Jacksonville College President Issues Challenge—“Look to Jesus”

By MIKE SMITH, EdD, PhD
President, Jacksonville College

Charles Spurgeon was born of Dutch ancestry in Kelvedon, Essex, England in 1834. His father and grandfather were pastors, and he was raised by a family that strictly adhered to the Scriptures. Despite knowing intellectually that Christ died for our sins, Charles was so aware of his own sins that he could not believe that Christ’s sacrifice applied to him. He believed that his sin was so great against God that he never hoped to have God’s forgiveness.

On January 6, 1850, when Charles was only fifteen years old, God changed his life forever. As young Charles was walking to church, he suddenly found himself in the middle of a snowstorm; and he had to take refuge in a small church along his route. The congregation was sparse, and a lay preacher was filling in for the pastor. His text was Isaiah 45:22: “Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth.” He challenged the congregation to look to Christ alone for salvation. He looked directly at Charles and told him that if he would only look to Jesus, he would be saved. Charles said he had been waiting to do fifty things, but with that one word, “look,” he suddenly understood that by looking to Christ, trusting in Christ, he would be saved. In that moment, he looked to Jesus, and he was saved. Charles kept looking to Jesus and went on to become the most famous preacher of his generation.

As the new president of Jacksonville College, my prayer is that our administration, faculty, staff, students and alumni, will look to Jesus as we work together to foster an environment that will challenge students academically and spiritually. I pray that we submit to God in all things, and that as we look to Him, He will bless the future of our great college.

LOOK at some of the needs of Jacksonville College, and pray about how God would have you become involved.

J BC continued on p. 4

Missionary On the Move

By DR. JOHN LADD
BMAA Medical Missionary to Mexico

You know, Christopher really made some outstanding discoveries on his way to India… too bad he never got there. Where was his first stop (20 points)? What indigenous people greeted him (20 points)? For what country did Christopher claim this new land (20 points)? Who was Toussaint Louverture (20 points)? What is the first black republic in the world (20 points)? Write down your score before continuing!!

In 1492 while sailing under the Spanish flag to India, Senor Columbus landed on the unknown island of Hispanola where he was met by the Arawak Indians. He claimed the land for Spain and the island became known as Haiti, the Arawak name for “Lord of the Mountains.”

When the French defeated the Spanish at the end of the 17th century, France began to exploit Haiti’s riches, mining its gold and shipping its sugarcane and coffee to Europe. The Arawak Indians were enslaved for this purpose and, in a matter of a few years, this indigenous group became extinct; thus the introduction of African slaves. In 1801, Toussaint Louverture led the slaves in revolt against the French landowners. After a bloody, three-year war, the slaves declared their independence and the first black republic was formed. It is said that on Jan. 1, 1804, a pig was sacrificed, Haiti was dedicated to Satan and the Voodoo system of religion was accepted.

Missionary continued on p. 3

Moral Action Executive Director Responds to HBO Boycott

By DR. JOHN ADAMS
Moral Action Executive Director

Fox News has reported that Christian groups are calling for a boycott of HBO after talk show host Bill Maher posted on Twitter obscene comments about Jesus and Tim Tebow, quarterback for the Denver Broncos. Dr. John Adams, executive director of Moral Action, an agency of the Baptist Missionary Association of America, said, “Any boycott of evil communication is good in the sight of God. The post is a despicable affront to the character of Tim Tebow via the evil mouth of Bill Maher.”

The executive director continued, “Bill Maher is an avowed atheist who despises all Christians. He will meet his Maker one day, the One who made heaven and earth.”

Adams reminded believers of their responsibility to pray for Maher’s conversion to Christ.

Concerning quarterback Tim Tebow, Dr. Adams said, “He is a breath of fresh air. May God increase his tribe. The witness of the Lord is enjoyable to hear, especially via national media.” The director concluded, “May we let Tim Tebow know via social media that we are proud of his stance for Christ.”

Tim Tebow
It was Christmas Eve 2011. Shoppers filled the roadways while winding their way to the nearest department stores, malls and shopping centers to make last minute Christmas purchases. Some became angry when they were cut off in traffic. There were those who grew incredibly impatient as it seemed like an eternity would pass before they would arrive at their destination. Others were giddy as they hurried, as quickly as possible, to take advantage of late hour sales.

Christmas was not always so chaotic. On the first Christmas, in a stable, was born a little baby who was the very Author of life – Jesus, the Christ. He had come to set His people free from sin. The Heavenly Host filled the sky praising God as an angel appeared to shepherds in the nearby field, proclaiming the good news of Christ’s birth. The angels were singing and shouting Hallelujahs to the newborn King that first Christmas night.

In the world, there was no calamity that first Christmas. Instead, the earth was filled with a peace like it had not known since before Adam’s fall in the Garden of Eden. So, why on Christmas Eve 2011 was there so much hustle and bustle among the people of our nation? Why weren’t all the citizens of our country singing the Lord’s praises, as did the angels that first Christmas?

 Sadly, the behavior of our citizenry at Christmas was a reflection of what we have allowed America to become – a secular, sinful society. Who would have thought that folks in Athens, Texas would be fighting for the right to display a nativity scene on their courthouse square? Who could have imagined that the governor of Rhode Island would refuse to allow the Christmas tree displayed in his state’s capital to be referred to as a Christmas tree, calling it instead a “holiday tree?” Who could have fathomed that church buildings would be empty across our land on a day when all of them should have been full?

Oh how the angels must have cried when they saw our behavior the night before Christmas 2011 as well as Christmas Day!

My prayer is that 2012 will be the year that we, as believers in America, will humble ourselves, pray, seek God’s face, and turn from our wicked ways. If we will, then we can claim the promise that the Lord will hear our prayers, forgive our sin, and heal our land.

Maybe 2012 will be the year that the Lord’s people demand that Christ be put back into Christmas, that prayer be put back in school, that the Ten Commandments be put back on courthouse walls and nativity scenes be put back on the courthouse square.

Together, we can stop abortion, gay marriages, drug trafficking and other perversions in our country. But the only way these things can be accomplished is if we determine to be a people separated unto Christ. Instead of adapting to worldly behavior, we must once more decide to be the preserving influence.

By the time Christmas 2012 arrives, may the tears of the angels be dried and may their voices ring with praise to the Lord as they pray, seek God’s face, and turn from our wicked ways. If we will, then we can claim the promise that God will hear our prayers, forgive our sin, and heal our land.

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Multiplication Plus
Hebrews 10:25

By LARRY BARKER

The Bible teaches the multiplication of leaders over and over again. It is not what many think though, because it is not about numbers but rather making disciples which involves leading them to Christ, teaching them and reproducing another leader. The last two weeks we have talked about accountability and support in this process. Today our word is encouragement. My goal is to encourage you not just to think about this or talk about it but to implement it into your life. We must be intentionally and strategically multiplying leaders.

Jesus communicated the gospel to all who would listen and several times spoke to thousands but He also worked very closely and intimately with a few. Christ’s overall plan was to invest into a small group of disciples, organize them into a functioning group of disciple makers, and then turn it over to them. The entire plan is as much about multiplying leaders as it is about finding followers. Peter, James, and John knew that for whatever reason, Jesus had chosen to pour even more effort and time into them than He did into the other disciples lives.

It stands to reason that as they observed what Jesus was doing with them that they must have thought, “If Jesus, the Son of God, has three close disciples, I imagine He wants us to do the same.” These men saw a clear strategy by Christ to empower a few who would empower others to change the world. Guess what? It worked! Multiplication stems directly from close relationships between a leader and a few disciples who are directed and trained to become leaders. A part of the great commission is multiplying mission-capable leaders.

Jesus had three He poured Himself into and those three disciples realized that they should invest into three more disciples. This causes me to ask, “Do you have three you have won to Christ, discipled, and are now leading to be leaders themselves?” Another question begging to be asked is, “Do each one of those three disciples have three that they are discipling?” It is not as complicated as we have made it if we are willing to dedicate ourselves to doing what Jesus did. If most churches do not change the way they are presently doing ministry then their churches are doomed to settle for a slow decline and eventual death.

The four gospels spend much more time describing personal discipleship than they do on the times that Jesus was with the crowds. His example of what discipleship really is has turned a noun “disciple” into a verb. His actions have shown us what we need to be doing. Asking God to direct us toward three people that we can lead to Him, teach them what they need to know from the scriptures, and then have them reproduce what has happened in their lives. Repeatedly, Jesus showed the disciples what to do and then would encourage them to, “Go and do thou likewise.”

Allow me now to take the idea of multiplication to the next level. The tools of multiplication in the New Testament are evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. If you ever have the first two without churches then you will quickly see believers becoming consumers and customers instead of disciples on mission. New churches being added to any culture provides an unstoppable force for true transformation. The scriptures are clear; every church has been given the mandate to make disciples of all nations. This is a task that can only be accomplished by also multiplying churches.

Let us encourage one another not to only establish a beachhead in enemy territory by making disciples but also we must control the battlefield by multiplying churches. If we evangelize and disciple and do not plant more churches we have not completed our mission!

Larry Barker is the operations director for North American Missions. For more information or to contact him, visit www.bnaamissions.org.

Missionary continued from p. 1

With a population of approximately 9 million, life expectancy of 47 years for males and 51 for women, adult illiteracy about 90% and average annual income of some $400, Haiti has a right to be known as one of the prohibited, plastic crate about half full of small, discarded boxes.

As soon as I met up with the other team members in Miami, I learned that their five crates had been checked without any problem. (Remember that fact.)

After a short two-hour flight we were in Port-au-Prince International Airport. The airport system of claiming baggage is “unico” — you locate your baggage (which might be in a variety of locations), then head toward the “exit” where an official usually wants to make sure your baggage stub numbers correspond to your bags.

You then keep walking, in hopes the custom agent doesn’t take a liking to you. Everyone was wafting out the front door with no problems until the “other five plastic crates” were spotted by the customs agent. Nothing was said about my contents of the “discarded suitcase.” Since we were so sure we would receive the meds by noon of the second day, we cancelled the morning session; but by afternoon our hopes for success were pretty low, so we found a medicine distribution dealer and bought meds for “tomorrow.” The team was able to serve about 400 patients before returning to the U.S.

Soon after the 2010 earthquake that shook Port-Au-Prince and left hundreds dead and thousands homeless, we made a trip to Haiti. We saw numerous tent cities of “real tents” and other shelters consisting of a few poles with plastic stretched between them that were placed no more than 18” apart and served as homes for the homeless. Drinking water, sewer and sanitation were virtually nonexistent; unemployment and crime reigned supreme.

With these sights still very clearly in mind, I was “almost” sure we would find very few changes on this trip. Much to my surprise, I was mistaken. There are still thousands living in tent cities, but we were told that is because many people from distant mountain villages (where there was no earthquake damage) learned that quarters are given housing. So the population of the tent cities continues to remain high although many of the original citizens have moved into their own small 20’ x 30’ plywood house of one room.

Much of the rubble from the earthquake has been removed and the streets are some better, but the traffic is almost unbelievable — and so are the sanitary conditions. (Speaking of traffic, it would take us 2 ½ to 3 hours to travel from our accommodations at a Mennonite compound to the different clinic locations or church on Sunday — a distance of 15 to 20 miles!)

Two days after returning from Haiti to Tyler, we flew to Mexico City and then bussed to Pachuca for a two day meeting with our Latin American director of missions and the other three American families serving in Mexico. It was a great time of fellowship and sharing.

From Pachuca we rode back to Aquismon, Mexico, with Ricky and Priss Williams (our missionary coworkers) for the last week of clinic before the Christmas holiday break and the annual clinic Christmas supper/gift exchange. (You don’t know what a Christmas party is until you experience one of those!)

After the church Christmas program on Sunday night, early Monday morning we caught another ride with the Williams back to Texas, where we will stay until Jan. 7 when we return to Aquismon for about 10 days of clinic work and the celebration of one of our Mexican granddaughter’s 15th birthday celebration. Known as quinceanos, it is the biggest and most important event next to their wedding in the life of a Latin American young lady.

Then on Jan. 20 we are both off to El Salvador. Such is the life of a missionary!
The story of the Exodus is the central point of all the writings of Moses regarding the Hebrew people. Here a people were liberated from slavery to form a new nation. That doesn’t happen very often. Let us remember some of the highlights of this story.

I see some parallels in this story and the situations with many churches as they call a pastor, build a new structure, plan new outreach, add a staff member, or many other things. Let me share some of those obvious lessons with you. I know an example does not always fit 100% into any application. I am not calling anyone bad to make them like Pharaoh, or trying to tell you who the army is who drowned. I am simply trying to encourage any congregation as they wait on the Lord to move with His people.

1. God does not follow our road map or timetable (Exodus 13:17-18).
   Congregations might feel they have waited long enough, have a better map, or more accurate timetable. God follows His plan and follows it well.

2. God puts us in His best place to accomplish His purpose (Exodus 14:1-4).
   “God where in the world did You find this place? We need to be in that place over there.”

3. God’s people sometimes lose courage (Exodus 14:10-12).
   Yes, in the face of seemingly overwhelming circumstances, all of us are faint of heart. We find the ubiquitous they or them to blame.

4. God’s people need to be still to see God’s miracles (Exodus 14:13-14).
   Most of the time, I feel I need to do something to help God. The best way to let God help me is to be still in His presence.

5. God will arrange and organize His deliverance in an unusual way (Exodus 14:19-20).
   The Hebrew people had no idea what was coming. We in churches cannot imagine the miracle God is preparing in our congregations.

6. God will deliver His people (Exodus 14:21-22).
   Certainly to look back after the water is crossed and the enemy is dead, we can easily say, “I knew it all the time!” It is difficult to say that when the water is to the left and right of you. Nevertheless, we look back in history to have faith in the future of those things we cannot see and rest in assurance God is at work in our church.

Congregations must be still to see the work of God in their midst. Don’t lose courage; don’t be frightened. Don’t get angry at God because He is not doing what we want, when we want it done. Trust Him to lead us to the place we need to go—the best place He has for us.

Dr. Tony Cleaver has served in the U.S. Military, as a pastor, Religion Department Chair at Jacksonville College and as a counselor. Contact him at jstmcleaver@embarqmail.com, 726 Walnut Drive Killeen TX 76549 or 254-618-5998.

Hotel Information for 2012 Baptist Missionary Association of America Annual Meeting April 16-18, 2012 Jackson, Mississippi

The following hotels have agreed to offer group rates to those attending the 2012 BMAA meeting in Jackson, Mississippi April 16-18. The Hilton Garden Inn and Marriott have been designated as primary hotels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Room Rate</th>
<th>Reservation Deadline</th>
<th>for Group Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cabot Lodge</td>
<td>$89</td>
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<tr>
<td>2375 North State Street</td>
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<td>601-948-8650</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hilton Garden Inn</td>
<td>Single &amp; Double-$109</td>
<td>March 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>235 West Capitol Street</td>
<td>Triple-$119</td>
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<td>601-969-8544</td>
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<td>Marriott Downtown</td>
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<td>200 East Amite Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sleep Inn &amp; Suites</td>
<td>Queen Double-$89.99</td>
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<td>Downtown</td>
<td>King Standard- $89.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>209 South Gallatin Street</td>
<td>King Suite-$99.99</td>
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<td>601-896-0390</td>
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To ensure the group rates, please be sure to indicate that you are with the Baptist Missionary Association of America when calling to make your hotel reservations.

Recreational vehicles may be parked in a lot behind the convention center (no hookups). Camp sites with hookups are available at the Mississippi Coliseum (601-961-4000) or at Le Fleurs Bluff (601-987-3923)

BMAA Committee on Arrangements
Charles Attebery
Leon Carmical
James Ray Raines

JBC continued from p. 1

Specific Needs
With 2012 rapidly approaching, Jacksonville College will need financial help in completing a number of projects, including the following:

1. Installing a Texas mandated crisis alert system (new phone system)
2. Purchasing new white boards for the classrooms
3. Building new dorms and classrooms
4. Renovating present buildings
5. Installing new flooring in the Meadows Building
6. Purchasing a student information system (computer programming)
7. Upgrading computers

Make checks payable to Jacksonville College Projects, and mail to:
Jacksonville College
105 B. J. Albritton Dr.
Jacksonville, TX 75766
A Dozen Things To Do In 2012

1. Hug more than ever before. Try to increase the amount of affection you give to those around you. We live in an ever increasing cold and uncaring world. We need to not only tell people that we love them, we need to show them. For some of you this will be a real challenge. But everyone can do it. Hug someone each day who means something to you.

2. Witness to someone. They may not accept Jesus as their savior, but you have to try. It is a command from God. We are to tell others who Jesus is, and that they need him. When was the last time you worked at leading someone to their savior, but you have to try. It is a command from God.

3. Encourage others. 1 Thess. 5:11. No matter how much you encourage others, set out in 2012 to encourage all those around you. Start at home and spread outwardly. Smiles, handshakes, hugs, visits, and most importantly some encouraging words. Build others up.

4. Let go of your anger. Set as a goal to not get angry over something at least once a week. It is simply a choice. It is something that you do actually get mad about, but instead of responding how you always have in the past with anger, you choose to withdraw and walk away. A soft answer turns away wrath. Being slow to anger is the best way to be. Pray for them. Bless them. And walk away. You will find out that you can in fact control your anger. It is a choice. I will choose one thing each week to not go to world war III over. And keep growing from there.

5. Forgive someone this year. You will never have total healing until you practice forgiveness. Forgiveness is for you, not them. You can ask for it, text it, mail it or keep it in your heart privately but still give it to God. It frees you up. And we are required to do this one also. You will be happier and free of torment when you practice forgiveness.

6. Visit an older person. Have as a resolution to visit an elderly person on a regular basis throughout 2012. It doesn’t have to be weekly, although that would be amazing. Even just once a month would help end one of the cruelest realities in human existence- loneliness. It can be a relative or a total stranger in an apt or nursing home. It could be a shut in from your church. Drop by and say hi to a dear older person.

7. Mentor a young person. On a monthly basis, find one or two young people that you can mentor. Pass on wisdom. Encourage. Do something with them. Older women and men are to teach the younger ones about life. Pray and pick out a kid at your church and just make it a point to go up and speak something nice to them each week. Add a smile.

8. Personal growth spiritually. Many people set goals of growing intellectually by learning something new. Set a goal to do something that causes you to grow spiritually anew. Study something different. Go somewhere. Increase your meditation and devotion time. You can’t go wrong when you grow right. Seek God for guidance.

9. Get a ministry. We all are suppose to serve Jesus by serving others. Find somewhere to serve others at least once a month. Be committed and do this. Don’t neglect the work.

10. Testify. At least once a week, tell someone somewhere, how God has been good to you. Not just at church, tell a neighbor or co-worker. Make it a weekly habit to share that our God is good all the time. It increases our joy and encourages others to seek Him.

11. Laugh more. This will be hard. But enjoy life more with your family. Spend more time with them. Don’t be so serious all the time. Look for things to laugh about. It is good medicine according to scripture. Focus on people and love and laughter this year.

12. PTO. Personal Time Off. It is not selfish. It is self preservation. Once a day come apart, or you will fall apart. Build in a daily habit of relaxing, restoring and being quiet. If you do these 12 things, you will have a great 2012. Now go make a great year for the glory of the Lord for He is worthy to be praised.

Dr. Travis Plumlee is a full-time professional speaker and leads Family Ark Ministries. He is national board certified as a therapist/specialist in various areas of human behavior. For more information or to contact him, visit www.travisplumlee.com.

By DR. TRAVIS PLUMLEE
New Year Challenges

By JERRY BURNAMAN
Executive Director, State Missions

The old year is passing and enormous challenges wait for us during 2012. As church leaders do you want to limp through the coming year or have a basic plan for self-improvement and then influence those around you to seek the next level of maturity?

I think we all want advance in self-improvement as we seek God’s will and guidance for our lives. Here are some thoughts that are helpful to me and may be helpful to you.

1. Continue the Learning Process. Regardless of your role in life, it is necessary to continue learning. It is said that knowledge in all the world doubles every five years or less. Therefore, we have a great deal of knowledge to sort out and apply to daily living. Here are some guidelines:
   - Read the Bible every day, then study it thoroughly in order to be a workman that is not ashamed.
   - Work on a new procedure of some kind—perhaps a new computer program that will enhance your ministry or profession.
   - Read widely—books on theology, the economy, leadership articles, current events, and the list is endless.
   - If you are a little ambitious about leadership, go to www.achieveglobal.com and read the study about Developing the 21st Century Leader. It will challenge you and stretch your mind.

2. Work Smart. It is dangerous to think that if we just work harder then we can accomplish much more. With a mountain of work to do and the vast increase of knowledge, plus all the demands on ministry, then our time is valuable and it is necessary to use it wisely.
   - Keep a daily To Do List, with the things that I must do and the things that I may do. Some days we can only do one or two major projects, thus it is very important to plan and work smart.
   - Check your email messages periodically and don’t let them control your time. Recently I was away from my email messages for one week and discovered how few of them were necessary for a response. A good suggestion is to check your emails about every 90 minutes and this will give you time to concentrate on more important matters.

3. Plan Your Work and Work Your Plan. This is an idea that has been around for a long time but remains good advice.
   - Using your calendar and notepad, plan generally for a year.
   - Plan a little more specific for six months.
   - For three months you can be more specific.
   - Then be very specific every week and every month.

4. Value People. Our ministries involve people and by valuing them, we will influence them with the Gospel and inspire them to seek Christ for salvation, and then live a righteous life.
   - Encourage those around you to grow spiritually and increase in their leadership ability.
   - Listen to others, they may have ideas about people and ministry than you first thought.
   - Learn how to connect with people in the church and in the community.

These are just four simple ideas for a starting point. Be creative about your own individual spiritual growth and develop a plan for progress. Always be available to encourage the leaders you work with to grow to the next level.

My wish for you is to have a Happy New Year, and face the challenges with faith and optimism.
You Are Invited To Attend the 27th Annual Northeast Texas Pastors, Laymen and Wives Conference

Calvary Baptist Church
Mt. Pleasant, Texas
February 6-7, 2012

*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*
Philippians 4:13

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**Monday, February 6, 2012**
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. - Register
1:00 p.m. - Sing and Welcome
1:35 p.m. - Jeff Julian
2:10 p.m. - Sing
2:25 p.m. - Tommy Oglesby
3:10 p.m. - Break-Coffee-Fellowship
4:00 p.m. - Sing
4:25 p.m. - Marty Claiborne
5:00 p.m. - Break for FISH FRY
6:30 p.m. Sing
6:45 p.m. - Sing
6:55 p.m. - Robbie Caldwell
7:30 p.m. - Sing
8:00 p.m. - Jerry Fulton
8:30 p.m. - Dismissal

**Tuesday, February 7, 2012**
7:15 a.m. - Breakfast at Church
8:30 a.m. - Sing-Scripture-Prayer
8:30 a.m. - Ladies Meeting
8:45 a.m. - Men's Share Time
9:45 a.m. - Break
10:00 a.m. - Sing
10:10 a.m. - Bill Whitaker
10:35 a.m. - Sing
10:45 a.m. - Jay Miller
11:00 a.m. - Sing
11:10 a.m. - Steve Minter
11:35 a.m. - Dismissal

Ladies Meeting Speaker: Cathy McClung
Music will be led by Chris Reese

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**Lodging Listings**

Below you will find a listing of hotels/motels which we feel that we can recommend to you:

- Hampton Inn and Suites                  903-572-7100        $79.00 + tax
  Contact: Katie
  2504 W Ferguson Rd

- Holiday Inn Express                      903-577-3800        $89.00 + tax
  Contact: Marybelle
  2306 Greenhill Rd. (I-30, exit 62)

- LaQuinta Inn and Suites                  903-572-5514        $69.00 + tax
  Contact: Courtney
  1620 Rotan Ave.

Please call soon to reserve your room. Also please mention Calvary Baptist Church and Northeast Texas Pastors Conference when you call and ask for your contact person.

Calvary Baptist Church is located at 2202 N. Edwards St. in Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455. If you need help with directions you may e-mail Betty Reese - betty.reese46@yahoo.com or call the church at 903-572-7677 or call our pastor, Bro. Charles Newman, at 903-573-3700.

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East Texas Mission District

**Called Business Meeting**
January 12, 2012
7:00 PM
ABS on TJC Campus

Churches of the Cherokee, Smith, Van Zant, Wood counties are urged to have a representative present at this meeting.

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**Enon Baptist Church**

Plans 40th Anniversary for Pastor

East Texas Mission District

**Called Business Meeting**
January 12, 2012
7:00 PM
ABS on TJC Campus

Churches of the Cherokee, Smith, Van Zant, Wood counties are urged to have a representative present at this meeting.

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Everyone is invited to Enon Missionary Baptist Church on Jan. 8, 2012 to help us celebrate the fortieth anniversary of Dr. Ray Thompson and wife, Maeva, as pastor of Enon. To be our pastor for 40 years is such a milestone and we praise the Lord for them and want them to know how much we love and appreciate them.

The special day will begin with the morning service at 11 a.m., followed by a lunch in their honor. Special singing will begin at 1:30 p.m. with the celebration beginning at 2 p.m. There will be several guest speakers with Bro Fred Morrow bringing the afternoon message. A reception will follow.

Everyone is encouraged to attend this very special event, as we Praise the Lord for His man that has answered the call to this church for 40 years. Enon is located 6 miles NW of Gilmer at the corner of FM 852 and FM 556. For more information, you may contact Bro. Randy Stracener at 903-762-6338 or Bro. Doyle Woodlief at 903-725-3098.
Happy New Year From Texas WMA Officers

By SHARON COLE
Editor, Texas WMA

The year 2012 is here. My how time flies when you’re busy serving the Lord through WMA! Your state WMA officers are already planning each of their office goals. Alicia Johnson, second vice president, has announced the theme for the year, “Soldiers of the Lord,” using Ephesians 6:11–14-18. Paula Dossor, project promoter, will be promoting the new project, 90% “River of Blessings Ministry,” the Amazon Bible Institute in Bolivia; 10% Youth Fund.

The institute is in need of beds, bedding, dining area furniture, cooking utensils and operation costs as well as improvements on the boat to upgrade equipment. Everyone begin praying and thinking now of how we can help this missions project.

After the Thanksgiving and Christmas season many people are stressed mentally, physically and financially. When all of these areas are included, you can be sure that spiritual health is affected as well. You have to ask yourself these questions: “Was all that I did necessary?” Who was I trying to impress, friends, family, co-workers?”

While there is nothing wrong with giving and doing your best, you can sometimes become overwhelmed with all the trappings of the holidays and put on the back burner the most important one of all — God. Some have a “perfectionist personality” that drives one to have everything perfect and in order. There must be a happy medium of what has to be done and what can be left undone. When you stretch your body to the limit, neglecting nourishment and rest, it rebels leaving you tired, cranky and unfulfilled.

You must take care of the body God has given you. It is the temple of the Holy Spirit and it needs kept in good working and thinking order to accomplish the tasks God has given you to do for Him. You must eat and exercise properly and develop a consistent sleep pattern.

To nurture your spiritual health, start each day with prayer and quiet time with the Lord. Take a small New Testament or devotional book with you to read when standing in line at a store. Even wearing a Christian T-shirt can spark interest in someone nearby and can lead to conversation about your faith in Christ. Do not try to do all your planned tasks yourself.

Learn to delegate and give others a chance to use their talents and be a blessing to you. The best stress buster you can have is God’s joy! He gives us His strength so we can serve Him and minister to others. Read a portion of Psalms and Proverbs everyday. We must seek and receive the joy of the Lord day by day. God tells us that “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.”

If you have God’s joy in your heart, it should show in your face. Frowning takes a lot of energy and uses 72 muscles. Smiling only takes 14! You cannot store up real God-given joy. It has to be shared. This is how we will win the lost to Christ.

One of the greatest testimonies we have is the joy of the Lord. Someone said, “Happiness comes and goes with circumstances, but real joy and contentment comes from a relationship with God.” This could be called the miracle medicine and is of far greater value than gold. If you knew the cure for a dreaded disease, would you not share it? The joy of the Lord is there not only to strengthen us spiritually, but it is also transferred to us physically because it gives a totally different outlook on life. It will make people ask, “What is the reason for the hope that is within you?”

Life is meaningless without joy and is only found in Jesus. Why not start this New Year with joy! God does not reveal the future. It is lived one day at a time and is filled with great anticipation. We will be making resolutions, making plans and meeting demands that will change and challenge us.

The Apostle Paul knew about change and challenge, opposition and persecution. But he faced it all with joy knowing what was waiting for him when his struggles were over. He had a sense of duty and determination understanding his destiny. He believed what he wrote in 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 -- “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

A Formula for a Happy New Year

H — Humble and Meek: “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God that He may exalt you in due time.” (1 Peter 5:6)

A—Abounding in Love: “And this I pray, that your love may abound more in knowledge and in all judgment” (Philippians 1:9).

P—Prayerful: “Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6).

C—Putting Christ First: “That in all things he might have the preeminence” (Colossians 1:18).

Y—Yielding to God: “Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin; but yield yourselves unto God” (Romans 6:13).

N—Never Failing in Faith: “Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench the fiery darts of the wicked” (Ephesians 6:16).

E—Established in God’s Word: “I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up” (Acts 20:32).

W—Winning Souls: “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he that winneth souls is wise” (Proverbs 11:30).


N—Never Failing in Faith: “Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another” (Romans 14:19).

A—Abiding in Christ: “I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit” (John 15:5).


Sharon Cole is the editor for the Texas WMA. Contact her at S9CO@aol.com. For more information on the Texas WMA, visit www.texaswma.com.
Heath Mitchell to be Ordained

Walnut Street, Winnsboro invites all ordained men and friends of Heath Mitchell to attend his ordination service on Jan. 22, 2012 at 3 p.m. He has been called as the pastor of Myrtle Springs, Quitman and would be encouraged by your attendance if possible.
Jesus reached out in love to Zacchaeus on right where the sinner is. He walked right up to the very point in mentioning this detail. The only way ZacchaeusJesus was a very good person. And he did it relatively well, better than most. He was not explain himself, He just went. He cared about reach a lasting world, about what was most important, about transparent, loving, real religion – not external way to keep every detail of the law of Moses, which was the supreme council, and tribunal of the religious office. Nicodemus was somebody rather special in Jewish society. He was a Pharisee, the aristocracy of Jerusalem. The name Pharisee means “the separated one,” and the Pharisees were those who had separated themselves from all ordinary life in order to keep every detail of the law of Moses, as worked out over the centuries by the scribes. Their goal in life was the formal observance of religion, not a spiritual walk with God, but a holier-than-thou attitude. Nicodemus was a member of the Sanhedrin, which was the supreme council, and tribunal of the Jews headed by a High Priest. The Sanhedrin had jurisdiction over all religious, civil and criminal matters pertaining to the Jewish citizenry. Nicodemus needed a radical change to come into his life, and that change was Jesus. What matters for eternity is not your religion but your relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ. "He must be born again". Gary House is the writer of the Sunday school lessons for Baptist Progress. He serves as pastor of Tundra Baptist Church in Canton. Contact him at Tundraparson@aol.com.
Run for Their Lives 5K

Where family is created.

In 2008, over 84,610 abortions occurred in Texas alone, but Adoption Services of Texas Baptist Home for Children exists to protect the sanctity of human life and to promote the preservation of the family through adoption. Our purpose is to find forever homes for the more than 6,000 waiting Texas kids in care and to facilitate prevention and rehabilitative services for children, adults, and families through Post Adoption Services. The aim of these programs is to enable our agency, local churches, and the community to meet the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs of individuals and families.

Search and Assistance services for adult adoptees and birth family members
Copies of adoption records for adoptee upon request

Medicaid and Subsidy assistance
Individual, group, and family counseling
Counseling/Therapy for birth parents
Parental Education and Support
A doption A lumni A ssociation support and annual events.
Psychological Testing
Respite Care

Post Adoption Services Provided:

ADOP TION SERVICES BY TBH

629 Farley Street
Waxahachie, TX 75165
Phone: 972-937-1321
Fax: 972-937-9510
mbaldwin@tbhc.org

When?
January 21, 2011
Registration 8:00 AM
Run Start Time 9:00 AM
Walk Start Time 9:15 AM

Where?
Getzendaner Memorial Park
300 South Grand Ave.
Waxahachie, TX 75165

How?
Get Sponsors: Raise minimum of $100 to enter and also receive a FREE t-shirt!
Register by Jan 9: $30 plus a $5 t-shirt. After Jan 9, t-shirt is $15.
Additional T-shirts: $15 ea.
Kids 12 and under walk free!

Please call or email Megan Baldwin at 972-937-1321 or mbaldwin@tbhc.org to request a registration form or visit www.tbhc.org.

Want to Advertise Your Business?
For $25 your business or organization will have the opportunity to set up a booth during the event to advertise your services! Contact Megan for more details.