

# GOD'S REVIVALIST

October 2021

*Bible Advocate*



GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL  
& COLLEGE  
100 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-4001

**Katherine Arthur**  
Vernon Scholarship  
Rev. Robert and Bonnie Thompson  
Scholarship  
Missie Ruth Walbrown Memorial Scholarship



# thinking out loud

## QUITTING vs FINISHING

When I stepped out of academic administration, I did not see this as “quitting,” but as “finishing.” Let me describe how I view those two terms. Quitting has a connotation of abrupt cessation. This often, but not always, happens at an inopportune time.

Of course, quitting sinful acts, bad habits, and inappropriate behavior is always a good thing. Do it quickly and with finality. However, many of the normal processes of our daily lives do not fall into these categories.

When my father was a student at GBS, he had a job at a sign-painting company. He was responsible for spraying a base coat of paint on pieces of metal of various sizes—rather mundane work. One day, after completing all of his tasks, he decided to take a look at other parts of the operation. To his shock, he saw that a number of the completed signs advertised alcoholic beverages. That afternoon, he walked into the office and submitted his termination notice. Sometimes quitting is appropriate.

Most jobs do not have such unforeseen negativities, and that is when “finishing” becomes important. There is obviously an element of quitting (bringing to closure) in finishing, but there should also be a proper concern for the transfer of responsibility. A person’s rationale for the change elucidates their motive. If it is only about more money, more time to do what you want, getting easier assignments, be careful; you may be “quitting” a job.

“Finishing” suggests that you are aware of your responsibilities—completing ongoing tasks, bringing assigned projects to fruition, creating better processes, and being a productive team member. A proper concern for these should lead to a thoughtful preparation for handoff of responsibilities. If appropriate, be on the lookout for possible successors and make suggestions to your superiors. Let them know that you are available to train the next person and will work to ensure that the transition is seamless and that important tasks stay on track and covered. Make yourself available after the final transfer. However, be very careful not to micromanage. Be supportive of your replacement and realize that he or she will not do the job exactly as you did. The job is now out of your hands.

Congratulations! You didn’t quit. You finished! —KF ■

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

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PAGE 2: © iStockphoto: PiyapongK

COVER: Katherine Arthur happily receives three scholarships during Convocation services, August 22. Photo by Rachel Pohl. See News from the Hilltop, beginning p.10.

# the president's page



## THE TONGUE: Part 2

by Dr. Rodney S. Loper, President

*“To the physician, it is merely a two-ounce slab of mucous membrane enclosing a complex array of muscles and nerves that enable our bodies to chew, taste, and swallow. It is also the major organ of communication that enables us to articulate distinct sounds so we can understand each other.... Without the tongue no mother could sing her baby to sleep tonight. No ambassador could adequately represent our nation. No teacher could stretch the mind of students. No officer could lead his fighting men in battle. No attorney could defend the truth in court. No pastor could comfort troubled souls. No complicated, controversial issue could ever be discussed and solved. Our entire world would be reduced to grunts and shrugs.”<sup>1</sup>*

I want to continue on the topic from the book of James that I began in the summer issue—the tongue—a small but mighty weapon.

James is quite consistent in his writing style. He begins various discussions by addressing his readers as “my brethren.” This phrase serves a couple of purposes—as a reminder to the readers that James cares for them deeply, and as an indication that he is about to begin an important topic. This is the case in the first verse of chapter three.

### THE TONGUE AND TEACHING

What immediately follows is, “Let not many of you become teachers” (3:1b NKJV). So how does this relate to speech? Well, in James’ day, there were no textbooks, videos, or PowerPoint. Teaching was done through verbal communication. At first glance, it would appear that James is discouraging his readers from becoming teachers. However, that is not the case.

We need to keep in mind the social structure of the Church at the time of James' letter. Most of the believers were Jewish. The Apostle Paul had probably just begun evangelizing the Gentile world. The believers carried many of the social attitudes and ideas about church life and structure with them from Judaism into Christianity. Such was probably the case with teachers.

The Greek word for "teachers" represented any position in the church in which the person regularly taught the Word of God. The office of teacher was looked at with the same kind of esteem and reverence as the office of the Jewish rabbi. For example: "In some Jewish circles, rabbis were held in such high regard that a person's duty to his rabbi was considered greater than that to his own parents, because his parents only brought him into the life of this world, whereas his rabbi brought him into the life of the world to come."<sup>2</sup>

Those who were religious probably dreamed of attaining such a place of honor and respect. There were those within the young church community who aspired to such heights from a genuine desire to serve the Lord, and others who wanted the position for no other reason than to satisfy their sinful pride, looking for the flattery of men.

We've already seen James deal with the issue of false teachers. In chapter two, we saw how he put down the antinomian notion that man can have saving faith without works. He does this by making it very clear that our faith should be evident in the way we serve the Lord and care for one another.

### EXERCISE CAUTION

James isn't discouraging those who have truly been called by God to serve as teachers in the church. He's not trying to discourage those with genuine faith in Christ and the gift God has given them from enjoying opportunities to serve in the capacity of a Sunday school teacher or Bible study leader.

In the second half of verse one, James explains why it is so important to exercise caution when deciding whether or not to serve as a teacher. "Knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment." This verse is not saying that teachers are called to live holier, more exemplary lives than other Christians. The point is that judgment will be more severe for the one who is called to teach and fails to do so correctly, accurately, or sincerely. Those who teach are accountable to God.

### GUARD AGAINST PRIDE

Sometimes having pride in our speech is not just found in what we say. It can be found in those times when we claim to be teaching the Word of God—be it through a sermon, Bible study, prayer group, children's Sunday school, or even at our dinner table—when the

reality is that rather than "teaching," we are actually "boasting" through our own opinions or feelings about what the Bible says. Pride may also be found in what we *don't* say. A defiant attitude that says, "Let someone else do the work of evangelism; that's not my gift," or, "I'm already doing enough as it is," can also be prideful words.

In order to put out the prideful fire of the tongue, one must be constantly aware that there are serious consequences that await the person who claims to be a true teacher of the Word and is not. There are serious consequences that await people who, out of a sense of pride, distort the Word of God to fit their own opinions about its truth.

### WE ARE ALL TEACHERS

In a real sense we are all teachers—we speak and our words have impact on those who hear. Yes, we ALL need to exercise caution and guard against pride. Remember what James wrote toward the end of chapter one: "If anyone thinks himself to be religious, yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this person's religion is worthless" (1:26 NASB).

As Christians, we should be aware that we are accountable for every word we speak. In fact, we are commissioned to spread the good news, to give encouragement, and even to admonish when needed. If we do not make the most of the opportunities to do so, there will be judgment. "So for one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, for him it is sin" (4:17 NASB).

### CONCLUSION

I can think of two things that will be of great help to all of us as we try to keep our tongues under control, exercise proper caution, and guard against pride: study and pray. When we saturate our minds with the Word of God, when we memorize it and meditate upon it, when we pray the Scriptures and earnestly seek wisdom and discernment from God to understand what His Word teaches, we will be better prepared to ward off the sin of pride that can manifest itself in our speech. We will be better equipped to teach the Word from the pulpit, through evangelism and outreach, to our children, and to those we encounter as we move through our day. We want what we say to point people to Christ! ■

*(Series concludes in the November issue.)*

1. Charles Swindoll quote from an online post by Bob Stone accessed at <https://www.eagleflight.org/cyberstudies/the-book-of-james/171-part-six-whoa-you-wild-horse-taming-the-tongue>.
2. MacArthur, John. *James: MacArthur Commentary Series*. Moody Publishers, 1998, p. 146.

# KEEPING



# TIME WITH GOD

## The Christian Year, Part 1

Introduction to a Yearlong Series

by Larry D. Smith

Having a Christian Year calendar helps us celebrate and understand more fully the entire mystery of Jesus Christ, from His Incarnation and birth until His Ascension, the day of Pentecost, and the expectation of His return in glory. It begins this year with the first Sunday of Advent (November 28) and ends with Christ the King Sunday next year (November 20, 2022). Our beloved former editor, Larry D. Smith, has graciously consented to lead us through the events of this calendar. For this issue, he starts with a general introduction to the Christian Year. Enjoy. —KF

“**O Master, let me walk with Thee in lowly paths of service free.**” Thus sings Washington Gladden, a nineteenth-century Congregationalist pastor, in a fervent hymn which he wrote and addressed to the Lord Jesus. “Tell me Thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.” Gladden then enumerates these “lowly paths” in which he would faithfully walk with his divine Master, while at the same time, he hopes to speak some “clear winning word of love,” guiding others “in the homeward way.” Thus, in union with Jesus, he would do that holy work which keeps faith sweet and strong and “in trust that triumphs over wrong.” Fortified with Christ’s presence, Gladden insistently rephrases his heartfelt plea, “With Thee, O Master, let me live.”

This most certainly should be the continual and urgent prayer of every earnest Christian, as well as the collective petition of Christ’s whole faithful Church. “Lord Jesus, let us walk with Thee! Let us live with Thee!” For as we do so, increasingly focusing ourselves on Him and increasingly embracing His priorities as our own, we are at the same time remolded by the Holy

Spirit into the contours of Jesus’ winsome and holy character. So it is the steadfast gaze of the soul that informs and ultimately determines our loving walk with Him. “Changed from glory into glory, Till in heaven we take our place. Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.” These lines were written by Charles Wesley, based on the words of Saint Paul. To them both, hymn writer Frederick Faber would hastily say, “Amen.” “Time and obedience are enough,” he urges, “and thou a saint shalt be!”

**But how do we walk with Jesus?** How do we translate the metaphor of walking into the reality of everyday living? Quickly and emphatically the robust Christians who have triumphed in Christ all throughout the centuries would repeat this sublime truth—that walking with Jesus means consistently and rigorously centering ourselves in Him. This requires meditating on His supreme deity; His glorious incarnation; His constant surrender to His Father’s will; His infinite compassion for the sick, the suffering, and the sinful; His vicarious sacrifice on the bloody wood of His cross; His triumphant resurrection from the dead; and His ultimate triumph over all His re-

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bellious creation. Such devout meditation leads to determined decision, and this leads to absolute submission.

This means submission to all His purposes for us, as we surrender absolute sovereignty in all dimensions of time—time to seek Him in all the means of grace, focusing ourselves in prayer and Bible study. For it is on our knees with the Holy Book open before us that we find Jesus and learn to walk lovingly with Him. Thus, His Church, which is the pillar and ground of the truth, has taught the stewardship of time—yes, time for holy deeds, time for earnest prayer, time for walking with Jesus! The Holy Sabbath, celebrated by the early Christians on Sunday, the Lord's Day, reminds us that all time belongs to God; and we cherish it for its sanctity and purpose, knowing that this one holy day out of seven sanctifies the other six.

So also the Church through the centuries has fashioned a calendar—universally known as the Christian

history. Everything before Christ finds fulfillment in Christ. Everything since Christ finds its meaning by pointing back to Christ," as Webber further explains. "The historic and unrepeatable Christ event is the content which informs and gives meaning to all time. Therefore in worship we sanctify present time by enacting the past event of Jesus in time which transforms the present and gives shape to the future."<sup>1</sup>

So this Christian concept of time, centered not in dramatic human events but firmly in the saving work of Christ and illustrated in the passing of the Christian Year, is also a powerful reminder that our Holy Faith is founded firmly, not on mystical impressions, ecstatic dreams, or sentimental myths, but in the absolute historical reality of God's saving acts in Jesus Christ.

As the centuries passed, the great drama of the Christian Year, continuously repeated and verbally re-enacted—the liturgical calendar of the Christian

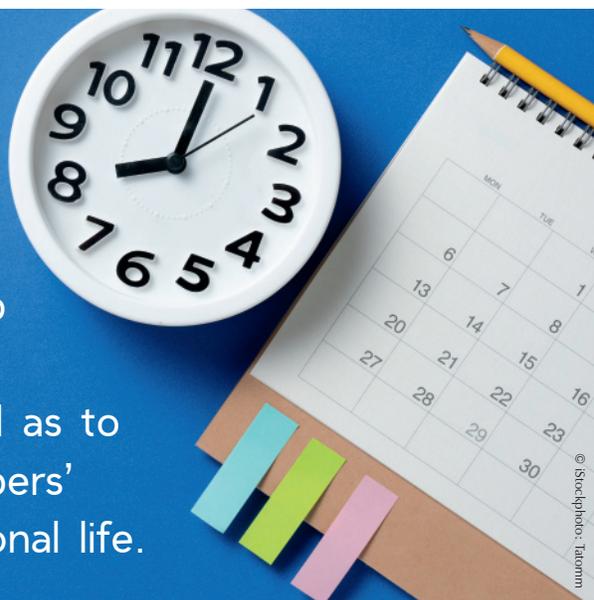
Church—became fixed in the lives and worship practices of our European ancestors. Of course, there were always minor differences—and some not so minor, such as intense debates over the date of Easter. But for centuries, it is certain that orthodox Christians followed this same pattern of sacred recall, always focused on God's saving acts in Christ as they were revealed in the Bible. "The great benefit of the Christian year," to them, as to us, as Dr. Webber reminds us, "is that the worshiping church is able to follow a rich and meaningful way of orienting its life around the work of Jesus Christ."<sup>2</sup>

This was indeed a determined method of keeping time with God. But by the 16th-century, the sacred calendar had become encumbered with so

many saints' days and other minor observances that it had become difficult to use. Moreover, many Puritan leaders condemned it as "man-made" and "unscriptural," even disapproving such celebrations as Christmas and Easter. You would have been in deep trouble, for instance, if you had tried to put up a Christmas tree in old Boston! Of course, the Puritans also frowned on organs, crosses, and sometimes even heating stoves in their austere meeting-houses.

In any case, vast numbers of evangelical Protestants lost all understanding of the Church's historic calendar, although they properly embraced many holidays from the civil calendar such as Independence Day, Memorial Day, and Mother's Day. Of course, there were always Christians—Lutherans and Anglicans, for instance—who did not forget the great days of the Christian Year; however, they probably were a minority. But in the late 19th

The Church through the centuries has fashioned a calendar to help guide its public worship, as well as to enrich its members' personal devotional life.



Year—to help guide its public worship, as well as to enrich its members' personal devotional life. Though aspects of this early pattern for keeping time with God is shrouded in the mists of history, we do know a few of its features. For example, as scholars point out, Easter—the Church's magnificent "Queen of Festivals"—has probably been celebrated from the days of the apostles, and the same may possibly be said of Pentecost. Certainly the shape of the Christian Year, as we know it now, seems to have been in place since the fourth century A.D.

Every part of this developing cycle of prayer, Scripture, and solemn commemoration pointed dramatically to the "new age," which began in Christ's saving events, according to Dr. Robert Webber, well-known authority on worship in the early Church. "Thus, in Christianity, all time has a center.... Christ is the cosmic center of all

and early 20th centuries, various parts of the old church calendar began to reappear. Christmas programs, Easter sunrise services, Palm Sunday sermons, and even commemorations of Good Friday and All Saints Day became a part of church procedure.

In general, Methodists and the churches founded in the Methodist tradition had never rejected the Christian Year, for their founder John Wesley strongly endorsed it and included it in his plans for the American Church. Today, there is little opposition to the historic calendar with its emphasis on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ; its daily schedule of Bible readings; and its emphasis on special times and seasons. However, we do need to understand it better along with its actual use. That is why a simple explanation might be helpful, beginning with a simple overview of its basic parts.

**Advent Sunday**—always four Sundays before Christmas Day—is the beginning of the season of Advent, as well as the beginning of each new cycle of the Christian Year. Always celebrated on December 25, **Christmas Day** is the Church's great festival of the nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ and is also the first of the 12 days of Christmastide. Following this is **Epiphany**, the feast of the Three Kings, on January 6, which is also the beginning of the season of the Epiphany, with its emphasis on the various "manifestations" of His life and ministry. Next on the calendar is the solemn and penitential season of **Lent**, beginning with Ash Wednesday and extending to **Holy Week**, which includes His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, His institution of the Holy Communion, and His passion and atoning death. All this prepares us for **Easter**, the glorious celebration of Jesus' resurrection, which is soon followed by **Ascension Day**, **Pentecost**, and **Trinity Sunday**. The Christian Year is climaxed with **Christ the King Sunday**, which leads us to Advent Sunday and the beginning of the new ecclesiastical year.

"Yes, dear Master," we pray with Washington Gladden, "Let us walk with Thee, in lowly paths of service free." We gratefully follow His Holy Spirit who leads us to walk with Jesus by faithfully centering ourselves in Him. Thanks be to God for all the means He gives to help us do this, including the Christian Year, which sets before us the life, death, and triumphant resurrection of Our Savior Jesus Christ. "With Thee, O Master, let me live!!" ■

*(The next issue will focus on the beginning of the Advent season, the Church's time of preparation for Christmas.)*

**Dr. Larry D. Smith** served as a GBS instructor and editor of God's Revivalist from 1995 until his retirement in 2016. He lives in Cincinnati, OH, with his wife, Carol (Wiseman) ('78 BA).

1. Webber, Robert. *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995. Vol. 5: *The Services of the Christian Year*, pp.79-80.  
2. *Ibid.* p.79.



**November 28, 2021. FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT.** Beginning of the season of Advent, the Church's time of preparation for Christmas. Advent continues through Christmas Eve, December 24.

**December 25, 2021. CHRISTMAS DAY.** The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The season of Christmas continues for 12 days through January 5.

**January 6, 2022. EPIPHANY.** The revelation of Christ to the Gentiles; the coming of the Magi. The season of Epiphanytide continues through March 1.

**March 2, 2022. ASH WEDNESDAY.** The first day of Lent, the Church's period of preparation for Easter. Lent continues through April 14.

**April 10, 2022. PALM SUNDAY.** Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem and the first day of Holy Week, which continues through April 17.

**April 14, 2022. MAUNDY THURSDAY.** Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper as the sacrament of our redemption and the "new commandment" that we should love one another.

**April 15, 2022. GOOD FRIDAY.** Jesus' death on the cross.

**April 17, 2022. EASTER SUNDAY.** The Resurrection of Our Lord.

**May 26, 2022. ASCENSION DAY.** Jesus Christ returns to His Father.

**June 5, 2022. PENTECOST.** The Holy Spirit's descent upon the apostles and the birthday of the Christian Church.

**June 12, 2022. TRINITY SUNDAY.** God's revelation of Himself as one God in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**October 31, 2022. REFORMATION DAY.** Observes the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, marked by the date Martin Luther nailed his famous 95 Theses to the door of the church in Wittenberg in 1517.

**November 1, 2022. ALL SAINTS DAY.** Honors all saints of the Church deemed to have attained heaven and gives a special time to acknowledge those who have made their final journey during the previous year.

**November 20, 2022. CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY.** Marks the end of the cycle of the Christian Year, emphasizing that Jesus is Lord of all.

*OK, I'm about to say something uncomfortable.*

Over the years, I have no clue how many people have left my church...just dropped through the cracks. And much of that is my fault. I'm the pastor. "The buck stops here." Sometimes I just let someone slip away. It would be emotionally easier to blame them, to transfer it to their shoulders—"they just didn't want it enough." But I think deep down we know that's often a cop-out.

For years, I didn't have a great plan to make sure church attendees stayed connected and were disciplined well. Most people I know from smaller churches can relate. If I focused on that lack, it would feel rather discouraging—and nobody can stay in the ministry forever when they feel discouraged and drained. But there are flashes of hope through that kind of gloom.

The other day I got a message on Facebook from a young man who had attended my church some years ago. He was a teenager at the time, and his family only occasionally attended. You know how it is—some of them moved away, some just got distracted, and he got swept along with the current.

He wound up in the Marines and moved across the country. When he got out, he found a good job and a girlfriend...and then, out of the blue, reached out to me on Facebook a few days ago. He said he was struggling with some life transitions and depression and was wondering if I could direct him to some Bible verses to help. He said he wanted to read the Bible, but he started in Genesis and kind of "got stuck."

I sent him my mobile number, and we spent about a half hour on the phone. I listened for a while. It was pretty obvious God was working in his heart, helping him feel his need for something more than he had. Thank God for preventent grace, right? The grace that changes everything had made a real change in his heart.

But more than one thing had changed since last time he was here. This time, I had a plan, because I had developed one—the *NewStart*

# HE CALLED ME EIGHT YEARS AFTER HE LEFT MY CHURCH

by Darrell Stetler II



© Stockphoto: AntonioGullera

*Discipleship Journal*. I sent him one by email and told him that the 50-Day Bible-reading plan would help him get a feel for the “highlights,” the big strategy of the story God was telling.

Where does it go from here? Who knows? He’ll have some big decisions to make, but at least he’ll be making them while having a clear Bible reading plan and tools to help him seek to know Jesus. I told him to reach out and ask me questions like the *Journal* encouraged him to write down each day, and that I’d serve as his “mentor.”

I hung up the phone and grinned at my wife. It felt pretty good to know that I was still someone this young man felt he could trust.

He texted me a little while ago, and now his girlfriend is going through the *NewStart Journal* with him. He said, “She loves it! She has been a Catholic her whole life and the way you put things into a better perspective really helps her.”

It feels amazing watching God’s grace strongly at work in someone’s life. It also felt good to be ready to give him a clear pathway forward at a crucial moment.

### THREE TAKEAWAYS

**1. Be encouraged.** You never know how God is working in people’s hearts, even years after you last had a voice in their lives!

**2. Be faithful.** Preach the Word, stay engaged, and be consistent. Be that person that they know they can trust with a question when the Holy Spirit brings them around.

**3. Be ready.** I was grateful that this time I had a plan that was ready to go. No “winging it,” just a clear pathway forward toward becoming a disciple of Christ.

I know it’s all about God’s grace. I can’t bring spiritual life out of nothing! Neither can you. So here’s something to keep in mind: God is always at work. You have never locked eyes with a person that God didn’t love; you have never walked by a person in whom grace was not active. Since that’s true, we ought to remember the principle of the garden: it takes God’s life-giving power to grow plants, but it takes God’s power plus our planning and hard work to grow a beautiful garden!

That’s the tension of God’s work and our responsibility, isn’t it? Beating ourselves up over someone leaving the church isn’t helpful. But neither is blaming them and absolving ourselves. I think it’s more spiritually and emotionally healthy to say, “God’s grace is always active. I’m going to be faithful—and that means having a plan.”

Disciples aren’t made accidentally. **Go make a plan.** ■

**Darrell Stetler II** has been a pastor since he graduated from GBS in 2003. If you are interested in discipling others, you may download a free copy of the *NewStart Discipleship Journal* at <http://gbs.newstartdiscipleship.com>.

# Letters

## TO THE EDITOR

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

I so appreciate the articles you print as well as the Alumni News. I look for news of classmates and of changes being made on campus. Many years have passed since I graduated, but I still hold GBS up in prayer for God’s blessings as much as possible daily.

GERTRUDE ROSENGREEN (’58)  
Wheatland, WY

I enjoy all the articles, especially those on holiness, and Professor Bird’s article, “Engaging Unbelievers Philosophically.” I use so many of the articles in my adult Sunday school class.

BILL GANT, SR.  
Marcy, NY

We are Joey Ratcliff’s grandparents. It is great to have a Ratcliff back at GBS. Bless all of you. *God’s Revivalist* is looking fine, too.

ELNORA RATCLIFF GRANT (’67)  
Former GBS Head Librarian and professor

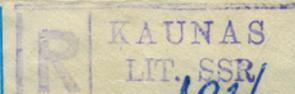
I so enjoyed the article about Bob Bickert. He was a prince of a man, and I am so glad I had the privilege of being on faculty with him and his wife at GBS.

RUTH (SMITH) TAYLOR  
former GBS Head Librarian  
Mexico, MO

I loved your honor of Robert Bickert. His wife was my first roommate at Owosso College. During my husband’s seminary days, when we were in Wilmore, KY, we discovered that the Bickerts lived across the street from us. I love how God puts things together in our lives!

COLLEEN SELLERS  
Lakeland, FL

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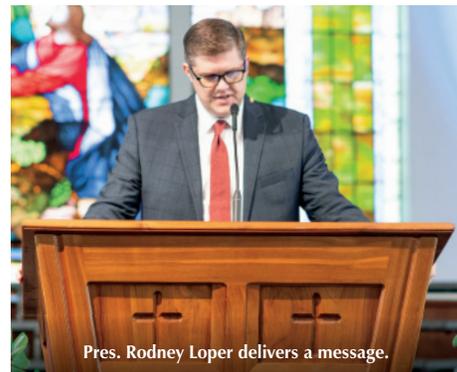
## A NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS!

Following Move-In Day on August 17 (see GR September, p.10), the next several days were full of information and fun activities. A highlight this year was the "Cincy Parks Tour" which took students to some of the parks in the Cincinnati area: Trammel Fossil Park (Sharonville), Summit Park (Blue Ash), Alms Park (on Mt. Tusculum in the Columbia/Tusculum area). On Friday, following a number of assessments and a town hall

meeting with President Loper, students made their way to George Roger's Park along the riverfront in Covington, KY, for the fireworks display from 8:00 to 10:00.

Saturday was a more relaxed day, with a late brunch from 10:30 to 12:00. That afternoon, the students enjoyed a photo scavenger hunt at Smale Riverfront Park before returning to campus for ice cream at 3:00.

**Sunday Morning.** In the opening convocation of the 122nd school year on Sunday, August 22, Mike Yancey, Director of Development,



Pres. Rodney Loper delivers a message.

presented scholarships (see p.12). In addition to the recurring endowed scholarships, four new endowed scholarships were unveiled (see p.12) and two one-time scholarships were awarded (see p.15). The total



Dr. Nick Pop leads congregational singing during the convocation.



Anthony Paulus, Ashley Kamplain, and Austin Paulus sing during the morning service.

# REVIVALIST FAMILY

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

## BIRTH



To **Rachelle (Wolf) (HS '07, BA '11) and Michael DeStefano**, a daughter, **Anna Sofia**, born July 6, 2021, at Good Samaritan Hospital, Cincinnati, OH. Both of the DeStefanos work at Aldersgate Christian Academy and God's Bible School teaching music and drama. Michael and Rachelle are also available to travel for music ministry. They are passionate about singing a combination of old and new sa-

cred music and playing instrumental duets together. For availability, please call Michael at 570-713-5075 or email [mdestefano@gbs.edu](mailto:mdestefano@gbs.edu).

## WEDDINGS



**Lily Rectenwald (BA '21) to Dwight Welch (BA '21)**, May 28, at a barn in Ossian, IN, with Rev. Mark Cravens officiating. Dwight works in lawn care service, and Lily is a secretary in a counseling office. Both graduated from GBS in May 2021, Dwight with a BA in Bible and theology and Lily with a BA in integrated studies (church and family ministry, and American sign language). They live in Loveland, OH.

amount of endowed scholarships was \$128,150. Divisional scholarships and A. Wingrove Taylor Scholarship Legacy Awards were also distributed, bringing the grand total to \$170,150.

After the presentation of scholarships, President Loper took his sermon text from John 20:19-23 and spoke about how Jesus can turn closed doors of disappointment into hope. He began by discussing some of the disappointments people experience when doors of opportunity close unexpectedly, from something as “simple” as not making the little league team to being in the doctor’s office and hearing that dreaded word “cancer.” When the avenues to and opportunities of dreams seem “closed,” it is very disheartening.

But when it comes to Jesus, the exact opposite of “closed” can be found in the empty, open tomb. He will turn closed doors of disappointment into hope. The good news is that there is a door of hope in the waiting room of all of life’s disappointments and difficulties.

**Sunday Evening.** In the evening service, Duane Quesenberry, Director of Public Relations, spoke on the topic “Focus Your Dream.” Using various points in the life of Joseph, his sermon pivoted on three words: ambition, purpose, and focus. He noted that ambition is a good thing; however, it needs to be coupled with the purpose of God. What emerges from this union is the “focus of life”—life that is purposeful, intentional, and directional—a life that counts. He warned that ➡



*Congratulations!*

**Dr. Rodney S. Loper**

You may have noticed the new title for our president on the President’s Page. Yes, congratulations are in order for *Dr. Rodney S. Loper!*

President Loper has successfully completed all of the requirements for a PhD in organizational leadership from Columbia International University, Columbia, SC. An email distributed to the campus family by the GBS administrative team notes that it has been a huge challenge for him to complete this program while simultaneously leading God’s Bible School and Aldersgate Christian Academy. We are very proud of his accomplishments and would like to acknowledge and congratulate him publicly!

His commencement is scheduled for December 10. We will publish a report with pictures at that time. Meanwhile, join us in congratulating Dr. Loper! ■




**Katelyn Shaffer (2019-Current) to Scott Loper (HS '19; 2019-Current)**, August 6, at Anderson Hill United Methodist Church, Cincinnati, OH, with the groom’s father, Rev. Rodney Loper, officiating. Both work for GBS, Scott as a maintenance technician and Kate as a cafeteria assistant. Both also continue to work on their degrees, Scott in ministerial education and Kate in music.



**Khara Burley (2018-current) to Cameron Going (2018-current)**, August 14, at the Assembly of God Church, Stockton, MO, with Rev. Terry Going officiating. The couple will be living in Cincinnati, OH, as they both finish their

senior year of college. Khara is finishing her BA in elementary education and Cameron is finishing his BA in ministerial education.

**DEATHS**



**John Calvin Bauer II**, 78, of Greendale, IN, passed away July 15, 2021. He was born February 25, 1943, to John and Helen (Heath) Bauer of Cincinnati, OH. John was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force where he had worked as a jet engine technician.

John attended the Wesleyan Church, Lawrenceburg, IN, where he sometimes filled in as clergy. He liked to hunt and fish and enjoyed traveling. He was also an ➡

➡ the enemy will try to use dysfunction from your past and your present to derail you, but dysfunction doesn't need to prevent your dreams from happening. Divine dreams come to fruition if they are linked to determined discipline. In closing, he encouraged the students to pursue the dreams that God has given them and commit to the purposes He has for their lives. As he led the congregation in singing "Take My Life and Let It Be," students made their way to the altar.

**Enrollment.** Current enrollment is 349 undergraduate students, 13 graduate students, and 217 K-12 students in Aldersgate Christian Academy. We are grateful to God for exceeding our enrollment goal and are especially thankful that so many students have made the commitment to prepare for God's calling. Pray with us that this will be a great

school year as we train the students entrusted to us.

**DIVISIONAL AND AWT LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS**

This year's **Divisional Scholarships**, which are awarded by academic division and based on merit, were given to Chandler Witter (Ministerial Education), and Samantha Ryan, Briana Epp, and John Richard McDaniel (Music).

The **A. Wingrove Taylor Legacy Awards**, which are given to international students with financial need who have a call to Christian ministry in their home country, were given to Randy Mercado Candia, Anna Castillon, Victoria Dupte, Mounica Gera, Mihret Yirga, Minha (David) Kim, and Gabriel Sudati.



Divisional scholarship recipients Samantha Ryan, Briana Epp, Chandler Witter, and John McDaniel

**NEW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Rev. Willie and Mamie E. Carroll Bramble Scholarship.**

Through the generosity of Bill Bramble (HS '58, BA '65) and his sister, Marilyn Osborne, this scholarship was founded in memory of their parents, Rev. Willie and Mamie Carroll Bramble. The

**REVIVALIST FAMILY** continued

➡ animal lover. He attended GBS (1981-85) and was a faithful donor and *God's Revivalist* subscriber.

John is survived by his wife, Robin Lynn; three brothers, Robert "Bobby," Paul David, and Philip Bauer; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews. Funeral services were held at the Wesleyan Church, Lawrenceburg, IN, with Pastor Mark Kessen officiating. Contributions may be made to God's Bible School.



**Lester Smith**, 74, of Lexington, IN, passed away August 5, 2021, at The Waters of Scottsburg, Scottsburg, IN. He was born on May 14, 1947, to Ralph and Edna (Avery) Smith in Thompson, PA. Lester attended GBS from 1965 to 1970. On August 16, 1968, he married Naomi (Helton) Smith, who passed away on January 15, 2009.

Lester was a mechanic and journeyman for many years, and he was a member of the Pilgrim Holiness Church, Austin, IN. He loved God, church, his family, and being around his grandkids. In his spare time Lester loved to fish and hunt and was an avid NASCAR fan.

Lester is survived by two daughters, Joetta Brown and Jacinda Monroe; son, Brian; two sisters, Edith Utz and Ruth Moulton; brother, Floyd; eleven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Pilgrim Holiness Church, Austin, IN, officiated by Rev. Mike Brown. Interment followed at Riverview Cemetery, Seymour, IN.



**Opal Irene Bowman-Houts**, 92, died August 9, 2021, in Oklahoma City, OK. A Valentine's Day baby, she was born February 14, 1929, in Cincinnati, OH, to Wesley W. and Ruth (Craig) Bowman. She married Harold E. Houts on October 21, 1995, in Bethany, OK. He preceded her in death on November 28, 2005. They were longtime members of Western Oaks Church of the Nazarene, Oklahoma City.

Opal worked as an assembler at AT&T until retirement. She was a GBS alumna and an active supporter of her alma mater as an annuitant, donor, and *God's Revivalist* subscriber.

**“The Doctrine of Sin”**  
 Tom McCall, *featured speaker*

Higher Ground Conference & Retreat  
 Center, West Harrison, IN

**October 26-28**

More info at [gbs.edu/aldersgate-forum](http://gbs.edu/aldersgate-forum)

scholarship was created before Bill’s passing in 2020 after a battle with cancer.

The purpose of this scholarship is to make it possible for needy ministerial or missions students who plan to serve in under-served areas to have financial help with their schooling. The scholarship was presented in absentia to its first recipient, Abigail Montero, who is in Honduras where she will be spending most of her senior year in our Study Abroad Program.

**Glenn and Sharon Black Ministerial Scholarship.**

This scholarship was established through the generosity of Glenn and Sharon Black. They explain: “We decided to create a ministerial scholarship because we love and appreciate God’s Bible School. GBS guided and instructed us relative to the authority of God’s Word. GBS taught us concerning: (1) the Doctrines of the Christian faith; (2) the Disciplines of holy living; and (3) total Dependence upon God. We met at GBS and were married 51 years ago in 1970. Glenn attended two years of high school and five



Rev. Glenn and Sharon Black

years of college at GBS, and Sharon (Jackman) attended four years of college. Not only did we enjoy our educational days, but God led us to work at GBS as the editor of *God’s Revivalist* for ➡



Survivors include four nieces, Cathy Falkner, Connie McNeil, Terri Marquez, and Linda Markus; two nephews, Michael Bowman and Mark Bowman; and 18 great-nieces and nephews. Graveside services were held in Bethany Cemetery with Rev. Lewis McClain officiating.



**Naomi Ruth Sanders, 88,** went home

to be with the Lord on August 15, 2021. She passed away at home in Alexandria, KY, where she was living with her daughter and son-in-law (Martha and Dan Glick). She was born in Wayne, WV, on March 11,

1933, to Lee and Mollie Carroll. She spent most of her teen years in missionary work with her parents in Haiti.

Naomi married Shirley Sanders in 1954, and they raised their four children on a farm and ranch in Wyoming. Naomi was known to her family and friends as an industrious and selfless person. She loved giving to others and thrived at healthcare work on the mission field and nursing aid/home care in the States.

Naomi was preceded in death by her husband Shirley in 2019 and is survived by two sons, Leroy and

Daniel; two daughters, Martha Glick and Mary Rosengreen; 14 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren. Two memorial services were held in her honor at the Kenwood Bible Methodist Church, Cincinnati, OH, and at the chapel of the Frontier School of the Bible, LaGrange, WY.

Her son-in-law Dan Glick, GBS professor (2001-2017) and current adjunct remarks, “I thank God that He gave Martha and me the opportunity to care for Martha’s mother these last two years in our home. We had many wonderful times, and it was a great honor to care for her. I lost my mother 15 weeks ago and now Martha and I are both rejoicing that our mothers are together in Paradise. We are comforting each other and thanking God that we had such a godly heritage.”



**David J. Sutton, 80,** went to be with the

Lord on August 23, 2021. He was born in Indianapolis, IN, on January 8, 1941, to John and Viola (Moore) Sutton. He attended Ben Davis High School and later graduated from God’s Bible School with a ThB in ➡

➡ nine years (1976-1985). Our two families have deep roots at GBS. We love the mission and the ministries of GBS."

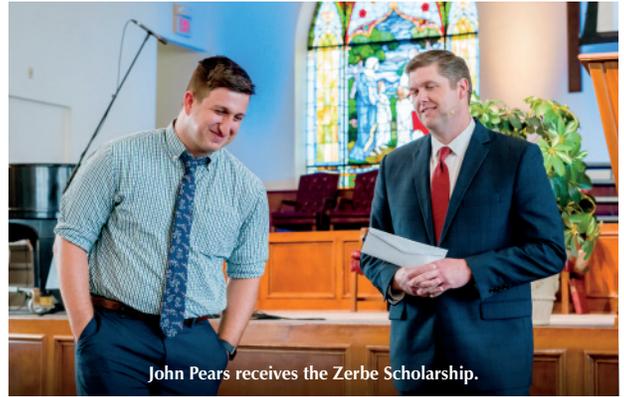
The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial help to a ministerial student. Glenn and Sharon Black presented their ministerial scholarship to its first recipient, Josiah England (see p.18).

**Alvin and Gelene Hodge Scholarship.** This scholarship is a result of the generosity of Alvin and Gelene Hodge. Alvin and Gelene both found the Lord in their early teen years. After marriage, they served their local church and conference as lay people, holding positions such as Sunday school teacher, church treasurer, and members of various committees

and boards. They have been active in the Gideon International ministry and in the Interchurch Holiness Convention. God has blessed them spiritually, physically, and materially, always supplying all their needs and more! In their sunset years, they wanted to share some of God's material blessings with students who are preparing at GBS for their life's work. Their daughter and son-in-law, Brenda and Richard Miles, are well-known GBS alumni, and Richard is currently a member of the school's administrative team. Their grandchildren have gone to

GBS and six of their great-grandchildren presently attend Aldersgate Christian Academy.

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide help for students with financial need. The scholarship was presented in absentia to its first recipient, Christopher Stamper.



John Pears receives the Zerbe Scholarship.

# REVIVALIST FAMILY continued

➡ 1965 and BA in 1967. In 1968, he married Nina Keys of Willow Hill, IL. He retired from Stanley Works, formerly Best Lock, after many years as a dedicated machinist.

David enjoyed spending time with family, and he loved sharing the Lord with others and attending Southport Church of the Nazarene. He was never known to speak a word in anger, had kind remarks to all he met, and enjoyed sharing meals and fellowship with family and friends.

David was preceded in death by his wife, Nina, and is survived by his two sons, Jason and Kevin; two daughters, Rachel and Rebecca; and nine grandchildren.



**Errol Lynn Haynes, 67,** passed away August 26, 2021, at Jupiter Medical Center after a brief illness. Lynn was a resident of Hobe Sound, FL, for 30 years. He was born in 1953 in Frankfort, IN, to Walter and Irene (Cloe) Haynes. Following graduation from high school in 1972, Lynn enrolled at God's Bible School, where he met and later married Jennie May Hotchkiss (BA '73). Lynn graduated with a BRE in 1976. In 1977, Lynn and Jennie answered the Lord's call to missions in Brazil, South America. Lynn had excellent

command of Portuguese. The two labored together in Brazil for thirteen-and-a-half years. Churches were planted, a Christian day school was begun, souls were saved, and lifelong relationships with "their people" were established.

In 1991, Lynn moved his family to Hobe Sound, FL, where he started Haynes Landscaping Inc. and attended Hobe Sound Bible Church. Lynn enjoyed photography, reading, and woodworking.

Lynn is survived by his wife of 47 years, Jennie; daughters, Amy Ellis, Andrea Sickler, and Angela Haynes; five grandchildren; three siblings, Steve, Wesley, and Karen Van Steen; six nephews; two nieces; four great-nephews; seven great-nieces; and one great-great-nephew. A Celebration of Life service was held at Loveland Wesleyan Chapel, Loveland, OH. Interment followed at Graceland Memorial Gardens in Loveland.



**Lydia Eva (Maurer) Moser, 100,** of South Whitehall Township, PA, went peacefully to her Eternal Home and loving arms of her Savior on September 4, 2021, from her residence at Cedarbrook Senior Care. Eva entered the world in 1921, one

**Zerbe Scholarship.** This scholarship was made possible by the generosity of Richard Zerbe, who went to heaven November 10, 2019. In April 1999, Richard Zerbe attended a PR service in Lebanon, PA, where the Symphonic Wind and String Ensemble from GBS was playing. From then on he supported GBS, placing it and other Christian organizations as beneficiaries in his will.

When his estate was settled, his daughter, Judy Coy, decided to start a scholarship for needy students with sterling Christian character. President Rodney Loper presented the Zerbe Scholarship to its first recipient, John Pears.

## ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS

**Amos Tillis Memorial Scholarship.** Rev. Amos Tillis was certainly a faithful soldier of the cross serving in various areas of Kingdom work, including mission work on the Texas/Mexico border and Eritrea (East Africa), along with the churches he pastored. His love for people was obvious, and he did his best to show the way to heaven to those with whom he came in contact. He invested huge amounts of time and energy in the cause of training and equipping Christian workers around the world. He was a distinguished and valued colleague and honorary GBS alumnus. (p18) ➔



of nine children born to Joseph and Mary (Schreffler) Maurer, of Doutyville, PA. She married Harry J. Moser on November 1, 1941. While Harry served his country in the U.S. Army, Eva worked for a clothing manufacturer as a sewing machine operator. After Harry was honorably discharged, he became an electrician for Bethlehem Steel and a lifelong self-employed carpentry contractor. Eva became a homemaker, and the couple reared three children and celebrated 62 years of marriage before Harry's death in 2003.

Eva enjoyed cooking, collecting dolls, and crafting. She faithfully supported church ministries and many other charitable causes. She was a GBS donor and a *God's Revivalist* subscriber. Eva had an exceptionally keen mind until her final year. She drove her own car until she was 97 and never had a speeding ticket nor an accident. She was greatly admired and loved by her family and friends.

Eva is survived by a sister, longtime missionary Irene Maurer; a daughter, Carolyn Trobetsky; seven grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; and several step-grandchildren and their descendants. One of Eva's grandsons is Kevin Moser (HS '82; BA '90) who has worked for the Revivalist Press since 1988 (currently art director and assistant editor). Funeral services were held at Bachman, Kulik, and Reinsmith Funeral Home, Allentown, PA, Rev. Keith Easley officiating. Interment followed at Cedar Hill Memorial Park, Allentown. 📌



## PHONATHON

**OUR GOAL:** Raise \$60,000 for two vans to transport our singers and musicians across the United States to bless people with their music!

(We normally run our vans 200,000 miles and then trade them in out of safety considerations for our students and maintenance costs.)



**YOU can help these young people do their job:**

1. You can call us first! Pick a time that works for you.
2. If your phone number has changed, let us know so we don't miss you!
3. Give our student callers a warm welcome! They're very excited to connect with alumni and friends!

*God Bless You!*

**GBS Donor Development Office**  
513-763-6566



# ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

God's Bible School & College  
2021-22 Academic Year

*Endowed scholarships are investments held in perpetuity, the earnings of which are awarded to deserving students annually. Our goal is to ensure our education remains affordable for students and families, and we are grateful for the generous donors who have helped make that possible by partnering with us to establish the listed scholarships.*

**Ada Mae Conrad Memorial Scholarship**

Darin Baldwin, Grace Burkhart, Lisa Chapman, Katelyn Welch

**Allan Clarence Strong Scholarship**

Connor Davis, Derek Derscheid, Josiah England, Douglas Gusler, Andrew Jeffries, Minha (David) Kim, Jonathan Payne, Chris Stamper, Joseph Tillis

**Alvin and Gelene Hodge Scholarship**

Chris Stamper

**Betty L. Wallace Farmer Memorial Scholarship**

Sarah Klotz

**C. Helen Mooshian Scholarship**

Sarah Doskey

**Carson W. and Stella Mae Scarbrough Memorial Scholarship**

Christopher Castle

**Charles & Deborah McWilliams Family Scholarship**

Dwight Crosley

**Chester C. Elliott and Leliah E. Roberts Scholarship**

Lane Williams

**Connie A. Tiede Memorial Scholarship**

Kaitlyn Stence, Jessica Stetler

**Crawford Family Scholarship**

Brianna Bowen, Lauren Bowen, Janaye Byers, Samantha Ryan, Lauren Thomas

**David and Clare Martin Scholarship**

Kelsey Burley

**Dr. Bence C. Miller Memorial Scholarship**

Caila Rice

**Dr. Edward Palm Scholarship**

Ryan Wilson

**Dr. J. Louis Emmert Scholarship**

Shaundale Green, Chandler Witter

**Dr. J. D. Young Memorial Scholarship**

Kyle Johnstone

**Dr. Leslie Wilcox Scholarship**

Kimberly Derby

**Dr. R. G. Flexon Memorial Scholarship**

Minha (David) Kim

**Elmer C. Farmer Pastoral Scholarship**

Cameron Going

**Elwert/Rauhut Memorial Scholarship**

Samantha Ryan

**Ervin and Jane Bohall Scholarship**

Lane Williams

**Ethel Belle Baugey Scholarship**

Cameron Oliver, Chris Stamper

**Evelyn Ware Scholarship**

Hanna Kreml

**Far North Missionary Fellowship Scholarship**

Eron Miriye

**Frank Little Jr. Ministerial Scholarship**

Stewart Quesenberry

**Frederick Family Scholarship**

Daniel Beatty

**General GBS Scholarship**

Minha (David) Kim

**George and Barbara Bass Scholarship**

Scott Loper

**Gertrude Taylor Memorial Scholarship**

Danette Garcia

**Glenn and Sharon Black Ministerial Scholarship**  
Josiah England

**Greatland Scholarship**  
Kayla Fry

**Grossman, Reiss, and Woods Memorial Scholarship**  
Minha (David) Kim

**Hazel (Trouten) Scheid Memorial Scholarship**  
Nicholas Long

**Hedstrom Memorial Scholarship**  
Luke Murphy

**Isaac T. Monce Memorial Scholarship**  
Kyle Johnstone

**Jack and Janie Wetherald Memorial Scholarship**  
Katelyn Welch

**Jim and Dorothy Miller Memorial Scholarship**  
Lauren Bowen

**Jimmy and Maudine Wilcox Scholarship**  
Carl Rogers, Chandler Witter

**John Case Jr. Scholarship**  
Jennifer DeLeon

**John O. (Mickey) and Annie E. McGuire Memorial Scholarship**  
Caila Rice

**Joyce Ann Marshall Memorial Scholarship**  
Melanie Hilling

**Kenwood Bible Mission Scholarship**  
Dominic Gattone

**Leonard and Janet Sankey Scholarship**  
Dominic Gattone, Katelyn Welch

**Leonard and Janet Sankey II Scholarship**  
Nicholas Long

**Louise Rhyne Memorial Scholarship**  
Briana Epp, Jenna Gordon, Samantha Ryan

**Marjorie Wolfe Bryner Memorial Scholarship**  
Brooklyn Williams, Danette Garcia

**Marvin Jewell Ministerial Scholarship**  
Ralph Benson

**Mary Ann Bell Scholarship**  
Samantha Ryan

**McNeill Memorial Scholarship**  
Rebecca Bennett

**Meredith and Florence Vance Scholarship**  
Kelsey Burley, Ryan Cravens, Kayla Fry, Josiah Loper, Clarissa Manley, Abigail Marshall, MacKenzie Pratt, Darya Sobie, Madelynne Stetler

**Merle and Anna Wolf Scholarship**  
Briana Epp

**Merrill and Yvonne Braymer Scholarship**  
Shaundale Green

**Messerschmidt Memorial Scholarship**  
Hanna Kreml

**Michael R. Avery Scholarship for Leaders**  
Jeffrey Glick, Khara Going, Darya Sobie, Lane Williams

**Minnie Ruth Wallbrown Memorial Scholarship**  
Katherine Arthur, Bethany Derbidge, Dolores Settle, Audrey Yoder

**Mr. and Mrs. K. W. Wong Scholarship**  
Alyssa Butler, Briana Epp, Kiana Kennedy, Diana Sobie

**Myrtle Jessup Ministerial Scholarship**  
Stewart Quesenberry

**N. Keith and Sharon Waggoner Scholarship**  
Briana Epp

**Nathaniel Joslin Memorial Scholarship**  
Kendra Peck

**Norma J. Sturgeon Memorial Scholarship**  
Daniel Beatty, Christopher Castle, Briana Epp, Jenna Gordon, Minha (David) Kim, Maritza Matias, John McDaniel, Julianna Rowe, Brooklyn Williams

**Oral E. and Lucille Cox Memorial Scholarship**  
Luke Murphy

**Oscar Johnson Memorial Scholarship**  
Melanie Hilling

**Pamela D. Gruver Memorial Music Scholarship**  
Daniel Brandon

**Peter B. and Patricia J. Moran Scholarship**  
MacKenzie Pratt

**Rev. and Mrs. G. W. King Scholarship**  
Eron Miriye

**Rev. and Mrs. William Jackson Scholarship**  
Callie Line

**Rev. Dr. H. E. Schmul Sr. and Lois Schmul Scholarship**  
Brittney Ewald, Sarah Klotz

**Rev. Francis A. Taylor Scholarship**  
Roy Bueno, Josiah England

**Rev. Robert and Bonnie Thompson Scholarship**  
Katherine Arthur, Cameron Going, Katelyn Welch, Lane Williams, Chandler Witter

**Rev. Willie and Mamie E. Carroll Bramble Fund**  
Abigail Montero

**Rev. Wilmer (Bud) Raker Memorial Scholarship**  
Kyle Johnstone

**Robertson Scholarship**  
Jessica Stetler

**Ronald M. Sherrill Memorial Scholarship**  
Jessica Stetler

**Rosemary Arnett Green Scholarship**  
Briana Epp

**Sherrard Family Scholarship**  
Kayla Fry, Liberty Lawrence, Samantha Ryan

**South Bend Union Chapel Scholarship**  
Benjamin Perez

**Stanley and Evelyn Kendall Christian School Scholarship**  
Jacob Messner

**The Aubrey Elam Indoor Camp Scholarship**  
Jacob Messner

**The King Family Scholarship**  
Audrey Rectenwald

**Urban Ministry Scholarship**  
Erica Biggers

**Vaughn Somers Memorial Scholarship**  
Erica Biggers

**Vernon Scholarship**  
Katherine Arthur, Chris Stamper

**W. I. and Lillie DeBoard Memorial Scholarship**  
Daniel Brandon

**Wanda G. Farmer Scholarship for Musicians**  
Erica Biggers

**Ward Family Legacy Memorial Scholarship**  
Jessica Stetler

**Zerbe Scholarship**  
John Pears

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A SCHOLARSHIP?

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OFFICE TODAY!

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Joseph Tillis

➡(p15) President Rodney Loper presented this scholarship to Rev. Tillis' grandson, Joseph Tillis.

**Robert England Memorial Scholarship.** This scholarship is provided by the family of Dr. Robert England, Sr. Dr. England was an effective pastor, leader, college administrator, preacher, evangelist, and elder statesman to the



Josiah England

entire Holiness Movement. He lived out the values and ambitions that we all deeply cherish. His work in Christian education has influenced generations of young men and women at home and abroad and will continue to

influence generations to come. His friendship and years of service to GBS as a faculty member and as vice president for academic affairs will never be forgotten. All around our campus, Dr. England's fingerprints can be seen. From the spiritual imprint on students in the classroom and the quality of his academic leadership, to his beautiful landscaping projects that continue to enhance our campus, Dr. England's legacy lives on.

President Rodney Loper presented this scholarship to Dr. England's grandson, Josiah England.

We are thankful for the many alumni and friends of the school whose selflessness, generosity, and vision make these scholarships possible. The college and its students are indebted to their loyal support, faithful partnership, and giving for the Kingdom. If you are interested in creating a scholarship, contact the Development Office at 513.763.6566.

## NEW EMPLOYEES

### Facilities



**Austin Paulus** (GBS 2018-current), security. Austin is from Spring Grove, PA. He worked for his father, Jeff Paulus (GBS 1991-92), remodeling houses as well as doing maintenance and landscaping after the homes were completed. Austin's oldest brother, Jeffrey, Jr., graduated from GBS (BA '16), and his identical twin brother, Anthony, is still attending and taking classes.

### Instructional Staff



**Joey Ratcliff** (HS '01, BA '08), Aldersgate Christian Academy pastor and teacher. Joey has served as youth pastor, associate pastor,

principal, and most recently as senior pastor of the Bible Methodist Church, McDonald, PA. Joey is currently working on an MDiv degree taking classes from both GBS and Wesley Biblical Seminary. His paternal grandparents taught at GBS: Elnora (BA '67), on the GBS faculty (1965-80) while also serving as head librarian, and Charles (BA '52, ThB '54), GBS faculty member (1965-80) and registrar (1976-80). Joey's parents are also GBS graduates: Joseph (HS '80), Suzanne (Holden) (HS '80). While at GBS, Joey met Andrea Cranor, and they were married in 2003.



**Andrea (Cranor) Ratcliff** (BA '04), high school administrative assistant. Andrea has taught music and periodically served as a

substitute teacher while being a busy homemaker. She was an office worker for a property rental company (2016-19) and has homeschooled her children for the last two years. She previously served as a substitute teacher for ACA (2011-16) with several extensive stints of eight weeks to a full semester. Joey and Andrea have five children: Ethan (15), Joel (14), Chloe (13), Ezekiel (10), Jude (6).



**Timothy Long** (BA '21), Aldersgate Christian Academy music. Tim is from Ponchartroula, LA. After completing his internship in the academy, under the direction of Michael and Rachelle (Wolf) DeStefano last spring, Timothy graduated with a BA in Music Education. He will be teaching various levels of band and choir in ACA. This has allowed Michael DeStefano to move completely into the college music division. Tim's brother Nick is currently a student in the college.

**Samuel Cramer** (HS '17, BA '21), high school math teacher. Samuel is



from Goshen, OH, and he recently graduated from GBS with a BA in integrative studies.

Other family members attended GBS as well: a sister, Elisabeth Cramer (HS '19) and mother, Vashti (Stainbrook) Cramer (HS 1993-94). Samuel enjoys music, reading, and hunting.

## Office Staff



**Duane Quesenberry** (BRE '94), Public Relations director. Duane replaces Joshua Wilson who left GBS to take a pastoral position.

While a GBS student, Duane met Valorie Bender (BSM '94). Both worked as student/staff employees for GBS in the 1990s, Valorie in the Cashier's Office and Duane as a PR representative and student recruiter. They married in 1989. Duane has been involved in pastoral ministry since his GBS graduation.



**Valorie Quesenberry** (BSM '94), cashier and Financial Aid director. In addition to being a mom and a pastor's wife, Valorie is an active author of articles and several nonfiction books and serves as editor of the magazine, *Worthy*, a publication of IHC Women of Worth.

Most recently, the Quesenberrys pastored the Village Park Bible Methodist Church in Westfield, IN. Three of their four children have attended college at GBS: Ashley (AA '16), Autumn (Zeigler) (BA '21), and Stewart (2019-present); and their youngest daughter, Kaley, is a senior in high school at Aldersgate Christian Academy. Both Duane and Valorie have returned to offices in which they worked during their student years, 1988-1994. Duane worked under Don Davison as a student recruiter in Public Relations, and Valo-

rie worked in the Cashier's Office under Evelyn Ware.



**Jake Stetler** (two AAs '21), administrative assistant for Academic and Student Affairs. Jake came to GBS from Bedford, IN, and worked in the student work program on the grounds/maintenance crew and as a resident assistant. He earned an AA in Bible and theology and an AA in music. Jake is a third generation GBSer. His grandfather, Monte Stetler, Sr. (HS '63; ThB '69) and grandmother Mary Ellen (Tilley) Stetler (HS '64) are alumni, as are his father Mark Stetler (ThB '98) and mother, Kathryn (Bittinger) Stetler (BA '97).



**Greg Hinton** (BA '21), senior student recruiter. Greg graduated from GBS in May with a degree in integrative studies. Originally from

Lynchburg, VA, Greg had work experience in customer service at Chick-fil-A, as a landscaping supervisor, as a unit assistant at The Christ Hospital, and as a valet. He most recently worked for more than two years in Enrollment Services at GBS. Six of his siblings have also attended GBS or taken online classes: Jared, Matt, Laura, Katie, Caleb, and Nasia.



**Ashley Kamplain** (BA '21), student recruiter. Ashley graduated from GBS in May with a degree in integrative studies. After coming to GBS from Roanoke, VA, she held various on-campus jobs, including traveling as a member of a GBS public relations music group and serving one year in Enrollment Services.



**Lane Webb** (BA '21), sound technician. Before attending GBS, Lane worked in lawn care during high school and in construction with his father for several years thereafter.

During his first year of college, he worked at The Christ Hospital. Following that, he traveled as a member of GBS public relations music groups for three years before graduating with a degree in integrative studies this past May. He has had previous experience operating sound at his home church and filling in as a sound technician for various GBS events. Both of Lane's parents are GBS alumni who also traveled for the school: Anthony Webb (1991-94) and Marci (Miller) Webb (1992-94). Additionally, grandparents, uncles, aunts, and many of his cousins attended and worked for GBS.

## Cafeteria



**Katelyn (Shaffer) Loper** (GBS 2019-current), cafeteria assistant. From Richfield, PA, Kate is a current student in the GBS

Music Division. Recently married to Scott Loper (see p.11), she also works as an assistant manager for Office Pride Cincinnati.



**Heather Darby**, assistant cook. Heather has been a stay-at-home mom and an office receptionist at Commonwealth Orthopedic. She and her husband Douglas live in Covington, KY. Their three children, Wyatt (13), Jacob (11), and Amelia (6), attend Aldersgate Christian Academy.



**Jonathan Payne** (GBS 2017-present), food service assistant. In 2017, Jonathan came to GBS from Westfield, IN, and is continuing to work toward earning a BA in church and family ministry. He already has experience working in the cafeteria dishroom as well as some experience in food preparation. His parents, Monica (Kyle) (AA '18, AA '19) and the late Dennis Payne (ThB '86), are GBS alumni. ■

## Dear Phil

easily put out by the idiosyncrasies or personality quirks of others. That's what Paul means when he says, "Put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another..." (Col. 3:12-13). You don't have to "bear with" someone who you enjoy being around or do not find annoying. Forbearance is needed when we're tempted to "lower the boom" or sharply reprimand. Has God shown us forbearance? Should we not then put up with one another in love? (Eph. 4:2).

After we have worked through these questions, we should give ourselves time to evaluate whether the offense is going to damage our ability to work, minister, or live with the other person. If we conclude that it will, then we should pursue a conversation that begins something like this:

1. *Could you help me with a problem I have?*
2. *When you said/did X, it felt to me like X, but I don't want to misinterpret you.*
3. *Could you help me understand what you meant by X or how you see X?*

By sharing your perspective and feelings without judging someone's motives or meaning, you open the door to a conversation that, more often than not, will resolve the issue. I heartily recommend *Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes are High* by Joseph Grenny, et al., for an excellent guide on how to have conversations about potentially explosive topics that will impact your relationships. It provides a great deal of wisdom and gives its readers access to a vast store of example scenarios via the newsletter published by VitalSmarts.

Blessings,  
Phil ■

**Dr. A. Philip Brown II** is the Graduate Program director and a member of the ministerial faculty at God's Bible School and College.

## WHEN A FELLOW BELIEVER OFFENDS US

**What should we do when someone offends us? —Stacey**

Dear Stacey,

Good question! I suppose the answer depends on two things: what you mean by "offends" and whether the "someone" is a fellow Christian. To keep things simple, I'm going to assume that you're talking about a Jesus-follower. What do we do when another Christian offends us?

In my column on this subject in March 2005, I noted that the word "offends" in Scripture primarily refers to "being a reason another person stumbles into sin." You have been offended in this biblical sense if someone's actions, attitude, or words have created a stumbling block for you—either you are being tempted to react sinfully or you have already tripped and fallen into sin. If you fell into sin, then you need to repent and make restitution. If it is the other person that sinned, then the passages that give us direction regarding what to do include Luke 17:3-4, Matthew 18:15-17, and 1 Corinthians 6:5-8. I've explored the Luke and Matthew texts in this column before. Let's take a moment with 1 Corinthians 6.

In 1 Corinthians 6, Paul addresses a situation where one church member has apparently financially defrauded another. Paul says they (and we) must not take the case to secular courts (1 Cor. 6:1, 6-7). What

we can do is have wise members in the church decide the case (1 Cor. 6:5). In a worst-case scenario where the offending party refuses to admit wrong or to correct the wrong, Paul then says, "Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?" (1 Cor. 6:7). Paul's point is that it is better simply to suffer a wrong by a fellow Christian and entrust ultimate justice to God's hands than it is to take it to a secular court.

In cases of being offended that do not involve sin, we should begin by examining ourselves:

- *Why am I offended? Should I be offended?*
- *Do I need to mature emotionally and/or spiritually? (1 Cor. 3:1-3)*
- *Have I done something that annoyed or irritated them? (Matt. 7:3-4)*
- *How might God want to use this "offense" to help me become more like Jesus?*
- *Am I thinking about them the way I want them to think about me in a reverse situation? (Luke 6:31)*
- *Am I assuming the best about their motives? (1 Cor. 13:7)*
- *Is there a way to interpret their words or actions so that they aren't offensive?*

Loving one another fervently (1 Pet. 1:22), implies that we are not



## student focus

### INTRODUCE YOUTH TO MISSIONARIES

“The Future of Missions” report by Barna suggests the churches that introduce their youth to missionaries inspire those young people to care about international missions. They are more likely to say that they will: give to missions (58% vs. 46% who don’t know a missionary), pray for missionaries (54% vs. 45%), go on a short-term mission trip (40% vs. 30%), and go on a long-term mission trip (22% vs. 9%).

### GEN Zers IDENTIFY AS LGBT

A Gallup poll released earlier this year showed that one in six of adult members of Gen Z (those who are 18 to 24) self-identify as LGBT (Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender). It has been pointed out that beyond those persons who truly experience same-sex attraction and struggle with gender dysphoria, simply calling oneself LGBT has become a sort of “cool club.” Those who struggle with emotional issues and find it difficult to fit in may claim to be homosexual or transgender simply because it affords them a place of belonging and acceptance.

### HEALTH BENEFITS OF KINDNESS

Various reputable studies have indicated that by spreading kindness, you can create a profound effect, not only on the emotional wellbeing of you and your loved

ones, but also on their physical wellbeing as well. Here are just six of the findings: being kind releases feel-good hormones, increases lifespan, creates more energy, lowers anxiety, prevents illness, and is contagious. Be kind!

### NETWORKS REFUSE TO AIR PRO-LIFE AD

The news website *The Daily Wire*, reported that CBS, CMT, and the Hallmark Channel refused to air a 30-second advertisement from the Susan B. Anthony List. The rationale the networks gave was that the advertisement is “controversial” and “unacceptable.” It is available for viewing at <https://www.facebook.com/SusanBAnthonyList/videos/902453820612043/>.

### SCOTUS RULE FAVORS CHRISTIAN FOSTER AGENCIES

In its 9-0 ruling in *Fulton v. Philadelphia*, the U.S. Supreme Court embraced religious rights over LGBT rights. The city stopped placing children in Catholic Social Services in 2018 due to the foster home’s policy against matching children with same-sex couples. “The refusal of Philadelphia to contract with CSS for the provision of foster care services unless it agrees to certify same-sex couples as foster parents cannot survive strict scrutiny, and violates the First Amendment,” Chief Justice John Roberts wrote. ■

**REBECCA BENNETT** had wanted to come to GBS for most of her life. She enjoyed hearing the Symphonic Wind and String Ensemble and dreamed of someday being in it. She always wanted to serve God, but she “truly became a Christian around the age of 11.”

Since Rebecca grew up in a small Pennsylvania town and was homeschooled her whole life, campus life was a big change for her. She is very thankful for her experiences at GBS. “There is always someone I can talk to if I have a problem of any kind. I have learned so many things spiritually from chapels and other services and also in my classes. I have become closer to God since coming to GBS.”

Rebecca plans to graduate with a BA in Church Music in the spring of 2023. Although she does not know what God has planned for her future, she would like to be a church pianist wherever He leads. “Whatever He wants me to do, I want to obey Him completely.” ■

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

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

or give online anytime at  
[www.gbs.edu/givenow](http://www.gbs.edu/givenow)

# 7 Seven Habits Every Leader Needs to Quit Immediately

by Ron Edmondson

I have often wished I could say something to every leader. Some things I've learned the hard way. I often share things leaders *should* do, but today I thought I'd share some things they *should not* do—some habits to quit.

## Measuring Success Compared to Another's Success

Your leadership will not be like someone else's leadership. It's not designed to be. You'll likely be successful in ways other leaders aren't. Some of those may be visible and measurable—some may not be. The goal should be to be the best leader you can be and measure your success by your obedience to being the leader God has designed you to be.

## Pretending to Have All the Answers

There's an unfair expectation many leaders face to be the person with the answer in every situation. Seriously, how's this working for you? The sooner you admit you don't have all the answers, the quicker your team will be willing to fill in your gaps—and surrendering is something God values in His followers.

## Trying to Be Popular

If you want to be popular, be a celebrity. If you want to be a leader, be willing to do the hard tasks to take people where they need (and probably want to go), but may be resistant along the way. Leadership can be lonely at times. Be prepared.

## Leading Alone

Just because leadership can be lonely doesn't mean you have to lead alone. Good leaders surround themselves with people who care, people who can hold them accountable and sharpen their character and their faith. If you have a tendency to separate yourself from others, stop now and reach out to someone. Take a bold risk of being vulnerable and release some of the weight of responsibility you feel.

GOD'S REVIVALIST and BIBLE ADVOCATE

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## Acting Like it Doesn't Hurt

When people you trust betray you, it hurts. Be honest about it. When people rebel against your leadership, it hurts. On days where it seems you have more enemies than friends, it hurts. Don't pretend it doesn't. You won't lead well if you're a cry baby, but you should have some outlets where you can share your pain.

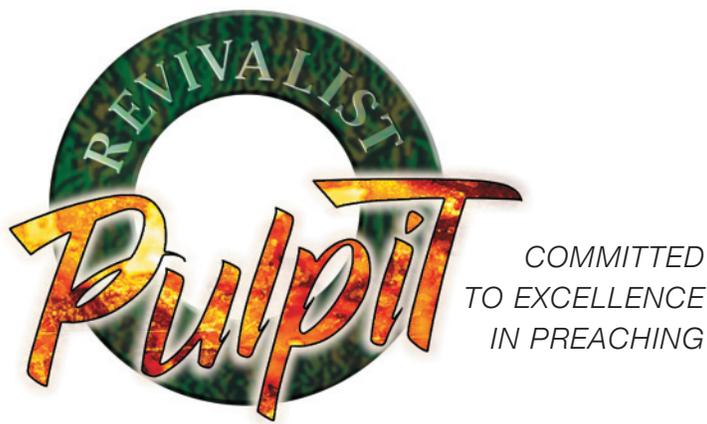
## Trying to Control Every Outcome

Three reasons not to: (1) It doesn't work. (2) It limits others. (3) It's not right. Leadership is not about control. It's about relational influence. When you control others you limit people to your abilities. When you empower people you limit people to their combined abilities as a team—and, keep in mind, there's strength in numbers.

## Ignoring the Warning Signs of Burnout

At some point in your leadership, if you really are leading through the deep waters of change, relational differences, or simply the stress of wearing the leader hat, you'll face burnout. When you start to have more negative thoughts than positive thoughts, when the pressure of leadership is unbearable for a long period of time, or when your leadership negatively starts to impact your physical or emotional health or your relationships, it's time to seek help.

*Ron Edmondson has been a consultant and coach for over 20 years, helping thousands of leaders and organizations. For over 35 years, he has served in senior ministry leadership roles. This article is from [ronedmondson.com](http://ronedmondson.com) and is used with permission.*



## THREE COMMON ERRORS DISCIPLERS MAKE

by David Fry

**Scripture: Matthew 28:19-20.** *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

### INTRODUCTION

The Church has been given a risky mission; or rather, Christians have been invited to partner with God to accomplish a divine mission. Jesus summarized that mission in Matthew 28:19, “Go therefore and make disciples.” There are many “how to” articles and books on how to make disciples but very few that explain the great risks. In his infinite wisdom God has entrusted a tremendous responsibility to very flawed beings, beings prone to make mistakes.

The dangers inherent in making disciples are not dissimilar to driving a car or piloting an airplane. Accidents happen due to human error. Just like a young driver learning behind the wheel, a young discipler has to begin somewhere. There are risks; we are prone to make mistakes during the learning process and even after years of experience. My goal here is not to talk about the dangers of our Christian mission itself, but rather to address the human element of the Church’s mission. Discipleship is risky because we are part of the process. I want to describe three errors we are prone to make.

### LEADING WITHOUT FOLLOWING

I subscribe to magazines and blogs on discipleship, I’m part of multiple Facebook groups on discipleship, I attend conferences on discipleship every year, and I regularly teach a class on discipleship; still,

I hardly ever hear anything about disciplers themselves being followers. Disciples? Yes, of course they are followers. But disciplers? Are they not the leaders?

It is a common falsehood that discipling is all about teaching someone else how to follow Jesus. Don’t get me wrong; leading someone else to follow Jesus is part of discipleship, but not everything. Leading someone else is not even the first part. Discipleship begins by following—the discipler being disciplined. This is how the Apostle Paul describes himself in 1 Corinthians 11:1, “Follow me as I follow Christ.” Which took place first: Paul leading the Corinthians or Paul following Christ? It’s obvious. Every discipler must first be a follower. The error to which we are prone is that we will attempt to lead someone else without being followers ourselves. Obviously, being followers of Christ is our first priority. Our error occurs most frequently when we fail to allow others—elders, mentors, peers—to lead us.

The Apostle Paul expresses awareness of this issue. While Paul says in 1 Corinthians 11:1 that he is first a follower of Christ, there is more to the story of Paul the Follower than that. In Galatians 2 Paul tells us that after he spent time with Jesus in the wilderness (Gal. 1:17), he went up to Jerusalem and spent time with the other apostles “in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain” (Gal. 2:2). In other words, Paul spent extended time comparing his understanding of Jesus with that of the other apostles to ensure that they were on the same page. This was an essential step in Paul’s apostleship. In fact, without it, he would not have been able to say to the Corinthians, “Follow me as I follow Christ.”

If you are thinking about discipling someone else, the first thing you should do is find someone to disciple you, if someone isn’t already. The reason this is so important is because discipleship isn’t about teaching someone how to follow me, but how to follow Jesus. If I am not consciously and continually aligning myself with the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before me, what makes me think it will be Jesus to whom I am pointing my disciples? If you are a pastor looking for a discipler, you should look either to a more experienced pastor, or to a peer who loves and respects you enough to tell you like it is and not just what you want to hear. In fact, if you think about it, you may already have a friend like that, someone who challenges your understanding of how to follow Jesus. If so, there is some discipleship taking place there. Call it what it is.

### TEACHING WITHOUT LEARNING

We often think of discipling in terms like teaching, modeling, mentoring, setting an example, and so

on. Discipleship certainly includes those things, but it is more than that. In fact, to imagine discipleship as only those activities is to make both the first error described above and the error suggested here. A discipler is as much a learner as a teacher. Every good teacher knows that you must first be a good learner.

Discipleship is not all about the disciple's growth; it is also about the discipler's growth. When the Apostle Paul describes various ministry roles in Ephesians 4:11—apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers—he adds that these roles are for the building up of the body of Christ, the Church. But what he says next is crucial for discipleship: “until we all attain...to maturity” (4:13) and “we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head” (4:15) and “when each part is working properly, it makes the body grow” (4:16). I emphasize the pronouns and collective noun here to show that the ministry of the church (i.e., discipleship) is not one-directional. Discipleship is about helping the entire body of Christ to mature and strengthen. Each discipler has as his aim not only his own personal growth but also the growth of his disciple.

Perhaps the most frequent way a discipler makes this error is by failing to listen. In the annual Discipleship Conference held at the church I pastor, I have come to believe that we need a session exclusively on listening every year. One doesn't learn without listening, observing, reflecting, and emulating. Yet continually I see disciplers doing far more talking than listening and, consequently, far more teaching than learning.

## MEETING WITHOUT GATHERING

What has been your discipleship experience? Perhaps something like this: Meet at a coffee shop, bring your Bible, talk one-on-one for an hour or so, then close with prayer together. If so, your discipleship experience is lacking and may even be unhealthy. If it's gone on that way for a long time, the disciple or discipler may have developed a co-dependent discipleship relationship. My point here is that discipleship includes one-on-one meetings, but that's not all discipleship includes. Discipleship is also a gathering. Discipleship is a church effort, by which I mean, discipleship is a community of God effort.

If disciples' growth experiences are always about one-on-one meetings and never about corporate gatherings, they are not experiencing what God has provided for them—namely, the Church. Even if many of us experience regular one-on-ones, we need community to grow. While one-on-ones are a wonderful way to introduce a person to Christ and to His Church, limiting our discipleship experience to coffee with a friend is like taking the same medicine for every ailment.

One-on-one is a great way to start, but a terrible way to end. Admittedly, it is far easier to disciple one-on-one than to join in a community effort. As the old adage says, everyone's responsibility is nobody's responsibility. Suggesting that discipleship is a corporate effort is a dangerous idea. It risks new converts and old converts falling through the cracks while everyone expects someone else to do something about it.

It is more difficult to take a disciple to the next level: the gathering level. Reaching this level doesn't mean abandoning your one-on-one meetings; rather, it means that one is bringing more iron to sharpen iron. Discipleship is about creating deep relationships with Christ and His Body, the Church. It is not all about meeting; it is also about gathering. Disciples will not likely learn how to become spiritual parents themselves until they have gained an appreciation for the gathering of the Church. If you are discipling someone who doesn't yet appreciate the gathering of the Church (perhaps their attendance is sporadic), don't make the error of overlooking the role of the Church in discipleship.

Research in the book *Sticky Faith* (Kara Powell and Chap Clark, Zondervan, 2011) shows that young people who have developed five meaningful relationships with adults in their local church are far more likely to stay in the church than otherwise. I believe the same is probably true for new converts and old converts as well.

In trusting this great responsibility of discipleship to us, God also gives us mentors to follow and learn from, and gatherings that are means of grace for our own soul.

After twenty-five years of discipleship ministry, I find that I need to be reminded of these common errors. I've made them and experienced the consequences. I've also found that they tend to occur together. One who is not following is likely not to be learning either. And when we are neither following nor learning from others, our gatherings are impoverished. If you are a new discipler, keep these in mind. If you have been discipling for some time, you have probably experienced all of these and hopefully have recognized them as mistakes. On the flip side, keep in mind that we are merely one part of God's vast plan to save souls. Our errors won't cause God's mission to fail, but avoiding these errors means reaping greater benefit for our own souls. ■

*Dr. David Fry (BA '02) has been involved with pastoral and teaching ministry since 2001 and is senior pastor of the Bible Holiness Church, Frankfort, IN. He is married to Sarah (Wolf) (HS '95; BA '00). They have six children and live in Frankfort, IN. This article originally posted at [holypoys.com](http://holypoys.com).*



# Archives

## BIRTH OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION part 4

In previous "Archives" columns, we began the history of the GBS Alumni Association, explaining that the impetus for its founding in 1950 was to save the school from crushing debt and previous mismanagement. We continue with the final installment of the account, bringing our readers up-to-date with the current status of the Alumni Association. —KF

### CHANGES FOR OUR TIME

The signing of documents on June 1, 1975, gave control of GBS to its Alumni Association. A major part of this transfer provided that the new Board of Trustees would be elected by the Alumni Association at its annual meeting.

Over the ensuing years, the Alumni Executive Council and the Board of Trustees regularly held a joint meeting in December in which together they nominated trustees. It was common practice for the sitting trustees to renominate current trustees whose terms were expiring. The Alumni Executive Council in turn brought names and resumes of new prospects to the meeting. The two groups would pair names for the next election of board members. This election took place during the annual "Alumni Corporation" meeting on the last weekend of the 10-

day camp meeting that marked the end of each school year in May.

Eventually those joint meetings were suspended and the trustee nominations were handled solely through the board. The president of the Alumni Association, as an *ex officio* member of the Board of Trustees, could suggest names that had been vetted by the Alumni Executive Council for consideration.

Over the years, as direct involvement of the Alumni Association in the process ceased, alumni participation in the voting process declined. The resulting smaller voter turnout raised concerns of potential problems, such as block voting that could swing an election, complications with absentee ballots, etc. Coupled with these concerns was the fact that the institution had started its drive toward regional accreditation, and the Higher Learning Commission discouraged having college trustees directly elected by the institution's alumni association. They indicated that the interest of the alumni in keeping the school as they remembered it would be a hindrance to necessary progress. Therefore, in 2002, the school created a Constitutional Revision Committee (CRC) which began reviewing options. The CRC included Dr. A. Wingrove Taylor, Leonard Sankey, Paul Mills, Dr. Ken Farmer, and President Michael Avery, who served as consultant.

In May 2004, GBS had the official documents of the school reviewed by a local law firm. When the results of that proved less than desirable, the help of the Christian Law Association of Seminole, Florida, under the direction of Attorney David Gibbs, Jr., was secured. They proposed "to change the election process and reconstitute the board as a self-perpetuating board," which they indicated was "more in line with the board selection processes used by Bible colleges and other large ministries around the

country and [would] streamline the selection process considerably." They named other areas for needed improvement and offered to guide GBS in making these changes.

On May 25, 2004, an informal meeting of the CRC and the Alumni Executive Council (AEC) met in the Oswald Chambers Room at GBS. Members present from the AEC included Dennis Joslin, Viola Durr, Joe Smith, and Steve Stetler. Also attending was Jack Hooker, who served as vice president for advancement as well as the administration's liaison to the AEC.

One concern raised at the meeting was for proper systems of checks and balances in the control of the school under the proposed constitutional changes. However, even with those concerns, CRC members were "still very supportive of a self-perpetuating board" and were committed to work out the details with the AEC. There was a general consensus that, as the board chair later put it, "The Board of Trustees has proven itself capable of providing stable and careful governance of the school, and of exercising conscientious stewardship of the assets and heritage with which God has endowed God's Bible School."

As the AEC also expressed their commitment to this process, the joint group authorized Jack Hooker to proceed with all the necessary legal work to get the document distributed to all concerned parties in sufficient time for board approval and alumni evaluation.

Attorney David Gibbs was at the following meeting of the corporation during Homecoming 2004. The vote was almost 100% in favor of the proposed constitutional changes. Therefore, the Alumni Association passed control of the school over to a self-perpetuating board. Although the alumni no longer voted directly for trustees, they received notice on changes to the *Ministry Bylaws* and had an opportunity to provide feed-

back. They also continued to elect members of the Alumni Executive Committee, which was active in the planning and execution of the various alumni events, such as Homecoming and the Alumni Reception at the Interchurch Holiness Convention, and they selected the recipient of the annual *Alumnus of the Year Award*.

Even though the Alumni Executive Council continued to function, it lost some of its drive and direct impact on school events. Earlier in its existence, the alumni had an office located on campus, which was staffed on a part-time basis by members of the council, and the school had even paid for part-time secretarial help. However, in the 1990s, the loss of this office space and paid help resulted in the council having even less impactful connection to the school. Though the Alumni Association no longer voted on trustees, the board still maintained a strong alumni presence on its membership, officers, and committee leadership.

In the April 2020 issue of *God's Revivalist*, Board Chair Robert England, Jr., noted that over the previous year, the Board of Trustees had been hard at work reviewing and updating the institution's *Ministry Bylaws*, and, as called for in the existing bylaws, was sharing them with the Alumni Association in order that its members could give feedback before the board took a final vote.

Significant changes included the dissolution of the Alumni Executive Council along with its officers. These proposed changes to the *Ministry Bylaws* at first glance might have been seen as diminishing the influence of the Alumni Association on the school even more. However, a closer examination actually showed an intent to strengthen alumni involvement in the school. This was accomplished with the creation of a new standing committee of the Board of Trustees—the Alumni

Relations Committee. The new bylaws stipulate that the board members appointed to this committee must all be alumni. They also select several at-large (non-trustee) alumni representatives. As Board Chair England stated, "This move is intended to strengthen the connection of the school with its most valuable asset—the alumni—and create new ways to encourage alumni involvement with their alma mater."

The former *Alumni Association Constitution* was modified to fit better the structure of the new alumni committee, and it was folded into a larger document containing the policies and procedures related to the Alumni Association. While the alumni restructuring removed the position of alumni president and, subsequently, that *ex officio* seat on the Board of Trustees, the updated version of the *Ministry Bylaws* requires that a minimum of seven trustees must be alumni of God's Bible School and College, therefore maintaining a strong GBS alumni perspective in the board room. The outgoing members of the Alumni Executive Council voiced

their support for these changes and voted unanimously to approve it. The board gave final approval in its May 2021 meeting.

The school has also reestablished an office to provide assistance for the alumni. Duane Quesenberry (BRE '94) who just recently joined the staff (see p.19) is replacing Ken Farmer (BRE '77) who had served as facilitator and liaison since 2020. It is good to know that alumni now have a person and an established place as a connection point for the alumni. Questions, concerns, or suggestions for the Alumni Office or the Alumni Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees may be submitted by email to [alumni@gbs.edu](mailto:alumni@gbs.edu) or by phone to 513-763-6520. We look forward to hearing from you! —KF 📌



Dir. of Public Relations Duane Quesenberry, Alumni Liaison



Current GBS Board of Trustees—back L-R: Brenda Herring, Daniel Edwards, Nathan Smith, Robbie England (chair), Monte Stetler, Jr.; front L-R: David Boardman, Leonard Sankey, Jack Hooker, Rob Ryan, Viola Durr, Jonathan Witter, Keith Waggoner I, Rodney Loper (president); not pictured: David Crosley, John Manley.



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11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If None, check box  None

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The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:  
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months  
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

13. Publication Title God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below October 1, 2021
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15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		4,522	4,600
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	4,362	4,521
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	0	0
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS	0	0
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		4,362	4,521
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0	0
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or Other Means)	110	29
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))		110	29
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		4,472	4,550
g. Copies Not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		50	50
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		4,522	4,600
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		98%	99%

16.  Total Circulation Includes electronic copies. Report circulation on PS Form 3526-X worksheet.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership  
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the October 2021 issue of this publication.  Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner  
Kenneth R. Farmer, Sr. (Managing Editor)  Date  
Sept. 17, 2021

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).



by Sonja Vernon

## TRUE SECURITY

*“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord.... He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”*  
—Jeremiah 17:7-8 (ESV)

How do you picture security? Do you visualize the absence of trouble or imagine thriving in the face of hardship? The prophet Jeremiah has the latter in mind when he paints the picture of a tree planted by water. The people of Judah had placed their confidence in what they could see and accumulate instead of in an invisible God. Jeremiah challenges their faulty logic. Those who put their trust in human strength will be like shriveled shrubs in the desert (vv. 5-6), but those who trust in the Lord will be like a tree planted by water. This tree need never worry about any outward threat. Drought will come, heat will come, but the tree has its roots planted deep in the stream. In the harshest conditions, it will remain green and continue to bear fruit. Why should it be anxious? Whatever a broken world throws its direction, its supply is untouched, and it flourishes in conditions that should kill it.

My friend, where is your trust today? Are you scrambling to make sure you will be ready when the next big thing hits? Or are you planted deep in the water of God's provision? We will have trouble. That is a guarantee. But when our trust is anchored in our good Father, there is no need to fear. He has obligated Himself to care for His children, and He isn't stingy. He can keep us strong and fruitful even in the face of drought. Trust Him! 📖

Sonja Vernon is Vice President for Student Affairs at God's Bible School.



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