

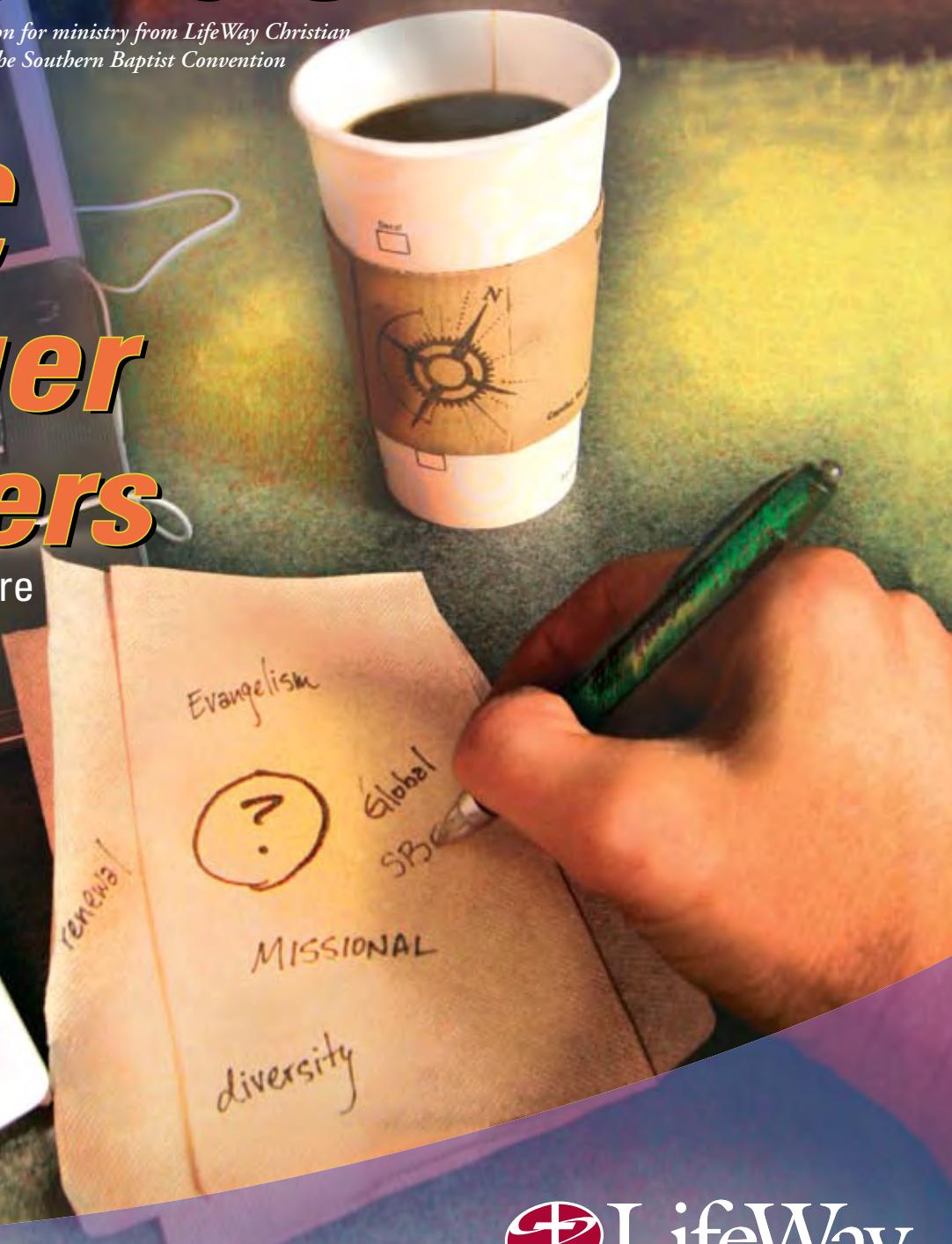
Facts & Trends

News and information for ministry from LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention

SBC *Younger Leaders*

vision for the future

Story on page 8



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Cover photo: Even with new ministry tools, the SBC's message needs to be clear and concise enough to fit on a napkin, says Jeff Harris, pastor of Gracepoint Church in San Antonio.
Photo illustration by Liz Gibson, Kent Harville and Katie Shull.

*Notice to readers: Phone numbers, Web addresses and content referenced in articles were verified at the time of printing.
Please understand, however, that addresses and content may have changed since publication.*



Coming in the November/December issue:

- Meet LifeWay's new president-elect
- B&H book gets proactive about Boy Scouts

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Our purpose

To support you in ministry by connecting you with LifeWay's "Biblical Solutions for Life." To help you carry out your calling more effectively as you read news and feature stories, information about trends that impact the church, ministry tips and an introduction to new LifeWay products. Whether you're a pastor, church staff member or lay leader, you'll find ways to enhance your ministry.

Our format

Facts & Trends is published six times a year by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention. *Facts & Trends* is a free publication.

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From my heart to yours



James T. Draper Jr., president,
LifeWay Christian Resources of the
Southern Baptist Convention

Subscribe

In addition to this column in *Facts & Trends*, LifeWay President James T. Draper Jr. writes *LifeWay@Heart*, a periodic e-mail message addressing trends and ministry ideas. Add your name to the *LifeWay@Heart* mailing list by going to www.lifeway.com/form_heart.asp. On the form, type in your e-mail address and name, then click the "Join List" button.



Fight the 'professionalization' of ministry ... stay put!

A youth minister stood in front of a youth ministry class at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary a number of years ago and told the group that when they graduate and begin to serve, they should stay put.

"If God calls you to some place, work at that job like it is the last job you are ever going to have," he said. "If that is a group with only 15 kids, invest in those kids as if it is forever. Don't go there looking to build your resume to go someplace bigger and then some place bigger hoping one day to land a megachurch."

"Let God deal with the moves," he said. "You deal with the ministry."

Good advice, but too bad too many ministers aren't listening to it.

According to research done exclusively for LifeWay and *Facts & Trends*, only one in four Southern Baptist pastors (24 percent) attribute moving from one church to the next as a result of God's call. Factoring in all denominations, that number drops to 12 percent.

Ironically, 87 percent of those same Southern Baptist pastors surveyed said the tenure of many pastors at churches is "much too short" or "a little too short."

So, stay!

I find it interesting that the very ones complaining about the average tenure being too short are also the ones who can do something to change the trend! Wanting a different community, a promotion and better pay are all legitimate reasons for job changes if you are in a corporate environment, but it is a dangerous trend for the pastoral ministry. I recommend to you an excellent and challenging book written by John Piper, titled *Brothers, We Are Not Professionals*, published by Broadman & Holman (2002).

"The professionalization of the ministry ... is a threat to the profoundly spiritual nature of our work," Piper writes. "... The love of professionalism kills a man's belief that he is sent by God to save people from hell and to make them Christ-exalting, spiritual aliens in the



world. The world sets the agenda of the professional man; God sets the agenda of the spiritual man."

Challenging words. The book is filled with them and puts into perspective the calling of a pastor. By the way, Piper has been at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis for 25 years.

Talk about staying power – Francis Funk has been pastor of Greenville (Va.) Baptist Church for the past 50 years. Wow! Rev. Funk has invested his life in this small rural church. I am confident he has some kind of tenacity and resilience.

The survey also finds that 12 percent of Southern Baptist pastors who responded

said a job change was due to being fired. Pastoral firings have always bothered me a great deal. A few years ago LifeWay's pastoral ministries department found in a study that there are 100 pastors per month fired in the SBC. Of those firings,

12 percent were due to some moral issue. Eighty-eight percent were due to relational problems between pastors and churches. That's inexcusable! Folks, we may need a refresher in "love one another."

I never had an ambition to come to LifeWay, and God practically had to pry pastoral ministry from my hand. I wouldn't trade the opportunity I've had these 14 years at LifeWay, but I loved being a local church pastor. I've said it is the best position in all Christendom. It is all about growing people in Jesus' image. To do that takes a long-term investment.

So unpack your bags and stay awhile. As the youth minister said to the class: "Let God deal with the moves, you deal with the ministry." ■

In His Love,

We recommend

- *Brothers, We Are Not Professionals* by John Piper
- *The Wounded Minister: Healing and Preventing Personal Attacks* by Guy Greenfield
- *Everybody's Normal Till You Get to Know Them* by John Ortberg
- *Pastors at Greater Risk: Real Help for Pastors from Pastors Who've Been There* by H. B. London and Neil Wiseman

These and other resources are available through customer service at www.lifeway.com and (800) 458-2772 and from LifeWay Christian Stores at www.lifewaystores.com and (800) 233-1123.

Pastors think pastors should stay put

by Ron Sellers

A majority of all Protestant pastors feel ministers don't stay enough years with any one church. So say the results of research conducted for *Facts & Trends*.

Fifty-nine percent believe the average pastor in their denomination does not stay at any one church long enough, including 26 percent who believe the time pastors typically stay at a church is much too short, and 33 percent who feel it is a little too short.

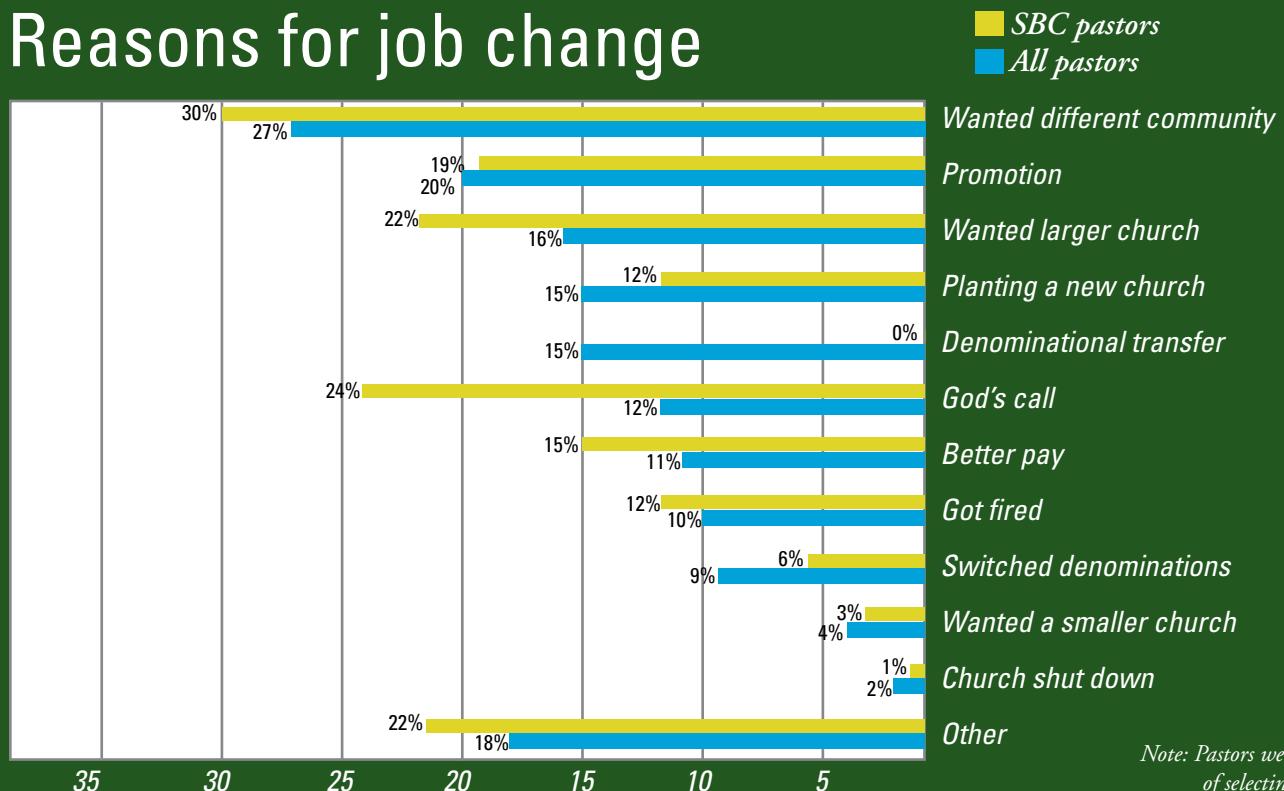
Southern Baptist ministers are particularly likely to complain that SBC pastors spend too few years with one church. Eighty-seven percent of SBC pastors say the time pastors spend with a church in their denomination

is generally too short, including 53 percent who believe it is much too short.

The study, conducted among a representative sample of 872 senior pastors by Ellison Research (Phoenix, Ariz.), shows the typical senior pastor in the United States has been in a paid church position for 19 years – as a senior pastor for 15.6 years and as senior pastor of his current church an average of 7.7 years. The average American minister has led three churches in his career.

Southern Baptist ministers are more likely than average to have served multiple churches. The average SBC minister has been a senior pastor at 3.6 churches in his career, and 37 percent of all SBC pastors

Reasons for job change



Note: Pastors were given the option of selecting multiple choices.

have led four or more churches. Only Methodists exceed this – but Methodists usually are assigned positions by their denomination, and the average assignment lasts only about four years before the pastor is moved to another church by the denomination.

Why pastors change churches

The study also explored why pastors have changed churches during their career. The most common reason has been a desire to serve in a different region or type of community (27 percent have changed jobs for this reason), followed by getting promoted to a higher position – such as from associate pastor to senior pastor (20 percent), wanting to move to a larger church (16 percent), being transferred by

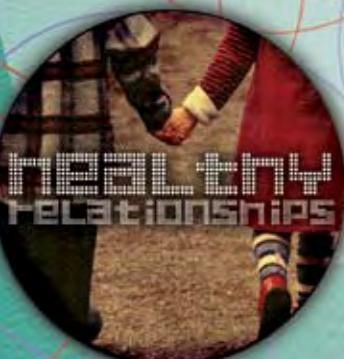
the denomination (15 percent), leaving to plant a new church (15 percent), feeling God's call to a different church (12 percent), and getting better pay and/or benefits (11 percent). One out of every ten ministers has been fired or asked to leave a church at some point in his career.

SBC ministers are about twice as likely as average to have switched jobs because they felt God calling them to another church (24 percent). Still, SBC ministers were about as likely to have moved for this reason as to have switched jobs because of wanting to serve in a different community (30 percent), wanting to move to a larger church (22 percent), or getting promoted to a higher position (19 percent).

The study pointed out some possible concerns for SBC clergy. Southern Baptists are particularly likely to have served multiple churches, and the majority haven't changed jobs simply because God calls them to a different church. Yet they are also the most likely to complain that ministers in their denomination don't spend long enough time with one church. The only way to address this complaint is for individual ministers to stay longer in each job, and be less likely to move because they want to live in a different community, work in a larger church, or for some other reason beyond God's call. ■



Ron Sellers is president of Ellison Research (Phoenix, Ariz.), which is conducting exclusive research for *Facts & Trends* on issues important to our readers.



Napkin-sized vision needed for reaching the lost

by Chris Turner

James T. Draper Jr. called for a revolution. Jeff Harris called for it to be plotted on a napkin.

Draper, president of LifeWay, opened June's Younger Leaders Summit – the climax of a year-long effort to engage the Southern Baptist Convention's younger leaders more directly in denominational activities – with the comment that the conservative resurgence was good and necessary, but that it was in the past.

Younger leaders are mostly conservative, he said, and do not want to keep fighting a battle that many of them are hardly old enough to remember. The Southern Baptist Convention needs to focus on reaching a lost world, he emphasized, and that requires changes.

"I do not see this as the end but the beginning," he said as he opened the summit at downtown Nashville's Global Cafe. "I hope this thing is just getting started and that it grows from here. It is time for a revolution."

Harris proposed what may very well become known as the "Napkin Test."

"If you can't tell somebody what you stand for in the space of a napkin, then you don't clearly understand the message you are trying to communicate," said Harris, pastor of Gracepoint Church in San Antonio, and featured speaker for the summit.

"The SBC needs to be able to write on a napkin what its message is," he said. "Unfortunately we are more known for what we are against than what we are for. I don't want to have to apologize or think twice before telling someone I'm a Southern Baptist. I don't want to worry about how they'll respond or take something I say."

Year-long effort

Harris' comments came near the end of the two-hour rally attended by more than 400 people. Draper introduced the need to involve younger leaders in the denomination at last year's SBC in Indianapolis. He followed his convention address with a series of columns challenging Southern Baptist leaders to "make a place at the table" for younger leaders. He's spent the past

JEFF HARRIS

Gracepoint Church San Antonio, TX



Jeff Harris, pastor of Gracepoint Church in San Antonio, spoke at the June 19 Younger Leaders Summit, hosted by LifeWay.



Grady Smith, an attendee of the June 19 Younger Leaders Summit, sings during the worship portion of the event.



"We've got our theology in order; now let's get our mission together."

—Ed Stetzer

six months visiting nearly a dozen locations around the country soliciting input and encouraging dialogue with younger leaders. The Nashville event was a culmination of the year-long effort, and Draper kept his comments brief in order to give younger leaders a platform from which to speak on various issues.

Ed Stetzer, director of research at the North American Mission Board (NAMB), encapsulated the revolutionary idea when addressing the lingering effect of the “Battle for the Bible” 25 years ago, saying, “We’ve had a conservative resurgence but what we need now is a missional resurgence. This is not an age issue but it is a missional issue. ... We’ve got our theology in order; now let’s get our mission together.”

“It”

Robby Partain, director of missions and evangelism for the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, was the first speaker and set the tone for the meeting by defining “it.”

“‘It’ is not about doctrine,” he said. “Doctrine is not the motivation for involving young leaders in the denomination. ‘It’ is not about wooing young leaders with a position or place in the denomination. Serving on boards and committees is not a motivation. ‘It’ is about the mission. That’s what motivates young leaders and motivates them to network for the purpose of the mission. Younger leaders are going to partner in one way or another. The question is, ‘Will the SBC be a network younger leaders want to be a part of?’

“We have to focus on penetrating lostness. It is about the mission,” he said.

Bob Reccord, president of NAMB, said he was challenged to think of what the content of his last message would be if he knew he'd die afterwards. "The mission," he said. "I'm begging you to answer [Jesus'] call. Tell His story and not yours. He is at the center of the story. Go and change the world."

Reccord said there would be "radical change" at NAMB to better include younger leaders, including associational missions strategies that focus on mentoring. "We've got associations standing in line for this opportunity," he said.

Adam Greenway, pastor of The Church at Andover, Lexington, Ky., and a new LifeWay trustee, said the denomination is important because the denomination embodies resources that enable the widespread saturation of "the message," but that younger leaders must engage the process.

"We've got to be willing to pay the price," he said. "We can take the easy way and sit on the sideline and criticize the denomination. [But] our role is to show up, get involved and decide we are willing to pay the price. [Our involvement] matters because there are people who need to know."

SBC President Bobby Welch echoed the challenge, and extended it to both young and old.

"There are two roads to the same dream," he said. "One road is traveled by older people who have gotten near the end of their ministries and never got to where they envisioned themselves going. They are disappointed and feel like they've failed. They are hungry for one more shot for giving their best for the rest of their lives.

"The other road is traveled by younger folks who are looking for something to give the rest of their lives to. Here's what I'm saying: Older guys, don't lie down and quit on us, not now. Younger guys, don't turn and run away from us, not now. Together there is nothing like [the SBC], but we must have a unity of purpose for reaching a lost world."

Chris Seay, pastor of Ecclesia, Houston, spoke about creative approaches and said that Southern Baptists are becoming known for being dogmatic. "Doctrine is important," he said, "but being faithful to God is more important."

Part of being faithful, he said, is for Southern Baptists to understand the beauty in the truth of the gospel, truly being incarnational witnesses for Christ.

Intergenerational unity

Harris called for a unity of purpose that unites all generations within the denomination for the sake of the gospel.

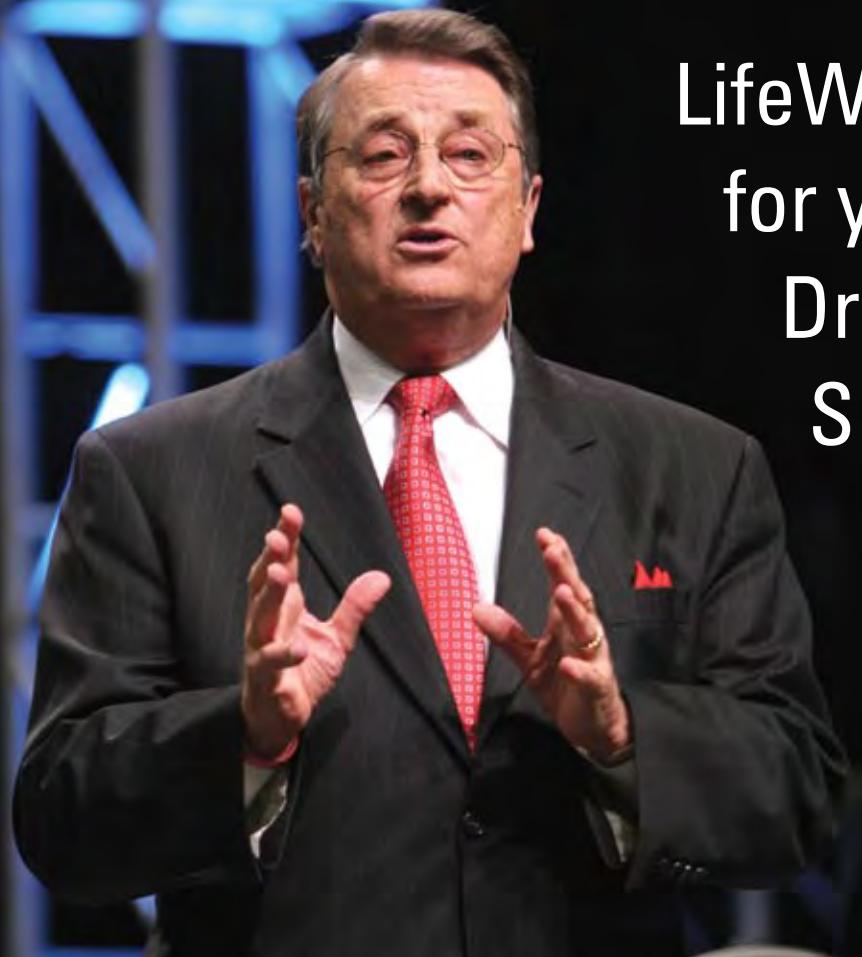
"The foundation of tomorrow is built by some of you who currently have the power to make a change," he said. "Step back for a moment and ask, 'What am I going to leave behind?' We don't want your jobs, we want your vision. We need the current leaders to unite us once again."

"Younger leaders, we will never have a voice in the denomination without serving it. We must catch the vision and decide what we are going to do with it."

And that, Harris said, is where the napkin comes in.

"We need to be able to write on a napkin what we are about as Southern Baptists, then pursue it. That's what really matters." ■

Additional information and multimedia files from the summit are available for download on www.lifeway.com/news and www.lifeway.com/youngleaders. Draper also provides his perspective on his Weblog at www.lifeway.com/weblog/jimmydraper.



LifeWay making room for younger leaders; Draper challenges SBC to follow suit

by Chris Turner

The glory of the Southern Baptist Convention is that the design of its organizations is to preach the gospel to the whole world, said LifeWay President James T. Draper Jr. But, he added, "We have often allowed our churches to become country clubs for members instead of rescue stations for the lost. We are slow to venture beyond the safety of our walls."

Draper's comments came during LifeWay's presentation at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in June in Nashville, Tenn. The report focused on the role and involvement of younger leaders in the SBC and the role of LifeWay in the future under the leadership of a new president. Draper will retire February 2006.

"Younger ministers are going where the action is, building relationships and bringing the wounded to the feet of Christ," he said. "We need a healthy infusion of their passion to awaken in us the passion that drove the renegades who founded our denomination 160 years ago. We must set aside our territorialism, regain our focus and venture out into our culture. I'm banging this drum of younger ministers because I do not believe God is finished

using the SBC, and that our best days lie ahead.

"I've taken to heart what I've heard and we are making changes at LifeWay," he said. "We are beginning with our trustees. We are getting four new trustees under age 40 and one of those is 27. We will hire someone who will focus on working with younger leaders. Also, we will continue our dialogue with younger leaders by involving them in well-planned listening sessions that lead to partnership and involvement opportunities.

"We have other plans on the drawing board but this is just a sample," he said. "The point is this: They've asked for a seat at the table and LifeWay is pulling up some chairs. I encourage every church and entity in the SBC to do the same."

Draper briefly addressed the SBC's endeavor of reaching a million baptisms, calling the goal a "sign of healthy churches; a measure of how effectively we are relating to the lost and sharing the difference Christ makes." He added that if the SBC's aim is to reach a million baptized to say it hit its goal, "it reveals we were focused on the wrong thing and baptisms then become an end."

Challenges of the future

Draper then shifted to addressing the future of LifeWay and the challenges the entity and its new president face in the future beyond his retirement:

- LifeWay must continue to grow in its understanding that it is a Kingdom enterprise. "... As God works through us" must be more than the introduction to our vision statement. It must be the intention of our service.
- LifeWay must intensify its effort to have a greater spiritual impact in the SBC, in our nation and in the world.
- LifeWay must continue to attract and retain the best and brightest people in order to sustain and grow the ministry and business that God has entrusted to us.
- LifeWay receives no Cooperative Program money and is self-supporting, so it must continue to operate profitably in order to remain a strong ministry. It must continue providing the finest, biblically based materials, events and services while being a viable competitor in the marketplace.
- LifeWay must continue to be a champion for Southern Baptist doctrines and values and be a unifying force that pulls us forward and together as a denomination.
- LifeWay must become successful at raising funds for ministry from interested individuals.

Draper said he'd continue to be actively involved in this fund-raising effort beyond his retirement, but flatly stated that the focus will be on individual donors and not on churches, respecting the SBC's policy regarding soliciting churches for funds.

Engaging ministry opportunities

"There are a number of ministry opportunities available to LifeWay that would greatly multiply our spiritual impact," he said, "but we cannot currently engage in them because they fall beyond the scope of our operating budget."

"Younger ministers are going where the action is, building relationships and bringing the wounded to the feet of Christ. We need a healthy infusion of their passion to awaken in us the passion that drove the renegades who founded our denomination 160 years ago. We must set aside our territorialism, regain our focus and venture out into our culture."

— James T. Draper Jr.

LifeWay Leadership Institute to provide biblically based leadership and management development; and expanding the reach of *Share Jesus Without Fear*, an evangelism tool that has proved effective in various cultures.

"These are serious times and I deeply want to be a serious person," he said. "I will step from this position February first next year, but I do not intend to back away from getting in there and mixing it up. We as LifeWay and we as Southern Baptists must aggressively pursue the ministry opportunities God has placed before us." ■

2006 VBS: From the Arctic to outer space

In 2006, Vacation Bible School will go to the top of the world and then some.

“Arctic Edge: Where Adventure Meets Courage” is the 2006 theme for the main line of LifeWay’s VBS curriculum. In this VBS, children will trek north to the Arctic, where daily excursions from Big Bear Lodge will have them hiking across the tundra, exploring the seascape by kayak and skimming the back country in a float plane.

As VBSers test their limits in the challenges of the vast Arctic wilderness, they will learn

that God is always with them and that they can find the courage required to follow Jesus in the everyday challenges of life.

The Scripture for VBS is Joshua 1: 9, “Haven’t I commanded you: be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (HCSB).

The motto for the week is “Be strong! Be courageous! Follow Jesus!”

This line of VBS curriculum is designed for all age groups – babies to adults – for a traditional week-long summer VBS. It offers a three-hour schedule for five days. A Web



site – www.lifeway.com/yourvbs – offers helps, resources, games, a prayer calendar and ideas for a great VBS. This VBS line uses the Holman Christian Standard Bible translation and can be adapted easily for use with the King James Version.

“Club VBS: Space Quest” is LifeWay’s second line of VBS and will use John 14: 6, “I am the way, the truth, and the life,” as its Scripture. The motto is “Jesus: The Way, the Truth, the Life!”

This line of VBS curriculum is designed for a traditional week-long summer VBS, spring break, fall break, day camps, mission trips and mid-week programs. It offers a two-hour schedule for five days; Bible study crafts and recreation/snacks rotation; and an all-in-one pack that includes everything needed for 40 children and 10 preschoolers, including a Web site with helps and year-round accessibility. It can be used with any Bible translation.

Early announcement

Ordinarily LifeWay announces the new VBS themes Aug. 1, but this year the themes were announced at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Nashville in June.

“This year, we wanted to celebrate by announcing the themes early to our friends who came to our hometown,” said Mary Katharine Hunt, director of LifeWay’s VBS area.

A section in the LifeWay exhibit area was dedicated to VBS materials. “While we didn’t have everything available for display at the SBC, we had information for the convention-goers to pick up and take back to their churches,” Hunt said. “This gave some of our churches a good way to close this year’s VBS – an invitation to next year’s.” ■



East Texas church goes on VBS cross-country road trip

by Kelly Davis

They never left the parking lot, but children attending Vacation Bible School at Denman Avenue Baptist Church in Lufkin, Texas, took a road trip.

Joining thousands of churches nationwide, Denman Avenue presented LifeWay's "Ramblin' Road Trip: Which Way Do I Go?" VBS theme.

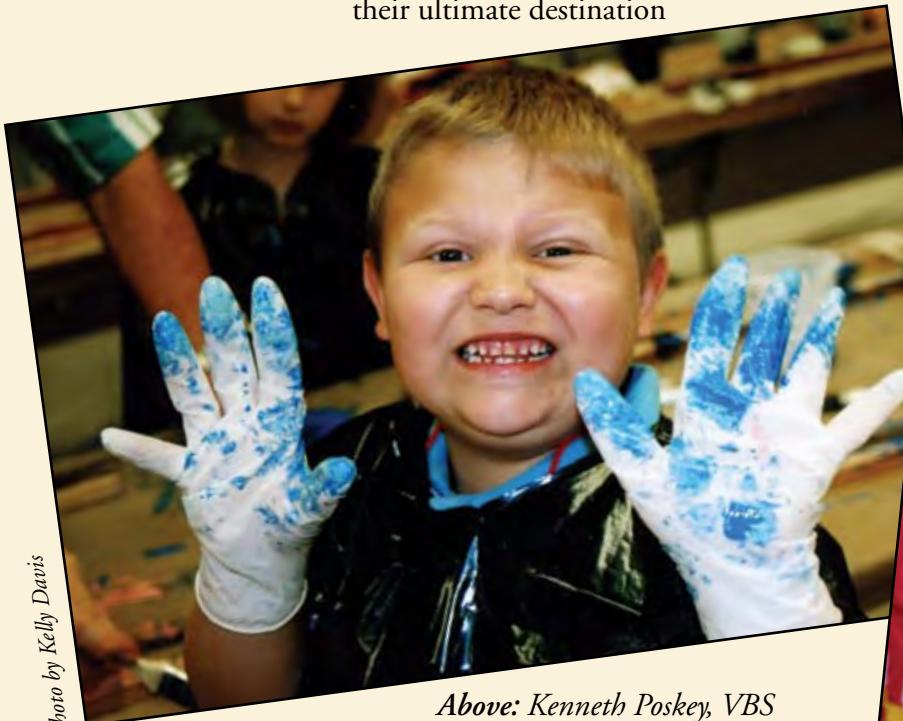
During the church's annual VBS held in June, more than 400 participants traveled to Washington, D.C.; Chicago; Kansas; Wyoming and California, learning invaluable biblical truths at each stop.

The intent of the imaginary trip was more than a geographic jaunt; it was an entertaining way to explain to children that their ultimate destination

in life is a relationship with Jesus Christ.

"Each destination ties into the theme of God directing our path and having a purpose for us," said Kevin Roy, associate pastor of education and administration at Denman Avenue. "Our whole world is looking for purpose; they don't really see why they're here. We need to instill in these children that God has a purpose for their lives."

The focal Scripture passage for the week was Psalm 25: 4-5: "Make Your ways known to me, Lord; teach me Your paths. Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation..." (HCSB). Roy, who has served at the church 19 years, said, "There are so many competing voices trying to capture the attention of our young people. As a church, we believe the earlier we grow these children in Scripture, the better. We must put the Word of God in their hearts early to overshadow the other voices."



Above: Kenneth Poskey, VBS participant, shows his true colors during craft time.

Right: Kevin Roy, associate pastor of education and administration at Denman Avenue Baptist Church, Lufkin, Texas, gives the children the chance to say their Bible verses during the morning worship rally at Vacation Bible School.



Photo by Amy Scales

Evangelism is priority

Roy said Denman Avenue ministry staff places a priority on evangelism throughout the VBS week. "The one thing we want the children to know is that God loves them and Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for their sins so that they can know Him as their Savior and Lord," he said. "That's the key truth. If we miss that, we miss the whole point of VBS."

Roy starts as much as six months in advance to train VBS volunteers in evangelism. "We want the children to have fun, but first and foremost, we have to tell the children about Jesus Christ," he said. "All the children who leave this place need to know that we love them, and God loves them. If we communicate those two messages, we have done our job."

As with many VBS programs, the volunteer workers are the foundation of Denman Avenue's VBS week.

Sherry Flint, VBS director and one of 70 volunteers, said she realizes the importance of taking advantage of every opportunity to share the love of the Lord with each child because many never hear about Jesus elsewhere.

"We are seeing the children come in here who need a refuge," Flint said. "We want them to know that Jesus loves them and we do, too. We want them to hear the gospel and realize as they grow up, they can always turn to this church for help."

Church volunteers spent countless hours decorating classrooms and converting the church's gymnasium into a visual tour of the road trip pit stops. Just as much time was spent preparing their hearts to serve the children, Roy added.

"God has entrusted us with these children for these five days and our goal is to share Jesus Christ," he said. "We must take advantage of every opportunity, whether it be a craft time, a recreation time or story time."

Each year, Charles Roberts, pastor of Denman Avenue, offers a decision time at the end of the week. But he doesn't wait until then to speak personally to the children. For more than 20 years, Roberts has led the crafts segment of Bible school, giving him the opportunity to speak with each child personally.

"I talk to every one of the children," he said. "I want them to know that I'm not just the preacher – I'm Brother Charles. When I give the invitation at the end of the week, they know me because I've been approachable and available all week."

Keeping with the road trip theme, Roberts and other men of the church helped the children make Pinewood Derby racecars. He said he wants the cars to remind the children that life is full of intersections and forks in the road.

After Roberts gave the yearly VBS invitation for the children to receive Christ as their Savior, more than 40 responded.

"What's more real than the idea of what road are you going to travel on?" Roberts asked the children. "Everyone will travel down a road, so which way are you going to go and which turns are you going to choose?" ■



Photo by Amy Seale

Charles Roberts, pastor of Denman Avenue Baptist Church, helps a boy at Vacation Bible School make a Pinewood Derby car.



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X-treme weather doesn't dampen spirits at X-Fuge

by Brooklyn Noel

LifeWay designed the new X-Fuge summer camp to be a Centrifuge-style experience that included extreme features such as popular Christian recording artists, world-class speakers, professional staging and lighting, and a location and accommodations resembling a vacation in paradise.

Extreme weather, however, wasn't part of the X-Fuge package.

But when Hurricane Dennis turned its course toward the Florida Panhandle where more than 1,600 campers and their leaders were staying in Panama City Beach's Edgewater Beach Resort, the schedule for the July 6-10 camp changed dramatically. On Friday morning, camp organizers gave youth leaders the news that all Edgewater guests had to evacuate before the resort shut

down at 9 a.m. Saturday.

With the hurricane still more than 48 hours away, however, X-Fuge staff continued through that day of camp and wrapped up the first X-Fuge session with Friday evening's X-treme Party, a VIP Gold Awards Show. Groups then had the choice to leave for home around 11 p.m. Friday or wait until early Saturday morning, only missing one day of camp.

"If the Lord had more intended for the week, there would not be a hurricane coming," said Tyra Lokey of Signart Ministries. Lokey performed dramatic sign language for campers during X-Fuge. "I think everyone got out of this exactly what they needed."

(continued on page 20)

Tree63 leads worship for an energetic crowd at X-Fuge 2005 in Panama City Beach, Fla.



Photo by Blake Noel

(continued from page 19)

While camp staff scurried to prepare for the grand finale originally scheduled for Saturday night, campers packed their belongings and soaked up as much beach time as possible during a beautiful day deceptively masking a dangerous storm.

Knowing a storm might interrupt her camp experience didn't stop 11th-grader Anna Pruitt from enjoying her trip to X-Fuge. "I had a great time," said Pruitt, who came to camp with other youth from George's Creek Baptist Church in Easley, S.C. "I grew closer in my personal relationship with God."

The silver lining

Throughout the week, campers learned about being salt and light through lessons delivered by freelance student minister Bryan Currie, Lokey's

sign language performances, worship led by contemporary Christian artist Tree63, and the skits of Ryan O'Quinn and Chris Woolsey, who used various pop culture references, including mimicking characters from the movie "Napoleon Dynamite" to drive home spiritual truths.

X-Fuge's structure purposely allowed individual youth groups plenty of time to bond, in addition to corporate worship and study times where students and leaders packed the conference center auditorium at Edgewater. Each night ended with an X-treme Party, which featured concerts by Tree63 and Casting Crowns. The final X-treme Party honored youth leaders with an awards show complete with gaudy formal attire and confetti.

"I don't have to worry about all the temptations of the world [at camp]," said Leah Robison from Poplar Spring Baptist Church, Murray, Ky. "You

can just be here with other Christians."

Each day consisted of morning corporate Bible studies, individual small groups, evening worship time led by Tree63 and free time each afternoon.

While students obviously enjoyed their free time, their attitudes and participation in worship services proved X-Fuge was more than a trip to the beach. Each evening, students' voices cut through the fog and stage lights as they raised their hands, not to the popular band on stage, but in worship to God.

"It's a rejuvenating thing since summers are lazy," said Matthew Beeco from George's Creek Baptist. "It's a jumpstart for your walk, but for non-believers, it shows the more exciting side of being a Christian."

X-Fuge coordinator Jason Ellerbrook said LifeWay's first week of X-Fuge went well in spite of Hurricane Dennis. "I've been

in things a lot less devastating than this [hurricane] at camp that have caused me a lot more stress. The week has been the most extraordinary camp week of my life."

LifeWay originally planned only one session of X-Fuge during this inaugural year, but unexpectedly high response prompted a second session to be scheduled for July 11-15. Nearly 3,200 campers signed up to attend X-Fuge this year, and Ellerbrook said as many as 10,000 are expected to participate next year when LifeWay offers more X-Fuge sessions and an additional location in San Diego.

Hurricane Dennis also affected other camp sessions including the second week of X-Fuge, Centrifuge at Endless Summer Camp in Panama City Beach, Crosspoint at Judson College and Centrifuge at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly. ■



Photo by Blake Noel

Tyra Lokey performs dramatic sign language.

Baseball provides inspiration for new LifeWay music leader

By David Roach

Twenty-three years ago, Mike Harland had to make a choice between pursuing a baseball career and surrendering his life to music ministry.

A pitcher at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss., Harland showed potential to take his game to the next level, but knew in his heart that God wanted him to devote his life to vocational Christian service. After struggling with the decision, Harland quit baseball and began a music ministry career.

But when he was hired this spring as director of LifeWay's newly formed Worship Music Group, Harland looked back to his baseball days for inspiration that would help him lead LifeWay to become a major presence in the Christian publishing and recording industry.

"I'm going to always think like a baseball player," said Harland, a graduate of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. "I think about teamwork. I was the pitcher on the team, and every pitch started with me. But if I didn't have eight other people out there, I wouldn't have been a very good pitcher. As director of LifeWay Worship Music Group, in a lot of ways I'm pitching again. Yes, I'm the leader ... but I've got to have a great team behind me."

New vision

As leader of the Worship Music Group, Harland has a vision for adding an array of contemporary Christian music products to LifeWay's established line of hymns and more traditional choral arrangements.

"We've been a choral music company for a long, long time," he said. "And we also adequately addressed congregational needs through the *Baptist Hymnal* and through the hymnals we've published over the years. There are newer things that are happening, and [new worship resources] represent our

full effort to give churches tremendous resources."

"We have a huge responsibility because throughout the development of LifeWay, God has raised up an entity ... that has a mechanism to connect with people all over the world," Harland said. "... I want to see the music group take every advantage of being part of an entity like LifeWay Christian Resources that has the capacity to take songs and material that churches can use as they train up worship leaders and musicians all over the world."

New writers

The effort to produce more worship music will be spearheaded by a group of newly signed writers, which includes Greg Nelson, Paul Marino, David M. Edwards, Jeremy Johnson and Amy Susan Foster. In addition to the songs of these writers, Harland will continue to contribute his own songs to the worship material published by LifeWay.

To date, Harland has published more than 150 songs through several publishers and produced numerous choral music projects. Artists Chris Machen, Luke Garrett and The Imperials have all recorded his songs. Harland attributes his writing success to the fact that the Christian experience, by its nature, "produces new songs" in the hearts of believers.

The desire to produce new songs reflecting Christian experience is a primary motivation for LifeWay's venture into praise and worship music, Harland said.

"We want to be a place where people can come to find the best of the best," he said, "but also a place where writers and people that create new songs would want to come because we would have the mechanism to take it to the church." ■

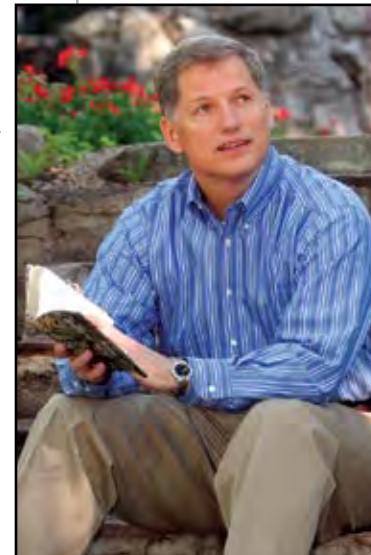


Photo by Kent Harville

Mike Harland

We recommend

- *Jesus Our Treasure*, a musical drama for Christmas, by Mike Harland

This and other musical resources are available through customer service at www.lifeway.com and (800) 458-2772 and from LifeWay Christian Stores at www.lifewaystores.com and (800) 233-1123.

New Bible study by Beth Moore looks at the book of Daniel

Popular Bible study teacher Beth Moore will release a new Bible study on the book of Daniel June 1, 2006. Moore's newest study, *Daniel: Lives of Integrity, Words of Prophecy*, published by LifeWay, will include a member book, leader guide, kit with video, and audio CDs. The accompanying video was filmed at Moore's home church, First Baptist Church, Houston.

"My Houston girls and I just completed one of the wildest rides God has ever given us in Scripture," Moore said. "The result is a brand new women's Bible study on the fascinating book of Daniel. I'm so pleased to partner with my friends at LifeWay in making it available to people who want a fresh look at what God has to say about integrity and prophecy. My prayer is that God will rock the world of each woman who participates just like He rocked ours."

The new Bible study is broken into two parts. The first deals with Daniel the man. The second part shifts into predictive prophecy, dealing with the history of Daniel's time, the interbiblical period, to the ministry and return of Christ.

"The challenges Daniel faced are so contemporary in nature they could be

taken from today's newspaper," said Dale McCleskey of LifeWay's leadership and adult publishing area, who serves as editor of Moore's materials. "Daniel faced pressure to compromise his faith. He had to deal with a hostile culture and government. He confronted all the temptations and threats anyone in the modern world could encounter."

The format of the new study will differ from Moore's other studies, according to McCleskey. "This study on Daniel will be more video driven," he said. "The main teaching sessions will be done on the video."

McCleskey said the Daniel study will be "forward looking. Each week, Beth will introduce a chapter and will

teach it. Then, the study participants will do the homework instead of doing the homework before the teaching time. The last chapter will be taught only on video with no homework. This format will reduce the homework time by about 30 percent."

Since the study will fall into two distinct six-week units – one unit on the man and one unit on the prophecy – Moore has suggested women may want to take a short break between the two. "This could make it



possible for women who could not commit to 12 weeks of study to be able to do a six-week study," McCleskey said.

11th study

The study on Daniel will be the 11th Bible study Moore has written and LifeWay has published. It will follow a year behind *The Patriarchs: Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*, which was released June 1. In *The Patriarchs*, taken primarily from Genesis chapters 12-50, Moore provides details from the lives of these fathers of the faith. She explores concepts such as blessing, covenant and promise, and how they forever shaped the lives of Abraham and his descendants.

John Kramp, vice president of LifeWay's church resources division, said, "LifeWay

has enjoyed a wonderful relationship with Beth Moore for many years. Her Bible studies have touched the lives of women in thousands of churches. This new study will add to an already long list of resources she has written and published with LifeWay. We feel honored to partner in ministry with Beth and Living Proof."

In addition to publishing her Bible studies, LifeWay also partners with Beth Moore and Living Proof Ministries to conduct Living Proof Live conferences for women. "This year, God has allowed Beth to minister to more than 100,000 women through these events," said Faith Whatley, director of women's ministry for LifeWay. "God has His hand on this ministry and is using Beth to accomplish His purposes." ■

We recommend

- *A Heart Like His*
- *A Woman's Heart: God's Dwelling Place*
- *Believing God*
- *Beloved Disciple: The Life and Ministry of John*
- *Breaking Free*
- *Jesus, the One and Only*
- *Living Beyond Yourself, Exploring the Fruits of the Spirit*

These and other Bible study resources by Beth Moore are available through customer service at www.lifeway.com and (800) 458-2772 and from LifeWay Christian Stores at www.lifewaystores.com and (800) 233-1123.

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Intentional Discipleship – *a process, not a program*

by Andrea Higgins

James Cox didn't find the answers he expected at Discipleship/Leadership Week this past summer. What he found instead was a new way of looking at the question.

"I think I came looking for a way to make a successful discipleship program," said Cox. "Now I'm looking for a way to make a successful disciple."

Cox, senior adult minister and Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church, Slaughter, La., joined more than 500 pastors, lay leaders and church members June 27-July 1 for Discipleship/Leadership week at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains.

Cox also serves as discipleship coordinator for the William Wallace Baptist Association, which serves the east Baton Rouge, and east and west Feliciana area.

Only six of the 22 churches in the association have discipleship programs, and those aren't well attended, he said, echoing a common concern expressed at the conference.

"I came thinking that we need to heal the training program," Cox said. "Now I'm sure that's wrong. It's the end result – the disciple – that matters."

To multiply the Kingdom of God, training those disciples must be an intentional effort on the part of the church, said conference organizer Jay Johnston, director

of FAITH/evangelism and discipleship for LifeWay.

Lifelong process

By no accident, the word 'disciple' appears more than 250 times in the New Testament, Johnston said, stressing that it is a lifelong process, not a finite program.

"God expects disciples to reproduce themselves,"

Johnston said. "We must be intentional about sharing our faith with others who are unsaved. For many in the church, that is a very uncomfortable place to be and it shouldn't be."

Furthermore, Johnston said, "We cannot have people coming to accept Jesus Christ and then just leave them there not having learned that they can have a personal, intimate relationship with Jesus Christ."

"We as Southern Baptists have to get rid of the pride that we often have – we skip the fundamentals because we've been doing this for so many years," Johnston said. "Every spring, baseball players start over, no matter how long they've been playing."

Daryl Eldridge, president of Rockbridge University in Springfield, Mo., put it this way: "Our discipleship is run amok. It's not our theology. It's the fact that people don't know how to implement it."

The answer lies in developing spiritual maturity through small groups, where biblical revelation goes

Photo by Denise McGill



T.W. Hunt

from the head to the hands to the heart, and translates into habits that in turn grow the church.

"Spiritual maturity doesn't just happen and it never ends," Johnston said, but no matter where you are on that journey, he added, it is never too early to start looking for someone else to disciple.

Hearing better than telling

Conference workshops delved into how to accomplish this important part of the Great Commission, with teachers such as renowned Bible scholar T.W. Hunt speaking daily about life in the church.

Hunt said early in his speaking career, when he didn't know how he was going to pay for printing costs for his syllabi, he placed it in God's hands, and each time, He provided precisely for his needs.

"I wonder what would happen if we truly believed God was God," he said contemplatively.

"Church is about God, folks," the soft spoken Bible teacher said simply.

"Hearing God speak is far more important than what you want to tell Him," Hunt said. "It may just be that He knows more than you. It may just be that His wisdom is infinite."

Time of renewal

For the past 10 years, Katherine Geniec of Greensboro, N.C., has attended the annual discipleship conference at Ridgecrest, with an eye toward how the conference will benefit her women's ministry.

With so much work to be done, church leaders often become consumed by the details, she said, and Ridgecrest's beautiful mountain retreat setting is a break from the routine.

"Personally, I arrive drained," Geniec said. "This is a place of renewal and refreshment and getting your passion back. I feel fresh from one of Hunt's inspirational lessons."

"You sit at the feet of these godly men and women and you get a little lift. That's what Ridgecrest is." ■

Monkey Business doesn't monkey around with history

by Brooklyn Noel

Strolling down the quiet main street of downtown Dayton, Tenn., would reveal nothing more than a typical east Tennessee small town complete with a general store and local café.

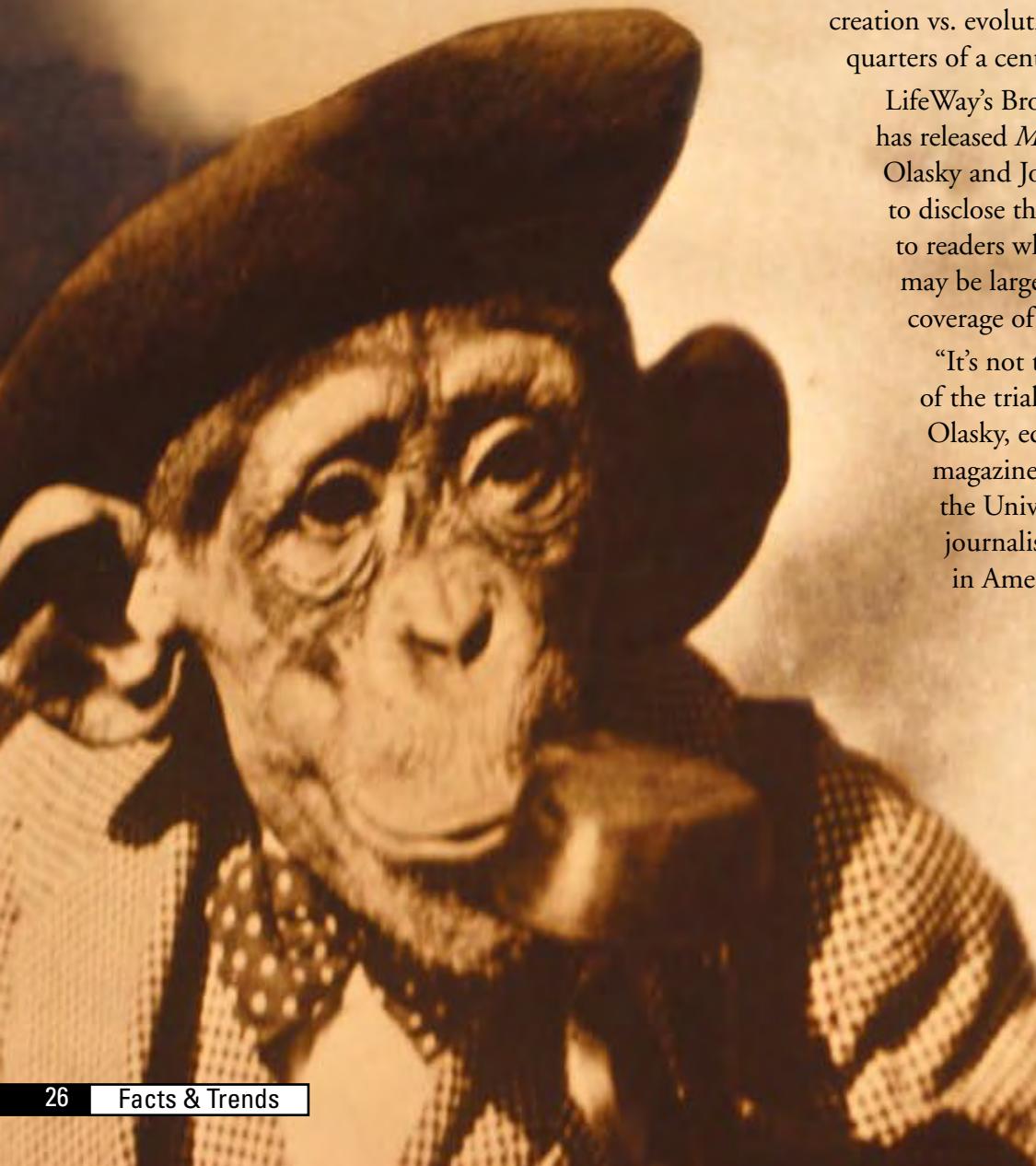
While casual passers-by might notice the grand, red brick courthouse tucked behind some towering trees, they may not realize that the most dominant feature in downtown Dayton once served as the setting for a trial that continues to affect worldviews 80 years after the verdict.

The trial of John Thomas Scopes, a first-year schoolteacher, took place at the Rhea County Courthouse in Dayton in July 1925. The state prosecuted Scopes on charges of teaching evolution in a high school classroom.

The so-called “Monkey Trial” received international media attention and continues to influence the creation vs. evolution debate more than three-quarters of a century later.

LifeWay’s Broadman & Holman division has released *Monkey Business* by Marvin Olasky and John Perry. The book attempts to disclose the truth about the Scopes trial to readers whose opinions and stereotypes may be largely based on inaccurate media coverage of that 1925 trial.

“It’s not the trial, but the distortion of the trial that had an impact,” said Olasky, editor in chief of *WORLD* magazine and journalism professor at the University of Texas, Austin. “The journalistic coverage led to a stereotype in American life of essentially



Joe Mendi, a trained chimpanzee, visited Dayton, Tenn., for the Scopes trial.

the smart evolutionist vs. the stupid creationist.”

Olasky said reporters flocked to the “Trial of the Century” with mostly selfish agendas.

“Reporters were in a propaganda frame of mind and were looking to promote their religion,” he said. “It was a perfect example of how religious and ideological views of reporters strongly influence their coverage.”

While researching *Monkey Business*, the authors examined countless newspaper accounts, conducted interviews with experts and read the official court transcript, which Perry said differs greatly from the story most people know.

“[The book] gave us the chance to unscramble the misrepresentations of what happened, of what creation science is and who creation scientists are,” said Perry, editor of *Home and Christian Life Review*.

The truth behind the trial

The Scopes trial began as a public relations campaign organized by Dayton town leaders who wanted to boost the town’s economy after a triad of mining accidents had devastated the area.

Town leaders responded to an American Civil Liberties Union advertisement outlining the organization’s desire to challenge Tennessee’s new Butler Act that made it illegal to teach any theory contrary to divine creation. Leaders

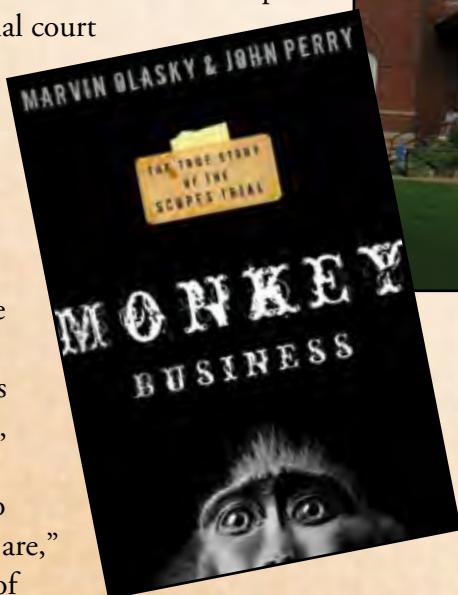


Photo by Kelly Davis

The Dayton, Tenn., courthouse looks the same today as it did during the Scopes trial. A museum commemorating the event is located in the basement of the courthouse.

“The journalistic coverage led to a stereotype in American life of essentially the smart evolutionist vs. the stupid creationist.”

— Marvin Olasky

convinced Scopes to become the defendant even though, as he later wrote in his autobiography, he couldn’t recall ever teaching evolution.

The publicity stunt succeeded initially as about 200 reporters descended upon Dayton in July 1925, and stories about the trial made headlines as far away as Japan.

Unfortunately, most of the stories the press generated cast a negative light on Dayton, its residents and creationists in general that still invades public conscience today.

We recommend

- *Monkey Business*
by Marvin Olasky and
John Perry

This resource is
available from LifeWay
Christian Stores at
www.lifewaystores.com
and (800) 233-1123.



Courtroom scene during the Scopes trial.

"Their interpretations of events are more familiar today than the events themselves," the authors wrote. "The facts of the case have been obscured by half-truths and pure fiction."

Perry and Olasky said they hope *Monkey Business* can rectify 80 years of historical understanding based mostly on the words of opinionated reporters such as H.L. Mencken, a renowned journalist with The Baltimore Sun who "reported" on the trial.

According to *Monkey Business*, before the trial even began, Mencken wrote that "so-called religious organizations which now lead the war against the teaching of evolution are nothing more, at bottom, than conspiracies of the inferior man against his betters."

Olasky said one of the most frustrating assumptions concerning the Scopes trial is that it was a battle of science versus religion. That mindset implies that beliefs are tied to a person's level of intelligence.

"The battle then and the battle now is not science vs. religion," Olasky said. "It's the battle of two religions, of two worldviews. Both views are held by intelligent people."

"It's not smart against stupid."

Back in the classroom

Scopes never returned to teaching after a jury found him guilty, but that doesn't mean classrooms haven't felt his influence.

Perry said the debate between evolution and creation continues to rage throughout the country because "what you think about where you came from, affects everything."

According to a recent Gallup poll, 38 percent of 13-17 year olds believe God created human beings. Forty-three percent believe humans "developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God guided" that process.

Olasky said those statistics show that schools don't have much effect on students' beliefs concerning the origin of man. "There's a natural human tendency that evidently can't be beaten out of people that something can't come out of nothing, and that is essentially what schools are trying to teach."

Perry would like to see *Monkey Business* used in classrooms as an accurate record of the Scopes trial instead of literature such as the play "Inherit the Wind," which veers greatly from the court transcripts of the case, but is often the only exposure students receive to the trial.

"If you're educating your children properly, you must present them with all the facts," Perry said. "People need to know they don't know the truth about the Scopes trial, they don't know the truth about evolution, they don't know the truth about creationism." ■

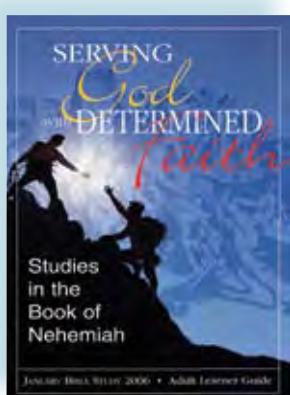


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 **LifeWay**
CHURCH RESOURCES
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LifeWay's magazine ministry enters the world of cyberspace

by Brooklyn Noel

Integrating LifeWay's magazines into the special events and ministry emphases at churches became easier this fall when the church resources division launched individual Web pages for LifeWay's magazines.

Each Web page for the family and leadership magazines features a table of contents for the upcoming issue and most have a three-month overview of upcoming topics. The family magazines pages also offer ideas for using the magazine in the church and community.

"We're trying to meet the needs of our current readers by giving them easy access to more ministry applications,"

said Rhonda Buescher, LifeWay's director of magazine and devotional ministry and business development.

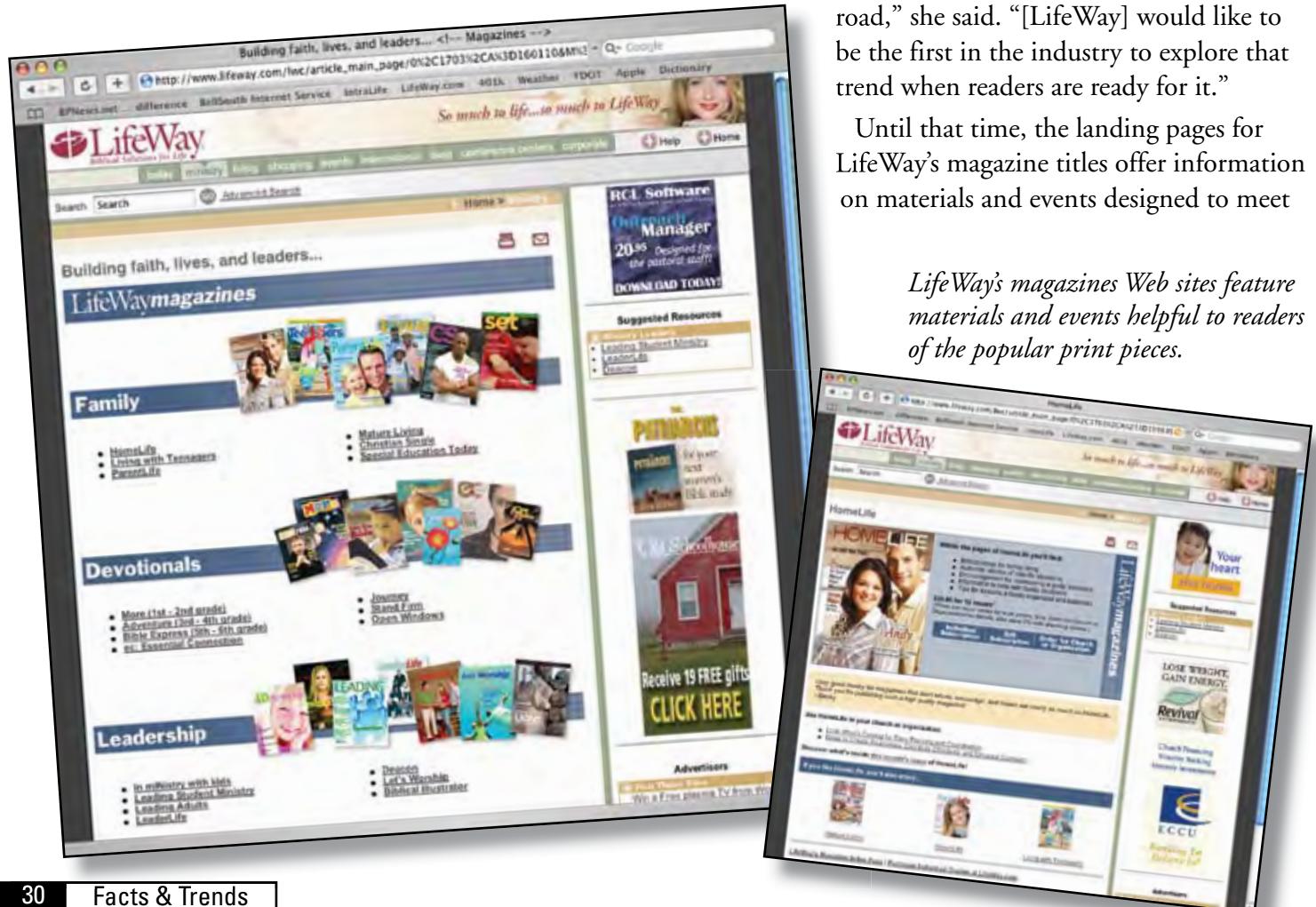
LifeWay's magazines address the needs of multiple audiences including children, teens, parents, married couples, single individuals, senior adults and church leadership. The publications also cross language barriers with two Spanish titles.

Buescher said an online presence has grown into a dominant aspect of the magazine industry, though she doesn't expect traditional print magazines to move toward an exclusively online format anytime in the near future.

"I could see that possibility down the road," she said. "[LifeWay] would like to be the first in the industry to explore that trend when readers are ready for it."

Until that time, the landing pages for LifeWay's magazine titles offer information on materials and events designed to meet

LifeWay's magazines Web sites feature materials and events helpful to readers of the popular print pieces.



the needs of the magazine's key audience.

People browsing the *HomeLife* Web site, for example, could find links to marriage enrichment events, Buescher explained.

"The goal of most magazines in developing a Web product is to encourage readers to go to the Web site to enhance their experience with the printed product," she said.

Initially, the Web pages will not include the full text of articles from the magazines, since the online information has been designed to grow the ministry uses for the printed magazines.

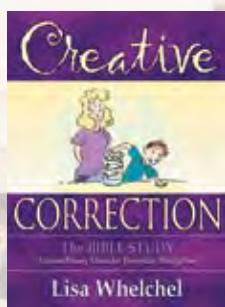
In addition to links relating to the magazines' content, the landing pages also

will include information about the cost of the magazines, links for bulk ordering and links for individual ordering such as gift subscriptions.

LifeWay will continue working to structure individual magazine pages to meet demographic needs and interests as Web site visitors offer feedback, Buescher said.

"The potential is there for connectivity with their editor in chief and with each other," said Buescher. "If editors are doing a good job, readers leave that [article] wanting more and wanting to talk to someone about it."

Visitors can access the magazine sites through www.lifeway.com/magazines. ■



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Lisa Whelchel, perhaps best known as Blair Warner on NBC's long-running series *The Facts of Life*, is a wife and mother of three children.

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■ **The Assassins**
by Oliver North and Joe Musser

With this suspenseful, action-packed finale, Oliver North concludes the trilogy that has included his best-selling novels *Mission Compromised* and *The Jericho Sanction*. In 2005, the fourth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on America is met with the news that Jihadists have attacked targets in Saudi Arabia, destroying oil-pumping equipment, crippling pipelines, and assassinating most of the royal family. In the U.S., gas prices soar to over \$6 a gallon along with hyperinflation across the world financial markets. The United Nations Security Council authorizes an intervention force, and in a closed section of Congress the "Assassin Bill" is introduced. A "Termination or Neutralization Unit" is formed with Gen.

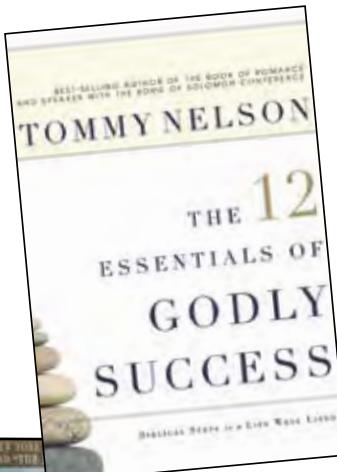
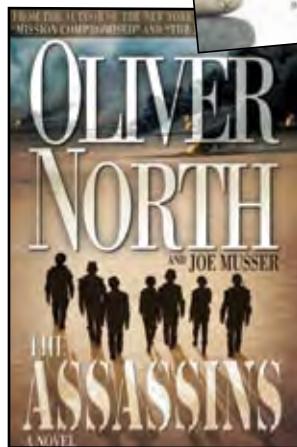
Peter Newman as its head. He is given authority for up to 100 specialists, whom he recruits and trains. An Iranian plan to detonate a nuclear weapon in Washington is discovered. Newman and a team are dispatched and a chase ensues. Newman hunts his

illusory nemesis to Mexico and Cuba, but the Iranians have a backup plan in place and a nuclear weapon – headed for Washington. Releases Oct. 1. Hardcover.

B&H product #0-8054-2552-7, \$24.99

■ **The 12 Essentials of Godly Success**
by Tommy Nelson

In a success-driven culture, measuring one's worth is too often dependent upon what one has attained. And just as often this exercise leads to despair. Tommy Nelson believes the Bible is not silent on the subject of success, but God does use a different yardstick. Success, according to



the Bible, is about who you are rather than what you attain. Nelson will show you the areas in life where you must be successful. Mastering life is about finding

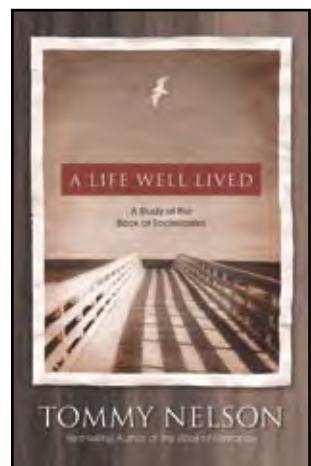
God's hand upon you. You can be successful and be an utter failure if you are successful in the wrong things. *The 12 Essentials of Godly Success* will show you the nonnegotiable areas where you must succeed. Releases Sept. 15. Hardcover. B&H product #0-8054-4071-2, \$19.99

■ **A Life Well Lived**
by Tommy Nelson

Throughout the centuries men and women have looked to empty promises for ways to make

their lives meaningful. The great king of Israel, Solomon, though the wisest man, was not immune to the quest. But at the end of his life, Solomon, in all of his God-given wisdom, stopped to contemplate on all that competed for his attention. He wrote his conclusions in the book of Ecclesiastes.

Tommy Nelson continues his study of Solomon's writings by taking an in-depth look at Ecclesiastes. In a world such as ours where the search for meaning and purpose propels mankind to try everything under the sun, Solomon's conclusions ring louder than ever for a people who need answers more than ever. Releases Sept. 15. Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-4088-7, \$12.99



■ Troubling Deaf Heaven by Jeannette Clift George

When many people seem to be receiving daily messages directly from God, what do you do when your prayers seem to bounce back from the ceiling? How can you get on with the abundant life when there seems to be silence? It's in this awesome quiet that we "trouble deaf heaven and shroud our souls in shame." But the glorious truth is that God is seldom if ever silent. Jeannette Clift George helps us learn to listen to God with some practical advice on removing those things from our lives that clutter and distract, reminding us to remain quiet enough to hear His voice. Releases Sept. 15. Hardcover. B&H product #0-8054-3191-8, \$14.99

■ One Nation under Man? by Brannon Howse

Based on projections by the Nehemiah Institute, which has been conducting worldview tests around the country for several years, the church will have lost its distinct Christian worldview to hard-core humanism by 2014. Young people

and adults alike in this country are thinking less like Christians every day. *One Nation under Man?* will help readers understand what a worldview is and how to determine the Christian worldview. Readers can even go online and take a test to see if they are thinking like a Christian. *One Nation under Man?* will assist both adults and teens in successfully living out their faith. Releases Sept. 1. Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-3185-3, \$16.99

■ The ACLU vs. America by Alan Sears and Craig Osten

As a result of the work of the American Civil Liberties Union, we now live in a country where the church has been progressively silenced, parental

authority has been undermined, children are less safe, and human life continues to be cheapened – both at birth and death. While the ACLU and its allies in the media have positioned themselves as defenders of freedom, they are in reality eliminating the freedoms of millions of Americans. *The ACLU vs. America* will clue readers in to the culture wars afoot and will equip them to become agents for liberty and freedom against the ACLU's onslaught. Releases Sept. 1. Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-4045-3, \$14.99

■ Islam and America by George W. Braswell Jr.

Sept. 11, 2001, was a tragic introduction for many Americans to Muslims and the religion of Islam.

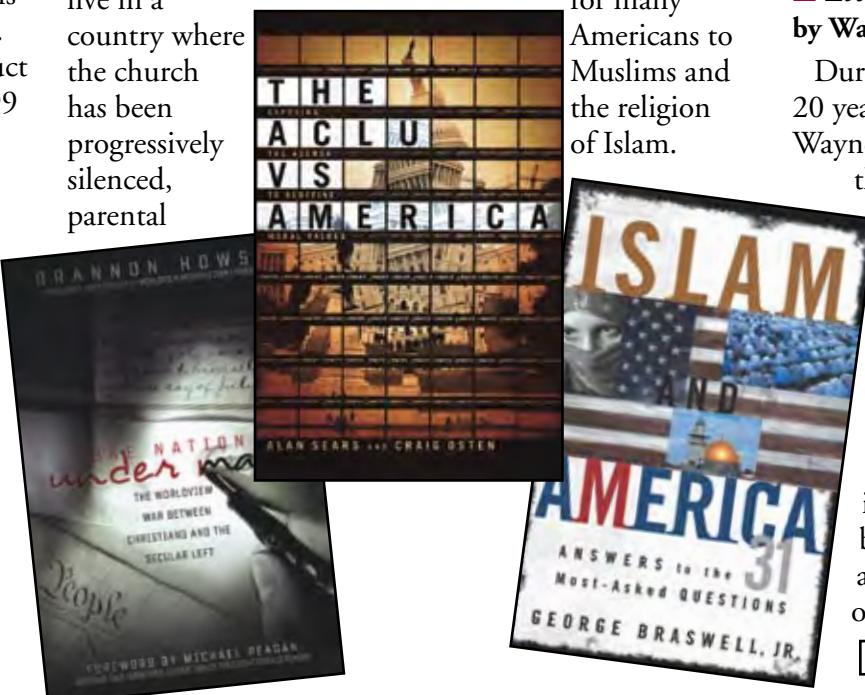
Americans have many questions about Islam but few have studied the issue in depth. Today, Lions and Rotary clubs invite speakers on Islam, university campuses sponsor lectures on Islam and churches across the nation hold workshops. Is Islam a peaceful religion? Americans are puzzled. George Braswell is a recognized expert on the religion of Islam and on the Muslim beliefs and practices that Americans need to understand. Beyond the media portrayals, *Islam and America* accurately reports the truth about this religion and its adherents. Releases Sept. 1.

Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-2478-4, \$9.99

■ Living Grace by Wayne A. Barber

During more than 20 years in ministry, Wayne Barber has seen that believers never

seem to get over the frustration Paul expressed in Romans when he said "when I want to do good, I don't ... when I try to not do wrong, I do it anyway." Barber believes this ongoing angst is due to a lack of real understanding



Resources

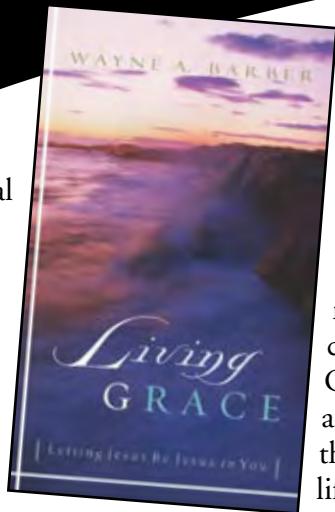
for you from LifeWay

(not just mental assent) when it comes to grace. The key to joyful Christianity is surrendering to Christ – letting His righteousness flow through us.

Too many of us put ourselves back under law, succumbing to the need to impress God and earn His approval. Once we come to an understanding of how rotten and irreparable our flesh is, we begin to see the only thing good about us is who Christ is inside us. Releases Oct. 1. Hardcover. B&H product #0-8054-4029-1, \$14.99

■ *The Angel of Bastogne* by Gilbert Morris

A cynical young reporter in the modern-day town of Bethlehem, Pa., begins researching a mysterious Christmas Eve tradition of the city. Every Dec. 24, a huge Christmas tree appears in the downtown square and is decorated by a lone star. The reporter discovers the tradition dates back to a promise a wounded and scared soldier made to a young child who was holding



on for life during the World War II siege of Bastogne. It was a promise made to the child and to God. It was a promise that brought life back to not only

the young boy but also the lonely soldier. This modern-day reporter is about to discover that it is a promise that can bring life to the hearts of Bethlehem, Pa., even today. Releases Oct. 1. Hardcover. B&H product #0-8054-3291-4, \$14.99

■ *Qi* by David Aikman

Richard Ireton is a Hong Kong-based correspondent for an American weekly news magazine. When he is sent to Guangdong, a province adjacent to Hong Kong, to investigate the disappearance of McHale, an American, he discovers there are dangerous new political currents flowing through South China. In the middle of these developments are the

Qigong cult, based upon meditation and martial arts. The Qigong, fiercely anti-foreigners, are rallying around their "great master," Wu Zhaoshan. Ireton learns much about the new cult and its dangers to peace in Asia. He also learns that McHale, having gotten too close to this cult, has taken refuge in an underground house church in Guangzhou. Releases Oct. 1.

Hardcover. B&H product #0-8054-3293-0, \$22.99

■ *Narnia Beckons* by Theodore Baehr and James Baehr

Narnia Beckons is an elegant coffee table book rich with photos relating to *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and other C.S. Lewis stories. This book will be full of profound, enlightening,

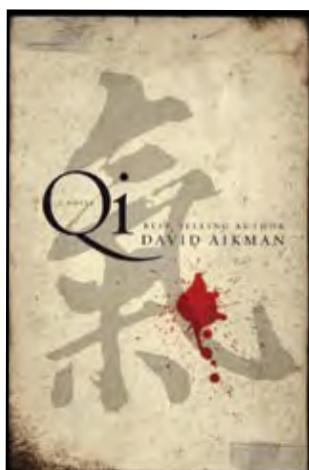
inspiring and discerning information and stories about the book from which the movie has been drawn, as well as many essays and articles by



well known Lewis experts. Also included is information about previous television adaptations of Lewis's children's masterpiece as well as interviews with some of the key players producing the movie and leading Lewis scholars. Releases Oct. 1. Hardcover. B&H product #0-8054-4042-9, \$24.99

■ *Jack's Life* by Douglas Gresham

Douglas Gresham claims that Jack Lewis was the finest man and the best Christian he has ever known. Of course, Jack is C.S. Lewis to the rest of the world. The informal address Gresham uses to refer to the great writer is indicative of the intimacy he shared with Lewis, as his stepson. *Jack's Life* is a personal memoir of a man who touched many in the classroom, even more with his pen, and made a significant, lasting and eternal impression on one young man. Gresham is uniquely qualified to offer this extraordinary portrait. Releases Oct. 1.



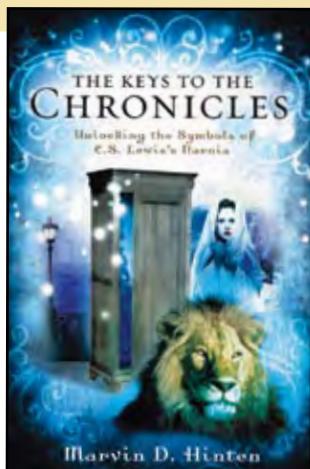
Hardcover. B&H product #0-8054-3246-9, \$16.99

■ *The Keys to the Chronicles* by Marvin D. Hinten

Most readers of C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia* know that more is there than meets the eye. Certain story elements have obvious dual meanings – a second layer below the surface – like the death and resurrection of Aslan the lion. But where does the name Aslan come from? What are other key Bible references in the *Chronicles of Narnia*? Did Lewis make up the names, or do they have a deeper meaning too? And do even Lewis' own personal feelings about prunes show up in these books? *The Keys to the Chronicles* will unlock the literary, linguistic, biographical, biblical and mythological depth of Lewis' masterpiece. Releases Oct. 1. Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-4028-3, \$9.99

■ *Further Up & Further In* by Bruce Edwards

C.S. Lewis buffs, old and new, will gain a better understanding of the mind of the author of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and the creator of the world of Narnia. *Further Up & Further In* examines the message



and theme of the first book in the *Chronicles of Narnia*. This book is a perfect companion for those who intend to see the forthcoming movie based on this story and wish to know about what Lewis was trying to communicate. Releases Oct. 1. Hardcover. B&H product #0-8054-4070-4, \$12.99

■ *The Christian's Guide to Natural Products and Remedies* by Frank Minirth, M.D.

Few books explain both sides of the herb-and-supplement story. *The Christian's Guide to Natural Products and Remedies*

discusses the many products being used widely today together with the possible medical benefits and health risks of each. *The Christian's Guide to Natural Products and Remedies* is the first thorough Christian

treatment of the use of natural products. Releases Sept. 1. Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-4082-8, \$24.99

■ *Family Survival in an X-Rated World* by Adrian Rogers

There is no doubt that there is a war being waged for the morality of this culture. Nowhere is this more acutely felt than in the breakdown of the American family. Immorality of all shapes and sizes is affordable and available anonymously to every household with a TV or computer. Every family needs an action plan to protect the heart of every member. Fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters need to make a faith covenant to keep their hearts and lives pure. Adrian Rogers will equip you to protect not only your home but also your heart and the hearts of your loved ones from the tidal wave of decadence

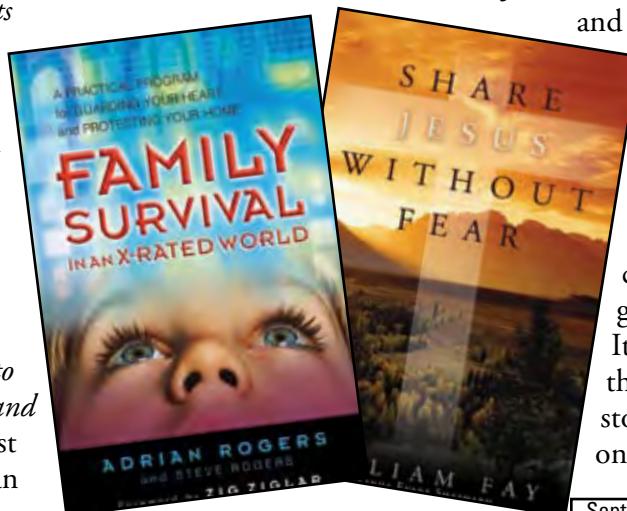
descending upon your own neighborhoods today. Releases Oct. 15. Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-2693-0, \$12.99

■ *Share Jesus Without Fear Journal* by Bill Fay

Based on the popular *Share Jesus Without Fear* book and Bible, this journal will help you overcome the reasons we all are inconsistent about sharing Christ with others. The *Share Jesus Without Fear* approach clearly summarizes how to share one's faith. Journalers will learn how to conquer their fears, how to build relationships with unbelievers, and how to help new believers grow in their faith. Releases Oct. 15. Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-4065-8, \$9.99

■ *Share Jesus Without Fear* by Bill Fay

In recent years, the *Share Jesus Without Fear* book and its growing family of ancillary products have sparked a faith-sharing movement that continues to gain momentum. It began with the jaw-dropping story of Bill Fay, once a money-



Resources

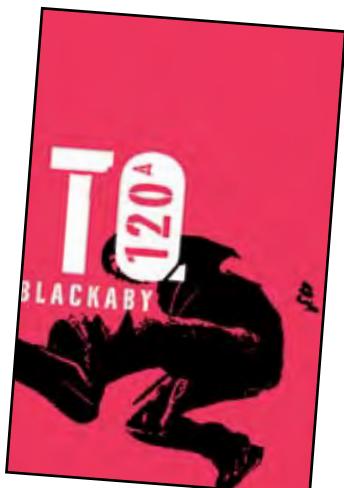
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driven businessman with Mafia ties who ran a house of prostitution. Fay turned to Jesus Christ for redemption and ever since has been turning others to Him as well. Releases Oct. 15. Paperback. B&H product #0-8054-1839-3, \$9.99

■ *TQ120*

by Henry T. Blackaby and Richard Blackaby

Broadman & Holman Publishers present these latest editions to our exciting TruthQuest line. *TQ120* offers three great 120-day devotionals from the author of *Experiencing God*. Learn to hear God's voice and to know and do the will of God in your life. *TQ120* is committed to helping the "now" generation experience and develop true and meaningful time alone with God. Visit www.



TruthQuestBible.com for more information on these relevant resources. Release Oct. 15. Paperback. *TQ120a*, B&H product #0-8054-3068-7; *TQ120b*, B&H product #0-8054-3069-5; *TQ120c*, B&H product #0-8054-3070-9, \$9.99 each

LifeWay Church Resources

■ *Gripped by the Greatness of God*

by James MacDonald

How can we understand a love that exceeds our own capacity? How can we define a power that knows no limits? This is the God that MacDonald celebrates in *Gripped by the Greatness of God*. MacDonald uses selected passages from Isaiah to lead believers to a better understanding of the holiness, sovereignty, awesomeness and other attributes that characterize God. As believers learn to recognize God in all His

greatness, they will naturally respond in worship. Releases Oct. 1.

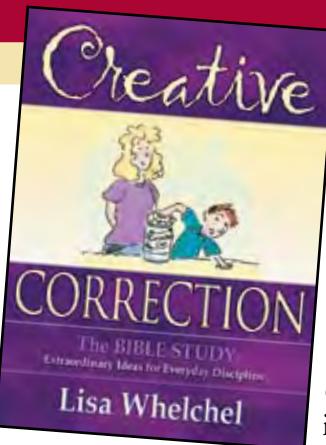
■ *Gripped by the*

Greatness of God, Leader Kit (includes two DVDs with an introductory video segment and session-specific segments, promotional clips and other bonus materials), LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2921-7, \$149.95; *Member Book*, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2919-5, \$12.95

■ *Creative Correction*

by Lisa Whelchel

Creative Correction: Extraordinary Ideas for Everyday Discipline is a refreshing, innovative study that addresses a wide range of discipline issues and provides practical, biblical (and humorous) approaches. Written by Lisa Whelchel (perhaps best known for her role



as Blair on NBC's series, "The Facts of Life"), *Creative Correction*

provides hundreds of examples in dealing with everyday parenting situations.

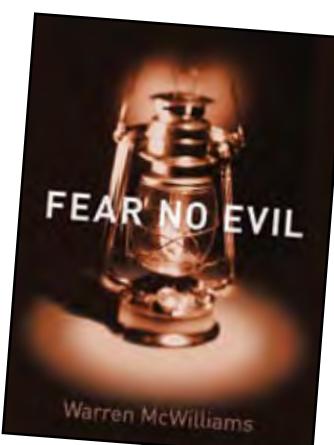
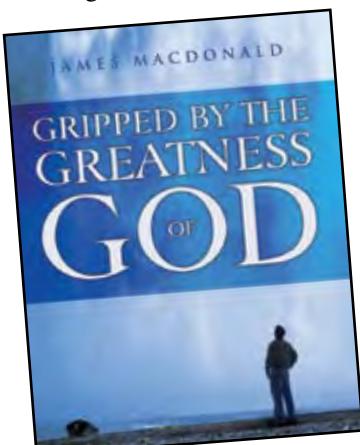
For parents who feel overwhelmed – or at a crossroad and don't know which way to turn – *Creative Correction* offers some practical direction. Seven sessions. Releases Sept. 1.

Creative Correction Leader Kit (includes a DVD and a *Member Book* with leader helps for six group sessions and an introductory session), LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2746-X, \$149.95; *Creative Correction Member Book*, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2896-2, \$11.95

■ *Fear No Evil*

by Warren McWilliams

Author Warren McWilliams, professor of Bible, theology and ethics at Oklahoma Baptist University, identifies three significant questions central to this course: Why does God allow or cause suffering? How does God help us when we suffer? What does God expect us to do about the suffering of those around us? The



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main premise of this 2006 Baptist Doctrine Study is that God identifies with human suffering through His compassion; He strengthens and comforts us in our suffering. Because a Christian's character should mirror God's character, we should reach out with compassion and comfort those around us who are suffering. *Fear no Evil* makes an excellent resource for any large or small study group in your church. Releases Oct. 1. LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2803-2, \$7.95



■ Guerra Espiritual: La verdad bíblica para obtener la victoria (Spiritual Warfare, Spanish edition)
by John Franklin

Satan does not discriminate. He knows

no language barrier. Hispanic congregations can use this resource to learn how to recognize and respond to individual and congregational spiritual attacks. Completely God-centered and biblically based, *Guerra Espiritual* includes a bonus session to help participants discern the difference between the voice of God and the voice of Satan – a challenge that applies to all believers, regardless of what language they speak. Eight sessions. Releases Sept. 1. LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2288-3, \$13.95

■ Heads Up Adult Undated Study Pack Vol. 2.3

With up to seven different books in each issue, LifeWay's quarterly *Heads Up Adult Undated Study Pack* lets you preview copies of LifeWay's latest undated studies for adults and select previously released studies easily and affordably. For Fall 2005, Volume 2.3 includes: *Serving God with Determined Faith*, LifeWay's 2006 January Bible Study; *The Patriarchs: Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob* by best-selling author Beth Moore; *The Choice: Life's Most Important Decision*, a powerful, new evangelism

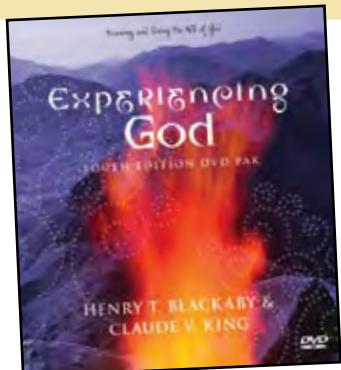
study in the 40 Day Experience series; *The Five Love Languages for Singles* by Gary Chapman; *Heart Friends* by Shirley Moses and Margaret Kennedy, a guide for starting and maintaining accountability groups; *In God's Presence* by T.W. Hunt and Claude V. King; *Made to Count Life Planner* by Bob Reccord, Randy Singer and Claude V. King. Releases Sept. 1. LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2580-7, \$34.95

■ Experiencing God, Revised Youth Edition by Henry Blackaby

Experiencing God still contains timeless truths. That hasn't changed. However, the new look and size will appeal to a new generation of believers. *Revised Leader's Guide* has been condensed to fit weekly sessions comfortably into a one-hour time frame; DVD Pack contains a *Revised Leader's Guide*, *Revised Member Book*, and DVD. The DVD contains a nine-episode movie that challenges students to think through the principles they are learning each week.

Spanish translation of the *Revised Member Book* and *Revised Leader's Guide* are also available. Nine sessions plus introductory session. Releases Sept. 1.

Experiencing God Youth Edition, Revised Member



Book, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2603-X, \$12.95; *Experiencing God Youth Edition, Revised Leader's Guide*, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2859-8, \$7.95; *Experiencing God Youth Edition, Spanish Member Book*, LifeWay church resources product #0-8054-9845-1, \$11.95; *Experiencing God Youth Edition, Spanish Leader's Guide*, LifeWay church resources product #0-8054-9846-X, \$6.95; *Experiencing God, DVD Pack*, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2866-0, \$79.95

■ LifeTrak for Older Youth 6.1

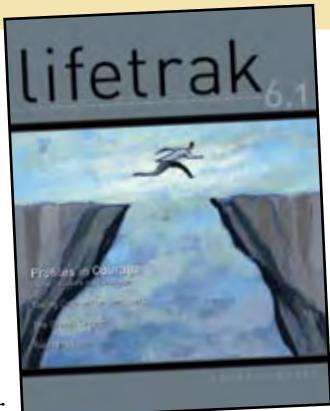
Each undated, quarterly issue of *LifeTrak* features a multipurpose, multimedia-based CD-ROM with everything from adaptations for small group and master-teacher formats to contemporary music. It also contains reproducible pupil and parent pages. Leaders will love the fact that they can get a big-picture focus, because the scope and sequence is printed in

each edition – in other words, they can choose the *LifeTrak* studies that fit their group's specific needs. Both the older and younger youth editions include at least one evangelism lesson each quarter. Releases Sept. 1.

LifeTrak 6.1 Older Youth Edition, grades 10–12, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2026-0, \$29.95; *LifeTrak for Younger Youth 6.1, grades 7–9*, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2543-2, \$29.95

■ **G-Force 3.2**

The latest edition to the G-Force series, Volume



3.2, is divided into two six-session units. The first six-session unit, “Anchors Aweigh!” examines the exodus of God’s people out of Egypt

and His provisions for them. The second six-session unit, “Through the Ranks,” uses a military theme to examine various judges from the Old Testament. G-Force also includes bonus sessions on Christmas and prayer. Releases Oct. 3.

G-Force Leader Guide Vol. 3.2, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2489-4, \$69.95; *PowerCel Cards for Younger Children Vol. 3.2*, LifeWay church

resources product #1-4158-2492-4, \$10.95; *PowerCel Cards for Older Children Vol. 3.2*, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2491-6, \$10.95; *G-Force Visual Pack Vol. 3.2*, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2490-8, \$29.95; *G-Force CD-ROM and DVD Pack Vol. 3.2*, LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2493-2, \$29.95

■ **BabyLife 2005–07**

Just arrived! The third in this series of special editions. A selection of feature articles include “Way Beyond the Blues,” addressing postpartum depression; “When Baby Makes Four,” preparing your child for the arrival of a new baby; “Frontline Fatherhood,” preparing dads to actively get involved; and “Well Baby Visits,” knowing how to find a pediatrician and what to expect during these visits. Great gift idea for baby showers, parent-child dedication services, pediatric offices, and hospital labor and delivery units, as it does not contain an issue date. Releases Sept. 1. LifeWay church resources product #1-4158-2083-X, \$1.99



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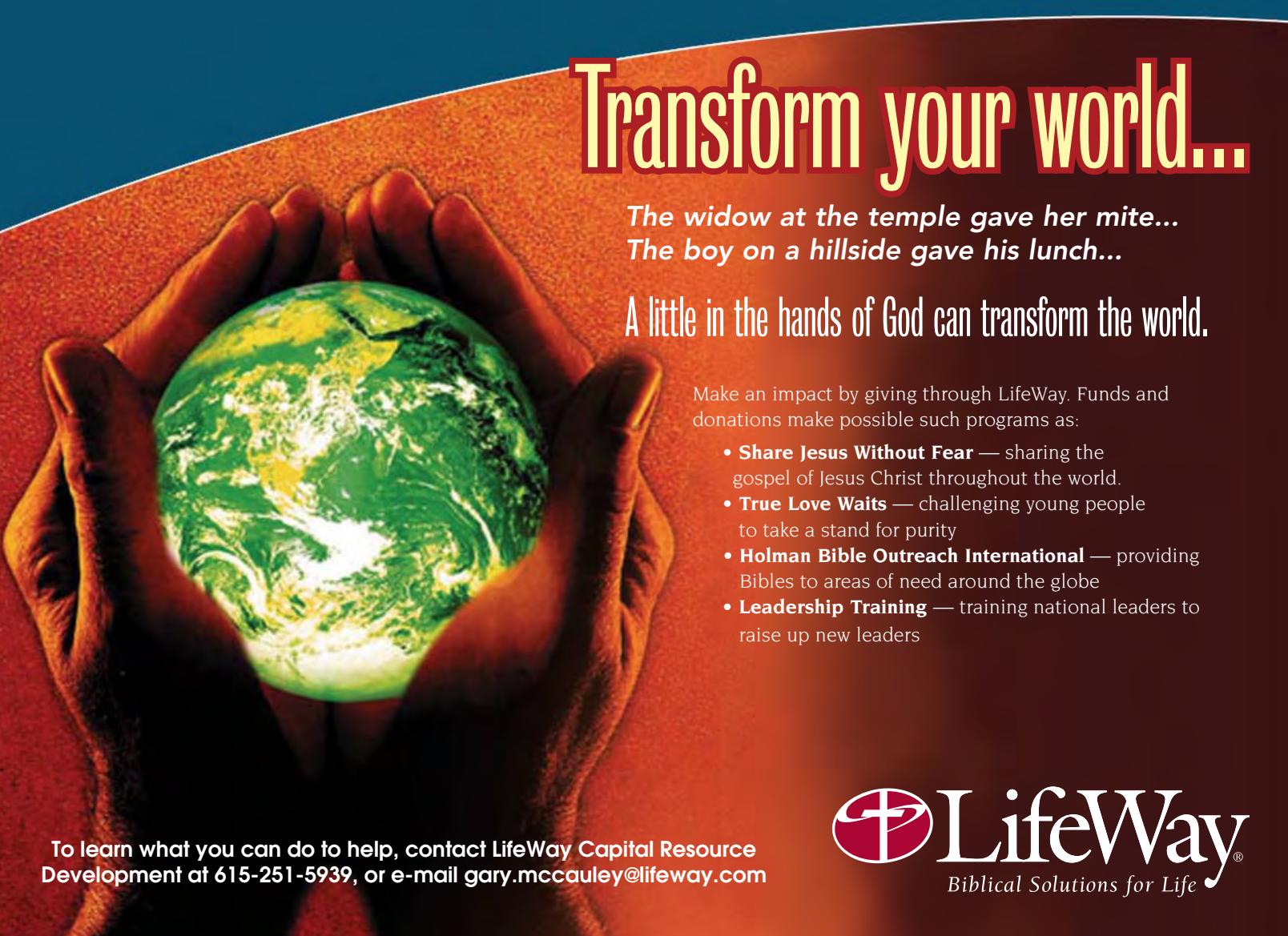
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