

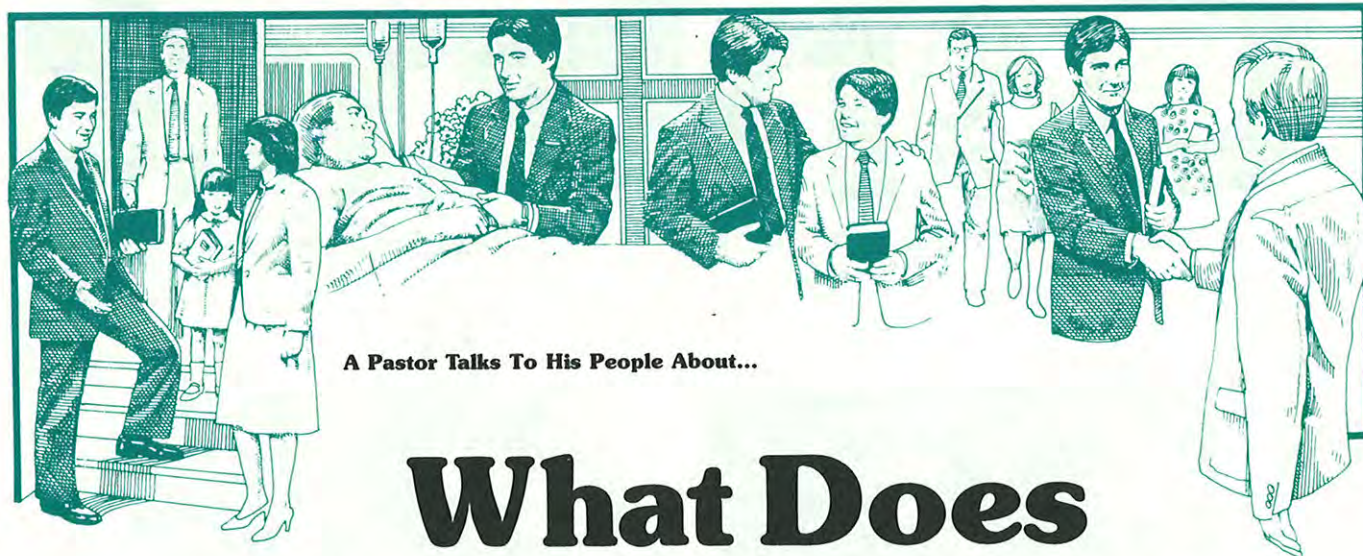
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1986 Pastor Appreciation Issue



A Pastor Talks To His People About...

What Does A Preacher Do?

By Carroll Alexander

One snowy day several years ago I was busy at my desk. The oil man came to make a delivery, and I stepped to the window to give him some instructions. Although it was mid-morning he said, "Oh, I'm sorry that I woke you up."

"You did not wake me," I said, "I was working here at the house." He looked surprised, almost like I wasn't telling the truth. It appeared to him that anyone not delivering oil in the snow could not possibly be working.

This is typical. Preachers have often been asked, "What do you do all week?" (Note: The "all week" inference means that "one who has no clock to punch could not find much to do all week.")

There are breaks in a minister's schedule, it is true, just as with anyone who plans his own schedule. However, it's also true that the man who does not punch a clock to start doesn't punch one to stop.

The problem is deciding what's most important, finding how to leave off the less important without being misunderstood, dealing with interruptions—both the necessary and the unnecessary, and trying to crowd too many activities into an impossible length of time. A survey showed that most ministers interviewed

put in twice the hours of the normal working man.

So what does a preacher do? Often it's an honest question that deserves an answer. The following list came to mind in a matter of minutes:

Preach

He prepares and preaches messages. This often involves seven sermons per week including radio, prison services and other special services.

Visit

He has thousands of unsaved and unchurched people at his doorstep who need to be visited. A good message never helped an empty pew. This is really the work of everyone, but the pastor knows that few Christians ever do anything about it, so he feels the constant pressure of this load.

He visits in the hospitals. Sometimes there are people (even connected with a small church) in seven hospitals at once, with several patients in each. Often great distance and prolonged illness is involved.

Entertain

He entertains (don't forget the wife's responsibilities that the layman's wife seldom knows) missionaries, evangelists, students, servicemen and people passing through town.

Correspondence

There's also a mountain of correspondence—church business, letters of counselling and witnessing, bond work, work for quarterly conference, state and national outreach. Your pastor often drops more than 20 pieces of mail a day into the post office.

Counsel

There are many hours of counselling with people about their problems. This is important and any dedicated pastor is glad to help. Sometimes a pastor has people in his study or living room, also on the phone, and others waiting on the porch.

Many of these problems are unavoidable by the persons involved. Usually they are the result of those many messages that fell on empty church seats while the one in trouble neglected church. Often it is too late. Some problems are too late even for God to change.

Telephone

There's also the telephone ministry. Your pastor has been on the phone for hours at the time. My record is two hours and 22 minutes, and that while dinner waited on the table. This is un-called for, sore ears and all.

Phones are nice for business and great time savers. However, some problems

call for a personal appointment with your pastor. Often friendly calls made "to be nice" come at the most difficult times—like when you are almost late for an appointment or when you just sat down to the one good meal you've had opportunity for all day. Use your phone but do not abuse it.

Special Services

He serves as a go-between in marriage or other disputes. He gives limited legal counsel on many problems.

He conducts weddings and funerals, works in youth camps and other denominational projects. In many states a pastor is expected to attend nine weeks (computed on five-day basis) of meetings per year, not counting any boards he might serve on that may involve additional time. This also involves thousands of miles.

He conducts revivals and usually preaches several per year.

He serves on boards and committees in denominational work such as examining future preachers, etc.

He's transportation director for people needing rides to church. My route here has run as high as 72-80 miles per Sunday regularly plus extra visitation.

He assists newcomers in finding living quarters, helps others with various problems when leaving like selling their auto as well as business with Veterans Administration.

Miscellaneous

—Consider the ministry for the out-of-town and out-of-state folks. Pastors receive many calls to visit relatives or members in hospitals, prisons or elsewhere. This is as it should be, however it involves a lot of time never seen by the local church.

—Business reports to church, quarterly meetings, conferences, state, national, auxiliaries, etc.; assisting church officers with book work, planning missionary itineraries.

—Detail work: making sure that flowers have been delivered to the hospital or funeral home, errands for church members and pastors out of town. This is part of being a good neighbor (a lost art today) and should be welcomed by all but not abused.

—Cleaning church: for the pastor who hasn't taught his people to do it or the group which will not learn or those who "forget." Some folks "forget" two weeks out of four in a cleaning month. A

preacher is wasting his time preaching to visitors in a dirty church and he knows it. This also includes whatever other chores he has accepted such as lawn mowing, painting, etc.

Summary

In spite of his responsibility, the average minister is paid less than school teachers. Many ministers supplement their income. This is difficult, since part-time work has few benefits and odd hours.

The pastor's wife often assumes this responsibility. This is a tremendous help but does not relieve the pressure felt by the whole family. This is something non-tithers should consider.

In spite of it all, no man of God would trade jobs with anybody else in the world. He loves his work—tensions, misunderstandings, ribbing about "nothing to do," ulcers and all thrown in, and could never be happy with 40 hours per week and a weekend at the lake. His goal is to work the works of Him that sent him because the night is coming when no man can work (John 9:4).

Someone said, "The ministry is not a job to be done but a life to be lived." It involves a lot of both.

Believe it or not, there is more that I'll think about as soon as this is in print. I've planned to write such an article for a long time, but have not found time...I wonder why?

This is not an appeal for sympathy for the ministry but a call for understanding. This is one of the minister's greatest desires. With it, the burden and work load is blessed; without it, his heart aches.

Perhaps you'll have a ready answer the next time someone asks the pastor, "What do you do all week?" ▲



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Carroll G. Alexander pastors Columbia Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, South Carolina.

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Directives for the Pulpit Committee

By Tim Jordan



I. When The Need For A Pastor Arises

- A. Request prayer meeting by church leadership.
- B. Discuss immediate leadership need for church.
- C. Locate interim pastor—secure and explain job description.
- D. Work with church staff to avoid feelings of insecurity.
- E. Don't get in a hurry.
- F. Don't waste time.

II. Ask Church-wide Involvement

- A. Prayer meetings—Sunday School classes, CTS groups, ladies and men groups.
- B. Give names of prospective pastors to deacon board and pulpit committee.
- C. Contact denominational leaders and ask for their input regarding names.
- D. As names come in, check through denominational directory to see if preachers are in good standing.
- E. Request that resumes answer specific questions. Size of church now pastoring? Size of staff? Any trouble complying with I Timothy 3?
- F. Enclose return envelope, and allow member who gave prospective pastor's name to see his reply.
- G. Ask prospective pastor to give reply even if answer is negative.
- H. What is his "philosophy" in building and maintaining church growth?
- I. Please Note: Do not criticize, condemn or complain about any previous pastor or denominational leader. This will give a negative reputation to your church. Be positive and progres-

sive and demonstrate purity in leadership.

III. When Replies Return

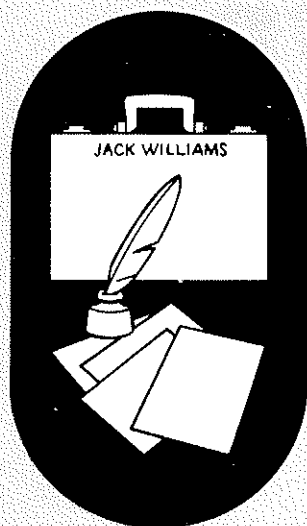
- A. If resume is sketchy and some obvious oversights observed, contact denominational leaders for information.
- B. Promptly reply to inquiring prospective pastor's request. You can observe his promptness also.
- C. Send to prospective pastor as much church history as available—spiritual, financial, physical size, numbers, etc.
- D. Prepare a Sunday through Wednesday or a Wednesday through Sunday series of meetings with prospective pastor. Set time to ask questions:
 - Do you pay your bills on time?
 - Do you tithe through the local church?
 - Do you support the Cooperative Program? If not, why not?
 - Do you plan to take an active role in quarterly meetings, state and national meetings?
 - What is your view of eschatology?

- Do you support Master's Men and Woman's Auxiliary programs?
 - Will denominational representatives be welcome in the church?
 - What magazines do you regularly read? Subscribe to?
 - What is your view on KJV, NIV, NKJV, The Living Bible, etc.?
 - Do you support/participate in church sports programs?
 - What do you know about Free Will Baptist history and its role in American history?
 - What are your feelings about blacks, hispanics and other ethnic groups in Free Will Baptist churches?
 - Do you see the media (TV, radio, newspapers, direct mail, etc.) as friend or foe?
 - What do you like most about Free Will Baptists? What do you dislike most?
 - How do you get along with other preachers? Do you mind if we ask some?
 - What do you do best?
- E. When a decision is made, inform all prospective pastors of your decision as a gesture of Christian courtesy.

Conclusion:

The final role for a pulpit committee is for a senior committee member to stand at the back of the church the first Sunday the new preacher comes and introduce him to every member as they exit, and call them by the name they wish to be called. This will expedite the main stream of operations for the new pastor and help him serve the people's needs best. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Tim Jordan is a member of First Free Will Baptist Church, Albany, Georgia. He was elected to the Master's Men Board in 1985.



Pastor's Enemy No. 1

Some time ago, R. G. LeToumeau, owner of a large earth-moving equipment company, told this story. "We used to have a scraper known as the model 'G.' Somebody asked one of our salesmen one day what the 'G' stood for. The salesman was pretty quick on the trigger, and so after thinking a few seconds, replied, 'Well, I guess the 'G' stands for gossip, because like gossip, this machine moves a lot of dirt and moves it fast!'"

Did you know that the pastor is defenseless against gossip? He's often the last person to hear a rumor, especially if it involves him.

For instance, someone gossips that the pastor doesn't visit enough in the community. That's one of the hardest rumors to disprove, because nobody's sure how much pastoral visiting is "enough." And usually the guy who says the pastor doesn't do enough isn't doing *any* himself.

Even if the pastor makes all the visits his schedule will allow, it only takes one disgruntled mouth to start a rumor by whispering that "the pastor is lazy and doesn't visit." Then, if the minister takes his family on a picnic or to a ball game, some member sees him, assumes he should be making pastoral visits, and the gossip gets new life.

Another insidious bit of gossip implies that the pastor doesn't study like he should. While it's true that some pastors coast from sermon to sermon, that's not the case with most ministers. However, no matter how well

a minister prepares, there's always a vocal somebody who thinks he didn't.

The local pastor competes with slick religious television programs every time he steps into the pulpit. Sound amusing? If you're a doctor, how well do you compare on Thursday nights with Bill Cosby's Dr. Cliff Huxtable?

Suppose you're a father trying to teach his children restraint and respect for human life. How does your advice sound to your son when he hears the roar of a TV hero's 357 magnum and a snarling, "Go ahead; make my day?" Sure it's unfair comparison. Remember that the next time your pastor loses out to the PTL Club.

The most deadly gossip of all is the suggestive rumor that the pastor may be too friendly with his secretary or the church pianist or another man's wife.

All right, it does happen, but it's the exception and not the rule. While some pastors have committed adultery, does that justify tarring every pastor with the same brush? Why twist a friendly smile, a caring word to imply immorality?

The poor pastor—all it takes to destroy 20 years in the ministry is one sexual rumor. You can be sure that while rumors of a fire will never burn a building, the opposite is true regarding ministerial immorality. Rumors can permanently cripple your pastor.

Do your pastor a favor. Treat his reputation like it was your own. Give him the benefit of the doubt. Guard him from wagging tongues that separate closest friends (Proverbs 16:28).

The scripture warns to "touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm" (I Chronicles 16:22). Before you start a rumor about the pastor, re-read this verse. Before you believe unsubstantiated rumors, demand the facts. You'll be glad you did.

Don't get the reputation for being the 'G' machine in your community—the

person who moves a lot of dirt and moves it fast.

Proverbs advises, "Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles" (21:23).

Reject gossip and rumor. Insist on facts, not theory or inference. Remember, someday somewhere, somebody will turn on you and gossip about you. You'll want a friend to hush the gossip and tell the truth.

No one is immune to gossip and rumor. The duty of every church member is to love the pastor and to challenge those who smear his reputation. The pastor has enough problems fighting real issues. He doesn't need to be hounded, tried and convicted by someone's over-active imagination.

All a man of God has going for him is his reputation. Once that's gone he has no credibility, no audience, no ministry.

If members don't love their pastor enough to dispel rumors and throttle gossip mongers, God may send him to a congregation who will!

Every church needs a rumor and gossip killer. Maybe you'd like the job. Stop rumors. Stamp out gossip. Hold it up to light and let people see how ugly and damaging loose talk can be.

Any church member who sees a man with a loaded gun going about the community threatening to shoot the pastor wouldn't hesitate to warn him. The next time you meet someone stalking the community poisoning the pastor's reputation with rumors, rebuke him in the name of Jesus and tell the pastor about it.

Every pastor is a target who lives in a glass house. He has as many bosses as he does members. Your pastor is often a friendless man. Go to him. Support him. Love him. Encourage him. Pray for him. Respond to him. Believe in him. He needs you as much as you need him.

The Best Pastor in Town

By Richard P. Kennedy



So you want to be the best pastor in town, do you? Is there such a thing as holy ambition? Paul wrote young Timothy and said, "It is a true saying that if a man wants to be a pastor he has a good ambition" (I Timothy 3:1 TLB). The way we interpret the word "best" will have a tremendous influence on the way we perceive ourselves and the ministry God has called us to perform.

Paul also cautioned us lest we fall among the ranks of those who, "...comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise" (II Corinthians 10:12). Ambition to be better than everyone else in town could hardly be considered holy. If we feel compelled to outstrip our peers, we had better brush up on our walk-on-water routine!

On the other hand, we would do well to adopt the slogan of the U.S. Army and determine under God to be all that we can be.

I firmly believe that the key to being your best is to have a firm grip on understanding your calling. At times it seems everybody knows what the pastor ought to be doing, except the pastor! Often I

have been reminded of my responsibilities from a well-meaning parishioner based on his or her expectations. The rub comes when expectations do not coincide. Some feel the pastor should be in his study 30-40 hours a week; others feel that time should be spent in visitation.

Pierce Harris hit the nail on the head when he said, "The modern preacher has to make as many visits as a country doctor, shake as many hands as a politician, propose as many laws as a lawyer, and see as many people as a specialist. He has to be as good an executive as the president of the university, as good a financier as a bank president; and in the midst of it all, he has to be as good a diplomat that he could umpire a baseball game between the Knights of Columbus and the Ku Klux Klan."

What's a pastor to do? That sense of frustration is a leading contributor to losing heart in the ministry. The danger of this whole dilemma is to fall into what Edward Batcher has termed the "walk-on-water syndrome." To govern your life by the expectations of others will lead to utter frustration.

Conflicting expectations are like a tight shoe. They begin with a pinch, but left unattended, they soon become painfully tender to the slightest touch. To attempt to be omnipotent and error-free on the one hand, and all-loving and all-compassionate on the other, will lead to burn out or, worse yet, drop out.

How is a pastor to interpret success? By what standard does he measure success? In every man's heart he must work through all the measuring sticks of success offered today and determine God's calling for his life and allow that, and only that, to be his standard of success. I believe the key to grasping the call of God is a well-defined understanding of his role as pastor.

He is to be: 1) Ministry leader, 2) Shepherd of the flock and 3) Man of God.

Ministry Leader

As ministry leader, the pastor is to respond to God's command by, "...taking the oversight of it [the flock of God]" (I Peter 5:20). Above all, the call to pastor is a call to lead. Let there be no doubt, the pastor is commissioned under God to lead the work of the ministry. That's not to say he is to do it all, but he is responsible to see that it is all done.

Peter further adds, "Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being

examples to the flock" (I Peter 5:3). It's a fact... we lead best by example. That was Jesus' master key to making disciples. As His disciples were with Him and observed Him they learned what it meant to be His disciples.

All discipling is not done in the classroom; some must be done in the arena of everyday life. The truth of the matter, whether good or bad, is that in time the people become like their ministry leader. Are we attempting to disciple people to be like they "ought to be" or like we are ourselves?

Is it our goal in life to be the chief heretic or to disciple and delegate to able men (II Timothy 2:2)? There's no tougher job than laboring alone. Though Jesus is the Savior, He did not attempt to save the world single-handedly. Neither should we. As pastors we must see ourselves as "joint equippers" (Ephesians 4:11-12). Without this perspective we will be mediocre at best.

Shepherd of the Flock

As shepherd of the flock we have a three-fold responsibility: 1) lead, 2) lead and 3) weed. Feeding involves teaching the people God's promises and principles. Leading involves showing them by example and committing spiritual tasks into the hands of faithful men. Weeding involves warning the flock of the traps, snares and doubts that lie in wait to strangle them.

The reward for faithfully shepherding God's flock is that when, "...the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (I Peter 5:4). It is not yet time to reap on laurels. The reward comes later. Now is the battle, the building, the bringing of people to Christ.

Man of God

In no other realm of the ministry is the pastor more distinguished than in his role as man of God. The little lassie maid, held captive in Syria, had no doubt that the cure for Naaman's leprosy was as close as the man of God in Samaria! That same confidence is neither commanded or demanded but is earned by paying the price of being in communion with God and possessing a true servant's heart.

J. Oswald Sanders said, "True greatness, true leadership, is achieved not by reducing man to one's service but in giving oneself in selfless service to them."

How often I have reflected on the counsel of Jethro when he told Moses,

"Be thou for the people to Godward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God" (Exodus 18:19b). The greatest task the pastor performs is to bring the people's concerns to God in prayer, and to bring the concerns of God to the people in preaching.

It was a rude but much needed awakening to me when one day I realized a majority of the tasks I was doing on a day-to-day basis could be done equally well by my fifth-grade daughter! The counsel of Jethro must be heeded by God's men today.

It is only as we learn to delegate what others can do that we will have time to do what only we can do. Until we come to grips with our calling and define it from a scriptural perspective, we will continue to fight like flies while the world races toward hell.

In Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, Christian pays a visit to the house of the iron-paster where he beholds some interesting pictures. One is that of the true pastor. He had eyes fixed up to heaven, the beam of truth in his hand, the law of truth written upon his lips, the world behind him; he stood as if he pleaded with men, and a crown of gold did hang over his head.

This seven-fold portrait projects the beautiful balance of a man in ministry. He is a man who has determined his priorities, established his standard of success and moves forward with a firm grip on his calling from God.

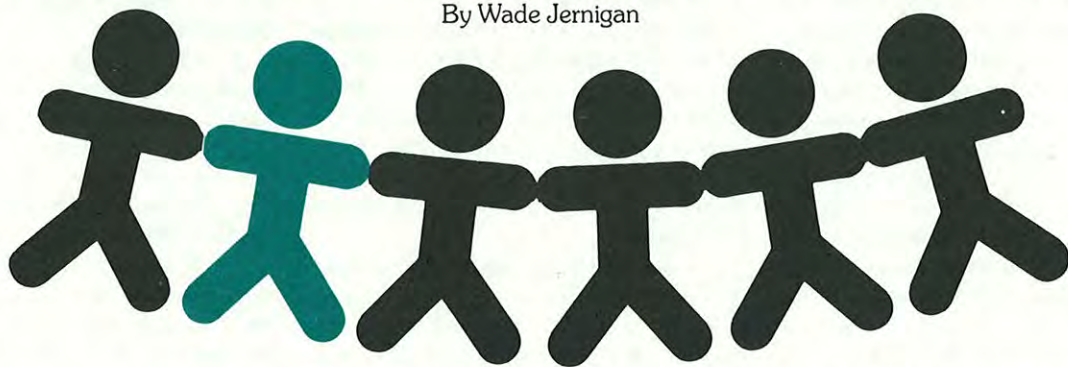
Heads up, pastor friend! He who has called us has also equipped us to do the work of the ministry. When you are doing what God wants you to do, where He wants you to do it and like He wants it done, you are at your best!



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Richard Kennedy is the founder and pastor of Christian Free Will Baptist Church, Los Angeles, California.

What It Means To Be A Free Will Baptist Preacher

By Wade Jernigan



Well documented is the fact that Free Will Baptists hold tenaciously to Paul's statement to Timothy, "The husbandman that laboreth must be first partaker of the fruits" (II Timothy 2:6). Every licentiate must give a clear cut testimony of conversion. He may be asked about church membership, baptism and such like, but the paramount thing will be, "Are you saved?"

Converted

Though those examining him may stress the importance of those things attendant to salvation, they primarily want to know about an experience of grace—a conversion. This is in keeping with Paul's message to the would-be instructors and teachers of Romans 2:21-22 when he asked "thou that preachest a man should not . . . dost thou . . .?"

Reading on through the chapter gives one the clear understanding that the apostle wanted the preacher to have experienced "circumcision . . . of the heart, in the spirit . . ." (Romans 2:29). Paul almost boastfully gave account time and again of his conversion in colorful details.

Preachers are not singled out by Peter in I Peter 3:15, but neither are they excluded when he states "but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." Free Will Baptist preachers are converted.

Called

"No man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called . . ." (Hebrews 5:4). There's never an examination or ordination of a preacher among Free Will

Baptists where a call is not emphasized. Christ set the stage and gave the pattern when " . . . He ordained twelve, that they should be with Him, and that He might send them forth to preach" (Mark 3:14).

Luke records an example of Christ calling a man to preach, "Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:60). Free Will Baptist preachers align themselves with Paul who declared, " . . . I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry" (I Timothy 1:12).

Only occasionally will a Free Will Baptist preacher need someone to call his attention to his biblical credentials. "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called" (I Corinthians 1:26).

He understands that "God hath chosen the foolish . . . the weak . . . and base . . . things which are despised . . . things which

are not" (I Corinthians 1:27-28). Knowing that, preachers are unlike the apostles, yet like them.

The Free Will Baptist preacher sees his credentials further embedded in I Corinthians 4:9-13 in the words "spectacle . . . fools . . . weak . . . despised . . . buffeted . . . no certain dwelling place . . . reviled . . . persecuted . . . defamed . . . filth of the world . . . offscouring . . ."

Undaunted by it all, he holds to the fact that "the gifts and calling of God are without repentance" (Romans 11:29), and that he is finally called "unto . . . glory" (I Thessalonians 2:12). Free Will Baptist preachers are called.

Consecrated

Since "All scripture is . . . profitable" (II Timothy 3:16), it is not improper to reach back to the Old Testament for a verse that would introduce thoughts of consecration as it relates to the preacher.

David gives a clarion call to Israel when he asks, "And who then is willing to consecrate [be consecrated in service] his service this day unto the Lord?" (I Chronicles 29:5).

God's men are consecrated. That's precisely what took place in the top of the mountain when Christ "ordained the twelve." Later, Christ gives witness to the fact of their consecration for He states in John 15:16, "I have chosen you, and ordained you."

This practice continued in the church as evidenced when Saul and Barnabas were ordained. When " . . . the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them" (Acts 13:2). They laid hands on them, and sent them away. Paul gave testimony to the fact (I Timothy 2:7).



ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Wade T. Jernigan is a full-time Free Will Baptist evangelist who resides in Lexington, Oklahoma.

Timothy was reminded that he had come under the hands of the presbytery (I Timothy 4:14). Free Will Baptist preachers are consecrated. They follow scriptural order.

Committed

Commitment is not just a word to a Free Will Baptist preacher. It is his life. When the scripture admonishes "give thyself wholly..." every into-the-work minister knows it means him. He does not draw rein.

Following the example of another faithful preacher, he exclaims, "As much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel" (Romans 1:15). "In season, out of season," (II Timothy 4:2) is ever the cadence of his march.

Commitment has to do with devotion, duty, doctrine and discipline. He cuts slack for no one. Neither does he accommodate the doctrines of others. Nor does he seek to incur the favor of those who differ. He knows he has the truth.

"Buy the truth, and sell it not" (Proverbs 23:23) is his constant vigil. Landmarks are sacred to him (Proverbs 22:28). He will not sell his father's inheritance (I Kings 21:3). Better offers do not claim his attention (I Kings 21:2). He's family and knows it (Ephesians 3:15).

When one among them is not committed and shows his true colors by taking flight, John's words best state the case—"They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us" (I John 2:19). A Free Will Baptist preacher is committed.

Continue

"Be thou faithful unto death" (Revelation 2:10) buoys the Free Will Baptist preacher on. He's stirred in soul when he hears the old soldier say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (II Timothy 4:7).

Walter Jernigan said that a Free Will Baptist preacher should never retire. He suggested that he must retread and keep going. Most Free Will Baptist preachers die while still active in the ministry. Rare is that preacher who reaches that quiet time of retirement.

Another of Walter's—"The preacher may retire when someone reaches to dial for the undertaker." It happened that way with him. Free Will Baptist preachers continue. ▲

Discover The Holy Place

By Floyd Wolfenbarger

When Moses met with God by the burning bush, he was commanded to take off his shoes for he was standing in a holy place. What was so sacred about the backside of a desert mountain? What made that particular spot "holy?"

Surely not because God was there, because He is omnipresent, that is, He is everywhere. It could not have been because Moses himself was holy.

It seems to me that a holy place is the place of encounter with God. Wherever God and man truly meet is sacred.

Moses discovered that he needed no temple, no altar, no priest to be in a holy place. God visited him at work. Our home, shop, store or factory is holy if we encounter the presence of God there.

The Christian can discover the holy presence of God while driving down the highway in a pick-up truck. His prayers from his pick-up are heard by God as surely as prayers from a pew. He needs no organ music to lift his petitions toward heaven.

Moses was to remove his shoes because God had made him His servant in this holy place. The man who preaches the Word is often called the "man of God." However, the true Christian is no less a man of God who sells insurance or lays bricks. God has made the work of every Christian sacred. Whatever he does he must do to the glory of God.

Every labor of the Christian should therefore be diligent and honest. He cannot cheat his employer to the glory of God nor can a man oppress his workers without being accountable to his Lord.

For Isaiah it was the Holy Temple; for Moses it was a mountain sheepfold; for Jeremiah it was a devastated city; for Ezekiel it was the refugee camp in the valley of Chebar. They learned that "the place where thou standest is holy ground."

Whether like Joseph we are prisoners, or like Esther we rule, the work that we do is holy work if done for His glory.

The Best Stewardship Tool

By Jack Williams

Sometimes it's difficult to be a good steward even with a warm heart and your checkbook on the table in front of you. There's so much to choose from!

If you're like me, it's not unusual to find two or more appeals in your mailbox every day from your own denominational agencies. And that doesn't include the avalanche of requests from other charitable organizations.

How do you respond to it all? Do you feel guilty at saying no to one and yes to another? Since nobody has time to investigate every appeal that hits the mailbox, maybe it's time we used that community problem solver—the local church—to channel our special gifts beyond tithes and offerings.

Your dollar goes further when channeled through your local church than when sent through independent agencies, no matter how much they promise. For one thing, the local church doesn't

keep a dime of ear-marked money. It all goes where you say. You keep accountability and control over every dollar when it goes through your church.

Besides, church-channeled giving produces long-lasting results, sets an example for others, peaks your interest in church business matters and is sensitive to people with needs. The only organization that cares enough to do something about the world's problems is the local church. It also has a 2000-year-old order from God to love the unloved and care for the abandoned.

The better we get at giving, the better the local church gets at channeling our gifts from the open heart of compassion to the open wounds of the world. Sometimes the church does that locally and sometimes it uses broader denominational agencies to assist.

The best stewardship buy in town is your local church. Use it this Sunday!



When A Pastor Dies

By David A. Joslin

Dying is an inseparable and inevitable part of living. Death is inescapable in this world. It's as natural to die as to be born. Death is part of the law of God, not a punishment from Him. Eventually, all face its awfulness, including the family of your pastor.

With the exception of sin itself, nothing makes all of us more akin than the sorrow and grief brought on by death. That pastor who gave consolation and comfort to hundreds, and who was a source of encouragement and hope to many, now lies still in death. The pastor's family will now face its own portion of grief and sorrow.

There is no ministry which offers an open door of opportunity for the church as does the presence of death in the parsonage. This is the hour when the loving care of the church is most needed. Here, let the church be at its best.

The pastor should expect death and prepare his family for that time. However, being human, many fail to prepare

their own families to face death, or to make adequate financial arrangements for funeral expenses and the care of the family.

Realistically, every pastor should either make pre-arrangements for his own funeral and/or confer with his wife and immediate family regarding his desires concerning his funeral and burial.

Sufficient insurance should be in force to pay for burial expenses, any outstanding debts, and to provide enough income during the transitional period of adjustment for the family. As an employer, the local church should provide financial means for its pastor to obtain a good insurance policy from a reputable company.

While a will may not be thought necessary, peace of mind can be obtained by the pastor's knowing that his house is in order with sufficient provision being made



by his will. The will should be prepared by a qualified, reputable attorney.

If the pastor has moved from one state to another, a local attorney should be contacted regarding possible changes needed in the will. Real property (buildings and land) is governed by the laws of the state in which it is located. Personal property and its disposition is regulated by, and will be disposed of, in accordance with the laws of the state in which residence is held at the time of death.

The relationship of the church to the bereaved widow ought not to be a mission of misery, but a ministry of hope. When death occurs, the church should open its heart widely and quickly. The death of God's beloved messenger cries out for that consolation and comfort which can come only through persons in touch with God.

Regardless of whether or not a pastor was well-liked, nothing should be spoken or whispered of the dead but good. If we did not have to wait for death to release our love, there would be so much more Christian love in this world.

The widow both wants and needs the care of the church family. Someone from the church should be appointed to keep his/her finger on the pulse of the situation. This care should be organized in such a way that the grieving family would receive the most benefit.

The church should address itself mainly to those things which would be most helpful to the parsonage family. The church should be absorbed by the great loss of the family and should concern itself mostly with sympathy.

The pastor's widow may face shock. This is the time when she hangs up the phone, having been told, "He's dead," to the time when she comes to her senses, and acknowledges, "Yes, he is dead."

Being human, the widow may become bewildered and stunned. The truest help the church can render is not to take her burden from her, but to encourage her energies and strengths that she may be able to bear the burden. The Word of God teaches us to "weep with them that weep."

Hysteria may set in, depending upon the emotional make-up of the family. The church must now become involved in helping a member of the flock through a difficult period. Now that her husband is gone, she will realize, sometimes

sooner, sometimes later, that she will have to go on alone.

The entire church should guard against hasty action in its concern for the widow. She does not have to be told to move from the parsonage. She knows that. Without being told, she knows that soon

A widow may have pictured the church as the primary instrument of compassion and love. Yet, when she needed to share her burden, weeks after the funeral, her church was not there to help.

By far, the most comforting and most endearing thing that a church member

"If I had known how desperately I would need help later, I would have replaced the guest book in the funeral home with a calendar, asking each visitor to designate a date in the future on which he/she would console by way of a visit, a card, or phone call."

the church must give its attention to calling another pastor.

Here again, the church should move in accordance with the timing and will of God. Enough time should be allotted for both the pastor's family and the caring church to grieve over the departed before making plans for the new pastor's arrival.

Pastoral salary and benefits should continue for a reasonable time for the family. Compassion and loving care should be exemplified both in the attitudes and actions of the church. Take care not to offend your pastor's wife at such a time as this.

Remembering the family after the funeral is over may mean the difference between victory and defeat. The time of greatest need may be weeks or months after the funeral. Many church members send cards, express their concern and show their presence at the time, but, afterwards there is neglect. This neglect may cause the widow to become disillusioned about the church, if when she needed someone with whom to share her sorrow, no one was there.

W. A. Criswell states that one widow said, "If I had known how desperately I would need help later, I would have replaced the guest book in the funeral home with a calendar, asking each visitor to designate a day in the future on which he/she would console by way of a visit, a card, or phone call."

She likened the outpouring of sympathy at first to 20 ice cream cones handed to a starving child on a warm summer day. But later, when the youngster could have used a cone or two, she was left all but forgotten by her benefactors.

can do with the bereaved family is to cry with them. That the church is there in the hour of need...giving, sharing and caring...helps most in this time of inexpressible sorrow. This ministry of love will never be forgotten.▲



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend David A. Joslin is promotional director for the Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists.

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The Preacher With Four Heads

By Mark Hampton



My dad has had some diversified jobs since I was born, and they've taken their toll not only on him but on the rest of the family as well. Sometimes it seems that as soon as I get used to him doing one thing, he changes to something else.

He's been a student, editor, teacher, pastor and principal, and he's usually doing more than one at a time. While it's entertaining being the son of a versatile preacher, it occasionally makes life a chore.

The first half of my life was spent travelling across the nation—St. Louis, Fresno, Chicago—so Dad could further his education. I've been reacquainted with some of my early-age friends, but leaving the only friends I knew—repeatedly—was tough on a growing child.

With Dad continually going to college, Mother worked long hours to help pay bills, and I was sent to the sitter. This is one aspect of having Dad for a father that my younger sister didn't share, for he took a full-time job five months after she was born.

That job was at the Church Training Service Department in Nashville where

Dad was editor of CTS curriculum. Within a year, the department merged with Randall House Publications, where Dad finished out eight years as an editor.

During that time I wasn't concerned with his occupation—I mean, his being an editor and all—but the fact that he worked for Randall House made me known as "Larry Hampton's son" or "You're a Hampton, aren't you?" It was frightening, because people I didn't know always seemed to know me.

As an editor, Dad read a lot and was constantly telling me everything I always wanted to know about anything. I don't suppose I gave much thought to why he knew so much because it seemed so logical. My dad (and I) have become knowledgeable through his tenure as an editor.

Dad has taught numerous classes. He taught at California Christian College and at Emmanuel Bible Institute. He hasn't taught nearly as much as he would like, however.

I mentioned that Dad likes reading and expanding his knowledge. Well, when he finishes reading, he also likes to spread what he's learned to other people. While Dad has not been my teacher profession-

ally, his love for teaching has led me to enjoy learning. I know I wouldn't study as much for school if Dad didn't respect the teaching profession the way he does.

While still at Randall House Publications, Dad pastored a Free Will Baptist church. I could (and did) write an entire article on this alone. Briefly, as son of a pastor, my life was altered in two basic ways.

First, more was expected of me. It wouldn't do for me to be as good as so-and-so's son; I had to be better. With Dad in the pulpit three times a week I had to be always on my best behavior.

Second, I saw Dad from a new angle. He was no longer just the disciplinarian; he was the man in the pulpit. I suddenly saw him as a preacher, and that made me a preacher's kid. It took months for the novelty of being a PK to wear off.

For those of you who don't know, this article is written in chronological order. It was at this point, after being an editor for eight years and a pastor for 18 months, that Dad resigned from both and became principal of a Christian school. And that's when I had to get used to some of the biggest changes of my life.

As the principal's son, I had to work harder than other new students at making friends. Most of the students had one of two initial reactions to me. One—I was the principal's son so I, therefore, wouldn't know how to have fun. The other—that as the principal's son I could get away with anything I did.

I almost wished the latter was true when I served a detention and took home two misconduct reports. If these weren't enough, add the fact that I didn't know anybody when I came to the school.

So far I have been able to adjust to any position in which Dad has inadvertently put me. I have only two more years left of high school, but I think about what my younger sister will be going through five years from now. Maybe Dad will retire as principal, but I wouldn't count on it.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mark Hampton, 15, is the son of Reverend and Mrs. Larry Hampton. Mark is a member of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, where his father is principal at Bethany Christian School.

Part two of a five-part series.



Living With Anger

By Malcolm Fry

Cartoonist Jim Davis has become quite popular through the portrayal of a notable feline named Garfield. In one episode, Garfield was lying under an apple tree in the first frame when an apple fell on his head. In the second frame, Garfield whacked the tree and said, "You Stupid Apple Tree!" The last frame showed Garfield up to his whiskers in apples and saying, "I must learn to curb this temper of mine."

Athletic events often give vent to scenes of frustration and anger by players, coaches and managers alike. Such a display is usually a response to inner frustration, giving vent to pent-up emotions—a brewing caldron of resentment which explodes like a volcano.

Have you ever noticed what babies do when they become frustrated? They beat

their heads on the floor. You know why? It's the last part of their anatomy—which they cannot see.

A classic biblical example of anger is Moses when he struck the rock instead of obeying the Lord in speaking to it (See Numbers 20:1-13). His patience wore thin after 40 years with their rebellious parents and now 37 years with them since babes. He called them "rebels."

Moses and Aaron spoke as if they were the miracle workers and were taking to themselves glory which belonged to God alone. Note the sin of Moses: he did not attend carefully to God's Word nor obey it, because he was angry.

What Anger Does

Like termites that slowly eat away and destroy the foundation of a house, anger

subtly cripples relationships and undermines our emotional, physical and spiritual well-being.

The famous physiologist, John Hunter, knew what anger could do to his heart. He was reported to have said, "The first scoundrel that gets me angry will kill me." Some time later, at a medical meeting, a speaker made assertions that incensed Hunter. As he stood up and bitterly attacked the speaker, his anger caused such a contraction of the blood vessels in his heart that he fell dead.

Anger can cloud our thinking. In response to any strong emotion, one's concentration, memory, judgment and logic can be impaired. Often it is difficult



ANGER (From page 13)

to reason with angry people. Anger can lead to a self-centered superiority, "I am right. You are wrong!" attitude.

This hides the miserable feeling of inferiority and gives the angry person some presumed reason for being hostile. Countless people today are ruining body, mind and soul through uncontrolled anger. Someone once wisely said, "Worthwhile is the saying that a man is a fool who can't be angry, but a man is wise who won't be angry."

Any turmoil in the emotional center sends out impulses which can cause anything from a headache to itchy feet. Three principal mechanisms become

spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools" (Ecclesiastes 7:9).

The psalmist says, "Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil" (Psalm 37:8).

Obviously, not everything that can be identified under the heading of anger is a violation of God's law, for Ephesians 4:26 instructs us to be angry but do not sin. So, all anger is not necessarily sinful.

What Can Christians Do in Times of Anger?

Many psychologists seem to feel that all anger should be ventilated or verbalized. They say it is emotionally and physically harmful to repress or withhold any

memory bank. Why else did the Apostle Paul tell us to settle our irritations before sundown each day (Ephesians 4:26), effectively preventing an accumulation of seething hostility with the passage of time?



God doesn't expect instant maturity, but He does require consistent growth and improvement. The beautiful part is that we are not alone in the struggle.

involved: changing the amount of blood flowing to an organ; affecting the secretions of certain glands; and changing the tension of muscles. That's why one experiences blushing, dry mouth and tightened muscles.

Look what anger did to Moses. He could not enter the promised land with the others. It just wasn't worth it!

Is All Anger Sinful?

What does the Word of God have to say on this subject? "Be not hasty in thy

intense feeling. Yet the scriptures state that "everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (James 1:19).

People rarely change when told to do any of the following: (1) Control your temper! (2) Look on the bright side of things and think positively. (3) Take it easy, relax, and let bygones be bygones. (4) Keep busy so you don't have time to get angry. (5) Put on a happy face. (6) Use your sense of humor. (7) Vent your emotions and clear the air.

Even if we could abide by such statements, they don't get to the root of the problem. We cope with anger, not by reciting slogans, but by attacking the basic causes of our anger. We begin by admitting that we are hostile.

Let us remember that often anger is all right. Jesus got angry. In itself, therefore, anger is not sinful. It becomes destructive when it is denied, uncontrolled, selfish or allowed to develop into seething bitterness.

The writer of Hebrews says, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God: lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled" (Hebrews 12:14-15).

God does not state for us to repress our anger—sending it unresolved into the

Let us heed the Word of God: "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger" (Proverbs 15:1).

Also, "Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its emotions and passions" (Galatians 5:24, Moffatt).

Consecrations made at an altar are not sufficient. There must be daily crucifixion of self, and obedience to all of God's commandments if one is to be freed. Growth in the Christian life depends on obedience in those times of crisis.

God doesn't expect instant maturity, but He does require consistent growth and improvement. The beautiful part is that we are not alone in the struggle.

In conclusion, first make the irritation a matter of prayer. Second, understand that God often permits frustrating and agitating events to occur so as to teach us patience and help us grow. Third, realize that no offense by another person could possibly equal our guilt before God, yet He has forgiven us.

Are we not obligated to show the same mercy to others? The Apostle Paul said, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice" (Ephesians 4:31).

And, "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath" (Ephesians 4:26). ▲



ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Malcolm C. Fry pastors Unity Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, North Carolina.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

ALABAMA

Duane Taylor to South Highland Church, Muscle Shoals from Oaklawn Church, Chapmansboro, TN

Jonathan Merkh to First Church, Enterprise

ARKANSAS

Hoover Lewis to Eastside Church, Batesville from South Highland Church, Muscle Shoals, AL

CALIFORNIA

Terry Lewis to Corcoran Church, Corcoran from Lindsay Church, Lindsay

FLORIDA

Harvey Luke to First Church, Auburndale from Amory Christian Academy, Amory, MS as instructor

KANSAS

Oran Bartlett to First Church, Ulysses

ILLINOIS

Ivan Ryan to Bethel Church, South Roxana from First Church, Hazel Park, MI

MICHIGAN

Jim Walker to Crossroads Church, Pontiac from Woodbine Church, Nashville, TN

MISSOURI

Danny Douglas to New Life Church, Licking

Jim Shepherd to Central Church, Kansas City from Hillsdale FWB College, Moore, OK

OKLAHOMA

Joel Greeson to First Church, Lawton
Charles bigger to Eastside Church, Muldrow from Stratford Church, Stratford

Nelson Henderson to Chickasha Church, Chickasha

Jerry Dudley to Stratford Church, Stratford

Robert Carter to Fanshawe Church, Fanshawe

TENNESSEE

Eddie Vincent to Randall Memorial Church, Memphis, from First Church, Amory, MS

VIRGINIA

Bob Stewart to Stratford Church, Stratford

OTHER PERSONNEL

Mark Stripling to First Church, Savannah, GA as music and youth director from Fellowship Church, Nashville, TN as music director

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Cooperative Channel Contributions

May 1986

RECEIPTS:

State	Design.	COOP (Undesignated)	Total	May '85	Yr. to Date
Alabama	\$ 803.22	\$ 596.30	\$ 1,399.52	\$.00	\$ 4,959.62
Arizona	.00	41.64	41.64	45.00	71.29
Arkansas	.00	4,973.38	4,973.38	5,523.48	21,023.42
California	100.00	800.43	900.43	1,016.91	4,020.48
Florida	.00	3,284.79	3,284.79	1,674.03	10,400.58
Georgia	10,222.44	15.00	10,237.44	3,454.43	22,219.12
Idaho	.00	190.72	190.72	.00	190.72
Illinois	7,107.03	1,497.75	8,604.78	8,298.67	36,138.07
Indiana	950.40	125.99	1,076.39	1,107.28	2,621.60
Kansas	.00	65.56	65.56	179.63	345.07
Kentucky	102.00	619.75	721.75	487.00	2,337.48
Maryland	.00	.00	.00	90.00	.00
Michigan	2,569.79	700.02	3,269.81	1,035.30	25,739.16
Mississippi	34.95	476.64	511.59	492.16	2,159.73
Missouri	1,406.12	7,825.26	9,231.38	9,298.65	37,662.53
New Mexico	121.38	3.73	125.11	47.26	212.15
North Carolina	1,849.90	1,030.00	2,879.90	1,021.00	10,668.37
Ohio	342.00	2,206.00	2,548.00	3,941.00	12,235.80
Oklahoma	31,331.64	9,947.97	41,279.61	41,796.36	206,033.07
South Carolina	3,909.92	.00	3,909.92	.00	5,471.66
Tennessee	345.01	1,029.80	1,374.81	1,206.58	8,670.93
Texas	5,615.33	687.36	6,302.69	7,150.09	38,067.62
Virginia	.00	.00	.00	164.24	2,653.65
West Virginia	3,992.44	280.89	4,273.33	6,993.66	16,720.32
Northwest Assoc.	.00	18.00	18.00	.00	18.00
Totals	\$70,803.57	\$36,416.98	\$107,220.55	\$95,022.73	\$470,640.44

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 721.61	\$14,065.33	\$ 14,786.94	\$14,077.65	\$ 73,934.68
Foreign Missions	50,116.86	5,140.85	55,257.71	47,798.98	237,421.12
FWBBC	2,770.31	5,140.85	7,911.16	8,103.51	32,424.82
Home Missions	15,223.40	4,023.35	19,246.75	15,080.66	86,445.71
Retirement & Insurance	166.63	3,129.27	3,295.90	3,276.85	13,156.49
Master's Men	54.62	2,905.75	2,960.37	3,037.49	11,908.53
Commission for Theo.					
Integrity	34.25	223.49	257.74	257.32	1,030.26
FWB Foundation	23.11	1,341.11	1,364.22	1,382.96	5,835.27
Historical Commission	36.81	223.49	260.30	252.11	1,027.89
Radio & TV Commission	62.23	223.49	285.72	240.26	1,198.74
Hillsdale FWB College	1,540.12	.00	1,540.12	1,459.81	5,950.10
Other	53.62	.00	53.62	55.13	306.83
Totals	\$70,803.57	\$36,416.98	\$107,220.55	\$95,022.73	\$470,640.44

I Married A Preacher

By Carolyn Hasty

When I was a teenager I committed my life to God and asked Him to use me. I did not know in which direction the Lord wanted me to go, but I was willing.

I was fortunate to have a godly mother, a wonderful Sunday School teacher and a youth pastor who took special interest in me. They each played a vital role in my spiritual life.

The Lord prepared me to be a pastor's wife long before He put me into that position. My mother (who was a PK) always opened our home to evangelists, missionaries and Bible college students.

I learned by observation how to be a hostess and how to be a guest. How thrilling to visit with these servants of God as they fellowshiped with my parents. I acquired a keen interest in the mission field as a result of hearing exciting and sometimes heartbreaking stories.

My Sunday School teacher taught me Philippians 4:11, not by memorization but by example. She had (and still has) such a positive attitude towards people and life. I remember her teaching frequently from Philippians. At the time I

didn't understand why this book was her favorite.

But the Holy Spirit has brought back to my mind many lessons that I needed to know to help me be a better pastor's wife. Philippians 4:8 explains her positive attitude. I've had to use it many times to help keep my attitude right.

Because my Sunday School teacher also served as church secretary, I often dropped by the church after school to talk. I was amazed at her work. However, she always smiled and said, "Carolyn, I'm sure the Lord had weary days but He never gave up. I know that He will help me do the job willingly and cheerfully."

This dear saint of God, Mrs. Mary Bazar, did not know it but she was giving me encouragement that I would need later in life. She encouraged me to stay close to the Lord and reminded me that God would use me if I remained willing.

When I met my husband I was in Bible college preparing for some sort of full-time ministry. (I was hoping that God would send me a partner to help in this mission.) Steve was a policeman in central Florida, not a Bible college student or a future missionary. Yet, the Lord directed our paths together.

We fell in love, but a big question remained in my mind and heart. "Lord, I thought you wanted me in full-time service. How about *his* commitment?"

The Lord answered my question before I had opportunity to discuss it with Steve. At a Sunday night service in Royal Oak, Michigan in which the Bible college choir sang, Steve walked the aisle and committed his life to the Lord's service. That night he asked me to marry him.

That was my first calling, above the calling of mother, pastor's wife, school teacher, auxiliary president or choir director. "His wife—his helpmeet." At the time I didn't know I would be a pastor's wife. It didn't matter. I was willing to go whenever and wherever.

I cannot say there've not been days when I wished he wasn't a preacher. But then doesn't every wife sometimes wish her husband had a different occupation?

We're told that behind every successful man, every good man, there's a good woman. In other words the woman is a VIP—a very important person.

I believe all women are VIP's because they're people whose influence cannot be underestimated. Every wife and mother has a great influence, primarily on her husband and children. But she also influences her neighbors, fellow church members, colleagues at work and social contacts.

A minister's wife is a special VIP because she influences the man who leads the congregation of believers. Her personal relationship with him profoundly affects him, as does her ability to meet the demands made on her as a mother, homemaker and the wife of a minister.

The minister's wife does not always please everyone in the congregation, nor can she fulfill everyone's expectations. She can try, but nobody's perfect.

Someone who sensed how impossible it is for the pastor's wife to please everybody listed the desirable qualities for a minister's wife in a "Blueprint for the Ideal Preacher's Wife."

A drawing of this composite creature showed her with four arms—to keep a neat house at all times, to keep her family clean and well dressed, to do all church work required, and to raise intelligent and obedient children.

The hairdo on one side of her head differed in styling from the other side. The reason: "Hair—half in fashion of the day, other half in a motherly style."

The front view of this woman showed only one eye in front—for playing the piano. A note indicated that she had one eye in back—to see what her children were doing on the front pew.

She had an ear with an automatic sifter to sort out information which could be



ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Carolyn Hasty is married to Reverend Steven R. Hasty who pastors Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Bratt, Florida. The mother of two children teaches at Taylor Christian Academy.



repeated from that which must be kept confidential. Her mouth was described as "always smiling, saying good things." Her feet, "substantial—to work and work and work." Her figure—"Not too glamorous and not too matronly." Body—"tireless." Clothing—"always neat, not too new, not too old, not too fancy, not too plain."

What kind of mind did she need? Several suggestions were made: "Radar mind—to know exactly where to reach husband at all times. Automatic mind—to produce Sunday School lessons, youth lessons, assorted ladies' group devotions, parties, social and clever ideas to keep

up husband's morale. File-cabinet mind, containing (1) miscellaneous file of all information that husband is apt to forget, (2) recipe file of 999 ways to prepare hamburger, (3) information on child psychology, marriage problems."

And to complete it all, this composite woman had an escape valve on top of her head to relieve tensions. And then an asterisk refers the reader to a note stating: "Available only with ideal preachers. We do not break a set!"

If you're a pastor's wife and you sometimes feel resentful because people expect too much of you, take

this attitude: "I am in this place because God sent me here, and He will help me adequately perform in a way that will please Him."

You won't find peace of mind trying to please everyone in the congregation. But you will find peace as you seek to please the Lord, and He will make you adequate for what He wants you to be and do. Remember that "...our sufficiency is of God" (II Corinthians 3:5).

If you're a churchwoman, be compassionate as you think of your pastor's wife. Pray for her instead of criticizing her, and be alert for ways to help her and to show kindness. Consider yourself her prayer helper. As you pray for your minister's wife and she is strengthened and encouraged and progresses in her spiritual growth, you will be helping your preacher's ministry as well.

The Bible does not list qualifications for pastor's wife as it does for a minister. But we know that she is to be a loving and submissive wife and a "teacher of the younger women," as is the requirement of *all* Christian women. It's the congregation that labels the minister's wife. In reality, we shouldn't require the pastor's wife to be anything that other churchwomen aren't willing to be.

Everyone seems to know the disadvantages of being a pastor's wife. However, not everyone knows the privileges.

Let me speak for me and my family. Our life is blessed by the Christian friends that we refer to as "family." We would never have known these friends had it not been for our pastoral position.

Our children have been exposed to different life styles, different parts of the country and, of course different schools. They've been loved by many sets of "grandparents" through the years. They've seen true Christian love in action.

They've seen Dad and Mom in tears because of the hurt that church members sometimes inflict on God's servants. But they've also seen the Lord dry those tears and replace them with new joy.

We don't feel sorry for our children as they grow up in a parsonage, for we can enrich their lives through the climate that my husband and I provide in our home.

When asked the question "Would you marry a preacher if you had it to do all over again?" If that preacher were Steve Hasty, yes. It's a joy to be his partner in the ministry. ▲



FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

MEXICAN ASSOCIATION CONDUCTS FIRST MEETING

REYNOSA, MEXICO—More than 400 ministers, delegates and visitors registered for the March 27-28 meeting of a new Free Will Baptist association with Hispanic churches on both sides of the Rio Grande, reports missionary James Munsey.

Reverend Munsey said the Asociacion Bautista Libre de Mexico lists eight churches and missions representing 800 believers. The historic first convention met at First FWB Church of Reynosa, Tamps, Mexico.

Convention speakers for the two-day session included Benito and Carmen Rodriguez, Antonio Echevarria and Misael Castillo, all from Miami, Florida.

Reverend Rodriguez is founder and pastor of Ebenezer FWB Church in Miami. Reverend Echevarria migrated from Cuba two years ago where he was president of the Cuban FWB Association. Misael Castillo, son of FWB pastor Raul Castillo, graduated this spring from Miami Christian College.

Also present at the convention were representatives of the FWB Aztec Indian work recently started in the state of Hidalgo in Central Mexico. They brought a special song in Nahuatl, the local Indian dialect.

Nine ministers were recognized (eight pastors and one evangelist). Delegates approved plans to construct four churches during the year. The association is characterized by a strong missionary vision and hopes to double in size by 1987 according to Reverend Munsey.

REVEREND WINSTON LAWLESS, 73, WITH THE LORD

FRESNO, CA—The Reverend Winston Benton Lawless, 73, a Free Will Baptist minister for 53 years, died May 30, 1986, in Fresno. Funeral services were conducted June 3 with the Reverends Lonnie Rolan and Tim Rolan officiating. Burial followed at Clovis Cemetery in Clovis.

Winston Lawless, an Oklahoma native, began preaching in 1933, answering the call to preach one night in a box car between Pueblo and Colorado Springs after struggling with the call for five years.

He moved his wife and three children to California in 1948 where he subsequently organized a Free Will Baptist Church in Delano. He pastored three churches in the next 13 years (1948-1961) and was then elected as the state's executive secretary, a position he held for seven years.

In addition to executive responsibilities, Brother Lawless published the monthly

state paper, *The Voice*, and managed the state's bookstore.

When the bookstore and the executive secretary duties separated in 1968, Lawless opted to manage the bookstore on a full-time basis. Three years later he purchased the store when the state association voted to divest itself of the property.

After retiring as bookstore manager in 1976, Reverend Lawless served as interim pastor in Free Will Baptist churches in Selma and Madera.

He is survived by his wife, Allyne; two sons, J. B. Lawless of Clovis and Charles Lawless of San Jose; one daughter, Virginia Priest of Washington; his mother, Myrtle Lawless of Oklahoma; three sisters, Opal Troutman, Laverna McDaniel and Mildred Davis, all of Oklahoma; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

TENNESSEE CHURCH LAUNCHES \$700,000 BUILDING

NASHVILLE, TN—Members of Donelson Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville, broke ground in March for a 17,000-square-foot addition to cost \$700,000, says pastor Robert J. Morgan. Reverend Morgan said he expects the three-story building to be completed by September.

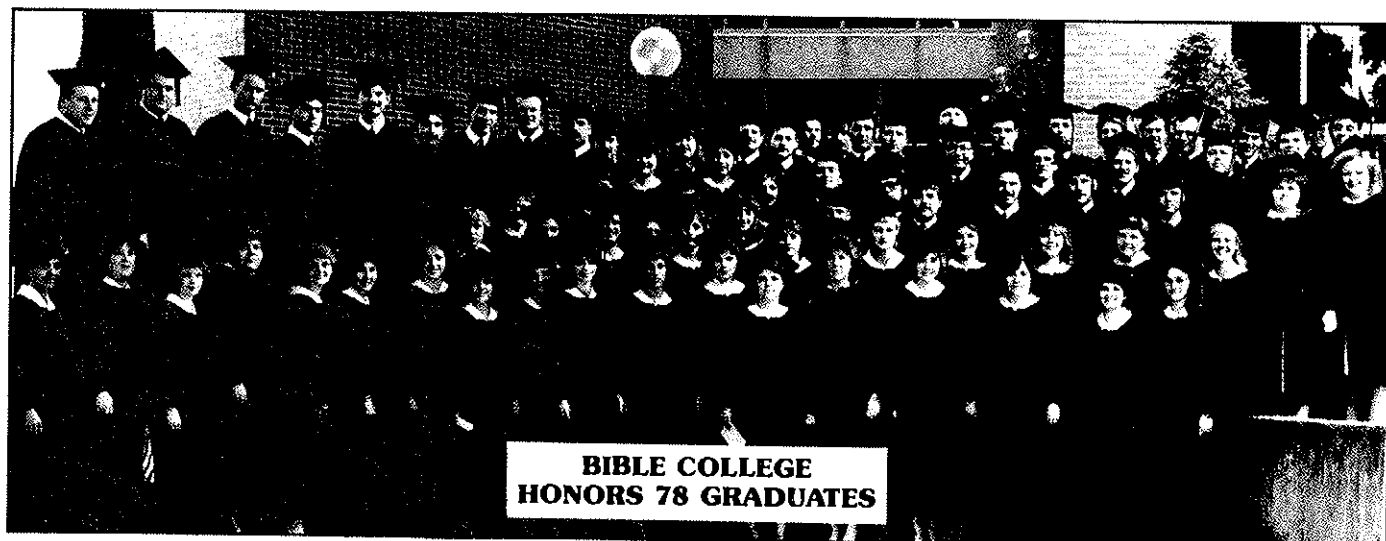
The structure will house fellowship and classroom areas on the lower story and

upper story. The ground floor will provide room for a narthex, a 15-bed nursery, a 5,000-volume capacity library, a suite of five offices, conference room and a courtyard.

Wayne Miller, chairman of the building committee, said, "We've been praying and planning for this project for three years. We hope to move in by early fall."



(L) Tony Atchison, Pastor Robert Morgan, Herbert Peppers, Wayne Miller



**BIBLE COLLEGE
HONORS 78 GRADUATES**

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College graduated 78 students in commencement exercises held on campus May 15.

The degrees awarded included one Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies, 20 Bachelors of Arts, 36 Bachelors of Science, seven Associates of Christian Ministries, one Associate of Arts and 13 Associates of Science in Business.

Of 57 Bachelors and Masters degree graduates, 16 completed the program in pastoral training, four in missions, 20 in elementary or secondary education, nine in music and eight in other programs.

Reverend Joseph Jones, college speech teacher, brought the challenge to the graduates. He emphasized the need for balance between work and rest, and between truth and love.

Five graduates gave testimonies: Maurilio Amorim, of Ribeirao Preto, S.P., Brazil; Rhoda Snow, of Decatur, GA; Barry Simpson, of Shawnee, KS; Kam Vestal, of Dickson, TN; and Jeff Manning, of Greenville, NC.

Scholarships totaling \$5,000 were awarded during graduation exercises. The Homer E. Willis Music Scholarship (\$500 each) was awarded to Cynthia Mills of Greenville, NC, and Mike Hollifield, of Swannanoa, NC. The \$4,000 William Henry Oliver Scholarship, awarded to education majors, went to Mrs. Robin Snowden Shipp, of Yakima, WA.

Society sports trophies were won this year by the Louisa May Alcott Society and the William Jennings Bryan Society.

Several scholastic awards were made for academic achievements. The follow-

ing students maintained the highest grade point averages in their respective classes for 1985-86: Freshman—Richard Anderson, of Joelton, TN; Sonya Barbour, of Dunn, NC; and Bobby Sargent, of Jasper, AL. Sophomore—Sandra Hyatt, of Troy, NY. Junior—Kristina Nix, of Auburn, WA. Senior—Rhoda Snow, of Decatur, GA; Keli Harvey, of Marietta, GA; Maurilio Amorim, of Ribeirao Preto, Brazil; and Kam Vestal, of Dickson, TN.

Four seniors were inducted into Delta Epsilon Chi, the national honor society for graduates of Bible colleges: Rhoda Snow, of Decatur, GA; Rebecca Franks, of Dothan, AL; Keli Harvey, of Marietta, GA; and Kam Vestal, of Dickson, TN.

The faculty and staff were deeply moved when students and visitors, led by the seniors, gave them a standing ovation in appreciation for their work.

CALIFORNIA ELECTS PASTOR NUEL BROWN TO EXECUTIVE SECRETARY POST

FRESNO, CA—The Reverend Nuel W. Brown, 53, was elected as California's executive secretary during the June 12-14 state association at Memorial FWB Church in Fresno. Reverend Brown, pastor of Countryside FWB Church in Visalia, succeeds the outgoing executive secretary, Paul Kennedy.

Brother Brown has pastored 26 years in California. He served 10 years on the California State Mission Board (1975-1985) and two years as state moderator (1966-1967). From 1969-1971, he was California's national General Board member and served two years on the Executive Committee.

Reverend Brown is active in civic functions in his community. He served nine years on the Kerman City Planning

Commission, two years as president of the Kiwanis club, and four years as president of the Police Athletic League.

The Oklahoma native is a graduate of Fresno City College, an alumnus of California Christian College and the California Graduate School of Theology. He was converted at age 21 and ordained at age 28.

In other business, delegates approved three major actions. First, they accepted into their membership the Hispanic Association, bringing to seven the total districts in the state. Second, delegates adopted Target 90 and named newly-elected executive secretary Nuel Brown to coordinate activities. Third, delegates elected Dr. Milburn Wilson (pastor of Sherwood Forest FWB Church, El Sobrante) to head the California Foreign Missions Advance program.

Three men—Paul Kennedy, Tim Rolan and L. A. Yandell—were elected to the California Historical Commission.

Delegates voted to move the state association meeting to the fourth Thursday in June. The state association presented a plaque to outgoing executive secretary Paul Kennedy for six years of faithful service.

Four ministers preached on the program theme, "My Heart is Fixed." The four included FWB executive secretary Melvin Worthington, California Christian College president James McAllister, Foreign Missions director of communications Don Robirds, and California pastor Jerry Barron.

Delegates elected Paul Kennedy as the new state moderator. The 1987 state association meets June 25-27 at Memorial FWB Church, Fresno.

newsfront

(continued)

MICHIGAN ADOPTS TARGET 90

ECORSE, MI—Delegates to the 30th annual Michigan State Association voted to participate in the denomination's Target 90 campaign, reported Clerk Milton Worthington.

Reverend Worthington said the state association appointed Reverend Charles Cooper, the state promotional officer, to coordinate Target 90 activities.

The May 16-17 meeting at Seventh Street FWB Church in Ecorse attracted 108 registrants, 31 lay delegates and 10 deacons.

Two ministers preached sermons during the gathering. Michigan minister Roger Cooper brought the Friday evening message. Gene Waddell, general director of the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Department, preached Saturday morning.

Moderator George Johnson was re-elected. The 1987 session meets May 15-16 at a site to be determined in the West Michigan Association.

WORTHINGTON SPEAKS AT NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION

KENT, WA—Free Will Baptist Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington spoke twice during the May 16-17 meeting of the Northwest Association at New Hope FWB Church in Kent. Dr. Worthington also brought greetings from the Free Will Baptist national offices and encouraged the association to participate in the Target 90 program.

Moderator Paul Wood led the 58 delegates and visitors through the busi-

ness agenda. The group elected Yakima pastor Terry Stafford as Target 90 Coordinator for the Northwest region.

Host pastor Lloyd Plunkett and the New Hope Church provided refreshments for the post-Friday evening service fellowship break as well as Saturday lunch for the entire delegation.

The 1987 session will meet May 15-16 at Victory FWB Church in East Wenatchee.

OUTLAW KEYNOTES TEXAS STATE MEETING

HENDERSON, TX—Dr. Stanley Outlaw, professor of Bible at Free Will Baptist Bible College, spoke three times at the 72nd annual Texas State Association which met June 11-13 at First FWB Church, Henderson.

Executive Secretary Billy Walker praised Dr. Outlaw's messages on church growth procedures, and called the June meeting "one of the best we've had in many years, especially with regard to unity and a spirit of cooperation."

Reverend H. Z. Cox moderated the session. Delegates elected new officers for 1986-1987. They included: moderator—Bobby Ferguson (Houston); assistant

moderator—Ron Parker (Tyler); clerk—Thurman Murphy (Wichita Falls); assistant clerk—Frank Cope (Bryan).

Some 300 delegates and visitors registered, with approximately 50 ordained ministers present. The Texas Christian Education Board sponsored two seminars on Wednesday. Pastors Bobby Ferguson and Ron Parker spoke.

Missionary to Spain, Ron Callaway, addressed a Thursday evening Fellowship Dinner. In other business, delegates endorsed a \$56,000 state budget for the state office, the C.E. Board and state Home Missions.

The 1987 state association meets June 10-12 in the Midessa District.

AZTEC INDIAN WORK LAUNCHED

TECACAHUACO, MEXICO—The first Free Will Baptist church established among Mexico's Aztec Indians was dedicated April 27, according to Reverend Howard Munsey of Dandridge, Tennessee. The ribbon-cutting ceremony

attracted more than 250 people, including nine visiting pastors.

Reverend Munsey said the Free Will Baptist Church in Tecacahuaco, located in the foothills of Central Mexico's Sierra Madre Mountains, is an outreach of the

newly formed Asociacion Bautista Libre de Mexico.

Pastor Humberto Perez and his church greeted the visiting ministers and other churches with gifts typical of the region.

The 3300 inhabitants of Tecacahuaco speak a native Indian dialect called Nahuatl and live under primitive conditions. They raise their own corn, grinding it by hand, to make tortillas, grow most of their food, process their own sugar and coffee, and live in many respects as did their ancestors almost 500 years ago before the Spaniards came.

The new work is a joint effort by Mexican and American Free Will Baptists. It is the subject of a video (VHS format) that records the activities from the beginning of construction through the inauguration of the new building. More information is available by writing:

Rev. Howard Munsey
Route 2, Box 434
Dandridge, TN 37725



Reverend Howard Munsey at dedication.

RALPH HAMPTON APPOINTED GRADUATE SCHOOL DEAN



NASHVILLE, TN—The Free Will Baptist Bible College Board of Trustees, meeting on the Nashville campus May 13-14, appointed Ralph Hampton to replace Dr. Robert Picirilli as dean of the Graduate School, according to President Charles A. Thigpen.

Rev. Hampton has taught in the Graduate School for several years. He joined the college faculty in 1958, the same year he graduated from FWBBC. He received his M.A. at Winona Lake School of Theology in 1961 and his M.Div. at Covenant Theological Seminary in 1970. He pastored Free Will Baptist churches for more than 10 years.

Dr. Thigpen said, "Dr. Picirilli has served as dean of the college and dean of the Graduate School since the beginning of the Graduate School in 1982. Dr. Picirilli will now be able to devote all his time directing the academic affairs of the college."

The board also granted a two-year leave of absence to Bible teacher Garnett Reid to pursue doctoral studies.

HILLSDALE GRADUATES 26 STUDENTS

MOORE, OK—Baccalaureate and commencement exercises were conducted May 6 and May 9 at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College. Pastor Jerry Pilgrim of Earlywine Community Mission spoke at baccalaureate. Reverend Carl Cheshier, pastor of the Cavanaugh FWB Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas preached the commencement address.

Ten students received their Bachelor of Arts in Theology degree. They are: Larry Mark Brake, OK; Tana Maria Bray, OK; Chris E. Clay, OK; Curtis Dale Holland, MO; Norman Carl Kissinger, OR; Katrina Diane Kruizinga, OK; Dana Raye Rutledge, OK; George R. Rutledge, OK;

Billy Joe Seabolt, OK; and Timothy D. Wood, OK.

Sixteen students received their Associate of Arts Degree. They are: Leslie Ann Allen, AR; Michael Barton, OK; C.L. Bess, OK; James Preston Briggs, KS; Darla Joe Bryant, OK; Chris E. Clay, OK; Deborah Ann Gillentine, TX; Andrew F. Helton, OR; Rebecca Denise Hood, OK; George E. King, TX; Darla Denise Martin, OK; Dianne Lynn Phillips, CA; Dana Raye Rutledge, OK; Jeffrey L. Sloan, OK; Stephen Scott Vandivort, AZ; and Patrick Thomas Weddle, MO.



Hillsdale Bachelor of Arts Graduates

MISSOURI ADOPTS \$252,000 COOPERATIVE BUDGET

LEBANON, MO—Delegates to Missouri's 73rd annual state association adopted a \$252,000 cooperative plan budget for 1987 which includes allocations for state ministries, national ministries and a state office building fund.

The June 2-5 gathering at Nelson Community Center in Lebanon endorsed the Auditing Committee's recommendation allocating \$152,000 for state ministries, \$76,000 for national ministries, and \$22,000 for the proposed state office building.

Delegates passed a strong resolution that called for tougher laws against drunk driving, stricter enforcement of the laws, and requested a ban on radio and television advertising for intoxicating products.

Four Missouri ministers preached sermons on the conference theme, "Church Loyalty." The speakers and subjects were: Greg McAllister—"Loyalty in Strife;" Dale Skiles—"Loyalty in Stewardship;" Howard Gwartney—"Loyalty in Sanctification;" Ken Dodson—"Loyalty in Service."

Moderator Nathan Ruble was re-elected. The Indian Creek Association will host the June 8-11, 1987, session of the state association. The site will be determined at a later date.

VIRGINIA ADOPTS TARGET 90

ROANOKE, VA—Reverend Jeff Crabtree, pastor of First FWB Church, Roanoke, was elected to coordinate Target 90 activities in the state at the June 12-13 session of the Virginia State Association, according to assistant clerk, James Meyers.

Meeting at First FWB Church, Roanoke, under the theme "Unity in the Spirit," the 90-plus registered delegates, ministers and visitors to the 48th annual gathering heard five sermons. Reverends Jim Cox, Dale Burden, Dennis Wiggs, Jack Stallings and Lonnie Osborne preached.

Assistant moderator Ronnie Floyd moderated the session. Williamsburg pastor Dennis Wiggs was elected moderator for 1986-1987.

The 1987 state association will convene June 18-19 at First FWB Church, Roanoke.

newsfront

(continued)

WEST VIRGINIA ELECTS CARL COOPER PROMOTIONAL DIRECTOR

HUNTINGTON, WV—The 200-plus delegates to West Virginia's 41st annual state association elected Reverend Carl Cooper of Milton, WV, as promotional director. Reverend Cooper succeeds Reverend Billy Samms in the post.

After delegates adopted the Target 90 program, they named Reverend Carl Cooper to coordinate Target 90 activities in the state.

Moderator George Smith gaveled the delegation through the June 6 and 7 agenda at Prince of Peace FWB Church in Huntington. Clerk Norwood Webb said 56 ministers and 22 deacons were among the registered personnel.

Three sermons highlighted the session's worship areas. Messages were preached by Oklahoma minister Jerry Dudley, Southeastern FWB College's Joe Haas and West Virginia minister James Varney.

In other business, delegates voted to give a printing press to the Master's Men Department.

The 1987 state association meets June 12-13 at Bradley FWB Church, Bradley, WV.

RANDALL HOUSE ANNOUNCES WRITERS' CONTEST WINNERS

NASHVILLE, TN—Seventeen entrants participated in six categories in the ninth annual Randall House Publications Writers' Contest. Cash awards were made to first and second place winners in accordance with published guidelines.

A group of impartial judges evaluated entries on the basis of originality, creativity, practical application, organization, style, logic and length. Scoring was tabulated on a point basis for each category and criteria.

The winners for 1986, according to Reverend Harold D. Harrison, contest director, are:

Book

- 1st: *A Free Will Baptist Discipleship Manual*
Greg McAllister
O'Fallon, MO
- 2nd: *External Theology in the New Testament: A Call for Christian Responsibility*
Gwyn L. Pugh
Russellville, AL

Plays / Skits

- 1st: "A Heavenly Helper"
Lyle E. Hoover
Bronaugh, MO
- 2nd: "The Eleventh Hour"
Ordealia Martin
Stigler, OK

Poetry

- 1st: "The Evergreen Tree"
Paul Schreiner
Chicago, IL
- 2nd: "A Time to Prune"
Lynda Wood
Salina, KS

Sermons

- 1st: "Childlike Character"
Mike Mounts
Springfield, OH

Short Story

- 1st: "The Terrifying Night Nothing Happened"
Janet Seever
Duncanville, TX
- 2nd: "Accident by Design"
Esther C. Mayo
Baytown, TX

Tracts

- 1st: "The Procrastinating Farmer"
Joe McKnight
Pamplico, SC
- 2nd: "Welcome to the Family"
Larry A. Jordan
Auburndale, FL

ROY HARRIS TO MODERATE NORTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION

NEW BERN, NC—Pastor Roy Harris of Zephyr Hills FWB Church, Asheville, was elected moderator at the 24th annual session of the North Carolina State Association which met June 2-3 at Sherwood Forest FWB Church in New Bern.

Reverend Harris, a graduate and former staff member of Free Will Baptist Bible College, succeeds outgoing moderator Robert Durham. Reverend Durham led the state for four years. Delegates presented him with a plaque in appreciation for his faithful service.

Officials reported 194 registrants for the two-day meeting, including 109 ministers and 50 lay delegates.

During business sessions, delegates passed major resolutions warning against secular humanism and freemasonry. They also reaffirmed the 70-30 Cooperative Plan of Support adopted in 1980 and encouraged churches to implement the program.

Dr. Melvin Worthington, Free Will Baptist executive secretary, presented a \$500 gift to Promotional Director Tom Lilly for the North Carolina Land Fund, a project designed to build a state office complex. The gift was from Wilbur and Alma Worthington.

Reverends Jack Ward, Johnny Pike and Larry Stevens preached during the worship services.

The 1987 association will meet June 8-9 at First FWB Church in Gastonia.

FWB CHURCHES SPONSOR 'HERITAGE OF FAITH' BOOTH

KNOXVILLE, TN—A religious fair, described as a "Heritage of Faith," attracted 48 different religious groups, including Free Will Baptists, to the United States Pavilion at the World's Fair site in Knoxville April 5-6. Two Knoxville area Free Will Baptist churches, Forest Grove

and Wooddale, worked together to sponsor a Free Will Baptist booth.

Pastors Ken Haney (Forest Grove) and Phil Kimbrough (Wooddale) said volunteers from both churches worked the booth and distributed 5,000 pieces of literature. The groups distributed *Contact* magazine, brochures from home and foreign missions agencies, WNAC materials and other denominationally related literature.

Pastor Haney said, "This offered a great opportunity to make our area churches known as well as what we believe and teach. Those involved were pleased with the publicity that Free Will Baptists received in this city of 400,000 where there are only five of our churches in the entire county."



Ken Haney (L), Ralph Staten, Phil Kimbrough

PEARCY RE-ELECTED KANSAS MODERATOR

SALINA, KS—Reverend Andrew Percy, pastor of First FWB Church, Wichita, moderated the 25th annual session of the Kansas State Association, and then was re-elected to serve in 1986-1987.

According to Moderator Percy, some 75 ministers, delegates and visitors gathered June 12-14 in First FWB Church, Salina, for the three-day meeting.

Delegates elected Pastor Larry Collins (Emporia) as assistant moderator, and Salina bus captain Mike Gladburn as clerk. Bill Lepping (Salina) was named Master's Men State Senator.

The Morals Committee called for members to inform themselves regarding the para-mutual betting and liquor-by-the-drink issues since the state will be called on to consider both issues in the November elections.

Pastor Gary Brunson and his family drew praise from the Kansas Home Missions Board for their work in Central FWB Church (Great Bend).

Omaha, Nebraska, pastor Jerry McClary spoke four times on the association theme, "Looking Unto Jesus!"

The 1987 state association meets June 18-20 at Central FWB Church in Great Bend.



OUR READERS COMMENT

PASTOR APPLAUDS WRITER

I am writing to express appreciation for the article written by Linda Patrick in the May issue under the heading "It's Good Change One Thing." Each point was handled in biblical principle.

Until these changing traditions are converted all fellowship-wide growth plans will be frustrated. The churches practicing these principles will grow.

Dr. Randy Cox, Pastor
First Free Will Baptist Church
Raleigh, North Carolina

LATMAN LIKES 'YOUNG PREACHERS'

Just a word of appreciation to your staff for the fine job you do with publication of *Contact*. We look forward to receiving our copy each month.

Brother Dennis Wynn's article, "Especially For Young Preachers," is one of the most interesting and worthwhile features. I believe these articles contain good practical information and advice, not only for young preachers, but for all of us who read them.

May the Lord bless you as you continue this good work.

Lee Thomas
Taylors, South Carolina

CHIEFS' TESTUAL ARTICLE

I read *Contact*. Some of the things in it I like—really like. Other things in it I do not like—really dislike!

For years I have wished that someone would write about the North Carolina school that took place years ago. I went to Bible College in 1944, and the school took place when I left for school. I remember talking to my daddy and my mother about it and how much they enjoyed the service.

Thank God that our movement, brother disciples, finally wrote about the school. I was the nearest thing to Bible school in our time that I know anything about.

It developed spontaneously and was a work of God's Holy Spirit among young people through the influence and training of a lay couple in eastern North Carolina. Today and Chris Weddell were used of God to help make that school. Out of it have come many of our present day leaders in this denomination. How thankful I am that he wrote about it.

It was such a blessing to me to just read about the Holy Spirit did in those early days and that the effects of that Holy Spirit would be still being felt in our denomination. My heart cry is "Oh God, do it again!"

Reverend Harold Crouch
Director of Development
First Will Baptist Bible College
Nashville, Tennessee

TRANSPLANT HOPFUL APPRECIATES EDITORIAL

As a patient awaiting a transplant, let me express my appreciation for your May editorial on the need of transplants.

I trust that it will make our people aware of the need.

Reverend Don Hanna
Tallahassee, Florida

SOUTHEASTERN COLLEGE SETS OPENING ACTIVITIES

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA—Opening exercises for Southeastern FWB College's fourth year are scheduled Monday, August 25, according to President Joseph Ange and Dean Lorenza Stox. Dr. Ange will deliver the opening address.

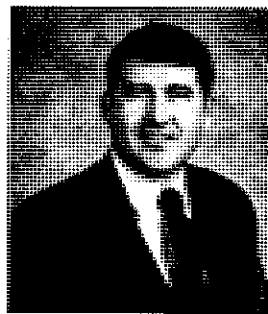
Two pastors will speak to the college family Tuesday. Tennessee pastor Don Lamb (Faith FWB Church, Morristown) will preach the morning session. North Carolina pastor James Pauley (Faith FWB Church, Kannapolis) will preach Tuesday evening. Fall registration begins Tuesday, August 26, with classes starting on Wednesday.

Southeastern ended its third year enrolling a total of 196 students, plus nine additional students in an extension studies program.

Four student groups from Southeastern toured 15 states this summer.



Joseph Ange



James
Pauley



Don
Lamb

Dr. **Robert Picirilli**, dean of Free Will Baptist Bible College, announced that the college has discontinued publication of *Dimension*, its quarterly Bible study journal for pastors. The school published seven issues of the journal beginning in 1984.

Roberta Bain was named "Mother Of The Year" at **First FWB Church, Benton, IL**. **Larry Clyatt** pastors.

Pastor **Len Blanchard** reports 29 conversions and 19 new members at **Lyons FWB Church, Lyons, GA**. The group also dedicated their new building which includes a sanctuary with a seating capacity of 250, Sunday School rooms, pastor's study and nursery. The building, appraised at \$288,000, is within \$45,000 of being debt free.

Pastor **Brian Atwood** says members of **Emmanuel FWB Church, Wabash, IN**, celebrated their 20th anniversary on July 20. Each family attending received a commemorative quartz desk clock and a booklet detailing the first 20 years of the church's history. Regular attenders were asked to make 20 contacts during the week preceding the anniversary.

Contact welcomes "The Messenger," publication of **Lifegate FWB Church, Tyler, TX**. **Ron Parker** pastors.

Free Will Baptists gave a record \$790,000 to **Free Will Baptist Bible College** in 1985-86, according to **Tom Sass**, treasurer of the college. The total increased \$77,000 over the previous year. Sass said the general fund gifts set an all-time record for the college. Nine states exceeded their gift budgets.

Attendance at **First FWB Church, Adamsville, TN**, surged 20 percent above the 1985 average. Members recently paved the church drive, and church youth carpeted the fellowship hall and kitchen areas. **L. L. Wilson** pastors.

Pastor **Merlin Teets** says the youth group at **Puritan FWB Church, Hamden, OH**, exceeds 100 teens and preteens.

Donna Knapp was presented with a plaque and flowers for 33 years of service as pianist at **Powellville FWB Church at Franklin Furnace, OH**. **Roger Lavender** pastors.

Sunday School teachers at **First FWB Church, Chillicothe, OH**, encourage Bible reading among their students. Pastor **Wendell Combs** said one class of third and fourth graders averages reading 400 chapters a week in their Bibles. Members also completed paving the church parking lot and painting a white cross on the front of the church.

Pastor **Harvey Marlow** led members of **Bethel FWB Church, Cleveland, OH**, in a mortgage-burning ceremony. The church rebuilt in 1975 after fire destroyed their building. They paid the \$90,000 indebtedness in 11 years.

Several members of **Campbell Chapel FWB Church, Ironton, OH**, participated in their first night time baptism when eight converts were baptized. Pastor **Danny Cline** reports 11 conversions in recent weeks.

Pastor **Delmer Marks** sends word of 10 baptisms at **Espyville FWB Church, Marion, OH**.

Members of **First FWB Church, North Little Rock, AR**, voted to build a new sanctuary. **Ben Scott** pastors.

Members of **Mt. Olive FWB Church, Mt. Olive, NC**, celebrated their fifth anniversary this spring with an attendance of 76 in Sunday School and 97 for morning worship. Pastor **Tim Stout** reports one conversion and two baptisms on the anniversary Sunday. The church was a mission of the **Faith FWB Church, Goldsboro, NC**.

Members of **Rogers FWB Church, Rogers, AR**, presented a plaque to **H. K.**

Scott for faithful service as music director since 1952. Pastor **Loy Counts** said Brother Scott served from 1952 until 1986, and now continues as assistant music director.

The youth of **Westside FWB Church, Springdale, AR**, raised \$1266 for Steve and Linda Reeves, according to Pastor **Jim McCulley**. Steve and Linda Reeves are preparing for service in Spain.

Members of **Fayetteville First FWB Church, Fayetteville, AR**, celebrated their 30th anniversary, according to pastor **Dennis Artman**. Certificates of appreciation for 30 years of faithful service were presented to **Dixie Easterling, Arlie** and **Juanita Salvis**. Pastor Artman brought the morning message to a congregation of 84 people.

Missouri Promotional Secretary **Clarence Burton** preached the morning and evening messages at **First FWB Church, Desoto, MO**, as the congregation celebrated their 20th anniversary. Pastor **Charles Miller** reported 207 for Sunday School with numerous others coming in for the morning worship and afternoon services.

First FWB Church, Pontiac, MI, concluded a family seminar-revival centering around harmony in the home. **Reverend** and **Mrs. Milton Worthington** taught the seminar which was conducted for three nights. Then Reverend Worthington concluded with two nights of revival services. Pastor **James Hollis** said attendance averaged 80 each evening and remarked that the seminar was timed perfectly for the congregation.

Members of **Calvary Fellowship FWB Church, Fenton, MO**, had an attendance drive for Youth Day. **Deanna Norris** took the challenge seriously. She brought 121 people to church on Youth Sunday. **Scott Wood** brought 50, **Danny Talley** brought 12 and **Tammy Comia** brought 11. **Jerry Norris** pastors. ▲

Pastor Appreciation Day!

September 14, 1986

TEEN Scene

LOCAL SCENE

The Randall Association in North Carolina is interested in youth! On the second Saturday of each month, September through May, the association sponsors a youth activity. This past year the Youth Board organized a Bowling Alley Lock-in.

They rented a bowling alley, and for a \$4.00 fee the young people could bowl till the sun came up. Bowling wasn't all that took place; they also set up a puppet theatre in the bowling alley, viewed a film, and had devotions during the evening.

The Randall Association also sponsored a "Night of Song." Area youth were encouraged to share in the service of music. The rally consisted entirely of music by the youth, including vocal, keyboard and instrumental. Over 300 attended the rally.

Randall Association's latest activity was a "Sneak Preview of Summer Camp." Youth were transported to Camp Dixie in Fayetteville and spent the day touring the facilities there. Activities included ball games, swimming, paddle boats and games in the gym. The day ended with devotions by the lake.

Reverend Sam Truett, chairman of the Randall Association Youth Board, estimated that sixty percent of the youth in attendance had not attended camp the previous year. Truett felt that the sneak preview created interest for their July camp.



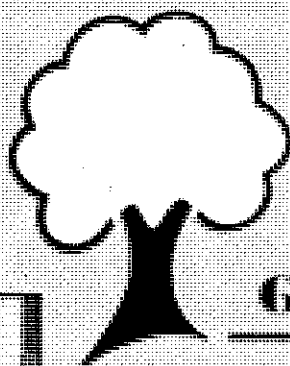
NATIONAL SCENE

Those lazy days of August are upon us again. Here at the Teen Scene office we're reviewing another completed National Youth Conference. We're also gearing up to begin planning sessions for the 1987 Youth Conference in Birmingham, Alabama.

Through working with youth this summer in Tulsa we discovered that Free Will Baptist youth groups are on the move. There are exciting ministries with and for teens all across the denomination. We want to know more about those happenings.

If your youth group is involved in planning and executing some ministry or activity that would be exciting and encouraging for other denominational youth, let us know what you're doing. Drop us a line about the happening and perhaps a picture. We will investigate the possibilities of publishing news about your activities in Teen Scene. Thanks for your interest. Send information to:

Teen Scene
Randall House Publications
P.O. Box 17306
Nashville, Tennessee 37217



Green Tree Bible Study



Robert E. Parrilli

Acts 3-4

The Church in Acts—Preaching for Growth

The last study in this column emphasized that the growing church in Acts was marked by the power of the Spirit of God. Here is another essential ingredient in that account: powerful preaching.

Between Acts 2:1 and 4:1, the 120 have grown to 5,000—not counting women and children. One of the main happenings in those two chapters is Peter's preaching. The great outpouring of the Spirit on the infant church had no sooner taken place than Peter stood up to preach.

The sermon on that day is briefly summarized in Acts 2:14-39. The result? "The same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (2:41).

Soon thereafter, Peter and John healed the lame man at the gate called "Beautiful." When an excited crowd gathered around, Peter preached again. His second sermon is even more briefly summarized in 3:13-26. The results were marvelous again: even though they were arrested, the number of believers swelled to 5,000 men (4:1-4).

There isn't space here to treat these two sermons in detail. We can, however, look closely enough at them to determine the main emphases. When we do, we get what might be called "The Three R's of Salvation Preaching."

First, Peter's preaching included a good dose of rebuke. In both of these sermons, he stressed the guilt of his hearers for their part in the crucifixion of Christ. You see this in 2:23-36 and in 3:14-15.

Peter used strong words: "Ye have taken [Christ] and by wicked hands have

crucified and slain"; "Ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; And killed the Prince of life."

In this part of his sermons, Peter accomplished two things. For one thing, he made sure that his hearers realized the seriousness of their sins. People don't get converted until they're convicted of their wicked ways: yes, even of the fact that their sins crucified the Lord. For another thing, he emphasized the crucifixion as part of God's plan (2:23) for man's deliverance. Powerful preaching always centers in the cross.

Second, he stressed the resurrection. Sometimes we preach only part of the gospel in our treatment of the death of Christ. Peter preached the whole gospel. In both sermons, he didn't even finish the sentence that told of Christ's death without hastening to tell that God raised Him from the dead (2:23-24; 3:15).

Especially in the first sermon, Peter develops the truth of the resurrection. He cites the Old Testament as evidence (2:25-36) and concludes that in Christ's resurrection is made clear the fact that Jesus is both Lord and Christ. In both sermons, he presents himself and the other believers as "witnesses" of the resurrection (2:32; 3:15).

Without the resurrection, the death of Christ would be nothing more than the death of any other person. In the resurrection is the evidence that Jesus is the Savior, that His atonement for sins has been effective, that He has power not only to live but to give new life to those who put faith in Him.

Third, Peter preached repentance. This emphasis concludes both sermons.

The first one winds up: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ" (2:38). The second one: "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (3:19).

Salvation preaching calls on people not just to put some shallow "faith" in Christ but to acknowledge their wrong before a holy God and turn from their wicked ways to accept His forgiveness and walk in the power of regeneration. Powerful preaching offers men deliverance to a new life (3:26).

Such—all too brief—is the kind of preaching needed if the church is to grow. Preaching that doesn't expose around sin, that makes men see that the explanation for Christ's crucifixion lies in their sins, that brings people under the grip of conviction and causes them to look to God.

Preaching that sounds the note of power and triumph and deliverance that centers in the resurrection of Christ, that makes the hearer realize that God has overruled the effects of his sin in raising Christ from the dead, that brings him to grasp the new life that can be his in Christ.

Preaching that produces repentance, that leads the sinner to bow his knee in submission before the holy God and His Son our rightful Lord, that results in his renunciation of his sins and looking to God for the power for a new life.

If we experience growth, we must have the same kind of preaching the early church had. We must speak clearly of sin, of the power of God in Christ, and of God's requirement that men repent. People will find their truest needs met in such preaching.

The



Redeemer

ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

Saturday night Mrs. Lane was helping Marty, Megan and Jeff learn their memory verses for Sunday School.

"For I know that my redeemer liveth," Job 19:25," quoted the twins.

"Mama, what's a 'redeemer?" asked Jeff.

"Well," said Mrs. Lane, "a 'redeemer' is a, well, uh, Jesus is our Redeemer."

"Yeah, but what's a 'redeemer?" asked Jeff again.

"It's somebody who buys something back," said Mrs. Lane.

"What?" asked all the children with puzzled looks on their faces.

"Let me see," said Mrs. Lane, trying to think of a way to explain. "Remember last fall when we had our yard sale?"

"How could we forget?" said Marty woefully.

"Marty's still afraid to open the hall closet," giggled Megan.

One day Marty was looking for his baseball glove. "Mom, have you seen my glove?" he asked.

"I think I saw it in the hall closet," answered his mother. "But be care..."

Mrs. Lane didn't have time to finish her sentence, for when Marty opened the closet door an avalanche of sports equipment, cameras, games, wrapping paper, scarves and gloves fell on him.

"Ouch!" screeched Marty, pulling a broken tennis racket off his head.

"What a mess!" gasped Megan.

Games spilled their pieces everywhere, a box of overturned golf balls bounced and rolled in all directions, and a box of photographs that had not yet made it to the family album scattered down the hall.

"That does it," said Mrs. Lane. "We're cleaning house. We're having a yard sale to get rid of this junk."

So for days the Lanes straightened, sorted and selected items for their yard sale. Mrs. Lane talked with her neighbors, and several of them wanted to join. The sale was so big they decided to have it at the schoolyard and donate the money to a needy family.

It was not easy to find sale items. Though the twins' closets, drawers and toy boxes were running over, it was hard to part with some things.

"If you haven't worn it or played with it in three months, it goes," ordered Mrs. Lane. "And that goes for you too," she said, looking at Mr. Lane.

Mr. Lane was relaxing on the couch watching football. "Aw, honey, I don't have time to sort through my stuff. Would you do it, please?" he asked.

"Of course," answered Mrs. Lane.

"Besides," added Mr. Lane, "you know as well as I do what I don't need any more."

"I hope you know what you're doing, Dad," warned Marty. "Mom is getting carried away. Can you believe she wanted to sell my hamster cage and my Franklin County Bears sweatshirt?"

"It's two sizes too little," chirped Megan.

"Well, you can't say anything," teased Marty. "You won't let her sell your old teddy bear."

"It has sentimental value," argued Megan. "Besides, it may be a collectors' item some day."

The day for the yard sale arrived. Mrs. Lane left early and met the other ladies at the school to set up everything. Mr. Lane volunteered to cook breakfast and then bring the children.

"We better hurry," said Megan clearing the table, "or there won't be any bargains left for us."

"It's a little cool this morning," said Mr. Lane. "We better get jackets."

Marty, Megan and Jeff found their jackets and went to the car.

"What's keeping Dad?" moaned Marty.

"Hurry up, hurry up," squealed Jeff honking the horn.

"I'm coming, I'm coming," called Mr. Lane out the kitchen door. "I'm looking for my jacket. Have any of you seen my green jacket?"

"You mean that ratty looking thing with the brown elbows?" asked Marty.

"It's not ratty looking," said Mr. Lane sharply. "It's just, well, aged... mature."

"Get something else," replied Megan. "Mom put that in the yard sale."

"In the yard sale!" cried Mr. Lane. "How could she do that?"

"She said it was about 15 years old," answered Megan.

"But that's the beauty of it," said Mr. Lane. "It has character. It suits me and it's comfortable. After all these years we go together."

"Mom said it stunk," said Megan.

"Stunk! It did not," retorted Mr. Lane. "It just had a nice familiar outdoorsy aroma."

"Like dead fish Mom said," added Marty.

"Mom said she mended the pockets a dozen times, but your keys still fall out. She said the material is rotten," said Megan.

"I admit it's getting a little thin in spots, but I wouldn't call it rotten," said Mr. Lane. "We better quit gabbing and get down there."

Mr. Lane jumped into the car. "I've got to save my jacket," he said as he backed out the driveway and charged down the street.

"Now, Dad," said Marty. "You're always telling us to stop and think. If you would stop and think about it, there's no hurry. No one would want your smelly old jacket."

Megan giggled, but Mr. Lane sped down the street like they were on their way to a fire.

"Wheel!" cried Jeff as he bounced and swayed with the curves.

Mr. Lane had barely stopped the car when he jumped out and ran up to his wife. "Where is it? Where is it? Am I too late?" he cried.

"Peter Lane, what are you talking about?" asked Mr. Lane. "Where's what?"





Thomas Marberry



David L. McKenna, *Renewing Our Ministry* (Waco, Texas: Word Books, 1986, 164pp., hardback, \$13.95)

Few churches experience significant growth without effective pastoral leadership. If the church grows, the pastor must be more than a figurehead; he must provide leadership, the right kind of leadership. He must provide leadership built on the model established by Jesus. A worldly type leadership is a disaster for the church.

Unfortunately, many pastors today are frustrated. They are not sure what type leadership they should exercise. Many churches are frustrated because they do not know what type leadership to expect from a pastor. There's much confusion over the pastor's role in the church and community.

Considerable attention is now focused on this problem, with more serious research being done than ever before in the history of the church.

Dr. McKenna addresses this timely subject in a thoughtful and understanding way. If a pastor is to minister effectively, he must periodically relive his call. He must never lose the joy of his experience with the Lord. His call to the ministry is like a marriage; the romance must be rekindled from time to time.

If the pastor is to provide effective leadership, he must be trustworthy. He must also be teachable. He must never forget that Jesus's disciples were not finished products when they heard the call of the Master.

The pastor must never forget that he is not walking through life alone. Christ does not call him and then abandon him. Ministers must also learn to respect differences. Every pastor is different; he has talents and abilities which are his and his alone.

The minister must never forget that he is a servant, a servant of God and a servant of God's people. He is also a steward. As a good steward, he must make the most effective use possible of the resources available to him and then be accountable for his stewardship of those resources.

An effective pastor must recognize his own limitations. He cannot (and should not) undertake to do everything that is done in the Lord's work. The author provides some helpful suggestions on delegating and involving others in the work of the church. He also helps the pastor to establish priorities and concentrate on things that really need to be done.

This book is a joy to read. It's optimistic and practical. It is filled with helpful insights which are well illustrated using examples from the Bible and everyday life. Every pastor should stop once in a while and think about who he is and where he is going. This book can help him to do that. ▲

LITTLE LANES (From page 27)

"My jacket. My green tweed jacket. The kids said you put it in the yard sale."

"And can you believe it," said Mr. Lane cheerfully, "it was the first thing I sold. Mrs. Macfeely bought it for her poodle. She was going to line her bed with it. She said that Fifi loved smelly, scratchy things to sleep on."

"My perfectly good jacket in a dog bed," cried Mr. Lane. "This is outrageous! Where is she?"

"She has a booth right over there," said Mrs. Lane pointing to a lady with a big white poodle.

Mr. Lane ran to Mrs. Macfeely's table. He swallowed hard and tried to calm down. "Mrs. Macfeely, I've come to ask you for my jacket. You see it was just a big mistake. My wife should never have put my jacket in the yard sale."

"Your jacket? I didn't buy a jacket from Mrs. Lane. Oh, you mean that old rag for Fifi. You mean you want it back?" she asked, quite surprised.

Mr. Lane ignored the fact that Mrs. Macfeely had called his special jacket a rag. "Oh, yes, please," he said.

Marty and Megan looked on in amusement and curiosity. They had never seen their easy-going dad so upset about something so silly.

"Why sure," said Mrs. Macfeely. "Fifi, darling, bring mama your new blanket." Mr. Lane gulped when he saw Fifi wagging her tail and carrying his green tweed jacket in her mouth.

Mr. Lane snatched it away from the dog and breathed a sigh of relief. "How much do I owe you?" he asked.

"Well, I gave your wife a dollar for it," answered Mrs. Macfeely.

Mr. Lane gladly gave the lady a dollar and took his jacket back to show his wife.

"Dad, don't you mind that you had to pay a whole dollar to get your own coat back?" asked Marty.

"No," said Mr. Lane. "I know it was mine to start with, but I'm just so glad to have it back, that dollar isn't important."

"It would have fallen out of the pocket anyway," said Megan.

Everyone laughed as Mr. Lane slipped his arms into the baggy, familiar feel of his green tweed jacket.

"What you want with that smelly old thing, I'll never know," said Mrs. Lane.

"It has character," laughed Megan. "And a familiar outdoorsy aroma," teased Marty.

"Like fish," added little Jeff. Even Mr. Lane had to laugh at that. ▲

Why is Mr. Lane so happy at the end of the story? The word "redeem" means to buy back. How is Mr. Lane like a redeemer? How is Jesus our Redeemer? Read and memorize I Peter 1:18-19.



Free Will Baptists
Growing for God's Glory

Especially
For Young
Preachers

Your Library

"Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go" (Proverbs 4:13).

A preacher without books is like a plumber without a wrench, a fisherman with no net or a carpenter with no hammer.

The preacher has no shortcut to an effective pulpit ministry; he must have tools. To construct a sermon, the preacher needs a Bible, commentary, Bible dictionary, concordance and other helps. He approaches the building and preserving of his library as precisely as a contractor prepares to erect a house.

The preacher's books are an investment. Just as a mechanic protects his valuable tool box so the preacher preserves his tools of paper.

1. Plan your library. Don't buy everything that looks good. Set priorities. Get the basic needs and then build on that. Ask older ministers for a suggested list. (Write me and I will mail you a list.)

2. Buy books. Buy at least one book a month. If you must skip a meal or two, buy books regularly.

3. Look for books. Be alert at yard sales, flea markets, store sales for books that will enhance your library.

4. Take an inventory. Someone in your church may be willing to do this for you. Make three copies of your book list. File those copies in different places.

5. Place your books on shelves in categories such as biographies, Christian living, church history, New Testament, Old Testament, etc.

6. Insure your books.

7. Take a picture of your library. Put the photo in one place and the negative in another. This is of great value in case of fire.

8. Use the books. Tools left on a shelf are of no value.

9. Include in your will the exact distribution of your books.

10. Don't worship books. Appreciate their value, but be willing to keep them in a box in the attic if the Lord moves you to a church where there is no room for a study.

11. The most important book in your library is the Bible.

Next Month: Save Money

Dennis Wiggs



NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

CYCLOTRON USED TO PROBE HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

LOS ANGELES, CA (EP)—An aging machine made from a refurbished cyclotron is helping scientists discover new things about ancient documents, including historic Bibles.

Located on the campus of the University of California at Davis, the "aging machine" is an early particle accelerator that can produce a proton beam traveling at up to one-third the speed of light. By focusing the beam on documents and examining the resulting spray of X-rays, Physicist Thomas Cahill and Historian Richard Schwab discover detailed information about the chemical composition of ink and paper without damaging the document.

One success of the method has been the resolution of the controversy surrounding the first book printed with movable metallic type. Most experts have said Gutenberg's two-volume Bible, printed between 1450 and 1455, was the ground-breaker. But two cruder works of the mid 1400s have puzzled experts: a rare 36-line Bible, and a scrap of paper known as the Sibyllenbuch fragment, also done in 36 lines. The question: were these printed by Gutenberg, or by someone else?

Cahill and Schwab borrowed two of the world's 49 remaining Gutenberg Bible volumes, as well as leaves from the "mystery" documents. Tests of these documents are still being evaluated, but most doubts have been resolved. The researchers discovered that rather than using carbon-based ink, Gutenberg used a slurry of copper and lead for his famous Bible. The two 36-line works revealed an almost-identical mixture, leading Cahill and Schwab to conclude that Gutenberg printed all the documents, and the 36-line works were his "warm-up" efforts.

The analysis also reveals much about Gutenberg's production methods. The researchers have concluded that Gutenberg used six crews and at least two presses to produce the Bible.

In another investigation, a member of the team examined a three-volume Calov Bible that once belonged to J.S. Bach. By comparing the ink used in underlinings and other marks throughout the Bible with Bach's signature on the title page, he confirmed that the composer, rather than one of the subsequent owners, was responsible for the markings. This finding will provide hints about what passages influenced Bach.

Even fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls have been examined by cyclotron. Researchers determined that the documents had been preserved by soaking in salt water. They also found that while earlier documents were written in the purest of carbon-inks, later scrolls contained levels of copper, which may indicate a change in rabbinical decree to allow the use of a substitute ink when no other was available.

EVANGELIST SAYS GOD BRINGING REVOLUTIONARIES FROM SATAN TO CHRIST

PANAMA CITY, Panama (EP)—Argentine-born evangelist Alberto Motteses claims only God can turn around the tragic situation in Central America.

"And, already," he said after a crusade, "our God is converting revolutionaries for Satan into revolutionaries for Christ. I have seen many guerrilla fighters throughout this troubled region give their lives to Jesus Christ."

Motteses, speaking before 10,000 before the Hall of Justice in Panama City, told the thousands of young people there, "When you come to Christ you can be the greatest agents of social change in not only Panama but also in the whole of Central America."

Motteses's Panama crusade got off to an explosive start when six bombs exploded in the capital. "Because of the violence in Panama City, the press saw our gathering in front of the Hall of Justice as a symbol of peace," he said. "So I took the opportunity to pray for the peace of Panama and Central America."

He told the crowd, "I believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the greatest power to change history. No political party is as strong as the Church of Jesus Christ. God only is the great changing agent."

IRS EXEMPTS SOME CHURCH GROUPS FROM FILING INFORMATIONAL RETURNS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—The Internal Revenue Service has adopted a new procedure that will exempt certain church-related organizations from filing annual financial information returns (Form 990).

The new procedure establishes a new class of exempt organizations: "integrated auxiliaries." These are organizations affiliated with a church, convention or association of churches and exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. The IRS will use a two-point test to determine whether an organization is part of the new class. An organization will be exempt unless it offers goods or services for sale to the general public on a regular basis, and receives more than half of its support from those sales or government support.

The new procedure will be added to the current three-part test for groups exempted from filing Form 990. That test requires an organization to be 501(c)(3) tax exempt, affiliated with a church, convention, or association of churches, and have a principal activity that is exclusively religious.

The new regulation creates an additional class of exempt organizations and will not change the status of any group already exempt from filing Form 990.

The issue arose when a congressional conference committee agreed to exempt "integrated auxiliaries" of religious organizations from federal filing requirements, but left the definition of "integrated auxiliaries" up to the IRS.

POPULATION GROWTH OUTSTRIPS EVANGELISM

LONDON, England (EP)—The world's population explosion is outstripping evangelism efforts in the world's urban areas, according to missions researcher David Barrett. Barrett, editor of World Christian Encyclopedia (Oxford), notes that 17 of the world's 25 largest cities will have primarily non-Christian populations by the turn of the century. Nearly all of those cities are strongholds of Islam, Hinduism, or other non-Christian religions.

Barrett's study focused on cities with more than one million people. "Cities are the great phenomenon in the Third World and the 20th century," he says. "The Third World is largely non-Christian. Therefore, its cities are going to be largely non-Christian."

In 1950, only seven of the world's largest 25 cities were predominantly non-Christian. Today, however, the world's cities are growing by more than 80,000 non-Christians daily. By the year 2000, three Islamic cities are expected to join the world's top 25: Karachi, Pakistan; Baghdad, Iraq; and Dacca, Bangladesh.

Barrett suggests "megaministries" geared to reach 100,000 to one million people per day as the way to reach urban areas. Such ministries would combine radio, television, films and Bible distribution, and would focus on areas where there is no Christian witness.

INDIA ADOPTS POLICY AGAINST MISSIONARIES

NEW DELHI, India (EP)—Catholic missionaries from Canada and Belgium have been ordered to leave India, and a German priest has been denied re-entry to the country in a government crackdown on Christian missionary work in India.

The Indian government has decided to expel all foreign missionaries, according to K.V. Thomas, a member of India's parliament. Thomas, a Catholic and member of India's ruling Congress party, said he does not expect to see the government distinguish between missionaries who work to proselytize Hindus and those who restrict their efforts to social work among the poor.

Thomas discussed the missionary policy after asking Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to extend residence permits for a number of missionaries. His request was denied.

ISLAM GROWS FASTER THAN CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA

NEW DELHI, India (EP)—Islam is the fastest growing religion in India, according to an Indian government census, which also showed Christianity to be the slowest growing group.

Christian evangelistic efforts have met little success in Indian Muslim communities. Christian materials left with Muslim women are often returned or destroyed when their husbands return home from work, and Christians face many obstacles in attempting to build personal relationships with Muslims.

Missionary teams working among India's Muslims report that sales of Bibles and Christian literature is an encouraging sign.



THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

By Melvin Worthington

Pastoral Pitfalls



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

Pastors occupy a unique place in the plan of God. They're usually gifted men, ordained because the church community recognizes the call of God on their lives.

But pastors face problems just as unique as their calling. The disasters which result from a pastor's personal carelessness while executing his duties are all too real. This day requires constant pastoral vigilance to avoid dangerous pitfalls.

Egotism. Egotism smacks of self-love, and manifests itself in self-assertive and self-preserving tendencies.

Pride lives at the heart of egotism. God despises it. Proverbs warns, "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (16:18).

John the Baptist alluded to the problem when he said, "He must increase, but I must decrease." Jesus illustrated the principle when He declared, "...not my will but thine be done." Paul leaves no doubt regarding his disdain for foolish pride. He drives his point home when he confesses that he is chief of sinners and least of the saints.

Economics. An extravagant life-style spells disaster for the pastor. If he spends more than he makes and runs up bills he can't pay, he'll likely leave town in disgrace. Economic extravagance ruins ministries beyond repair.

Perhaps a word to the church is in order at this point. Many Free Will Baptist pastors are overworked and underpaid. Churches which can but will not provide financially for the pastoral family should be ashamed.

It's not spiritual to give large sums to missions and Christian education at the

expense of the pastor. Annual raises and cost of living increases for the pastor will be the rule rather than the exception when a church does the will of God in this matter of economics.

Eros. Physical love must be kept within the bounds of marriage. How tragic to hear of pastors who succumb to the sin of adultery. This pitfall is a reality among clergymen today.

Fleshly appetites, when not brought under the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, lead to impurity and infidelity. The pastor who keeps a right relationship with his wife and family will remain pure and holy.

No area of a pastor's life must be more diligently guarded than the marital relationship. The proper discharge of conjugal duties as prescribed in I Corinthians 7 prevent the devastating disgraces prevalent among pastors. God has provided protection for the pastor through marriage.

Emotions. The emotional makeup of men must not be discounted or discredited. Emotional extremes are not healthy for the pastor. Some roller coaster emotionally from the heights to the lowest depths. This produces instability in the pastor as well as the church.

Vows and decisions made at the height or depth of emotion are unrealistic. The pastor must strive for emotional balance. Many pastors have ruined their ministries

by making decisions while in emotional delight or depression.

Exhaustion. Many pastors work long hours without needed rest and do not eat properly. Overworked pastors soon become ineffective and irritable. The pastor must schedule his activities and organize them according to biblical priorities.

Some boast that they'd rather burn out than rust out. Why do either? Jesus told His disciples to come apart and rest. God has given sufficient time for all things. Pastoral duties are not so demanding that they wreck the health, home and happiness of the pastor. Sometimes more can be accomplished by doing less.

Exercise. Ministerial pressures cause many pastors to neglect physical exercise. They don't want to be criticized for taking time off for recreation, relaxation or to reflect. But exercise is essential for the pastor's well being. G. Campbell Morgan said he considered his 18 holes of golf on Saturday an essential part of his preparation for speaking on Sunday. Pastors who are too lazy to exercise regularly are headed for serious problems.

Expectation. No pastor can live up to the expectations of all the people all the time. He must be realistic in what he expects from himself and the congregation he shepherds. Unrealistic and unfulfilled expectations produce frustration. Determine what God expects from you and do it to the best of your ability. God does not require more than you can give.

Pastor, give yourself to God, and guard yourself from the god of this world. Calm yourself and be still. Wait in the quietness with God. There's no need to panic. Your God never feels the pressure!

Secretary's Schedule

August 4-10 Evergreen FWB Church
Iola, Texas

August 12-14 Arkansas State Association
Camp Beaverfork
Conway, Arkansas

CONTACT

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Nashville, Tennessee 37202

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August is Emphasis Month.

The Woman's National Auxiliary Convention challenges auxiliary women to look back on the past with appreciation and step with anticipation into

**GOD'S WONDERS
FOR
TOMORROW**

Materials for the 1986-87 Emphasis program have been prepared by Lois Smallwood, Cabool, Missouri. Request your free copy from: WNAC, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

Just before our Lord ascended back to Heaven, He commissioned His disciples, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Now almost 2000 years later, the task is still unfinished. Through mission action, study and prayer—as well as sacrificial giving—women's united efforts are helping spread the gospel around the world.

Free Will Baptist women everywhere are invited to join hands. Step together into tomorrow with the Woman's Auxiliary and share in God's wonders!