

TAKE TWO: GIVE ONE TO A FRIEND

— KANSAS — FAITH AND FAMILY

MEMBER



MEMBER



PUBLISHED THE LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

VOLUME 25 NO. 7

MAY 2026

"JESUS IS ABLE TO SAVE COMPLETELY THOSE WHO COME TO GOD THROUGH HIM, BECAUSE HE ALWAYS LIVES TO INTERCEDE FOR THEM." HEBREWS 7:25

Growing the Kingdom: Live Like Jesus Today Ministries Expanding



Buzz and Clifann Birney are shown with the Live Like Jesus Today van at the Kingdom Campus in Great Bend. The ministry is expanding with a future church and a shelter for women who are pregnant or have small children. - photo by photos by Susan Thacker/Great Bend Tribune

By Susan Thacker, Great Bend Tribune

For several years, when people in Barton County and the surrounding area have needed a place to stay or a helping hand, they've turned to Bryan "Buzz" Birney and his wife Clifann at Live Like Jesus Today Ministries (LLJT). Starting from their home in Ellinwood nearly 15 years ago, they went on to open a Discipleship Campus,

Kingdom Campus, and My Father's House Church in Great Bend. Now, LLJT is expanding again, with plans to open the Haven for Her Campus – a home for young women who are pregnant or have small children – and the Caring Heart Campus — which will one day house their church, food ministry and more.

The Haven for Her
The Haven for Her, lo-

cated just outside of Great Bend on Barton County Road, is being prepared for its first occupant, a pregnant woman who was in jail at the time of this interview. It should open in about six weeks.

"We're going to ask (the occupants) to live like they were created to live. They won't be homeless, and they will be able to mother those babies. It won't be like they were mothered. We've got to break generational curses," Birney said.

"We have four rooms that we can fill right now, but we know the rooms will fill up pretty fast. Our goal is, God willing, to build another building on the property and put more bedrooms in because the needs are huge." They'd like to add a small childcare facility and playground if finances can be found.

Caring Hearts Campus

The Caring Hearts Campus is going up at the former Healing Heart Ranch, located at 155 SE 1 Ave. The church will move there in the future.

"We're going to do a lot of stuff there," he said. They will operate Heaven's Kitchen, where women from the church will cook meals to deliver to the needy and homeless. Clifann will start another ministry called Bread of Life, making and delivering homemade bread.

"And then we're going to start a ministry out there that's called House of Hope." It will consist of five one-bedroom cabins for inmates reentering society. They will be involved in all aspects of the ministry, its Bible studies and church services.

"We'll be a family for them like they never had," he said.

From kitchen to campus

Birney says the LLJT ministries started years ago in the kitchen of their Ellinwood home. "We started cooking for and inviting in the homeless, hungry and broken in our area." On June 11, 2011, they gave up his 21-year career as an insurance agent and went

into full-time ministry. Today, LLJT Ministries serves thousands of people each year, meeting them right where they are in life, he said.

"We show and tell many, many of them about the life-changing love of Jesus Christ."

The Kingdom Campus at 700 South Patton Road in Great Bend has a thrift store, food pantry, gardens for growing produce to give away, and an outdoor stage area for Christian concerts. Its warehouse is filled with items that are donated, and having the warehouse allows LLJT

to receive semi-loads of donated items from international nonprofit Charity of Hope. Recently, people showed up when the warehouse received thousands of eggs as well as Hostess-brand snack items; those that weren't given away on-site went to area schools and other venues.

"We've probably brought – in retail value – probably \$3 million in product that we've given away in this area. It's food, clothing, staple products, you name it."

Then there are the disci-

Continued on page 7



Construction is going on inside the main building at the Caring Hearts Campus.

“Hollywood Christianity” vs. Biblical Faith: A Growing Conversation

By Faith BroKar

In recent years, a noticeable trend has emerged in popular culture: celebrities speaking openly about faith, spirituality, and even Christianity. From actors to influencers, public figures are increasingly sharing personal testimonies, biblical references, and discussions about Jesus Christ with large audiences. While many believers welcome this renewed visibility, others are asking an important question—how does “Hollywood Christianity” compare to biblical Christianity?

One of the most talked-about examples is Russell Brand, who has recently spoken at length about his journey toward Christian-

ity. Brand has referenced Scripture, discussed repentance, and emphasized the importance of Jesus in his life. His transformation has drawn both praise and skepticism, with some celebrating his openness while others urge caution in quickly embracing celebrity conversions.

This tension highlights a broader concern: the difference between a public profession of faith and a life rooted in biblical doctrine.

Historically, Christianity has never been about status, influence, or platform. Scripture consistently emphasizes humility, repentance, and a transformed life. In the Gospel accounts, Jesus warned

that true discipleship is not measured by words alone but by obedience. Passages such as Matthew 7:16—“Ye shall know them by their fruits”—have long guided believers in discerning genuine faith.

“Hollywood Christianity,” as some have labeled it, can sometimes blur these lines. In a culture driven by attention and influence, faith can be presented in ways that are emotionally compelling but doctrinally unclear. Messages may focus heavily on personal growth, positivity, or spirituality while avoiding harder biblical truths such as sin, judgment, and the need for repentance.

At the same time, it is important not to dismiss

every public profession of faith. Christianity itself teaches that God can work in any heart, regardless of background. The Apostle Paul, once a persecutor of Christians, became one of the faith’s most influential leaders after his conversion. For many believers, this serves as a reminder that transformation is possible—even among those in the spotlight.

The challenge, then, is discernment.

Biblical Christianity calls for testing everything against Scripture. It is not enough for a message to sound spiritual or inspiring; it must align with the teachings of the Bible. This includes the central truths of the gospel: that

all have sinned, that salvation comes through Jesus Christ alone, and that true faith produces a changed life.

For readers, the rise of celebrity faith stories presents both an opportunity and a responsibility. On one hand, these testimonies can open doors for conversations about Christ in places where such discussions are rarely heard. On the other hand, they require careful evaluation to ensure that what is being promoted is not a watered-down or culturally

reshaped version of Christianity.

As more public figures continue to speak about faith, the distinction between “Hollywood Christianity” and biblical Christianity will likely remain a topic of discussion. For believers, the focus remains the same: not on personalities, but on truth.

In a world where influence can often overshadow substance, Scripture continues to point back to a simple standard—faith rooted not in fame, but in Christ.



PUBLISHED THE LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
WWW.KANSASFAITHANDFAMILY.ORG

221 E 6th Street

Jason and Faith BroKar, Owner and Publisher
London BroKar, Sales/Marketing

Kinsley, Kansas 67547

Phone: 620-233-0657

Email: editor@kansasfaithandfamily.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Kansas Faith and Family is a monthly newspaper dedicated to sharing the Word of God and news and information that honors Christian beliefs and family traditions and values that are the cornerstone of our nation. The Publisher will not knowingly endorse nor condemn any individual denominational beliefs.

CONTENT

Press releases are welcome and encouraged from all local, regional and national Christian organizations as well as non-Christian organizations with founding beliefs in the value of the family. The Publisher reserves the right to edit or reject any submitted item that is questionable when viewed from the Christian/family perspective.

DISTRIBUTION

The publication will be distributed freely to any Christian Church in the trade area. The publication date is the last Thursday of the month (holidays may require exceptions). Free copies are also available various outlets with public access. Paid annual subscriptions by mail are available for \$25 for 12 months.

ENDORSEMENT/ADVERTISING

Kansas Faith and Family receives no financial support from any individual or denominational sources. The only income comes from paid subscribers and advertising. The Publisher reserves the right to refuse or edit any advertising that is questionable when viewed from the Christian/family perspective.

*A Word
From
The
Publisher*



Kansas Faith & Family is inviting local writers, pastors, and community members to contribute articles for upcoming issues.

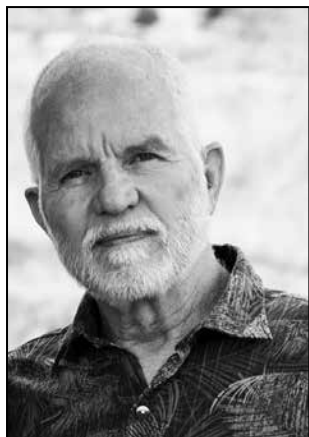
If you have a message, testimony, or faith-based topic you would like to share, we would love to hear from you.

Please submit inquiries or articles to:
editor@kansasfaithandfamily.org

Faith BroKar

KANSAS FAITH AND FAMILY

What It Means to Believe



By Carl D. Everhart

When used in the Bible, to “believe” means far more than just intellectual assent and a mental recognition of truth. It also means having a personal faith and trust in God’s Word, including the birth, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It can also mean to obey, rely on, and cling to.

There is a very big difference between “believing,” and “believing in,” something. Real belief leads to faith that puts living flesh on the cruci-

fied body of our Savior. Real faith is more than just knowing something about Jesus, it’s the place where the heart and the head meet, and it’s only there that it becomes part of who we are as a person. It changes our soul by permanently changing our mind, will, and even our emotions. That’s exactly what the Gospel offers us: Righteousness. It’s becoming more like Jesus and less like our flesh, knowing we all sin and fall short of His glory (see Romans 3:23).

We can intellectually believe something and stop there, or we can study it for a deeper understanding. To be a True Christian, we must make that transition from simple belief, to saving faith, then to priceless trust. Each one of us must decide whether we’ll simply “believe in” Jesus, or “believe” Jesus. This is the most important decision

we’ll ever make, because it will directly impact where we spend eternity.

I believe way too many deceived people hang all their hats on John 3:16 and convince themselves that simply “believing in” Jesus is enough to get into Heaven. I would remind them that, “even the demons believe, and they tremble” (James 2:19). Satan knows Jesus is God’s Son ... do you think he’s put his personal trust and commitment in the Lord? Of course not!

Here’s a reminder of John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only and unique Son, so that everyone who trusts in him may have eternal life, instead of being utterly destroyed.” Maybe you were expecting something different? That’s from the Complete Jewish Bible. Jesus died for the sins of the world, and for anyone to think, even for a second, that all

they need to do to inherit the gift of eternal Salvation is a simple believing thought, a shallow intellectual assent, then they’ll be very surprised!

At the risk of sounding critical of anything in His Word, and I would never do that intentionally, it appears that most translations of John 3:16 generate a notion that can easily be misleading. Before you rush to criticize that statement, remember that the Bible is “God-breathed,” but the translators may or may not be God directed. Cult leaders routinely translate the Bible to say what they want it to say.

With all of that, we begin to understand that our personal relationship with Jesus is not intended to be a “one and done,” shallow process. It’s a life-long endeavor! We must also understand that our spiritual growth is our responsibility, not our pastors, priests, or even our

parents, it’s ours.

To clarify: Being saved is not about just believing; it’s about believing and trusting the entire Word of God and then acting on it. Trust is a key element to Salvation, just like hearing the Gospel, fearing God, repentance, forgiveness, public confession of sins, being born-again, and living faithfully. That’s not legalism, that’s Biblical. As God’s children, we’re not deceived or confused about this. We clearly understand that “belief” is only an approval of the mind, but “faith” is a conscious decision of the will that leads us to “trust,” along with a total commitment of the heart. All of that motivates us to “repent.” We must commit to changing our mind about our sins, then changing our lifestyle by abandoning those sins. Only when we let Him, will God help us change our sinful behavior. All of this makes it

clear that there is, in fact, something we must “do,” and we study His Word to learn what that means.

Today, God is offering us the free gift of Salvation that is available only through His Son, Jesus Christ, offered by His grace, and received by our faith. Jesus said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command” (John 14:15). We must believe everything He says, otherwise we’re calling Him a liar.

Dear Heavenly Father, may these words find the heart of a true believer so they may encourage others; the heart of a make-believer so they may wake up; and the heart of a never-believer so they may come to know You. Amen.

To read more from this grateful Prodigal son, lay pastor, voice, apologist, and sinner (saved by grace), search: everhartandsoul.com (then select “Blog”).

WE HAVE A WEBSITE!

**Kansas Faith and Family
is now online!**

**Visit our new website at
www.kansasfaithandfamily.org
or scan the QR Code**



**Central & Comanche
Dodge City, KS 67801**

620-225-2888 800 779-0753

www.parkerhaskins.com



Archaeologists uncover mysterious Christian artifact near waters tied to Jesus' ministry: 'No known parallel'



This image shows a rare Byzantine-era marble artifact discovered at the ancient city of Hippos (also known as Sussita), located near the Sea of Galilee.

By Andrea Margolis, Fox News

Archaeologists have uncovered a one-of-a-kind artifact near the Sea of Galilee that may reveal new details about how early Christians practiced baptism.

The 1,400-year-old artifact was recently found in the ancient city of Hippos, a prominent bishop's seat during the Byzantine era, according to a March 30 press release shared with Fox News Digital.

The city was once the

only Christian city around the Sea of Galilee, controlling territory associated with Jesus' ministry.

The marble block was found in a hall of baptism called a photisterion. It may shed light on "a stage of the early Christian baptismal rite that has until now gone unrecorded," officials said.

Hippos' cathedral had two baptismal halls: one for adults, and another for infants and children, which is where the new object was found.

The smaller hall was constructed after 591 A.D. and was destroyed by an earthquake in 749 A.D. — meaning the object is roughly 1,400 years old.

Officials described the artifact as "a rectangular block bearing three hemispheric cavities, found beside a baptismal font in a newly revealed ceremonial hall."

Researchers believe the block may have held three different oils used during a threefold baptismal immersion ceremony.

Pictures of the object show the weathered marble block with three bowl-shaped basins, suggesting it was designed to hold liquids side by side.

Early Christian baptisms more commonly involved two anointings before and after the rite — which makes the three-part design particularly unusual.

"The collapse buried the marble and bronze artifacts beneath the rubble, preserving them until their re-

cent discovery," the release noted.

Officials added, "After extensive examination and comparison, the scholars concluded that no known parallels to the artifact exist."

Michael Eisenberg, a University of Haifa archaeologist who recently published the results in the journal *PEQ*, along with colleague Arleta Kowalewska, said the object was found among a variety of "remarkable liturgical objects," including a bronze candelabrum used to hold candles.

"Only after careful research did we realize how

unique they are for understanding Christian ritual practices in the cradle of Christianity by the Sea of Galilee," he said.

The object was "nothing special at first glance," to the excavations, Eisenberg told Fox News Digital.

"But here is exactly

where the archaeological and liturgical studies came into play."

"Realizing that it is a one-of-a-kind artifact that may fill unknown regional and perhaps wider lacunae in one of the most ancient

Continued on page 5



The 1,400-year-old artifact was recently found in the ancient city of Hippos, a prominent bishop's seat during the Byzantine era.

ONE STOP to handle your insurance...
auto, home, life, farm, business

Troy McCain
106 W. Frontview
Ste. 6
Dodge City, Ks. 67801
620-371-6646
TMcCain@shelterInsurance.com

KEEP IT SIMPLE

SHELTER INSURANCE

We're your Shield. We're your Shelter.
ShelterInsurance.com

THE MONTH OF MAY IS

Better Hearing MONTH!

Celebrate!
with a **FREE HEARING TEST** and
the *years best sales event!*

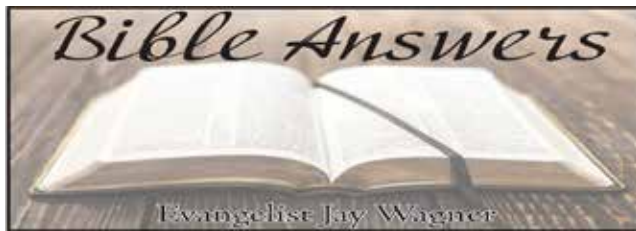
**BUY ONE, GET ONE
50% OFF**

Offer valid on the purchase of 2 select Miracle-Ear hearing aids. Not valid with any other discount or offer. Does not apply to prior purchases. See store for details. EXPIRES MAY 31, 2026.

Miracle-Ear®

Call us today to schedule your **FREE** Hearing Test!

Garden City 1135 College Dr., Suite M 620-271-0013	Dodge City 2010 Central 620-225-0522	Liberal 150 Plaza Drive, Suite 103 620-604-9377
---	---	--



Q: I keep seeing videos on YouTube about whether Christians should be cremated or not. Some say it doesn't matter and some say it will interfere with your resurrection. Who is right?

A: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." (Genesis 2:7). Notice that God didn't make Adam from biological matter nor evolve him from single celled animals, He made Adam from dust, and we frequently acknowledge this at funeral and graveside services where we quote a long used burial liturgy with the words, "Dust thou art, and to dust thou shalt return, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

We have a God who created the universe from nothing, created the first man from the dust that He had created from nothing, then created the first woman from a rib taken from the man He had created. If God has this kind of creative power, how could changing the substance of a human body from flesh to ashes prevent Him from converting those ashes into the glorified (incorruptible) body that we will have in eternity?

That, too, is a key. Cremation basically removes the moisture from the body, converting the flesh into ash. While it is extremely difficult and fails far more often than not, DNA has been recovered from cremains, clearly showing that the basic biological keys are still there, and that is more than God needs to work with.

To say that cremation would interfere with the resurrection is to limit God's power. When we place limits on God's power, we also limit our own hope, because if we say God can't do one thing, are we not introducing at least some doubt that He can do something else that we are hoping and believing for? I often hear people say that God didn't do something because of the person's lack of faith, but since (as Hebrews 11:1 reminds us) faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen, we impede our own faith when we place any limits on God's power.

As is often the case, I have a horse in this race, as they say. Not quite a year ago leukemia claimed the life of my adult granddaughter, and her mother had her cremated so that she could keep her remains nearby. If I were to subscribe to limiting God's power to resurrect someone simply because they had been cremated, I would be giving up the comforting hope of seeing my granddaughter again in Heaven. I have no doubt that placing such an impediment on my faith would only make it easier to repress my faith in other ways, possibly reaching the point where the very faith that tells me that I will be in Heaven to see my granddaughter and many other loved ones would be gone and I would abandon my own salvation. My faith is built on God's limitless power and unfailing honesty, and that gives substance to my hopes and serves as evidence of what I can't see.

I welcome reader questions. E-mail your question to answer67547@gmail.com.

10 Spiritual Habits that Increase Your Inner Peace

By Jennifer Heeren

In this world, there will be troubles, but developing certain habits can make your life better by bringing you peace within your days.

1. Gratitude

He is with me to help me remember gratitude for my precious life.

Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

No matter what is going on in my life, I can be thankful that I have another day. I can be thankful when I notice that my basic needs are met. There are people in this world that don't have their necessities. They can be thankful that I can pray for them. Most of all, I can be thankful that God is with me.

2. Be Slow to Speak and Quick to Listen

He is with me to help me listen more and wait to speak my mind.

Understand this, my dear

brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. James 1:19

Often, I want what I want when I want it. Therefore, my mouth can speak much too quickly. I'm much better off when I take a deep breath and hold those initial thoughts. Then I can listen completely to another person's thoughts before I compose my reply. And even after I've listened, sometimes the first thing out of my mouth should be a question. Can you tell me more? How do you feel about that? Questions convey compassion to another person. In this world, opinions are voiced very quickly. Opinions give insight as to how someone is feeling. But everyone should get a chance to share freely.

3. Be Humble and Gentle

He wants to show me how to be humble and gentle in my daily interactions.

Don't be selfish; don't

try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. Philippians 2:3-4

It's funny that when I look to help someone else, somehow my needs get met

too. God takes care of me as I help others. Christ didn't come into the world to show Himself as great. He already knew who He was. He came into the world to help and save others.

4. Show Reverence for

Continued on page 23

Artifact

Continued from page 4

and sacred Christian ceremonies was a complete surprise."

Eisenberg said the findings may "open a portal" to the development of baptism rituals in the early Christian world.

"In different regions, distinct liturgical traditions developed, many of which are not documented in written sources," the archaeologist said.

"This find offers a rare

glimpse into how the baptismal rite was shaped and practiced in the Byzantine Christian community of Hippios."

The find joins a long list of significant archaeological discoveries found at Hippios in recent years.

Last year, excavators in Hippios found a 1,600-year-old Christian care facility for the elderly, which is possibly the world's oldest nursing home.

Last July, metal detectors found a trove of ancient jewelry and gold coins near ruins in Hippios.

JOHN'S BODY SHOP INC.
- TOWING SERVICE -
DAMAGE FREE WHEEL LIFT
KCC AUTHORITIES
FOR 24-HR SERVICE:
110 W. BEESON 620-225-5731 DODGE CITY

Step into history at the Stanton County Museum
104 East Highland Ave. Johnson, KS
Hours: Mon.-Fri 10:30 - 5:00
Check our website for special weekend hours and events
www.semuse.org Phone 620-492-1526

Order Early To Get The perfect Prom Corsage or Boutonniere
FLOWERS by Irene
Owners: Sandy & Kyle Krout and Mike & Marsha Weber
Phone 620-227-2451
509 N. 2nd, Ste. 4 Dodge City

Pate Agency LP
The Crop Insurance Specialists
Mike Horton, Agent
Johnson, Ks
620-492-2665
"Quality Creates It's Own Demand"

The Fulfillment of Bible Prophecy

By Chuck Kirk

During the summer of 2024 I happened across a podcast entitled THE ISRAEL GUYS. Their recurring opening, stated in one sentence is what they are all about. “Welcome to the Israel Guys, where we believe in a world of anti-Israel propaganda and Jew hatred, you should always be connected to the land and people of Israel.”

I researched them and found they were a part of a larger organization called HaYovel which is Hebrew for “The Jubilee”. HaYovel is primarily made up of two large American Christian Zionists families living in Israel. My wife and I, both recently retired, were looking at possible trips to Israel at the time. One of their advertising slogans was intriguing to say the least. “This is not your typical tour of Israel.” Indeed, we later found that to be the case.

One large obstacle still remained to us going. There was great unrest happening there and the thought of arriving at a location which could erupt at any moment, was disconcerting to say the least. We sought God’s will daily, asking HIM to open the doors HE wished us to walk thru. Our urgency increased as the cut off day for registering was fast approaching. One morning we prayed specifically for the Lord to speak to us through someone or from His Word. That afternoon, my wife came charging into the room where I was at. We are going, she ex-

claimed gleefully! I have been going through the book of Acts in my daily quiet time. Just now I read these words from Acts 18:9b-10a. “DO NOT BE AFRAID, BUT SPEAK AND DO NOT KEEP SILENT: FOR I AM WITH YOU AND NO ONE WILL ATTACK YOU TO HURT YOU.” Thank you Lord, for answered prayer!

We booked their tour which was a ten-day trip, arriving in Israel in late March 2025. The cost was less than half of what a typical tour would be. Three meals a day, along with one somewhat aus-

tere but comfortable bedroom and all transportation included. It was called the Heartland Experience and combined both touring with actual getting your hands dirty in the soil of the Promise Land.

The first morning we traveled with a group of about 30 fellow pilgrims to enjoy breakfast and watch the sunrise at Elon Moreh. The spot where God first promised this land to Abraham and his descendants. As we gazed out to the west toward the Mediterranean, the town of Shechem was nestled comfortably at the base between two mountain peaks. To its north was Mount Ebal or the

Mount of Curses (Deut 11:29) which houses the site of Joshua’s altar (Joshua 8:30-35) and to the south was Mount Gerizim or the Mount of Blessings, which incidentally is home to the base of operations for HaYovel on its summit. Apart from this morning, our routine was to be the same throughout the trip. Their coffee shop opened at 5:30 am followed by 30 minutes of worship starting at 6:00. Breakfast was served at 6:30 followed by a teaching from the Bible by HaYovel’s founder, Tommy Waller. Our bullet proof glass school bus was ready for us to board at 7:30. Needless to say our bedtime by choice

was around 9pm.

After Elon Moreh, the rest of the day was spent meeting with Israeli farmers and ranchers who were legally settling their land. Some were establishing vineyards or running a sheep and cattle grazing operation. Everyone was friendly and eager to meet volunteers who supported their right to be there.

One interesting woman we met named Batya, started her own pottery business named Mud on the Mountain. A gifted potter and artist, she wheels out and paints beautiful bowls, beakers, cups and containers. Her work along with other

Continued on page 7



WHAT IF?

What if every child and adult in our country started each day with a Bible Verse in their pocket? What if, each morning, they read the verse out loud to their children/parents, carried it all day, read it again at night and put it back in a special bowl or basket? The trip to purchase cards at a local Christian bookstore would take only a few minutes. Those who do not have a bookstore close could take just two minutes doing a Bing or Google for “Free Bible Memory Cards or Verses”. It could change our lives and our families. What if people actually did this?

GENERAL PEST CONTROL

We take care of what bugs you
RELIABLE PEST & TERMITE CONTROL

•Cimarron •Coldwater •Dodge City •Garden City
•Greensburg •Kinsley •Liberal •Meade •Sublette •Ulysses

(620) 275-9411 Toll Free

HILL TOP HOUSE

**Excellent Healthcare...Nutritious Meals
Variety of Activities...Caring Staff**

•Long & Short Term
Skilled Nursing Facility
•Assisted Living
Apartments
Not-For-Profit Organization

Medicare and Medicaid approved



620-826-3202
505 W. Elm

Bucklin, KS

Prophecy

Continued from page 6

Israeli wares, can be purchased here in the states by going to the website entitled BLESSED BUY ISRAEL.

We visited the ancient site of Shiloh where Hannah prayed and was granted her request to give birth to a male child, which was Samuel. This site today sees many women coming to stand and pray where Hannah did for the same reason. Also, the ark of the covenant was placed here for over 300 years. Archaeologists believe they have found the spot where it was located. For me though as a farmer/rancher from Western KS, the highlight of Shiloh was seeing up close and personal, four beautiful Redheads. The Red Heifers are cared for here by a farmer from Indiana. One was curious and sniffed my hand to see if it held any food for her. When it didn't, she sneezed on it

and moved on to someone else.

Shiloh is also home to thousands of pottery shards scattered on the ground in the area of the tabernacle. When the Israelites traveled to Shiloh every year for Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot from around 1399 to 1094 BC, they brought containers holding olive oil for use in the tabernacle's sacrifices. Those vessels were considered holy and could never be used to contain food or drink, and so they were summarily broken afterwards.

The Judean city of Hebron located in Israel's south, afforded us the opportunity to get our hands dirty. A Jewish development group had recently purchased the site called the tomb of Jesse (who was King David's father) and Ruth, (David's great grandmother). The site had fallen into disrepair and was used as a garbage dump. Gathering stones which would make a future wall, along with

burning tree branches and trash was the order of the day. It was by far our most physical and rewarding day. Riding home on the bus, we experienced a mixture of both exhaustion and elation

Another of the trip's highlights was... Jerusalem! Standing on the Mount of Olives overlooking the Kidron valley, we beheld the walled city with the Dome of the Rock. While walking on the Temple Mount many in our group removed

shoes and socks, for we were standing on Holy Ground. Personally, the experience was a lesson in history, religion, geography, politics and spiritual euphoria, all rolled into one. We were even able to prostrate and pray toward where we believe the temple will be rebuilt someday. This action would have been prohibited just a few years ago.

Part of that afternoon was spent at the Temple Mount Sifting Project. It is undertaking the sifting

of 400 truckloads of soil (which had come from underneath the Temple Mount and dumped into the Kidron Valley,) one 3-gallon bucket at a time. While there, our team wet sifted around fifty 3-gallon buckets of dirt. We found pottery shards, mosaic squares, bone fragments and a couple of ancient coins.

Rounding out the day was a trip to the City of David's excavation site. Traversing Hezekiah's tunnel would have to wait until a future date though, as we didn't bring sandals for the water laden tunnel. Seeing, the soon to be opened to the public Pilgrimage Road, which leads from the pool of Siloam to the Temple Mount was exciting. To think, this route was undoubtedly walked on by Jesus and his disciples!

Our final day was spent

planting trees in the mountains of Samaria! Ezekiel 36:8-9, says... "But you, O mountains of Israel, you shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to my people Israel, for they are about to come. For indeed I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown." To date, HaYovel has planted over 22,000 trees in Israel, utilizing a water box collection system, which helps ensure the small saplings will flourish in Judea and Samaria's desert climates.

To feel the spiritual energy interwoven with Israel, along with gaining the knowledge you are indeed helping to fulfill biblical prophecy, is an experience I wish for all brothers and sisters in Christ to have.

If you are interested in learning more, go to Serve Israel.com or search HaYovel.



Kingdom

Continued from page 1

pleshup houses in town and Sunday church services at My Father's House, located at 2521 10th St.

Birney also works with other ministries. During some of the coldest winter weather, LLJT Ministries has organized warming shelters. The last one was at the Central Kansas Dream Center. There are also mission trips, prison ministries and helping a homeless shelter in Wichita.

The reason they do all of this is to help people, Birney said. "There's so many hurting people, and they don't know that their life matters. A lot of people think that nothing matters, nobody cares. We want to tell them their life matters, that they are somebody and that Jesus loves them, you know. We do all kinds of counseling, all kinds of ministry, helping people. People's lives are changing. That's why we do this."

"Welcome to the Neighborhood"
Located in the Cedar Ridge Subdivision of Cimarron, The Shepherd's Center offers the same loving and attentive care which we have provided for more than 20 years.



- 2 Neighborhoods
- Private rooms with or without private showers
- Individualized dining options
- Secure patio areas with walking paths
- Homelike resident centered care
- Inviting living, dining & kitchen areas



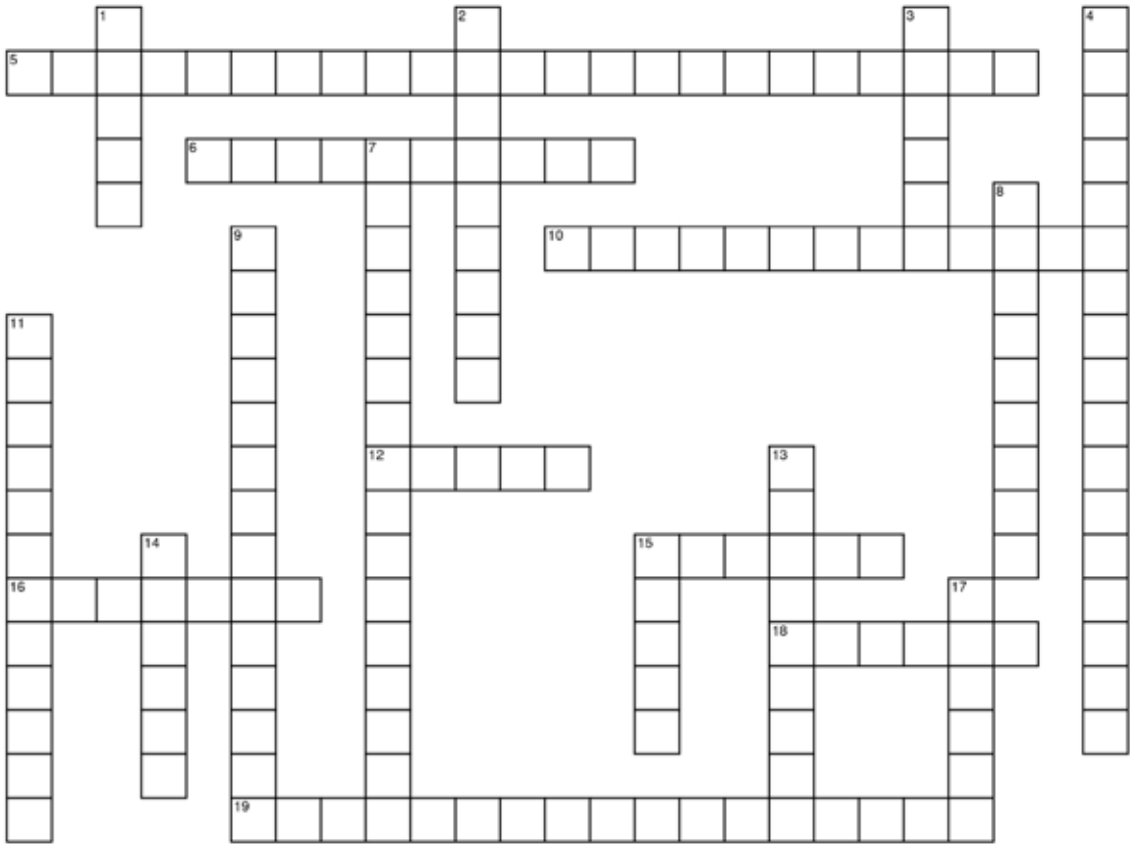
For Residential Information and Availability, Please Contact
The Shepherd's Center Nursing Home
 Phone 620-855-3498
 101 Cedar Ridge Cimarron, KS 67835

A Little Bit of Laughter and Fun

Proverbs 17:22 – “Laughter is like taking a good medicine.”

ANGELS APPEARING

Mikey’s Funnies



ACROSS

- 5 When the apostles were put in prison, an angel of the Lord did this (6 wds)
- 6 Place John was carried away to by an angel
- 10 An angel instructed John not to do this (2 wds)
- 12 Two angels appeared to Lot to announce the destruction of this city
- 15 Told by an angel to flee to Egypt with his wife and child
- 16 Three angels appeared for this announcement to _____ that he would have a son
- 18 John saw an angel coming down from _____
- 19 An angel of the Lord told Joseph not to be afraid to do this (5 wds)

DOWN

- 1 Mary was told of His birth by an angel
- 2 An angel told him to send for Peter
- 3 Manoah was foretold of the birth of his son, _____, in this angelic appearance
- 4 John saw an angel standing _____ (6 wds)
- 7 An angel directed Philip to _____ to an Ethiopian man (2 wds)
- 8 This angel appeared to measure _____, according to Zechariah
- 9 Zacharias had a visit in which the angel announced the birth of _____ (3 wds)
- 11 They heard two angels say, "Why do you stand here looking into the sky?" (3 wds)
- 13 They were watching the fields by night when an angel appeared
- 14 An angel appeared to John when he was on this island
- 15 Angels ascended and descended a ladder in this dream of his
- 17 An angel instructed John to measure it

Answers in next month’s issue

Someone in our neighborhood put a huge sofa out by the curb for trash collection.

Since it was in good shape, many motorists slowed down for a look. But when they saw how enormous it was, they’d leave.

Eventually a compact car pulled up, and two men got out. “This I’ve got to see,” I thought.

They removed the cushions, turned the sofa upside down, and shook it hard.

Then they picked up all the coins that tumbled out and drove off.

3,024 years from now life is either gonna be really good or really bad...it’s 5050!

Problem: How to get 2 pounds of chocolate home from the store in a hot car. Solution: Eat it in the parking lot.



5 Ways Christians Can Navigate a Challenging Workplace

By Scott James, Ligonier Ministries

Christians working in secular professions and spaces often need to navigate obstacles as they seek to live out an active faith. Proximity to the lost world can be advantageous for laborers of the harvest (Luke 10:2), but it can also be an intimidating environment that threatens to dampen our witness. Here are five ways Christians can have a healthy approach to challenging workplaces.

1. Foster a missions mindset.

Mission fields are not simply places abroad. If you do not perceive yourself to be on mission at your workplace, it's unlikely that you will consistently engage in gospel efforts there. Take ownership of your workplace community as a people group to whom you have been sent

to serve. In your daily interactions with colleagues, customers, and clients, you have the privilege of representing Jesus to people in need of a great Savior.

Trust that God has placed you in your workplace for a reason. No matter how gifted an evangelist your pastor may be, he probably won't have access to the offices or jobsites where you spend your days. God has given you this unique sphere of influence—use it for His glory. Pray for and engage your people group.

2. Be sensitive to where God is already at work.

Some of the best workplace advice I ever received was, “Keep your antennae up.” As an introvert, my workplace tendency is to keep my head down and my earbuds in, navigating each day as quietly and efficiently as possible. But in doing so, I often miss out

on the good work the Lord is doing around me. I close myself off to the people He is bringing into my life, oblivious to their needs and unaware of opportunities to care for them. To counteract that tendency, I pray each day that God would increase my sensitivity and awareness of how He is moving in my workplace and help me set my agenda aside to join in His work. My spiritual antennae are up, and I approach each day as an opportunity to show the love of Jesus.

As followers of Jesus, we are to be a model of good works, integrity, dignity, and sound speech, living in good faith with a general respect for those around us.

Even if your environment is openly hostile to expressions of Christian belief, trust that God is at work under the surface and be on the lookout for where that might be. Just as pioneering missionaries who proclaim the gospel among unreached people groups will often find evidence of God already moving within the hearts of the people, we are likely to find that He is already stirring in unexpected ways within even the most challenging workplace environments. As you work, keep your antennae up, sensitive to where those opportunities might be.

3. Work with excellence.

In Titus 2:7–10, Paul encourages us to “adorn the doctrine of God our Savior” by the way we carry

ourselves in the world. As followers of Jesus, we are to be a model of good works, integrity, dignity, and sound speech, living in good faith with a general respect for those around us. In the context of our workplaces, Paul is simply urging us to be good coworkers. We should strive to be excellent in everything we do because it points to the gospel and, ultimately, it shows our underlying motivation: We are working as for the Lord (Col. 3:23). In some sense, our good reputation demonstrates love for God and for the people around us. As an expression of that love, we build

good relationships with colleagues and put ourselves in a good position to serve them well (including the ultimate service: pointing them to Christ).

4. Look for the peace-makers.

Sharing your faith at work may seem like a daunting task. You might immediately think of antagonistic colleagues or imagined repercussions. It's that thought process that so often paralyzes our witness, and understandably so. But even in a setting where many people are known to be hostile to Christianity, not every person is equally so. There are

always people who remain open to spiritual conversations, even if they are not followers of Christ. Identify those persons of peace within your workplace circles, begin developing safe relationships with them, and look for opportunities to engage in spiritual conversations. Peaceful, open-minded people can be an open door to gospel conversations in a difficult place.

5. Sew gospel threads.

As you navigate a challenging workplace, having a missions mindset, spiritual sensitivity, occu-

Continued on page 11

Answers to last month's Crossword

[illegible]

2026: A Real or Fake Election? – Part 2

By Dr. Rodney Crowell

Each state must answer that question itself, due to Federal-level stonewalling of anti-fraud measures like the SAVE (Safeguard American Voter Eligibility) Act. Only 23% of American voters even understand this crucial bill, which if ever passed would require proof of citizenship and voter ID – you know, like the rest of the world does? It's common sense!

Since Senate Dems and RINOS have obstructed SAVE, Trump on March 31 issued an Executive Order requiring the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration to compile a list of eligible voters in every state and to prohibit the U.S. Postal Service from sending absentee ballots to those not included on the list. Why? Because

a recent Department of Justice (DOJ) review of 60 million voter records revealed hundreds of thousands of ineligible voter registrations with over 300K dead people listed as active voters, plus tens of thousands of non-citizens who already cast ballots in Federal elections! Such fraud proliferates when no voter ID coupled with massive mail-in voting are used to permit undelivered or fake ballots employed fraudulently, whether in counting, deletion, bogus audits or computerized cheating. The latter happens when every ballot in America desired to be used by the cheaters, whether fake or real, is turned into a digital image and stuffed into an unprotected database that screams, "ROB ME, PLEASE!" It could happen again if cherry-picked Federal judges succeed in overturning

Trump's Executive Order, as they have others. (I already showed you in Part 1 of this series why Trump's actions are consistent with Article 1, Section 4 of our Constitution. That's why the judges on George Soros' doggy leash are trying to block it, right?)

The strategy of the cheaters has changed. In the COVID Election Year of 2020, the Democrat plan was, "Cheat everywhere you can because we can!" That's how Joe Biden 'won' 80 million votes despite his dog-and-pony show of a few token 'rallies.' Remember the white 'social distancing' circles? Ridiculous! But this year, the motto is: "Cheat only in CAREFULLY SELECTED areas, and

quietly circumvent Federal oversight, because this time they're watching!" How else do you think they flipped the Florida state House seat in Trump's own Mar-a-Lago district? (John Panizzi, a Palm Beach elections volunteer, was just arrested for stealing computer gear and encrypted access keys ahead of that election. H-m-m-m.) Or how did Virginia elect as Governor Abigail Spanberger, a Kamala Harris clone and Obama-era CIA operations officer from 2006-14, who let Iranian nuclear proliferation and terrorism run wild, leaving Trump and our military to fix it? Will Virginia "go Muslim" like England?

Thus, election fraud

is now every state's battle. The ACLU (Anti-Christian Lawlessness Union) has already accused Kansas Republicans of sponsoring bills that represent an "extreme attack on voter eligibility." They referenced HB 2437, which requires the Secretary of State to use the Federal SAVE database twice yearly to eliminate non-citizen voters, and HB 2503, which would stop all mail-in-ballot-only elections. Doesn't sound extreme to me! Despite this, the Legislature overrode Gov.

Laura "Veto" Kelly's opposition and HB 2437 at least is now State Law. Thanks, Secretary of State Schwab!

Nationwide, we already know which states will cheat the most this November: CA, CO, GA, KY, MD, MI, MN, NV, NY, VA, DE, ME, NM, OR, PA, RI, HI, MA and WA. How so? Because our DOJ has sued them for refusing to supply voter registration data (Oklahoma just agreed to comply) – or else they have passed NO sig-

Continued on page 11

What is a physics teacher's favorite Bible verse?

Answer:

Romans 8:39: "Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."



Member F.D.I.C.

722 Main P.O. Box 157
Ashland, Kansas 67831
Phone 620-635-2218



www.bankofprotection.com



**Multi-Peril Crop Insurance
Hail Insurance
Livestock Insurance
Farm and Ranch Insurance
GPS Mapping**

**Call Today!
1-877-299-MAPS**

www.midwestagprofessionals.com
Jetmore, Kansas

Election

Continued from page 10

nificant anti-fraud bills among the 2,109 active pieces of legislation currently outstanding. No legislative action means MORE CHEATING. The uncooperative states object to sharing their voter rolls with Federal agencies, yet hypocritically give them to leftist, liberal organizations like ERIC (25 member states, only three run by Republicans!). The stuffed-shirts running ERIC would rather die than remove any names from their rolls; instead, they help states pad the rolls by relaying to state election administrators the names of all who interact with state DMV's, whether citizens or not. They call them EBU's

– “Eligible but Unregistered Voters.” Then the states send them voter registrations, to feed the cheat totals. Sick of this graft? Then get busy!

But doing WHAT, since things remain in flux? First, take note of the U.S. Army's former foreign election analyst Seth Keshel and his “Eight Cardinal Sins of Election Administration” – the root of all Electile Dysfunction (his pun, not mine!): 1) Automatic Voter Registration; 2) Universal or Excessive Mail-in Voting; 3) Ballot Harvesting; 4) Same-day Voter Registration; 5) Prolonged Counting (the Supreme Court has signaled it will strike down laws in over 12 states permitting post-Election Day counting!); 6) Unique

Corruption (e.g., Philadelphia and Detroit's 2020 thugs locking out legitimate poll watchers, or Atlanta's ‘broken water pipe’ lie [no repair order!] to close its doors, dragging cases of bogus votes out from beneath the counting tables); 7) Ranked-choice voting, a real shell game!; and 8) NO VOTER ID. Insist that your legislators pass laws that abolish AND punish these abuses, plus require paper ballots only and electronic relay of state results through secure government channels, no digital siphoning of results elsewhere over the Internet! Vigorously support all State and Federal government efforts to restrain cheating.

There's more! We can join TruethVote.org's

voter registration and election monitoring efforts. Volunteer to be poll workers or watchers. TTV can also supply you if desired with potential illegal voters' names you can CHALLENGE in your own precinct! Plus, track voter rights' legislation using their separate LegiTrack.org app. A simpler daily digest of nationwide voter legislation news may be found on electionbriefing.com. Sign up with any of these and bookmark them to continue defending our freedoms. Consider supporting them financially, as I do; pray, inform others, and then ACT! You know the verse: “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people” (Proverbs 14:34).

Workplace

Continued from page 9

pational excellence, and peaceful relationships will go a long way. They are not the endpoint, though. We should not lose sight of our primary calling as Christ-followers. At some point, gospel-shaped living should lead to actual gospel proclamation. Yes, secular workplaces can present inherent challenges to our witness, but we can still find ways to share the good news of Jesus with boldness and wisdom. If your workplace feels particularly closed off to evangelism opportunities,

the prospect of presenting a coworker with a five-minute gospel presentation may not seem realistic. But we cannot choose silence as the alternative. Even in closed settings, trust that God will open gospel doors and be ready to walk through them when you sense them. As you build relationships with those around you, look for ways to intertwine the themes of the gospel in your normal conversations. Sew small threads of gospel truth in your everyday speech and then look for opportune moments to weave those threads together into a larger tapestry of grace.

**Attend the Church
of Your Choice**
A Message Brought to You by
Kansas Faith and Family

Phone: (620) 624-3859

*Scantlin's
Furniture & Carpet Inc.*

MATT GRAHAM
KURT SALLEY
MIKE BECKETT
scantlinsfurniture@gmail.com

211 S. Washington

Liberal, Kansas 67901

CHRYSLER
CORNER
Liberal, KS



WWW.CHRYSLERCORNERCHRYSLERDODGEJEEP.COM

(620)-624-1683
(800)-886-1683
F(620)-620-9510

406 E. PANCAKE
P.O. BOX 1295
LIBERAL, KS 67901

PARTS@CHRYSLERCORNER.NET

Large Variety of
*Chocolates *Snack Baskets *Candy Bouquets
*Vera Bradley *Tyler Candles *Wax Melts
*Laundry Detergent

Spend \$125 on flowers or home decor and get
a Vera Bradley plush thro for \$20

**Flower
BASKET**

13 E. 2nd Liberal, Ks.
620-624-7049
www.flowerbasketliberal.com

Deanne Smith, LNHA

Administrator

2160 Zinnia Ln.
Liberal, Ks. 67901

Phone
(620)624-3831
Fax
(620)624-2429

dsmith74@good-sam.com
good-sam.com

**Good Samaritan
Society**
LIBERAL

In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone

**MYRIAD
Machine Company
Inc.**

Offering Quality Repair & Production Services:

- ✓ Farm & Ranch
- ✓ Oilfield
- ✓ Meat Processing

➤ **CNC Mill & Lathe Production**

➤ **Drivelines Built & Repaired**

➤ **Gear Box & Pump Repair**

➤ **Hydraulic Cylinder Repair**

➤ **Line Boring Work - Metalizing**

5 S. Country Estates Road at 6-Points, Liberal, KS

620-624-2962 or 1-800-446-2962

AMERICAN TITLE & ABSTRACT SPECIALISTS

217 N. Kansas Ave. Liberal, Ks. 67901
*CLOSINGS *TITLE INSURANCE *DOCUMENT FILING
*DEED PREPARATION *CERTIFICATES OF TITLE
Bonded & Licensed

Renee' Haralson

President
620.624.9111
888.310.9111
620.624.6610 (fax)
AmTitles.com
renee@AmTitles.com



A Disciple's Journey: The Covenant.

By Micah Powell, Grace Community Church, Great Bend

Before Christian ever reached the Celestial City in Pilgrim's Progress, he found himself at the foot of many mountains. Some tested his resolve, others reminded him of grace, but each one marked a turning point in his journey. In the same way, Israel stood at the foot of Mount Sinai in Exodus 19. They had been rescued, but they were not yet fully formed. God had delivered them from Egypt, carried them through the wilderness, and brought them to Himself. Now, He was ready to shape them into a covenant people. This moment was not just about receiving laws; it was about embracing them. It was about receiving identity, purpose, and relationship.

The disciple's journey always leads to covenant, and at Sinai, we see how God draws His people near, sets them apart, and invites their response. That same covenant call continues today through Jesus Christ.

1. God Brings Us Near (Exodus 19:1-4)

When God reminds Israel, "I carried you on eagles'

wings and brought you to Myself,"

He is not offering poetic reassurance. He is declaring reality. Three months prior, Egypt stood between His people and freedom; now, they stand at His feet. This is more than geography; it is intimacy.

In the wilderness, God's covenant begins with proximity. He does not deliver so that we can run; He delivers so that we can abide. The imagery of eagles and wings evokes fierce strength and tender care. It shows that salvation is not a solo sprint, but a sacred journey.

Your journey may feel solitary or exhausting. But God has not brought you to a desert just to let you wander. He has carried you to Himself. If you are tired, He carries. If you are lost, He draws near. And if you feel alone, He is already with you. Discipleship begins not with achievement, but with belonging.

2. God Assigns Our Identity and Mission (Exodus 19:5-6)

Once Israel is close, God says this:

"If you obey My voice and keep My covenant, you shall be My treasured possession; you shall be a

kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

Do not miss the order here: grace before obedience, invitation before instruction, calling before conduct.

First comes belonging, then becoming. They are not chosen because they are good; they are chosen because He is gracious. Then obedience flows not from obligation but from identity. They are not just a nation; they are priests, mediators, and worshipers for the world. Their everyday lives—work, worship, meals, and rest—would serve as a living testimony.

You are not a spiritual orphan; you are God's treasured treasure. You are not alone; you are a priest in His kingdom. How does that affect your Mondays at work or your Saturdays at home? It means your faith is never private, but always visible. Christ-followers belong and witness at the same time; that is how disciples live.

3. God Invites Our Response (Exodus 19:7-8)

When Moses shared God's words, Israel spoke as one:

"All that the Lord has spoken we will do."

This was not a passive notification; it was active engagement. A covenant community does not consist of spectators; it consists of participants.

It would not be perfect. Within hours, they would build a golden calf. But the power lay not in perfection, but in obedience. They had said "yes" together. They committed. What mattered most was not flawless compliance, but faithful commitment. Moses received their affirmation and carried it back to God. The rhythm of covenant is: God speaks, we respond, and fellowship deepens.

Have you said "yes" today? Not just in church, but in life? Saying "yes" to God is not always easy; obedience is not effortless. But discipleship requires a voice that speaks allegiance, not just in worship, but in daily choices.

From Sinai to the Cross
The Sinai covenant was shadow of what was to come. Israel would stutter, shrug, and stray. They'd promise white-knuckled fidelity but fall flat left and right. Yet God did not abandon them. He pointed forward to a new covenant—one written on hearts, not stones.

Jesus is the ultimate Moses. He came down to meet us. He lived out the covenant in perfect obedience. He carried our sins when Israel could not. He died in our place when priests of old could only point.

Our Covenant Invitation
Not Yet a Christian? This is your moment to become part of God's covenant people. You do not need additional credentials or a more polished resume. You need only come. In Christ, the invitation is open.

Already a Christian? Discipleship is not a one-time decision. It means daily recommitment. It means living with the rhythms of faith in ordinary moments. It means belonging, obeying, and representing.

Let the covenant shape your day:

Belong: worship weekly, not occasionally.

Obey: choose what pleases Him, not what pleases you.

Represent: let your life reflect His name, His grace, His Kingdom.

Take the Next Step:

Reconnect: If you've stepped away, recommit to gathered worship.

Engage: Join or relaunch a Cluster or ABF group.

Serve: Use your gifts within the church or community.

Recommit: Verbally say "yes" to God today, in your heart, and through your actions.

In a world that values convenience and autonomy, the covenant breathes a different life. It invites you into fullness, not because of what you do, but because of what Christ has done. You are His. You are chosen. You are sent.

God carried Israel to Sinai; Jesus carried you to the cross.

If you belong to Him, live like it. If you don't yet belong, today is the day.

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

From day-one, it has been the position of Faith and Family not to endorse nor condemn any denomination. We strive to offer readers a wide variety of Christian views and perspectives and allow each individual to come to your own conclusion. Because news sources and contributors to Faith and Family come from a wide variety of sources, it is possible that some stories, opinions and views may conflict with certain beliefs.

We ENCOURAGE any reader to submit an opposing viewpoint or opinion if any story offends you or conflicts with your beliefs. Please limit such responses to approximately 500 words. You may refer to the offending item and the content with which you do not agree, and express your viewpoint, but please do not attack another individual nor their opinion. You may mail your op-ed opinion to Kansas Faith and Family, 221 E 6th Street, Kinsley, Kansas 67547. Or you may email them to editor@kansasfaithandfamily.org

Jose Lara - Agent
1014 N Kansas Ave
Liberal, KS 67901-2645
JLara@ShelterInsurance.com
ShelterInsurance.com/JLara
P 620-624-6011
F 620-624-2240

SHELTER INSURANCE
AUTO • HOME • LIFE



"We Pledge to You...Service & Fair Prices"
620-804-0387
NORRIS
Burdett, Ks
Propane Gas Co.

*Residential
*Commercial
*Farm/
Irrigation
*Oil Lease



Proudly Serving: *Pawnee *Edwards *Hodgeman
*Finney *Ford *Gray *Kearny *Stevens Counties

1 million praying for 1 million salvations by Pentecost Sunday in evangelical movement

By Diana Chandler,
Baptist Press

As Reagan P. Wilbanks and his grandfather Douglas Small help mobilize 1 million Christians praying for the salvation of a million souls by Pentecost Sunday, Wilbanks shares his earliest recollections of his grandfather's prayers.

From the age of 5 or so, Wilbanks and his first cousins would hear their grandfather descending the stairs around 3 a.m. to his prayer room attached to the garage at his North Carolina home. Other times, Small would lead Wilbanks – born to the oldest of Small's five children – and other descen-

dants in popcorn prayers.

"We'd all be in the room and we'd do what grandpa calls popcorn prayers, where somebody prays, and now another pops up and pops up and pops up, quick little prayers," Wilbanks, now himself a husband and father of three, told Baptist Press. "And that was a kind of a hallmark, you might say, of the family gatherings."

Those family prayer gatherings encourage Wilbanks as he joins his grandfather in the Prayer at the Heart (PATH) multid denominational evangelistic outreach launched a month ago and continuing through May 24th. From

there, PATH would mobilize 5 million in prayer, 10 million and more as the movement sets new goals.

Former Southern Baptist Convention President Ronnie Floyd, who was also SBC Executive Committee president and CEO from 2019-2021, is endorsing the outreach alongside Samaritan's Purse President and CEO Franklin Graham.

"I think one of the greatest things we can do is to share the burden of reaching 1 million people for Jesus, and then call the churches of America to focus on reaching people for Jesus Christ in their own towns and cities," Floyd

told Baptist Press. "Only the Spirit of God can mobilize the churches of America towards advancing the Gospel to every person, every town, every city and every state."

Event organizers would like 20,000 from each state to participate, which would satisfy the 1 million goal. To date, 3,380 were officially registered, event promoters said, although more might be engaged in the outreach through church membership.

"I want to call us all to pray, pray and pray more, pleading with God to do something miraculous, something God-sized," Floyd said. "Imagine this:

During the Prayer Revival in America in 1957-58, 1 million people came to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Back then, America had only 30 million residents. Today, we have over 348 million people living in our nation. This initiative reminds me of that era because of its emphasis on prayer, and

it ultimately led to a massive movement of people following Jesus. So let's pray fervently and share Jesus passionately," he urged, repeating his oft-said phrase, "People need Jesus, and people need Jesus now."

Wilbanks and Small are

Continued on page 16



BEHLEN

**MID-AMERICA
MILLWRIGHT
SERVICE, INC.**

Grain Handling Facilities Are Our Business

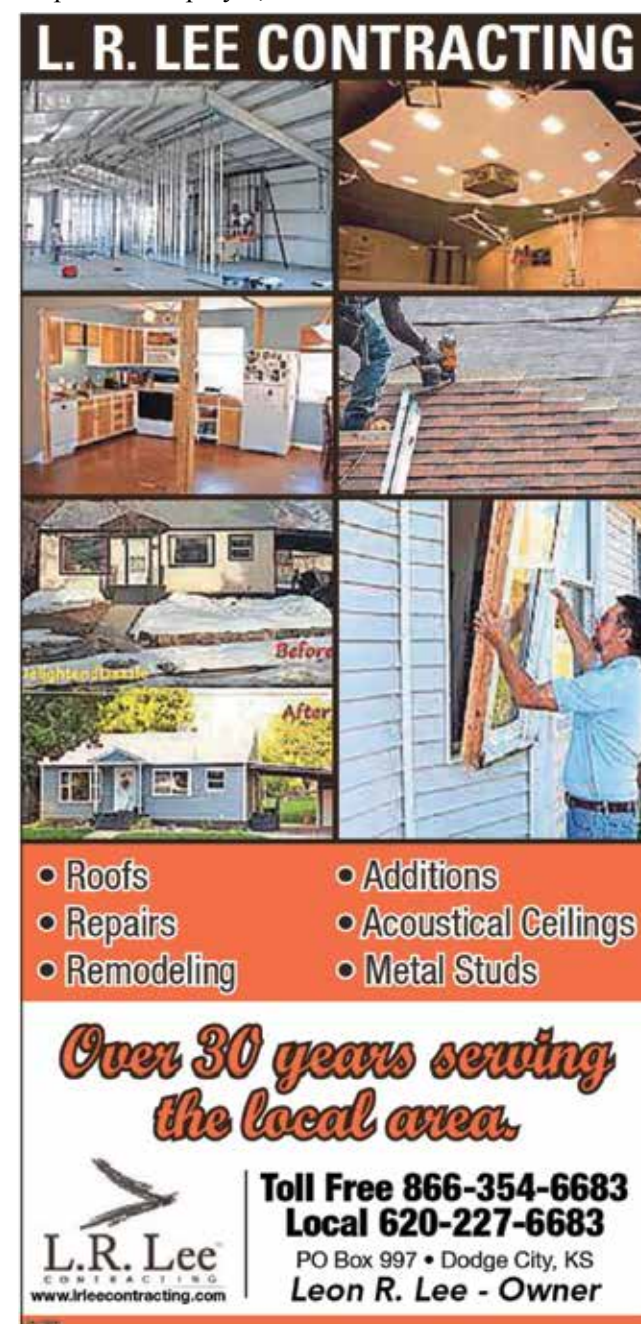
Design and Installation of New Grain Handling Facilities and Expansions, Service & Repair For Existing On-The-Farm, Commercial Elevators & Feedmills, Turn-Key Construction on Metal Buildings and Grain Tanks.

620-275-6796

**Metal Fabrication Shop
24 HOUR SERVICE
Complete Parts Department**

2720 N. 11th • P.O. Box 2243 • Garden City, KS 67846

1983-2012
29
YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE



L. R. LEE CONTRACTING

- Roofs
- Repairs
- Remodeling
- Additions
- Acoustical Ceilings
- Metal Studs

Over 30 years serving the local area.

**Toll Free 866-354-6683
Local 620-227-6683**

PO Box 997 • Dodge City, KS
Leon R. Lee - Owner

L.R. Lee
CONTRACTING
www.lreecontracting.com

Faith and Science Meet in Rural Kansas

Heart of America Science Resource Center draws visitors to Haviland

In the small town of Haviland, a unique attraction is quietly bringing together faith, science, and hands-on learning. The Heart of America Science Resource Center has become a destination for families, homeschool groups, and church organizations looking to explore the natural world through a biblical lens.

Located along U.S. Highway 54, the center operates as a creation-focused science museum, presenting topics such as fossils, minerals, and the Ice Age from a Christian worldview. The facility spans approximately 8,000 square feet and features a combination of exhibits, labs, and interactive activities designed to engage visitors of all ages.

Unlike traditional museums, the Heart of America Science Resource Center emphasizes what it describes as the “biblical

perspective” of scientific discovery. Visitors can examine fossil displays, explore mineral collections, and participate in hands-on experiments that aim to highlight design and order in nature as evidence of a Creator.

One of the center’s most notable features is its interactive lab space, where guests rotate through stations covering life science, earth science, and physical science concepts. Activities include examining bird feathers under microscopes, working with fossil and mineral samples, and experimenting with principles like motion and balance.

The museum also features themed rooms, including an Ice Age exhibit that presents a post-flood interpretation of early human history, as well as displays of mammoth bones and other large animal fossils discovered in

the region.

Outside, visitors are greeted by a large red mammoth sculpture, a landmark that has become synonymous with the center and helps draw travelers off the highway.

According to available reports, the center has steadily grown in visibility, attracting more than 1,300 visitors in a recent year alone.

Organizers say the mission of the center is not only educational, but also spiritual—seeking to equip visitors with resources that connect scientific observations to biblical teachings. The facility regularly hosts tours, day camps, and group events throughout the year, often tailored for schools and church groups.

As discussions around science and faith continue nationwide, the Heart of America Science Resource Center stands as

a local example of how those conversations are playing out in rural Kansas. For many who visit, it offers a place where curiosity about the natural world and belief in Scripture are explored side by side.

Heart of America Upcoming Events:

May 2-August 30

Heart of America Science Museum Open for the Summer

The museum will be open from 10-4 each Saturday and Sunday throughout the summer. We

continue to develop new displays as well as continue favorite activities. And as always, we welcome

groups and families to come for a personalized tour and/or other activities any time of year. Just give

Linda a call ahead of time to make arrange-

ments (620-518-3167).

May 16-22 Long-Distance Trip to the Ark Encounter

This trip has been postponed until May of 2027. We will keep you updated.

July 20-22 Day Camp

Note: Camp dates are later in July than usual

Biology from a biblical perspective is this year’s focus. We are offering all-day classes for 4-

year-olds through students entering the 7th grade. The 4-year-old through 2nd grade class will be

taught by the Brown family, and the 3rd-7th grade class will be taught by Stan and Susan

Bryant. Camp begins each day at 10:00 am and concludes at 3:00 pm.

The 8th grade-adult lapidary class, taught by DocRock, will focus on biblical anthropology

with an emphasis on recent discoveries of the

history and DNA of ancient peoples of the

Americas. This workshop will include the study of related artifacts and native jewelry-making

projects.

All participants will need to bring a lunch and drink each day. Please contact us to pre-register!

Phase 3 Update & Expansion

In preparation for construction at the north end of the museum (Phase 3), we are in the process

of purchasing a 22’ x 30’ storage unit to temporarily house already on site lumber and furniture to be

used for the Phase 3 displays as well as the completed front entrance. The concrete foundation and slab for the storage unit have already been poured.

The next stage will be to place the building and insulate it.

 **Minneola Pharmacy**
Your Professional Partner in Wellness. A division of Coast Health Services

Delivery - Mail Out - Gift Items

620-885-4544

Monday – Friday: 9:00 - 5:30 PM Saturday: 9:00 - 2:00 PM
131 S. Main Minneola, KS 678

**Serving Southwest Kansas
For 40 Years**

Palace
COMPUTER CENTER

1816 Palace Drive
Garden City, Ks. 67846

620-275-7154
www.palacecomputers.com

Principal who stopped school shooter a ‘very selfless man,’ pastor says



Kirk Moore

By Jacob King, Baptist Press

PAULS VALLEY, Okla. — Two weeks ago, an armed gunman entered Pauls Valley High School with the plan to do significant harm, according to police. However, when Principal Kirk Moore heard the commotion, he jumped in and intervened, saving lives and becoming a hero.

Moore tackled the gunman and disarmed him, being wounded in the process.

“It was heroic what he did,” said Andy Harrison, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Pauls Valley, where Moore attends.

“He put his life on the line for his students,” Harrison said.

Moore has attended Trinity for the past two years. In that time, he has displayed his deep faith, humbleness and selflessness.

“(Moore) is a humble guy and doesn’t want any attention from this at all,” Harrison said.

The pastor first heard about the incident from another pastor who had called to inform him there had been an attempted shooting.

Harrison drove to the school immediately, not knowing the full details of what had happened. Upon

arriving, he spoke to a first responder and learned that Moore had been shot in the leg while stopping the shooter.

“While an incident like this is truly shocking, we were not surprised by Kirk’s bravery,” Harrison said. “(Moore) has been in the school system for the last 35 years. He wants what’s best for the kids.”

Moore was taken to the hospital, and Harrison followed. After surgery, Moore asked to see Harrison. When he entered the room, Harrison saw that Moore was in good spirits,

and his thoughts were not only on himself, but on the gunman as well.

“Moore asked me to pray for him and even for the gunman,” Harrison said. “Moore is a very selfless man.”

Members of Trinity Baptist constantly pray for their community’s safety among other things. Harrison said that God showed His goodness that day in protecting Pauls Valley High School and honoring their prayers. In addition to Moore’s heroic actions, the gunman’s firearm reportedly jammed, giving time for nearby stu-

dents to flee.

“In that kind of situation, you don’t really know how you’d react,” Harrison said. “But we know how Kirk Moore would react.”

On May 7, Trinity Baptist will host a prayer event

in partnership with other churches in the community. The event, “Pauls Valley Strong,” will be a night of worship, prayer and gratefulness. The event is intended to draw Pauls Valley to-

gether to commit to “being a people of reconciliation and not violence,” Harrison said.

This article originally appeared in the Baptist Messenger.



Pauls Valley (Okla.) High School security footage shows the moment Principal Kirk Moore tackled a would-be school shooter. Moore, who attends of Trinity Baptist Church in the town, was shot in the leg during the incident. Screen capture

ESCAPE TO MULE CREEK LODGE

Wilmore, Kansas




Peaceful creek hikes. Quiet country nights. Wide open skies and room to breathe.

Unwind in this cozy 3-bedroom, 2-bath cabin with warm rustic charm, a wood stove, and relaxing front porch views of pasture and longhorns.

Enjoy creek access, a nearby park for kids and pets, and evenings around the fire pit under the stars.

SLEEPS UP TO 8

PET FRIENDLY

RV PARKING

Book your break from busy today!

SCAN TO BOOK YOUR STAY



A peaceful place to rest, reflect, and reconnect.



THE TUNNEL

ULTIMATE WASH FREE VACUUMS

1314 EAST KANSAS AVENUE

(NEXT TO WALGREENS)

GARDEN CITY, KANSAS 67846



THE CAR WASH

ATTENDANTS GIVE YOUR VEHICLE SPECIAL ATTENTION

3202 EAST KANSAS AVENUE

(IN FRONT OF HOME DEPOT)

GARDEN CITY, KANSAS 67846

CLOSED EASTER, THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS

PHONE 620-805-6997

1 Million

Continued from page 13

both active members of a Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.) congregation in Asheboro, but PATH has support from several denominations, organizers said. Small is PATH's president and executive director, while Wilbanks is executive administrator on an eight-member core leadership team.

"Twenty thousand in every state by Pentecost Sunday will get us to our million goal," Small said. "But what we really want to do is see this happening at the grassroots area, so we're looking for small groups of people meeting. Here's what we're saying to churches."

Small encourages churches to open their doors for impromptu prayers Wednesday through Sunday of the week of Pentecost Sunday.

"Open your church door and let people come and pray. Don't do a prayer service. Don't feel like you have to," Small said. "Just put a sign out, 'Church open for prayer morning, noon and night.' Let people come and pray. Put names up on the screen of people that you want to stay safe. Lay names on the altar and weep over the lost people that you care about, that you love. And that Sunday, make that a Come Back Home Sunday. So we're saying all across the nation, come home."

Wilbanks encourages

his fellow Gen Z Americans to participate.

"Gen Z is often called the anxious generation. You often see this searching for hope and searching for stability, searching for some kind of normalcy, and that's only going to be found in Christ," Wilbanks said. "So if I had to say something to Gen Z, I'd say come back, come home."

"And this is a generation that, as one PATH board member pointed out, is not a generation that's left the church, but more a generation that hasn't been in the church. It was their parents who left the church. They've grown up without any experience. So they're almost a completely unreached people group, you might say."

P.U.S.H



PRAY UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS ONE NATION UNDER GOD

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. - 2nd Chronicles 7:14

T-N-T Designs

Digital Printing/
Screen printing
on T-Shirts

Machine Embroidery
Personalized Gifts!

*We can help you...
Whatever your design needs!*

Troy & Tammie Winfrey
(620) 563-6106

NEW Address
409 Grand Ave., Plains, Ks.
www.tntstitch.com
tammie@tntstitch.com

God-fidence
KNOWING I CAN'T BUT He CAN



Craig Richards



Grant Huck

(620) 872-5949



RICHARDS
FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Investment Management

- IRA
- Trust
- 529
- Personal
- Roth IRA
- Joint
- UTMA
- Corporate

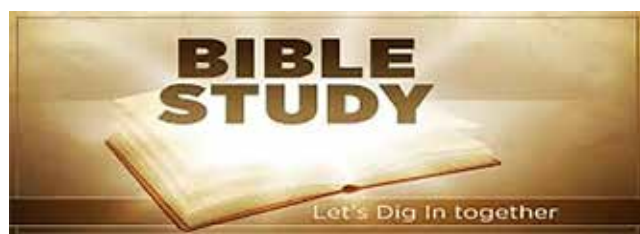
Small Business Retirement Plans

- Sep
- 403(b) Plans
- Individual 401(k)
- Simple Plans
- 401(k) Plans

106 E. 6th Street, Scott City, KS 67871

www.richards-financial.com

S&A Financial Services, Inc. is a Registered Investment Advisor, doing business as "Richards Financial Services." Content presented is for informational purposes only and should not be considered as investment advice or as an offer or solicitation for the sale or purchase of any specific securities, investments, or investment strategies. Always consult with your tax advisor or attorney regarding your specific situation.



Walking by Faith, Not by Sight

Key Scripture

"(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)" — 2 Corinthians 5:7 (KJV)

Introduction

After learning to rest in God's sovereignty, the next step is learning to walk in faith. Resting is trusting God's control; walking by faith is living that trust out daily. It is choosing to believe God's Word even when life feels uncertain.

Walking by Faith

To walk by faith means we base our lives on what God has said, not on what we see or feel. The world depends on visible results, but Scripture calls believers to trust God before the outcome is known.

Hebrews 11:1 says faith is *"the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen."* Faith is not blind—it is confidence in God's character.

Throughout Scripture, we see this clearly. Abraham obeyed without knowing where he was going. Peter stepped onto the water at Jesus' command. The Israelites marched around Jericho before the walls fell. In every case, obedience came before results.

Faith often grows in uncertainty. When circumstances don't make sense, we are tempted to rely on control or fear. But God calls us to trust that He is working, even when we cannot see it.

Application

This month, consider where you are relying more on sight than faith. Is there an area—finances, health, family, or direction—where God is asking you to trust Him more?

Choose one area and commit it to the Lord. Stand on His Word rather than your feelings and take one step of obedience in faith.

Closing Thought

Walking by faith is not about having all the answers—it is about trusting the One who does. Each step forward is a choice to believe that God is faithful.

Prayer

Lord, help me to walk by faith and not by sight. Strengthen my trust in Your Word and guide my steps, even when I cannot see the way. In Jesus' name, Amen.

'We forgive you': Wichita church asks for help after AC units stolen, destroyed

By Kate Devine,
KAKE News

"We forgive you."

That's the message from leaders at a north-east Wichita church after nearly all of its air conditioning units were stolen or vandalized.

New Life Church says it discovered the damage on Friday, April 10, though leaders believe it may have happened earlier. Without cameras on the property, they're unsure exactly when the theft occurred.

Church leaders say five units are missing and 11 others were tampered with, leaving them unusable after copper was stripped from the systems.

"As you see, they destroyed this unit. Copper, I don't know what they totally wanted out

of here — copper — and just tore this one up. And here's these three blank spaces or missing units," Bishop Fred Hayes said.

Hayes said the discovery was overwhelming. "I turned and I saw that unit right there, and I'm like, oh man, somebody tore up the unit. I came out, then I noticed the other missing units that were missing, and then this one was torn up, and all the copper lines cut from everywhere," Hayes said. "The unit that's still here is not functional because it's not feeding anything into the church."

The church now faces an estimated \$85,000 to \$100,000 in repairs.

Leaders say the financial hit is significant for a church operating on a tight budget.

"We're on a shoe-string budget. We try to

make ends meet just like in your home," Hayes said. "We're just trying to make ends meet."

The church has been part of the Wichita community for more than a decade, providing meals, clothing and other resources to people in need.

Minister and member Sandra Felder said the damage has been difficult to process.

"I couldn't believe it. They had already dismantled two or three of our units, and we were already distraught about that. Then to find out they had done all of the units — it was beyond belief," Felder said.

Felder questioned why anyone would target a place of worship.

"How can you fix your mind to go to a place of worship and destroy it? That doesn't make any

sense," she said.

Despite the damage, church leaders say their message is rooted in forgiveness.

"To people who stole the AC units, if they're watching this story, we forgive you," Hayes said. "We're not trying to hunt you down personally, but I would ask you to turn your life around and get away from doing those things that are not right."

Felder echoed that message.

"I wouldn't be a child of God if I didn't forgive them. Yes, we forgive them, but we learn from what happened," she said.

Church leaders say they have started a GoFundMe and are working with community members and local organizations to raise money for repairs.



D & B Pharmacy & Gifts

Open 9 to 5 Monday thru Friday

Prescriptions filled while you wait

*Gifts For All Ages *Digital Photo Kiosk

*Russell Stover Candies *Holiday Decorations

*Watches *Pharmacy *Photo Frames

*Hallmark and Leanin' Tree Cards

620-635-2322 721 Main Ashland, KS

Understanding Islam

By John MacArthur

With all that is going on today, can you help me gain a basic understanding of Islam? How does it differ from biblical Christianity?

Islam is actually a word that means “surrender” or “submission.” Islam claims to be fully surrendered to the will of Allah. And the will of Allah, Muslims believe, was revealed through his prophet Mohammed. The revelation is written down in the Muslim holy book, the Koran.

There are six basic articles of faith in Islam and five duties. A simple Islamic doctrinal statement would look something like this:

Muslims believe that Allah alone is the one true deity. He has neither mother nor father; similarly, he has no sons or daughters. He is not a Trinity; he is not the God of the Old Testament; and he is not the God of Christianity. Allah, according to Islam, is the god of all humanity.

Muslims believe in all the “Messengers and Prophets of Allah.” According to Islamic literature, Allah sent thousands of prophets (Jesus being one), but Mohammed is the greatest of them all.

Muslims believe in “the Revelations and the Koran.” They believe the Koran is the most holy book. Islam also recognizes other sacred writings, including the original manuscripts of the Bible. But Muslims claim that all other holy writings have been cor-

rupted and tainted by translation and copyist errors. Only the Koran is pure, and every word of the Koran is the word of Allah, as given directly to Mohammed.

Muslims believe in the angels of Allah. They believe angels are created beings that have no material or physical needs. Angels require neither food nor drink. The angels are inferior to Allah but superior to humans, and they may be either good or evil.

Muslims believe in a day of judgment. Muslims believe all the dead will be raised to stand trial before Allah, and they will be judged according to their works. It is hoped by most Muslims that if a person follows Islam and does enough good deeds to outweigh the bad, Allah may allow such a person to enter paradise rather

than sending that person to hell. But there are no guarantees of this. One’s ultimate destiny is subject solely to the will of Allah. In Islam, there is no atonement for sin or promise of forgiveness, and no assurance of any kind — except for those who die in jihad. Those people, martyrs, are guaranteed eternal life in paradise.

Muslims believe in “Qadaa and Qadar.” These Arabic words signify Allah’s timeless knowledge and power to execute his plans. Islamic determinism goes far beyond the biblical doctrine that God is ultimately sovereign over all, working all things together for good. Instead, Islamic predestinarianism amounts to a kind of fatalistic determinism, where everything that occurs — both good and evil — is thought to

come directly from the hand of Allah.

Muslims also have five duties, known as the pillars of Islam. Islam itself is said to be built on these five “pillars”:

1. The first duty is the recitation of the Islamic declaration of faith, known as the Shahadah.

2. The second duty is prayer five times a day.

3. A third duty is charity (known as Zakat).

4. A fourth duty is the annual fast — actually a

month of fasting — called Ramadan.

5. A fifth duty, required of every Muslim at least once in his life (unless it is utterly impossible by some restraint), is a pilgrimage to Mecca, called the hajj.

Islam is fundamentally and irreconcilably opposed to biblical Christianity. Islam teaches that Jesus Christ was a mere man—a prophet, and not God incarnate. Islam also denies that Jesus died on a cross. Obviously, if Christ did not

die on the cross, He did not have to rise from the dead; so Islam denies the resurrection, too.

Islam further teaches that no one can have salvation but a Muslim. Even though a Muslim can never know whether he has salvation, only Muslims can have it in the end.

Much more could be said, but clearly, Islam and Christianity are mutually exclusive. Both claim to be the only true way to God. Both cannot be right.

Pet Haven Crematory

Helping ease the pain after the loss of a pet.



Cremation prices range from \$75-\$175

Including a complimentary urn

Pickup service available in most areas

620-338-1103

www.pethavencrematory.com

SOUTHWEST TOWING

SERVING WESTERN KANSAS WITH 2 LOCATIONS

Your #1 Source For All Towing
& Recovery Needs
1-800-476-8163



*Light Duty *Medium Duty *Heavy Duty
*Air Cushion Recovery *Local and Long
Distance Towing *Equipment Hauling
*Motor Homes and
Motor Coach Transporting
*Jump Starts *Winch Outs *Unlocks

*Dealer Wholesale Accounts
*24 Hour Emergency Service
*Most Roadside Assistance Programs
*Clean, Professional, Trained Drivers



CELEBRATING 31 YEARS SERVICE IN 2025



24 HOUR SERVICE

Dodge City Garden City
620-225-3105 620-275-6828
1-800-476-8163



FIRST-PERSON: The Bible's definition of 'single'

By Doug Hankins, Baptist Press

Editor's note: The following is an excerpt from "Still Single, Still Called" by Doug Hankins, senior pastor of First Baptist Church Winter Park, Fla.

In Matthew 22, Jesus finds himself in two conversations with three rival Jewish groups. The Pharisees and Herodians bring up the issue of God and government. Jesus provides clarity on the subject with His eminently quotable phrase, "Give, then, to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." Next, the Sadducees bring up the topic of marriage and eternity. Jesus likewise responds with a comment that seems to leave them speechless due to their cultural assumptions about the reality of the matter:

You are mistaken because you don't know the Scriptures or the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels in heaven. — Matthew 22:29-30

(CSB)

The gathered crowds were astonished at Jesus' ability to skillfully answer the rival Jewish groups with such confidence and authority on the matter. It had never occurred to many of them that marriage was a temporary arrangement and singleness before God is the eternal reality for resurrection people. Although this idea was foreign to many in the crowd, it was not foreign to Jesus' disciples. In Matthew 19, Jesus has a related conversation with his disciples about the subject of divorce and marriage, in which Jesus reminds them that God hates divorce. His disciples respond in verse 10, "If the relationship of a man with his wife is like this, it's better not to marry." Jesus concludes, "Not everyone can accept this saying, but only those to whom it has been given." Over and again, Jesus, a single person, reminds us that singleness is the default state of being for humanity and in many cases one that is preferable to

marriage.

Single: Paul's definition When he wrote his letter to the church in Corinth, Greece, in the 50s AD, the apostle Paul addressed a culture much like our own. Corinth was a fast-growing metropolis in a geographically and financially advantageous part of the world, populated by single men looking to get rich quickly and make a name for themselves in the Roman Empire, and marked by a great diversity of marital status, religious worldview and cultural values. Paul was ministering to and writing to a diverse audience that had substantial questions about the implications of following Jesus, among them how one should approach sexuality, marriage and community.

In the seventh chapter of his first letter to the Corinthian church, Paul wrote on the issue of singleness and marriage:

"I wish that all people were as I am. But each has his own gift from God, one person has this gift, another has that. I say to the

unmarried and to widows: It is good for them if they remain as I am." (1 Corinthians 7:17)

Paul's teaching on singleness and marriage is remarkable for several reasons. First, Paul offers a straightforward definition of single without ambiguity or a conflation of ideas: A single person is one who is not married and who is celibate. Second, Paul subcategorizes singles in a way that would make even our government proud. Singles include unmarried people and widows and likely allows for separated or divorced people. Finally, Paul describes singleness as a gift, something to be received and celebrated as good. Paul's definition of singleness is good news for all of us who want to live and speak with clarity about singleness. A single person who is unmarried and living a life of celibacy is a gift to both society and the Church and is choosing a good life.

Single: Celibate, not abstinent

Keep in mind that Paul's definition places emphasis on celibacy and not abstinence. While these terms are often used interchangeably in religious circles, there is a significant difference between the two. Abstinence is a temporary refraining from sexual activity. But abstinence also carries an implied or stated expiration date in mind with the intention to enter into sexual activity at some point in the future. Celibacy, on the other hand, is viewed as a more permanent commitment not to participate in sex or marriage, motivated in part by spiritual formation and personal choice. When Paul says that being single is good, he is not expressly making a statement about abstinence. It is one thing to practice abstinence for the short term so that marriage and sex later will not be spoiled. This is a True Love Waits view of singleness, and one that many young single adults tend to presume is the normal course of life. But take note

that Paul does not suggest that singleness is about delayed gratification so that human flourishing can occur later in the Christian life. Paul sees singleness as a way to flourish now without any promise of sexual gratification occurring later. Paul sees both marriage and singleness as worthy and equal Christian pursuits. For the record, Jesus seems to teach the same.

In case Paul's meaning is unclear, he reiterates this idea in verse 17, "Let each one live his life in the situation the Lord assigned when God called him." For Paul, singleness is a good thing. Christians should not try to talk single people out of their singleness. Instead, single people should remain in their singleness as Paul models for us.

I wish more churches would live out the teachings of Jesus and Paul — that singleness is a good thing, that the single life can be one of flourishing and that single friends are a gift to us all.

 **Wilson**
TRAILER SALES

1-800-279-9875

SINCE 1890...A GOOD NAME TO HAVE BEHIND YOU!

2730 East Trail Street DODGE CITY, KS 22080 Hwy. 34 FORT MORGAN, CO

*Hot Spring
Spas

*Artesian
Spas

*Custom
Pools



AUSTIN
POOLS

*BioGuard
Chemicals

*Pentair
Pool
Products



Dodge City

1601 W. Frontview 620-227-6867

Garden City

940 Stonecreek Dr. 620-275-0707

OPEN 9 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. Mon. - Sat.

www.austinpoolskansas.com

No Sin Is Worth Hell

By Greg Morse, Teacher, Desiring God

All the plenty will be forgotten. (Genesis 41:30)

Pharaoh looked out from the bank of the river. What were those coming up out of the Nile?

Seven healthy cows emerged from the waters and walked upon the land. Who has ever seen cows emerge from the depths of a mighty river? A strange sight indeed. But more came; he shivered. Seven sickly cows staggered from the waters to stand on the shore. Seven plump cows; seven bony cows. Even for dreams, this was odd.

But bizarre soon turned nightmarish. "The ugly, thin cows ate up the seven attractive, plump cows" (Genesis 41:4).

Pharaoh woke.

Cannibal cattle could not be forgotten. Pharaoh

turned over, disturbed. Eventually he dozed off into another dream of seven thin ears of grain swallowing seven thick ears. The pattern begged explanation. What did the architect of such visions mean to tell the king?

His magicians could not answer. But Pharaoh's cupbearer, overhearing the inquiry, remembered a guy who had interpreted his dream exactly as it unfolded. Joseph was told to prepare himself to see the king.

"It is not in me," the Hebrew confessed before the court. "God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer" (Genesis 41:16). He unraveled the mystery:

There will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt, but after them there will arise seven

years of famine, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt. The famine will consume the land, and the plenty will be unknown in the land by reason of the famine that will follow, for it will be very severe. And the doubling of Pharaoh's dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and God will shortly bring it about. (Genesis 41:29-32)

God warned Pharaoh of coming calamity while he still had time to prepare. Pharaoh, with Joseph elevated to his right hand, did prepare. They survived. More than that, they used the prophecy to profit. Egypt became a mighty nation.

Egypt's prosperity and famine has come and passed. But I believe Pharaoh's nightmare teaches us a lesson about the nature of another impending calamity, one

each of us must prepare for. This nearing catastrophe too is fixed by God, and shortly he will bring it about. Blessed only are those who are found ready.

Thin Cows Come

What sends a shiver up my soul is how the ruinous years erased the memory of the prosperous ones. God warned the king that poverty would so overwhelm the days of plenty that those happier days of abundance would be emptied of meaning and memory.

Isn't this a picture of the destruction destined for the unrepentant? God has shown us a vision of coming judgment, a judgment so severe that it will make irrelevant the days of fortune, even Western fortune.

We live, figuratively speaking, in the first seven years. Many flatter

Continued on page 21

Bible Trivia

Q: Who were Noah's three sons?

Answer

A: Shem, Ham, Japheth

Housing Authority of Dodge City

Elderly & Family Housing

1 to 4 Bedroom & Studio Apartments

Scheduled Transportation
Rent Based on Your Income
Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 am - 5pm



NORTH OFFICE

407 E. Bend St.
Dodge City

620-225-1965

SOUTH OFFICE

401 Longbranch Rd
Dodge City

620-225-1584

"Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven."

Matthew 10:32



MEDICAL HEIGHTS DENTAL CENTER

KELLY S. HENRICHS, DDS

***Maria Ocon, RDH *Rebecca Ballard, RDH
*Kaycie Bogner, RDH *Deena Hamilton, RDH**

620-225-6555

"Comprehensive Family Dentistry from Infants to Adults"

We Accept Mastercard, Visa and Discover

***100 W. Ross Blvd. *Building 2 *Suite C *Dodge City, Ks.**

Hell

Continued from page 20

themselves that things can only get better. Fat cows do not just stand on our banks; they lay well cooked on our plates. So many feast sumptuously and cannot understand all this fussing by their religious relatives of coming destruction. All is sunny; life is fair; why can't these Christians just enjoy themselves?

"The Lord himself spoke most of hell because he most wanted the guilty to escape it."

Because these Christians know more of the vision. It is not in us to foretell the times, but our God has plainly told us: Thin cows are coming upon an unwatchful world. Near is a calamity so severe, so devouring, so unmistakable and inescapable that all unsanctified plenty, all worldly laughter, all ungodly abundance will become utterly meaning-

less and altogether forgotten. As memories of feasts do not fill starving bellies, so recollections of favorite pastimes shall bring no satisfaction to perishing souls.

This is the point of the ugly cows swallowing the plump ones. The happy times, the good old days, those merry and unholy moments — consumed, seen no more. When the promised judgment comes, when the wrath of God descends, when the books are opened and the pleading of the unrepentant for death goes unanswered — all the former pleasure, all the bright days, all the former times of fat cows shall be swallowed forever.

Jesus makes the connection for us in his teaching. He teaches that earthly riches shall not offer one drop of relief to the anguishing tongue under burning judgment. The Lord describes a ghastly vision of a rich

man withering in fire, who would have given every coin, every feast, every pleasure he ever owned — all from that former life — for a single drop of water, a second of reprieve. He cries, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame" (Luke 16:24). A suitable caption for this tormented man: "All plenty will be utterly forgotten."

Wise Men Prepare

Sinner, your prosperity — now felt by you as a wall of protection — will crumble in a moment, as the walls of Jericho, and you will stand exposed before the wrath of God. And when you look up you will not see cows but white horses, a divine army led by a Lord whose robe is dipped in blood.

But here is the point: You have time to prepare. Pharaoh and Joseph

prepared for the famine in times of abundance and saved many in Egypt and beyond. So must we.

Consider God's willingness to save. "Fire and brimstone preaching" has fallen under rebuke, but wasn't it gracious for God to interrupt Pharaoh's cozy dreams to foretell of the famine to come? The nightmare was not given to destroy Egypt but to save it (and God's covenant people through it). In receiving the warning of coming disaster, do not miss the mercy of God.

He is willing to save. Warnings of wrath and coming punishment may alarm you, annoy you, make you angry — the thin cows are grotesque in your sight. Such talk ruins a good time, weighs down levity, grounds a helium life. But the bad news is told to you that you may avoid it. God warns of the flood, the fiery judgment, the wrath to come so that you flee

to Jesus Christ. The Lord himself spoke most of hell because he most wanted the guilty to escape it.

He alone made a way through his own blood for us to be saved. Sinner, meet the great Savior: Jesus Christ. He, the only one who ever deserved eternal life by his perfect obedience, laid down his life that you may share in his reward. God offers you mercy, not by letting you out of hell centuries early on good behavior, but by sending his own Son to bear your consequence so you never taste a drop of his wrath. His obedience for your rebellion, his reward for your guilt, his death for your life. Will you not relent?

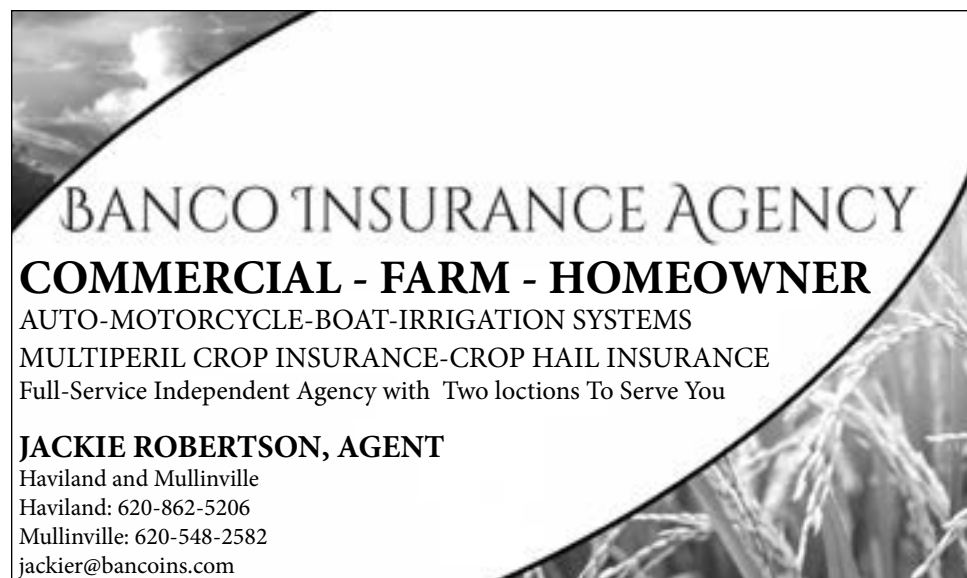
Consider his promises of blessing. This Redeemer is so full he does not just take away the famine; he leaves eternal prosperity in its place. On the shores of the better country, the plump

cows devour the ugly and thin. It is the very reverse of what we have seen. No matter how much pain and sorrow and loss and famine you have experienced, come to Jesus. He promises future years that swallow all sorrow.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. (Revelation 21:4)

God's warning: Continue to ignore Jesus Christ, continue to cling to your sins, and all your former joys will be utterly forgotten in an endless famine.

God's welcome: Trust in Christ — his perfect life, his atoning death, his resurrection, and his soon return — and all your past griefs and pain and regrets shall be swallowed up by eternal life with him.



BANCO INSURANCE AGENCY
COMMERCIAL - FARM - HOMEOWNER
 AUTO-MOTORCYCLE-BOAT-IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
 MULTIPERIL CROP INSURANCE-CROP HAIL INSURANCE
 Full-Service Independent Agency with Two Locations To Serve You
JACKIE ROBERTSON, AGENT
 Haviland and Mullinville
 Haviland: 620-862-5206
 Mullinville: 620-548-2582
 jackier@bancoins.com



ARROWHEAD WEST Inc.

**Openings for Full & Part Time
Community Living Instructors**

Assist adults with disabilities with daily living skills in home setting.

**EOE Apply online at arrowheadwest.org
or 1100 E Wyatt Earp Blvd, Dodge City**

The Greatest Announcement

By Van Yandell

Luke 11: 26-28 "And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth. To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women."

Wintertime in western Kentucky is about as unpredictable as anything can possibly be. Apparently the weather is somewhat of a joke in many places. I was in Greenock, Scotland on a rainy day and a Scotsman told me, "We can have all four seasons in twenty-four hours."

We always looked for signs of springtime. Some of the maple trees started budding as early as February but warmer temperatures are definitely not in the near future that early.

A little yellow flower we found in late winter is called a buttercup. Some years they bloomed as early as February. A tradition in our household was, when I found the first buttercups, I picked a few and

brought them home to wife Margie.

This action usually got me a kiss on the cheek and a "Thank you baby." Almost as important was those little yellow flowers signified the ending of winter and the approaching spring.

It was like they were God's announcement to us that brighter, warmer times were coming very soon. A very important announcement made in the Book of Luke is God's announcement to Mary that she will be the mother of the Savior of the world.

By His birth, life, death and resurrection, He provided the world with a brighter future. No one in the future or past of humanity has made such a profound impact on mankind as Jesus Christ.

Since the gestation period in humans is nine months, this announcement to Mary took place about the end of March in year one B.C.

The Church of the Annunciation (Basilica of the Annunciation) is in northern Israel in the town of Nazareth. We were there, and deep inside the structure is a spring where it is

believed the angel Gabriel (the annunciation angel) appeared to Mary.

I drank from that spring and would like to say had a life changing spiritual experience. That, however, did not happen with me but I'm told with some, it does. Being in Christ's tomb (tomb of Joseph of Arimathea) was a different story. Such an emotional, spiritual experience I had never had.

Luke 1: 28-29a "And having come in, the angel said to her, 'Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!'" But when she saw him, she was troubled."

"Troubled" may very well be an understatement. We can imagine that a young girl having such an unexpected experience would have been emotionally shaken beyond de-

scription.

We cannot know exactly Mary's age at the time. Based on cultural history, she was probably in the 13 to 15 year old range. Yes, "troubled" would be a lessened description of her emotional state!

Luke 1: 30-33 "Then the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.'"

We find in these verses a very compassionate and understanding Gabriel. Could we see this level of

empathy in humanity?

Gabriel explained very clearly and forthright a part of what Mary's experience would be. She apparently knew the prophesy of the coming of a Savior and when she became aware that she would be His mother, a state of emotions likely unparalleled took place within her.

Matthew 1: 23 "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted would mean, God with us."

We are told in this verse that Mary was a virgin, she would conceive, she would give birth to a son and His name interpreted "God with us."

Some claim it is not necessary to know or believe Mary was a virgin and that Christ's birth was a virgin birth. That is untrue! To be

the perfect, sinless sacrifice for the sins of the world (Deuteronomy 17: 1) Jesus had to be conceived by the Holy Spirit and virgin born.

A typically born human (fathered by a human male) could not have lived the perfect, sinless life (1 Peter 2: 22) as required for the sacrifice for the sins of mankind.

After Mary received her announcement from Gabriel, she was anxious to visit her cousin Elizabeth and announce to her the encounter and news from Gabriel.

Luke 1: 41 "And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost."

Elizabeth being pregnant

Continued on page 23



Heritage
Real Estate Group, Inc.

Ph. 620-626-6100
www.hregliberal.com
2 South Kansas Ave.
Liberal, KS

MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE
MLS

REALTOR

Phillips Chiropractic
Physical Therapy Center



Non-Surgical Back Pain Relief

DRX9000™
True Spinal Decompression™



Jammie D. Phillips, DC



Angela D. Harp, DC



2015
READERS' CHOICE
AWARDS

Clinically proven to be effective in treating many disabling back pain conditions including:

- Herniated/Bulging Discs
- Facet Syndrome
- Degenerative Discs
- Sciatica

Appointments Limited! Call Today & Schedule Your Consultation

2200 Summerlon Circle Ste.
D, Dodge City, KS 67801

620.225.4139
www.phillipstherapy.net

"Honor your father and mother."

This is the first commandment with a promise: If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth." Ephesians 6:2-3

HONOR YOUR MOTHER
This Mother's Day
With A Great Gift From Long's:

*Gift Certificates, Fragrances,
Jewelry, Sandals, Boots, Belts!*



2207 Central Ave.
620-227-2805
Mon.-Fri. 10-7

Dodge City, Ks.
1-800-491-2805
Sat. 9-6 Sun. 1-6

ATV, Amazon, eBay

Kendrick Brothers set release for 'Flywheel' remake in Portuguese with English subtitles



Alex and Stephen Kendrick, left to right, of Kendrick Brothers Productions have announced the release of a remake of their debut film "Flywheel," this time set in Rio de Janeiro, featuring a Brazilian cast and presented in Portuguese with English subtitles. "Flywheel: Ignition of the Soul," releases Oct. 16 in the U.S.. File photo

By Diana Chandler,
Baptist Press

In the original "Flywheel," a young Alex Kendrick portrays a dishonest used car salesman who encounters Rutha Mae Harris, an African American straight-talking customer who encourages honesty after his come-to-Jesus moment.

Audiences were charmed as Jesus changed the heart of a business owner, husband and father who was

so tainted he would place empty tithing envelopes in the church offering plate, within full view of his pregnant, scolding wife.

That was in 2003, when Kendrick brothers Alex and Stephen were new on the Christian filmmaking scene with Sherwood Pictures. Their debut prominently featured a cast of Black and white characters, which Stephen Kendrick later described to Baptist Press as indicative

of their upbringing, their membership at the multi-ethnic Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Ga., and their worship of Jesus.

More than two decades and several hit films later, and after launching their independent company Kendrick Brothers Productions with their brother Shannon, the Kendricks are expanding their cultural reach with a remake of Flywheel. The new film is set in Rio de Janeiro, features a predominantly Brazilian cast, and is presented in Portuguese with English subtitles.

"Flywheel: Ignition of the Soul," debuts in Brazilian markets in September, followed by an Oct. 16 release in the U.S., Affirm Films announced April 22. The Brazilian remake was inspired by the Brazilian

success of the Kendrick Brothers' 2024 release "The Forge," which opened in the top spot in Brazilian markets and grossed \$9 million there.

Kendrick Brothers Productions further strengthened its Brazilian reach by hosting a filmmaking bootcamp in Rio in advance of the film's production, which began in September 2025.

"The Brazilian filmmakers had all the talent and ingredients in the kitchen," Alex Kendrick said upon the announcement of the film's debut, "but wanted us to help them produce something inspirational in Brazil at the quality they saw in The Forge."

The new Flywheel again features a used-car salesman, this time played by Mario Bregieira as Noah

Silva, whose life is ripe for Gospel change and conviction.

"After a series of wake-up calls," Affirm said in describing the film, "Noah is forced to confront the cost of his choices. He begins a difficult and deeply personal journey to restore his integrity while trying to win back the hearts of his wife and son."

The film's production took less time than anticipated, Stephen Kendrick said in a press release, describing the new production as "better shot, acted and scored than the original" Flywheel.

"It was amazing," Stephen said. "We did not know the language, local resources or culture, but saw God help us do more in less time. We found out that Brazilian pastors had

been praying for this for five years. ... I'm truly excited to see how audiences will respond to this new version in theaters this fall."

Alex Kendrick joins the cast of stars also including Pérola Faria, Gui Tavares, Felipe Folgosi, Adriano Canindé and Elizeu Rodrigues. Alessandro Barros directs the film Alex wrote, with five producers including Alex and Stephen.

Stephen has credited his father with teaching them to respect ethnic diversity.

"Our father launched a Christian school, and it had white, Black, Hispanic – all different races – in leadership in the school, and it was a loving, unified Christian school," Stephen told Baptist Press in 2024. "We saw them modeling the way."

Forgive

Forgive someone. Today forgive.

Turn from bitter to positive.

End frustration, anger, pain;

Wash the anguish from your brain.

No need to reconcile or tell;

Just feel better and get well.

A brand new, peaceful life to live,

That's your gift, when you forgive.

By Joanna Fuchs

Where do you wanna eat?

I DON'T CARE

FAMILY RESTAURANT AND SPORTS BAR

NOW OPEN....Serving Full Menu!

We are a family restaurant and sports bar. We offer daily specials. We have the NFL ticket for all games. We have a friendly, hometown atmosphere, awesome staff & cold, cold beer. One of our specialties is Chicken Fried Steak.

1510 W. Spruce, Dodge City, Ks. Ph. 620-371-6061