


GOD'S REVIVALIST

March 2015

and Bible Adversaries


God's Bible School and College
- FOUNDED 1900 -

On this site, God's Bible School, College, and Missionary Training Home first opened its doors on September 27, 1900, and here it still provides higher education centered in Holy Scripture and shaped by Wesleyan conviction. Its founder, Martin Wells Knapp, was a Methodist evangelist and writer whose passion for Christian holiness continues in the school's commitment to evangelical experience, disciplined piety, global evangelism, and social concern. From this campus—affectionately known as "The Mount of Blessings"—thousands have gone to every part of the world to pour out their lives in Christ's service, affirming the school's motto, "The Sun Never Sets on the Students of God's Bible School."

To the glory of God, whose faithfulness has sustained God's Bible School through 100 years, and in loving memory of all His servants who have labored here, this monument is hereby dedicated.

CENTENARY FOUNDERS' DAY
- SEPTEMBER 27, 2000 -

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

April 18, 1901
John W. ...
...

Marriage **and MONEY**

a continuation of the series
"PROTECTING MARRIAGE"





about this issue

MARRIAGE AND MONEY

So if you are married and have money fights, you are normal. But if this is a real problem area for you, there is also an opportunity to improve your relationship and maybe even reach agreement with your spouse. I'm not talking about agreement brought on by surrender, but rather by each person getting a vote, understanding the other's view, and finding common ground.

—Dave Ramsey, "The Truth About Money and Relationships"

This issue contains the first of the special mini-sections that continue the theme of "Protecting Marriage" from the January/February issue. We thought it would be good to focus on finances, not only because money is a key spark that often ignites marital conflict, but also because it is close to tax time—a good time to think about the status of family finances.

We have included three articles dealing with this area, and all give practical and very helpful information: Jennee Hartkopf discusses issues around developing a good spending plan (p.5), Jim Olsen shares the mechanics of developing a budget (p.7), and Randy Alcorn gives specific insights into how to wisely manage the money God has given us (p.8).

In addition, there are three other excellent little articles that you will not want to miss: R.C. Sproul, Jr. ("Husbands, Hold Your Wife's Hand," p.13) recounts his one regret as he reminisces about taking care of his dying wife. Then Christin Taylor offers us a glimpse into an episode of character building for her daughter ("My Daughter, the Shoplifter," p.14). Very touching. Finally, Trevin Wax lets us see how as adults we overlook some of the extraordinary things of life ("The God Who Shows Off Broken Seashells," p.15).

In "Alumni News" (p.22), Marcia Davis writes a moving tribute to one of the most famous graduates of God's Bible School and College—Connie (King) Palm. She led a life totally dedicated to furthering God's kingdom, not only in the United States, but internationally as well, especially through her writing ministry. —KF

Contact us by telephone at (513) 721-7944 (Revivalist Press, ext. 1351); by fax at (513) 763-6649; by email at revivalist@gbs.edu. Visit us online at www.gbs.edu or www.godsrevivalist.com.

COVER PHOTO: GBS student Andrew Hosier photographed by Kevin Moser.

CONTENTS

MARCH 2015
Volume 127 No. 2

FEATURES

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Marriage And Money | 5 |
| by Jennee Hartkopf | |
| Budgeting: A Means Of Financial Survival | 7 |
| by Jim Olsen | |
| Ten Practical Ways To Control Spending And Wisely Manage God's Money | 8 |
| by Randy Alcorn | |
| Husbands, Hold Your Wife's Hand | 13 |
| by R.C. Sproul, Jr. | |
| My Daughter, The Shoplifter | 14 |
| by Christin Taylor | |
| The God Who Shows Off Broken Seashells | 15 |
| by Trevin Wax | |

DEPARTMENTS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| The President's Page | 3 |
| Letters To The Editor | 4 |
| News From The Hilltop | 10 |
| Revivalist Family | 10 |
| Dear Phil | 16 |
| World Pulse | 17 |
| Student Focus | 17 |
| Revivalist Pulpit | 19 |
| The World To Win | 21 |
| Alumni News | 22 |
| Thoughts For The Quiet Hour | 23 |

STAFF

- Ken Farmer, *managing editor*
Kevin Moser, *art director, assistant editor*
Shane Muir, *assistant graphic designer*
Larry Smith, *editor*

God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate (ISSN 0745-0788) is published monthly except for combined issues in January-February and June-July-August for **\$12.00 per year (\$28.00, Canada; \$45.00, other 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 seeks to glorify God and to serve His Church by providing higher education centered in Holy Scripture and shaped by Wesleyan conviction, thus preparing faithful servants to proclaim Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness throughout the world.

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.

the president's page



Have we accepted things into the way we behave and think and into the values that we embrace which at one time were considered abominations to God? I believe these things are our “high places.”

HIGH PLACES

by Michael R. Avery, President

Mention the name “High Place” and God reaches into His vocabulary and uses a word that expresses His most severe moral disgust—“abomination.” High places, originally centers for Canaanite idol worship, are mentioned more than 100 times in the Bible. Located on mountaintops or elevated pieces of ground (hence the name “high place”), some of the most detestable things imaginable took place in the worship of false gods. Even before the children of Israel crossed the Jordan into Canaan, Moses commanded them to demolish all the Canaanite high places or they “shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell” (Num. 33:52-55). Yet despite Joshua’s passionate destruction of such places, these pagan worship centers continued to plague the nation of Israel (Judg. 2:12-13; 1 Kings 14:22-24).

Tragically, it was Israel’s leaders who allowed worship on the high places to continue. King Solomon actually built high places for gods such as Ashtoreth, Milcom, and Chemosh (1 Kings 11:6-7). King Jeroboam established high places in Bethel and Dan so the northern tribes would not travel to Jerusalem to worship the true God (1 Kings 12:25-33). In his time, each leader in Israel and Judah had to decide what he would do with the high places. When a good king would come to power, he would rid the land of idols and demolish the high places (II Kings 18:4; 23:4-20). Evil kings, like Ahaz and Manasseh, would give full support to the high places and even offer sacrifices on them (II Kings 16:4; 21:1-3).

Over time the scriptural record notes that even among the good kings “the high places were not taken away” (I Kings 15:14; 22:43; II Kings 12:3; 14:4; 15:4, 35). The surrounding cultural pressure to be like the



Letters

TO THE EDITOR

other nations was so strong that most of Israel just “winked” at the remaining high places. Eventually, these high places became so entrenched in Israel’s culture that they seemed normal. They were so common, so ordinary, so much in keeping with the way things were, that even the best of kings did not think to remove them. So the old high places that were an abomination to God became the “new norm” for the nation of Israel.

Is there a lesson here for today’s Church? Have we accepted things into our lives (the way we behave and think) and into our culture (the values that we embrace) which at one time were considered abominations to God? Are there issues we have grown so weary of opposing that we have simply yielded to the surrounding culture and subtly accepted them as the “new norm”? I believe the answer is yes and I believe these things are our “high places.”

SENSUALITY

If we could transport Christians from the past into our present day, I think the thing that would surprise them most is how much at home we are and how tolerant we have become with the pervasive sensuality of our culture. Sexual perversion is not new to the Church. To be certain, the Church has always had to fight against sexual sin. It is on every list of vices in the Bible. It heads the list of things the Apostle Paul says are not fitting for a Christian. Yet today, mainline denominations are on the fast-track of accepting, even celebrating, homosexuality, same-sex marriage, and all other manner of sexual perversion. Even though most evangelical Christians still oppose these more blatant sins, they are far too accepting and tolerant of the sexual crudeness, vulgarity, and carelessness of today’s world. Even worse, many entertain themselves with movies, television programming, and novels that celebrate homosexuality, marital infidelity, fornication, and nudity while often mocking purity and abstinence. This has become so common, so ordinary, so much in keeping with the way things are, that many Christians have ceased to cry against it. For many, this has become the new norm!

One of the most visible indicators of the Church’s acceptance of this (p12)➡

Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202, or emailed to 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.

The [December 2014] *Revivalist* came today. I read Sonja’s “Thoughts for the Quiet Hour” [p.23] —this one is a GEM. In writing about her Christmas at age three with her Mother’s “surprise” gift of a purse, she expresses the joy of giving. It is indeed that. However, it is also about the wonder of accepting the gift graciously. That her Mother expressed surprise and joy and thrilled her little daughter’s heart so much in the way she accepted the gift has stuck as one of her best Christmases ever. Perhaps that is how accepting God’s gift for ourselves stays with us as the best day of our life. By the way, the Lord willing, I am reading “My Christmas Eve” by Trooper Bob [p.12] as part of my Christmas message.

REV. KEN FULLER, SR.
Hiawassee, GA

I commend you on printing the poem “My Christmas Eve” by Trooper Bob [December *Revivalist*, p.12]. I needed that reflection very much. I am a retired Virginia State Trooper of 31-years service. I have to admit that I have been somewhat discouraged lately in light of what is going on in our great country. This poem has greatly lifted my heart by reminding me of what a wonderful career I had in service to my God, country, and state. God bless and keep everyone safe.

STAN OGDEN
Amherst, VA

We have felt a growing appreciation for your fine magazine. The thoughtful and attractive presentation of current issues, instruction in theology, and various inspiring articles is a pleasure to read and have on our coffee table. The *Revivalist* is top notch!

DR. WESLEY AND WANDA KNAPP
Middleburg, PA

I just wanted to say how much we appreciated Paula Pierpoint’s article on Phoebe Palmer [November *Revivalist* p.12]. It can’t get any better than this! I know Paula’s folks and grandfolks. They started the church I was saved in years and years ago!

ROBERT HUNT
Seneca, SC



Financial conflict is the number one predictor of divorce." This is the conclusion that researchers Dew, Britt, and Huston came to after a longitudinal study of 4,500 couples. Nearly 70% of those couples who had already divorced said that their break up was largely due to money problems.¹

There's a reason we take our vows "for richer, for poorer." Money ripples into every part of our lives as couples. That's why, whether you have it or you don't, money can test a relationship. From the big, life-changing decisions, such as purchasing a home, to the daily choices of what brand of soap and canned goods to buy, money factors into every decision you make as a couple. Therefore, couples who disagree about money will disagree about nearly everything.

But why do disagreements about money become such a toxic mess? Financial planners and relationship experts agree, the problem is deeper than just dollars and cents. Perhaps money problems rub raw wounds

and bring to the surface unresolved issues that are hard to face and even more difficult to work through.

We all have our own ideas about the purpose and meaning of money, largely shaped by our personality and the values taught to us as children. While money may mean security to one person, to another it means the opportunity to give generously, and to another it is seen as a status symbol. It is important not only to be aware of your own thoughts about money and how it should be handled, but also to be aware of how your spouse views finances.

It doesn't matter if your budget is airtight. If you haven't sharpened your communication skills specifically related to money and haven't learned to work together in the area of finances, your relationship will be tested. Many couples don't even know where to start in building healthy money communication skills. Compromise, meeting needs, or utilizing good listening skills are too often abandoned in the area of finances, and couples resort to blame, resentment, and hurt. You need to

know why you communicate the way you do when it comes to finances, and how that affects your behavior.

What if you could change the way that you communicate about money? What if you could begin working together in practical, efficient ways? Even more important, what if you could use the financial area of your marriage relationship to love, to respect, and, once again, to dream together?

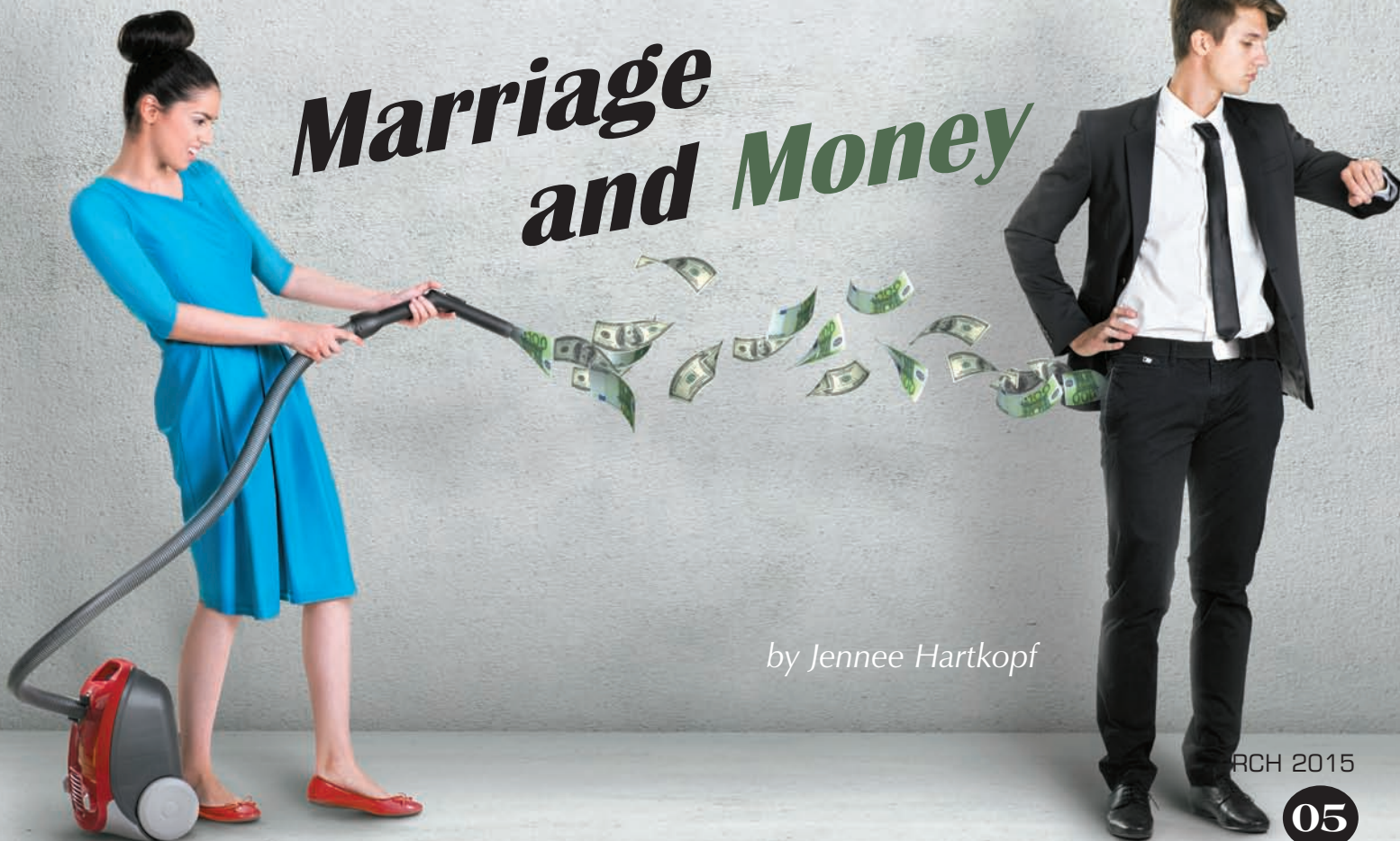
Dave Ramsey encourages couples to see one another as not only accountability partners, but also as each other's biggest supporter.² Thinking of your spouse as your spending accountability partner may not sound very romantic, but the kind of submission involved will bind you closer together in unity. Working together in unity means utilizing the strengths of both partners. If one spouse is particularly good with numbers or enjoys organizing, allow that spouse to use his or her talents to organize a spending plan.

Marriage and Money

by Jennee Hartkopf

RCH 2015

05



Take these practical steps to reduce conflict in your marriage relationship:

1. Develop a reasonable spending plan. Budgeting reduces conflict for the simple reason that it provides built-in accountability and an objective standard for all of your spending decisions.³ An intentional focus on financial goals, equal input on spending decisions, and setting a good example for children in the home are additional benefits of budgeting.

2. Break the cycle of assumptions, misunderstanding, and blame by being dedicated to really listening, learning, and rediscovering each other. What does money mean to your spouse? In relationship to money, what causes your spouse to feel loved, respected, secure, and content? Conversely, what is it that stirs up anxiety, mistrust, anger, hurt, or insecurity?

3. Evaluate your own financial strengths and weaknesses. Be brutally honest with yourself. Then, as a couple, discuss what each of you has discovered. Strive to see how your spouse's approach to money might complement yours. Process together how your individual approaches to finances might clash. Understanding what motivates your spouse to make specific financial decisions brings you closer together as a couple and assists you in "putting on the glasses" through which your spouse sees the world. Share the one "clash" that creates the most tension for each of you. Finish this conversation by telling your spouse the things you appreciate about his/her approach to finances.

4. Write down a plan for approaching regular budgeting and anticipating large purchases that reflects your joint approach to finances in a respectful way. Be aware of the ways in which knowing your spouse's approach to money could assist you as a couple in making financial decisions.

5. Build strong boundaries in the area of finances: Commit to being completely honest with each other about purchases, promise to consult with each other before making purchases over a certain dollar amount, and abstain from financial infidelity (lying about money, secretly hoarding money, or controlling money).

6. Utilize the Money Huddle technique.⁴ This is a regular, 45-minute meeting that is divided in three fifteen minute topics: (1) Evaluate where you are financially; (2) share openly about your needs; (3) dream together about the future. This meeting focuses on the "money relationship" and should not replace budgeting or regular financial planning.

7. Learn to fight fair during a money conflict. Refrain from accusing and blaming. Use "I statements" to talk about how you feel about the topic or conflict. For example, "I feel insecure about our financial stability when I find out that you made a large purchase without checking in with me." Brainstorm and problem-solve together.

8. Meet with a financial planner to discuss financial planning basics and to keep you accountable to your goals. An objective perspective from a financial expert can be inspiring and helpful on a practical level.

There is no doubt that money and consumerism are driving forces in our culture today, so much so that the very bedrock of marriage is being chipped away by this constant stress. However, I am just optimistic enough to believe that God would love to take something that the enemy is using for evil and redeem it for His glory. Let us strive to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and to each other in the area of finances. God may use this aspect of the iron-sharpening-iron marriage relationship to show the watching world around us His glory! ■

Jennee Hartkopf is a licensed professional counselor specializing in adolescent and family counseling at YouthWorks Counseling in Cincinnati. Jennee, an alumna of God's Bible School (BA '00), also works with the GBS Counseling Center.

-
1. Dew, Jeffrey; Sonya Britt; Sandra Huston. "Examining the Relationship Between Financial Issues and Divorce," *Family Relations*, 2012, v.61 (4), 615-628.
 2. Ramsey, Dave. *Financial Peace Revisited*. Lampo Press, 2003.
 3. Blue, Ron and Jeremy White. *Complete Guide to Faith Based Family Finances*. Tyndale House Publishers, 2008.
 4. Palmer, Scott and Bethany. *The Five Money Personalities: Speaking the Same Love and Money Language*. Thomas Nelson, 2013.

FINANCIAL POINTS TO PONDER

compiled by Jim Olsen

- 80% of families owe more than they own.
- Surveys show that at age 65:
 - 45% are dependent on relatives
 - 30% are dependent on charity
 - 23% are dependent on continuing to work
 - 2% are financially independent
- If you saved \$83 a month and it were compounded at 12.5% interest, it would grow to over \$1,000,000 in 40 years. You would have invested only about \$40,000 of your own money. The rest is interest earned.
- U.S. national debt of just over \$18 trillion would require a payment of \$25 million each day for 2,000 years to pay it off, not including any interest. That is \$1 million per hour for 2,000 years.
- Over a million Americans declare bankruptcy each year because their burden of debt is so great.
- If you borrow \$1,000 on a credit card at 18% interest and make just the minimum monthly payment, it will take you 10 years to pay it back in full. The average credit card debt is \$9,000.
- When you deal with money, you deal with attitudes, not amounts.



BUDGETING

A Means of Financial Survival

by Jim Olsen

In one cartoon, Blondie said to Dagwood, "I must have money in the bank, I still have checks in my checkbook." That naive approach to budgeting is sure to fail. Budgeting requires more serious and consistent attention.

"By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; and by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches." (Prov. 24:3-4, NASB)

By keeping good records, having a budget, and being honest with each other, a couple should not get into financial trouble. A budget is nothing more than a listing of what you expect to spend in light of your income. If it doesn't come out right the first time, change it; it's only a guide, a plan, an objective to shoot for. The very nature of the budgeting process calls for necessary adjustments.

The advantage of budgeting is that you learn how your money is being spent—on what items, and for how much. You may be amazed when you see on paper where it all goes. This is necessary information, especially if you need to cut back in order to keep your expenses from exceeding your income. A budget is an absolute necessity in order to get your finances in order. It shows what you can afford to buy.

A budget can help you:

- Establish goals and control your standard of living.
- Eliminate many family arguments.
- Save more money and give more money.
- Reduce or eliminate worry and anxiety.
- Reduce/eliminate wasteful/unplanned spending.
- Eliminate excessive debt.
- Face financial realities.
- Meet God's will for your life.

Steps to making a workable budget:

1. For the first month, keep track of all your cash expenses, whatever the amount. You have a record in your checkbook of the expenses you made by check. However, be sure you accurately list what each check is specifically for.

2. As you are doing this, you need to determine what help you feel you need in setting up a budget—

for example, budget forms. You can find free budget worksheets online. You can also find computer helps at Jim Olsen CPA (www.jimolsencpa.com) and at Crown Financial Ministries (www.crown.org).

3. After you do the above for a month, you are ready to put your estimated expenses on a budget form. Some will indicate percentages a typical family would spend on specific budget areas. However, other factors (for example, the size of the family) will affect expenditures for food. You need to set your percentages based on your family and circumstances.

4. For items that do not require monthly expenditures, such as car insurance, you must budget and set the money aside so that, when the payments come due, you will have the money for them.

5. For the items for which you pay with cash, utilize an envelope system. For example, if you budget for eating out, set aside the cash in an envelope so it is available when you decide to eat out. When the cash is gone, you stop eating out for that month. This envelope system is a form of a budget in and of itself.

6. At the end of the month, compare what you allocated against what you actually spent for each of your budget areas. You will need to adjust your budget accordingly for the next month. Be patient as it will take you several months to fine tune your budget.

The advantage of the budget will soon be seen by showing you where your money is going and, if you are spending more than you are taking in, where you need to cut back. If you cut back as much as you can and are still running behind, you will have to look at your income and see what you can do to increase it.

You now have the tools needed to make a budget. I encourage you to discipline yourself enough to make it happen. If married, husband and wife must work together to make it happen. It can actually be fun to discover that there is a solution to financial stress. A budget can be the tool to help you achieve financial freedom. It can transform your life! ■

Jim Olsen, CPA, has been involved with financial advising for over 40 years. Jim maintains an online office at www.jimolsencpa.com.



Ten Practical Ways to Control Spending and Wisely Manage God's Money

by Randy Alcorn

Setting a waiting period gives God the opportunity to provide what we want, to provide something better, or to show us that we don't need it and how to use the money differently.

3. REALIZE THAT NOTHING IS A GOOD DEAL IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT.

Paying \$250,000 for a house that is worth \$300,000 sounds like an excellent deal. Paying \$80 for a pair of barely used skis that cost \$400 new seems like a great deal. But if we can't afford them, it simply doesn't matter. It's always a bad choice to spend money on a "good deal" we can't afford.

4. RECOGNIZE THAT GOD ISN'T BEHIND EVERY GOOD DEAL.

Suppose we can afford it. Does that mean we should buy it? Self-control often means turning down good deals on things we really want because God may have better plans for His money.

5. UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SPENDING MONEY AND SAVING IT.

Saving is setting aside money for a future purpose; it stays in our wallet or in the bank. It can be used for other purposes, including our needs or the needs of others. Money that's spent leaves our hands and is no longer at our disposal. If we buy an \$80 sweater on sale for \$30, we've spent \$30. If we think we've just saved \$50, we simply don't understand the concept of saving!

6. LOOK AT THE LONG-TERM COST, NOT JUST THE SHORT-TERM EXPENSE.

If something breaks, we pay to get it repaired. If we buy a new car, we fret about dents and buy insurance to fix them. Count the cost in advance. Everything ends up being more expensive than it first appears.

7. UNDERSTAND AND RESIST THE MANIPULATIVE NATURE OF ADVERTISING.

Advertising is seductive and manipulative. It programs us. We must consciously reject its claims and

The following guidelines are designed to help you exercise self-control in spending, become a better steward of God's resources, and free funds to use for Kingdom purposes:

1. EXAMINE EVERY PURCHASE IN LIGHT OF ITS MINISTRY POTENTIAL.

We must weigh the value of every item we buy against what the same money could have done if used another way—for instance, to feed the hungry or to evangelize the lost. I don't say this to induce a guilt trip but to indicate the obvious—whenever money is used one way, it prevents it from being used another. None of us should impose our personal standards on others, nor on the standards of God. We should ask God to direct us when it comes to handling His money.

2. PRAY BEFORE YOU SPEND.

When something's a legitimate need, God will provide. How often do we take matters into our own hands and spend impulsively before asking God to furnish it for us? Often we either buy what we want or forgo what we want when there's a third alternative: asking God to provide it for us. If He doesn't provide it, fine—He knows best.

counter them with God's Word, which tells us what we really do and don't need. We should withdraw ourselves from advertising that fosters greed or discontent. That may mean less television, less flipping through sales catalogs and newspaper ads, and less aimless wandering through shopping malls.

8. LEARN TO WALK AWAY FROM THINGS YOU WANT BUT DON'T NEED.

Once I received a large, unexpected check. After giving a portion to the Lord, I still had \$2,000 left. Before long, I was out looking at something I'd wanted but had never been able to justify. The price tag read \$1,995. But in my heart there wasn't peace when I considered what that money could do for God's Kingdom. Finally, I decided I shouldn't make the purchase. When I turned and walked away, something unexpected happened. I was suddenly filled with a deep sense of relief and joy. To be free of it was the first blessing; to know the eternal difference that amount would make was the second blessing.

9. REALIZE THAT LITTLE THINGS ADD UP.

One dollar here and ten dollars over there; a hamburger here and mocha there; movie rentals and rounds of golf. These things may seem inconsequential, but they can add up to hundreds of dollars per month and thousands per year that could be used for Kingdom purposes. Until we fix some of our spending habits, we'll never be able to divert the flow of money for higher purposes.

10. SET UP A BUDGET AND LIVE BY IT.

Two practical steps can greatly help us get a grip on our spending: recording expenditures and making a budget. These steps will help us detect problem areas by clarifying our spending habits. This will improve our mental and marital health because financial disorder is one of the leading causes of personal and familial stress.

Living on a budget will free up lots of money. When I was a pastor, I met with families who followed a budget and did fine on a very meager income. I met with others who made much more and were always in financial crisis.

It's not how much money we make, but how we handle it that matters. And it all begins by recognizing the money we're handling is not our own. It belongs to another, before Whom we will one day stand, and from Whom the best words we could ever hear are these: "Well done my good and faithful servant. Enter into your Master's joy." ■

Randy Alcorn, formerly a pastor for fourteen years, is the author of forty-some books and the founder and director of Eternal Perspective Ministries, which may be accessed online at www.epm.org.

RESOURCES FOR FINANCE IN MARRIAGE

- Bell, Matt. *Money and Marriage: A Complete Guide for Engaged and Newly Married Couples*. NavPress, 2011.
- Blue, Ron and Jeremy White. *Complete Guide to Faith Based Family Finances*. Tyndale House Publishers, 2008.
- Burkett, Larry. *The Complete Financial Guide for Young Couples*. David C. Cook, 2002.
- Busby, Dan; J. Michael Martin; John Van Drumen. *Zondervan 2015 Minister's Tax and Financial Guide: For 2014 Tax Returns*. Zondervan, 2015.
- Chapman, Gary. *Profit Sharing: The Chapman Guide to Making Money an Asset in Your Marriage*. Tyndale House Publishers, 2007.
- Dayton, Howard. *Money and Marriage God's Way*. Moody Publishers, 2009.
- Dew, Jeffrey; Sonya Britt; Sandra Huston. "Examining the Relationship Between Financial Issues and Divorce," *Family Relations*, 2012, v. 61 (4).
- Hunt, Mary. *Debt-Proof Living: How to Get Out of Debt and Stay That Way*. Revell, 2014.
- Palmer, Scott and Bethany. *The Five Money Personalities: Speaking the Same Love and Money Language*. Thomas Nelson, 2013.
- Ramsey, Dave. *Securing Financial Peace for Your Family I & II (CD)*. Focus on the Family Radio Broadcast, 2011.
- Ramsey, Dave. *The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness*. Thomas Nelson, 2013.

Websites:

www.crown.org

www.debtproofliving.com

www.moneycouple.com

www.daveramsey.com

www.jimolsencpa.com

FOOD FOR THOUGHT compiled by Jim Olsen

Budget: A system of reminding yourself that you can't afford the kind of living to which you've grown accustomed.

When your outgo exceeds your income, your upkeep is your downfall.

Dollars go farther when accompanied by sense.

One reason why it's hard to save money is that our neighbors are always buying something we can't afford.

NEWS

from the Hilltop

WINTER REVIVAL

Rev. Deron Fourman (HS '85, BA '90), pastor of the Bible Methodist Church, Port Clinton, OH, was the speaker for the winter revival. There were significant moves of the Spirit, especially Thursday night and Friday morning. Deron's authenticity and total reliance on God were refreshing and the students let him know they appreciated it. But what happened next was amazing.



Deron Fourman at the Adcock Chapel pulpit.

The High School staff decided to have a short assembly with their students on Friday right after lunch. They sang a few choruses and gave students the opportunity to share testimonies. The Holy Spirit came in a very powerful way. Some of the students starting crying while others testified. A girl said she needed to pray and several students gathered around her. A boy also said he needed to pray. Several more also professed

spiritual needs. The students gathered around each other and formed little prayer circles all around the room. It was a very moving scene and lasted for about an hour and a half. One instructor said, "I have not seen a breakthrough like that before."

COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

College enrollment for the spring semester is 261 (ADEP 91 and main campus 170). In recent years our overall numbers have leveled out at just over 300 students, much of which is due to our growing online ADEP program. We are working very hard to increase our on-campus enrollment numbers. We have set a challenging goal of 100 incoming freshmen each year and 300 on-campus students by the year 2020. We know this is not going to "just happen." But effective partnerships and specific goals make it attainable!

—Nathan Dahler,
Director of Enrollment Services

REVIVALIST FAMILY

On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, significant events scheduled throughout the "Revivalist Family," and brief news notes from across the Holiness Movement.

BIRTHS



To **Kendra (Smith) (BA '11) and Dustin Muir (BA '12)**, a daughter, **Kallie Raegan**, born November 28, 2014. Dustin works in carpentry/construction, Kendra teaches first grade at Hillsville Elementary, and both work as music/youth leaders in the Haven of Rest Bible Church in Galax, VA, where they live.

DEATHS

Wayne G. Gallup, 85, of Erin, TN, passed away April 8, 2014. Wayne attended high school at GBS. While

there, he sang in the men's quartet. He also met another student, Wilma Monce (HS '48), who became his wife. Wayne went on to study music at Olivet Nazarene College, and, after graduating, served as minister of music in Nazarene churches in Ohio. He then served 18 years in many different roles at Trevecca Nazarene University. He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 60 years; seven children, Greg, Jeff, Doug, Todd, Stephen, Melissa, and Deborah; 23 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and two brothers. A memorial service was conducted in the sanctuary of Trevecca Community Church of the Nazarene with Pastor Jeff Stark officiating.



Dr. Connie (King) Palm, 76, passed away unexpectedly January 3, 2015. Connie and her late husband, Dr. Edward Palm, were both GBS alumni. A tribute and pictures can be found in the "Alumni News" (p.22), written by Dr. Marcia Davis.

NEW ADJUNCT PROFESSOR



After graduating from GBS (BA '12), **Charity Frazier** completed a master of arts degree in counseling at Cincinnati Christian University ('14) and works at a community counseling agency in Wilmington, OH. This semester she will be a GBS adjunct professor, teaching "Introduction to Counseling."

INTERLIBRARY LOANS

The campus libraries' interlibrary loan (ILL) coordinator, Stephanie Hoffpauir, introduced the new electronic ILL program. By transitioning from paper requests to the OCLC WorldShare Interlibrary Loan interface, students can now electronically request books, articles, and other items from member libraries within OCLC's 10,000-member-strong worldwide cooperative. 📖

Commissioning Weekend 2015

Chris Cravens, guest speaker

Wednesday, May 13

8:00 PM Candlelight Celebration Service
Featuring graduating college and high school seniors
On the south lawn, weather permitting / Open to the public

Thursday, May 14

7:00 PM Evening with Symphonic Wind and String Ensemble

Friday, May 15

7:00 PM The Challenge

Saturday, May 16

10:00 AM Commencement (College)
7:00 PM Consecration

Sunday, May 17

10:30 AM Communion
2:30 PM Commitment to Ministering Now
7:00 PM Commission



Services will be live-streamed beginning Friday, 7:00 PM. Some services will feature "stories of transformation" in which graduates describe how God radically transformed their lives and gave them spiritual and vocational direction.

HOMECOMING

SAVE THE DATE!
OCTOBER 9-10, 2015



Mary Lee (Vaughan) Mortimer, 76, passed away on June 7, 2014. She was born in Wytheville, VA. She and two of her sisters, Ellen and Annie, attended GBS in the 1950s and sang together in a trio. She married Kennard Mortimer in 1960, and they served together as ministers of music in various churches across the country for about 45 years, along with working their secular jobs. A friend said, "Mary's ministry of music and hospitality in making her home available for worship services was a real blessing. She was a woman of action who put legs to her faith." Mary is survived by her husband of 54 years, Kennard; daughter, Melissa; brother, Ted; sisters, Pauline and Claudine; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. The memorial service was held at Trinity Baptist Church with Rev. Kerry Tygrett officiating, followed by interment at Belleview Cemetery.



Luke Wyatt Jobe, 83, passed away Saturday, January 24, 2015, in Greensboro, NC. Luke was born in 1932, one of eleven children of Curtis Durant and Nellie Southern Jobe. For the past 60 years, he owned and operated Luke Jobe Construction, which built some of Greensboro's most beautiful homes. He loved to fish, attend church retreats, sing, eat out, and spend time with his family and friends. He was a GBS board member for 28 years (1978-2006) and a generous donor. He was a member of Christ Wesleyan Church. Luke is survived by his loving wife of sixty-three-and-a-half years, Barbara Jones Jobe; four sons, Steve, Mike, Robin, and Luke; two daughters, Shaila and Barbara; 17 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and five sisters. The funeral service was held at Christ Wesleyan Church with interment at Westminster Gardens Cemetery in Greensboro, NC. 📖

➡(p4) “new norm” is the immodest dress of America’s Christians. Actually the two are tied closely together. Whenever a sense of modesty is lacking, human sexuality becomes fatally trivialized. And when human sexuality is reduced to consumer merchandise, the display of the body becomes the main billboard to advertise its sexual value. Even though the problem of immodest attire is widely acknowledged, few church leaders (men or women) offer guidance and biblical instruction. Their fear of becoming legalistic or offensive keeps them silent while the voice of a fallen world has no such inhibitions. This is one of our high places.

SPIRITUAL MEDIOCRITY

With the proliferation of electronic media, the average Christian has access to more preaching and teaching—more information about the Bible and Christian living—than ever before in the history of the world. We are clearly the most informed Christians that have ever lived! Yet one leading American pastor was forced to ask himself, “Why is today’s church so weak? Why can we claim more people with more conversions but have less and less impact on the surrounding culture? Why are our Christians indistinguishable from the world?” Dallas Willard’s response to this dilemma is interesting. He claims that it is not in spite of what the church is teaching but precisely because of it! He goes on to say that the church has pitched its message too low! It has offered a form of “miserable sinner” Christianity that tells believers we are nothing but miserable sinners and that moral failure is expected. Hence we offer a gospel of “sin management” where the essence of the gospel is simply the forgiveness of sins—a message that neither offers nor expects any real transformation of life and character. As a management expert would say, “This system is designed to yield the results it is getting.”

This low level of spiritual living has become so common, so ordinary, so much in keeping with the way things are, that many Christians have ceased to expect anything else. This also has become the new norm! But you can be assured of one thing: this is not the true gospel! The gospel not only offers the forgiveness of sin, but also the real transformation of the heart! It clearly teaches that, through the power of the Holy Spirit and the abundances of God’s grace, we can live in full obedience to the commands of Jesus—“not I, but the grace of God which was with me” (I Cor. 15:10).

WORLDLINESS

I am using the term “worldliness” in the biblical sense as to how people “think” and subsequently “be-

have” (Rom. 8:5-7; 12:2). The word for world (*kosmos*) means an order or an arrangement of things. Hence we can define the world as “human ability organized historically and socially into a system where humans use natural ability (their own resources) to achieve what they want and to promote what they value, a great deal of which is in active hostility to God.” The Bible defines “living in the flesh” in much the same way. When the New Testament speaks of those who live in the flesh, it speaks of those whose lives are oriented around themselves and who know only their own resources. A “man of the world” or someone who “lives in the flesh” is someone who thinks and acts from a point of view that leaves God out of the equation. To them, the only reality is the temporal—what they see, touch, and know.

True Christian living is the antithesis of this. Christians place the eternal over the temporal. They live from an alternate reality. Their life is drawn from divine resources. This way of living is in significant contrast to the world and has two major implications for the Christian.

First, he thinks differently than the world thinks! His thinking is not limited to the confines of mere human understanding. He doesn’t determine his course of action by what godless men say, no matter how brilliant it sounds (Psa.1:1).

Second, he behaves differently from those who are of this world. He doesn’t seek after “the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes,” nor is he controlled by the “pride of life.” To him the world is “passing away” and lacks permanence. Hence he “sets his affection on things above” and “stores up treasure in heaven.” This makes his life recognizably different; distinctly unique from everybody who is not a Christian (Matt. 5:43-48). He is in the world but not of the world.

The main problem here is that this description of the biblical Christian is not recognizable—much less acceptable—to the average Christian today! Our obsession with the material, our addiction to more, our love of the good life, and our captivation with this modern-day Sodom hardly receive a slap on the hand by even the most radical of prophets. Worldliness has become so common, so ordinary, so much in keeping with the way things are, that many Christians have ceased to see it as a problem. Unfortunately, it has also become the new norm!

The high places of our lives may be varied and unique, but they are all equally despised by God. While we may have changed the words we use for them, God still uses that same word from long ago—abomination! ■



Husbands,

hold your Wife's hand

by R.C. Sproul Jr.

The feedback I have received over the past few years for the writing I have done during my beloved's illness, homegoing, and absence is both awkward and encouraging. I especially rejoice when I hear that the things I have written have served another in a time of hardship. It remains my intention to use what I have written in a book in the future. That said, I still believe that the most vulnerable, most insightful, most helpful thing I wrote all along this journey was this brief tweet:



That is likely my deepest regret—that I did not hold her hand more.

It's not, of course, that I never held her hand. It is likely, however, that I didn't as often as she would have liked. Holding her hand communicates to her in a simple yet profound way that we are connected. Taking her hand tells her, "I am grateful that we are one flesh." Taking her hand tells me, "This is bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh." It is a liturgy, an ordinary habit of remembrance to see more clearly the extraordinary reality of two being made one. Even in the midst of a disagreement or moments of struggle, it would have communicated, "We're going to go through this together. I will not let go."

It would have also reminded us both of that secret but happy truth we kept from each other, that hidden reality that is equal parts embarrassment and giddy joy: that we're just kids. Bearing children, feeding mortgages, facing adult sized hardships never really changes what we are inside. Holding her hand was like skipping through the park. Holding her hand was winking at her, as if to say, "I know you're just a kid too. Let's be friends."

On the other hand, holding her hand more would have communicated to us both my own calling to lead her and our home. Hand holding is a way to say both, "You are safe with me" and, "Follow me into the adventure." It would have reminded me that there is no abdicating, no shirking, no flinching in the face of responsibility. And, as I lead, it would be a constant anchor, a reminder that I lead not for my sake, but for hers.

Holding her hand more also would have spoken with clarity to the watching world. It would have said, "There's a man who loves his wife." It saddens me that so many only learn this after their wife is gone. Perhaps most of all, however, I wish I had held her hand more so that I could still feel it more clearly. I wish it had been such a constant habit that even now my hand would form into a hand-holding shape each time I get in the car. I wish I could fall asleep feeling her hand in mine.

I know all this, happily, because I did hold her hand. I received all the blessings I describe above. I just wish I had received them more. It cost nothing, and bears dividends even to this day. If, for you, it's not too late, make the investment. Hold her hand, every chance you get. You won't regret it. 🖐️

Dr. R.C. Sproul Jr. is rector and chair of philosophy and theology at Reformation Bible College, Sanford, FL. This article was posted at Ligonier.org/blog and used by permission.

My Daughter, the Shoplifter

by Christin Taylor



Noelle and I were at the local natural foods store to pick up a few things when Noelle asked me, “Mommy, can I go back to that room with all the stuff?” She pointed to the back of the store where the bulk food bins are.

“Sure,” I nodded, thinking nothing of it, and continued shopping.

A few minutes later, Noelle came skipping back to me. “Mommy! Mommy! Come look at this.”

I followed her begrudgingly back to the bulk food room. “Can we get the peanut butter pretzels?” she asked pointing to a huge bin of what looked like chocolate covered twists.

“No,” I retorted. “I already said we’re not getting any treats today.” And then I suddenly stopped. “By the way, how did you know those were peanut butter flavored?” I marveled looking at the label on the bin. “Did you read that label?” The teacher had just told me how well Noelle was doing in reading, and so, when Noelle nodded, I took it at face value and turned to leave. “Come on, let’s go!”

Noelle’s little voice reached me just as I was about to push out into the main area of the store, “And I tasted one.”

I froze, spun on my heel, and looked down on her. Her eyes suddenly got very big, her shoulders contracted up to her ears, and she brought her hands up to her face.

“You ate one?!” I repeated. “Noelle, we’re going to have to go tell the clerk that you ate one of his pretzels and that you are sorry.”

“NOOOOO,” she howled, throwing herself behind a shelf.

I don’t know why I had to suppress a chuckle. It’s not that I enjoy seeing my daughter suffer, only that I knew eating the pretzel was no big deal and that the clerk would probably say, “forget about it.” I knew this was more about character than consequence.

I knelt down and looked her in the eye, “Noelle, thank you for telling me the truth. I’m very proud of you. Now, let’s go talk to the clerk.”

“I don’t want to! I don’t want to!” Massive tears dripped down her face, and I scooped her up on my hip, just as my dad had done with me nearly thirty years before.

“My daughter ate one of your pretzels,” I said to the clerk. “And she has something she wants to say to you.”

Noelle covered her face and pressed her body into my side.

“Sorry!” she said quietly but clearly.

Phew! That went easier than I thought it would. I was prepared to stand at the counter for whole segments of an hour trying to get her to apologize.

The clerk/owner of the store smiled kindly over his glasses. “That’s okay,” he said with a grin. “Why don’t we call it a free sample for today.”

“Thank you,” Noelle whispered from my shoulder.

“Would you like some stickers?” the clerk asked, and I felt my heart blossom open. I could have kissed him!

Noelle nodded and took the ream of stickers from him. “Thank you,” I whispered to him, and he simply nodded.

I paid for my things and Noelle and I left the store, her little face wet with tears but no longer covered. ■

Christin Taylor and her husband Dwayne both work at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. Christin is the daughter of Indiana Wesleyan University President David Wright. This article was posted at www.wesleyan.org and is used by permission.



the GOD
Who Shows Off **broken**
Seashells

by Trevin Wax

Our six-year-old is enthralled with seashells. On our recent vacation, she collected shells, put them next to our beach chairs, and praised each one's distinctive elements. "Look at the color of this one, the shape of that one, the size of this one."

The only problem was, most of the shells were broken. Strictly speaking, our daughter didn't have a collection of seashells but a pile of fragments. We had to watch where we walked because, if we stumbled into the jagged edges, our bare feet would let us know.

"These are broken, honey," I say.

"Yes, but look at the colors, the shape, the edges."

I smile at my daughter's enthusiasm for worthless shells, realizing that one day she'll seek out the right kind and leave the shell fragments alone.

And suddenly I wonder: Is it my perspective that needs changing? Are mine the eyes that have grown old? Does she see beauty to which I am blind?

My daughter's marveling at broken seashells comes from a childlike wonder—gratitude that such amazing items exist at all and that we are able to see and touch them.

To a child, it is silly to think that a broken edge could somehow diminish the value of a seashell. The edge is simply a testament to the waves that brought the shell to shore—waves which provide another source of continual amazement.

"Look at the edges, Daddy. They're beautiful."

A little girl sees the beauty in a broken seashell, and perhaps in this is a parable, that the perspective of a little girl stands against an old and cynical world that ties worth to perfection.

Yes, the beauty of a perfectly preserved seashell is enhanced because it is hard to find among its many fragmented brothers and sisters, and yet even the fragments contain the beauty of their origin, inviting the observer to imagine their former glory. And, once placed in a little girl's seashell collection, the shattered glory is alive again.

Perhaps the delight of a little girl in broken seashells resembles a God who loves to pick up the fragments of shattered lives and gently put them back together again...

...a God who sees how the waves of life batter and rage against us, and who doesn't love us any less.

...a God who chooses the foolish to confound the wise, the weak to shame the strong.

...a God who offered Himself up to be broken, so the world could be put back together again.

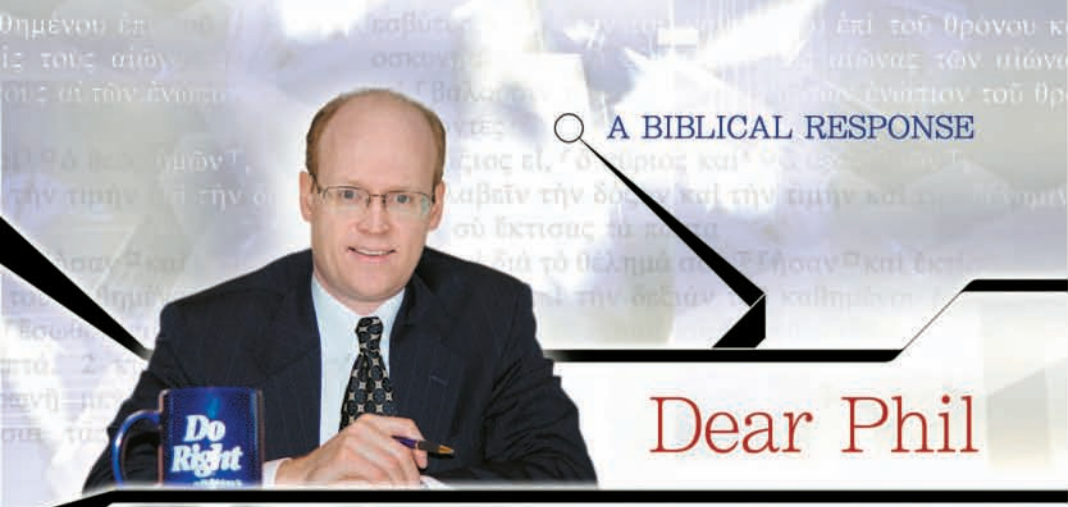
...a God who showcases broken seashells—knowing what we once were and, better yet, what we will one day become.

"Let the little children come." Maybe because, like God, they love the broken seashells. ■

Trevin Wax is managing editor of The Gospel Project and a contributor to numerous publications. He writes daily at Kingdom People, a blog hosted by The Gospel Coalition. This article was posted at www.thegospelcoalition.org and is used by permission.



MARCH 2015



A BIBLICAL RESPONSE

Dear Phil

What is truth, and how can I know that I know it? —Gordon

Dear Gordon,

That’s a deep one! Buckle in. There are, I think, three parts to this question: truth, knowledge, and certainty. Let’s begin by getting a handle on the word “truth.” We use the word “truth” in at least two ways. If it is raining outside and I say, “It’s raining outside now,” I’m telling the truth. However, that statement will cease to be truth as soon as it stops raining. This may be called “situational truth.” Situational truth is any statement that accurately reflects reality in a given, limited situation. Many of the truth claims we make are of this sort.

We also use the word “truth” when we’re referring to “absolute truth.” Absolute truth is any statement that accurately reflects reality at all times and places. Some statements are always or absolutely true by virtue of the definitions of the terms used. For example, it is always true that circles are round and that the sum of the angles of any Euclidean triangle is 180 degrees.

Other statements are absolutely true by virtue of the nature of the things to which they refer. For example, the statements “God is wise” and “God is good” are always true because of the nature of God.

When Jesus said to Philip, “I am the way, the truth, and the life,” He did not mean that He is “a statement that accurately reflects reality.”

Before trying to answer how we can know the truth, let’s ask a bigger question: How can we know anything?

Nor did He mean that “truth” is a person, though this is nearer the mark. Jesus meant that He is the person who is the source of all truth. He is the absolute, unchanging, and permanent source of all that is. He created all things (John 1:3). He sustains all things (Heb. 1:3). Since He is the source and sustainer of all reality, all that He says about reality is true—absolutely true.

It has been in vogue for the past 50 years to deny that absolute truth exists. But such a denial is self-refuting: Is it absolute truth that absolute truth does not exist? Faced with this obvious contradiction, radical truth-

deniers retreat to a softer, more subtle denial. They shift to the ground of uncertainty, saying, “I don’t know whether absolute truth exists or not, and I don’t know how I can know it.” That brings us to the second part of our question.

How can I know?

Before trying to answer how we can know the truth, let’s ask a bigger question: How can we know *anything*? In order to know anything, we must have some means of perceiving both ourselves and the objects around us, and we must exercise belief about our perceptions. Perhaps that sounds strange, but it is as necessary for the atheist as it is for the theist. The atheist must believe his senses can be trusted. He must believe that there is a reality to perceive, consider, and experience. He must believe that his mind can produce conclusions that reflect reality accurately. To deny such basic beliefs (truths) is logically incoherent and, again, self-refuting.

The very first chapters of God’s word tell us how it is that we can believe and so know: the Triune God made us in His image (Gen. 1:27) with the capacity to have knowledge, and hence knowledge of reality as it is—just as God knows reality (Gen. 3:22). When what we believe about reality is accurate, we believe the truth. When we can justify our accurate beliefs about reality, those beliefs count as “knowledge.” The short way of saying this is, “Knowledge is justified true belief.”

In my next column, I’ll cover knowing truth and having certainty in our knowledge.

Blessings,
Philip

A. Philip Brown II is a member of the faculty in the Division of Ministerial Education at God’s Bible School and College.



student focus

MILLENNIALS ON ABORTION

According to a poll released early this year, 68% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortions (www.kofc.org). This is especially critical in that last November the Government Accountability Office reported that over 1,036 Obamacare plans in 28 states cover elective abortions.

The millennial generation in particular, although it tends to be softer on socio-cultural issues, is not so on the life question—71% of those polled said they oppose taxpayer-funding of abortion, compared to just 28% who support such funding. Each year the March for Life rally has more participation by millennials. According to Gallup data, millennials are more pro-life and supportive of restrictions on abortion than their parents' generation.

RELIGIOUS STATES GIVE MORE

A report looking at giving trends from 2006 to 2012, based on IRS data, found that states where a lot of people attend church—such as Utah, Mississippi, and Alabama—had higher rates of giving. States where people attend church less frequently, such as New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont, had lower rates of giving. The study also found that Americans of modest means give more of their income to charity than their wealthy neighbors. (www.philanthropy.com)

ALL-TIME LOW MARRIAGE RATES

The percentage of U.S. adults who have never been married has hit a new, all-time high. In 1960, about 10% of those over the age of 25 fell into this category. By 2012, the number had essentially doubled. There is no real consensus about the reason for these low marriage rates, but 34% percent of the unmarried young did cite financial security. Others note that cohabitation and out-of-wedlock childbearing have less social taboo these days. Even government policies have an effect, e.g., tax penalties for married couples and the usual drop in assistance benefits when the incomes of single parents increase when they get married.

PEOPLE WANT MORE RELIGION IN POLITICS

In a September 2014 study, the Pew Research Center reports that a record high 72% of respondents believe that religion is “losing its influence on American life,” and 56% of Americans also believe this shift has been for the worse. Additionally, 34% of evangelical Christians, including 42% of white evangelical Protestants, and 18% of Catholics say it has become more difficult to be a member of their religious group in recent years. Also 49% now believe that churches should express views on social and political questions, an increase from 43% in 2010. (www.pewforum.org)

She endured changes, uncertainties, challenges, and even abuse as a child—making it hard for her to view God as loving. Raised in central Idaho, **MONTANA HAGAN** found in GBS a “safe place...to expand and mature in multiple ways.” At first, she ran away from the idea of Bible college. However, as other doors she eagerly approached seemed to slam shut, the decision was either to obey God by going to GBS or knowingly to walk away from His will.

Once on the Hilltop, Montana had several “Paul” moments, where God’s grace removed scales from her heart and eyes. On one particularly poignant day she found herself face down on her dorm room floor. With halls quiet and rain pelting loudly outside, she surrendered her life fully to Christ—and her anxious heart filled with peace. Anger left as she accepted God’s love for her. Now she steadily prepares for life-long service in Christ—something she describes as an “amazingly rewarding challenge.”

Seventy-five percent of our students receive some form of financial aid which enables them to attend GBS. If you would like to support students with financial needs, you may send a gift to:

Student Fund
God’s Bible School and College
1810 Young Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

or give online anytime at
www.gbs.edu/givenow

GBSC ALUMNI RECEPTION

IHC, DAYTON

THANK YOU

WED, APRIL 22 | 4:00-5:30 PM, ROOM 103



APRIL 24, 2015

REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.GBS.EDU/VIPDAY

Register by
April 10th for a
free T-Shirt.

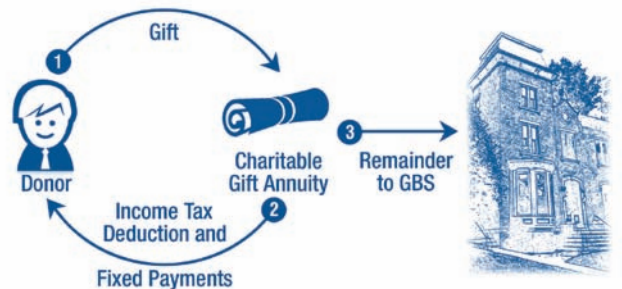


Help God's Bible School & College
and receive a regular income for life



Charitable Gift Annuity Rates

Single-Life				Two-Life			
Age	Annuity	Age	Annuity	Age	Annuity	Age	Annuity
65	4.7%	80	6.8%	65-65	4.2%	80-80	5.7%
70	5.1%	85	7.8%	70-70	4.6%	85-85	6.7%
75	5.8%	90+	9.0%	75-75	5.0%	90+90+	8.2%



Annuitants must be 60 or older, with a minimum gift of \$10,000.

God's Bible School & College • Office of Advancement
1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202

For more info, contact Faith Avery: favery@pbs.edu • 513.721.7944



HOW TO HAVE DAILY VICTORY OVER WILLFUL SIN

Understanding Who I Am in Christ
(Part I of 2)

by Allan P. Brown, Chair
GBS Division of Ministerial Education

Scripture: Romans 6:1-10

When you become a Christian, you receive a new identity. You are not the same person you were before you were born again. You are now “in” Christ—you are united with Christ. This gives you a new position, new power, and new privileges.

Your new identity is due to your new position.

At the new birth, you change loyalties and locations. You are delivered from the kingdom of darkness and the influence of the king of darkness, Satan. You are placed into the kingdom of God’s dear Son, and now you pledge your loyalty to King Jesus (Col. 1:13). Further, God adopts you into His own family (Rom. 8:15; Eph. 1:5). You are not simply a servant of God; rather, you are now a member of His family and one of His children.

Your new identity brings with it new power.

You are fully forgiven for all past sins, and through the indwelling Holy Spirit are given the power to overcome *all willful sin*. Now, in Christ, you do not have to continue to think, say, or do things that you know are unbiblical, and therefore sinful.

Do not confuse freedom from willful sin with spiritual maturity or becoming like Jesus in every aspect of your personality (Eph. 4:13). There is no instant maturity; it’s a process. But you can be set free *instantly* from the shackles of *known, willful disobedience*.

Because many Christians do not understand who they are in Christ and what spiritual resources are at their disposal, they do not know how to defeat Satan. They do not know how to say “No!” consistently when tremendously strong temptations from the enemy come their way. The good news of the Gospel is, “You plus Christ equals freedom from willful sin.” Yes, Jesus came to “destroy the works of the devil” in your life (1 John 3:8).

In order to be a victorious Christian, you need to *learn* and *believe* that Satan has no authority over you. You now belong to Jesus and are spiritually united with Christ. Because you are now “in Christ,” you have been set free from the power of sin. The Devil does not want you to know this. He will try to deceive you into believing that he still has a grip on you.

Your new identity brings with it new privileges.

When you are born again spiritually, you are made spiritually alive in Christ and are spiritually elevated to a place of power and authority. It is your privilege to be seated with Christ in His throne in heavenly places (Eph. 2:5-6), just as He is seated at the Father’s right hand in His throne.

Because you are seated with Christ in His throne, you are elevated with Christ far above all the spiritual opposition, whether it is opposition from spiritual principalities, powers, might, or dominion (Eph. 1:21). Further, Jesus gives to you authority to “trample on snakes and scorpions (symbols of demonic foes), and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you” (Luke 10:19).

Thus, new *position, power, and privileges* in Christ, and the resultant authority that Christ delegates, enable you to have power over Satan. It’s part of your new spiritual identity.

Understanding who you are in Christ is crucial to your success at living a victorious Christian life. No one *consistently behaves* in a way that is inconsistent with the way he or she perceives himself. For example, if you view yourself as a failure, you will expect failure and accept it as inevitable. And if you believe that a Christian must continue to commit willful sin after he is saved, then that is how you will live. But if you see yourself as a child of God, made powerfully alive in Christ, having all the resources of the Holy Spirit available to you, you’ll learn that you can live daily in victory and freedom from willful sin. *Next to knowing who God is, knowing who you are in Christ is the most important truth you can possess.*

New life in Christ gives you a new title. You should not think of yourself as a “sinner” saved by grace. That is not what the Bible says about you. The Bible does not call children of God “sinners.” God calls His children “saints,” a term that literally means “holy ones.”

If you think of yourself as a sinner, you will live like a sinner. But if you learn to view yourself as God views you, and learn to think and speak of yourself in biblical terms, you'll learn that God says, "Sin is not to have dominion [power or authority] over you" (Rom. 6:14).

New life in Christ gives you a new title. You should not think of yourself as a "sinner" saved by grace. The Bible does not call children of God "sinners." God calls His children "saints."

Romans 6:1-10 gives eight facts for your faith—truths that need to be understood and fully embraced. You must learn to say about yourself what God says about you. Let me encourage you to repeat these statements aloud and thank God for each one daily.

Eight FACTS for your FAITH.

1. I MUST NOT continue in sin!!!! (Rom. 6:1-2a)
"What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means!"

Paul's answer is an emphatic "No!" His negation is so strong in the Greek that it could be translated, "Absolutely Not!" or "Never!"

2. Sin has NO POWER over me because I am dead to sin! (Rom. 6:2)
"How shall we who died to sin still live in it?"

To be "dead to sin" means that it no longer has any dominion or ruling power in your life. Consequently, when Paul says that Christians cannot continue in sin because they have died to sin, he is not merely saying that a Christian should not continue to live in the realm and dimension of sin; he is saying that they cannot!

3. Sin's power over me IS DESTROYED because I am UNITED with Jesus in His DEATH TO SIN and in His burial through baptism! (Rom. 6:3-4a)
"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death."

In agreement with Paul, the Apostle John declares, "No one who is born of God practices sin because His [God's] seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God" (1 John 3:9). Both Paul and John, when they speak of the believer's on-going relationship to sin, are speaking about willful acts of disobedience to the known Law of God.

4. I am UNITED with Jesus, and through His resurrection I am EMPOWERED to walk in newness of life. (Rom. 6:4b-5)
"In order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection."

5. The person I was before I was saved is CRUCIFIED [has been put to death] with Christ. (Rom. 6:6a)
"We know that our old self [the person I was before I was saved] was crucified with him."

6. Sin's CONTROL over MY BODY has been BROKEN! (Rom. 6:6b)
"That the body of sin might be destroyed."

The phrase, "the body of sin," denotes sin's control over our physical body. Sin no longer has any control over a Christian's body.

7. I am LIBERATED in Christ from sin's power and I do NOT have to commit willful sin! (Rom. 6:6c)
"That we should no longer be slaves to sin."

8. I am FREED from the POWER OF SIN because I am dead with Christ! (6:7-10)
"For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over Him. For in that He died, He died unto sin once: but in that He liveth, He liveth unto God."

In summary, YOU MUST NOT continue in sin! Its power over you IS DESTROYED because you are UNITED with Jesus in His DEATH TO SIN and in His burial through baptism. Through His resurrection you are EMPOWERED to walk in newness of life.

Presented in the next issue will be the eight action steps you must take after incorporating these eight biblical facts for your faith into your heart and mind. ■

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

BOLIVIA. Joe Trussell [Church of God (Holiness) Missions] reports that their denominational Bolivian mission endeavor is a great success story. The number of established churches is now at 128, with another 200 or more daughter churches. During his trip to Bolivia last summer, Joe had the honor of speaking at a regional, quarterly convention of 23 churches where 1,200 people were gathered for six hours in one building, worshiping the Lord.



HAITI. Brian and Jamie Rauschenberger continue their work in Haiti, adding to their portfolio of responsibilities a partnership with Lifesong for Orphans and also an exciting new



venture in radio ministry. It is not uncommon at any time of the day to visit a humble Haitian home and find a small battery-operated radio booming news or preaching throughout the local area. Brian has had some experience in getting messages on the radio. His messages are now requested throughout the Haitian countryside, and one of the largest Creole-speaking radio stations that covers Haiti, the Caribbean, and South Florida, has asked permission to air the messages on two hours of prime time programming weekly. Brian's plans are to split this between teaching and evangelistic preaching. Pray that this newly formed radio ministry called FAITH IN FOCUS INTERNATIONAL will reach many...maybe hundreds of thousands of people with the Gospel!

MEXICO. Last summer, David Graf, pastor of the Donna Holiness Chapel in Donna, TX (about eight miles from the Mexican border) started a children's ministry. He purchased an old bus which they use every Saturday to go into colonias (very poor neighborhoods) and invite families to church. On Sunday they pick up children, teens, and sometimes adults, and bring them to the church where they are taught songs, Bible stories, and Scripture memorization. Ninety percent of the population there is Hispanic and many do not speak English. As a result, the services are held primarily in Spanish. They have experienced steady growth since the first service when eight children came. In six months, that number had grown to 60. They are praying and looking for another bus and someone to help drive it. The Grafts may be contacted by email at mrdwgraf@gmail.com.



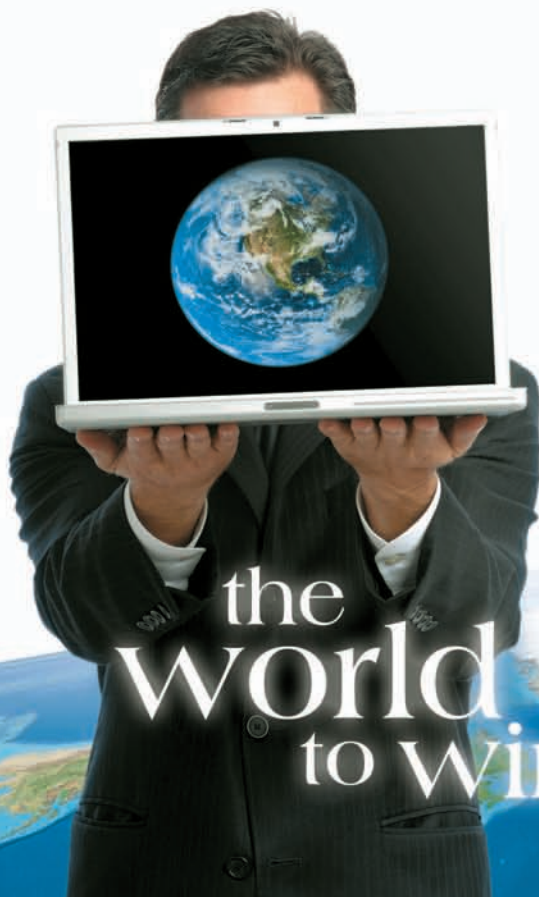
PHILIPPINES. Due to a generous contribution, the diligent efforts of Sarah Hutchison and her student helpers, and the skilled labor of Ronaldo Comilang, the Shepherd College Library is finally near completion and the students can now enjoy an environment much more conducive to learning. In addition, R.G. Hutchison has participated in two brand new Bible Methodist church dedications at Cagayan and Luboong. The Hutchisons are thankful for God's grace upon these pastors and congregations, for the souls who have been brought to Christ, and for the hard work and contributions of so many in the construction phase of the new library.



UGANDA. The Jason Sturtevant Family are thankful for their safe trip to Uganda, where they have moved into temporary housing and are making friends and contacts. At Christmas, they assisted with a party for the elderly. Over 500 came and it was a joy to help serve the meal and join in the celebration. They admit that singing Christmas carols in church while sweating in the heat was a different experience! Pray for the Sturtevants as they settle in and find the right ministries in which to invest time and energy.

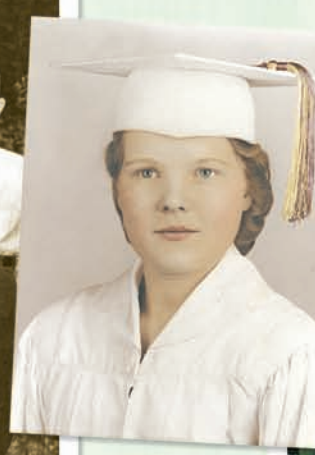


UKRAINE. The little church in the village of Knyazhichi, Ukraine, has been blessed to have a former opera musician who took on the task of training a music group—The Knyazhichi Singers. They are a great blessing as they travel to various churches. They are trying to raise money for a PA system. About \$3,000 is needed. ■



the world to win

©2014 Thinkstock



left: Drs. Connie and Ed Palm. above: The King Family with twin babies Carmie and Connie; above right: Connie's high school graduation photo.

Her father died when she was only eight years old, and her mother

was left to raise her family of ten children alone. Seeing Connie's potential, her beloved uncle, O.L. King, made it possible for her to attend high school at GBS, where

she graduated in 1956. Connie then enrolled in college at GBS the following year, and she earned two bachelor's degrees, a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Theology, graduating with high honors both times. Connie was pursuing her dream—a dream to be a teacher. That dream led her on to graduate school, and over the next 14 years, she earned four master's degrees in education. Her formal educational pursuits culminated in an earned doctorate in education from the University of Cincinnati in 1983.

While at GBS, Connie met Edward Palm, and they fell in love and married. Together, Connie and Ed began to make an impact on their world. For the next few years, they served with the Pilgrim Holiness Church of New York, pastoring several churches. During these years, Connie also taught school. In 1970, the Palms moved to Hobe Sound Bible College and Academy in Florida, where Connie served first as the academy principal and then as chair of the Education Department in the college. Over the next 22 years, she made an indelible mark on the lives of hundreds of students from kindergarten through college. In 1977, the Palms moved back to Cincinnati for several months in order to work on their doctorates. During the 1977-78 school year, GBS was privileged to have Connie Palm "back home" to teach a couple of college classes at her alma mater.

REMEMBERING CONNIE

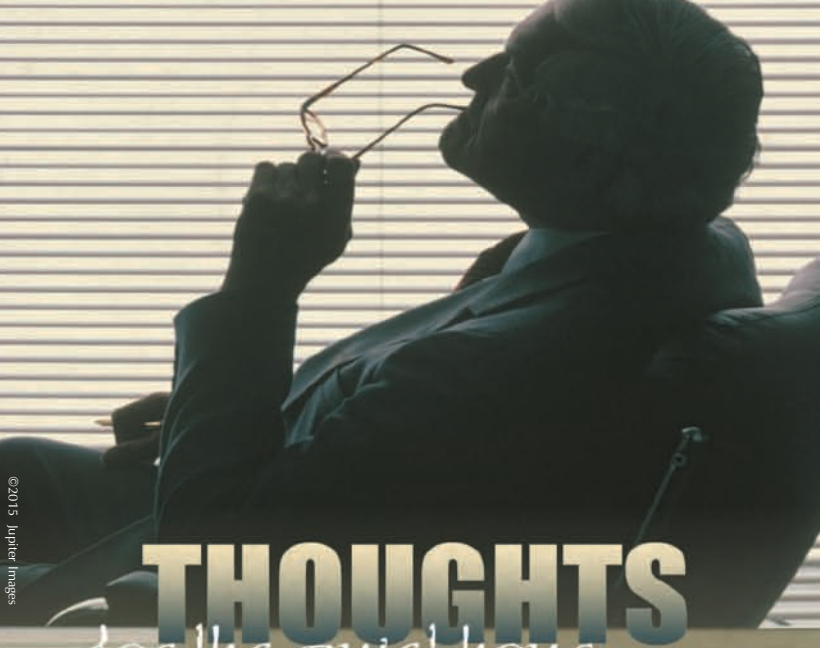
by Marcia Davis

Another member of the GBS family has made it Home. Dr. Connie King Palm passed away unexpectedly on January 3, 2015. Within hours of her passing, tributes and remembrances were pouring in to Facebook from around the world. Her friends and her spiritual children were "rising up and calling her blessed." Connie Palm was a teacher, a mentor, and a friend to many. She was a great lady who devoted her life to God. She pursued a dream. She made an impact. She left a legacy.

Connie's dream led her from the small town of English, Indiana, where she was born on December 27, 1938, to the big city of Cincinnati, Ohio, and far beyond.

she graduated in 1956. Connie then enrolled in college at GBS the following year, and she earned two bachelor's degrees, a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Theology, graduating with high honors both times. Connie was pursuing her dream—a dream to be a teacher. That dream led her on to graduate school, and over the next 14 years, she earned four master's degrees in education. Her formal educational pursuits culminated in an earned doctorate in education from the University of Cincinnati in 1983.

While at GBS, Connie met Edward Palm, and they fell in love and married. Together, Connie and Ed began to make an impact on their world. For the next few years, they served with the Pilgrim Holiness Church of New York, pastoring several churches. During these years, Connie also taught



©2015 Jupiter Images

THOUGHTS

for the quiet hour

by Sonja Vernon

AN EXCELLENT WOMAN

“Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she smiles at the future. She opens her mouth in wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.... ‘Many daughters have done nobly, but you excel them all.’” —Prov. 31:25-26, 29 NASB

Probably no other single person outside my immediate family had as much influence on my early education as Dr. Connie Palm. It started with a reading club for GBS campus kids that met in my parents’ home and continued as I entered the kindergarten where she was principal. She watched closely over my early years in elementary school—always a presence to be respected (and a little feared). I was convinced that she was omnipresent. However, I also remember my surprise and delight when she substituted in one of my classes and I found out that she knew how to make learning extremely fun and engaging. I’ll never forget the elementary chapels when she would dress up with the other teachers and show her flair for comedy—leaving her students breathless with giggles. I was blessed to see firsthand that a godly woman could be amazingly professional, incredibly smart, and lots of fun—all at the same time. I remember her challenges to her students about godliness and influence, her strict dedication to excellence, her life of sacrifice, and her absolute love of good literature. Truly Dr. Palm was clothed with “strength and dignity,” and the “teaching of kindness [was] on her tongue.” Her gifts, talents, and perseverance (even through personal suffering) pointed people to Jesus literally all over the globe. Dr. Palm was indeed an excellent woman. I am determined to follow in her footsteps as she followed after Christ. ■

Sonja Vernon is Dean of Women at God’s Bible School and College.

top: Connie during her GBS days with her Sunday school kids.
 above: The Palms, Whitakers, Lees, and Wingham at Sheng Te Christian College in Taiwan. The Palms spent 10 years in Taiwan.
 right: Connie Palm teaching children in Cameroon, Africa.

the last few months of her life, she published *Stories of the Bible: 101 Bible Stories Every Child Should Know*, printed in Arabic for distribution in Egypt, the Nile River Basin, Syria, and Jordan. Up until the day she died, Dr. Connie Palm was still making an impact on the lives of others.

Connie Palm left a legacy. She left a legacy of love, devotion, passion, excellence, and grace. She was a beautiful lady inside and out. Those who were privileged to know her remember her not only for her great accomplishments on a broad scale, but also for the little ways that she touched their lives and made a difference. Her sunny smile, uplifting words, and genuine concern were used of God to encourage others along the way. She was not only a teacher, a mentor, and a friend, but she was also an inspiration. Dr. Connie Palm lived a life of faith, a life lived for the glory of God. She pursued her dream, she impacted her world, and she left a legacy. “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.” Happy Homegoing, Dr. Connie Palm. ■

SWSE SPRING TOUR

Friday, March 27, 2015

7:00 PM

Bible Holiness Church

1947 W. Barner St.

Frankfort, IN

Rev. David Fry

(765) 654-7901 or (765) 656-9327

Saturday, March 28, 2015

6:00 PM

Mt. Zion Church of God (Holiness)

On campus of Mt. Zion Bible School

Ava, MO

Rev. Robert Thompson, Jr.

(417) 686-0048

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015

10:45 AM

Church of God (Holiness)

305 E. 2nd St.

Fulton, MO

Rev. Travis Sayler

(573) 220-1014

Sunday, March 29, 2015

6:00 PM

Troy Area GBSC Concert

Held at: First Assembly of God

432 S. Lincoln Dr.

Troy, MO

Coordinator: Pastor Gary Jackson

(636) 528-4359 or (580) 763-2934

Monday, March 30, 2015

7:00 PM

Moberly Independent Holiness Church

349 Woodland Ave.

Moberly, MO

Information: Donna Bond

(660) 384-2437

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

7:00 PM CENTRAL TIME

Palestine Pilgrim Holiness Church

Hwy. 33 & SR 1 N

Palestine, IL

Rev. Paul D. Gray

(618) 586-2260 or (618) 553-2260

Wednesday, April 1, 2015

7:00 PM

Bible Holiness Church

2911 E Michigan Road

Shelbyville, IN

Rev. Joe Smith

(317) 398-0499

SYMPHONIC WIND AND STRING ENSEMBLE



God's Bible School & College
Cincinnati, OH