

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

# The *Searchlight*

Promoting IBFI Missionaries, Churches, Crown Southwest and Norris Seminary

Vol. 25 Issue 5

"Official Newsletter of the Independent Baptist Fellowship International of Ft. Worth, Texas"

January/February 2010

## IBFI Metro-plex Meeting - Dallas/Fort Worth Area



*Above: The January meeting of the Metro-plex IBF was held in the Raymond W. Barber Conference Center. Among the many guests were seventy-eight pastors, missionaries, and evangelists.*



*Above: Bro. Andrew Johnson, music director from Worth Baptist Church, led the singing and played a special on his viola.*



*Left to right: Dr. Clarence Sexton, pastor of Temple Baptist Church and President of Crown College in Powell, Tennessee, Dr. Willie Weaver, President of IBFI and pastor of Worth Baptist Church in Ft. Worth, Texas, and Evangelist Glenn Phipps from Weatherford, Texas, visit.*



*Left: Guests at the meeting enjoyed a delicious barbecue lunch, served by the students from Crown Southwest*

# From the President's Pen



**Dr. Willie Weaver**  
IBFI President  
Pastor  
Worth Baptist Church.  
Ft. Worth, Texas

I am excited and looking forward to the NATIONAL MEETING of the INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL (IBFI) that will be held MONDAY, MAY 17-THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010. The Board of Directors met in Fort Worth, Texas, on January 15, 2010, and planned the meeting. The theme for the meeting is "TRUE TO THE FAITH IN CHANGING TIMES." A portion of Jude 3 was chosen as our Scripture: "... earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."



**Robin Webb**  
Alumni President

The summer of 2007 was a difficult time for Mananatha Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia. Following a violent storm, the roof on the auditorium collapsed as the church members watched. There was nothing that could be done to stop the devastation. After the building was secured, the church removed everything that could be salvaged and began holding services in their gymnasium. A lengthy battle with their insurance carrier ensued, and after two years the judge in the case ruled in their favor. It had been two and a half years of trial that ended in God's people being blessed and God receiving the glory. On January 3, 2010, NBBS Alumnus, **Pastor Mark Brown** led the church in a groundbreaking ceremony, with construction activity on their new sanctuary beginning the next day. **Pastor**

The speakers have been chosen and the program set.

On Monday night we are having the J. FRANK NORRIS MEMORIAL BANQUET at the RAYMOND W. BARBER CONFERENCE CENTER in Fort Worth. A wonderful meal is planned and it will be a great time to fellowship with IBFI friends.

Tuesday night will be the CROWN SOUTHWEST, NORRIS SEMINARY AND FORT WORTH SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE GRADUATION.

On Wednesday night the service will be held at WORTH BAPTIST CHURCH. We will be recognizing and awarding the pastor that brings the highest percentage of people based on his previous Sunday's attendance. I want to encourage all of you Pastors, especially in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, to bring your folks to the meeting. Worth Baptist will suspend our regular Wednesday programs (Youth, Master Club, etc.) and bring them into this special service. I hope you will consider doing the same.

EACH MORNING, Tuesday-

Thursday, there will be great BIBLE PREACHING with excellent, edifying singing, and special music.

Could I encourage you to make your plans now? Don't delay and don't miss this GREAT MEETING. I know that it will take special effort and financial planning to attend, but the extra effort will be worth it. Someone said, "encouragement is oxygen to the soul." Come, be challenged and encouraged. You'll be glad you did.

## Make your plans now to attend the

### Fall Fellowship Meeting

October, 12 - 14, 2010  
**Pensacola Baptist Temple**  
Pensacola, Florida  
Host Pastor - **Glen Anderson**

## Alumni News

**Brown** anticipates the building being completed in time for the twenty-sixth anniversary this summer. Pray for good weather and safety of the work crews.

The Lord has a new missionary couple on the ground in Croatia. NBBS Alumnus **Scott Holcomb** and his family arrived at the end of December in the land to which God has called them to minister. They are adjusting to life

in a foreign culture and enjoying the snow. Pray for them as they become acclimated to the culture and begin their language studies. They will be working closely with NBBS alumnus **Johnny Leslie** and his family. **The Holcombs** are sent out of the Faith Baptist Church in Aransas Pass, Texas, which is pastored by **Bro. Chris Boatman**, a 1988 graduate of Norris Bible Baptist Institute.



**Pastor Mark**  
**Brown** turns over  
a shovel of dirt at  
the groundbreaking ceremony.

## Once Upon a Time...

# A MAN WAS SWALLOWED BY A WHALE and LIVED TO TELL THE TALE



**Dr. Raymond Barber**  
Chancellor CSW-NS  
Pastor Emeritus,  
Worth Baptist Church  
Fort Worth, Texas

anything but calm. Born in Galilee and belonging to the northern kingdom, he ministered as a missionary to the Gentiles. Hence, he is known as the "prophet of the Gentiles."

The city Jonah was commissioned to target with the message of repentance was Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian Empire. No mean city, the population was upwards of one million, with 120,000 babies who were not old enough to discern their right hand from their left (4:11). Situated on the Tigris River, Nineveh was founded by Nimrod (Gen. 10:11) and destroyed by the Babylonians in 612 B.C.

Nineveh's massive walls reached 100 feet into the air and boasted 1,500 towers. Three chariots could roll abreast on top of its walls. It was in 1842 that archeologists uncovered the site, lending credence to the biblical record as well as to the historical account of its massiveness.

It could easily be said of Jonah, "You can't keep a good man down."

Jonah, a bigoted Jew who only reluctantly preached to the Gentiles, was the son of Amittai (Jonah 1:1). His name means "dove"; however, his ministry—between 862 and 782 B.C. - was

A prophet of the Assyrian period of prophecy (1100-626 B.C.), Jonah became the first missionary to a Gentile nation. Although his life and unusual experience in the belly of the whale have been doubted, disputed, and discredited by modern scholars, we do well to remember that his actual existence and sojourn in the belly of the great fish was vouched for by the Lord Jesus Himself in Matthew 12:38-41, where He said, "(One) greater than Jonas is here."

Jonah, a whale of a man, teaches us a vital lesson on the inclusiveness of the good tidings of the message of God to all men, not just the representative nation, Israel. Thus, the theme of the book is to teach the Jews that the salvation of the Lord is for the Gentiles as well as the Jews (Isa. 49:6; Rom. 3:29).

### Let us Learn From Jonah

1. God commissions men for specific ministries (Jonah 1:1,2).
2. When men disobey God's call, divine judgment comes (1:3,4).
3. There is a price to pay when one refuses to do God's bidding (1:3).
4. One man's disobedience affects others associated with him (1:5-7).
5. A man called of God cannot hide his relationship to God (1:8-10).
6. A man of God knows the problems he causes when he is out of the will of God (1:11-15).
7. No man lives to himself, but influences others (1:16).
8. God gives men a second chance to fol-

low His instructions and to do His will (3:1,2).

9. When the man of God obeys and proclaims the truth, people respond and God is glorified (3:3-10).

10. God deals with man's anger (4:1-11).

### Summary

Nothing frustrates the plan and purpose of God. In His wise providence, He works His will and way in the lives of men and nations. The whole human race is subject to Him, and all forces of nature are under His divine restraint.

The same God who prepared the gourd for a demonstration to teach His prophet a vital lesson can prepare the necessary elements—spiritual and physical—to teach His people the things He ordains us to know.

To know Him is to love Him, and to love Him is to obey Him. What is your relationship to God? How do you rate on a scale of 1 to 10? Take inventory and look at yourself as God sees you.

Even if you, like Jonah, have failed, remember, "For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again" (Prov. 24:16).

### The following books by Dr. Barber are available:

- Once Upon a Time*
- Dear Lord, Tell Me What to Do*
- Family Success*
- Family Portraits*
- What the Bible Teaches*
- Don't Look Now, But Your ATTITUDE is Showing*
- A Cup of New Wine*
- Profile of a Preacher*
- Diamonds From Daniel*
- Don't Look Now, But Your RELIGION is Showing*
- Walking in Wisdom*
- Look Up, Christian, Christ is Coming!*
- Untying NOTS in Proverbs*
- The Bible is Right*
- For Times Like These*

To order, contact Dr. Raymond Barber at 817-295-2829.

## GOLDEN MOMENTS WITH GOD

### Dr. Barber's newest book

**A devotion for each 365 days of the year**

**A companion book for your Bible**

**Order from Crown Publications**

**[bookshop@faithforthefamily.net](mailto:bookshop@faithforthefamily.net)**

## He Shall Cause Them to Inherit



**Bro. John Peeples**  
IBFI  
Mission Director

One of the most important tasks that God gives us is that of preparing those who will take our places when we are not able to continue on. The future leaders of our Lord's work are being prepared now. One day, Moses arrived at the Jordan only to find out that he would go no further. God tells us to prepare the next generation of pastors, missionaries, godly women and leaders that will take our place when we reach our Jordan. He told Moses in Deuteronomy 3:27b-28 "*for thou shalt not go over this Jordan. But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see.*"

There is no greater work than causing people to inherit God's Promises. Here in the United States and around the world, there is a need for leaders who will cause people to inherit God's promises. Salvation in Jesus Christ is free to all, but it is the soul-winner who preaches the Gospel that causes lost

people to inherit eternal life. Faith and patience are required to inherit God's promises, but who will cause the people to patiently trust in God? "*He that overcometh shall inherit all things,*" but who will lead God's children to overcome the temptations and sins that destroy the nations? Isaiah 9:16 is still true: "*For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed.*" Yes, there are many leaders, but what we need are leaders who will cause a wayward world to turn to God. Surely God is calling and preparing leaders to lead his people in the right paths.

Joshua had already been prepared, tested, and found faithful. Of the twelve leaders that went to spy out the Promised Land, only two passed the test. Joshua was one of the two. Joshua was trained while serving together with God's people as they overcame the enemies and obstacles of Moses' day. Preparation of leaders is a long and costly process that requires time and resources. We have many opportunities available to prepare the next generation.

Consider some of the resources available here at the IBFI. The Fort Worth School of the Bible meets one evening a week so that church members can better prepare for ministries in their local church, learning under gifted Bible teaching from trusted men of God. Crown Southwest is a tremendous resource for men and women preparing for the ministry. Students sit

under the life-changing Bible teaching of faithful pastors and experienced teachers of God's Word. The IBFI Mission Agency is a valuable help for Independent Baptist missionaries and Independent Baptist churches as we work together to send the light of the Gospel around the world.

In his autobiography, Tom Landry gave this definition for leadership; "getting people to do what they don't want to do in order to achieve what they want to achieve." That was Moses' job. That was Joshua's job. That is our job. That is the job we must prepare others to do. And after Joshua was prepared, proven, and chosen, God told Moses to do three more things. First, he told Moses to **charge** him, then to **encourage him**, and finally to **strengthen** him. The future depended on Joshua just as the past depended on Moses. Who is your Joshua?

Moses was leading one small nation; we have been told to go "into all the world." God told us what we must do in order to achieve what we want to achieve. If we could achieve by ourselves, we would not need a leader. However, we often do not want to do what we ought to do. It seems too hard. It seems unnecessary and not to our liking. We think we can get by without effort. We need a leader to help us do that which must be done. Let us be that leader. Let us train the next leader. Let us work together. Let us "cause them to inherit."

### Missionaries on Furlough

**Harold & Lena Priday**  
May - October 2010

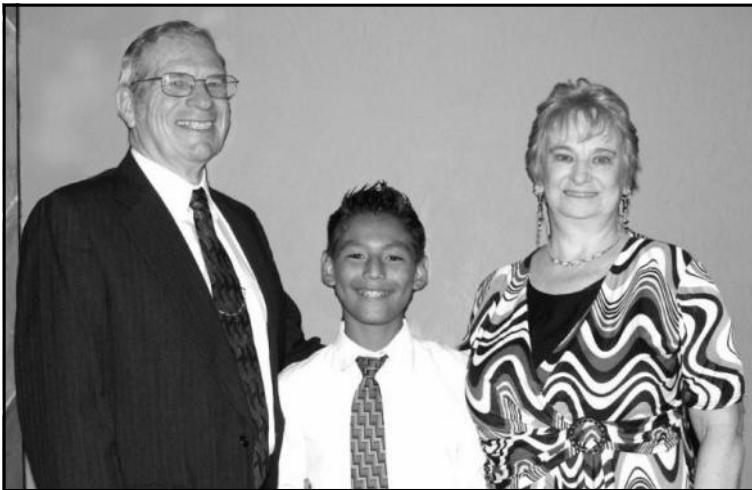
**Ron & Kathy Valerio**  
May 2010 - May 2011

### Please Pray for our IBFI Missionaries

Daniel & Tammy Coates  
Darrain & Mari Coker  
Steve & Mary Earlywine  
True & Diane Hawkins  
Mark & Tricia Haynes  
John & Connie Hinton  
Melissa Houston  
Ted & Karin Johnson  
C.L. Jones  
Danny & Michelle Jones

Flo Martin  
Larry & Regina McKinney  
Don & Flo McMillan  
Charles & Connie Nixon  
Harold & Lena Priday  
Leslie & Alba Priday  
Bill & Sharon Smith  
Ron & Kathy Valerio  
Leon & Becky Wambsganns

## Harold and Lena and Nathan Priday Missionaries to Honduras



Serving as missionaries to Honduras since 1973 has been a wonderful blessing and a great experience. We thank the Lord for every year we have had to serve Him and for calling us into this exciting work. The Lord has allowed us to reach many remote areas, to give out literally hundreds of thousands of tracts, New Testaments and Bibles, to see many souls saved, to see missions started and seven churches organized.

We are pleased to report that the first church organized 32 years ago is still doing a fine job. They have the same wonderful pastor and, besides enlarging their building last year, continued to reach out to other areas that are without the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. One of the churches we established has started six other churches, trained pastors and Sunday School teachers and has a strong mission outreach. The last church established was started ten years ago. We trained the pastor, led the Sunday School teachers to the Lord and trained them. Two men surrendered their lives last year to serve the Lord. It is a very strong church. It is exciting to tell you that the mission work we have been working with now has a young man in training to be pastor, and their own Sunday School teachers. It will soon be organized into a church. Walter, the pastor in training,

has named his first baby, Harold, after me.

Last year we helped with Daily Vacation Bible School in a very remote area, Otatala. The mission work there has a new building and a pastor in training. There were 82 in attendance. The road to get there was horrible, but the rewards were great. Bibles were placed in the homes of this small village and tracts were given out. Most of the people had never seen a Bible.

Our Bible institute hosted classes for the deaf and those who wanted to learn the deaf language to work with them. We were able to print 150 copies of the dictionary they use to learn from. The Bible institute hosted the ladies' conference. Many churches participated in this special conference with Martha Johnson from our home church in Weatherford, Texas, teaching while Lena translated. The institute also hosted a men's conference that I taught. People came from far away to attend.

Youth camp was very rewarding. We had a good turn out and the teaching was excellent. One of the camp leaders was a young person in our first youth camp 33 years ago. Now, he is a pastor in the capital city. Many committed their lives to the Lord, and we pray to see tremendous results as we look forward.

This year we plan for more DVBS's, men's and ladies' conferences, and youth camp. The work also continues through the mission works and special

meetings. There is always the hope of starting a new mission.

A special blessing this past year was the Christmas cantata with three churches participating. Leslie, our oldest son, took pictures; Alba, Leslie's wife, sang in the choir; Halbert, our grandson, led the choir; and Edgar, our grandson, was the sound engineer. It was beautifully done and a great joy to see Leslie's family working together as a team.

Lena continues to teach the sixth grade. Nathan is now in the seventh grade. They have had a witness to thousands of people through the school. This fall they will be home schooling. Lena and I will be celebrating 50 years of marriage next year and are making plans for celebrating.

We will take a short furlough this year. Furlough will start in May and end in October. This will allow us to get some medical care, visit family and visit a few of our churches. Please pray for us as we make the necessary changes and adjustments. Pray also that the Lord will look after our ministry and home while we are gone.

### Nadine Schmidt with the Lord



Nadine was a joyful and generous person. She was a loving mother and grandmother, a godly example, and a faithful prayer warrior. Her greatest joy was serving the Lord. She entered His presence on November 21, 2009.

We did a feature story about her life in the November/December 2009 issue of the *Searchlight*.

# Lake Texoma BAPTIST YOUTH CAMP



**Jody Jenkins**  
Teen Week - June 21 - 25, 2010



**Mark Fowler**  
Junior Week - July 5 - 9, 2010



**Scott Pauley**  
Teen Week - July 12 - 16, 2010

Free Bus Rider Week - July 26 - 30

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**GOD HONORING MUSIC**

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swimming, wall climbing, paint ball, volleyball, baseball, ping pong, and much more

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**Dr. Dan Knickerbocker**  
Director



**Dr. Clarence Sexton**  
sharing his burden about the Youth Camp to  
the guests at the metro-plex meeting.

## CROWN SOUTHWEST~NORRIS SEMINARY



*Evangelist & Mrs.  
Dan Knickerbocker*

Dear Friends of Crown Southwest,

The **joy** of serving Jesus is conditioned on our **walk** with Him, not the **work** we are doing for Him. Not everything we are asked to do is fun or even exciting, but the results are.

As we enter our sixth semester as **Crown Southwest/Norris Seminary/Fort Worth School of the Bible**, the semester that culminates with our third graduating class, my heart is thrilled to see at least 30 students graduating this May 18th. You will not want to miss it!

Some things to Pray & Respond to.....

1. The calling of God for more Youth for Christian service.
2. Churches to **Adopt-A-Student** this semester. Help with students bills.
3. That the 104 teens who registered at Youth Congress in December will respond to God's leading.
4. Faculty as they teach this semester: **Willie Weaver** - Counseling; **Claude Sutton** - Historical Books; **Jonathan Stewart** - NT Survey and Bible Doctrine II; **Betty Wallace**—Grammar& Composition II; **Bob Wallace** - Homiletics II; **Tyler Gillit** - Greek IV; **John Peeples** - Methods of Bible Study and Introduction to Missions; **James Hamilton** - Personal Evangelism; **Don Stevenson** - Theological Studies; **Madeleine Phipps** - Teaching Music and Vocal Pedagogy; **Dan Knickerbocker** - Living the Christian Life and Introduction to Christian School Administration; and **Selected Pastors** for Practical Ministries. Please pray for our **chapel speakers every day** that God will use them to bring revival.

### Lake Texoma Baptist Camp

**Teen Week** – June 21-25 with Jody Jenkins

**Junior Week**- July 5-9 with Mark Fowler

**Teen Week** – July 12-16 with Scott Pauley

**FREE Bus Riders Week** - July 26-30

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are planning to send young people to camp! Call me at 817-575-7360.

Investing in the Next Generation,  
**Dan & Anne Knickerbocker**



*Faculty and staff of Crown Southwest. Left to right: John Peeples, Tyler Gillit, James Hamilton, Jonathan Stewart, Bob Wallace, Claude Sutton, Betty Wallace, Madeline Phipps, Don Stevenson, Charlotte Wyler, Willie Weaver, Andrew Johnson, Tim Tomlinson, Academic Vice-President, Crown College, Powell, Tennessee, Dan Knickerbocker, Director Crown Southwest, Norris Seminary.*

### **Dr. Clarence Sexton President Crown Southwest Campus**

Announces

**\$1,000.00**

for **tuition & books**

per semester

**Fall 2010  
Spring 2011**

**Goal - 100 students**

for more detail call

**817-575-7360**

or

**817-367-0455**

## **INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**

724 N. Jim Wright Freeway  
Fort Worth, Texas 76108

### **ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Phone: 817-367-3422  
Fax: 817-246-4884  
Email: charlotte.wyler@ibfi-nbbi.org

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missionaries.

## **Things You Should Know**

# **We need your help!!**

With every issue *Searchlights* are returned to us because we have the incorrect address or wrong church name. One of the most common problems is when churches change from the physical address to a Post Office box or vice versa. We have to pay the expensive return postage.

Please help us by letting us **know in advance** of address changes. It is also very helpful to have pastor change information sent to the office.

If your church has an e-mail address or website, please let us know.

Please e-mail information to info@ibfi.us

**The Searchlight**  
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724 N. Jim Wright Fwy., Ft. Worth, TX 76108  
Telephone: 817-367-3422 • Fax 817-246-4884  
Email: charlotte.wyler@ibfi-nbbi.org • Web site: www.ibfi-nbbi.org

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**Independent  
Baptist  
Fellowship  
International**

**26th Anniversary  
Meeting**

**May 17 - 20, 2010**

**Raymond W. Barber  
Conference Center**

**Fort Worth, Texas**

**Make your plans  
now to attend!!**