

# GOD'S REVIVALIST

October 2004

*The Advocate*

GBS RECORDS HIGHEST  
ENROLLMENT SINCE 1984 p.8

MY DAD, THE MODEL PASTOR  
a tribute by the Rev. Joseph Smith p.9

IS OBESITY SIN?  
by Dr. Philip Brown p.14

THE PASTOR'S CHILDREN: BLESSING  
OR CURSE? by Dr. Allan Brown p.17

CONFRONTING PORNOGRAPHY  
by the Rev. Richard Miles p.21

Don't Forget...  
October is "Pastor  
Appreciation Month"

# the editor's view



LARRY D. SMITH

## ORDER OF THE LIFTED CROSS

For over 900 years Windsor Castle has been the home of British royalty. Tourists from around the world gape at its vast and towering structures filled with magnificent sculpture, furniture, and paintings. Above its ancient battlements rises St. George's Chapel, a glorious medieval church built by King Edward IV. Its Gothic arches and lofty cupolas point the soul to heaven, while at the same time they overlook the tombs of kings and queens below.

St. George's is famous because it contains the chapel of the Order of the Garter, the noblest fraternity of knights in Europe. Founded in 1348, its membership includes the Sovereign, the Prince of Wales, and an elite number of others who have rendered distinguished service. Winston Churchill was one of them, and so now is Margaret Thatcher.

To this day, the Order of the Garter remains a perpetual brotherhood to exalt courtesy and honor, to relieve the weak and suffering, and to defend the nation in its peril. As long as the knights of the Garter assemble beneath their crests and banners in St. George's Chapel, the ideals of chivalry will not be forgotten.

So also Our Lord has established a perpetual brotherhood, which is His Church, the Order of the Lifted Cross. Far nobler than the Garter, it is "the pillar and ground of the truth" (I Tim. 3:15), by which He exalts His name and extends His mission throughout the world. Within its "mystic sweet communion" we live now, as we shall live forever, joined with Him and with all His dear ones who love the Church because they also love its Head.

Together we form a "chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people," that we "may proclaim the praises of Him who called" us "out of darkness into His marvelous light" (I Pet. 2:9). We plead below the merits of His atoning work which He also pleads above; and with the Holy Spirit whom He has sent, we issue His regal invitation, "Come!" "And whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely" (Rev. 22: 17).

(continued on page 22) ➡

GOD'S REVIVALIST and BIBLE ADVOCATE

02

## CONTENTS

October 2004  
Volume 116 No. 7

### FEATURES

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <b>Christian, It's Your Duty To Vote</b>         | <b>5</b> |
| by Ken Farmer                                    |          |
| <b>Notes To Preachers</b>                        | <b>7</b> |
| selected   |          |
| <b>GBS Records Highest Enrollment Since 1984</b> | <b>8</b> |
| by Ken Farmer                                    |          |
| <b>My Dad, The Model Pastor</b>                  | <b>9</b> |
| by Joseph Smith                                  |          |

### DEPARTMENTS

- |                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>The Editor's View</b>           | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>The President's Page</b>        | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Letters To The Editor</b>       | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>The World To Win</b>            | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>2nd Thoughts</b>                | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>News From The Hilltop</b>       | <b>10</b> |
| <b>Revivalist Family</b>           | <b>10</b> |
| <b>Dear Phil</b>                   | <b>14</b> |
| <b>GBS Archives</b>                | <b>15</b> |
| <b>Revivalist Pulpit</b>           | <b>17</b> |
| <b>Mending Nets</b>                | <b>21</b> |
| <b>Thoughts For The Quiet Hour</b> | <b>23</b> |

### EDITOR

Larry D. Smith

### STAFF

Myra Alexander, production manager  
Kevin Moser, art director  
Jon Plank, graphic designer

*God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate* (ISSN 0745-0788) is published nine times a year for \$10.00 per year (\$11.50 in Canada and foreign countries) by the Revivalist Press of God's Bible School, College and Missionary Training Home, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. Periodical postage paid at Cincinnati, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER: send address changes to God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.**

*God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate*, the official organ of God's Bible School, is a magazine founded by Martin Wells Knapp in July of 1888. We seek to proclaim the good news of salvation; to stir a revival spirit among Christians; to stimulate Christian growth and responsible Christian living; to present the happenings and interests of God's Bible School.

Please obtain permission before reprinting any articles from *God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate*. **Unsolicited manuscripts are welcomed, but not returned.**

God's Bible School and College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, or against otherwise qualified handicapped persons in its admission of students or employment of its faculty and staff.

God's Bible School and College can be reached by telephone at (513) 721-7944 (Revivalist Press, ext. 296); by fax at (513) 721-1357; by E-Mail at [revivalist@gsb.edu](mailto:revivalist@gsb.edu) or [admissions@gsb.edu](mailto:admissions@gsb.edu). Visit us online at [www.gsb.edu](http://www.gsb.edu) or [www.godsrevivalist.com](http://www.godsrevivalist.com).

# the president's page

## PASTOR, SAVE THYSELF

by Michael R. Avery, president

Almost everyone knows someone who used to be in the ministry. Statistics show that for every twenty men who enter the ministry, only one will still be actively involved at the age of 65. No one goes into the ministry expecting to be a casualty. Some have to leave for health reasons. Some wash out because of personal or moral failure (approximately 20 percent are involved in inappropriate sexual behavior). Some burn out from long-term stress. Some are forced out by a church. Some walk out because of a sense of failure. Some never leave the ministry but “check out” mentally and emotionally.

Fortunately, we all know pastors who have given a lifetime of effective service to the church. They are godly men who have grown old gracefully and who still serve the church in their advanced years. Is there a word of counsel that could expand their ranks?

### Sound Advice from a Seasoned Veteran

Every minister ought to read the letters to Timothy at least once a quarter. The aged apostle gives young Timothy sound advice for staying on course and going the distance. I Timothy 4:16 is a verse every pastor ought to memorize. In it Paul gives a three-fold secret to succeeding.

### Pay Attention to Yourself!

The minister can become so focused on the public aspect of his ministry that he forgets to keep a sharp eye on his private walk with God. Paul's advice is clear, “Take heed unto thyself.” The vast majority of ministry failures (no matter what the visible reason might be) can be traced to the neglect of the pastor's own soul. He fails to cultivate an established pattern of private prayer, Bible study and worship. Pastors who have developed a regular pattern of personal soul care are able to work out of a spiritual fullness. When ministry flows out of a full heart, it is both satisfying and successful.

But men who try to draw water out of an empty bucket will be men who are

stressed out, overwhelmed, and constantly looking for a different situation. Whenever we allow our ministry to be motivated by anything other than love for God or empowered by anything other than His Spirit, it begins to work against us and starts the process of self-destruction. I keep a quote by James Montgomery Boice on my desk that says, “Christian service isn't measured by the results we see from it, or even by the example we communicate by it, but what we become through it.”

### Never Stop Learning!

Paul knew the joys of seeing his message accepted and the sorrow of seeing it rejected. But through it all, he continued to preach the Word of God in season and out of season. Regardless of what facet of ministry we are in, we are obligated to clearly, accurately, and persistently communicate Biblical truth. For this to happen, the minister must be constantly learning. He must continue to expand his knowledge of the Bible and all related subjects that enable him to remain fresh and effective. One of the dangers of ministry is that it can keep you from learning. Expanding buildings and activities is much easier than expanding your soul and growing your mind. But to fail here is to fail altogether. Shallow ministers and shallow ministries are the seedbed for emotionalism, liberalism, legalism, and all sorts of heresy.

### Just Keep Doing It!

Those who have been in ministry for some time understand the temptation to throw in the towel, especially when the problems are large, the crowd is small, and the benefits of leaving seem to outweigh those of staying. But there is something to be said for just hanging in there and being faithful to preach the Word.

The words of the old apostle seem to lack the smoothness and charm that twenty-first century ears prefer; but if you will simply follow them you will “save yourself and them that hear thee.” ■



# Letters

## TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, or e-mailed to [revivalist@gbs.edu](mailto:revivalist@gbs.edu). Letters reprinted here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor of God's Revivalist nor those of the administration of God's Bible School. Names and locations of writers will be withheld at their specific request or at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit and condense.

### ON THE NET

I am so happy and proud to know that I can now read the *God's Revivalist* on the net. This is truly a blessing for me as an alumnus. Keep spreading the message of Holiness as the world is in dying need of such truth about God and his holy Word.

LEROY A BURROWS  
Nassau, Bahamas

Just found your site! Loved it!!! I will be subscribing to the *Revivalist*. God bless each one!

REV. DAVID NAPIER  
Email

**Editor's Comment:** The websites for God's Bible School and the God's Revivalist magazine are [www.gbs.edu](http://www.gbs.edu) and [www.godsrevivalist.com](http://www.godsrevivalist.com).

### GOOD EYE AND SOUL APPEAL!

This is an excellent paper. I enjoy Larry Smith's and Mike Avery's articles especially. I read from cover to cover. Nice graphics, good eye appeal and soul appeal.

EVELYN PHILIPS  
Jackson, Mississippi

### ENCOURAGED BY DR. BROWN'S ARTICLES

I am particularly encouraged by the articles in the magazine, especially the "Revivalist Pulpit" by Dr. Brown, who has cleared up some issues I always had limited light on. One such subject is "how does one grieve the Holy Spirit." From his message I understand it clearly now.

ELMA SHAW  
St. John's, Antigua, West Indies

### MORE ON SPEED LIMITS

God bless you for your effort to broach a subject that is so necessary ["Obeying Speed Limits," Dr. Philip A. Brown, p. 14, *Summer Revivalist*]. There are principles to

(continued on page 21) ➡

# the world to win

Each month we publish brief "field reports" from missionaries around the world. Missionaries are invited to send us their newsletters and other information about their activities. GBS graduates are especially urged to respond, but we also wish to include others who uphold our vision and our commitment.

**BRAZIL. "Many of our churches are seeing new converts right from the world.** Others are seeing backsliders come back to Christ—those who once walked with Christ but somehow the devil deceived them and they went away from the Father's house. Monte Pascoal has just about reached its goal of 30 new converts for June. So they have decided to add another 30. The tent is full, and some of the men stand during the services so visitors can have the chairs. Nova Floresta has four new couples attending regularly. The new converts are growing in the Lord. The training center has eleven students in three of the classes and thirteen in the other class. It is exciting to see the students put into practice the things that they are learning." —Rev. and Mrs. Roderick Wells (*Pilgrim Holiness Church of New York*), Newsletter

**HAITI. "There has been crisis after crisis, whether political or otherwise, and all that causes the Haitian nation's misery to increase daily.** Lately a flood caused 900 people to die on the border of Haiti and the Dominican Republic, and many families in the southeast have been victims of that flood, including loss of properties. One of our churches at that place has been terribly damaged, and many of our beloved passed away because of that natural catastrophe. The infection causes life to be a nightmare to the Haitians, especially [for those] having a large number of children to feed while having no employment. Now we are facing a new challenge at the orphanage. Every day parents are coming with their children, because they claim that they are not able to feed them themselves. The load is very heavy to carry." —Rev. Jules Boliere, *Holiness Pilgrim Mission Reporter*

**INDIANA. Evangelistic Faith Missions, Bedford, Indiana, will celebrate 100 years of service at special celebrations, June 25, 2005.** One of the best known of conservative holiness missionary organizations, (p6) ➡



# Election

# 2004

*Christian, It's Your Duty to Vote*

by Dr. Ken Farmer, GBS Vice President for Academic Affairs

*"Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's"—Matthew 22:21*

A case can be made that "rendering unto Caesar" means more than just paying taxes. It also means being a good citizen. How can you be a good citizen without being informed? And if you are informed, how can you not take a stand on issues and candidates—and vote?

Survey research shows many evangelical Christians failed to turn out to vote in 2000. Millions were not even registered. Moreover, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 128 million out of 193 million citizens 18 years or older are registered to vote, leaving 65 million who are not. The voter-registration percentage is lowest among the 18- to 24-year-olds (43 percent). Not only are the young under-registered, but only 19 percent of that voting bloc bother to turn up on Election Day, the bureau says.

Because of this, God's Bible School and College is currently involved in an effort to get 100% of its voting-aged population ready to vote. This includes faculty, staff and students. This also means getting everybody registered and submitting the paperwork for those who need absentee ballots. We are serious about making a difference!

The Christian pollster George Barna claims the outcome of Election 2004 hinges "squarely on the choices of the Christian body." He further states that getting evangelical Christians to "actually turn out on Election Day" is a critical necessity. The current danger is that Evangelicals will fail to show up because they are so firmly convinced their candidate is already poised to win.

*Here are the things we need to remember:*

1. Christian voters will be the largest and most important demographic in the 2004 election and will likely represent between 45% and 50% of all voters.
2. Christian voters will decide the election by their TURNOUT.
3. Christian voters will decide the election by their CHOICE. ■



## THE EVENT VS. THE PLACE

*“They were all...in one place” (Acts 2:1)*

I couldn't believe what I was reading. Commenting on Acts 2:1, my study Bible stated, “Evidently this was not the upstairs room where they were staying, but perhaps some place in the Temple precincts.”

What? The disciples were not really in the “upper room” when the Holy Spirit fell? My first reaction was that this discovery was going to mess up a lot of Bill Gaither songs! My second was a bit more personal and pensive. I felt let down. During a trip to Israel, I had assembled with friends and colleagues on what we presumed was the very spot where the famous “upper room” once stood. We sang together and imagined what it would have been like to have been at this very spot so long ago on Pentecost, the birthday of the Church.

But now I had to try to reconcile myself to the idea that I hadn't been there after all! Furthermore, my preaching language was going to have to be adjusted. No more admonitions for folks to seek an “upper room experience,” or declarations that “the upper room made the difference” for the apostles!

But the fact is, the Holy Spirit really did fall upon those gathered Christians someplace. At some point and place He really did purify their hearts and empower them for phenomenal acts of ministry. And so I came to understand that the reality of the Holy Spirit's coming was, in the end, more important than my nostalgic imagery of the “upper room.”

Now, as with so many issues, here also we must strive for balance. On the one hand, there is a scriptural precedent

for revering “holy sites” where God did great things. Throughout the Old Testament God's people erected altars and monuments to “mark the spot” where miracles had taken place or the Almighty had revealed Himself. And yet, the point of marking these places was to preserve the memory of God's mighty acts, not to venerate the spot itself!

Just as surely as the bronze serpent eventually became a kind of spiritual fetish, so might we make more of “the spot” than we do the God who once did great things on “this spot.” It is a mark of Christian maturity to learn how to revere holy sites and sacred emblems without idolizing them. Likewise, it is a mark of maturity to learn to let go of these things (when it is necessary) without abandoning the God to whom these things point.

By the way, after processing my “upper room anxiety” for a few days I decided to check other commentaries. Am I glad I did! I discovered that Acts 2:2 makes reference to a “house” where they were gathered. While some commentators understand this “house” to be the Temple, Howard Marshall insists that the Greek “used on its own like this cannot mean temple.” Thus, it appears that they were in the upper room after all! So don't toss out those Gaither songs just yet! But the lesson is still a valuable one and worth remembering: *cherish the spiritual reality more than the physical context in which that reality happened.* ■

*Ben Durr Jr. is a pastor and member of the faculty in the Division of Ministerial Education at GBS.*

➡(p4) EFM marks the beginning of its worldwide outreach to the departure of the Rev. and Mrs. Lewis Glenn and their son Herman as missionaries to Egypt in 1905. It now supervises work in several Latin American nations, Egypt, Ethiopia, Korea, and Eritrea. Those seeking further information may call (812) 275-7531.

**MISSOURI.** “We praise God that He has called Brother Joel Wegener to be your Radio Pastor and continue to give God's message of salvation, holiness, and hope of eternal life,” write longtime Christian broadcasters, Richard and Nadine Baber, in the *Flaming Sword*. Wegener, a veteran Christian educator, now residing in Loveland, Ohio, has assumed operation of the “Your Radio Pastor” ministry operated for many years by the Babers, who add, “We trust that you will support him with your prayers and finance in the future.”

**MONGOLIA.** “We are so grateful for all the visitors here [at the orphanage] who came to work. May God richly bless them everyone. The men have been busy building on our new house at Gachuurt, pouring cement, putting on a roof, setting two septic tanks, putting in the well, building partitions and stairs, and soon the windows. It is such a big house and we will be thankful to have more room, as we are bursting at the seams here in Hailasst. Our Sunday church is doing well with some new people coming.” —*Beverly Rhodes, Newsletter*

**RUSSIA.** “I have a prayer request sent in from Anna Lucas today. They have a Russian lady attending their church in Colorado Springs named Nina who knows of a Russian pastor near Chechnya. This family had four children who attended the school that was held hostage by terrorists this past week. *None of their children came home alive.* Let's take time to hold this Russian pastor and his wife up to the Lord in prayer!” —*Steve Sturtevant, Prayer Bulletin* ■

# Notes to Preachers



## PREACHER, DON'T NEGLECT YOUR EDUCATION!

By the Rev. John Wesley

"If I am lacking even in these lowest endowments, shall I not frequently regret the want? How often shall I move heavily and be far less useful than I might have been? How much more shall I suffer in my usefulness, if I have wasted the opportunities I once had of acquainting myself with the great lights of antiquity, the Antenicene fathers, or if I have denounced or droned away those precious hours wherein I might have made myself master of the sciences? How poorly must I many times drag on, for want of the helps which I have vilely cast away!

"But is not my case still worse, if I have loitered away time wherein I should have perfected myself in Greek and Hebrew? I might before this have been critically acquainted with these treasuries of sacred knowledge. But they are now hid from my eyes; they are close locked up, and I have no key to open them. However, have I used all possible diligence to supply that grievous defect (so far as it can be supplied now) by the most accurate knowledge of the English Scriptures? Do I meditate therein day and night? Do I think (and consequently speak) thereof "when I sit in the house and when I walk by the way; when I lie down, and when I rise up"? By this means have I at length attained a thorough knowledge, as of the sacred text, so of its literal and spiritual meaning? Otherwise, how can I attempt to instruct others therein? Without this, I am a blind guide indeed! I am absolutely incapable of teaching my flock what I have never learned myself—no more fit

to lead souls to God than I am to govern the world."

*One of the first results of a true spiritual awakening is the thirst for knowledge. Wesley was one of the first advocates of popular education. He saw that his converts must be cared for, and he built schools wherever enough converts warranted it.*

—Reprinted from the *Convention Herald* with permission. ■

## BIG FIRE IN THE PULPIT

The problem of revival in Christian congregations narrows down to one thing. This one thing is the same as the Lord had in mind when He dictated the letters to the Seven Churches in Asia to John on the Isle of Patmos, namely the Christian ministry. The

Lord must have a consecrated ministry before He can have the corrections in, and cooperation of, congregations. And as Mr. Finney so often reminded us, as go the ministers so go the churches.... Revival must begin with a revived ministry. Mr. Moody, when once asked how to have a revival in a dead church, said, "Build a big fire in the pulpit." A revived ministry is certain to result in a revived church. Mr. Finney puts his finger on the most appropriate text when he employs I Timothy 4:16. "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." Let every lover of ministers pray more than ever for them and do everything possible to help to strengthen their hands in God. —Great Commission Prayer League ■

*Income for Life and a Gift for the Future*

- Lifetime Income
- Tax Savings
- Tax-Free Income
- Capital Gains Savings
- Special Blessing

The GBS Charitable Gift Annuity Program provides an opportunity to make a significant gift while still retaining lifetime income. For individuals our annuity rates are:

**Age 60: 5.7%   Age 70: 6.5%   Age 80: 8.0%   Age 90: 11.3%**

For a no-obligation gift annuity proposal, please fill in the following information and mail to: God's Bible School, Jack Hooker, Vice President for Advancement, 1810 Young St., Cincinnati, OH 45202 (513) 721-7944, [jhooker@gbs.edu](mailto:jhooker@gbs.edu)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount considering \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*The Gift That Gives Back*

# GBS Records Highest Enrollment Since 1984 !!

By Dr. Kenneth Farmer, Vice President for Academic Affairs

In 1999 Student Recruiter Keith Waggoner and I set a rather ambitious goal—a GBS college growth rate of seven percent a year. For several years we met that goal. Then came Fall 2003, and we registered a five percent loss! Our response? Work harder! We had good PR teams on the road and good people in the office working the phones. This put us back on track, and we posted a two percent increase.

We are now pleased to announce our Fall 2004 college enrollment statistics. *Our official head count is 301, and our full-time equivalence (FTE) is 274. This represents a 19 percent increase over last year. Praise the Lord!*

## INSIDE THE NUMBERS

When we say “official head count,” we mean that we are only counting those taking courses for credit and who were certified by our census date, September 3. Some students whom we do not count include audit-only students (one this semester); Aldersgate students taking a free course (more than 150); and all who enroll after the census date (several).

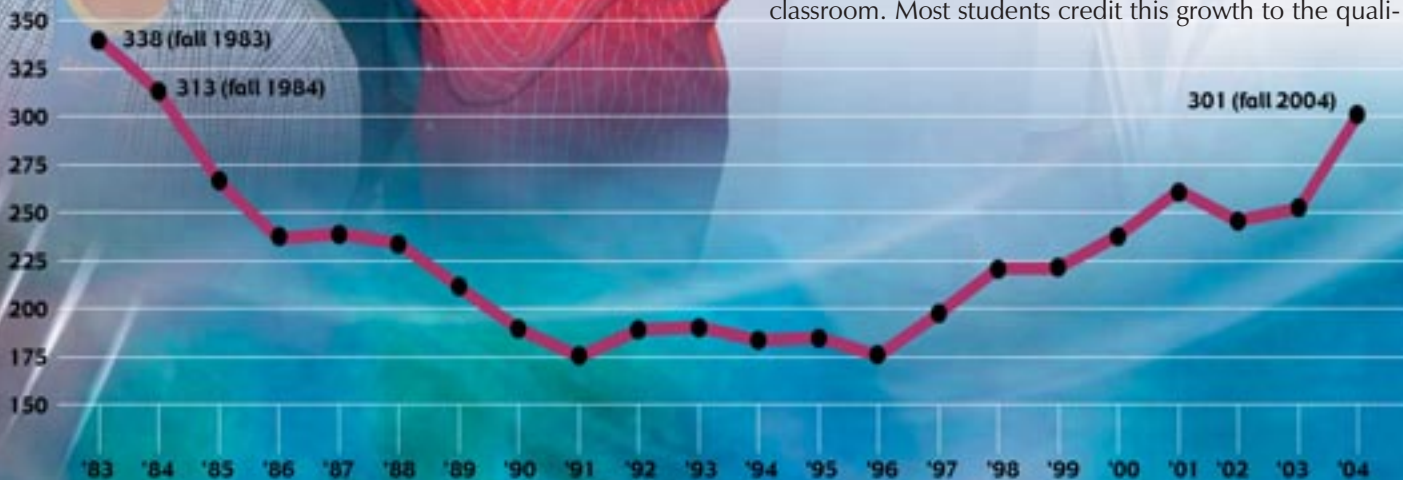
Some will wonder if we are building our enrollment on the back of our Aldersgate Program, but the 25 ADEP students account for only 8.3% of our enrollment. Others may question as to whether we are adding many part-time students. While we are privileged to have such students, the fact is that our FTE is 91% of our head count. This means that most of our students are taking full loads. The ABHE average is approximately 86 percent.

We have 102 new students, either first-time freshmen or transfer students. This does not count any “re-admits”—those returning after sitting out for several years (two) or high school students taking a college class for credit (ten). These high school students are counted in our overall headcount, but they are not counted as new students until they matriculate into the college.

## WHAT FACULTY AND STUDENTS ARE SAYING

Needless to say, this is an exciting time for us. Some of the college divisions are experiencing fabulous growth. Dan Glick, chair of the Division of Intercultural Studies and World Missions reports, “The number of missions majors has tripled in three years—from 15 to 46.” Garen Wolf, “grandfather” of divisional chairs, adds, “I have the largest number of music majors (52) in my 27-year tenure at God’s Bible School.”

This equals more vibrant student life in the chapel, the cafeteria, and in the gymnasium, as well as in the classroom. Most students credit this growth to the quali-





ty of our faculty and the very effective PR teams that represent GBS. Some of the new students mention the friendliness of both students and staff, as well as the spiritual atmosphere on campus.

#### WHAT'S AHEAD?

This is our best start since Fall 1984, when we enrolled 311, and we are excited about the prospect for the future. Our all-time high of 338 (Fall 1983) is within our sights! Here is what we are doing. We are creating a Cross-Functional Retention Team with representatives from various campus departments—Student Affairs, the Work-Study Program, Business, Student Learning Center, etc. Its one purpose is to make our students successful at GBSC.

Pray for our students, and pray for us as we take very seriously our responsibilities under God to offer the best possible education to our students. If we can retain these students and continue to do a good job in recruitment, we could have had a record year in the Fall 2005!

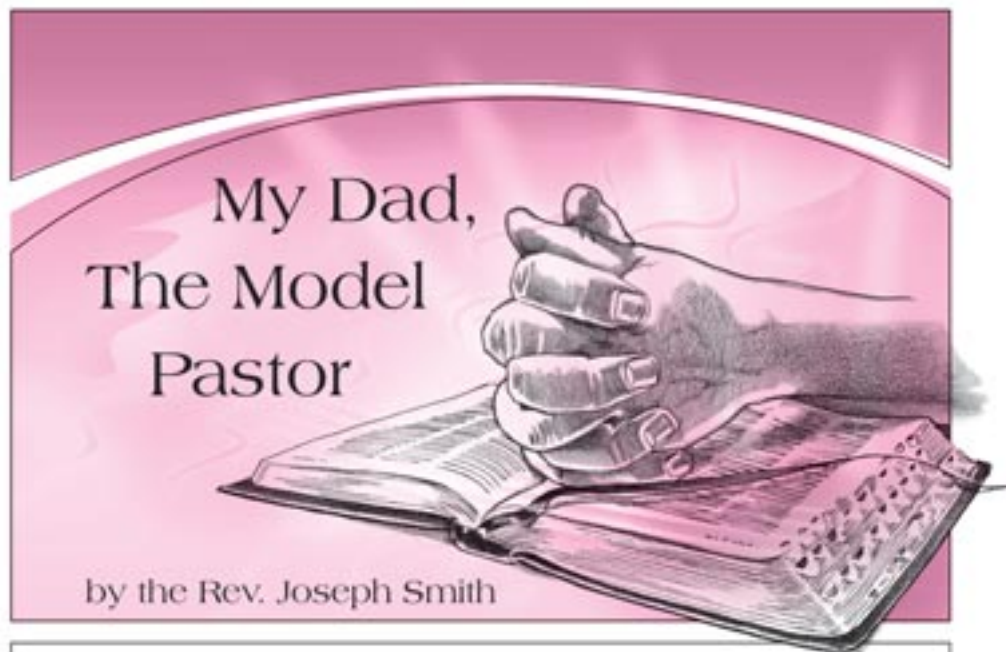
#### QUOTES FROM THE STUDENT BODY

*"I think our growth can be attributed to a great student recruitment and a good VIP Day. I also feel like the students here are a great student body. I know when I was deciding to come, the students were so nice and friendly, and that is partially why I wanted to come!"*  
—Trisha Ayars

*"I do think our faculty was a big factor. I think God is really wanting our college to grow so that our impact for His kingdom will be greater."*  
—David Cassity

*"I believe the increase comes from the spiritual emphasis God's Bible School and College has. That was a reason I came. This institution also has some of the best professors anywhere. I thank God for a college that is spiritually-minded."* —Charles D. Covert

*"I strongly believe that our increase is a direct result of satisfied students. Good teachers, good resources, good food, and good friends equal satisfied students!"* —Matthew J. Hallam ■



"Buck" was 15 years old and failing the fifth grade in his one-room country school. He was just a little guy—five feet, six inches tall—with a speech impediment and tendency to stammer; and this made it difficult to understand him. When he was six years old, his father had died, leaving his mother with five small children.

This was in the midst of the Great Depression, and Buck was the oldest boy. What little money he made working long hours on the surrounding farms helped keep his family from starving. He hated school, for there was no money for books, shoes, or even a decent pair of overalls. He could not wait for that wonderful day when he would turn sixteen and never have to return to all the taunts, ridicule and failure.

Buck is my father, the Rev. Lewis G. Smith, and he is the greatest man I have ever known. Writing is usually not enjoyable to me, but it is an honor in this article to share some of the reasons for his greatness.

Before his sixteenth birthday rolled around, my father found himself in a little country church. It was here that he knelt at a mourner's bench and was "soundly converted," as the old Methodists would say. One week later, he attended a revival in a Methodist church, heard of his need for a pure heart, and was sanctified wholly. With this newfound joy came a divine impression that has never left him—he must preach the Gospel!

He returned to school and shared with his teacher what God had done for him and what He was calling him to do. Instead of ridiculing him, the teacher and students of that little country school rallied around him. Students loaned him their books and volunteered their time to stay after school to tutor him. Though it required much hard work, his progress was amazing. Then, two year later, he went off to the Second World War.

At the end of the war, he attended Frankfort Pilgrim Bible College for three years, and there he finished his GED and received a "Christian Worker's Diploma." During these Bible college years, my father also started a church in a very rough community; and he continued to pastor this same church until his retirement 50 years later! (p19) ➡



## SUMMER PR GROUPS ATTEND 19 YOUTH CAMPS

Throughout the summer, our three PR groups crisscrossed the country representing GBS. Assurance, our male quartet; Harmony, our mixed quartet; and Hope, our women's trio did a great job. These three groups, along with several youth camp teams, attended nineteen youth camps. In a number of these camps, our teams were there all week interacting with young people. Their travels took them as far west as Oklahoma, as far south as Alabama, as far north as Canada, and as far east as Maryland. —*Jack Hooker, Vice President for Advancement*



PHILIPPINE PASTORS POSE WITH THEIR NEW BIBLES

## GBS STUDENTS BUY BIBLES FOR PHILIPPINE PASTORS

"I wish somehow we could have transported you to our Pastor's Conference here in the Philippines for the distribution of the Thompson Chain Reference Bibles you purchased for these dear pastors," writes John Parker. Funds were raised by GBS students for the Bibles, which were distributed to national pastors, September 14, by Parker, Bible Methodist missionary secretary, and Dr. William Gale. "These pastors, who have never owned a nice Bible before, hugged them, laughed, and clapped."

Last summer, Dr. Philip Brown, representing GBS, made an initial presentation of the Bibles to church officials, but the actual distribution was delayed until the September pastor's conference and instruction on how to use them.

## PLANT A TREE ON THE GBS CAMPUS!

As part of its on-going campus beautification project, GBS wishes to plant about 25 trees on campus this fall. You can help beautify our campus and remember a loved one by purchasing a tree. Trees will cost approximately \$125 each. Please let us know whose name

# REVIVALIST FAMILY

On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, vital statistics, significant events scheduled throughout the "Revivalist family," and brief news notes from across the holiness movement. An item for inclusion in the "Revivalist Family" must be submitted within four months of the event which it reports and should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202; or [revivalist@gbs.edu](mailto:revivalist@gbs.edu).



### BIRTHS

To Ron ('00 BA in Missions) and Sarah ('01 AA Missions for Nurses) Cook, a daughter **Faith Ann Cook**, born July 6, Dayton, Ohio.



To Daniel and Rhonda England, a son **Cade Devin England**, born June 22, 2004, Indianapolis, Indiana. Both parents are GBS alumni.



To David and Sarah (Wolf) Fry, Jackson, Mississippi, a daughter **Karissa Joy Fry**, born July 16, 2004. Both parents are GBS alumni.



To Keith and Lori (Frederick) Waggoner, Nampa, Idaho, a daughter, **Kassady Noelle**, born August 23. Both parents are former GBS alumni and staff members.



To Nathan and Myranda (Miller) Weaver, Canton, Ohio, twins, a son, **Jackson Carter Agan Weaver**, and a daughter, **Jada Mackenzie Bell Weaver**, born June 10.

### MARRIAGES

**Mindy Seeley to Daniel Lehman**, Charleston, Illinois, October 2, 2004. Both



PLANT A TREE AT GBS!

you would like to place by the tree by contacting the Office of the President, phone (513-721-7944, Ext. 202).

### SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED FOR 2004-05 SCHOOL YEAR

At convocation services, Sunday morning, August 22, opening the 2004-05 school year, the Rev. Jack Hooker, GBS Vice President for Advancement, awarded the following scholarships: (1) *Crawford Family Schol-*

*arships*, Beth Clemens, Nathan Gumbiner, Jason Hopkins, Eric Stanberry, and Peter Highley; (2) *Myrtle Jessup Ministerial Scholarship*, Ty Brewer; (3) *Marvin Jewell Ministerial Scholarship*, Jonathan Phillips; (4) *Frank Little Scholarship*, Mark McCall; (5) *C. Helen Mooshian Scholarship*, Alisa Street; (6) *Rhyné Memorial Scholarship*, Matt Hallam; (7) *H.E. Schmul, Sr., Scholarship*, Korin Reiner; (8) *Vaughn Somers Memorial Scholarship*, Aaron Terry; (9) *Meredith and Florence Vance Scholarship*, Aaron Perkins; (10) *Mr. and Mrs. K.W. Wong*

*Scholarship*, Mary Hollenbach; (11) *Ethel Belle Baughey Scholarship*, Cindy Cabrera; (12) *Elmer C. Farmer Pastoral Scholarship*, Andrew Street; (13) *Rev. William E. and Hazel C. Jackson Scholarship*, Faith McManaman; (14) *Dr. Leslie Wilcox Scholarship*, Jonathan Bartolomeo; (15) *Edna Erle Brothers Messerschmidt Memorial Scholarship*, Michelle Hopkins; (16) *Merle D. Wolf Memorial Scholarship*, Amanda Witmer; (17) *Nathaniel Joslin Memorial Scholarship*, Stephanie Smith; (18) *Stanley Kendall/Stanton Christian School* ➡



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND DIVISIONAL CHAIRPERSONS



are former GBS students and currently full-time staff members, she in housekeeping and he in maintenance.

#### **Jennee Hooker to Ron Hartkopf**

Cincinnati, Ohio, September 4, 2004, Rev. Ben Durr, Sr., and Rev. Jack Hooker, officiating. Father of the bride, the Rev. Jack Hooker, is GBS Vice President for Advancement. Both bride and groom are former GBS students.



#### **Myra Brown to Paul Brian Alexander,**

Burlington, Kentucky, July 17, 2004, Rev. Richard Miles, Rev. Paul Blake Alexander, and Rev. Larry D. Smith, officiating. The bride is production manager for the Revivalist Press, and the groom is a 2004 GBS graduate (BA in ME). The Rev. Paul Blake Alexander, father of the groom, is GBS librarian and faculty member.



### DEATHS

**Rev. George E. Bowen, 79**, Thomasville, North Carolina, died March 30, 2004. A 1952 graduate of Allentown Bible College, he spent many years serving in pastoral ministry in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and North Carolina. He was also president of Allegheny Wesleyan College, 1964-1968, and was a prolific writer, authoring commentaries for Sunday school quarterlies, as well as numerous radio messages for God's Bible School and for Evangelistic Faith Missions. In addition to his wife of 52 years, Dorothy Jean, he is survived by seven children, Dorothy, Darlene, Deborah, Donna, David, Diane, and Dean; and 16 grandchildren. Funeral services were held in the Heath Church with the Revs. Dan Downing, Leon Thompson, Carroll M. Upton, and James Tilton, officiating.

*"George Bowen's devout life and sacrificial ministry constitute a rich legacy. God's Bible School is deeply grateful* ➡

➡ *Scholarship*, Holly Jackson and Rachel Parker; (19) *Aubrey Elam Indoor Camp Scholarship*, Angela Sagely; (20) *The Carl Victor and Bessie Hedstrom and Alvin and Gertrude Hedstrom Memorial Scholarship*, Josh Peck; (21) *The Chester C. Elliot and Leliah E. Roberts Elliot Scholarship*, Zach Steinbrook; (22) *The Hazel (Trouten) Scheid Memorial Scholarship*, Joe Reiman; (23) *The John O. (Mickey) and Annie E. McGuire Memorial Scholarship*, Elizabeth Reiman; (24) *The Leonard and Janet Sankey Scholarship*, Michael Eavey; (25) *The David and Clare Martin Scholarship*, Belinda Anders; (26) *The Norma J. Sturgeon Memorial Scholarship*, Sarah Renner, DeAnne Davolt, Samson Godatha; (27) *The Gertrude Taylor Memorial Scholarship*, Heather Stewart; (28) *The Dr. J.D. Young Memorial Scholarship*, Jonathan Ayers; (29) *The Peter J. and Patricia J. Moran Scholarship*, Rachel Smith; (30)

*The Dr. R.G. Flexon Memorial Scholarship*, Yorika Wilson.

The following are recipients of a one time scholarship provided by Mr. Tom McClain: Mike Butcher and Dawn Evans; and of one time scholarships provided by Mr. and Mrs. Delwyn Speth: Ruth Fuller, William Muir, Amber Simms, and Dwayne Reynolds. In addition, two new scholarships commenced this school year. These included *The Marjorie Worle Bryner Memorial Scholarship*, Jessica Stroup; and *The Ronald M. Sherrill Memorial Scholarship*, Ashley Turner. Dr. Ken Farmer, Vice President for Academic Affairs also awarded one Divisional Scholarship, which is a four-year tuition award: *The Martin Wells Knapp Ministerial Scholarship*, Joseph Krohn.

In total, 45 students received scholarships totaling \$20,465. President Avery and the corresponding divisional chairmen greeted each of the recipients.

**STEPHANIE PHILLIPS JOINS TEACHING STAFF**

Stephanie J. (Shuman) Phillips, a Licensed Professional Counselor in Ohio and a Licensed Professional Counselor Associate in Kentucky, has joined the GBS faculty as an adjunct professor, teaching in the area of psychology and counseling. She attended GBS ('93-'96), graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a BA in Psychology ('98) and from Xavier University with an MA in Agency and Community Counseling (2001). Mrs. Phillips, who is married to Jonathan Phillips, a GBS senior majoring in ministerial education, has a private Cincinnati practice, where she provides children, adolescent, adult, pre-marital, marriage and family counseling.



# REVIVALIST FAMILY continued

➡ *for his contributions to our publishing and radio ministries. We shall cherish his memory.* —Michael R. Avery, President, God's Bible School and College

**The Rev. Charles R. Short, 66**, died August 26, 2004, at Greenville, Ohio. He was a graduate of the GBS high school, Sinclair College, and Circleville Bible College. Ordained with the Churches of Christ in Christian Union and the Missionary Church, he served 50 years in ministry, starting when he was 15. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Mary Elizabeth (Riffell) Short; his mother, Nellie Short; one son, Stephen; and two daughters, Jodie and Miriam; 14 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Funeral services were held at the Pleasant View Missionary Church with Revs. Don Riley and Vic Reffrey officiating, with interment in the Gettysburg Cemetery.



**The Rev. Earl Weddle, 82**, died August 4, 2004, at Burlington, Kentucky. He was an elder in the Alabama Conference of the Bible Methodist Connection and served as pastor of what is now the Burlington congregation of his denomination at several locations for 42 years before his retirement in 1997. A GBS alumnus, he loved holiness and was an effective soul winner. He is survived by his wife Faye and four children. Funeral services were held at the

Burlington Bible Methodist Church with Rev. Darrell Stetler, Rev. V.O. Agan, and Rev. Walter Hedstrom, officiating.

*"God's Bible School and College lost one of its closest friends and neighbors when Brother Earl Weddle made his journey from earth to Heaven. I think it is safe to say that he ministered to more GBS students and staff than any other pastor. GBS will miss him."* —Michael R. Avery, President, God's Bible School and College

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**"This is in memory of my parents, S. Willis Zuch and Margaret Guy Zuch Thomas,"** writes Mildred Zuch Pruett, Hanover, Indiana in a note enclosing a gift for GBS's "Faith in the Future" campaign. She adds that her father died at the age 69 in 1965, and her mother at the age of 96 in 2004. "My sister Evelyn Zuch Burton and her husband, Rev. Shermard M. Burton, both attended GBS, and my brother Burt Zuch attended GBS high school. My husband Rev. Donald L. Pruett and I both attended GBS—he from 1948–1953, completing two degrees, the AB and ThB, and I from 1949–1953, completing the AB degree. Education was a priority for my mother, as was spiritual life. She wanted to attend GBS as a young person."

## ALDERSGATE DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTINUES TO GROW

Next on-campus seminar for GBS's Aldersgate Distance Education Program (ADEP) is scheduled for November 15–19, 2004. Classes taught will be *Minor Prophets* (Dr. Stephen Gibson), *Introduction to Philosophy* (Dr. Mark Bird), and *History and Literature of*



*Methodism I* (Professor Larry Smith). First seminar for the current school year was offered August 30—September 3.

ADEP began September 2001 when six pastors pursuing a degree in ministerial education met on campus for a five-day seminar. Since that time, the program has expanded to five five-day seminars per year on campus and also includes enhanced correspondence study

to enable adult students to put together a program fitted for their particular needs both near and far. Of our official college head count of 301 for fall 2004, 25 are ADEP students.

"However, this doesn't give the whole picture," explains Dr. Kenneth Farmer, GBS's Vice President for

Academic Affairs. "Although there are thirty-eight students currently scheduled to take ADEP classes this semester, we are careful to include in our official head count only those who were registered to take classes for college credit on or before our official census date—therefore, the 25. Additionally, there are more than 150 students taking a free introductory course. We hope that some of these later matriculate into one of our programs and hit our official head count."

Enrollments for the rapidly-expanding program include pastors, assistant pastors, pastors' wives, Christian education workers, retirees, and lay people. ADEP students are scattered throughout the continental United States, Hawaii, Guam, Saipan, and Canada. "Their reasons for pursuing education are as numerous and varied as the people and locations," as Dr. Farmer adds. "But in almost every case, we have (p20)➡

**May God's richest blessings be upon the school there, and may you ever keep the standards of Bible holiness high!** I will ever be grateful for the privilege I had to attend there in '44 and '45. That's where I got my feet down spiritually." —*Ruth Styles, Columbia, South Carolina.*

### NOTICES

**Marriage Matters 2005 is our sixth annual marriage retreat designed with YOU in mind.** It will be held February 23–24, 2005, at Carlisle Village Inn, Sugar Creek, Ohio. For more information, call (864) 855-4638 or (330) 877-8584.

**Jim Olsen, CPA, Hobe Sound, Florida, has designed a web page for pastors, church treasurers, and lay people with tax and financial planning questions.** Under "Financial Tools" are forms to figure such matters as net worth, a household budget, and the value of a savings plan. The web page also has links to other sites such as the IRS, U.S. Government, as well as one especially for ministers and church treasurers, [NewMinisters.com](http://NewMinisters.com). The website, which is found at [www.JimOlsenCPA.com](http://www.JimOlsenCPA.com), also has a quarterly newsletter with "tax tips" for tax planning.

### HITHER AND THITHER

**"We are pleased to report that there was no loss of life nor injuries sustained here at Hobe Sound during Hurricane Frances,"** the official website of Hobe Sound Bible College has announced. "At no time were the students of the college in harm's way as adequate preparation was made for their protection.... We are pleased that the clean-up process is going quickly and efficiently and electricity is being restored daily to our homes and campus buildings." Clean-up and repairs continue, and classes have resumed.

**Rev. William Reese, an alumnus of God's Bible School and College, is new president of Northwest Indian Bible School, Alberton, Montana.** Reese and his wife Hannah served among Native American people in South Dakota. More recently he was a construction supervisor and instructor at Penn View Bible Institute.

**Dr. Jeffrey Greenway has assumed the presidency of Asbury Theological Seminary, July 1, succeeding Maxie B. Dunnam, who continues to serve ATS as chancellor.** Greenway has served as a district superintendent in the United Methodist Church since 1999. ■



Dear Phil

IS OBESITY SIN?

**As I was reading your last article, “Is it wrong to break the speed limit,” I couldn’t help but think of some other subjects the Bible speaks of, but no one ever speaks on. Is obesity sin? Is being overweight defiling the body? —David**

Dear David,

What does the Bible say? *First, it tells us that we should enjoy eating and drinking (Eccl. 3:13). God made all things for us to enjoy richly (1 Tim. 6:17) and that includes food (Gen. 2:9; 9:3). In fact, God compares salvation to the delights of eating and drinking from an abundant supply (Isa. 55:1-2).*

*Second, the Bible tells us that whatever we do, including eating and drinking, we must do it to the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31). Even in our eating and drinking we are to conduct ourselves in a way that reflects the unique excellence of God’s character. Since God is balanced, proportionate, and self-controlled, we should ask ourselves, “Does the way I eat and drink reflect God’s characteristics of balance, proportion, and self-control?”*

*Third, the Bible lists among the works of the flesh two specific*

*items that relate to eating and drinking: “drunkenness and revellings” (Gal. 5:21). Both of these sins are sins of excess. We all know what drunkenness is, but “revellings” is not so well known. The word translated “revellings” or carousing is *komoj*, and according to the most recent edition of BDAG (the premier NT Greek lexicon) means “excessive feasting.” An alternate definition given by Louw & Nida is “drinking parties involving unrestrained indulgence in alcoholic beverages and accompanying immoral behavior—‘orgy, revelling, carousing.’”*

Whether these two words apply only to drunken behavior or include eating as well is not entirely clear. However, notice how Paul concludes his list of the sins of the flesh with the words “and the like.” Paul has not listed all the sins that the flesh is capable of—only representative sins. And he expects us to be able to identify other behaviors that would be sins of the flesh and contrary to the fruit of the Spirit. The last item Paul lists as a fruit of the Spirit is self-control (Gal. 5:23). Clearly, eating and drinking in a self-indulgent manner is a work of the flesh, not a fruit of the Spirit, and is sinful.

Lastly, the Bible tells us that our bodies are not our own to do with what we please, but they are temples of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we are to glorify God by taking care of our bodies (1 Cor. 6:19-20). Earlier in this chapter, Paul tells us that food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but we should not do anything with our bodies that is not profitable to us or causes us to be addicted (1 Cor. 6:12-13).

You asked, “Is being overweight defiling the body?” The term “overweight” is problematic. Who determines how much any given person should weigh? The Bible does not address weight to body-size ratios, but it does tell us that Christians must do the best

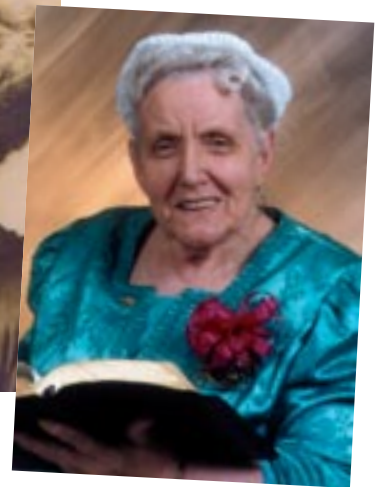
they know how to take care of their bodies which are the temple of God (1 Cor. 6:19-20; see also 1 Tim. 5:23; 4:8). Further, Christians should evidence the Spirit’s fruit of self-control in all areas of their lives, including how they eat.

Eating without self-control, eating that damages your body, eating that fails to glorify God or being addicted to eating or to certain foods—all these are contrary to God’s Word and sinful for precisely the same reasons that using tobacco has been judged contrary to God’s Word and sinful. As the newspaper clipping you enclosed indicates, “Obesity [is] closing in on tobacco as the nation’s No. 1 underlying preventable killer.” If we knowingly indulge our appetites in such a way that damages our bodies, we are harming the temple of the Holy Spirit. (By the way, 1 Cor. 3:16-17 should not be used in this discussion since, contextually, the passage refers to the corporate body of Christ, rather than to our physical bodies.)

Please don’t misunderstand me. I know that there are medical conditions that can cause people to be obese apart from overeating; and, therefore, it would be wrong to assume automatically that anyone who is obese is guilty of sin. However, many Christians have falsely concluded that God doesn’t really care about how much they eat or how they treat His temple. In fact, He does care, and if they would submit their eating habits to the control of the Holy Spirit, they would find that He would guide them into the fruit of self-control in this area as He does in other areas of life.

Sincerely,  
Philip Brown ■

*Dr. A. Philip Brown II is a member of the ministerial faculty of God’s Bible School and College. He may be contacted by e-mail at [pbrown@gbs.edu](mailto:pbrown@gbs.edu).*



## THE DAY I TALKED TO THE MAN IN THE WINDOW

*By the Rev. Virginia B. Jones, as told to her daughter, Betty Woodrum, April 17, 2004*

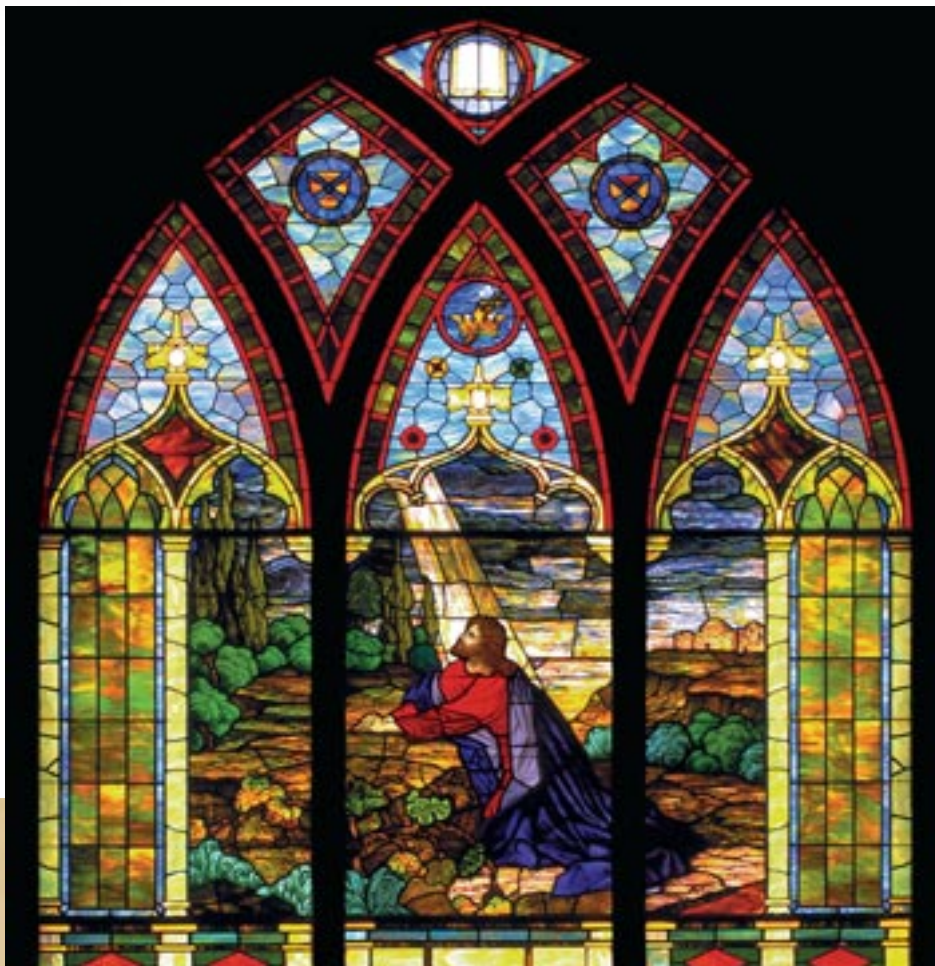
My story begins between 3:30 and 4:00 P. M., May 24, over seventy years ago, when I was only seven years old. I never dreamed that such a life-changing experience was about to happen that day! On the way home from school, I met a little girl who told me her

name was Dorothy and who invited me to play with her. I told her I must hurry home, since my mother had told me to come straight home. For some reason, however, I followed Dorothy up the street.

Suddenly I stopped in front of this huge building. There was music coming from inside. I looked up at a large window and saw the most beautiful sight, for etched in stained glass was a picture of Jesus kneeling at a rock. Since the sun was shining against the window so brilliantly, I wondered what the picture would look like from the inside. To this day, I don't know what happened to the other little girl.

Soon I found myself slipping inside the building to get a better look at the window. I heard people crying, and so I started crying, too. A young man walked up to me and asked what was wrong. "The world is coming to an end!" I replied. He assured me that the world wasn't coming to an end. Then I told him that I couldn't understand why the people were crying. He said, "They are talking to Jesus." I asked him if I could also talk with Jesus, too; and he said, "Yes, you can!" and led me to the altar.

I knelt down but didn't know how to pray. As I knelt there, the young man knelt beside me; and he told me to talk to Jesus like I talked to my mommy. I still didn't understand, so he explained that I needed to tell Jesus all the bad things that I had done. I suddenly remembered the little white sugar bowl in which my mother kept pennies for bread. Now and then I would take a penny to buy candy; and because my conscience





**FEATURED SPEAKER Monday p.m., Tuesday a.m.: K.P. Yohannan, Gospel For Asia**

# Annual Missionary Convention

at God's Bible School & College

featuring various missionaries  
and missions organizations

hosted by Rev. Dan Glick  
and the GBS Division of  
Intercultural Studies and  
World Missions

October  
24-26

bothered me, I would always share the candy with my mother. I would tell her that a friend had given it to me.

There at the altar I began to think about telling Jesus how bad I had been and how I had told Santa Claus how good I had been! Of course, I was feeling conviction. As the young man was telling me how to pray, I began to cry. Later, a lady raised my head and asked me if I felt better. "No," I said, "I feel worse!" I stayed on my knees and felt real sorrow for my sins. But all of a sudden, joy came flooding into my heart, and I didn't know what to do.

I looked up at the window and said, "Just think, I talked to that Man! I talked to that Man!" I jumped up and started yelling, "Yippy! Whoopee!" over and over, then ran out of the church and started home. It seemed as if the trees were bowing as I ran past them. When I walked into our house, my dad asked, "Where have you been?" I replied, "I have been talking to Jesus!" He got so angry at me that he made me go to bed without supper. I lay down up there, looked out of the window, and said, "Jesus, I don't know what I did wrong; but I sure am happy!"

Many years have now gone by, but I have never stopped loving the Man in the Window. Later, the Lord

called me to the ministry. I have been the pastor of five churches and assistant to the pastor in seven others. I have married over 400 couples and was also church pianist for many years. I am so thankful that the young man took time that day so long ago to talk to a little girl and to teach her to pray.

As you probably have already guessed, that "huge building" with the Man in the Window was the chapel at God's Bible School. It was there that I gave my heart to Jesus. I am now over 82 years of age, and I have never regretted my walk with the Lord. Three years ago, my granddaughter's husband, David Miller, who had attended God's Bible School, took me there again to see the Man in the Window. It was raining, but in my heart the sun was shining! David and his wife Darla put me in a wheelchair and took me inside the chapel. The Man in the Window had not lost His beauty! What a thrill it was for me to see Him and to touch the very spot at the altar where I had prayed for the first time! ■

*The Rev. Mrs. Virginia B. Jones now lives in retirement. The above account was recorded in an interview with her daughter, Betty Woodrum, April 17, 2004. The splendid stained-glass chancel windows remain an outstanding feature of GBS's Adcock Memorial Chapel.*



If anything is wrong, talk about it and fix it. Then ask them, "How are you and God doing?" "Is everything okay between you and God?" "Are you reading your Bible every day?" "Are you praying every day?" [Get them a picture Bible when they are small]. "Is there anything you need help with?" "Is there anything you need to tell Daddy?" "Is there anything about which I can help you pray?" This is how you personally monitor your children's spiritual development. Encourage them every way possible spiritually. Reassure them continually of your love and of God's love. Remember the charge, "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). Notice that it says, "Fathers," not "Mothers." The father bears the primary responsibility before God for the spiritual character development of his children.

**9. Don't say negative things about people who profess to be Christians in front of your children.** You don't know who God may use to reach your child spiritually. When my children were little, their favorite preacher was someone who in my opinion could not preach. They loved to hear him and would laugh delightedly at his antics in the pulpit. They frequently looked over at me to see if I was enjoying it with them. I chose to put on a smile and act very positive while I silently prayed for grace to endure. I did not wish to burn the very bridge that God might use to help my child spiritually by negatively influencing my children's opinion of that preacher.

**10. Don't have unreal expectations for your children.** You should encourage them to do their best, not measure up to some unrealistic standard. If they are only average in some areas, praise them for trying and encourage them to keep on trying. All God expects from any of us is our best. Don't try to live your dreams through them. Don't try to have them become what you wish you had become (missionary, preacher, sport star, etc.). God has a special plan for them, and you should desire to help them find and do God's will.

**11. Keep your eye on them at church.** Although you are the pastor and everyone wants to talk with you, don't let them get out of your or your wife's sight unless you know for sure where they are and what they are doing. Check on them regularly and inconspicuously. Teach them that the church sanctuary is not a place in which to run and play, either before or after service. Don't let them wander about, fingering the musical instruments, the microphones, or anything else that is not their personal property. Teach them to respect other people's property.

**12. Place visual aids around your home that will teach them godly character traits.** Teach them truths like "the greatest ability is dependability," or "finish the job," or "if its worth doing at all, its worth doing right."

**13. Teach them Biblical answers to their spiritual questions.** When they ask you questions about why we dress as we do, or why we don't do this or that activity that other professed Christians do, find a Biblical answer and show it to them. We must teach them how to think Biblically if we intend for them to believe God really has spoken on such subjects.

## CONCLUSION

Pastors, remember that God requires you to model the process of rearing godly children, and thus you should make this a top priority in your ministry—supported, of course, by the prayers of your lay people. I am not implying that your children's periodic spiritual "ups-and-downs" disqualify you as a pastor. But if their consistent and persistent attitude and behavior indicate that they are neither believers nor desire to be so, you should consider leaving the pastorate until they are in a right relationship with the Lord.



—sermon outline by DR. ALLAN P. BROWN

"COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE  
IN PREACHING"



## THE PASTOR'S CHILDREN: BLESSING OR CURSE?

*Scripture: "if any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly." (Titus 1:6)*

### I. THE ROLE OF PASTOR

The pastor stands before God in a uniquely different position than does the lay person, because according to the Bible, the pastor occupies the highest office in the local church. Therefore, the role of pastor brings with it not only high and holy privilege, but also weighty responsibility. For the pastor serves as a role model for his congregation, an example of how to live in this present evil age. He is to be a person of godly integrity, proven wisdom, and a safe guide for the spiritually blind. For this reason, God has established clear guidelines to specify who may become a pastor and who may remain in the office of pastor (1 Timothy 3:1-6; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-5).

### II. THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A PASTOR

There are 24 character qualities, skills, and abilities that one must have to qualify for the office of pastor (elder) in a local church (see 1 Tim. 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9). Two of the requirements focus on the pastor's leadership abilities within his own family.

**A. The Pastor must rule well his own home (1 Tim. 3:4, 5).** To qualify for the office of pastor one must "rule well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; for if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?" (1 Tim. 3:4,5). A sampling of commentaries produces the following insights:

- "His family management must provide a leadership model that other families in the church can emulate. The members of the church should want to have families like his" (Robert Gromacki, *Stand True to the Charge: An Exposition of 1 Timothy*, p. 84).
- "Paul viewed the well-ordered home as a true test of a man's maturity and ability to lead other Christians, especially a home that has passed the test of time. When the whole household is committed to Jesus Christ and the wife is dedicated to her husband and grown children particularly respect and love their father, there is strong evidence that this man is spiritually and psychologically mature. He will certainly be able to manage the church of God" (Getz, *The Measure of a Christian: Studies in Titus*, p. 46).

• "The way in which a man controls his home reveals his capacity for leadership and government. This ability is most obvious when there are children in the

home. This does not demand that an overseer must have children; but if he does, they must be controlled. The administrative ability required to cause a home to function smoothly will also be necessary if one is to superintend a church. Deficiency in these matters at home disqualifies a man from serving in a ruling capacity in the church. When children are in the home, they are to be controlled with dignity. (It is the father who displays the dignity). The kind of father who cuffs his children around will usually treat church members in similar fashion" (Homer Kent, *The Pastoral Epistles*, pp. 133-34).

**B. The Pastor's children must be believers (Titus 1:6).** The second requirement specifies that the pastor must be able to lead his own children to the Lord and help them become spiritually established. The phrase "faithful children" (*tekna pista*) indicates that the children are to be born again and faithfully following Christ, at least while they are at home. Note the remarks of these commentaries:

• "If a pastor has children, his relationship to his children must be examined. The children must be believers who are not insubordinate (Robert Cromacki, *Stand True to the Charge: An Exposition of 1 Timothy*, p. 84).

• "Since older men would be chosen for leadership, it is assumed that the elder would have children. The latter must 'believe,' share their father's Christian faith. The original (*tekna pista*) may mean 'faithful children' but 'believing children,' is intended here, referring to those who are old enough to have made a personal decision. If they remained pagans, it would throw into question the father's ability to lead others to the faith. As professed believers, the children must personally fulfill the ethical requirements of the Christian life. An elder's inability to train and govern his children would place in question his ability to train and govern the church" (D. Edmond Hiebert, *Titus in The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, Vol. 11, p. 430).

• "Whose family is converted to God" (Adam Clarke, p. 648).

Are we to take these Biblical requirements seriously? Does God really hold the pastor responsible for the spiritual welfare of his children? Although I take these Scriptures very seriously and believe they mean what they say, I am reluctant to address this thorny problem. How can I talk about the responsibility of a pastor in relation to his children's spiritual condition without adding further hurt to those who are already hurting, or worse yet, increase the guilt, the sense of failure and inadequacy with which they may already be coping? How can I address this important subject without sounding harsh, critical, insensitive, and unkind, or on the other, overly simplistic or smugly sanctimonious? I offer my suggestions prayerfully with the desire to help, not to condemn.

### III. RESOURCES FOR REARING GODLY CHILDREN

Perhaps it would be appropriate to share a little of my own background before I offer these "resources" or suggestions for rearing godly children. My wife and I invested twenty-five years in the pastorate while rearing two sons. I know the joys and heartbreaks of pastoring. People can be demanding, harsh and sometimes cruel. No one who cares as I do about the emotional and spiritual health of our pastors would want to add to their already heavy load. Without a doubt, it takes God-given wisdom, skill, teaching ability, prayer, plus a lot of discernment and sensitivity, to rear godly children. Here are some brief suggestions for you to pray about and perhaps seek to implement in your family.

**1. Make the spiritual health and development of your children the first focus of your ministry.** If spiritual success with your children determines whether you stay in pastoral ministry, make sure you take time to encourage, train, teach, and model how to develop and enjoy a personal relationship with God. Teach them that

the greatest privilege in the world is to love and serve Jesus. Make this the theme of your life and interlace this concept in your daily conversations with you children.

**2. Never suggest to your children that they should dress, behave, or act a certain way because they are the "pastor's children... and what will people think?"** Being a pastor's child should be presented as an awesome blessing and privilege, not a burden to be borne. Teach your children to dress Biblically, behave properly, and talk kindly because of their love for God and desire to please Him (Col. 1:10). Teach them to do right because it is right. You are seeking to instill godly character qualities in them rather than to teach them to worry about what other people think or say about them or you. Your concern should not be a "reputation" focus. A reputation focus too often translates into duplicity, hypocrisy, or worse yet, resentment and bitterness.

**3. Give your children regular and effusive quantities of positive affirmation.** Statements such as "You are destined for greatness," "I am proud of you," "I'm so glad you are my son (or daughter)" and "I'm glad to be your Dad" should come forth from your lips regularly.

**4. Do not unchristianize them when they do wrong.** Don't say, "Christians don't act like that!" or "You can't be a Christian and act like them." Such statements indicate you do not have confidence in your children. Correct their misbehavior or their lying by teaching them about the laws of sowing and reaping. You sow a lie you reap a spanking. However, since God is invisible and normally does not physically appear to your children and reassure them of His love, keep Him out of your discipline and displeasure.

Don't say, "You made God feel bad." You don't want your children growing up with a vague but real feeling that they cannot measure up to God's expectations. Deal with the problem yourself. Keep the focus on you and them. Afterward reassure them that you forgive them and love them and then remind them that God loves them too. Further, avoid unchristianizing other people: "How can they do that and be a Christian?" Your children are smart enough to infer you evaluate them the same way, even if you never verbalize it.

**5. Protect your children from ungodly influences.** If you work hard at the job and develop a close happy relationship with your children, you and your wife can be the major influence in your children's lives until they are married. However, you must carefully screen whom you will allow your children to play with. Either by default or by purposeful intent, parents choose the influences they allow to impact their children.

**6. Choose godly examples for your children.** Be careful of the music you allow in your home. Be careful of the pictures you place on your walls. Be selective of the toys with which you allow them to play (for example, sexy-looking Barbie dolls should not be allowed). Be careful of the programs your children have access to in your home and in the homes of family and friends.

**7. Carefully and prayerfully monitor their spiritual development.** If you don't detect spiritual hunger and growth in your child, enlist some close friends to help you fast and pray for your children until whatever spiritual strongholds or barriers that are keeping your children from spiritual progress are torn down (2 Cor. 10:3-5).

**8. Talk regularly with them about their walk with God.** Don't do this in front of others. Once a week make time to be alone with each of your children and ask them, "Is everything okay between you and Daddy?" "Has Daddy said anything or done anything that you think is unfair or has hurt you?" "I love you, and am proud of you and would not intentionally do anything to hurt you, embarrass you, or discourage you." Listen carefully and ask God for discernment so you can "read between the lines" and really tune-in to your child's feelings.

➔ (continued from page 9)

Though my father is not a ten-talented man, and though others have far exceeded him in the area of gifts, I consider him a model pastor for three reasons.

First is my dad's relationship with Jesus. My father loves the Lord with all his heart, and he has a child-like trust in His Heavenly Father. Though he cannot begin to carry a tune, he can sing beautifully, "Perfect submission, all is at rest./ I, in my Saviour, am happy and blest." My father has a deep love for God's Word, and he will read his Bible through at least a couple of times almost every year. His prayer life is systematic and vibrant.

The next reason I greatly admire my father pertains to his love for, and devotion to, his family. What he has preached concerning interpersonal relationships he has modeled in the home. His wife and children have never had to listen to his preaching and wish that he would practice what he preached behind the doors of their home. Though he has given sacrificially to so many, his

family has always been the first focus of his time and energy.

A third reason that my dad has been such an excellent pastor is that he has always desired to be a servant of others. Even when he was used and mistreated, he never lost sight of the fact that it was his privilege to be a servant of Jesus Christ. One example of this spirit of servanthood can be seen through the many years my parents volunteered to be over the dish washing at camp meeting (though I must admit that I did not look at this as a mark of greatness at that time in my life!). Usually my dad led the district in pastoral calls. His car was the neighborhood's "free taxi." Our home was a place where people would come night and day for assistance, for they knew that he and my mother would treat them with kindness and do their best to help them.

My father's ministry has covered a wide spectrum. He has annually filled the pulpit for one of the wealthy downtown churches when the pastor was on vacation. At different times he has been president of the county ministerial association. He has been a close friend of many

of the civic leaders, and once he was voted "citizen of the year."

Though he has moved comfortably among the affluent in society, his special love has always been for its liabilities. He has never wanted to have such a nice church that the people who were "from the wrong side of the tracks" would feel unwelcome. My father has consistently looked for the best in others and has refused to give up on them. To this day, he is known in his community as one who loves people from every walk of life.

In my father's ministry, he has conducted over 1,000 funerals, having won many of those people to Jesus before their death. His love for God, his devotion to his family, and his servant's heart all come together to make him a pastor who has been—and who is still—dearly loved by countless people. Though my dad's beginnings were not glamorous, his story shows what God can do through a man who fully yields himself to God and who humbly listens for His voice.

I feel privileged that God has given me such an example of what a pastor should be. ■



In this moving tribute, the Rev. Joseph Smith (GBS '80 BRE) tells about his father, the Rev. Lewis G. Smith, and his long and effective ministry. While attending Bible college, Lewis Smith founded a new church in Frankfort, Indiana, as his son explains, and remained its pastor for 50 years. He still resides in Frankfort. He and his wife, Mildred, who died in 2002, had eight children, seven of whom attended God's Bible School.

Joseph Smith is pastor of the Bible Holiness Church, Shelbyville, Indiana, and vice-president of the GBS Alumni Association. He and his wife, the former Sharon Morrow (GBS '79 BA), are the parents of five children. Stephen graduated with a BA degree from GBS in 2002, and Stephanie and Nathan are now students at the school.

In this photograph, Lewis G. Smith (right) is pictured with his sons, Henry (left), and Joseph (center). Dr. Henry Smith (GBS HS '69, BRE '73) is Executive Vice President and Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs at Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, Indiana.

➡(p13) found that God is a “God of Second Chances”—not only spiritually, but also in providing a second chance at success in education through God’s Bible School and College and its Distance Education Program.”

For further information regarding receiving a free course, enrolling in a correspondence course, or attending an on-campus seminar, call Lottie Tryon, Aldersgate Coordinator, 1-513-721-7944, Ext. 122 or e-mail [ltryon@gbs.edu](mailto:ltryon@gbs.edu).

**ALLAN AND NADINE BROWN MINISTER IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND NEW GUINEA**

“We praise the Lord for what He has done in our lives through the ministry of the Browns!” In these words, missionaries Rolando and Eleana Cuaresma summarize enthusiastic response to the six-week ministry trip to Bible Fellowship Asia-Orient Missions outposts by Dr. Allan P. Brown, chair of the GBS Division of Ministerial Education, and his wife, Dr. Nadine Brown. Departing Cincinnati, June 4, the Browns flew to southeast Asia, where Gloria Pangilinan, a worker in Bible Fellowship Missions, coordinated their itinerary and arranged for services in Maui, Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan. “Preaching and teaching to mostly first generation Christians, Dr. Brown presented a clear message of holy living and heart holiness to eager listeners in each



Drs. Allan and Nadine Brown in Papua New Guinea

location,” according to Charles and Lottie Tryon, founders of the missions organization.

Following meetings in Guam and Saipan, Gloria left for ministry in the Philippines, while the Browns began “a productive, blessed ministry in Papua New Guinea.” This was in cooperation with the Cuaresmas, who reported, “Dr. Allan Brown shared the Word in all the services and lectured the men and young people, while Dr. Nadine Brown lectured to the women on health and child rearing.” The Browns reported that they “were constantly amazed at the warmth, friendship, hospitality, openness, and response of the congregations from Maui to Papua New Guinea,” according to the Tryons.

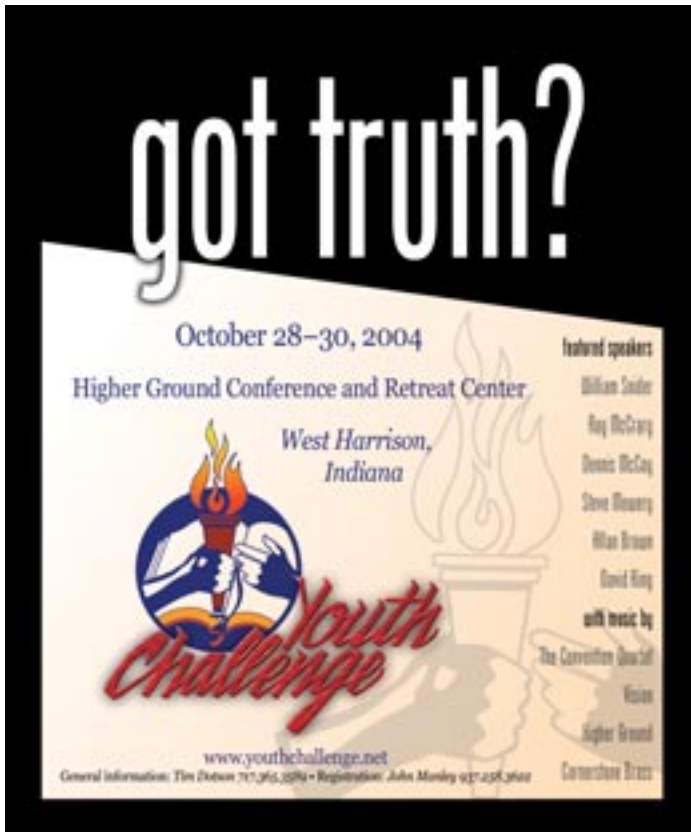
**BRIEFLY NOTED:**

**Scott Sobie, missionary to Ukraine under Calvary Mission**, directed by Dan Glick, chair of GBS’s Division of Intercultural Studies and World Missions, spoke at campus prayer meeting services, Wednesday evening, September 8.... **Veteran pastor and evangelist the Rev. M.R. McCrary was guest speaker at GBS fall revival services August 23–27.** His unique and powerful message to young people was greatly appreciated. A gracious sense of God’s presence pervaded the services, and many students responded to the Spirit’s call.

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT GBS**

God’s Bible School and College will have an open position in our high school department when Ron Sedlacek (who taught in the areas of science and math) retires at the end of this current year. We are looking for someone to teach in one or both of those areas. We prefer someone with a graduate degree, but would accept a candidate with a bachelor’s degree if there is a willingness to pursue a master’s degree. We also would entertain applications for teaching in the area of high school history/social science.

All interested parties are encouraged to send a resume: Dr. Ken Farmer, 1810 Young St., Cincinnati, OH 45202; [kfarmer@gbs.edu](mailto:kfarmer@gbs.edu); fax: (513) 721-3971. ■



➔(continued from page 4)

uphold, and the first of these is submission to authority. I have four beautiful children, ages 11, 8, 6, and 4. About four months ago, a friend of ours called us about a baby raccoon that had been abandoned. We took [it] and began to bottle feed her. [Later, however] the conservation officer told us that [raccoons] could absolutely not be kept as pets, even with a permit, only for rehabilitation into the wild. So the children gathered round and we said goodbye to Roxy. I got out God's Word, which He has so graciously given us for inspiration, and instruction in righteousness, showed 1 Pet. 2:13-14 to my children. [They] were relieved to know that this heartache had a purpose—obedience to God.

TRICIA GOWER  
West Union, Illinois

#### NOT DISAPPOINTED

We read [the *Revivalist*] with interest, expecting to receive Biblical truths, plus personal updates of God's family. We are not disappointed.

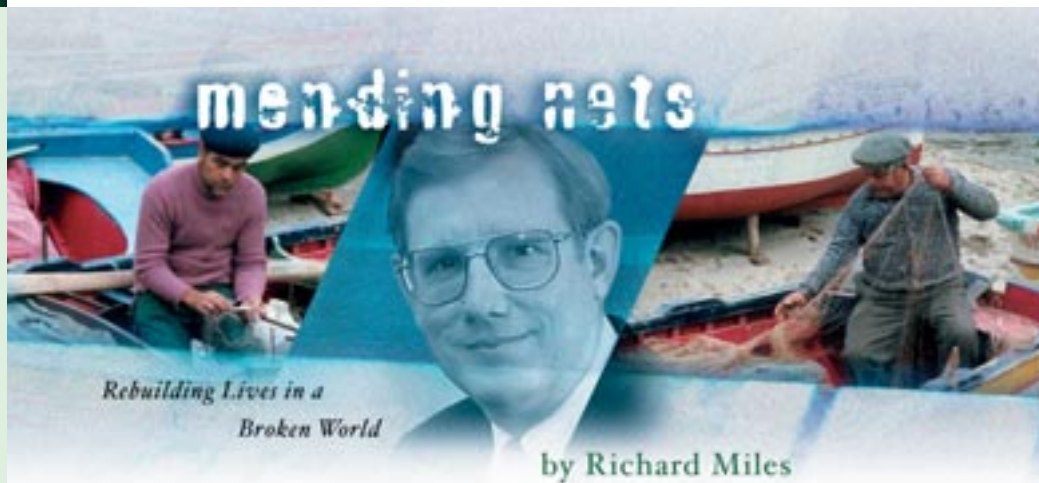
LUCY CREECH  
Indianapolis, Indiana

#### SUGGESTED REVISION

Your column in the Summer Issue [Editorial, "Let Sing Psalm 46, Philip"] is absolutely tops! I would suggest one change/correction, however: on page 23, the word "Methodist" should read "orthodox". (Note the lower case!) With that revision, you have a truly "ecumenical" declaration. May God bless you and the school in your mission.

WALLY WILSON  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**Editor's Comment:** Yes, Methodism's historic "optimism of grace" is shared by all "orthodox" believers who rejoice in Christ's purpose to redeem and liberate our fallen humanity from sin and its dreadful curse. In the tradition of its founder, true Wesleyanism is always "ecumenical" in the original and authentic sense of the term—we reach out to embrace all that belongs to the whole Christian church.



#### CONFRONTING PORNOGRAPHY

***My husband is emotionally detached. I believe he is involved in pornography and possibly worse. Why would a professing Christian do this, and what can I do?***

When God fashioned man from dust and woman from his side, He planted within them both a need for personal relationships with Him and with people. Adam needed Eve, you recall, for it was not good for him to be alone (Gen. 2:18); and they both needed God. When they sinned, they committed a breach of trust that damaged their relationship with God and with each other. To this day we hide from God, and our relationships with Him and with people suffer trauma.

Because of this breach, we often are lonely and discontented. When our most basic need is deprived, we attempt to satisfy it with something else! Often we try sinful, self-preservation techniques, such as detaching from others, because we fear people will hurt us if we get too close; or possessiveness or control, because others will desert or hurt us if we don't control them. We protect ourselves with defensiveness and an "I-don't-need-anyone" attitude or with codependency. A codependent person is afraid to do anything alone. Substitutes for meaningful, intimate relationships are not always and obviously sinful; indeed, we may avoid God and others through work, entertainment, hobbies, and, yes, even ministry.

When we fail to trust God and others, desperation grips us, and we become like babies crying to get needs met. The baby cannot think of others' needs. Your husband appears obsessed with himself as he attempts to satisfy his needs and protect himself from his fear of hurt.

Pornography is a cry for intimacy, but also a "cop out" for it. Those who practice pornography, sexual infidelity, and other moral vices convince themselves that these are "safe," because the indecent picture, transient person, or lustful image is not "real" and, therefore, "controllable," requiring no commitment, risk of rejection, or emotional investment.

These behaviors are sinful attempts to fill the void that only God can fill. Your husband needs a safe and courageous person who loves him just as he is but who is not content to leave him as he is—a person who will teach him to trust God with every part of his life and to believe that imperfect people are worth the risk of love and intimacy.

Only through love can he find what makes life worth living—God (p23)➔

In this community of Jesus' friends, each of us has the same intrinsic worth. Yet God has raised up "elders" or "presbyters" among us to instruct us in faith, conduct our public worship, and direct our corporate life. For centuries, we have referred to them as "ministers," for "as angels are ministering spirits, so pastors are ministering men," as Dr. W. B. Pope explains, "offering their...service first to God and then from God" to others.

Humbly they stretch out the hands of Jesus, washing feet, healing wounds, nourishing faith, and calling sinners to repent. At the same time, they receive great honor and authority, for they speak in the name of God. "Obey them that have the rule over you," we are admonished, "and submit yourselves, for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account..." (Heb. 13:17). In his address to fellow elders, Peter stresses their responsibilities, as well as their reward. "Feed the flock of Christ...taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly...neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (1 Pet. 5:2-4).

For Christian ministers, as for Israel's priests, "no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God" (Heb. 5:4). This personal call, however, must be confirmed by the public call of the Church; and it is presumptuous to assert the one without also seeking the other. From its beginnings, the Church has solemnly conferred its call by the "laying on of the hands of the presbytery," which is the body of its existing elders. So it was with the seven appointed to relieve the apostles of temporal administration (Acts 6:6), with Paul and Barnabas (Acts 13:3), and with Timothy (1 Tim. 4:14). This is the sacred and apostolic rite of ordination, and it is the universal practice of orthodox Christianity.

Our religious culture tends to trivialize all sacred ceremony. Public worship is centered more in frothy "me-centered" songs and entertaining twaddle than adoring the Holy, Blessed, and Undivided Trinity. Weddings are sweet, showy, and secular displays of bridal finery, pop music, and sometimes adolescent lust rather than the "solemnization of Holy Matrimony" as an act of Christian worship. Even our final rites—hurried off to the funeral parlor complete with fake ferns and canned music—have been stripped of the stately ritual which once lent dignity to Christian burial of the dead.

Often our ordination services are also lacking in the high dignity and sacred drama which they deserve. For here we commission the next generation of our clergy to carry on the Church's future, and here they promise to do the same. For at ordinations, as at weddings, those waiting at God's altar enter into lifelong covenant with Him, sealing that covenant with holy vows. At weddings, those vows come in response to this question: "Wilt thou...live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony?" At ordinations it is response to

another: "Will you...give your faithful diligence so to minister the doctrine, and sacraments, and discipline of Christ as the Lord hath commanded?"

Granted, this is only one of the questions asked at traditional ordination services, but it is the most descriptive of ministerial responsibility. Driving Sunday school buses, fixing leaky faucets, preparing annual budgets, and reconciling disgruntled church members are all beside the point if we neglect "to minister the doctrine, and sacraments, and discipline of Christ." For these are the irreducible and essential duties of a Christian pastor, and everything else is subordinate and corollary to them. Consider the threefold vow:

*Christ's Doctrine.* Every ordained elder is pledged to "minister" the "Good News" committed by Our Lord to His Church without addition or subtraction. This is why "the preacher's pulpit is his throne," for it is in his pulpit that he stands as heaven's representative, proclaiming heaven's message with heaven's power. What we must have is urgent, anointed, and Bible preaching—preaching that convicts of sin, offers Christ, and moves the heart to God!

Those flimsy little lecterns—the portable "plexiglass" variety dragged about among the drums and screens—are fitting enough for flimsy little talks to flimsy little Christians. But flimsy little talks will neither rouse the lost nor revive the Church. Dig through the furnace room debris, preacher brother. Dust off the grand old massive pulpit and haul it back to its place of honor.

Stand boldly there, open up the Holy Book, and preach its message as if if your heart would break! From Sinai's rocky summit, thunder out the Holy Law until your people are sorely wounded by all that it demands. From Calvary's bloody slope proclaim the Holy Gospel until they are fully healed by all that it provides. To do this is to minister the "doctrine of Christ."

*Christ's Sacraments.* Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the two "sacraments of the gospel" which Jesus instituted as "signs and seals" of the covenant of His grace. As a "sign," baptism symbolizes the washing away of sin; and as a "seal," it is God's pledge to receive us, as well as ours to be His forever. As a "sign," the Lord's Supper symbolizes Christ's body and His blood offered freely on our behalf; and as a seal it is God's pledge to keep covenant with us, as well as ours to keep covenant with Him. Baptism is the sacrament of initiation, administered once at the beginning of our Christian life. The Lord's Supper is the sacrament of commemoration, administered repeatedly thereafter.

It is to our embarrassment that the Christian sacraments are often observed irregularly and infrequently among us. To slight "the holy bath" and "the holy meal" is to slight the Saviour who so kindly established them to fortify our faith, calm our fears, and nourish us with grace. It is also to ignore the practice of classical Christianity in every place and time. If ever our neglect

is to be corrected, it must begin with ministers who in their ordination vows pledge to give "faithful diligence" to minister the "sacraments of Christ."

*Christ's Discipline.* This is the obligation of a Christian pastor to provide leadership which fosters an atmosphere of holiness, nurture, and spiritual growth in the congregation which he serves. To do this requires both affirmation and accountability. Affirmation means offering parishioners loving encouragement, hope, and support. Accountability, on the other hand, means calling them to integrity, faithfulness, and obedience.

In clear and undoubted terms, Our Lord, the supreme pastor of His church, has given elders His authority. "Take heed...to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made your overseers" (Acts 20:28). Thus they are charged to guide and defend His people and to build them up in that holiness without which they shall never see the Lord. As difficult and as unpopular as it may be, a Christian pastor must "minister...the discipline of Christ."

Above Windsor's ancient battlements rises St. George's Chapel, famous for the Order of the Garter, the noblest fraternity of knights in Europe. Yet far nobler than the Garter is the Church of Jesus Christ—the Order of the Lifted Cross, for it is the "pillar and the ground of the truth," by which He exalts His name and extends His mission everywhere. In this community of Jesus' friends, God has raised up elders who pledge solemnly to act in His behalf.

At last, the crests and banners of the Garter shall disappear, all crumbled into the dust. But it shall not be so for those who have been faithful "to minister the doctrine, and sacraments, and discipline of Christ as the Lord hath commanded." For "when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (1 Pet. 5:2-4). ■



**By Anita K. Brechbill**

***"And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount." Exodus 25:40***

God repeated this warning three times while talking with Moses on the mount. Why such insistence? Look closer! God does not waste words or specify for naught. The patterns were detailed and intricate, but perfectly clear. Take the altar for instance. It was to be of gold, foursquare, with four horns. The pattern was revealed "in the mount." Some have advanced the idea that we cannot trust those instructions that come to the soul "in the mount," those times of spiritual "high tide" when the deep places of the soul are stirred. This is a serious mistake. Rev. 8:3 and 9:5 reveal that the altar in heaven is exactly as the pattern God gave Moses in the mount. The instructions you receive when "in the mount with God," are "according to the pattern in the heavenlies," and are disregarded to your eternal loss. ■

*Anita Brechbill, Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania, is editor of RopeHolders and a regular contributor to the Revivalist.*

## **MENDING NETS** continued

➡(p21) and people! This person must be courageous to hold him accountable and to teach the meaning of deep repentance. He cannot permit excuses for meeting needs through sinful behavior.

Be sure that you are the person that can fill your husband's need for a safe, intimate relationship, if he were to let you (1 Pet. 3:1-6, 1 Cor. 7:2-5). Believe in God's ability to reach him and strive to be an expresser of God's love and grace to him. Faithfully intercede for him in prayer. This will not only help him as God intervenes in his life, but it will help you to see your husband through the eyes of a redemptive Savior. ■

*"Mending Nets" explores God's readiness to "mend" the breakdowns which so often mar our lives. It is written by the Rev. Richard Miles, GBS Vice President for Student Affairs. Send questions to be addressed in this column to [Mendingnets.@gbs.edu](mailto:Mendingnets.@gbs.edu)*



# Faith in the Future

The Campaign For God's Bible School And College



## PHASE II GOALS

### New Facilities Building

The new structure on Josephine Street will house the office of Campus Administrator and the Facilities Department.

### New High School Classrooms

The old "Revivalist Floor" will be completely remodeled to house the high school department of Aldersgate Christian Academy. These state-of-the-art classrooms will feature labs for reading, computers, science, English, and other subjects. This new floor will help us respond to the growth in our Academy.



JACK HOOKER  
Vice President  
for Advancement

We encourage you to consider investing in one of the Phase II projects. There are a number of naming opportunities, such as naming a classroom or lab in honor or in memory of a family member or friend. Please call the Office of Advancement for more information and campaign literature at 513.721.7944, ext. 223, or e-mail the office at [jhooker@gbs.edu](mailto:jhooker@gbs.edu).

"This aggressive plan for tomorrow is more than upgrading a campus...it is the perpetuating of the mission of God's Bible School and College for future generations."

*Michael R. Avery, President  
God's Bible School and College*