

# The Missouri Missionary Baptist

*"Holding Forth The Word of Life"*

*Philippians 2:16*

Volume LXXVI

St. Louis, MO • April 9, 2013

Issue No. 4

## Camp Garwood News

*From Bro. Chris*

I would like to thank everyone who came to the paintball retreat. It was a little cool for those not playing. But the guys, and gals running through the woods seemed to enjoy it. There were 40-50 present with around 30? playing. I didn't get a good count.

We've begun work on a few things preparing for camp. There will be plenty to do as we get closer to camp. Take time now to schedule a weekend to come help. It's not about the work as much as enjoying time at your camping facilities. Thanks to all of you who do help every year.

The theme "Heroes of the Faith" from Hebrews 11:36 spans the centuries from Creation to present. Who has been an encouragement to you and why? Tell us their story, and how they have pointed you to Jesus.

Remember to pray for camp. It's not too soon, the ones preparing camp need safety, wisdom and patience. The speaker and teachers need wisdom and insight. The facilities themselves need protection from vandals and nature. And most importantly the lost campers need seeds to be planted now to be reaped the week of camp.

Give me a call to schedule your church a weekend at Garwood. Remember these dates:

- July 12-13 GMA Retreat
- July 19-20 Prep Camp Weekend
- July 29 - August 2 Camp Week**

*Chris Polk 573-380-1975*

### Revival Ohlman Baptist Church Bunker, MO

**May 15-17 • 7:00 p.m.**

*Evangelist • Leon Harvey*

*Special Music  
each evening*

*If you can, come!  
If you can't come,  
PRAY!!*

### Ordination

*Bates Creek Missionary Baptist Church  
Potosi, Missouri,*

**Invites**

*Ordained Preachers and Deacons  
to assist in ordaining*

**Bro. Michael Huddleston**  
*to the Ministry*

*(He will be serving as pastor at Antioch, Ellington)*

**Saturday, May 11, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.**

## Lincoln's E-mail

Travel back in time to 1861. You are a dinner guest of President Abraham Lincoln. After the main course, President Lincoln asks you to describe how people communicate in the future. You decide to tell him about email, but how? He has never seen a computer, clicked a mouse, or opened a web browser. Email is a completely abstract idea to him.

You decide to compare email to something with which he is familiar. You begin by saying, "Email is similar to receiving a letter." That's a good start. Now, how do you explain the fact that it is delivered via computer? Once again, you reach for the familiar: "Email is delivered through an information box. Almost everyone in the future has an information box, and they are able to send messages back and forth on them." While President Lincoln may not completely understand, this information should at least give him a vague picture of electronic media in the future.

In contrast, imagine if you said, "Email is accessible on mobile devices, laptops and PCs. Messages are received through web browsers or software applications." Although everything stated would be true, it wouldn't communicate your message effectively.

Now, consider telling a new believer with no church background, "Christ's substitutionary atonement propitiates the wrath incurred by your transgressions and secures your sanctification." You might as well be explaining spam filters to President Lincoln!

Sharing new information with someone who does not share your foundation of knowledge is difficult, if not impossible. Even God demonstrates this principle in his revelation to humans.

When our Heavenly Father first communicated with man, He referenced familiar objects of his creation that surrounded Adam and Eve in the garden. God placed Adam in the context of fruit-bearing trees and then told Adam to "Be fruitful and multiply." He set him in the middle of a blossoming garden and said, "Fill the earth." He

*Youth Black Lite*

**{EXIT 109}**

**[The Easter Story]**

**Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church**  
(2001 Ables Road • Sikeston, MO • Phone 573-471-7687)

**Saturday, April 13, 2013**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Chili & Hot Dog Dinner**

**4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Donations & Love Offering**

**Proceeds Go To**

**Camp Garwood**

\*\*\*\*\*

**You Will Receive A Blessing!**

**BMA of Missouri**

**Semi-annual Meeting**

**May 18, 2013 • 9:00 a.m.**

**Bethel Baptist Church • Sikeston, MO**

surrounded him with living animals and said, "Have dominion" over them. Everything He said to them was based upon the familiar (Genesis 1:28).

Further, the first pronouncement of the gospel does not use the term Messiah, because that concept had not entered human understanding at that time, nor had the ideas of a prophet, priest or king. However, in Genesis 3, God once again used what was familiar to announce something new: "...I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15). The concepts of offspring, heads and heels were familiar to Adam and Eve. That is why God used them to communicate.

Throughout the chronological history of Scripture, God began with what was known in order to communicate what was unknown. As the amount of known information increased, man's capacity to learn unknowns also in-

• See E-MAIL Page 4 •

**BMA of Missouri**

**Missions Symposium**

**May 17, 2013 • 6:00 p.m.**

**Bethel Baptist Church • Sikeston, MO**

Our special speakers for the evening will be Doyle and Linda Moore, who have served in the Philippines for over 37 years. We will also hear from one of newest church planters, John Beinlien, who serves the deaf community at Master's Hand Church in Swartz Creek, MI. Recipient of our Mission Symposium offering to be announced.

*Are You*

**DEWing it?**

**Give a Dollar Every Week  
to Camp Garwood!**

**There is still time to get  
involved.**

# +++ NEWS BRIEFS +++

**Bates Creek, Potosi,** sends Spring greetings to all. The WMA ladies have been busy with a new ministry called Blanket Blessings. The ministry is designed to be an outreach to the community through blankets made by Bates Creek WMA ladies and given to babies or small children in need or in times of trouble such as an ER visit. Our youth group took a trip to the Family Fun Center. It is reported that the "older" sponsors had as much fun as the kids. Bro. David sure throws a mean bowling ball. A good time of fellowship was had by all. In May, we invite you to join us on Saturday the 11th for the ordination of Bro. Michael Huddleston. Bro. Michael will be ordained at 2 p.m. that day. Please be in prayer for the service and for Bro. Michael as he begins his ministry at Antioch.

J.C. Huddleston, pastor  
Sara Buckley, church reporter

**Emmanuel, Sikeston,** sends Easter Greetings. Sunday, March 10, the church surprised Bro. Jason after the evening message by singing "Happy Birthday" and announcing there would be refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. His actual birthday was Tuesday March 12th, and he was blessed to preach that evening, a revival message at Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church. Kewanee's week of revival featured different speakers each night from the SEMO District Association of the BMA of Missouri. Death has taken two precious members from our membership. Sis. Anna Lou Freeman, 67, passed away at her residence, March 12. Two sons and a daughter-in-law, and three grandchildren survive with numerous other relatives. She was a shining light with a joyous personality. The funeral service was held on March 15th, at the Nunnelee Funeral Chapel in Sikeston with Bro. Billy Davis officiating. Burial followed in Jarrett Cemetery, Mayard,

AR. She will truly be missed. Bro. Harrison Waltrip, 93, was called home to Heaven March 20th, at Missouri Delta Medical Center, Sikeston. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Maxine, of the home, a son and daughter-in-law, two grandchildren, one great grandchild, two sisters, and several other relatives. He was a faithful dedicated church member. He had suffered from ill health for some time. Our loss is Heaven's gain. His funeral was held March 24th, at Nunnelee Funeral Chapel, Sikeston, with Bro. Billy Davis officiating. Burial followed in the Garden of Memories Cemetery, Sikeston. "The Easter Story," a Youth Black Lite Program will be presented at Emmanuel, Saturday, April 13, 6:30 P.M. Chili and hot dogs will be served from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Donations and love offering proceeds will go to CAMP GARWOOD. We hope and pray for a good attendance.

Jason Redden, Pastor  
Vi Maclin, Reporter

**Charity, Bismarck,** sends Spring Greetings your way! We praise God for the blessings He provides to serve Him freely in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the world as we heard from Kwabena Emmanuel at Temple, in Belgrade last month. We praise God for the blessings He provides through our pastor and the Bible teachers in our church, Bro. Price, Bro. Travis, Bro. Melvin, and faithful Sunday School teachers to the youth. We praise God for the blessings He provides through fellowship in the host church and our sister churches as we enjoyed the State WMA at Lower Doe Run, the District WMA at Zion, the Ordination of Brian Buckley at Bates Creek, and the message of Jesus through Bro. Brakefield at Charity. We praise God for the blessings He provides through the local WMA and her Auxiliaries, the GMAs and Sunbeams.

We praise God for the blessings He provides through Missions to win and disciple souls and plant churches throughout the world. Doyle and Linda Moore, missionaries in the Philippines since 1976, will, on April 7th at 5 p.m., present the work and needs of the BMA Bible College and the outreach of her graduates throughout the Philippines and beyond.  
Lee Miller, Pastor  
Carolyn Meade, Reporter

**Ozark Heights, Potosi,** sends "Greetings" to one and all! We were so thankful to have Bro. Danny Kirk join us as we celebrated World Missions Sunday the first Sunday in March. We also had the Harper Family provide a wonderful evening of gospel music that Sunday night; what an amazing day in the Lord! The month of March sure played havoc with our members. We were planning to have a fundraiser pie auction and supper Sunday evening March 24th but those plans were rained, snowed and blown away with the weather. Our scheduled Talent Night/pie supper was canceled just like our Church services that day. We are rescheduling our fund-raiser; Pie auction/Pie supper for April 28th following our Talent Night service. Come join us for some great fun. We are still enjoying great services from the pulpit, Bro. Brian does not give up; as he keeps us busy with Bible study and many programs and plans from month to month. We held Good Friday Services March 29th with Sis. Loretta, Sis. Connie and Sis. Dawn singing beautiful songs; along with two wonderful poems read by Sis. Jamie Courtway. She is very talented, in putting her words on paper! God has worked wonders for our church. We have a whole new look on the outside and we invite our friends to come and enjoy our services if you do not have a church home. Bro. Gary and Sis. Debbie have been gone due to the passing of a good friend. We will be

glad to have them back. Bro. Floyd Lawson is now at Potosi Manor receiving therapy so he can return home. Our prayers and love goes out to him every day. Sis Sharon and Bro. Floyd were blessed Friday with a new grandson. We have been told baby and mother (Michelle) are doing fine. Until next month, may God Bless one and all.  
Brian Meade, Pastor  
Georgie Brokaw, Reporter

**Friendship, Harviell,** Greet you in the Name of the Lord. We are behind with news.



*Pastor Ernie Cate baptizing Bro. Larry Armes*

January 4th, Bro. Ernie and Sis. Becky got a new granddaughter, AnnaBelle Elizabeth Leigh Griffin. And she is precious. (Just ask them.) Parents are Brooke and Dalton Griffin. In February we hosted District WMA meeting with the program being "Love Stories from the Bible." March 7th we enjoyed an evening of bluegrass music by The Harper Family.

They were such a blessing. The Lord has blessed us with the salvation and baptism of Larry Armes, the husband of one of our members. We are having visitors in our services. Praise The Lord! God is good!  
Ernie Cate, Pastor

**Bethlehem, Doniphan,** sends "Greetings" in the Name of the Lord! March has been a very blessed month at Bethlehem! We have spent the biggest part of the month on studies of Hell. Even our guest speaker, Bro. Larry Edwards, brought us a message on Hell. But thanks be to Jesus we won't be spending any part of Eternity there! The 5th Sunday Associational meeting brought this past weekend was so enjoyable. We heard three excellent messages from Bro. Dale Fish, Bro. Dennis Leonard and Bro. Matt Johnson. The messages were on the subject of the Past, the Present and the Future. This month has been a busy month for us with the Easter play practice and planning our Vacation Bible School. We are so excited about what Jesus is going to do with us this next year. The children have been studying their lines as well as some of the adults. Plus the children in the choir and adults have been practicing their songs all month too. By the time this is printed

• Continued on Page 4 •

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# STATE MISSIONS

## SEND MISSIONS OFFERINGS TO:

**Danny Kirk**  
BMA of Missouri Missions  
920 Lindsay Lane  
Florissant, MO 63031  
(314)265-6265 Cell • (314)837-8321 home  
E-mail: danny@youneedcoaching.com

## CONTACT BRO. JONES AT:

410 Donegal Dr.  
Smithville, MO 64089  
816-866-4646 home • 573-631-6274 cell  
E-mail: pastorjamiejones@gmail.com

## SEND REVOLVING LOAN FUND OFFERINGS TO:

**David Griggs, Treasurer**  
405 Hoffmeister Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63125  
Phone 314-631-2213  
e-mail david92951@aol.com

BMA of Missouri Website: [www.bmamiissouri.org](http://www.bmamiissouri.org)

## FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • March 2013

### General Fund:

Balance February 28, 2013		\$	38,513.12
March Receipts:	\$ 3,721.56	\$	3,721.56
Total Available		\$	42,234.68
Disbursements:			
Director's Salary	\$ 900.00		
Partnership support J. Jones	\$ 1,500.00		
Director's Expenses	\$ 553.76		
Postage	\$ 92.00		
Church Planting Training	\$ 31.00		
Bank Fees	\$ 3.00		
Office Supplies	\$ 14.99		
Total Disbursements	\$ 3,094.75	\$	3,094.75
Balance March 30, 2013:		\$	39,139.93
Savings:			
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 67,122.63		
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 22,993.90		
ING Direct Savings	\$ 11,149.01		
Total in CD's:	\$ 101,265.54		

### From Director Kirk...

The other day I was in a conversation with a church planting strategist when he asked me a question about the number of churches we were planting in Missouri. I explained our past efforts, failures, and successes. His next question was this: "What do you need from the BMA of Missouri to start another church plant this year?" I had to pause for a couple of minutes and think about that question before I could answer. I responded with the following 3 needs:

1. I need a church planter and his family whom the association could recommend and approve of their election. I think it would really be great if we could raise-up a planter from our own BMA of Missouri "family." They would already know the culture, the demographics, and the needs of our state. Less time would be needed for them to immerse themselves into the culture and community of the "Show-Me State."

2. I need 3 to 4 churches

who would serve as "partner churches" to the new plant. Of course we need a "Mother Church" or "Sponsor Church," but we also need the extended family to come along side of and help with the initial start up efforts and costs. Partner churches might provide people, funds, equipment, prayers, mission teams, etc. The more involved in the process the greater the momentum and growth.

3. I need our churches to increase their missions giving. I have heard the argument that if we had more church plants going, then our churches would rise to the challenge and increase their giving. I don't believe that is the reason for decreased giving. I do believe that many of our churches are in a "survival mode," rather than a "let's expand the Kingdom mode." When churches begin to feel a financial crunch, the first thing that is cut out of the budget is mission giving. I would be hard-pressed to favorably explain that line of

reasoning to the Lord (2 Cor. 8:1-5). We need more money to support planters!

As your state director of missions, I have prepared myself to assess, train, and coach church planters. It is my part-time job within the BMA of America missions department to do these things all across the world. I am ready and willing to do the same here in our state, but I need your help. If the above three things could happen, then we could get started with one more church plant this year.

Please pray with me to this end. •

## Another Shipment of Shepherd Bags Headed to Honduras

by Fonda Norris • Evangelistic International Ministries  
Shepherd Bags Coordinator

Well you've helped us do it again! God kept providing the means through all of our supporters and partners who want to see the Gospel of Jesus Christ go into Honduras. In January, we were able to ship 18,598 Shepherd Bags that will be taken into the schools and villages of Honduras to be used as a tool to share Jesus with children, teachers, administrators, parents

• See BAGS Page 6 •



The Youth at North Lake who did the service project

### From Missionary Jones...

Dear Friends,

God has been blessing North Lake. This last Wednesday night, during one of our LifeGroup meetings, I noticed that 7 out of the 12 people who sat in my living-room were new believers. He has plans for all 12, but it was neat to recognize those 7. Seeing how God has used them over the past couple of years has been enjoyable. We are looking forward to adding to that number of new believers in the near future.

My new associate missionary, Jared Kathcart led a successful "Disciple Now" weekend this last month. Our youth partnered with another church to complete a service project for a daycare in town. They painted, rearranged an office space, and studied Romans 12:1. We are seeing some new teens and ask that you pray for the salvation and discipleship of these young people.

This past Sunday we cele-

brated Easter. Our attendance was up, as we were blessed with 10 guests. The service was lively and smiles were adorning the faces of people who experienced some great worship through music, preaching, and fellowship. We worshiped a King who is alive!

Thank you to all who keep up with us, pray for us, and support us. We are blessed! We would like to ask that you diligently pray for us over the next six months. God is moving us forward toward His vision for North Lake and we have set several goals.

- Please pray that God would use us in His process of saving souls here in Smithville.

- Please pray for spiritual passion to increase among our people.

- Please pray for our Sunday morning worship gatherings to increase in attendance and fellowship.

Thank you and God Bless!  
Jamie Jones



The Congregation at North Lake Mission

• **NEWS From Page 2** •  
 the play will have been over and so we hope that several of our sister churches came and enjoyed our efforts. Easter morning God blessed us with the presence of some of our out of state members. J.R. & Jeanine Colburn joined us from Wisconsin, as well as Sam & Pan Colburn from Memphis, TN. It was a true joy hearing all the Colburn families join together in singing specials for us on Sunday morning. We also had several other specials for the Easter morning service. Then to top off the Easter service we had a gentleman to come forth and give his life to Jesus. We are so blessed to have another brother in Christ. Welcome to the Lords family, Bro. Leon Peeler! If you have been keeping up with our news in this paper you will recall just a couple of months ago where we had two young ladies baptized, Molly Wheeler and Makayla Peeler. Makayla came to the church with the outreach of Vacation Bible School and has faithfully been coming and being a part of us. Bro. Leon Peeler is Makaylas' Father. It is truly a blessing to watch God work in these children's lives. Until next month, God bless everyone in the Missionary Baptist Association.

Russell Chitwood, Pastor  
 Yvonne Hill, Reporter

**Oak Hill, Alton,** sends Easter Greetings. We experienced a joyous and meaningful time Easter Sunday. Our youth with their leaders and a couple of parents presented the Easter story in such a clear and effective way. A few Sundays ago, the Harper family shared the gospel in word and song with us. Last weekend the Lewis Family from Doniphan were a part of revival services at a neighboring church and two souls were saved. These families and their love of sharing the Word and singing about Jesus is wonderful and so very evident. The men at Oak Hill held a breakfast recently but I have no news to report except that they had a good time. We

have added an extra fish fry date to our calendar which is coming up soon. Our men have set aside one evening each month to visit families in our church area.

Edward Casey, Pastor  
 Marianne Hufstедler, Reporter

**Kewanee, Kewanee,** Praises the Lord. Prayers have been answered and we are reaping the benefits of revival. We had several give their testimony and rededicate their life to the Lord, and several have come forward to join the church. We welcome Sherry Brown, Kyle and Jerica Branum, Angie Williams and her daughter, Gracie. Kyle was baptized along with Levi Sutton, March 17th. We are planning another baptism soon. Bro. Joey and Sis. Jenni Duckworth came forward and joined. It is great to have them back with us. We really have missed them. Congratulations to Kyle and Ashley Denton and family on the birth of their daughter, Kwynn McKenna Denton. I know Sis. Kim Jones is one proud grandmother. The men had a good time of fellowship and enjoyed a men's breakfast on March 9th. The church held a community Easter egg hunt March 30th. We had a great turn out and the Easter bunny even showed up. Lunch was served at noon and Bro. Dan presented an Easter message to the children. Our Easter musical/play "It Is Finished" was presented Friday night March 29 and again Easter Sunday morning. It was such a blessing. We had a packed house for both performances. There were many that were touched by the message that was presented. God's spirit was moving. The play cast members along with my fellow choir members did an awesome job. The play cast members had a lot of speaking parts to memorize and they did great. Thanks to Sis. Pam Wisely, program director and Sis. Lisa Cox, choir director on a job well done. Thanks to Randy Fowler, sound and audio. Mary Alice Higgerson, costume seamstress and those who donated props for the set and many

others that helped out. Everyone worked together and we give God all the honor and Glory and thank Him for His Amazing Grace. The Circle of Friends started meeting together and knitting blankets to be given to the residents in the nursing homes.

The youth have decided to have a silent auction for their first fund-raiser of the year, April 28th at 1:00 p.m. It will take place in the church shed. There will be a variety of things to be auctioned off, along with baked goods. Kewanee is sponsoring a Sunday school campaign "Let's Go Fishing" in April. Whoever brings the most visitors to Sunday school each week during the month of April will win a prize. The important thing is to go fishing and bring them in so they can learn and hear the word of God being taught. "And He said unto them, Follow me and I will make you fishers of men" Matthew 4:19

Dan Wisely, Pastor  
 Rhonda Bickerstaff, Reporter

**Bethany, St. Louis,** welcomes Spring! Greetings and blessings to all in His name. We responded well to the request for a special offering for World Wide Missions and are using the prayer calendars that were provided. Our boys went to the Spring paintball Retreat at Camp Garwood and had good fun and fellowship. Our GMA's had a beautiful coronation service. Congratulations to our girls who have worked hard on their "steps". The weather caused the GMA's to postpone their spaghetti dinner fund-raiser until April 14th. They are holding a garage sale on May 4th. Easter Sunday brought us a beautiful morning service and a great Talent Time in the evening. Thanks to our Music Director and his Assistant for all they do, and for all who share their talents. We ask special blessings on the marriage of Pvt. Jake Eye and Dawn Bowdish. A shower was given for them this past month even though Jake was absent on military duty. We are looking forward to the State GMA Sleep Over

## ***BMA Life To Live-Stream BMA National Meeting***

Portions of the 2013 BMAA National Meeting will be streamed live from Norman, Oklahoma, courtesy of the BMA Life Production Team. "This will be the first time in the history of the BMA that people from around the world will be able to join us "live" at our national meeting," according to Lifeword's Communication Engineer, Phillip Rice.

### **Sessions streamed live will include:**

Monday, April 22, 7:00 p.m. -

#### **First General Session**

Featuring the Jacksonville College Choir and a message by BMA President, Ed Stephenson

Tuesday, April 23, 7:00 p.m. -

#### **Third General Session**

Featuring Missionary Charles Costa and a message by DiscipleGuide Executive Director Scott Attebery

Wednesday, April 24, 7:00 p.m. -

#### **Sixth General Session**

Featuring Missionary Jeff Franks, A look into the world of BMA Missions, and the commissioning of new BMA missionary families

To view the live broadcast of the BMAA National Meeting go to [www.bmalife.com/tv](http://www.bmalife.com/tv). BMA Life.com is the new website launched by the BMA Production Team where people can view all the latest news from the BMA around the world. Reports from BMA Missionaries from around the globe, news from Lifeword Media Ministries, reports from DiscipleGuide Church Resources, including live broadcasts from many DiscipleGuide conferences, as well as updates from BMA Seminary are broadcast daily.

### **• EMAIL From Page 1 •**

created. Later in Scripture, through visions, dreams, talking donkeys and other means, God continued to use familiar imagery and information to introduce new ideas.

The next time we are trying to pour spiritual concepts into a new believer, attempting to share the gospel with our children, or counseling the hurting, we should take a cue from Scripture and utilize the known to communicate the unknown. Here's a few ideas to help:

- Use concrete illustrations from real life like Jesus did.
- Start with basic Bible truths and build on them.
- Spend time with people allowing them to see truth lived out in your life.
- Define new terms using familiar terms. :

#### ***Scott Attebery, Executive Director DiscipleGuide***

and Meeting; the Men's Retreat at Camp Garwood; the State Missions Symposium and Mid-year meeting at Bethel; The National and State GMA Retreats, and the State Camp the end of July. We are thankful that the Lord is blessing many with a return to health, and pray for those still in need.  
 James Hoffmann, Pastor  
 Carol McDonald, Reporter

[scott@discipleguide.org](mailto:scott@discipleguide.org),  
 Facebook: Scott Attebery,  
 Twitter @scottattebery

***God is like  
 oxygen. You  
 can't see Him,  
 but you can't  
 live without  
 Him!***

## John the Baptist: Disciple Maker

by Scott Attebery, Executive Director DiscipleGuide  
scott@discipleguide.org • Facebook: Scott Attebery  
Twitter @scottattebery

A great example of how human discipleship should work is provided in the story of John the Baptist. Several of the apostles were first disciples of John, who, in the words of Isaiah, came as a forerunner to Jesus, the voice of one calling in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord" (John 1:23).

Scripture describes two kinds of discipleship: Discipleship between believers (Colossians 1:28) and discipleship between a believer and Christ (Ephesians 5:27). John the Baptist demonstrated how the former is a means to support the latter.

In John 1:29-42, John the Baptist identifies Jesus as the Messiah to his disciples. In verse 35, it becomes apparent that John and his disciples were together day after day as he baptized those who were coming. Discipleship is built on relationships. Paul describes this kind of strategic relationship when he instructs the Corinthians to "Imitate me as I imitate Christ," (I Corinthians 11:1) and when he writes, "To Timothy, my true child in the faith..." (I Timothy 1:2).

Disciple-makers can start the process of helping another believer mature by having an open door policy for the disciple to spend time at their home in unplanned moments, whether watching television, eating dinner, shopping or coaching little league. Use every opportunity to point them to Jesus.

In verse 36, John does exactly this. The day after he identifies Jesus as the Messiah to his disciples, he points them to Christ again, saying, "Look, the Lamb of God!" The two disciples who were with him immediately became followers of Christ.

Human discipleship should always point disciples to divine discipleship in Christ. Opportunities to point a disciple to Jesus can arise through acts of sacrificial love for friends (John 15:13), assisting a needy person (Matthew 25:40), or the disciple-maker's treatment of his own wife (as Christ loved the Church and gave himself up for her).

Finally, John released his disciples to grow in Christ. He didn't mind them leaving to follow Jesus, although others complained about it. In John 3:29-30, he compares himself to a friend who attends the bridegroom and states his attitude: "He must increase; I must decrease." That is the attitude of a biblical disciple-maker.

Disciple-makers are temporary, like a scaffold, and Christ is the structure. All disciple-makers should ask themselves this question: "Is my discipleship causing my disciple to depend more upon me or upon Christ?" Potted plants will eventually outgrow their pot and die if they aren't replanted into something bigger. Plant them in Christ and encourage them to nurture other seedlings.

John the Baptist understood this model of discipleship, and so he provided an excellent example of how a human disciple-maker can present their disciple "mature in Christ" and prepared for more learning under the Master.

### Prepare To Meet Thy God

"Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD, O Israel." Amos 4:12.

"Therefore be ye ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matthew 24:44.

These verse remind us that we need to be prepared to face the future for in the future we will face God! What a prospect!

When will we meet God? How much longer do we have? It is necessary to be prepared today? Why can't I wait until tomorrow? These questions and others that are similar are important because of the following facts:

1. We have no guarantee that we will live to a certain age.

## A Lesson Worth Learning!

A psychologist walked around a room while teaching stress management to an audience. As she raised a glass of water, everyone expected they'd be asked the "half empty or half full" questions. Instead, with a smile on her face, she inquired: "How heavy is this glass of water?"

Answers called out ranged from 8 ounces to 20 ounces.

She replied, "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute, it's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my arm. If I hold it for a day, my arm will feel numb and paralyzed. In each case, the weight of the glass doesn't change, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes."

She continued, "The stresses and worries in life are like that glass of water. Think about them for a while and nothing happens. Think about them a bit longer and they begin to hurt. And if you think about them all day long, you will feel paralyzed -- incapable of doing anything..."

It's important to remember to let go of your stresses. AS early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them through the evening and into the night. Remember to put the glass down.

There is no way of knowing how much time we have left, therefore we need to make preparations TODAY!

2. We know the Lord is coming back, but we do not know when He is coming. It could be today or tomorrow, or quite some time in the future, and because we do not know the "when" we should make preparations "now!"

3. We may continue living a long time, but our mind or capability of making rational decisions could deteriorate suddenly because of a stroke, an accident, or other factor that will leave us without the ability to make preparations.

## Moral Action

an Agency of the Baptist Missionary Association of America

Dr. John M. Adams • Executive Director  
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### Morally, We "Must" Not Compromise

Compromise might be appropriate in Washington, D.C. politics, but not in Christian morality. Paul said in Philippians 4:12, "I am instructed..." God never changes, so His word implies, "I'm not going to change when the road gets rough, and I'm not going to change when it is a smooth road. Good or bad, I'm in it until the end!"

We MUST stand our ground in our twenty-first (21st) century. Christian morality is still as pertinent today as it was in Bible times. America MUST turn back to God. Change MUST come from the inside out.

### Getting A New Vision

The 61st National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 2, 2013. This is a day that we call on all people in the United States to pray for our nation and its leaders. The NDP's Motto is: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord," Psalms 33:12. Go to the website at: [www.nationaldayofprayer.org](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org) and order literature now for your congregations. Get involved.

Pray for Ms. Adams and I as we participate in the Watchmen On The Wall Conference, in Washington, D.C. in May, 2013. We request special prayer as we take the "Prayer Walk in the Halls of Congress."

Get a vision with us! Consider contributing to this agency during our July "Freedom Offering." Since July 4, 2013, will occur on a Thursday, consider your donations on Sunday, June 30 or Sunday, July 7, 2013. Large or small donations will be appreciated.

### Sounding A New Voice

We were privileged to participate in several "God and Country" rallies around our BMA states. In 2012-13, I spoke in Alabama, Missouri, Kentucky, Florida, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Michigan and Texas. Feel free to contact me and, if possible, schedule a one night associational or church rally for your area. 662-231-3863.

### Showing A New Video

Appreciation is expressed to Lifeword Directors, Dr. Steve Crawley, Bro. Donny Parrish and the Production Crew for a job well done in the production of a five minute promotional video for this agency. Thanks to Pastors Vernon Lee of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, TX and Collin Jones of Fairview Baptist Church, Blytheville, AR. The video was mailed to all churches in March, 2013. We ask for this video to be presented to your congregation, WMA and Brotherhoods.

### Respect for our 2013 Moralism Award

Your Moral Action Director and our nine (9) trustees voted unanimously to present to the late Dr. Roy McLaughlin and his wife, Neva, our 2013 "Moralism Award." Ms. Adams and I traveled to Swartz Creek, MI and presented this award to Ms. Neva McLaughlin and posthumously to Dr. Roy McLaughlin. Their contributions to this ministry are innumerable. Thanks to Pastor Chris Yeager and the Cornerstone Baptist Church for their graciousness.

### Moral Action Suggestions:

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Contact us at using the information in the heading of this column.

God loves us and gives us opportunities to be prepared to meet Him, but we must accept Him for ourselves to be ready when He calls us to meet Him.

Are you ready. Turn to Jesus TODAY!

and villagers.

There really isn't a way to describe how we've seen God work over and over when we go into an area and pass out the bags. I never cease to be amazed when you stand up in front of a group and share the simple plan of salvation to see God convict people and break them to accept salvation from the youngest child to the oldest adults that gather around.

Here's one example: When our Shepherd Bags team was in Honduras in February, a young man named Roberto was our contact for the week and was the administrator in charge of taking us to each of the schools in that municipality. When Bro. Rocky shared the Gospel with the students at the very first school, Roberto accepted Christ! EIM gave him a Bible, and he counseled with Bro. Rocky all week. He has since communicated with Bro. Rocky several times since we got home and told him that he had been reading his Bible and was now reading it to his wife and daughter and would be looking for an evangelical church. He was saved on Tuesday morning. By Thursday afternoon at our last school, before he introduced EIM, he just kept speaking. Since I do not understand Spanish, I did not understand the significance of what he was saying. Manuel Lepe, our EIM Honduran Director, came over to me with surprise on his face and said, "He is preaching to the people and even the teachers are surprised." I believe God got a hold of him, don't you? That shows me that God can melt the heart of anyone, even if you are speaking to children. That's the power of the Gospel! Let me tell you, little one gallon zip loc bags filled with a few items to bless a child, are being used as a mighty powerful tool to open doors and hearts.

What we are currently doing. We are working on a shipment to Ghana, West Africa. As of now we have over 9,000 boxed toward our goal of 15,000 to ship by June. When we finish, we will start back up again working on another shipment for Honduras. I always remind people, the Shepherd Bags Ministry is not a seasonal ministry. We operate twelve months a year. As long as we have funds, we buy supplies and put bags together. God has blessed us repeatedly with funds that arrive just as we're running out. I think He definitely doesn't want us rusting out! This is definitely NOT a complaint, but a Joy!!

Spring is here and summer is fast approaching which is our busiest time of the year. If anyone is interested in learning more about the Shepherd Bags Ministry give us a call or you



*Some children receiving the Shepherd Bags*

can go to our website at [www.eimworldwide.org](http://www.eimworldwide.org). Go to the Shepherd Bags link and you can find out how to help in this amazing God ordained ministry. Also if your church would be interested in sending a team to Honduras to pass out Shepherd Bags go on our website and look at our 2013 schedule and note the dates that we have set for our Shepherd Bags Teams and see if one of the dates works for you. If not, give us a call and we might be able to work out a different date. Those that have gone have expressed how it has changed their lives and their

## *Family Ark Ministries*

Travis Plumlee, Director  
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WebSite: [travisplumlee.com](http://travisplumlee.com)

### *You Are Going To Get Through This*

I went to Jerusalem. Jerusalem is a busy, active metropolitan area. There is a certain section of the city, that if you get off a city bus and walk a few feet away from all the traffic; you will find a large rock cliff. And at the bottom of this rock cliff, there is a hole cut out of the side of the cliff. It was originally made as a tomb for the burial of Joseph of Arimathea. However, he gave up his tomb so that Jesus could be buried there.

I impatiently waited in line for my turn to walk into the tomb where Jesus was buried. While I knew the truth- that Jesus would not still be laying there- it was an emotional and compelling event in my life. You walk into a burial tomb, and see the place that looks like a bed made out of a rock; where the deceased was laid to rest. And it was no surprise - it was empty. But my spirit was stirring, my heart was pounding, my breath was taken away as I looked and saw nothing! The tomb was empty. Nothing to see. Well, praise God! He truly is risen indeed! I didn't need to see the empty tomb to believe. I already had a risen savior in my heart. But it was still an amazing thing to physically, with your own eyes, behold. He is not here. He is risen and is in heaven.

What ever you are going through in life: you are going to get through it. You are not going to quit. You are not going to give up. Christ did not give up on you. He hung in there on that cross for you because He loves you. You love Him, so you can't give up either. And because of Christ, God will give you all the power, and strength, and grace to get through the things that try and upset the applecart of life. God is our deliverer. He delivered Christ from death. Now that you have Christ in you; God will deliver you from death, and any circumstance you face in life. No matter what this life throws at you; you have the victory.

You did not get this victory over everything in life because you are so smart. Nor did you get it because you are better looking, or richer, or more clever. You did not gain the power to overcome your circumstances because you live more righteously than others. You didn't do anything. It is because Christ did it for you. He gave you the victory. He was the righteous one. He was the beautiful one. He was the wise one. And He gave you all that He has, because he loved you. He could have found a 1,000 reasons to come down off that cross. But He found one reason that compelled Him to stay. YOU!

Every time for the rest of your life, that you start feeling sorry for yourself; just stop it. You have the power that raised Jesus from death. That power is indwelling you. It doesn't visit you on occasion. That power never leaves. It is the power of God that came to you at salvation. When you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ; you are saved. Acts 16:31 At that moment, you have the victory. You have the power. You have the strength. You have the glory of heaven in you. He is the hope of glory. He is Jesus Christ. Colossians 1:27

view of missions.

We've said many times and will continue to do so because we can never say it enough. We can't do it without the Lord's blessings and without you, our partners and supporters. Thank you always seems inadequate. But we know that you are not doing it for our sake but because you have a heart for children around the world. Please keep EIM in your prayers. As Bro. Rocky says, "Time is running out and what we do, we must do quickly."

Now that you are saved, you are not moving towards a future victory. You have the victory already. In this life you will simply be moving from victory unto victory. Until every foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed. Because of Christ in you, you will not quit. You will not give up. You will not surrender. You will not flinch in the face of your adversaries. You will not be envious of those that prosper, but who live wickedly. You will not fear the travailing of this planet. You know with blessed assurance who is in control. It sure isn't Washington D.C. All power and all authority have been given to Jesus Christ. And He is living in you. He could choose to live anywhere in the universe, and He chose to live in your heart.

We all have bad days. We all get poor sometimes. We all get a sad phone call. We get our feelings hurt or crushed from time to time. There are days when you don't feel physically like getting up anymore. You may even emotionally think - what's the point. The point is Jesus. That is why you are going to get up, hold your head up, pray up, reach up, dress up, lift up, stand up and while you are at it - tell Satan to shut up!! Jesus stood up for you.

Remind yourself of these facts when you want to just give up on bad days. 1. God is all powerful. 2. God gave all power and authority to Jesus. 3. You have that power and authority available to use every day in Jesus name. II Timothy 1:7 4. Everything this world can come at you with; Jesus has already overcome. John 16:33. 5. Be happy and of good cheer. You have the victory. 6. Every problem you face - you are coming at it from a position of victory. Romans 8:37. 7. Nothing can defeat you. Not even death. 8. No weapon formed against you shall prevail. Isaiah 54:17. 9. Nothing can separate you from the love of God. Romans 8:38,39. 10. Jesus will

• See *ARK* Page 7 •

**Brothers....** Dealing with men's issues  
and Promoting the Fellowship & Growth  
of Men in the BMA of Missouri

**God Is In Control**

Romans 8:28

by Dennis Baker, Brotherhood President

Every believer facing tragedy, injustice, suffering, or pain has found comfort in this phrase, "God is in control." How many of us when faced with uncertainty concerning the future because of job loss, health issues, or loss due to death have found consolation knowing "God is control?" When the believer faces problems that seem to have no resolution he can be confident that "God is in Control?" The text could be called the "God is in Control" verse. Romans 8:28, And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

We know refers to a common knowledge that only the Holy Spirit can make real in the believer's heart. God's control extends to all matters both good and bad. In all things, God is in control. All things include good and bad; bright and dark; sweet and bitter; easy and hard; happy and sad; prosperity and poverty; health and sickness; calm and storm; comfort and suffering; life and death. God will take care of you when your heart is sad. When dangers attack your path. When you are in need He will provide. God will take care of you through every day. In all things, God is in control.

The believer is in the hands of a good, wise, and powerful God who will accomplish his purposes in the world. All things are working for good, which means that God is in control working His plan. There are no accidents with God. Joseph's life was filled with betrayal, disappointments, and suffering yet God used all of these factors for good. Genesis 50:19-20, And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. God is in control of every situation of the believer's life.

The believer must be careful not to identify too quickly and easily the good with what is pleasant and comfortable. The good in the text is associated with God's purpose. God wants to conform his children to the image of His son. Being conformed to the Son's image sometimes involves suffering trials and enduring discipline. Those who love God are those who are called by God. Our love is our response to the work of the Holy Spirit in us. We are called according to His purpose. God does everything, including redemption, in order to accomplish His plan.

God has given an invitation for all to be saved but only those who accept the invitation are called. The lost are lost because they want it that way. God is not forcing anyone to be lost. They are lost because they have chosen to be lost.

Because of knowledge that only the Holy Spirit can make real in the believer's heart the believer can know that God's control extends to all matters both good and bad. God is personally concerned about each and every one of His children. God wants to conform his children to the image of His son. Being conformed to the Son's image sometimes involves suffering trials and enduring discipline. The believer by faith knows that God is going to make things work out for good because He is in control. God has given an invitation for all to be saved but only those who accept the invitation are called.

• ARK From Page 6 •

never leave you- even in the hard times. Hebrews 13:5. Jesus will never give up on you. Don't you ever give up in this life because of Him. Because He lives. Because there is an empty tomb over there in Jerusalem. Hallelujah to the Lamb of God.

**2nd Annual Men's Spring Retreat**

**Camp Garwood**

Located between Piedmont and Ellington MO-Piedmont and Van Buren, MO.

**Friday, May 3 and Saturday May 4, 2013**

**Starting Times:**

Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Morning 7:30 a.m.

**Program:**

**The Need of Salvation**

Why do Men Need Salvation?

Daniel Burgess-First Baptist, Potosi, MO

Why Good Works will not Save.

Bradley Evans-Stony Point, Mineral Point, MO

What is God's Provision for Salvation?

Lucas Polk-First Baptist, Matthews, MO

**Activities:**

Skit Shooting, Turkey Shoot, and Rafting  
(for the younger boys - BB Target Shooting)

**Questions:**

Contact the following for more information:

Dennis Baker 636-461-1625,

dbaker3485@charter.net

James Hoffmann 314-429-0714,

jmhoff@charter.net

Claude Evans 573-562-7036,

cbe34@earthlink.net

To assure plenty of food will be available please contact one of the men above by April 29, 2013 to register.

**Resurrection Hope**

**I Corinthians 1:17-20**

Jason was hit with the worst news of his young life. The doctor told his family the diagnosis was exactly as they had feared: Jason had terminal cancer. Jason and his family did the natural thing. They immediately began asking about possible treatments leading to a cure. Even though the doctor did not give them any hope, they wanted to believe that somehow, there had to be some drug or treatment that would work. As long as some hope is possible, people can endure almost anything. Hope gives hope.

Jason was not even thirteen. He was never going to know what it would be like to be a teenager. He had plans and dreams for high school, college, and though he had not spent much time thinking about marriage at his age, he had hoped to one day get married. Now there was no hope. The doctor said that in Jason's advanced state, nothing could be done. No hope!

The apostle Paul stated, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." Even someone serving a prison sentence of 20 years has the hope of being released one day. Someone with a physical disability still has life and the ability to contribute to society and the Lord's work. There is usually hope even when it seems hopeless.

Jason's family had never been much for church. No one in his family had accepted Christ, including Jason. Now, because of their desire for hope, they began to turn to the only hope, Jesus. While the family was fighting resentment and the big "why" question, a pastor was able to show their need to stop looking for a cure and look to Jesus. Jason's parents were thinking that as long as there was life in Jason's body, there was hope. They finally came to the realization that there is hope in Jesus, with or without physical life.

Jason trusted Christ as his savior, accepted his condition and died peacefully six weeks later. His family came to know Christ and received peace knowing they would one day see Jason again. With the promise of the resurrection, there is hope!

**Joseph Harris • via Dose of Reality • Number 300**

**Food For Thought...**

Please Note: "Food For Thought" articles have been submitted by the author for print, but do not necessarily express the opinion of the editor or the BMA of Missouri. Reasonable replies or rebuttals of articles in this section will be considered for future publication when submitted with the writer's name and the name of the church to which they belong and will be printed with the article.

In response to the "Food For Thought" article in the March issue entitled "Committed To One" the following was received for our consideration.

**The Husband of  
One Wife**

**I Timothy 3:2**

By Craig A. Thurman, Pastor  
Hidden Hills Sovereign Grace Baptist Church  
HC 89 Box 1420  
Willow, AK 99688  
907-495-8647

Does this text teach us that the pastors of the churches of our Lord Jesus Christ may have only one wife for their lifetime or be rejected from the pastoral office, or does it teach that they can continue serving as pastors just as long as they only have one wife at a time?

The must be requisites that are binding upon both the pastor and deacon (I Timothy 3:1-13) are characteristics that must continue with them in their office so long as they are recognized as such by the church. For an example, we notice that one of the requisites for pastors and deacons, before being appointed to this service, is that they have children. (I Timothy 3:4, 5) Pastor's and deacons must have children in order to prove their ability to appropriately guide and care for their own houses. It is through this biblical mandate that the church may examine a man's suitability for the pastoral office. This God-called man shall prove himself to the congregation, in this point as well as all the other points, before being appointed as their servant. However, at any time that a servant of the Lord's church becomes slack in his duties and fails to maintain those necessary requisites he disqualifies himself and is subject to removal from this office by the church if he cannot

• See ONE Page 8 •

## AVAILABLE PREACHERS

The following names are listed as a service to our churches in keeping you informed as to preachers that are available. The publishing of a preacher's availability for preaching appointments or pastoral work should not be considered as a recommendation by the *Missouri Missionary Baptist*. Names are published at the request of the individual and will be published in three consecutive issues unless the editor is otherwise instructed.

**Billy Davis**, a member of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Sikeston, is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-48-9652 (home) or 573-521-8028 (cell) after 4:00 p.m. -01-

**Caleb Houston**, youth pastor of Kewanee Baptist Church, is available for weekend youth events, pulpit supply, and preaching appointments as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-521-7826 or [calebhouston@yahoo.com](mailto:calebhouston@yahoo.com). -01-

**Troy Sisk**, a member of Bethel Baptist Church in Sikeston, is available for pulpit supply as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-421-2396 -01-

**Danny Kirk**, Director of Missions for the BMA of Missouri and former pastor of Lindsay Lane Baptist Church, Florissant, MO is available for pulpit supply. Contact him by e-mail: [danny@youneedcoaching.com](mailto:danny@youneedcoaching.com) or by calling 314-265-6265. -01-

**Lesley Cantrell**, a member of Bethel Baptist Church, Sikeston, is available for pulpit supply. Contact him at 573-258-9135. -3-

**Perrin Seay**, a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church, St. Louis, is available for pulpit supply and pastoral service as God leads. Contact him at 4115 Passport Lane, Oakville, MO 63129 or by calling 314-402-0906. -3-

### Wanted:

**Men, women and young people who have a desire to give of themselves to do whatever possible to further the cause of Christ. Apply at your local Church and be ready to stay until the Lord comes! Rewards are GREAT!**

marries may continue in their office. Just as the widow may continue in the service and support of the church just so long as she does not remarry, so it would appear true for the pastor/deacon. These men continue with the credential of having had only one wife, though parted by death, just as they have continued with the credential of having raised faithful children, though his children may not be under the jurisdiction of his rule anymore.

(Exodus 21:10, a master taking another wife; Leviticus 21:7 Old Testament priests not to marry a whore, profane woman, or divorced; Leviticus 21:13 high priest can only marry a virgin of his own people: **no widow**, divorced, profane, or harlot: in reality this probably means

one wife for life.)

Many of us might not know this. The true definition of monogamy is this, and as we have shown from the Scriptures, this is a biblical definition a well:

Oxford English Dictionary

Monogamy: 1. The practice or principle of marrying **only once**, or of not remarrying after the death of the first spouse: opposed to digamy

Digamy: 1. Digamous condition or state; second marriage; re-marriage after the death of the first spouse.

Dear saints of God, we do not write these things to cause division or offense, but in the interest of truth and for the name of Jesus Christ we need to consider what the Word of God states. God give us wisdom as we seek to know His will in all things.

• **ONE From Page 7** •  
not reconcile his life with the standards set for him in God's Holy Word. A pastor or deacon who becomes greedy of gain, argumentative, or rude should be considered unfit for their office.

Concerning the topic of what the Scripture means when it refers to the pastors and deacons having one wife there are two Scriptures that need to be considered together. They are I Timothy 3:2 and 5:9.

I Timothy 3:2 *"A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife..."*

I Timothy 5:9 *"Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man."*

To be clear from the outset, we should know that both of these phrases are essentially the same in the Greek. The husband of one wife equals the wife of one man. Whatever is the force of the one phrase is the same that is stated in the other. Husband and man are translated from the Greek word *a]nhr* (anEr). Wife and woman (woman is not in our text) are translated from the Greek word *gunh* (gunE). So that we can say these things: the husband of one wife is the man of one woman and that the wife of one man is the same as the woman of one husband. By comparing these two verses we learn that the pastor, deacon, and the widow are allowed to have one mate. The pastor and deacons are to be a one woman man and the widow indeed is to have been a one man woman. When a man or a woman has a mate that has died (for that is the only consideration here that seems to carry some kind of doubt in the minds of some men; especially raised in our commentaries) and then remarries they no longer qualify, in the case of the man, as a man that is the husband of one wife or the husband of one woman, and in the case of the woman, as a wife of one man or wife of one husband. Historically, he has become husband of two women or she has become

wife of two husbands. He has had two separate women during his lifetime; she has had two separate men during her lifetime, even though they were parted from their mates through death. For example, the widow indeed is required to have been the wife of one man in her 'not less than' 60 year life-span. (I Timothy 5:9) If she has had any other man she is disqualified from this special service and care that the Lord provides for her by the church.

Should she remarry after she has been received into this service she is disqualified on two counts: 1. By marriage she now belongs to the care and order of her new husband's stewardship, not the church's, and 2. She has now become the woman or wife of two men, husbands, in her lifetime.

We need to consider these other Scriptures with regards to marrying again. For the partner who has lost a mate through death we know that the Scriptures do not condemn remarriage.

Romans 7:2-3. *"For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man."*

Clearly the woman whose husband has died is freed to marry again, only in the Lord. (I Corinthians 7:39) But we need to notice that the next husband is called another man. She has become the wife of another man. She is no longer the wife of one man, but of another man, which is at least a second man. This is her second husband.

There are other verses which speak of having more than one mate: John 4:16-18, *"Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband (a]nhr, anEr), and come hither. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said*

*unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly."*

Whether she was divorced or whether she had lost her husbands in death isn't necessary for us to know, but the point is that she had been the wife of, not one man, but five men, or five different husbands. We should point out here that these were one man at a time. The notion of a pastor having other wives but that they are only one wife at a time is inconsistent with the meaning of Scripture. This really becomes clear in the following comments.

In Luke 20:28-33, though wicked men were tempting the Lord by a show of their keen, natural intellect there is a truth here nonetheless.

*"Saying, Master, Moses wrote unto us, If any man's brother die, having a wife, and he die without children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. There were therefore seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and died without children. And the second took her to wife, and he died childless. And the third took her; and in like manner the seven also: and they left no children, and died. Last of all the woman died also. Therefore in the resurrection whose wife of them is she? for seven had her to wife."*

The truth of the Scripture is that this woman had been the wife to seven husbands, all one at a time.

The wording of our text in I Timothy 3:2 and 5:9, the husband of one wife and the wife of one man means exactly what it says: that these persons are to be one man and one woman, married for life, if they are appointed for this special service and care of the church. Even if we don't understand why, at least we should understand that this is the Lord's sole prerogative to require it in this manner.

Finally, it is my opinion, based on the Scripture of I Timothy 5:9 that the pastor/deacon, if suffering the loss of their mate, who never re-