That the churches of le Baptist Association e in redemptive prayer ercession for Glendale Church;

That the leadership of le Baptist Association churches act redemptive ard Glendale Baptist

If there is no change in

Glendale Baptist Church's action, then the Executive Board recommends that Nashville Baptist Association vote at its annual meeting, Sept. 15, 2003, to withdraw fellowship.

Prior to the Executive Board meeting, three representatives of NBA met with Glendale Pastor Mark Caldwell and other leaders from the church, according to Jim Freedman, NBA director of missions.

Freedman said the purpose of the meeting was to verify the accuracy of *The Tennessean* story. The Glendale group said the story was true, Freedman said.

Freedman said the NBA representatives then asked if by their action, Glendale was approving a homosexual lifestyle. Freedman noted the Glendale leaders said they were not approving the lifestyle. They said Baker, out of the candidates they interviewed, was best suited for the position, related Freedman, who said he was not present at the meeting.

Freedman said the NBA group advised them of the association's position on homosexuality and told

them if the church did not make a change, "the Executive Board would recommend that the association withdraw fellowship from the church" at its annual meeting.

According to the Constitution of the Nashville Baptist Association, the association can "withdraw affiliation from any church which (1) persists in doctrinal practices out of harmony with the Baptist Faith and Message, (2) fails to be represented either by letter or messenger for two successive years, or (3) notifies the association of its desire to withdraw."

The action to withdraw fellowship requires a two-thirds majority of the messengers present during an annual meeting, according to the NBA Constitution.

Freedman said Glendale's decision to call a lesbian minister is contrary to the Baptist Faith and Message.

When contacted by the *Baptist and Reflector*, on March 5, Pastor Mark Caldwell referred any comments on the NBA action to the Glendale's Church Council. Caldwell is slated to re-

tire at Glendale on March 16.

Glendale released the following statement on March 10 from Martha Jo Berry, chairperson of Glendale's Church Council:

"If the Nashville Baptist Association officially acts to withdraw fellowship from our church, we would respectfully note that any such disfellowshiping is involuntary on our part.

"We have worked for decades on common mission endeavors with the Association and wish the NBA the best as it seeks to serve God in our community. We understand that many NBA members have strong opinions about decisions we have made as a community of faith.

"We appreciate the fact that representatives of the NBA, instead of acting on supposition and in reaction to news reports, came to visit with us directly about the situation. We also appreciate the cordial meeting.

"As Baptist Christians, Glendale will continue to follow the teachings of Christ as we understand them and to serve God, faithful to our Baptist heritage and traditions." □

Change in law could affect school children

By Michael Foust
Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A sexual preference bill to protect Nashville's homosexuals in hiring practices would impact the city's public school system, possibly placing homosexuals in classrooms with children as young as 3 years of age.

More than 70,000 students attend the city's 129 public schools, and the metro council — the city's legislative body — is considering a bill that would require those same schools to hire qualified homosexual applicants. The proposal would cover all grades — including kindergarten — as well as the city's pre-kindergarten and preschool programs, which includes nearly 1,000 students ages 3 and 4.

The bill, encased in government-like language, places "sexual orientation" alongside other protected classes such as race, sex and religion. Specifically, the bill prohibits employment discrimination based on "sexual orientation" within the metro government.

That includes the school system. "Metro ought to set an example as a number of larger employers in the city have done," the bill's co-sponsor, councilman Chris Ferrell, told Baptist Press.

But the bill's impact on the city's students is what most worries some in the Nashville community.

"My greatest concern is our children, because our children are our most vital resource," said councilwoman Carolyn Baldwin Tucker, who is against any bill that includes protection based on sexual preference. "We need to do all we can to make sure they have every opportunity to grow up in a healthy environment."

The bill would create a predicament for conservative Christian parents, Two Rivers Baptist Church pastor Jerry Sutton believes. At home, Christian children would be taught homosexuality is a sin, but at school they could be learning under a homosexual teacher who has different values, he said.

"It's going to create more than a dilemma," the Nashville pastor said. "It's going to create a firestorm. The question is this: Why go down that road? ... They're basically executing an agenda."

The homosexual community's objective is simple, Sutton said. "Their goal is to normalize homosexuality in the community" and then alienate and ostracize "anyone who opposes them." □



DANNY AND MARY RACHEL offer doughnuts and coffee to a vendor at last year's arts and crafts festival at Reelfoot Lake State Park. The Rachels have been active in the work of Beulah Baptist Association which has an annual ministry at the arts and crafts fair.

singing in the choir.

The Rachels will spend their first year in Guadalajara, Mexico, attending language school.

In a broad sense they see their call to work in Mexico as a "way to go into those dark, dark areas and bring in the light of the gospel by whatever means we can," Rachel said.

On a more down to earth level, he continued, "we just want to demonstrate Jesus to these people by loving them."

One of their tasks will be developing relationships with Nahautl Indians who have moved to Puebla and speak Spanish. Hopefully that will give the couple inroads to the villages where the Nahautl Indians live, Rachel added.

The Rachels have been impressed with the appointment process they have gone through although they admit it has been "grueling" at times.

They feel it is to make sure a couple is really called to make the sacrifices missionaries must make. "I can't imagine anybody

inued from page 1
wife agreed, noting that I sensed a call to missions he was a young girl in as. "I had heard mission-akers and was enthralled and held them in high I felt the call then but I really understand it," Rachel said.
couple concurred that the p to Mexico opened their We went to remote vil- and saw small children g eyes looking at you. It pped your heart out," recalled.

couple noted the people lived in absolute poverty d never heard the gospel s Christ.

ir call was reaffirmed af- first trip to Mexico when attended an IMB commis- g service near Mayfield,

on after we attended that and as we listened to Dr. Rankin and the mission- testimonies, I knew we ready to answer God's aid Mary Rachel. "We dis- our desire to enter inter- al missions, agreeing to the possibility. It had fi- been said out loud and now absolutely no doubt about calling for us to serve Him tico," she continued.

she added that as he looks over his life he has seen God has been preparing me gh the varied life experi- I have experienced and his calling on my life is re-

calling is further con- not only by His Word, His , other believers, but by et He has also called Mary the same overwhelming

"Our calling to serve among the people of Mexico is clarion clear. God has said go and we are ready."

If approved for appointment as missionary associates, the Rachels will work among the Nahautl Indians, the largest indigenous group in Mexico. The tribe has 25 dialects, nine of which are unreached, Rachel said. He and his wife will serve as strategy coordinators for those nine dialects which encompass about one million people.

"It's fascinating to us that here in North America there are several unreached people groups," Rachel said.

The couple will make their headquarters in Puebla, Mexico, a city of about three million people, Rachel continued.

A lot of their work, however, will be done in small villages throughout the area. Some of their travel will require tent camping, he noted.

The couple stressed they are going as a "team" and will be partners in the work there.

"Together we have been led in this direction," Mary Rachel affirmed.

Her husband agreed. "We are going to work as a team. We are excited about that."

Their team work has been evident throughout their ministry. She served as youth director at Eastview in Ramer when he was pastor. In Ridgely she has taught literacy classes, volunteered at the county pregnancy care center, and worked in numerous roles at FBC including teaching a fourth-sixth grade Sunday School class, working with Children's Bible Drill, and

Over 1,529 make spiritual decisions

YEC 2003 draws 12,826 ...

—Continued from page 1
Woodstock, Ga.

On Friday night Nolan used humor to describe himself and friends doing crazy "wacko stuff." He warned the teens against "having a body by bow flex and a brain by Toys R Us." The craziest thing they could do is leave this meeting without being sure they are going to heaven, he said. He referred to Matthew 7:21-23, noting the way to heaven can't be described as "your way. You can only go by the will of my father, period," he said.

God's judgment of each person is like the ultimate report card or progress report day. On that day it doesn't matter if you say you know God and Jesus. You want God to say He knows you, declared Nolan.

To "get it" Nolan said, the teens must ignore the pluralistic views of many people and understand Romans 5:8, which refers to the death of Jesus. Whatever they have done, including lying and having sex, God still loves them and showed it by dying to pay their ticket into heaven, he stated.

He described the pain people will suffer in hell, noting it must be similar to the suffering of burn victims. They should stop "gaming with God" by coming to Christian events to show off cars and clothes and exchange email addresses.

God isn't interested in whether they are better looking, smarter, or more talented than others. He's interested in bless-

ing them, he said. Nolan encouraged them to enter God's chatroom and dialogue honestly with God.

On Saturday, Nolan warned the teens they might be riding the motorcycle of life on the highway of happiness when they are "mac trucked by the devil."

Last year 600,000 teens in the United States ages of 13-18 attempted suicide, he reported.

He said he had attempted suicide. His problems began when he was a child. His mother was mentally ill and a prostitute and he didn't know his father. He was abused in a foster care home and adopted at age 3. He loved his adoptive parents, who are both deceased, but clashed

with his father, he described, who died when he was 15. His father never told Nolan he loved him and his mother didn't until recently. Nolan said he also suffered from fear because of the family's poor neighborhood.

As a young man, Nolan was drinking, smoking, and taking acid, he described, when a friend asked him to come to his church. The friend did this persistently. As a result, Nolan was saved.

He encouraged the students to view God as their boss and not to get hung up on the fact that Christianity teaches they shouldn't drink, smoke, or curse. "He changed me big time," he said.

Nolan encouraged the teens



MARTY WALLACE, left, Kelly Smithson, and Megan Queen of Fairfield Baptist Church, Centerville, follow the motions to a song.

to persistently try to help people who need Jesus. They should do it despite being ostracized by their peers, he added.

The story of God is "one wacky story for the world," he said, but "let it fly and let God do His thing," he declared.

"Keep connecting because it ain't about us," he concluded.

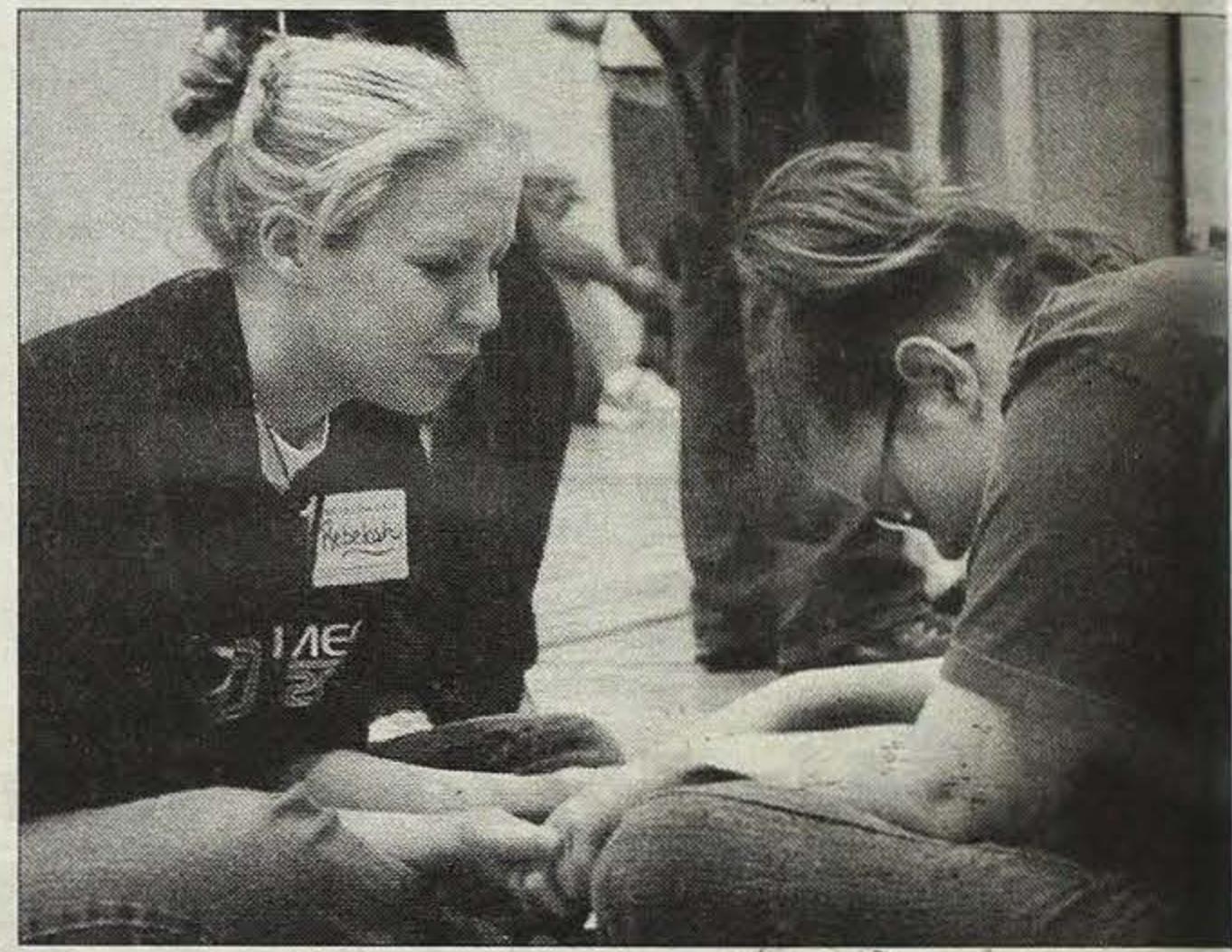
Also during the Saturday session of YEC, James Porch, TBC executive director, commissioned some of the 60 youth who will serve in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, this summer. The effort, which will support the Tennessee/Rio Baptist Partnership, is funded by offerings

taken at the YEC.

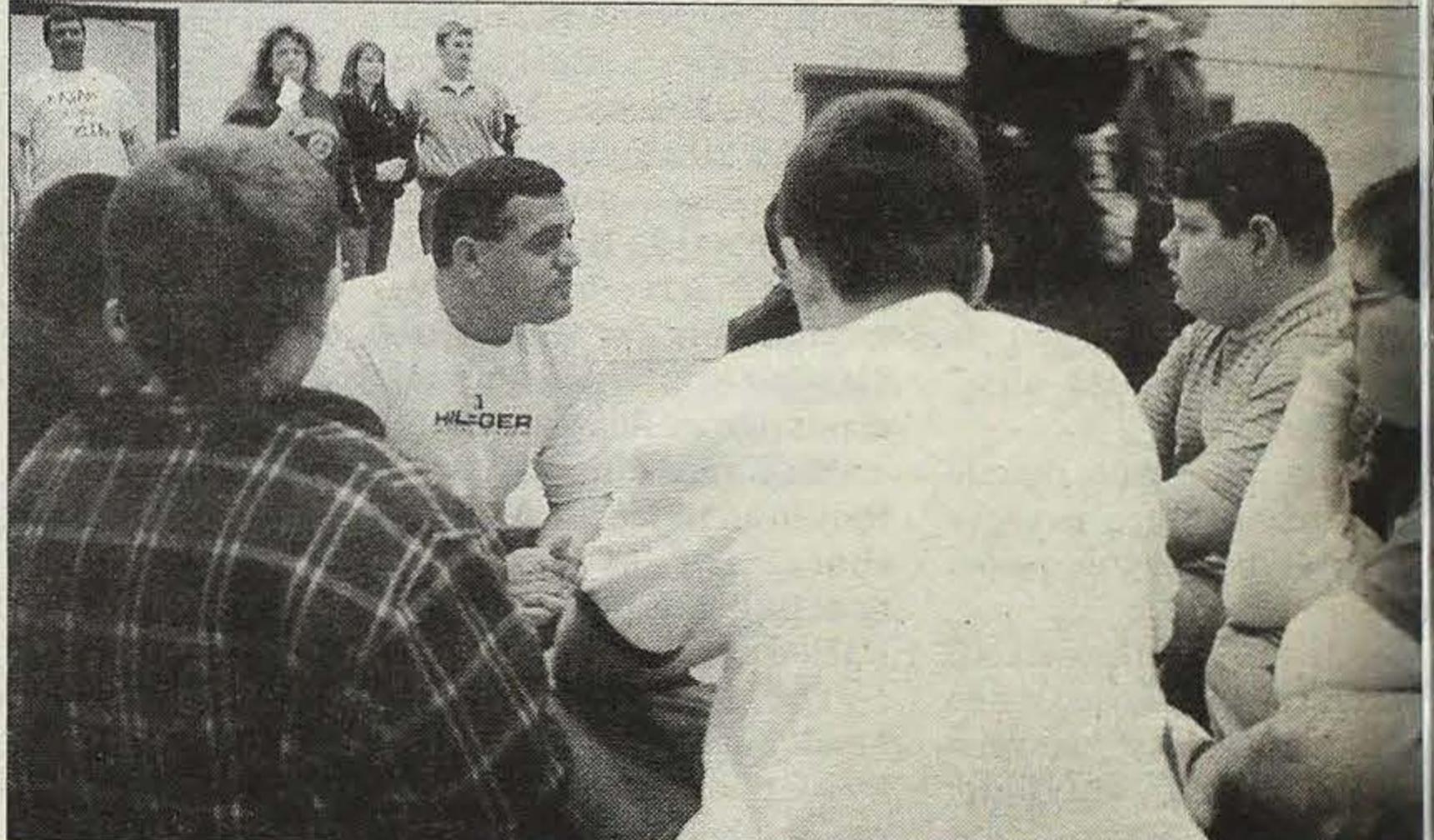
Shingleton explained the theme of the meeting, "C He asked the crowd to bring them to one of the national meetings to be held for students.

Other speakers were Jim Beard of Bellevue First Church, Cordova, and Baskin of Third Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, winner announced respectively of the Youth Speakers Tournament.

(Look for a report on the six breakout sessions on Saturday afternoon in the coming issue.) □



REBEKAH BRYAN, left, of Taylor's Chapel Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, prays with Amy Strickler of Flewellen First Church, Springfield, after talking with Strickler about the spiritual decision she made during the Friday night session of the YEC.



JAMES PORCH, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, shows a backpack which students standing in front of him receive. The students are part of a group who will serve in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, this summer. Porch commissioned the students during the presentation.



ATTENDING FROM First Baptist Church, Bruceton, were, from left, Jordan Fox, Jessie Cole, Heaven Wilks, and Jessie Grooms.

BECAUSE OF the large number of students who made professions of faith, Mando Fontes, left of center, assistant minister of Cornerstone Baptist Church, Newport, talks to several young men about their decisions.



LAUGHING AT the antics of The Skit Guys, Eddie James and Tommy Woodard of First Baptist Church, Halls, from left, Karie Webster, Ashley Blalock, Nacole Hutcherson, and Chad Harch.

computers eliminate paper, why is my desk a mess?



doesn't last long.

I am inundated with paper. When Baptist Press began emailing their daily news releases a few years ago, I thought that would help. No more pages of BP piled up in stacks. Didn't happen. I print out hard copies (sometimes two since I occasionally lose one) of every BP release I'm sent.

Add to that copies of other news services, news releases from schools and institutions, and I could literally be buried under paper.

Then stack on copies of Baptist papers from other states, denominational magazines galore, and other periodicals which pass through, a small mountain is in

the making. Of course, I did learn from my predecessor, Fletcher Allen — that when the stacks on the desk get too high, use the floor behind you.

Thought emails would eliminate paper? Wrong. I end up printing and keeping copies of emails which just add to my stacks. They far outnumber the old-fashioned letters I still receive.

Several years ago, not long after we were married, Joyce did a cross stitch for me that said "Creative clutter is better than idle neatness." That's become a motto over the years. I keep it on a bookcase in my office. Used to keep it on my desk, but the paper kept knocking it off.

Finally, once every two weeks or so, I give up and clean off my desk and file things where they belong. Then I say I'm not going to let that happen again. Next thing I know the process has begun again.

But I really don't mind. As a journalist and editor, I love the feel of paper. Yes, you can read the emails and articles on the screen, but there is nothing like picking up a sheet of paper and watching words jump off the page.

One of my worries as an editor and journalist is that one day all papers and books will be produced and accessed only by computer. What a sad day that will be.

The stories and photos will be the same, but no computer screen can replace actually holding that paper or book in hand and reading it up close.

So while I "complain" about all the paper I deal with, it's done in jest.

I hope we will never see the day when we won't have an actual newspaper or book to pick up and hold.

And while Bibles on tape are nice, nothing beats holding God's Word in your hands and flipping through the pages to find your favorite Scripture or that verse God wants you to see at that particular moment.

As long as I can find my desk, keep the paper coming. □

Healthy Christians live God's Word in everyday life



those who go to church the most.

Wrong! The healthy Christians are those who are living God's Word in their everyday life.

Sunday School alone just isn't enough. Worship services alone just aren't enough. There needs to be that intense, in depth, struggling Bible study event or events that move believers to the next level. The next level of what, you might ask. My contention is that we must move to the level of being more like Jesus every day. A life style that causes believers to do two things.

(1) To see people like Jesus saw people. Have you considered how Jesus saw people? I am not a farmer, in fact I grew up in town. Having never experienced a working barn it was a real treat (so to speak) when I visited my first working barn. It was my first full-time pastorate out of seminary. I visited a family and upon knocking on the front door the lady of the house instructed me to go see her husband, who was in the barn. After tip toeing through the pasture to the barn, (quite a walk in dress shoes and slacks) I entered the barn where my host was admiring his new tractor. I found out he had never had a tractor before. This was his first one. I did not consider

how he did farming without one. A thought that never entered my mind. Bragging mightily he told me all about this lever and that thingamajig on his tractor. Finally he said, "Now preacher, I just want you to know that the next thing I say to a mule, it will be to his face." I didn't get it. Lots of people I have told this story to tell me they got it right away. Jesus said, "Look to the fields, they are white unto harvest." I may not be a farmer but I do know that if the fields are white unto harvest and we do not harvest them then we loose them. How do you see people? Do you see people as Jesus saw people? Another example Jesus used was sheep. He saw people as sheep scattered without a shepherd. I know nothing about sheep, however those that do, tell me when they do not have a shepherd they scatter, wander, go their own way, often into danger.

(2) Secondly, healthy, growing believers treat people as Jesus treated people. Jesus himself gave the world the right to judge us. "By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (Holman Christian Standard Bible). When you love people you treat them differently than those you

do not love. (Are we to not love anyone?) Yet the way some people who call themselves Christians treat other people certainly would give the unchurched a large dose of doubt. We believers often treat each other with doubts, suspicion, fault finding, and disrespect. In fact I have heard it said, "The way he treats the people who work under him is anything but like the way Jesus would treat people." Dr. Landrum Leavell of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary said in the sermon on forgiveness, "The shabby way we Christians treat others should cause us to fear as to whether we should and will be forgiven by Christ Himself."

Someone told me one time, "Well, he should just be glad he has a job." That is not a Christian, redemptive practice. I wonder, should we take Jesus with us to work, to school, to play? Or, is just going to church enough? It is easy to talk the Christian life, it is another matter all together to live it.

As my friend Alan Tungett said one day, "When someone leaves your presence they should have experienced a little more of who Jesus is." The process of building healthy Christians is often called Discipleship build-

ing, or Discipleship training. In fact some churches have tried real hard to come up with catchy names for this Discipleship training so as to make it sound more important. Like Life School, Life Classes, Christianity 101, 202 etc. Does it really matter what you call it as long as you are leading believers toward seeing others as Jesus saw others and treating others as Jesus saw others.

Evaluate your progress in this area. A church should have a number equal to one half of the Sunday School attendance enrolled in this Discipleship building process. Make sure discipleship classes are building believers. These classes or events are for believers, where Sunday School is for everyone. These classes or events are normally limited in the number of sessions where Sunday School is not. These classes or events once started do not allow you to join once started where Sunday School can be joined at any time.

Develop a strategy to go beyond Sunday School in developing believers. □ — Marler is growth specialist in the Christian Growth Development Group of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. He can be reached at (615) 371-7934.

Putting the wishes, needs, desires of others before yourself



our points of view.

There is another technique or concept in hypnosis which psychologists call negative suggestibility. When the other person is pulling away from you or wanting a divorce or wanting separation, they are almost automatically on the opposite side of any fence that they perceive you as being on. So use the eastern marshal arts technique of going with them.

Now here are five elements, five ideas, five strategies, involved in this technique.

(1) Stop pressuring, stop criticizing, stop complaining, and stop whining.

(2) Agree with anything your mate says or does. Put a good name on it. Agree with his or her negative feelings. You see, when

the wife has a closed mind and is divorcing a husband, she is in love with her negative feelings. So she puts her negative feelings in charge of the door to her mind. And when you try to reason with her, you're telling her that her negative feelings are wrong. That causes her negative feelings to lock the door tighter. Agree with her negative feelings — whatever they are. "Yes, this relationship is hopeless." "Yes, you will never be able to trust me. That's exactly correct." Do not defend yourself. Just agree, sound sincere, and shut up.

(3) Act perfectly happy about everything as it is. The status quo — as it is. Act perfectly happy. Enjoy your space. Enjoy your freedom. Tell them that they are

correct — that you all were getting too serious too fast — or whatever their interpretation is that they've given to you. Agree with it, and act happy about whatever it is that they want.

(4) Date others (not if you are still married!). Make them jealous. Play hard-to-get.

(5) Do everything instantly and happily, one hundred percent your mate's way.

Now, you can't do this for a week or a day or a month, and then switch back over to the old pressuring self. It's not going to work for you. And you can't do it partly in one part of the conversation and then slip back to explaining yourself about what you want and why you did what you did. You've got to practice consistency

with this. No pressure at all.

These strategies put into practice the scriptural admonition to put the wishes, needs, and desires of others before self. As hard as this is to do, it opens the door for the other one that engaged in the difference of opinion to be able to consider the issue from an unbiased position without the pressure to prove their point. I usually tell my clients who resist this technique to try it. What you have been doing doesn't seem to have been working. This might work and is, therefore, worth a try. God bless your effort! □ — Barkley is professor, Baptist Memorial College of Health Sciences, Memphis, and a family therapist in private practice.

SBC childcare registration opens

Baptist Press

PHOENIX — Families wishing to enroll their children in childcare services at the Southern Baptist Convention June 15-18 here may now register on a first-come, first-served basis.

Childcare services for infants through kindergarten will complement the SBC's first-ever Kingdom Family Rally on Monday evening, June 16, and will continue to be available during the Tuesday and Wednesday sessions of the SBC annual meeting.

Childcare also will be open for the Sunday and Monday sessions of the Pastors' Conference and Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting.

The Kingdom Family Rally will feature such family advocates as Dennis and Barbara Rainey of Family Life Today, singer Steve Green and his wife, Maryjean, and Tom Elliff, chair of the SBC Council on Family Life, and his wife, Jeannie.

The rally also will include testimonies from various SBC leaders and Baptist families;



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conference leader and author Gary Chapman; and video segments from James and Shirley Dobson of Focus on the Family and Bible teacher and author Beth Moore. The rally will be part of the Pastors' Conference, which will be devoted in its entirety to the family. The conference is open to church staff members' families as well as laypeople interested in bolstering marriage in America.

"At this year's convention, we're not simply having a rally about the family, but the whole event is designed with the family in mind," said Elliff, a former

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRIES — SINGLE ADULTS

Minister to single adults, Lexington/Midlands of South Carolina. Send resume to Search Committee, Lexington Baptist Church, 308 E. Main St., Lexington, SC 29072.

MINISTRIES — EDUCATION

Gilliam Springs Baptist Church, Arab, Ala., is seeking an experienced minister (at least 3-5 years) to lead the education and outreach ministries. Seminary training preferred. Send resume to Staff Search, Box 463, Arab, AL 35016 or mroden@gilliamsprings.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Wanted: Church Van (15 passenger). Small rural church near Baxter, Tenn., is seeking a used van. If your church has older van to discard, please contact Pastor Terry Crabtree, Boiling Springs Baptist Church, Baxter, at TCrabtree@berkline.com or call (931) 445-4898.

MINISTRIES — OTHER

Nashville church seeking summer day camp director. Plan and implement program for approximately 100 1st-8th graders and supervise staff of 15. Camp open Monday-Friday. College degree and experience preferred. Fax resume to (615) 361-5732.

MINISTRIES — POSITIONS

Needed: part-time music director and part-time organist for Sulphur Springs Baptist Church, 1567 Gray/Sulphur Springs Rd., Jonesborough, TN 37659. Please submit resume with references.

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Registration information may be obtained by emailing sndyosbrn@aol.com, including the sender's name and address; by phone, at (636) 227-7850; by downloading a set of forms for

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each child at www.sbcnationalmeeting.org; or by writing to SBC Childcare, Sandstone, Ballwin Baptist Church, 15101 Manchester Road, Ballwin, MO 63011. □

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MINISTRIES — MUSIC

SBC seeks full-time music minister. Exceptional professional opportunity for creative, experienced, and skilled church musician. Music degree preferred. Send resume to Secretary, Minister of Music Search Committee, First Baptist Church Box 508, McMinnville, TN 37110.

MINISTRIES — STUDENT

Part-time youth minister. Send resume to PGBC, Gann Rd., Hixson, TN 37343. email pgbc@bellsouth.net

❖ ❖ ❖

First Baptist Church of Smithville, Tenn., is seeking an experienced part-time minister of youth. We are looking for a growing, diverse, vision-oriented church located in the hills of middle Tennessee on beautiful Smithville Hill Lake. Our focus is winning youth to Christ, equipping them in the faith, broadening their involvement in worship and service. Applicant must be able to work in a staff, team-oriented environment and should possess pastoral leadership, organizational people skills. Married applicants with seminary degree preferred. Send resume to Youth Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 101 West Church St., Smithville, TN 37166.

MINISTRIES — PASTOR

New Harmony Baptist Church, Savannah, Tenn., is currently seeking a full-time pastor. Send resume to the New Harmony Baptist Church, 610 N. Bridge Rd., Savannah, TN 38372. For more information, call (731) 926-4167.

❖ ❖ ❖

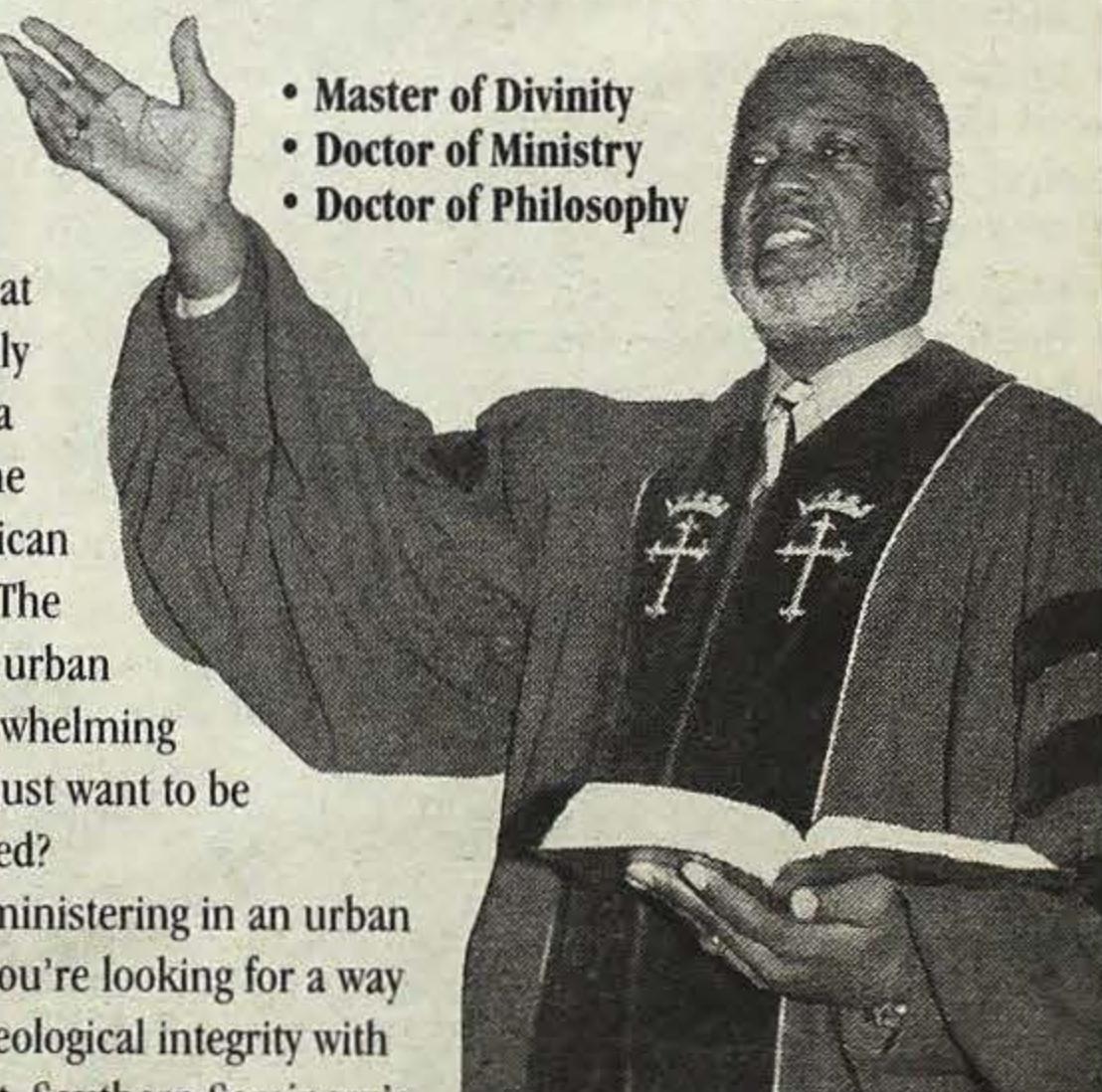
McLean Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., is seeking a bilingual pastoralist to serve a mid-town church. Interested parties may contact the church, 815 N. McLean, Memphis, TN 38107, Attn. Pastor Search Committee.

❖ ❖ ❖

Celina First Baptist Church, Celina, Tenn., is seeking a bilingual pastoralist with a vision for ministry and growth. Position immediately available. Send resume to Ministerial Search Committee, c/o Kenneth Beatty, P.O. Box 217, Celina, TN 38551, 243-6725 (office) or 243-6725 (home).

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Scott Shepherd

The days, it seems that everyone in the Church is talking about worship. Differences of concerning worship style have gone so far congregations as to actually split churches. churches across the United States have their congregation with the style of worshiping the church's main distinguishing "Country Western Grace Church," and "Church." (I'm not kidding!)

Furthermore, when people are asked about their worship, they most often respond with "we contemporary worship," or "our worship is!" Unfortunately, these answers describe the church, rather than adequately or valuing the church's worship.

that in our modern discussions, disagree and wars concerning worship, we have the point of what worship actually is. Worship is not synonymous with one particular style. worship is not concerned with style at all.

What does God have to say about worship in the Bible? What are His requirements, and is style consideration? When the word worship is in both the Old and the New Testament it essentially the same thing. In the Old Testament words are predominantly used: *shachah*. "Abad connotes the idea of work, bond-labor, or general service, which is a form of labor." Paul's words in Romans relate this idea therefore, I urge you, brethren, by the method, to present your bodies a living and holy acceptable to God, which is your spiritual of worship" (Romans 12:1). The word means to prostrate oneself or bow before worshiped. We read in Matthew 2:11, wise men "fell to the ground and worshipped the Christ child. This is a wonderful image of the New Testament word for worship: *proskynō* and means essentially the same thing: to prostrate oneself in homage, to reverence, with the added picture of kissing him."

the Biblical picture of worship is to bow before God. More specifically, it is the act of bowing hearts before God. It is the willing submission of our hearts, our wills, our all as we offer our lives living sacrifices, acceptable to God." □ — Scott Shepherd is minister of music and worship of First Baptist Church, Paris.

just for today

Red Wood, retired pastor, Memphis

With A Smile: Pet shop customer: "How about that large dog in the kennel?" Clerk: "Customer: "How much for the small dog here?" Clerk: "\$100." Customer: "How much tiny little dog over there?" Clerk: "\$200." Clerk: "How much would it be if I didn't buy at all?"

This Truth: Some people know more and less and less until they soon know about everything.

For This Scripture: "For whosoever him shall be given ... but whosoever hath him shall be taken away even that he — Matthew 13:12, NIV

This Prayer: Lord, help me to realize without Jesus things will get worse and



Share Your Faith
with Others

Praying that focuses on God

By Ernest Standerfer

Focal passage — Daniel 9:1-10, 15-19

During an overseas mission trip several years ago a guide led us to see one of the temples of the area. Once inside she asked if she could pray for us. Before beginning her prayer, she raised her arms over her head and clapped. Later a missionary explained that she was seeking the god's attention before she prayed.

The Bible helps us understand beyond doubt, that we have God's attention. Daniel prayed with that conviction. He believed that the time of Jeremiah's prediction concerning the "desolation of Jerusalem" (v. 2) would soon be fulfilled, and he began to seek God's help for Israel and its spiritual needs.

Earlier Daniel thanked and praised God for giving him wisdom to interpret the kings' dreams (2:23) and told the king "there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries" (ch. 2:28).

When Daniel learned of a decree to pray only to the king (chapter 6) "he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before" (ch. 6:10). Because he was sent to and survived the lion's den for ignoring the decree and praying to God, the king issued a new proclamation about the God in whom Daniel believed. "For he is the

living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end" (v. 26).

In private and public, Daniel expressed strong convictions about the power of his God. Daniel was not asked to intercede. He was not an official prophet or a member of a priestly family. Yet he prayed and his deep convictions about prayer and the nature of his God to whom he prayed inspire us. Like Daniel.

We pray to a great and awesome God (vv. 1-4). Coming before God in "sackcloth and ashes" (v. 3) Daniel confessed: "O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with all who love him and obey his command" (v. 4). God's incomparable greatness, faithfulness, and steadfast love assures and encourages us when we pray.

We pray to a righteous God (ch. 9:5-10, 15-16). "Lord, you are righteous" (v. 7), and Daniel confessed "we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws" (v. 5). Like Israel our hope is rooted in the character of our righteous God and not in our cleverness or plans.

We pray to a merciful God (vv. 17-19). Daniel depended on God's "great mercy" (v. 19), and believed that his prayer would be heard. With no self-interest and deep concern for God's name, Daniel prayed. "We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy" (v. 18).

As we pray remember that God

Sunday School Lesson
Family Bible Series
March 16

knows us — our sins, our weaknesses, and our strengths. He cares about us and our concerns and responds with compassion toward us. Praise God, He hears and responds to our prayers.



STANDERFER

My daughter wrote a song, "You Are My God" that captures Daniel's understanding of God and the confidence we can have when we pray to Him.

"I read in Your Word that You delight in me, that You know my thoughts, my hurts, and fears. You know my days, my life, my years. I'm amazed to know Creator of the world would know my heart and God of all the universe would give me a new start.

"You're an awesome God, a holy God, a loving and gracious friend.

"You're almighty God, powerful God, with greater love than we can comprehend.

"You are powerful and strong, gentle and kind, daring and true,

"You make each day new, and You never fail to love me. You are my God." □ — Standerfer is a retired pastor and a member of Judson Baptist Church, Nashville.

Honor the Lord

By Joe Brooks

Focal passage — I Kings 5:2-7; 6:11-14; 7:51

Today, I will conquer procrastination. Well ... maybe tomorrow.

Sadly, this is our story, this is our song. We possess good intentions about acting on our good intentions. We wish for growth. We hunger and thirst for righteousness. We want patience. We want it now.

But, we develop a handicap; a malady that a pop psychologist might call "Intentionally Challenged." Things hinder us. Maybe we feel too small; overwhelmed. Maybe we're underwhelmed. Perhaps we're just whelmed.

Solomon can be a great friend for the intentionally challenged person. The time for building the temple was at hand. David's noble intentions, but bloody hands were not the proper instruments for the holy work of temple building. It was a noble dream, but God denied that dream.

Solomon's wisdom brought David's intention into reality. Solomon's heart and hands were uniquely and providentially prepared for the task. He led Israel in a God-sized vision. For seven years, Israel built a house in which the Lord could dwell among His people. Solomon mixed building with pleasing the Lord.

He strengthened his relationships with Hiram, king of Tyre. Hiram provided lumber and lumberjacks. Solomon provided the food and lodging for the men. Need: the mother of invention, birthed a satisfying, con-

tinued relationship between the two countries and their leaders.

Solomon set a course and lived by faith. The intentions conceived in David's heart were birthed during Solomon's kingly reign. Nothing is more sickening than a hope denied and deferred, but nothing is sweeter than a desire accomplished and achieved (Proverbs 13:12).

We live in an age where our pace is as fast as our food. And our pace — even on a slow day is the speed of the information super highway. Instant messages and instant connections; they give us the appearance that we are the most intentional persons in the world.

But, have you noticed how really unintentional and accidental we sometimes live our lives? Often, our intentions of honoring the Lord are mere talk; the least expensive form of communication in the world. Does James describe us? Are we looking into the mirror (the Bible) and then forgetting what we saw (James 1:24)?

Oh, sure, someday, we'll change. We'll conquer procrastination. Maybe tomorrow.

What would have happened in Israel if Solomon would have had that attitude? Without the king's intentional obedience — no temple. Without the temple — no place of God's presence. Without a symbolic place of God's presence — no place for Jesus



BROOKS

Sunday School Lesson
Explore the Bible
March 16

to teach during his earthly ministry.

"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." (Hebrews 3:7). Today is a field in which God plants a kingdom sized vision in our hearts. Today is a ripe, succulent fruit ready for picking. Use it for God's glory. Build an intentional life for the kingdom of God and the lives of people you love.

Today, as James said, (James 4:15) is a vanishing mist; here today, and, gone tomorrow.

In other news, let me remind one faithful B&R reader in Cookeville, of the power of intentional praying. Once upon a Sunday, Mildred Brooks, the pastor's wife of Big Spring Baptist Church, Cleveland, struggled weekly (weakly?) with her small boy through worship services. Prayers of lamentation reached heaven every Sunday. One such prayer went something like "Joe, if you don't be still God is going to call you to preach."

After I finish this article, I might just slip into the empty sanctuary and sit for a few moments in the fourth row, center aisle of Big Spring Baptist Church. The very place where mama prayed all those prayers. I'll think and thank on days gone by. Today, Mar. 4, is my first year anniversary as pastor here at Big Spring. Mama, your prayers were answered. □ — Brooks is pastor of Big Spring Baptist Church, Cleveland.

Deaths

◆ **James Edwin "Ed" Byers** died Feb. 24. He was 89 years old. Byers served as pastor of Ridgetop Baptist Church, Ridgetop; as a volunteer with T.W. Hunt and the national prayer corps of Life-Way Christian Resources, Nashville; as a pastor in Texas; missionary in the Northwest Baptist Convention; and Mission Service Corps volunteer in Texas.

Leaders

◆ **Nick King**, pastor, Gum Springs Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, was ordained Feb. 16 by Wales Baptist Church, Pulaski.

◆ **Richard Hallmark** has been called as minister of music, Trinity Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg.

◆ On Jan. 26 a Pro Life Rally was held at the Lawrenceburg City Administration Building to consider the moral dilemma forced on people because of the legalization of abortion. The rally drew about 300 people. Speakers included **Steve Clark**, pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg; Lincoln Davis, U.S. Congressman; Joey Hensley, state legislator; and representatives of the Church of Christ, Methodist church, Church of God, Roman Catholic Church, and the area's Pro Life Chapter. The event was sponsored by the Lawrenceburg Ministerial Association and the Pro Life Chapter.

◆ Concord Baptist Church, Chattanooga, called **Aaron Martin** as minister of students, effective Jan. 5. He formerly served a church in Birmingham, Ala.

◆ Hickman Baptist Church, Hickman, has called **Donald Elmore** of Lebanon as pastor.

◆ **Fred Long** has been called as pastor of Frost Bottom Baptist Church, Oliver Springs.

◆ Cornerstone Baptist Church, Clinton, has called **Jim Hulse** as pastor.

◆ **Terry Samples**, senior pastor, Cragfont Baptist Church, Castalian Springs, served recently in Australia where he spoke at a ministers' conference.

◆ **Jim Clark and Gary Cate** of Sharon Baptist Church, Knoxville, returned home March 5 after **Disaster Relief** service in Portsmouth, Ohio, for the Southern Baptist Convention, reported Lloyd Blackwell of the Tennessee Baptist Convention staff. Residents of Portsmouth are suffering the effects of a recent ice storm. The Tennesseans joined other DR volunteers serving there. They helped clean the yards of 10 residents and conducted damage assessments.

SBC DR work, which also included feeding of storm victims and volunteers, was closed March 6.

◆ First Baptist Church, Doyle, called **Garvin Haley** as interim pastor, effective March 2.

◆ **Jamie Rogers** has been called as pastor, McCloud Baptist Church, Rogersville.

◆ **Charles Randle** has been called as pastor of Life Way Baptist Church, Atoka.

◆ **Dennis Deese**, pastor, First Baptist Church, Hunter, Elizabethton, was honored for 10 years of service Feb. 2.

Churches

◆ Members of **Lincoln Park Baptist Church, Knoxville**, will serve in Guatemala June 14-21. They will help build a church building.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Clifton**, will hold revival



HELPING LEAD THE Open House Celebration of Iglesia Bautista La Gran Comisión (Great Commission Baptist Church), Morristown, March 2-3 were, from left, James Williams, director of missions, Nolachucky Baptist Association, based in Morristown; Alexis Andino, pastor, Hispanic Baptist Ministry First Baptist Church, Lebanon; and William Burton, pastor, Iglesia Bautista La Gran Comisión church is remodeling a 7,200-square-foot grocery store. In the two and a half years since it was gregation. The celebration drew 147. Andino spoke at the Saturday evening open house and day morning celebration. Six adults made professions of faith.

March 23-26. Ronnie Wilburn, president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and director of missions, Shelby Baptist Association, based in Memphis, will speak. Wilburn was former pastor of the church and met and married his wife, Barbara, there. Donnie Craig, pastor of the church, will lead the music. For more information, call the church at (931) 676-5211.

◆ Michael Mason, an evangelist of Decatur, Ala., will lead the March 16-20 revival at **First Baptist Church, Livingston**. Gary Allen, interim music minister of the church, will lead the music. For more information, contact the church at dcobb@fbc-livingston.com or (931) 823-2096.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Lexington**, will begin revival services March 23. Phil Glisson, evangelist of Memphis, will speak.

◆ **New Vision Church, Athens**, needs help canvassing its community prior to a HOPE crusade beginning on Easter. The outreach activity will be

held April 5 and 12. For more information, contact DeWayne Howard, senior pastor, at (423) 507-0062 or pastor@newvisionchurch.info.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Greenville**, will hold a women's conference, "Who Holds the Key to Your Heart?" March 28-29. Lysa TerKuerst of The Proverbs 31 Ministry will speak. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. on Friday and ends at 2 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, call the church at (423) 639-3194 or contact www.fbcwomensconf.homestead.com.

◆ **Hillcrest Baptist Church, Clarksville**, will hold revival March 16-19. David Miller will speak.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Calhoun**, will hold revival March 16-19. Phil Glisson, evangelist based in Memphis, will speak.

◆ **Eldad Baptist Church, Trenton**, celebrated its 175th anniversary as a church Feb. 16.

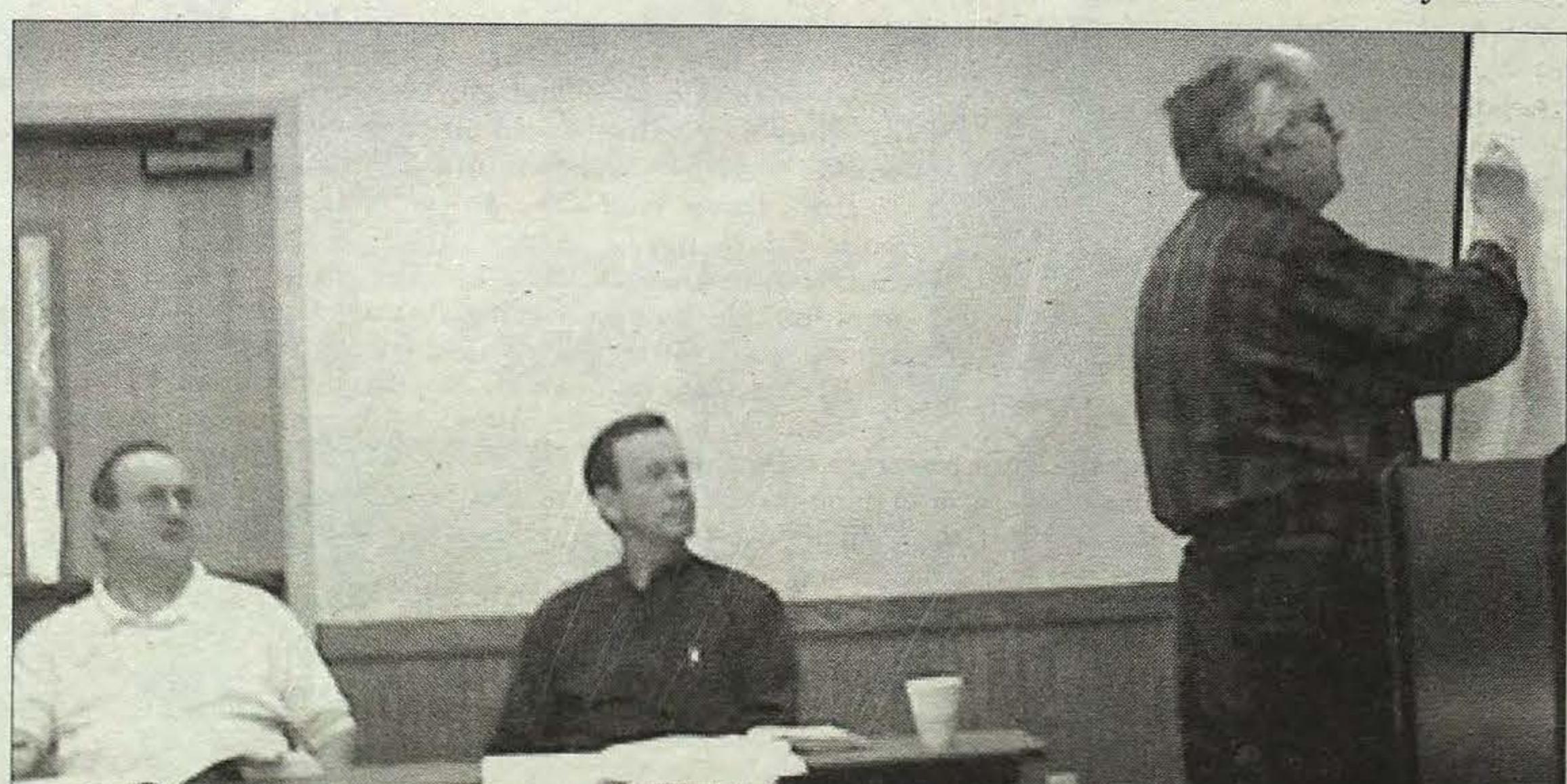
◆ **First Baptist Church, Middleton**, will hold revival March 23-26. Eddie Little, pastor, Hickory Withe Baptist Church, Hickory Withe, will speak. For more information, call the church at (731) 376-8373.

◆ **Eastview Baptist Church, Ramer**, will hold revival March 16-19. Brian Rainey, pastor, First Baptist Church, Michie, will speak.

◆ **Clear Springs Baptist Church, Mascot**, held revival Feb. 16-19. Morris Anderson spoke and Roger McCown led the music. As a result eight people made professions of faith and many others made other spiritual decisions.

Associations

◆ **Nolachucky Baptist Association**, based in Morris-



JAMES PORCH, right, executive director, Tennessee Baptist Convention, based in Brentwood, leads a retreat for 13 pastors of Beech River Baptist Association held Feb. 21-22 at Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center, Linden. The pastors included, from left, Danny Ray, Bible Hill Baptist Church, Parsons, and Jimmy Burroughs, Pine Grove Baptist Church, Parker's Crossroads. The association is based in Lexington. — Photo by Mike Thrower, director of missions, Beech River association

town, will partner with Western Indiana Association three years. The act taken by the association board Feb. 3.

◆ The Vacation School clinic of Loudon County Baptist Association reported in last week's E be held April 1 at First Church, Lenoir City, 1 p.m. For more information, Jan Treadway at (865) 453-1851.

◆ Hamilton County Baptist Association, b Chattanooga, will hold a conference for family caregivers "Aging With Grace," at Brainerd Hills Church, Chattanooga. Conference will be held

a.m. to 1:50 p.m. The speaker will be Seneca Alexian Village of Tennessee. Workshops include "Issues Facing Seniors," "Elder Care Management — Sure the Pill Goes Right," "Ministry to Givers," "Early Detection of Dementia," "Repeat Prescribing for Grandparents Who are Caregivers of their children." Other works

"An Opportunity for Clergy Leaders to Improve Skills through Clinical Education," and "Financial Planning for the Years." For more information, contact the association at 267-3794 or hcba@baptistassociation.com.

◆ Cumberland Baptist Association, based in Clarksville, will hold a Revival Rally March 14-15. Charles S. Kellogg, president, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will speak. Sheila B. Jones will present a seminar. The rally will be held at Cummins Drive Baptist Church, Clarksville. For more information, contact the association at (931) 358-9036 or cbap@cbap.com.