



WELCOME TO THE YELLE FAMILY

MISSIONAIRES TO BRAZIL

WELCOME TO THE YELLE FAMILY – MISSIONAIRES TO BRAZIL

I am happy to introduce our newest Missionary family, John and Neila Yelle. They are veteran missionaries to the southern Brazilian city of Caxias do Sul, located in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. They have three daughters; Jonecia, Leila, and Katherine. Jonecia is married. Leila and Katherine will be in college here in the states as the Yelle's return to their ministry in Brazil. They are on furlough until September 2017. Please pray for them and their Ministry.

*John Peeples
IBFI Mission Director*

Dear friends,

"Oh magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together." Ps 34:3

Since March, our support level has increased by 15%! Praise the Lord! We still have another 10% to raise to reach our goal. This raise in support is needed to expand our ministry to another church plant in the southwest region of the city of Caxias do Sul.

We are excited that a new family, Emerson and Sintia and their son and daughter, are attending the services at the mission work! They had a part in our first church plant, and they are now helping in the second.

The congregation celebrated Easter with fellowship after the morning services. Neura made a profession of faith in November and is going through discipleship with Iva. She brought her husband João to the Easter service.

The preaching and teaching at the Independent Baptist congregation is headed up by Vilson and Maycon, two men who have been with us from the start of the new mission work. Roberto, a deacon from Tabernacle Baptist (the first church plant), is also helping on Sundays. It is a big blessing to see how the Brazilian brethren are uniting together to keep the young mission work advancing.

Our prayer requests are:

- Full summer of meetings, and an increase of another 10% support
- Continued safety in our travels
- Wisdom and understanding for Vilson, Maycon, and Roberto in their teaching and preaching
- Edification and strengthening of the Caxias do Sul congregation

Please note that we have added a phone number on the bottom of the page. It is an internet number that will continue to be valid when we return to Brazil. Thank you all again for your prayers and support of our ministry. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be manifest daily in your lives!

In His service,

Yelles

John & Neila Yelle
jnyelle5@gmail.com
(425) 358-6044

Constance Ann Nixon June 05, 1933 - March 31, 2017

IBFI missionary to the North American Indians, Constance Ann Nixon, 83, passed away on March 31, 2017, at her home in Baldwin, North Dakota.

Connie married Charles Abram Nixon on September 12, 1951. In December 1978, Charles and Connie, following the leading of the Lord, moved to Mandan to begin their ministry to the Indian tribes of North Dakota. They were sent out of Worth Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. When the IBFI was organized in 1984, they became part of the initial group of IBFI missionaries.

Connie is survived by her seven children; eighteen grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; her sister, Nancy (Holt) Elofson; and her brother, Kent Holt.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 60 years, Charles; and son-in-law, Glenn Sparks.
- John Peeples, IBFI Mission Director

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

724 N. Jim Wright Freeway
Fort Worth, Texas 76108

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FT. WORTH, TX
PERMIT # 2182

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

The Searchlight

JUNE/JULY 2017 VOLUME 34 ISSUE 1

IBFI SPRING FELLOWSHIP MEETING MAY 22 -25, 2017



CATCH THE VISION!

FROM THE PEN OF THE PRESIDENT | NEWS & EVENTS | SCHOOL, MISSIONS & ALUMNI NEWS

IBFI Mission Agency
Helping independent Baptist churches get their missionaries to the field!

With local church sent missionaries serving in

- Brazil
- Dominican Republic
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Mexico
- U.S.A

Help us expand to reach around the world!
Visit us on the web: www.ibfi.us email: missionoffice@ibfi.us

NORRIS BIBLE BAPTIST SEMINARY
A School of Specialization Since 1984

SAME BIBLE, SAME DOCTRINE, SAME OBJECTIVE as the Old BBS
THEY WENT UP INTO AN UPPER ROOM - ACTS 1:13

DR. LOUIS ENTZINGER lecturing at the BIBLE BAPTIST SEMINARY of Fort Worth, Texas with DR. J. FRANK NORRIS looking on.

The Searchlight

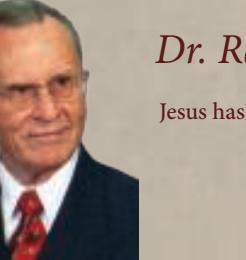
A publication and ministry of the Independent Baptist Fellowship International

724 N. Jim Wright Freeway | Ft. Worth, TX 76108 | Phone: 817.367.3422 | Fax: 817.246.4884 | Email: info@IBFI.us | Website: www.IBFI.us

IBFI Board of Directors: Pastor Mark Brown, Dr. Raymond Barber, Mission Director John Peeples, NBBS President Jonathan Stewart, Pastor Glen Anderson, Pastor Phillip Blackwell, Pastor Raymond Castro, Pastor Eric Crawford, Pastor Fred Ferren, Pastor Tyler Gillit, Pastor David Grice, Pastor Dale Harris, Sr., Pastor Frank Hefner, Pastor David Webb and Dr. Charles Wetherbee.

JESUS – BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR

Dr. Raymond W. Barber, IBFI President Emeritus



Jesus has many titles in the Bible, but none is more fitting, more inclusive, more glorious, and more descriptive than the appellation in Revelation 22:16 ("Bright and Morning Star").

AS BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR:

- Jesus reflects the glory of God—John 1:1, 2.
- Jesus is the express image of God—Hebrews 1:1-4.
- Jesus is co-equal with God—John 10:30.

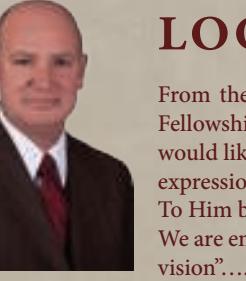
- He is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent.
- He is all-prevailing and all-sufficient.
- He is the Alpha and Omega and the Ancient of Days.
- He is sovereign, supreme, supernal, and eternal.
- He is the saviour, the sustainer, and the satisfier of the human heart.
- He is the redeemer, the regulator, and the ruler of the human race.
- He was, is, and forever shall be the Son of God.
- He is the maker of heaven and earth.
- He is the master of time and manager of eternity.
- He is Lord of life and the conqueror of death.
- He is the keeper of our hearts and the caretaker of our souls.

LET'S GO WITH HIM THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES

- He walked with Adam in the Garden of Eden at the dawn of creation.
- He sailed with Noah in the ark when the floodwaters of God's judgment covered the earth.
- He communed with Abraham on the Plains of Mamre and made a covenant with him that can never be annulled.
- He suffered with Joseph in the prison of Pharaoh and brought him out to become the Prime Minister of Egypt.
- He spoke with Moses on the Mount of God and identified Himself as the "Great I Am."
- He marched with Joshua around the walls of Jericho and caused them to fall down flat.
- He fought with Gideon against the Midianites and proved the strategy of a bedraggled army.
- He wrestled with Samson against the Philistines and brought victory to His people.
- He gleaned with Ruth in the field of Boaz and gave her handfuls of purpose.
- He counseled with Samuel in the chambers of Israel and guaranteed him victory.
- He fought with David against Goliath and demonstrated the victory of youth against a giant.
- He labored with Solomon in the building of the temple and called it the House of God.
- He rode with Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind.
- He watched with Daniel in the den of lions and brought him out unscathed and unscratched.
- He strolled with the three Hebrew children through the fiery furnace and delivered them without the smell of smoke on their clothing.
- He stayed with John the Baptist while the Roman axe severed his head from his body and gave him a "short-cut to glory" (Pardon the pun).
- He comforted Peter in the prison house of Herod and designated him "the Apostle to the Jews."
- He crossed with Paul over the stormy waters of the Mediterranean Sea and brought him safely to his designated port.
- He consoled the Apostle John on the lonely, wind-swept Isle of Patmos and gave him the revelation of things to come.

THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR SHINES BRIGHTER THAN EVER!

LOOK! Mark Brown, IBFI President



From the opening hymn to the last Amen, what a great spirit prevailed during the Spring Fellowship of the Independent Baptist Fellowship International! The music was inspiring, the preaching was encouraging, and the fellowship of God's people was sweet. I would like to extend a special "thank you" to all who went out of their way to make these few days together a special time. Our greatest expression of gratitude, however, goes to the Lord. He certainly blessed the meeting in more ways than we can include in this article. To Him be the glory!

We are encouraged as well as excited to see what the Lord is doing in every ministry of the IBFI. It is evident that many have "caught the vision".... but what do we do now?... what's next? It has been said, "Vision without action soon fades." Let us remain faithful to what He wants us to do. We believe the best days are ahead for our mission agency, our school, and our fellowship as a whole, as we continue in the vision He has given us.

"Catch the Vision"..... Look Behind You - what God has done TO us,
FOR us, THROUGH us!
"Catch the Vision"..... Look Above You - what God can and will do!
"Catch the Vision"..... Look Around You - see the need!
"Catch the Vision"..... Look Ahead of You - see the potential!
"Catch the Vision"..... Look Within You - what can I do?

VISION CAUGHT!

**Jonathan J. Stewart,
NBBS President**

NO HYPE NECESSARY

We have the best leadership possible over the NBBS, the Spirit of God. As we follow His leading we can be assured of His ministry in our midst. It is evident He is blessing greatly.

There was a coalescing of everything said and done from start to finish in this year's annual national IBFI meeting. The vision has been caught by the students, faculty, preachers and churches, the ranks of which were added to yet again in the past few days. Several individuals committed to getting involved afresh. Anyone present at the 33rd annual gathering of IBFI preachers will tell you that it is not necessary to hype the report of the true nature of the events from Monday night through Thursday morning.

The grounds and facilities were wonderfully readied again by the Spanish church (under the direction of Bro. Antonio Aguilar), and through the efforts of Bro. and Mrs. Frizzell (our business manager and secretary) and Dr. Terry Riggsby, as well as others who lent a hand here and there.

We readily reached and passed our offering goal of \$50,000.00. Since the meeting additional funds have come in from churches of pastors who were unable to be present. Some more pastors committed to begin monthly support of NBBS during the offering time. Prospective students for the seminary were waiting in the wings throughout the week. I enjoyed visiting with them and the many preachers who expressed great enthusiasm for the school.

PREACHING WAS CENTRAL

The Monday night fish fry dinner would have been well received by the sons of Zebedee! Bro. Terry "fished all night" on more than one occasion, and apparently fished on the "other side of the boat," having caught hundreds of fish. There was an abundance, and it took discipline to hold one's self to no more than three helpings! The same triad of churches made it happen as they have in the past -- Friendship, Heritage and Messiah Baptist. Afterwards, Dr. Roger Green greatly enriched us with his Monday night message, and we were off and running!

Tuesday's morning sermons from Bro. Bob Wallace and Bro. Claude Sutton, and then Bro. Roger Green were all "spot on." The graduation service Tuesday night was capped off with a challenge by Bro. Charles Wetherbee to the graduates and to all present on the hands of God. Congratulations to our five graduates: Jared Blair, Floyd Cabler, Nathan Howard, Cody Jones, and Jarrod Tunnell. May the hand of God be upon each of you for years to come as you influence the lives of thousands with the grace of God through church-based ministry and the preaching and teaching of God's Word.

CLOSING WORDS OF GRATITUDE
Although Bro. Gene Stokes was not able to be with us in Texas this year, his influence on Wednesday morning was again seen, heard and felt as Bro. Robert Barrow opened in prayer, then Bro. Michael Wiggins and his daughter Shelby sang, then Bro. Jeremy Blackwell and Bro. Mark Brown preached. These are some of the men who were called to preach and went out from Faith Bible Baptist Church in Pensacola, Florida.

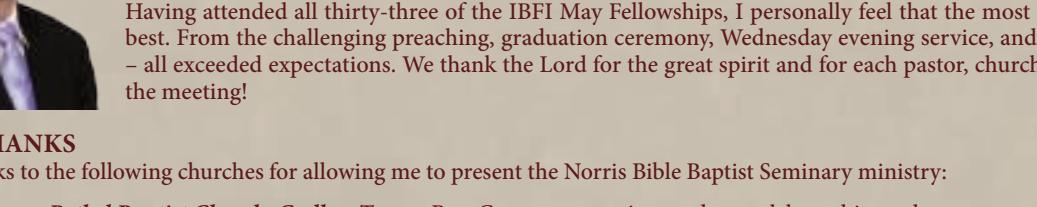
Why we have NBBS was clearly exemplified in it all. Beyond the lasting effects of a pastor's ministry, the impact of Bro. Gene and his wife shows how it is greatly multiplied by the men and women who have entered the ministry under his pastorate and were trained in Norris or another Bible college of like faith. Bro. Brown, who is married to Bro. Stoke's daughter Tracy, now has children in the ministry too.

Wednesday night in the sanctuary of Victory Baptist Church in Weatherford, Texas, a great crowd gathered to hear Bro. John Yelle missionary to Brazil, and Dr. Raymond Barber. An exposition through a portion of Colossians from the

GREAT FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Dr. Terry Riggsby, NBBS Field Representative

missionary showed us his heart and that of the Apostle Paul. The sermon from our Chancellor was uplifting, reinforcing and as solid as ever.



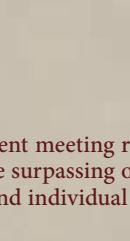
SPECIAL THANKS

A Special thanks to the following churches for allowing me to present the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary ministry:

Pastor Irby Graves, Bethel Baptist Church, Godley, Texas. Bro. Graves was getting ready to celebrate his tenth year as pastor. Pray for him as he continues to preach the gospel and reach his area for Christ.

Pastor John Moore, Steiner Baptist Church, Whitney, Texas. Bro. Steiner has recently taken over this work and is already in a building program.

Please feel free to call me at 817-648-1859, if you are interested in having me come and present the NBBS ministry.



1 John 1:3



1 John 1:3

