

# Facts & Trends



## 2008 Training & Events

From the Festivals of Marriage to Discipleship Week, preview LifeWay's upcoming training conferences, enrichment events

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

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

 **LifeWay**  
Biblical Solutions for Life

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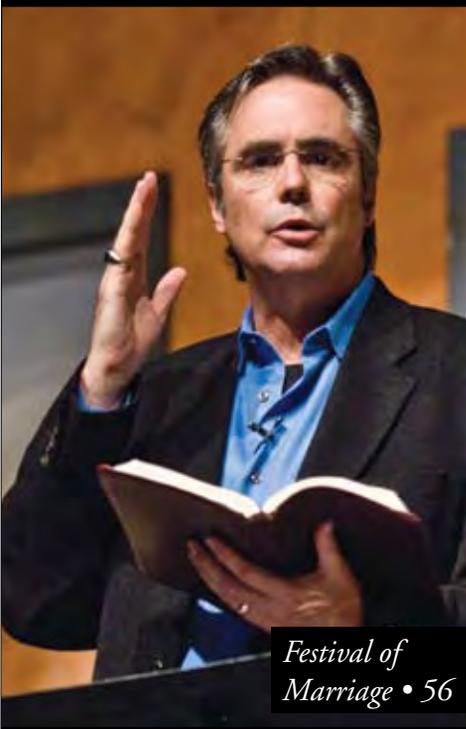
*Cover: Gary and Barb Rosberg talk to the sold-out crowd at the Festival of Marriage at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center last October. This year, the Rosbergs will lead another FOM event, as well as four The Great Marriage Experience events. Photo by Gibbs Frazeur*

*Insert: Ed Gilman, retired director of missions for the Suncoast Baptist Association, Largo, Fla., hits a long drive during the Pastor's Masters golf tournament at Glorieta. Photo by Kent Harville*





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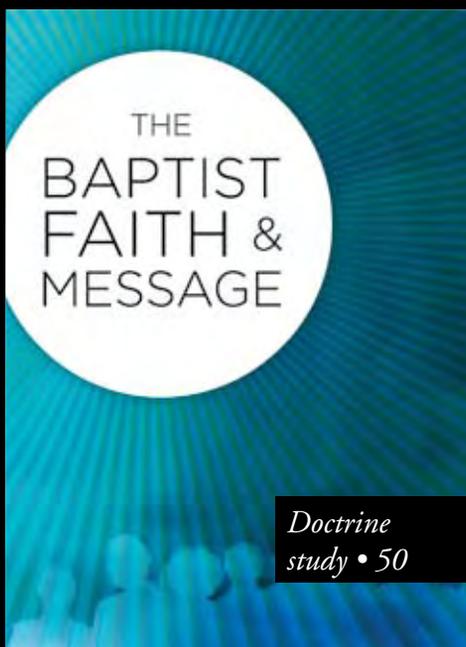
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**How to get  
Facts & Trends  
absolutely free:**

**Write us:**

Facts & Trends  
One LifeWay Plaza  
Nashville, TN 37234-0192

**Phone us:**

(615) 251-3698

**E-mail us:**

facts&trends@lifeway.com

*Phone numbers, Web addresses, training and events dates and locations, and other content referenced in articles were verified at the time of printing, but are subject to change.*

**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 resources. 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.

**Our people**

Polly House, editor; Katie Shull, graphic designer; Kelly Davis Shrou, Brooklyn Noel, Chris Turner, writers; Jenny Rice, *Facts & Trends Online* editor; Kent Harville, visuals specialist; Shirley Richardson, Web editor; Russ Rankin, editor in chief; Rob Phillips, director, communications department.

# From my perspective



Thom S. Rainer, president and CEO, LifeWay Christian Resources

## Are we traveling the road of Paul and Timothy?

**T**he Apostle Paul sits in a damp cell, abandoned by those he thought were his supporters. He thinks about them, forgives them, but has his choicest thoughts fixed squarely on Timothy, his “dearly loved child” in the faith.

He writes: “I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience as my forefathers did, when I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day. Remembering your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. Therefore, I remind you to keep ablaze the gift of God that is in you through the laying on of my hands” (2 Timothy 1:3-4, 6, HCSB).

*“We really can do more together than we can do apart.”*

— Thom Rainer

Paul knew the gallows beckoned. As he looked forward to his heavenly reward, he also looked across a temporal landscape and rested in knowing that faithful young evangelists like Timothy and Mark would carry the work of Christ into the future. One mutually beneficial partnership was about to end but Paul knew there would be others. “And

what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also,” he writes (2 Timothy 2:2).

As I reflect on the past three years of Southern Baptist life and our collective effort for the gospel, the question I ponder is: “Are we a denomination of Pauls and Timothys or are we becoming more generationally fractured to the point where there is decreasing cooperation in reaching people for Christ?”

It is a legitimate question solidified by the research presented on the following pages. Statistically, the 2007 SBC annual meeting held in San Antonio, which one would think would be a location offering the possibility of significant attendance, actually turned out to be one of the most poorly attended – if not *the* most poorly attended – conventions by messengers between the ages of 18 and 39. Conversely, the number of messengers in the 60-plus age group has increased dramatically over the years.

Statistically it appears our denomination is making little progress in reaching younger leaders. We are missing



Timothy reading letter from Paul. © 1981 Convention Press

opportunities to replicate the healthy passing of the torch in a Paul-Timothy kind of way.

My friend Danny Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, makes this observation:

“Current trends, as to the involvement of a younger generation in the SBC, are a cause for serious concern. [As denominational leaders], we must work, and work hard, to help them see the wisdom of working together to fulfill the Great Commission, that we can do more together than we can alone. We need to give them a compelling vision and reason why they should commit themselves to what we are doing. That is the responsibility of an older generation. To say it another way: The fathers need to show their sons why this ship is worth sailing!”

There is a lot packed into that statement, but I'll make a few observations.

Younger leaders see a decreasing relevance in the denomination and older leaders are not adequately casting a dynamic vision. Whereas older leaders connect tradition with loyalty, younger leaders connect loyalty with purpose. They want to see tangible reasons for engaging in the denomination's effort. The denomination desperately needs an infusion of their creativity and passion.

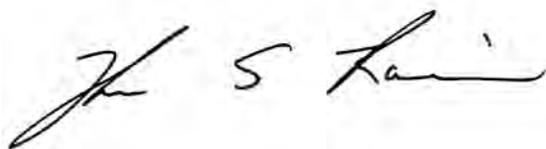
There is cause for concern. The lack of involvement does not bode well for the legacy of the SBC. Our denomination is more than 150 years old and the Cooperative Program is 75. A significant amount of gospel-proclaiming work has been done throughout the world in that time. God has been so gracious to bless us with each precious soul won to His glory. We really can do more together than we can do apart. How I pray younger generations can get that. How I pray older generations will teach that in edifying and encouraging ways while incorporating the best of what younger generations have to offer.

How I pray we will rise above the things that distract us for the sake of the gospel.

Morris Chapman stood before an audience of state convention executives and state Baptist paper editors in February 2002 and said that the SBC stands at a crossroads. It is facing the choice of becoming a group of committed churches that impact the world with the gospel or relegating itself to becoming an ineffective regional denomination.

We're six years down the road. Which road are we choosing?

In His service,



## We recommend

- *Brothers, We Are Not Professionals* by John Piper
- *Next Generation Leader* by Andy Stanley
- *The Call to Follow Christ* by Claude King

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

# Under-40 messengers at SBC 'declining precipitously,' study reveals

by Mark Kelly

**Y**oung leaders stayed away in droves from the 2007 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, setting what may be an all-time low for that age group's attendance at the meeting.

New statistics from LifeWay Research reveal that the percentage of messengers in the 18-39 age group has steadily declined since 1980 – the early days of the conservative resurgence – and has dropped sharply since 2004. The percentage of messengers in the 60-plus age group, however, has increased dramatically.

*Only 13.1 percent of messengers to the 2007 Southern Baptist Convention were between the ages of 18 and 39.*  
*Photo by Van Payne*



LifeWay Research looked at messenger registration survey data for every annual meeting since 1980, analyzing the trends for three major age groups: 18-39, 40-59 and 60-plus.

They found:

- Messengers ages 18-39 represented 33.6 percent of the total in 1980 but dropped to 13.1 percent by 2007.
- The 40-59 group stayed fairly constant: 49.9 percent in 1980, compared to 51.6 percent in 2007.
- Registrants aged 60 and above accounted for 12.9 percent of the messengers in 1980, but 35.4 percent in 2007.

### 'Down more than 50 percent'

"This sample represents all messengers, and historically 40 percent of the messengers have been senior pastors," said Ed Stetzer, director of LifeWay Research. "The percentage of senior pastors attending the annual meeting has remained relatively constant, but the age of attendees has risen dramatically.

**"Simply put, the proportion of those under 40 attending the SBC is declining precipitously – down by more than 50 percent since the beginning of the conservative resurgence."**

— Ed Stetzer

"Simply put, the proportion of those under 40 attending the SBC is declining precipitously – down by more than 50 percent since the beginning of the conservative resurgence."

The study was prompted by anecdotal evidence, according to Scott McConnell, associate director of LifeWay Research.

"We heard a lot of people make comments like, 'It looks like the attendees at the Southern Baptist convention are getting older,'" McConnell said. "Since the report from the 2007 annual meeting was recently distributed, we looked at the messenger survey results, going back to 1980.

"Of course, the response rates vary from year to year, but the methodology was pretty consistent," he added. "Many of the questions have remained the same, so there are some pretty good comparisons you can do through the years."

### Nashville 2005

The highest year for 18-39 attendance was 35.9 percent at the 1985 meeting in Dallas, followed closely by 35.8 percent the next year in Atlanta, according to the data. By the 1992 meeting in Indianapolis, however, participation in that age group had dropped to 27.4 percent, and the slide continued with few exceptions until the 2005 meeting in Nashville, when it plummeted to 16.1 percent.

The 60-plus age group, on the other hand, did not consistently begin to break the 20 percent

#### Facts & Trends **Online**

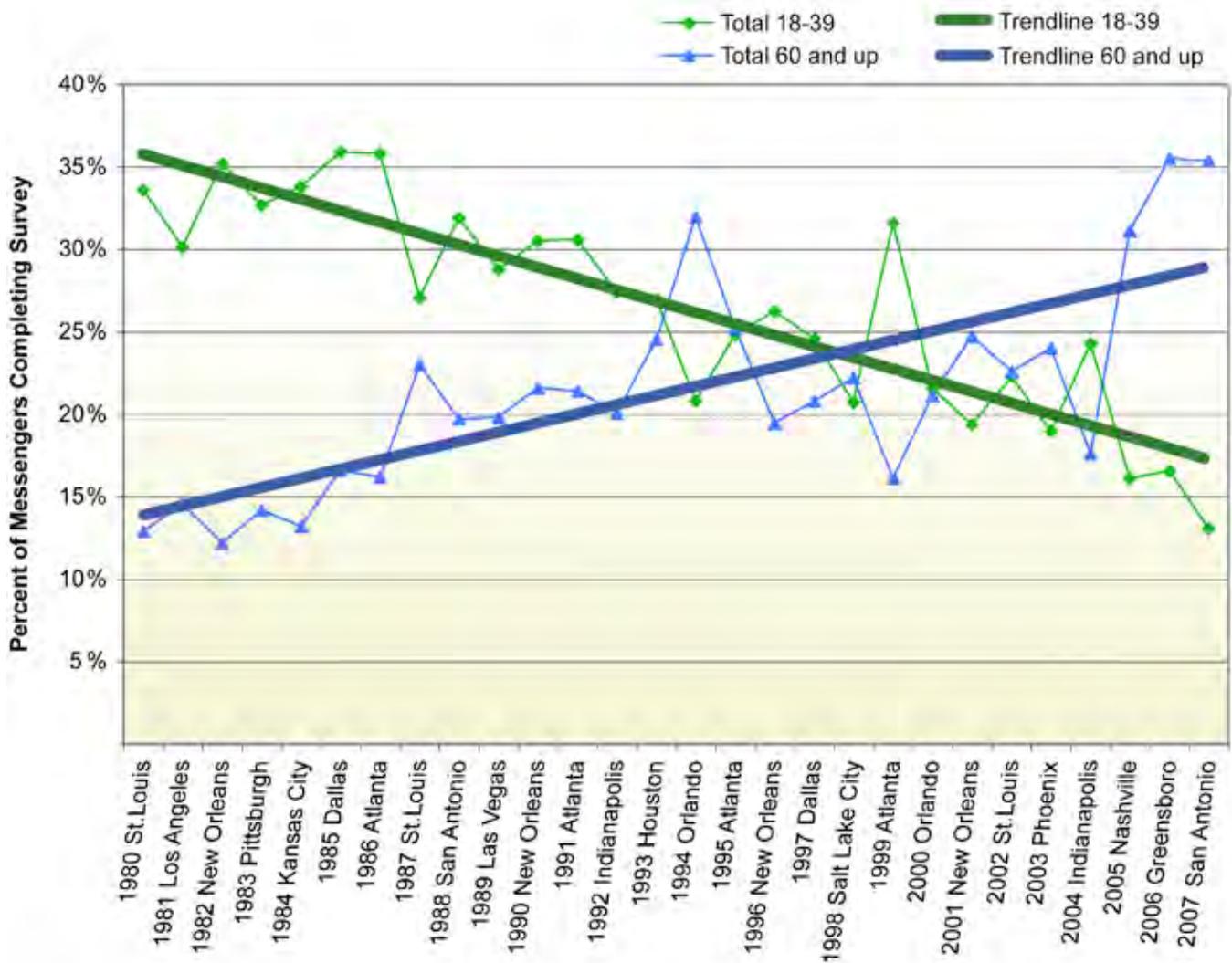
- For additional graphs and analysis, go to [www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends). Further commentary is at the LifeWay Research blog, [www.edstetzer.com](http://www.edstetzer.com).

mark until the 1990 meeting in New Orleans (21.6 percent) and jumped sharply for the 2005 meeting, from 17.6 percent the year before at Indianapolis to 31.1 percent in Nashville.

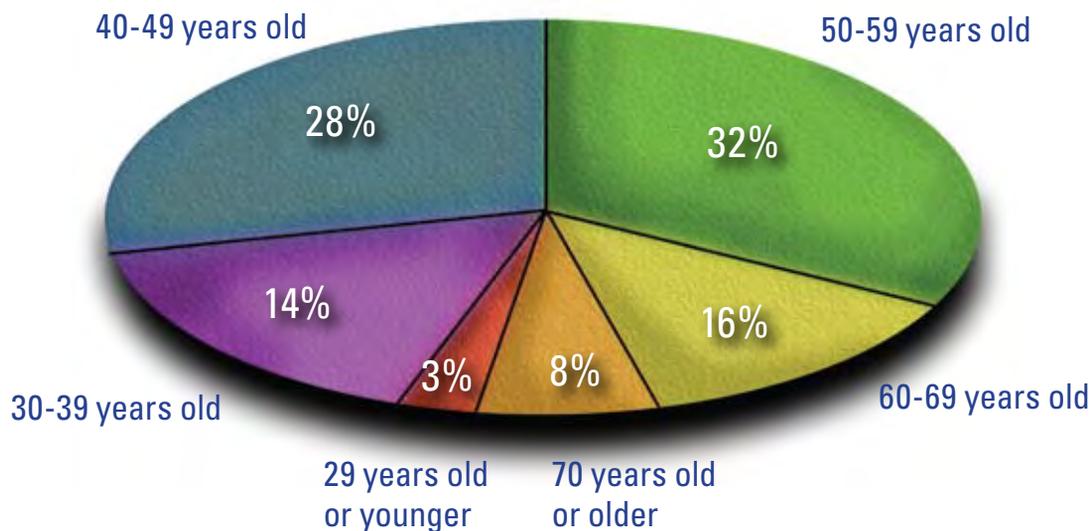
“Obviously, some of the fluctuation year-to-year can be attributed to the city in which the meeting is being held – the travel involved, the expense of traveling, the appeal of a particular city,” McConnell said. “But even as you compare meetings in the same city on different years, you still see a clear decline (in younger attendees).

“For example, the 1991 and 1995 meetings both were held in Atlanta, which tends to be one of the better locations for young adults because of its convenience in the Southeast. The 18-39

## Age of Southern Baptist Convention Attendees



## Breakdown by age of senior pastors of Southern Baptist Convention churches



age group accounted for 30.6 percent of the messengers in 1991 but only 24.8 percent in 1995. While Dallas attracted 35.9 percent of young adult messengers in 1985, this dropped to 24.6 percent in 1997.

**“While the 18-39 age group represents 17 percent of Southern Baptist senior pastors, it mustered only 13.1 percent of attendees at the 2007 annual meeting.”**

— Scott McConnell

“This is a clear decline over time,” McConnell said. “The other two age groups are both increasing, and 60-plus is increasing more markedly. The general trend is the aging of attendees at the Southern Baptist Convention.”

While the 18-39 age group represents 17 percent of Southern Baptist senior pastors, it mustered only 13.1 percent of attendees at the 2007 annual meeting. The 60-plus age group constitutes 24 percent of senior pastors yet accounted for 35.4 percent of the 2007 attendees.

“Oddly enough, in some quarters there has actually been a debate about whether the SBC attendance is aging and losing its young leaders,” Stetzer said. “Of course, facts don’t convince everyone. My hope is that now, finally, we will stop debating and instead ask the hard question: ‘What is causing so many young leaders to stay away?’” ■

# 2008

## Training & Enrichment Events

### Happy New Year!

For the past 100 years, the '8s have been significant years:

**1908** – President Theodore Roosevelt declares the Grand Canyon a national monument.

**1918** – Germany signs an armistice agreement with the Allies, ending World War I.

**1928** – Mickey Mouse makes his screen debut in *Steamboat Willie*.

**1938** – Congress proposes the Fair Labor Standards Act, establishing a minimum wage, initially \$0.25 an hour.

**1948** – The board game, Scrabble, is trademarked in Dodginton, Conn.

**1958** – The nuclear submarine, Nautilus, accomplishes the first undersea voyage to the North Pole.

**1968** – Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. is assassinated in Memphis, Tenn.

**1978** – Louise Brown, the world's first "test tube" baby, is delivered in Oldham, England.

**1988** – Gilbert, a Category 5 storm that is the strongest hurricane to hit the Western Hemisphere in the 20th century, devastates Jamaica and parts of Mexico.

**1998** – The Chicago Bulls defeat the Utah Jazz to capture their third straight NBA championship.

**2008** – LifeWay offers hundreds of training and enrichment opportunities to churches and camps to students!

News changes – that's why it's called news – but some things stay the same. The Grand Canyon is still a wondrous site; Mickey Mouse is still making kids smile; Scrabble is still fun; and LifeWay is still committed to helping churches be the best they can be with training and enrichment for their people.

**So this year, don't just watch the news, participate in the Good News!**





**Taping and photography disclaimer:**

*LifeWay will audio/videotape and photograph training and enrichment events. You may be filmed, recorded or photographed. By your attendance, you are granting permission to be audio or videotaped or photographed for commercial purposes and agree to the following: being filmed, recorded, or photographed by any means; commercial or any other likeness, voice and words without compensation; specifically waiving all rights of privacy during the videotaping, filming, recording or photographing and release LifeWay Christian Resources from liability for loss, damage or compensation for the commercial or other use of your likeness, image, voice or words; compliance with all rules and regulations of LifeWay for this event.*

# Schedule

Conferences listed by date. Events with multiple dates are listed by first occurring date.



Marriage Impact, Ridgecrest

## LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center

- VBS Preview .....Jan. 18-19
- Ski Xplosion..... March 11-14
- Law Enforcement Summit .....April 15-18
- Singles Memorial Day Weekend.....May 23-26
- Worship Leadership Conference.....July 14-18
- Sunday School Week.....July 21-25
- FAITH Evangelism & Discipleship Conference ..... July 28-Aug. 1
- Collegiate Week ..... Aug. 2-8
- Extreme Young Adult Weekend.....Aug. 29-Sept. 1
- Fly Fishing Adventure .....Sept. 14-17, 16-18
- Pastor's Masters Golf Retreat .....Sept. 22-24
- Festival of Marriage.....Oct. 3-5
- Fall Celebration.....Oct. 6-10

## LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center

- VBS Preview.....Jan. 11-12
- Gideon Media Arts Conference & Film Festival ..... April 14-18
- Be the Man Black Men's Conference..... April 25-26
- Pastor's Masters Golf Retreat ..... May 5-7
- Senior Adult Southern Gospel Celebration..... May 13-15
- Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference ..... May 18-22  
Sept. 28-Oct. 2
- Fly Fishing Adventure ..... May 19-22
- Marriage Impact.....May 23-25, June 27-29,  
Aug. 15-17
- Rally to Ridgecrest..... May 23-26
- Worship Leadership Conference ..... June 2-6
- National Evangelism & Discipleship Conference..... June 30-July 4
- Sunday School Week ..... July 11-14
- Downhill@Dawn Half Marathon..... July 18-20
- Black Church Leadership and Family Week..... July 21-25
- Collegiate Week.....Aug. 2-7
- WIRED .....Aug. 8-9
- Singles Labor Day Retreat ..... Aug. 29-Sept. 1
- Law Enforcement Summit..... Oct. 7-10
- Festival of Marriage ... Oct. 10-12, 17-19, 24-26
- Senior Adult Fall Celebration ..... Oct. 20-24
- Senior Adult Christmas Celebration .....Dec. 2-4

- = Leadership Training Events
- = Enrichment Events

# LifeWay Conference Centers – Ridgecrest and Glorieta

## Registration & Information



### LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center

For more information or to register for 2008 Ridgecrest conferences:

Phone: (800) 588-7222

Online: [www.lifeway.com/ridgecrest](http://www.lifeway.com/ridgecrest)



### LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center

For more information or to register for 2008 Glorieta conferences:

Phone: (800) 797-4222

Online: [www.lifeway.com/glorieta](http://www.lifeway.com/glorieta)

## Accommodations:

LifeWay Conference Center rates are listed to the right. Children under 18 stay free with their parents. Guests choosing to lodge in non-conference center housing will be assessed a \$25 per person campus usage fee per event. This fee does not include meals or program fees.

Also, choose from value-priced two-meal-a-day or three-meal-a-day plans.

## Leadership Training:

The program fee is \$75 per person for adults and students for Sunday School, Evangelism & Discipleship, Worship Leadership and Black Church Leadership and Family Weeks; but day camp and preschool care is only \$25 per child for the full event. There is a maximum of \$250 for any family.

## Training Credit:

Participants may be able to earn Continuing Education Unit credits during Sunday School, Evangelism & Discipleship, Worship Leadership and Black Church Leadership and Family Weeks. Christian Growth Study Plan credits may be earned for many morning and afternoon conferences. For more information, go to [www.lifeway.com/CGSP](http://www.lifeway.com/CGSP). Seminary doctoral students may also be able to receive credit for attending one of the summer conferences. Check with your seminary advisor for approval and process.

Room Rates	Glorieta	Ridgecrest
Deluxe lodging	\$99	\$99
Standard lodging	\$69	\$79

Meal Costs	Glorieta	Ridgecrest
2 meals a day	\$19/day	\$20/day
3 meals a day	\$26/day	\$28/day

## The Zone for students

The Zone is a first-class summer camp experience, offering powerful spiritual growth opportunities and crazy fun for students in grades 7-12.

## A Day Camp Adventure!

Children who have completed grades 1-6 are in for a full week of day camp fun and adventure while their parents attend training sessions.

*The Zone and Day Camp Adventure are scheduled to coincide with Worship Leadership, Sunday School, Evangelism & Discipleship, Collegiate and Black Church Leadership and Family Weeks at Glorieta and Ridgecrest.*

# Schedule

Conferences listed by date. Events with multiple dates are listed by first occurring date.

## Southeastern Region

- National Sunday School Directors Seminars.....Jan. 11-12, Eagle Eyre, Va.  
Feb. 1-2, Memphis, Tenn.  
April 11-12, Alabaster, Ala.  
April 18-19, Haughton, La.
- Rec Lab ..... Jan. 27-31, Jacksonville, Fla.
- VBS Preview..... Jan. 31-Feb. 1,  
Feb. 1-2, Nashville, Tenn.
- BeachReach ..... March 1-7, 8-14,  
15-21, Panama City Beach, Fla.
- Living Proof Live.... March 28-29, Jacksonville, Fla.  
Aug. 1-2, Louisville, Ky.
- Toward a Growing Marriage.....April 5, Olive Branch, Miss.  
July 26, Bossier City, La.  
Aug. 2, Baton Rouge, La.  
Aug. 16, Dothan, Ala.  
Aug. 23 Birmingham, Ala.
- Leaving a Legacy..... April 12, Middleburg, Fla.
- You and Your Girl.....April 19, Fredericksburg, Va.  
Sept. 28, Spartanburg, S.C.  
Oct. 24-25, Orlando, Fla.  
Nov. 8, Lexington, Ky.
- Gospel Reunion.....April 22-24, Nashville, Tenn.
- Going Beyond ..... April 25-26, Charlotte, N.C.  
Sept. 26-27, Bossier City, La.  
Oct. 3-4, Nashville, Tenn.
- Festival of Marriage ..... May 2-4, Nashville, Tenn.
- Building a Kingdom School Institute ..... June 18-20, Nashville, Tenn.
- SonPower ..... June 23-27, June 30-July 4,  
Orlando, Fla.
- Deeper Still ..... June 27-28, Atlanta
- Generations ...  
the Unbroken Chain ... July 24-26, Nashville, Tenn.
- The Great Marriage Experience.....Aug. 23, Tifton, Ga.  
Sept. 13, Orlando, Fla.
- Connect Conferences .Aug. 25-26, Nashville, Tenn.  
Sept. 4-5, Charlotte, N.C.  
Sept. 11-12, Jackson, Miss.  
Sept. 18-19, Orlando, Fla.
- FAITH Evangelism..... Sept. 17-18, Lexington, Ky.  
Oct. 1-2, Jacksonville, Fla.
- Impacting Your World for Christ..... Sept. 24-26, Nashville, Tenn.
- National Preschool and Children's Convention.... Oct. 13-16, Orlando, Fla.
- Adult Ministry Institute.....Oct. 20-23, Nashville, Tenn.
- National Black Sunday School Conference ..... Oct. 24-25, Nashville, Tenn.
- Women's Leadership Forum .....Nov. 11-13, Nashville, Tenn.

## Northeastern Region

- National Sunday School Directors Seminars ..... Feb. 29-March 1, Baltimore
- FAITH Evangelism ..... Sept. 10-11, Liverpool, N.Y.
- Toward a Growing Marriage .....Sept. 20, Bangor, Maine
- Festival of Marriage.....Nov. 14-16, Ocean City, Md.

## Northwestern & Pacific Region

- Living Proof Live.... Feb. 28-March 1, Vancouver, B.C.  
May 16-17, Boise, Idaho  
Sept. 19-20, Billings, Mont.
- National Sunday School Directors Seminars ..... March 14-15, Milpitas, Calif.  
May 2-3, Mililani, Hawaii
- Toward a Growing Marriage ..... April 26, Garden City, Mich.  
May 24, Calgary, Alberta.

- = Leadership Training Events
- = Enrichment Events

## Conferences held at various locations across the country

### Southwestern Region

- After Eve ..... Feb. 8-9, Austin, Texas
- Going Beyond... Feb. 22-23, Rogers, Ark.
- National Sunday School Directors Seminars .....Feb. 22-23, Houston  
March 28-29, Fort Worth, Texas
- WIRED ..... April 10-11, San Diego
- Living Proof Live.....  
April 11-12, San Diego,  
May 2-3, Colorado Springs, Colo.  
Aug. 22-23, San Antonio
- Women Reaching Women .....  
May 1-2, Colorado Springs, Colo.  
Aug. 21-22, San Antonio
- Toward a Growing Marriage ..... June 28, Moore, Okla.  
July 19, Los Angeles
- FAITH  
Evangelism..... Aug. 20-21, Houston  
Aug. 27-28, Colorado Springs, Colo.  
Oct. 15-16, Highland, Calif.
- Connect  
Conferences ... Aug. 21-22, Austin, Texas  
Sept. 25-26, Tulsa, Okla.
- Deeper Still .....Sept. 5-6, Las Vegas
- The Great Marriage Experience ..... Sept. 27, Plano, Texas

### Midwestern & Great Lakes Region

- The Great Marriage Experience ..... April 19,  
Maple Grove, Minn.
- Toward a Growing Marriage ... April 26, Garden City, Mich.  
Sept. 13, Carlisle, Ohio
- Women Reaching Women .... May 30-31, Fort Wayne, Ind.
- Living Proof Live.....July 18-19, Minneapolis
- Going Beyond.....Aug. 8-9, Troy, Mich.
- Festival of Marriage.....Nov. 7-9,  
Osage Beach, Mo.
- Christmas Celebration .....Nov. 11-14,  
Branson, Mo.

### Registration & Information



#### LifeWay Events Registration

For more information or to register for 2008 conferences:

Phone: (800) 254-2022

Online: [www.lifeway.com/events](http://www.lifeway.com/events)



*Deeper Still, Nashville*

# Event Listings

## Adult Ministry Institute

Designed to equip and enrich your ministry to adults of all ages, the Adult Ministry Institute will enable you to discover and exchange ideas for implementing God's agenda for reaching and discipling adults. You also will develop relationship networks with other professional adult ministers and address concerns. You'll receive the latest information on trends related to young adults and boomer adults and the impact these two significant generations have on your church.

*Oct. 20-23, Nashville, Tenn.*

## After Eve

After Eve, a conference by young women for young women, is specifically targeted to women ages 18-30. It's for women passionate about biblical womanhood in the 21st century. Our desire as women of this generation is to live a life that

exemplifies God's truth and love.

*Feb. 8-9, Austin, Texas*

## Be the Man Black Men's Conference

Be the Man is an incredible event with superb worship, inspirational music and powerful Bible study with some of today's leading speakers. It offers valuable fellowship with other Christian men.

*April 25-26, Ridgecrest, N.C.*

## BeachReach

White sand. Surf. Bikinis. It's spring break 2008. It's a phenomenon of nonstop partying and bad behavior.



## BeachReach

Enter BeachReach 2008. Christian college students and leaders come together to share the love of Jesus to spring breakers who are desperate. You and your students can make a difference – one person at a time – at BeachReach. Your students will meet spring breakers as they climb into a van for a free late-night lift or by teaming up in a sand sculpting contest. Students build relationships that lead to opportunities to share their love and hope in Jesus Christ.

*March 1-7, 8-14, 15-21, Panama City Beach, Fla.*

## Black Church Leadership and Family Week

Black Church Leadership and Family Week is the premier event for every leader, member and family in your church. Inspiring worship, relevant conferences, insightful Bible studies, enriching prayer times and nurturing fellowship are the signature characteristics of this event. Mornings begin with praise and Bible study. The day ends with great singing and preaching. Other features include a NAMB-sponsored pastor's dinner, fellowship time for ministers' wives, a Fair/Expo featuring products and services provided by the sponsoring agencies and training courses. Activities for preschoolers, children and youth assure that the whole family will have a great time.

*July 21-25, Ridgecrest, N.C.*

## Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference

Mid-October is the peak time for leaf color in the mountains of North Carolina and the perfect time for novelists to come together for inspiration and improving on the skills God has made available to us.

*May 18-22 (for all writers), Sept. 28-Oct. 2 (novel retreat for advanced writers), Ridgecrest, N.C.*

## Building a Kingdom School Institute

LifeWay, in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools, presents the Building a Kingdom School Institute. The institute is designed to meet the specific needs of administrators and board members who want to develop Kingdom-focused schools. The institute provides school leaders with practical help to enable them to drive the Kingdom philosophy of education into every aspect of their program.

*June 18-20, Nashville, Tenn.*

## Collegiate Weeks

Join hundreds of collegians for a focused week of worship and Bible teaching, training and relationship building. Dual tracks are offered, providing helpful resources and information for both college students and leaders who work with them. Students will have opportunities to connect with representatives from the



*Collegiate Week, Glorieta*

International Mission Board, North American Mission Board and other organizations that offer ministry opportunities. Church staff, college Sunday school workers and Baptist Collegiate Ministry directors will have sessions offered to them on topics such as growing your college class, trends in collegiate ministry and creative campus outreach ideas.  
*Aug. 2-7, Ridgecrest, N.C.; Aug. 2-8, Glorieta, N.M.*

### Connect Conferences: Leading the Church to Reach Young Adults

Are you concerned when you hear reports from LifeWay Research showing that today's 20-somethings are less connected to the church than any previous generation?

*Threads*, LifeWay's ministry resource for young adults, is passionate about making a difference. You will learn more about young adults, understand some of the many reasons they leave the church and stay away, and network with other leaders in your area.

*Threads* is limiting registration for each Connect Conference to 75 people, allowing us to customize the training and offer more hands-on experience. You can engage in discussion with seasoned ministers and best-practice leaders in the area of young adult ministry.

*Aug. 21-22, Austin Texas; Aug. 25-26, Nashville, Tenn.; Sept. 4-5, Charlotte, N.C.; Sept. 11-12, Jackson, Miss.; Sept. 18-19, Orlando, Fla.; Sept. 25-26, Tulsa, Okla.*

### Deeper Still

Join us for a unique opportunity to hear three internationally renowned Bible teachers – Kay Arthur, Beth Moore and Priscilla Shirer – at one weekend event. Deeper Still is a multicultural and multigenerational event that will take you deeper in your relationship with God and His Word.

*June 27-28, Atlanta; Sept. 5-6, Las Vegas*

### Downhill@Dawn Half Marathon

Join us for this inaugural event. Our half marathon will take you from Ridgecrest to Old Fort in the morning. In the afternoon we will have a toddler trot and plenty of free time to explore Asheville or just recover. Worship and family activities make this a weekend you and your family won't want to miss.

*July 18-20, Ridgecrest, N.C.*



*Downhill@Dawn Half Marathon*

### Extreme Young Adult Weekend

This Labor Day weekend offers today's single adults and married couples a unique opportunity to experience God in the classroom and the great outdoors. Young adults who crave adventure will

enjoy a number of outdoor adventures, including white water rafting, kayaking, canoeing and mountain biking. In the evening, worship time will touch their hearts and souls.

*Aug. 29-Sept. 1, Glorieta, N.M.*

### FAITH Evangelism

The four 2008 FAITH Evangelism Equipper Training (FEET) events are designed to equip state convention leaders, association leaders and FAITH churches to become trainers for churches desiring to implement FAITH Evangelism. Church, association and state convention leaders will be encouraged to develop a FAITH Evangelism training strategy for their state or region.

*Aug. 20-21, Houston; Aug. 27-28, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Sept. 10-11, Liverpool, N.Y.; Sept. 17-18, Lexington, Ky.; Oct. 1-2, Jacksonville, Fla.; Oct. 15-16, Highland, Calif.*

### FAITH Evangelism and Discipleship Conference

The Glorieta FAITH Evangelism and Discipleship Conference is a workshop for pastors and church leaders to develop a comprehensive



*Extreme Weekend, Glorieta*

**Link to more  
information  
about these  
conferences at  
[www.lifeway.com/  
factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends).**

# Event Listings

approach for evangelism and disciple making. This year's theme is Equipping Lab for Building an Intentional Evangelism/Discipleship Strategy. This will be a collaborative experience for participants that will allow each person time for discussion and reflection.

*July 28-Aug. 1, Glorieta, N.M.*

## Festivals of Marriage

A Festival of Marriage event is a three-day retreat where you can relax, refresh and reconnect. You and your spouse can finally find time for yourselves. Learn practical tips, praise God, and renew your vows by candlelight. All for just \$129 per couple. (Price does not include accommodations.)

*May 2-4, Nashville, Tenn.; Oct. 3-5,*

*Glorieta, N.M.; Oct. 10-12, 17-19, 24-26, Ridgecrest, N.C.; Nov. 7-9, Osage Beach, Mo.; Nov. 14-16, Ocean City, Md.*

## Fly Fishing Adventures

Our vision is to provide a fishing trip – on steroids! Recharge your heart by spending time with God and other men while fishing world-class trout streams in New Mexico and North Carolina. Enjoy meaningful worship and Bible study



*Fly Fishing Adventures*

with other believers from across the nation.

*May 19-22, Ridgecrest, N.C.; Sept. 14-17, 16-18, Glorieta, N.M.*

## Generations ... the Unbroken Chain

This conference is all about connecting ministry through the ages. This national women's ministry leadership training is for local church women's leaders who seek to reach and connect all the generations of women.

Worship leader Kelly Minter will join a team of leaders with a conference specifically designed for



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*Generations ... the Unbroken Chain*

every age group.

*July 24-26, Nashville, Tenn.*

### Gideon Media Arts Conference & Film Festival

The Gideon Media Arts Conference & Film Festival is a Christian camp and venue for the media arts. This conference is designed to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through all types of media with an emphasis on radio, church drama, music, television and film.

*April 14-18, Ridgecrest, N.C.*



*Gideon Media Arts*

### Going Beyond with Priscilla Shirer

Experience a renewed heart as Bible teacher and author Priscilla Shirer challenges you to abandon the everyday, ordinary life for a vibrant walk with Christ.

*Feb. 22-23, Rogers, Ark.; April 25-26, Charlotte, N.C.; Aug. 8-9, Troy, Mich.; Sept. 26-27, Bossier City, La.; Oct. 3-4, Nashville, Tenn.*

### The Great Marriage Experience

The Great Marriage Experience: 6

Secrets to a Lasting Love is a new one-day conference with Gary and Barb Rosberg, America's Marriage Coaches.

At this live Saturday event you'll learn how to make a spiritual and a heart-to-heart connection so necessary in a healthy marriage. No matter what the present state of your marriage, you'll leave The Great Marriage Experience having had a great marriage experience! \$90 per couple.

*April 19, Maple Grove, Minn.; Aug. 23, Tifton, Ga.; Sept. 13, Orlando, Fla.; Sept. 27, Plano, Texas*

### Impacting Your World for Christ

Impacting Your World – A Great Commission Conference will provide a vision for pastors and church leaders that will equip them to return to the local church so they can impact their community, state, region, nation and world by providing intentional strategies to equip and multiply disciples.

*Sept. 24-26, Nashville, Tenn.*

### Law Enforcement Summit

This summit offers a unique opportunity to fellowship with other Christians from within the law enforcement community in a safe place. Superb workshops and breakout sessions designed by law enforcement, for law enforcement, to support and encourage members and their spouses as they face the challenges of their professions.

*April 15-18, Glorieta, N.M.; Oct. 7-10, Ridgecrest, N.C.*

### Leaving a Legacy – Childhood Leadership Workshop

From kids' Sunday morning experience to VBS, this one-day event is packed with cutting edge information to help your children's ministry have an impact that lasts a lifetime. Attend your choice of morning and afternoon ministry-changing workshops. The \$49 registration fee includes conference materials, breaks and lunch. Register nine people and the 10th person is free.

*April 12, Middleburg, Fla.*

### Living Proof Live with Beth Moore

Experience two days of in-depth Bible study and fellowship with thousands of women, led by popular author and Bible teacher Beth Moore. Praise and worship is led by Travis Cottrell.

*Feb. 28-March 1, Vancouver, B.C.; March 28-29, Jacksonville, Fla.; April 11-12, San Diego; May 2-3, Colorado Springs, Colo.; May 16-17, Boise, Idaho; July 18-19, Minneapolis; Aug. 1-2, Louisville, Ky.; Aug. 22-23, San Antonio; Sept. 19-20, Billings, Mont.*



*Leaving a Legacy*

**Link to more information about these conferences at [www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends).**

# Event Listings

## Marriage Impact

Enjoy any number of outdoor adventures including whitewater rafting, kayaking, canoeing, mountain biking and hiking. Return at night to worship and fellowship with other married couples from across the nation. This year our speakers will be Dan Seaborn and Peter Newhouse, authors of *The Necessary Nine*.  
May 23-25, June 27-29, Aug. 15-17, Ridgecrest, N.C.

## National Black Sunday School Conference

Join Sunday school leaders from black churches around the country and learn everything about having the best healthy and growing Sunday school possible. Last year's event sold out, so get your reservations in early. One attendee said his only complaint about the conference was that no one told him how good it would be and he didn't bring every Sunday school worker from his church with him.  
Oct. 24-25, Nashville, Tenn.

## National Evangelism & Discipleship Conference

This year's theme is *The Disciple's Life: Living in Fellowship with God—Live in the Word, Pray in Faith*. Join us as we hear from Danny Akin, Henry Blackaby and Thom Rainer. The conference is designed to help equip and establish an intentional discipleship ministry. It will encourage and inspire pastors, staff,

lay leaders, women and men's ministry leaders, deacons, family ministry leaders and various age group leaders.  
July 28-Aug. 1, Glorieta, N.M.; June 30-July 4, Ridgecrest, N.C.

## National Preschool and Children's Convention

Each year, nearly 1,000 leaders attend this four-day training event that offers more than 100 workshops, learning tracks, breakout conferences and plenary sessions. The convention is brimming with unique learning experiences, exhilarating worship and networking opportunities. NPCC provides you with keen insight into what's ahead for ministry to preschoolers and children. This is open to everyone with a heart for children's ministry.  
Oct. 13-16, Orlando, Fla.

## National Sunday School Directors Seminars

A National Sunday School Directors Seminar offers you a unique opportunity to make a genuine difference in your Sunday school. It is a two-day seminar that focuses on the role of the Sunday school director and how he or she carries out that role. Sunday school directors learn how to build a strong Sunday school team, growing their Sunday school, reaching people for Christ, developing life transforming teaching and building a strategy for their Sunday school. And that's just in the general sessions!  
Jan. 11-12, Eagle Eyre, Va.; Feb. 1-2, Memphis, Tenn.; Feb. 22-23, Houston; Feb. 29-March 1, Baltimore;



Danny Akin



Henry Blackaby



Thom Rainer



National Preschool and Children's Convention

March 14-15, Milpitas, Calif.; March 28-29, Fort Worth, Texas; April 11-12, Alabaster, Ala.; April 18-19, Haughton, La.; May 2-3, Mililani, Hawaii

## Pastor's Masters Golf Retreat

This is a great time for golf, fellowship, spiritual encouragement and for improving your game. Three days of golf on different courses with different formats will make this an event you won't want to miss.  
May 5-7, Ridgecrest, N.C.; Sept. 22-24, Glorieta, N.M.

## Rally to Ridgecrest Motorcycle Rally

Join Christian motorcyclists from all over the country on Memorial Day to honor America's fallen heroes and get immersed in a weekend of motorcycling excitement. The beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains provide motorcycle riders with an almost unlimited number of great rides.  
May 23-26, Ridgecrest, N.C.

## Rec Lab

Rec Lab, the interdenominational conference on recreation and sports ministry, will again provide the very best practical instruction in the use of recreation and sports as a ministry tool for any size church. An addition this year will be an



**Rally to Ridgecrest**

in-depth look at family ministry. These conferences will be held simultaneously at the Wyndham Jacksonville (Fla.) Riverwalk. This year's theme is *Rec Lab*:

**Rec Lab**

*Intentional Ministry Makeover.* Pastor and licensed counselor Steve Pettit will speak in the morning and evening worship sessions. Worship leader is Ryan Richardson, student chaplain from Baylor University. Other speakers will be Dennis Swanberg, comedian and pastor; Caz McCaslin from Upward Unlimited; Dick Couey, a leader in Christian health and wellness; and David Garrard. Customize your conference experience by choosing from

more than 80 seminars. Spouses will be able attend special seminars designed for them.

*Jan. 27-31, Jacksonville, Fla.*

**Senior Adult Get-Aways**

LifeWay's events for senior adults will be an experience you will not want to miss. From the Appalachian mountains of Ridgecrest N.C., to the dazzle of Branson Mo., you will come together with others from around the country for worship, music, Bible study, spiritual renewal and lots of fun. Each of

**Link to more information about these conferences at [www.lifeway.com/factsandrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandrends).**

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# Event Listings

these events will offer something for every senior in your church.

*Gospel Reunion: April 22-24, Nashville, Tenn.; Fall Celebrations: Oct. 6-10, Glorieta, N.M.; Oct. 20-24, Ridgecrest, N.C.; Christmas Celebrations: Nov. 11-14, Branson, Mo.; Dec. 2-4, Ridgecrest, N.C.*



Senior Adults

## Senior Adult

### Southern Gospel Celebration

Ridgecrest is partnering with Tim Williams and Williams Evangelistic Ministries to create this wonderful new senior adult event. Come join hundreds of other senior adults in celebrating the God-honoring sounds of southern gospel music.  
*May 13-15, Ridgecrest, N.C.*

### Single's Labor Day Retreat

This weekend offers today's single adult an opportunity to experience God in the mountains. Speaker and worship leader Kyle Matthews provides a great time of teaching, worship and music. Outdoor adventures are waiting for participants who choose more active endeavors too.  
*Aug. 29-Sept. 1, Ridgecrest, N.C.*

### Singles Memorial Day Weekend

This weekend offers today's single adult an opportunity to experience

God in the mountains, while enjoying a great time of teaching, worship and music. Outdoor adventures are waiting for participants who choose more active endeavors too.  
*May 23-26, Glorieta, N.M.*

### Ski Xplosion

This is Glorieta's premier winter youth event. Youth experience the thrills of downhill snow skiing at Ski Santa Fe during the days, while growing spiritually through group worship and praise each night. Our theme for 2008 is Live Louder. Truth, love and obedience will be our focus.

*March 11-14, Glorieta, N.M.*

### SonPower

SonPower is an unforgettable week of music and missions for students. In five power-packed days, students learn dynamic songs from the upcoming SonPower collection, study God's Word under the direction of the coolest guys around and serve the surrounding community through unique mission opportunities. The week will culminate in a live recording session as students present the music they've learned. Due to popular demand, we've added another week at the same location.

*June 23-27, June 30-July 4, Orlando, Fla.*

### Sunday School Weeks

The Sunday school summer conference center leadership events are one-of-a-kind training. You will find excellent training for workers in every age group, led by a first-class faculty. This year's theme is *reDiscover Sunday School*. The scripture is "Hold on



Ski Xplosion

to the pattern of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 1:13, HCSB).

At Ridgecrest, the speaker will be Tom McCoy, pastor of Thompson Station Baptist Church, Thompson's Station, Tenn. At Glorieta, the speaker will be Calvin Wittman, senior pastor of Applewood Baptist Church, Denver.

A feature at both Sunday school events is the special education lab school. The lab provides a safe and loving place for family members with special needs (children/youth/adults) to enjoy VBS using our special education materials. For more information on the special lab, contact Carlton McDaniel at [carlton.mcdaniel@lifeway.com](mailto:carlton.mcdaniel@lifeway.com).  
*July 11-14, Ridgecrest, N.C.; July 21-25, Glorieta, N.M.*

### Toward A Growing Marriage

Toward A Growing Marriage is a fun-filled one-day conference hosted by Gary Chapman, counselor, pastor and best-selling author of *The Five Love Languages*. Chapman shares timeless wisdom on important major issues: Communication 101, Understanding and Expressing Love, Initiating Positive Change, Making Sex a Mutual Joy, and How to Share the Things That Bug You. \$90 per couple (does not include accommodations).  
*April 5, Olive Branch, Miss.; April 26, Garden City, Mich.; May 24, Calgary, Alberta; June 28, Moore, Okla.; July 19, Los Angeles; July 26, Bossier City, La.; Aug. 2, Baton Rouge, La.; Aug. 16, Dothan, Ala.; Aug. 23, Birmingham, Ala.; Sept. 13, Carlisle, Ohio; Sept. 20, Bangor, Maine.*



## VBS Previews

An island of fun is waiting for you at LifeWay's VBS 2008 preview event. Join VBS composer Jeff Slaughter and other VBS leaders from across the country for this hands-on, two-day event that's overflowing with ideas and information about both of LifeWay's 2008 VBS options – Outrigger Island and Club VBS: Cactus Canyon. Attend sessions designed for VBS directors, preschool VBS leaders, children's VBS leaders, youth VBS leaders, adult VBS leaders, and even special friends (formerly special education) VBS leaders. Plus, just for attending, you'll get a VBS exclusive – an Aloha Bag only available at VBS preview events! The registration fee is only \$55 per person, but if you bring three or more from your VBS team, the registration fee is reduced to \$45 each. Registration fee does not include meals or housing. Space is limited, so register early.  
*Jan. 11-12, Ridgecrest, N.C.; Jan. 18-19, Glorieta, N.M.; Jan. 31-Feb. 1; Feb. 1-2, LifeWay, Nashville, Tenn.*

## WIRED: Women Intentionally Reaching, Expanding, Developing

These conferences go from dial-up to DSL and takes women's ministry beyond the basics. They are regional women's leadership training for seasoned leaders who are seeking to grow their ministry. It will give leaders techniques to reach unreached women and help those plateaued ministries begin to grow again. Topics will include visioning,

imaging, re-visioning, networking, mobilizing women, connecting with the younger women and developing leaders and teams.  
*April 10-11, San Diego; Aug. 8-9, Ridgecrest, N.C.*

## Women's Leadership Forum

Connect with women's ministry leaders from across the country. Learn from women's ministry leaders – new and seasoned – in sharing ministry ideas and experiences.  
*Nov. 11-13, Nashville, Tenn.*

## Worship Leadership Conference

Relax with your family and staff in a beautiful setting. Discover exciting, new resources that will enhance your ministry. Participate in PraiSing '08 as the highly anticipated Worship Project is unveiled. Refresh your spirit and mind through breakout sessions led by experts in their field – children's and students' choirs, instrumentalists, accompanists, praise teams, media and technology. Worship services will be led by LifeWay Worship Director Mike Harland and Conference Pastor Wayne Barber.  
*June 2-6, Ridgecrest, N.C.; July 14-18, Glorieta, N.M.*



Worship Leadership Conference

## Women Reaching Women

This is the ultimate team training – regional women's ministry leadership training for women's ministry leaders and potential leaders. Topics include women's ministry basics, woman-to-woman mentoring, crisis ministry, renewal and refreshment for the leader, engaging the younger women, and at some locations, post abortion ministry.  
*May 1-2, Colorado Springs, Colo.; May 30-31, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Aug. 21-22, San Antonio.*

## You and Your Girl

Join author Vicki Courtney for a fun and informative weekend for moms and their 'tween and teen daughters. Moms will be encouraged and equipped by Courtney and Jackie Kendall.

Daughters will hear from a variety of break-out leaders on relevant issues that teach them to live their faith daily. Lindsey Kane and Bethany Dillon will lead in worship.

*April 19, Fredericksburg, Va.; Sept. 28, Spartanburg, S.C.; Oct. 24-25, Orlando, Fla.; Nov. 8, Lexington, Ky.*



You and Your Girl

**Link to more information about these conferences at [www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends).**

# Camps

## Centrifuge celebrates 30 years!

It's a fact: The Centrifuge family of camps is good for kids. They develop relationships, learn skills and increase their knowledge of God.

LifeWay offers hundreds of opportunities for your church to give its children and youth a truly life-changing experience this summer. Check out the possibilities!



### Centrifuge

Centrifuge celebrates its 30th year in 2008. While the size, format and locations have changed, one thing hasn't – Centrifuge continues to be a discipleship camp providing an environment for life change. Because we believe ministry takes place best in the context of relationships, the Centrifuge model is founded upon small group Bible study led by quality staffers. These staffers also provide team-building recreation, special interest track times and powerful worship. Through these elements, staffers invest in the lives of campers. As a student minister, you will be able to participate in camp without the pressure of planning and leading. Your church group will meet together in the evening to share and debrief the day and grow together as a student ministry.

*For dates and locations go to [www.lifeway.com/fuge](http://www.lifeway.com/fuge).*

### M-Fuge

M-Fuge combines elements of small group Bible study and worship with hands-on mission experiences in cities across the United States. Students and adults have the opportunity to choose between various ministry tracks including creative, social, children's, games and recreation, and painting, construction and yard work. In the evening, students enjoy quality worship, camp-wide fellowship and church group devotions.

*For dates and locations go to [www.lifeway.com/fuge](http://www.lifeway.com/fuge).*

### XFUGE

Like Centrifuge and M-Fuge, XFUGE is committed to small group Bible study and passionate worship. At the same time, XFUGE allows church groups to stay

*Fuge, Glorieta*

*LifeWay offers hundreds of opportunities for your church to give its children and youth a truly life-changing experience this summer. Many of these popular camps reach near capacity early. Give LifeWay's camp staff a call at (877) 226-7123 and check out all the possibilities.*



*XFUGE, San Diego*

together in Bible study (led by your own adult leaders) giving them the opportunity to develop deeper relationships with each other and build group unity. Add to that some of the best speakers and worship leaders around, afternoons to do whatever you want, and awesome nightlife activities, and you have a camp experience that can't be beat. Choose from four great locations and an unforgettable summer experience.

*For dates and locations go to [www.lifeway.com/fuge](http://www.lifeway.com/fuge).*

### **XFUGE on Mission**

XFUGE on Mission is a customized group mission trip within the XFUGE camp experience. This is an opportunity for church groups to take ownership of a mission project by working together and choosing the type of ministry in which they want to serve. Each church group partners with local organizations and ministries in the areas of children's ministry, social ministry and planning, construction and yard work ministry to create a unique mission experience.

*For dates and locations go to [www.lifeway.com/fuge](http://www.lifeway.com/fuge).*

### **Combo Camps**

At Fuge Combo Camp, church groups can choose from Centrifuge small group Bible study, XFUGE platform, and XFUGE on Mission as well as M-Fuge. Whatever combination you choose, an

unforgettable summer is in store for you.

*For dates and locations go to [www.lifeway.com/fuge](http://www.lifeway.com/fuge).*

### **Centri-Kid Camp**

Centri-Kid is home of high-energy worship, age-appropriate Bible study, highly trained and relational staff, and almost more fun than you can handle. We are thrilled to bring you another summer packed full of the things you've come to expect and love. We believe recreation and team building activities are a hands-on way for kids to learn more about God.

At Centri-Kid, we use recreation and track times to build on what the kids are learning in Bible study and during worship. We know kids take in information differently, and we want to reach kids during worship and at play. Adults are able to spend time with their kids as we take care of all the planning and logistics. For the first time in 30 years of Fuge camps, the kids are coming to town – Ridgecrest and Glorieta, that is! Meet us in the hills of North Carolina where Jeff Slaughter will be leading worship at Ridgecrest or make your way to Glorieta in the mountains of New

Mexico.

Centri-Kid is designed specifically for kids who have completed 3rd-6th grade. *For a complete list of dates and locations go to [www.lifeway.com/kidscamps](http://www.lifeway.com/kidscamps).*

### **Crosspoint Camp**

Crosspoint is where the desire to excel athletically and the message of Jesus Christ meet.

Being an athlete is not a requirement; in fact, Crosspoint works for students with varied levels of athletic ability.

In our culture, athletics often becomes the focus in kids' lives.

Help them center their attention on the Lord by bringing them to Crosspoint where they'll learn to combine excellence in sports with a relationship with Christ.

Make a fast break this summer to Crosspoint, the most exciting and fun Christian sports camp around!

Crosspoint is designed for 4th-8th graders.

*For dates and locations go to [www.lifeway.com/kidscamps](http://www.lifeway.com/kidscamps).*



**Link to more information about these conferences at [www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends).**

# “Well done...”

MATTHEW 25:21

Don't wait —  
start saving  
more for  
retirement  
today!

## Retirement contribution increases can reap benefits

Will you get a pay raise this year? Remember, that as your income increases — your retirement contribution needs to increase too. Financial planners suggest a retirement contribution should equal at least 10% to 15% of your salary. And the earlier you start making incremental increases to reach this goal, the more compounding will work for you.

**John makes \$30,000 a year. He decides to increase his retirement contribution by 1% or \$25 a month. If he does this from age 30 until 65, how much more will he add to his retirement account? What if he delays increasing his contribution 10, 20 or 30 years?**

Start at Age	Additional Monthly Contribution	Additional Accumulation at Age 65
30	\$25	\$53,909
40	\$25	\$22,871
50	\$25	\$8,494
60	\$25	\$1,835

*This hypothetical illustration assumes continuous monthly investments until age 65 with a single rate of return (8%) compounded over time. It does not predict the future performance of any investment fund.*

### Why not give yourself a raise?

If you participate in one of GuideStone's retirement plans, consider joining GuideStone's 1% Club and raise the potential amount of your future retirement income. Every year you will receive a reminder about the benefits of increasing your retirement contributions. Sign up for the 1% Club by enrolling online at [www.GuideStone.org/retirement/onepercent](http://www.GuideStone.org/retirement/onepercent) or calling 1-888-98-GUIDE (1-888-984-8433).



*Do well. Do right.™*

# Glorieta and Ridgecrest Summer Camps

There's nothing like camp to give a kid an unforgettable summer of fun, adventure and growth.

Expanding on the success of Ridgecrest summer camps near Asheville, N.C., which are running at nearly 100 percent occupancy, Glorieta Conference Center has announced plans to hold its first summer camps in 2008. Registration is now open.

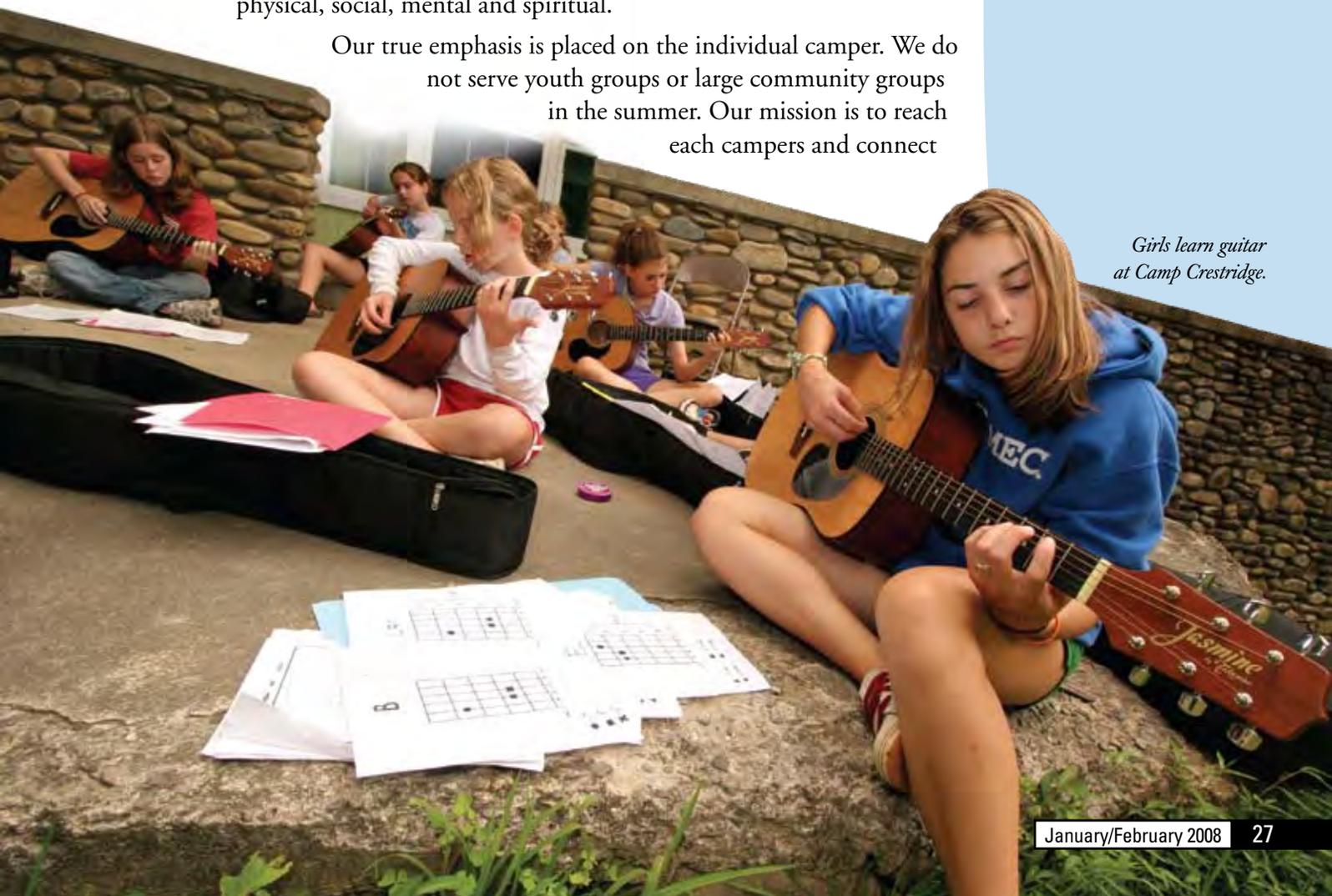
Glorieta and Ridgecrest Summer Camps each are made up of two separate camps, Camp Glorieta and Camp Ridgecrest for Boys and Camp Crestridge and Camp Glorieta for Girls. These exceptional facilities are LifeWay owned and operated.

The Rocky Mountains and the Blue Ridge Mountains boast many camps, and it's often hard to differentiate between the offerings of these various programs. So, what makes our camps unique?

Our camp philosophy is founded on the growth of the whole child – physical, social, mental and spiritual.

Our true emphasis is placed on the individual camper. We do not serve youth groups or large community groups in the summer. Our mission is to reach each campers and connect

*Girls learn guitar at Camp Crestridge.*





with him or her in a real way, providing a unique experience away from home.

This individual emphasis is seen through our relational ministry to campers. We hire staff members who have a desire to love kids as Christ loves them. Their charge is to reflect the character of Jesus so that campers not only hear about the Gospel, but see it lived out.

The strength of our camp comes from God being placed first in all that we do, a strong sense of tradition, a mindset focused on safety, and the development of an unbelievably fun environment. Camp is focused on individual attention and building one-on-one relationships. We pull these components together to deliver a camp experience unlike any other.

We offer a creative camp program with endless opportunities for fun and a chance to let kids be kids.

### **Programming**

Our focus is to develop boys and girls physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. We provide a camp program of excellence, honoring Christ in all that we do and having a great time while doing it. Our summer camp programs challenge campers

*Horseback riding is available at the camp locations.*

in many ways through relationships, activities and spiritual direction. A love for Jesus Christ and young people is our primary criteria for hiring our carefully selected staff. Our campers are on a journey, one that is pushing them towards achievement and a greater understanding of themselves. On this journey they are offered friendship, encouragement and the adventure of a lifetime.

### Spiritual emphasis

Our camps are founded on the teachings of Jesus Christ and our staff seeks to show the love, grace and truth of Him in all that they do. Kids can plainly see that actions speak louder than words. The lives of our staff are called to reflect God in such a way that the lives of their campers would be transformed.

We want all the campers who come through our gates to know that they are loved unconditionally. This is our desire because this is how God loves us. He loved us first and continues to love us despite all of our imperfections. We want our campers to know that God has created each of them as individuals, with different gifts and traits that only they possess. Above all, we want our campers to know that their staff are not the ones worthy of any praise, but God alone.

We do this in a variety of ways. Beyond the environment fostered here at camp, which nurtures growth in Christ, we have put in place many events and activities that help campers see Christ in a brand new way. Exciting campfires, enthusiastic morning watches, powerful worship, rich quiet times, and relational evening devotions all help strengthen our campers to be more in tune with Christ and their relationship with Him. These activities are designed with each specific age group in mind, geared to break through the clutter of our lives so that they can see the clarity of the gospel.

To learn more, visit the camps' Web site. You'll find the dates, prices and lists of activities and learn more about the camp philosophies. You'll even hear a testimonial or two from campers who just love camp! Go to [www.campglorieta.com/boys](http://www.campglorieta.com/boys), [www.campglorieta.com/girls](http://www.campglorieta.com/girls) and [www.ridgecrestcamps.com](http://www.ridgecrestcamps.com). ■



*Taking the plunge in the lake at Camp Ridgecrest.*

### Facts & Trends Online

- Listen to an Inside LifeWay podcast as Hal Hill, director of Glorieta Conference Center and LifeWay camps, talks about the summer 2008 launch of Camp Glorieta for Boys and Camp Glorieta for Girls at [www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends).

# Focus conference emphasizes students' spiritual development

by Chris Turner

**B**aptisms of Southern Baptist teenagers have been in steady decline for three decades, reaching an all-time low with slightly more than 80,000 12- to 17-year-olds baptized in 2006. It has been more than 20 years since Southern Baptist churches collectively baptized more than 100,000 teens in a year. The situation is cause for alarm, says one youth ministry expert.

"We've taken a hard look at ourselves and at youth ministry and have come up with a question that challenges our thinking and will shape the future of what we do," said Scott Stevens, director of student ministry at LifeWay. "And that question is this: As student ministry continues to mature, are we developing students, or student ministries?"

*"Teens are growing up in a world where there is an aftermarket for everything. eBay has taught them that."*

— Michael Wood, Teen Research Unlimited

About 100 student ministry workers wrestled with that question during LifeWay's Focus conference Sept. 11-13, 2007. The conference was designed to address the challenges student ministers face. Wondering whether the point of student ministry has been missed was a tough – but necessary – topic, Stevens said.



LifeWay is “on the front end of this as an organization,” he said, “But we think it’s time to put a laser-like focus back on the spiritual development of students. That’s what’s going to make a lasting impact. Not that all the fun things youth ministries do is bad; it’s just that teens need to be spiritually equipped when they leave our youth groups.”

The task of reversing some alarming trends is daunting, Stevens said. Two studies conducted by LifeWay Research this year reveal at least two significant challenges. In one study the majority of church-going teens, when asked, could not clearly define that faith in Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation. In the second study, 70 percent of 18-22 year

olds who regularly attended church during their teen years dropped out of church for at least a year and 35 percent of those have not returned. A link to both studies is available at [www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends).

LifeWay’s student ministry team also revealed a number of misperceptions adults have regarding today’s teenagers. According to information from the National Study of Youth & Religion as presented in LifeWay’s Transforming Student Ministry: Research Calling for Change:

- Rather than rebellious, the lives and faith of most teenagers closely reflect the lives, faith, culture and institutional settings of the adult world they inhabit.



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*“Not that all the fun things youth ministries do is bad; it’s just that teens need to be spiritually equipped when they leave youth groups.”*

*– Scott Stevens, LifeWay’s director of student ministry*

- The majority of teenagers raised in Christian homes are inarticulate about faith, its practices

and its meaning or place in their lives. They find it almost impossible to put basic beliefs into words.

- Teenagers are “functional deists.” They believe God exists, created the world and set life in motion – but the only time He becomes involved with them in a personal way is to make their lives happier or to solve some problem (aka, “Jesus in my pocket”).

- Church teenagers have not resisted the influence of those who want them to be politically correct and “tolerant” in all their religious conversations and in fact are incredibly well-trained in using “correct” language so they will not offend anyone in public. Away from church they cannot bring themselves to say that Jesus is the only way to God.

- There is strong evidence that many evangelical teenagers do not understand grace or the basics of salvation.

- It is not true that teenagers in the church are no different than teenagers out in the community and despite its weaknesses and lack of influence, religious practice does indeed make a significant difference across all standard measurable outcomes in adolescents’ lives.

“We believe we’ve lost focus on the spiritual development of students,” Stevens said. “We believe the solution to the problem is not in a better plan for student ministry but to find a biblical model for student spiritual development that functions within the context of the two main institutions God gave us – the home and the church. Luke 2:52, Matthew 22:37-39 and the Sermon on the Mount

provide us a biblical framework for just such a model.”

Stevens said the three areas of emphasis in the KNOWN Strategy for Student Spiritual Development are “Know,” “Own” and “Known.” The objective of Know is that students come to know Jesus, gain a clear understanding of the lordship of Christ and move toward a practice of spiritual disciplines. Own is coming to understand one’s identity in Christ through growth in Christian character and spiritual discernment, and Known encompasses living out one’s faith through relationships for the intentional purpose of influencing others in a spiritually positive way.

If it were possible to develop students apart from cultural influences it would be easier, but the reality is that today’s culture strongly influences a teen’s world, said Michael Wood of Teen Research Unlimited.

“Teens today Google their way through life,” Wood told the audience. “Things become obsolete very quickly. For a teen it is literally here today gone tomorrow or here today better tomorrow. Their world is constantly changing. They are growing up in a world where there is an aftermarket for everything. eBay has taught them that.”

Paul Turner, national student ministry leader for LifeWay, turned the focus from youth to youth workers as the place to begin having an impact in the lives of the teens in their charge, noting that leaders need to have a clear understanding of God’s grace.

“Do you live ... and take ownership of your faith?” Turner asked the youth ministers. “Christ came and gave us a new operating system but the problem comes when we try to do ministry and live the Christian life in our own strength through our own wills. We are still trying to run old programs on new operating systems. We think if we do more ‘ministry’ God is somehow going to love us more. That’s the wrong answer.” ■

Additional information on student resources and events can be found at [www.lifeway.com/students](http://www.lifeway.com/students) and more information on the KNOWN strategy can be found at [www.lifeway.com/studentstrategy](http://www.lifeway.com/studentstrategy).

2008

## LifeWay Marriage Events and Resources

Every marriage should have memories. Those wonderful moments that always bring a smile: The first kiss. A burnt meal. A special inside joke. But moments rarely flourish in minutes. They're secretly formed through hours, days, and years of dedication, communication, and education.

That's why LifeWay offers a variety of marriage enrichment materials and events to help you fill your relationship with memorable moments for many years to come.

[www.lifeway.com/marriage](http://www.lifeway.com/marriage)

LifeWay | Adults

# Festivals of Marriage



One of the best things you can do for your marriage is to get away from the daily details and simply celebrate your life together.

A Festivals of Marriage event is a three-day retreat where you and your spouse can finally find time for yourselves, plus: speakers who will encourage, inspire, and inform; workshops that will provide practical tips and advice; praise and worship to get closer to God; and a candlelight renewal of vows ceremony—a moment you will remember forever. And it's all for just \$129 per couple.\*

So, pick your favorite keynote speaker. Or select a location you've always wanted to visit. Or just fill the last remaining spot in your calendar. Regardless of which event you choose, it's always the best choice for your marriage.

# Lifeway

\* Does not include accommodations.

## Locations and Speakers

### May 2–4, 2008

LifeWay Christian Resources – Nashville, Tennessee

**Speakers:** David and Claudia Arp  
Founders, Marriage Alive International, Inc.

**Worship:** Denver & the Mile High Orchestra



### October 24–26, 2008

LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center – Ridgecrest, North Carolina

**Speakers:** Dale and Jena Forehand  
Founders, Stained Glass Ministries

**Worship:** Travis Cottrell



### October 3–5, 2008

LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center – Glorieta, New Mexico

**Speakers:** Rodney and Selma Wilson  
*HomeLife* editors and authors of *Extraordinary Marriage*

**Worship:** Clay Crosse



### November 7–9, 2008

Osage Beach, Missouri – Tan-Tar-A Resort

**Speakers:** Bill and Pam Farrel  
Co-directors, Masterful Living

**Worship:** Clay Crosse



### October 10–12, 2008

LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center – Ridgecrest, North Carolina

**Speakers:** Gary and Barb Rosberg  
Hosts of The Great Marriage Experience: 6 Secrets to a Lasting Love

**Worship:** Steve and Misti Wiggins



### November 14–16, 2008

Ocean City, Maryland – Clarion® Resort Fontainebleau Hotel

**Speakers:** David and Claudia Arp  
Founders, Marriage Alive International, Inc.

**Worship:** Steve and Misti Wiggins



### October 17–19, 2008

LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center – Ridgecrest, North Carolina

**Speakers:** Steve and Debbie Wilson  
Founders, Marriage Matters Now

**Worship:** Joel Engle



## Workshop Topics

Here's a brief sample of workshops available at many (but not all) FOM events:

- Anger/Resolving Conflict
- Balancing Work and Family
- Bible Study and Prayer as a Couple
- Blending Families (Joining Two Households)
- Communication
- Freedom from Busyness
- Ideas for Fellowship Fun
- Learning to Trust
- Living in an Anti-Christian Culture
- Living with Less
- Media: Monitoring What Influences Your Family
- Money Management
- Personality Differences
- Sexuality
- Spiritual Intimacy
- Stress Reduction
- The Family's Heart
- The Five Love Languages

## \$129 per couple

All three-day retreats begin on Friday at 1:00 p.m. and close at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Schedules are built to allow free time for couples to enjoy a Saturday date.

For more information and to register, visit [www.lifeway.com/marriage](http://www.lifeway.com/marriage).

## Toward A Growing Marriage



Saturdays. Between errands, home maintenance, and other must-do's, you may barely even see your spouse, much less spend any real quality time with him or her. So what about devoting a whole Saturday to your beloved?

Whether you're married or engaged, *Toward A Growing Marriage* is a Saturday event that will have lasting impact on your relationship. Professional counselor, pastor, and author Gary Chapman draws on more than 30 years' experience to share timeless wisdom and offer practical, biblical principles you can start applying that day...and for years to come. Take a Saturday to focus on your most important earthly relationship. See what a difference a day makes!

# LifeWay

## Dates and Locations

**February 8–9 \***

Ridgecrest, North Carolina  
LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center



**April 5, 2008**

Olive Branch, Mississippi  
Longview Heights Baptist Church

**April 26, 2008**

Garden City, Michigan (Detroit area)  
Merriman Road Baptist Church

**May 24, 2008**

Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
Grace Baptist Church

**June 28, 2008**

Moore, Oklahoma  
First Baptist Church

**July 19, 2008**

Los Angeles, California  
Bel Air Presbyterian Church

**July 26, 2008**

Bossier City, Louisiana  
Bellaire Baptist Church

**August 2, 2008**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
Florida Boulevard Baptist Church

**August 16, 2008**

Dothan, Alabama  
Ridgecrest Baptist Church

**August 23, 2008**

Vestavia Hills, Alabama (Birmingham area)  
Mountaintop Community Church

**September 13, 2008**

Franklin, Ohio  
Hillcrest Baptist Church

**September 20, 2008**

Bangor, Maine  
Bangor Baptist Church

## Conference Topics

- Communication 101
- Understanding and Expressing Love
- Initiating Positive Change
- Making Sex a Mutual Joy
- How to Share the Things that Bug You

\* **This one-time, two-day Toward A Growing Marriage event** is for married couples only. It includes the traditional Saturday conference preceded by Friday evening's entertainment by internationally acclaimed comedian and magician Stephen Bargatze, plus Denver & the Mile High Orchestra, a Christian "30's and 40's big band." Cost is only \$229 per couple and includes lodging, program fee, Friday night snacks, and Saturday breakfast and lunch. For this event only, bring 10 couples from your church and the 11<sup>th</sup> couple is FREE—a **\$229** value! Registration for this event can only be made online at [www.lifeway.com/ridgecrest](http://www.lifeway.com/ridgecrest) or by calling 800.588.7222.

## \$90 per couple

Each Saturday conference begins at 9:00 a.m. and concludes at 3:30 p.m. Lunch is available at each location for \$6 per person. Pre-purchase lunch when you register online. No lunches will be sold on-site the day of the conference.

## Gary Chapman

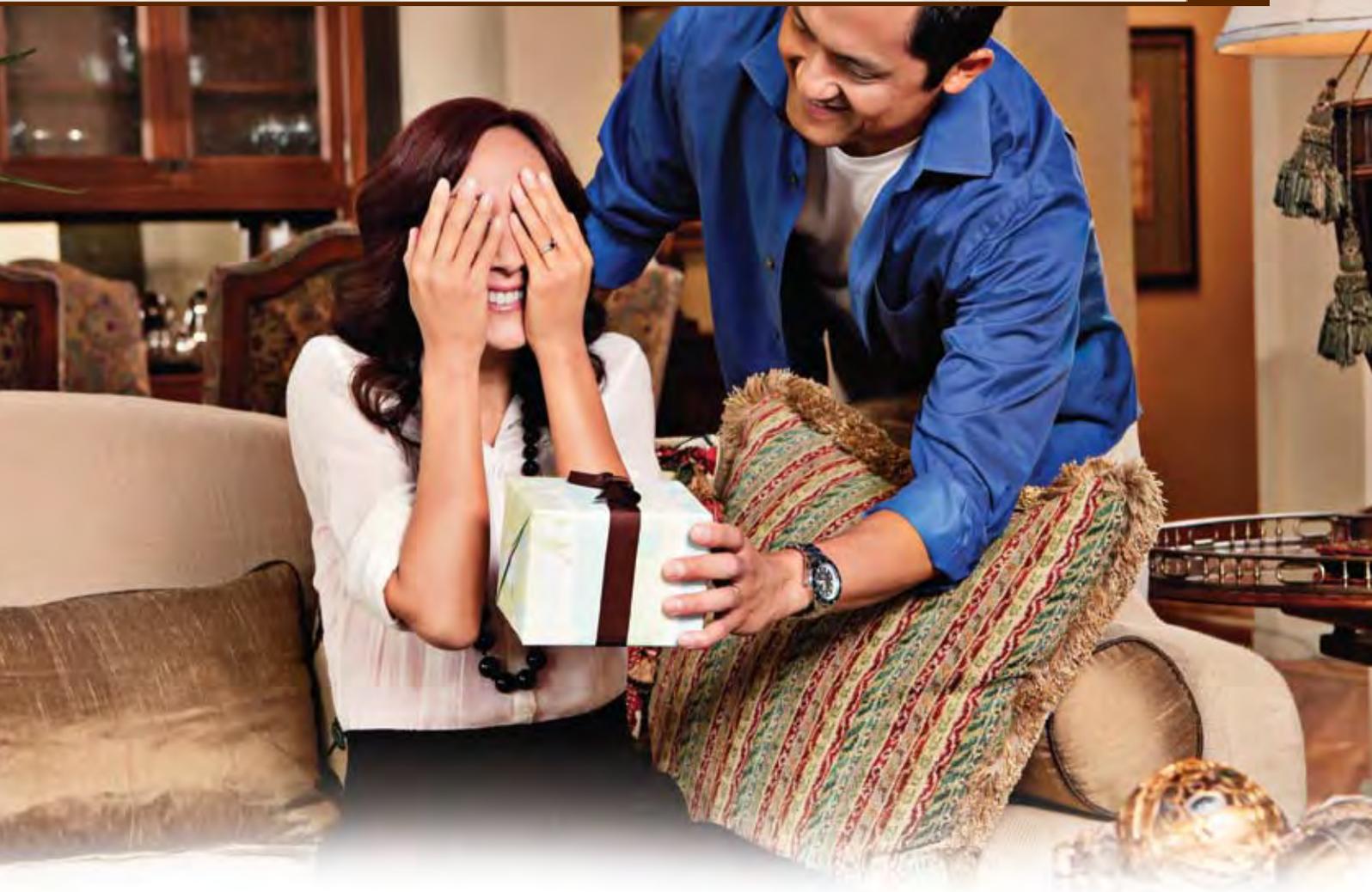
"Marriages either get better or get worse. They never stand still. Is yours going in the right direction? God wants to bless your marriage. And I really believe the lasting answers to marriage are found in the Bible. That's why I so strongly promote offering marriage enrichment within the church. You'll enjoy this conference. I promise you'll laugh and I sincerely believe you'll learn."

—Gary Chapman



**To register for any conference besides the Valentine event go to [www.lifeway.com/marriage](http://www.lifeway.com/marriage) or call 800.254.2022.**

# The Great Marriage Experience



Remember the look in your beloved's eyes the last time you did something to celebrate your marriage "on purpose"? Your gesture was appreciated so much because it involved one of your most precious commodities—time.

Occasions that benefit our marriages most usually do involve time. That's why you'll want to spend some of yours at The Great Marriage Experience. At this live Saturday event, Dr. Gary and Barb Rosberg will share 6 Secrets to a Lasting Love. You'll discover what it means to have a spiritual connection and a heart-to-heart connection so necessary in marriage. Celebrate your relationship "on purpose" with The Great Marriage Experience conference!

# LifeWay

## Dates and Locations

### April 19, 2008

Maple Grove, Minnesota  
Maple Grove Junior High School

### August 23, 2008

Tifton, Georgia  
First Baptist Church  
UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center

### September 13, 2008

Orlando, Florida  
Windermere Community Church

### September 27, 2008

Plano, Texas  
First Baptist Church

## Conference Topics

- Forgiving Love
- Serving Love
- Persevering Love
- Guarding Love
- Celebrating Love
- Renewing Love

## \$90 per couple

## The Great Marriage Experience Conference Series: 6 Secrets to a Lasting Love with Dr. Gary and Barb Rosberg

### Gary and Barb Rosberg

"Our goal is for couples to renew their vision of a healthy, biblical marriage and learn to live out God's practical principles in their everyday lives." –Gary and Barb Rosberg



## Conference Registration for All Events

For more information or to register for the LifeWay Marriage Events in this brochure, visit [www.lifeway.com/marriage](http://www.lifeway.com/marriage). Please note that online reservations must be made at least one week in advance of the event.

To register by phone for most LifeWay Marriage Events, call 800.254.2022. However, to register for a Festivals of Marriage event at Ridgecrest, call 800.588.7222, or at Glorieta, call 800.797.4222.

Event dates, locations, product prices, and availability are subject to change without notice. Please see our Web site for the cancellation and photography policy of each event.

# Marriage resources from LifeWay



## The 5 Sex Needs of Men and Women

by Gary and Barbara Rosberg

With great empathy and sensitivity, the Rosbergs use several key biblical truths to examine a crucial part of every marriage relationship. (12 sessions)

**Viewer Guide** 005112688 **\$4.95**

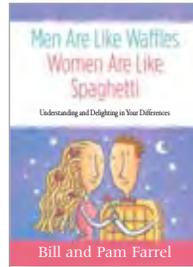
**DVD Volume 1** 005113634 **\$24.95**

**DVD Volume 2** 005113635 **\$24.95**

**DVD Volume 3** 005113636 **\$24.95**

**DVD Volume 4** 005113637 **\$24.95**

**DVD Set (set of 4)** 005093571 **\$79.95**



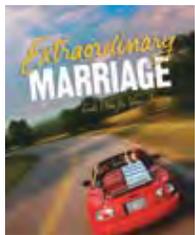
## Men Are Like Waffles, Women Are Like Spaghetti

by Bill and Pam Farrel

Bring out the best in each other. Discover the differences between you and your spouse and make them work for your relationship. (7 sessions)

**Member Book** 005035493 **\$12.95**

**Leader Kit** 005035127 **\$149.95**



## Extraordinary Marriage

God's Plan for Your Journey

by Rodney and Selma Wilson

This study will challenge you and your spouse to never again settle for an ordinary relationship. DVD includes seven, 7- to 10-minute video segments.

**Member Book** 001256628 - **\$9.95**

**DVD & CD-ROM** 001256629 - **\$74.95**



## The Five Love Languages, Revised

How to Express Heartfelt Commitment to Your Mate

by Gary Chapman

This revised and expanded study shows you simple and practical ways to communicate love to your spouse in a way they understand. (5-7 sessions)

**Member Book** 005085884 - **\$12.95**

**Leader Kit** 005035510 - **\$149.95**

To order any of these resources, call 800.458.2772, go to [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com), or visit the LifeWay Christian Store serving you.

## LifeWay Magazines

No matter what stage of life your marriage is in, you'll find a LifeWay magazine to help you make the most of it. These resources provide monthly encouragement and godly wisdom in the form of parenting advice, tools for spiritual growth, and inspiration for impacting your household, and the world, for Jesus Christ.



For a complete list of LifeWay magazines, visit [www.lifeway.com/magazines](http://www.lifeway.com/magazines). Order your subscription online or call 1.800.458.2772.

[www.lifeway.com/marriage](http://www.lifeway.com/marriage)

# Make Every Day Valentine's Day

## 25 ways to get you started

February is the month of cards, flowers and candies! Why not find new and creative ways to show your spouse you care? You don't have to save romance for Feb. 14 – make every day Valentine's Day.

Here are 25 ideas to get you started saying "I love you" all year long.

1. Take him breakfast in bed.
2. Leave notes of encouragement around the house or office where she'll find them throughout the day.
3. Help him do chores he dreads, such as yard work.
4. Tell her how much you appreciate her – often and in front of others.
5. Participate in one of his favorite things. Treat him to a hockey game or go golfing with him.
6. Create a special dinner with all of her favorite foods.
7. Kidnap him from work and take him to his favorite restaurant or to the park for a picnic.
8. Pray for her every day.
9. Take time to listen – really listen.
10. Create a small scrapbook of your favorite memories together. Include a photo or two from each occasion, and write a few sentences about what you remember.
11. Write 25 reasons you love your mate on separate slips of paper. Put them in a piñata, and let him break it open.
12. Each time you think of one criticism of your mate, offer four compliments instead.
13. Hold your wife's hand.
14. Leave a voice mail message that he'll get at work the next morning.
15. Budget for a weekend away at least twice a year.
16. Initiate a conversation about something other than the kids, work or schedules. When you feel tempted to complain, don't.
17. Take a ride together. Get in the car, put in some music that brings back good memories and talk.
18. Give her a manicure.
19. Have a warm towel ready when he gets out of the shower on a cold morning.
20. Create a personalized calendar for her. Write in date nights. Include encouraging notes on different days throughout the year.
21. Laugh together.
22. Play 20 questions. Learn new things about each other.
23. Tell him every day one reason you love him.
24. Have a hot bubble bath ready for her after a long day. Light candles and play her favorite music.
25. Do something new together – have fun making memories. ■

*This article is courtesy of HomeLife magazine. For information about HomeLife and other LifeWay family magazines, go to [www.lifeway.com/magazines](http://www.lifeway.com/magazines).*

### We recommend

- *Extraordinary Marriage* by Rodney and Selma Wilson
  - *I Love You More Workbook for Men* and *I Love You More Workbook for Women* by Leslie and Les Parrott
  - *The Four Seasons of Marriage* by Gary Chapman
  - *Making Love Last Forever Workbook* by Gary Chapman
- These and other resources are available through customer service at [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com) and (800) 458-2772 and from LifeWay Christian Stores at [www.lifewaystores.com](http://www.lifewaystores.com) and (800) 233-1123.

# LifeWay Christian Store

## *Oasis of truth* in Salt Lake City

*story by Chris Turner, photography by Russ Rankin*



The sunlight peeks over the Rockies and rushes across the valley floor until it strikes the golden statue of the angel Moroni, fixed high atop Salt Lake Temple's towering eastern spire. The brilliant light flashes off his trumpet, raised to the ready, waiting to herald the arrival of a kingdom yet to come.

Far beneath Moroni, employees of the 12-million-plus-member Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) scurry along flower-lined sidewalks to a tall, governmental-looking office building that houses the church's world headquarters. The efforts of more than 52,000 worldwide Mormon missionaries are directed from the heart of Salt Lake City, a city established in 1847 when Brigham Young led a caravan of followers from Missouri to the Utah Territory. The temple's site was established four days after his arrival, took 40 years to build and is an influential location in the lives of Mormons. The weight of Mormonism blankets this valley and its teachings shape the lives of a majority of Salt Lake City's residents.

But straight south almost 10 miles on State Street from Temple Square is an oasis whose

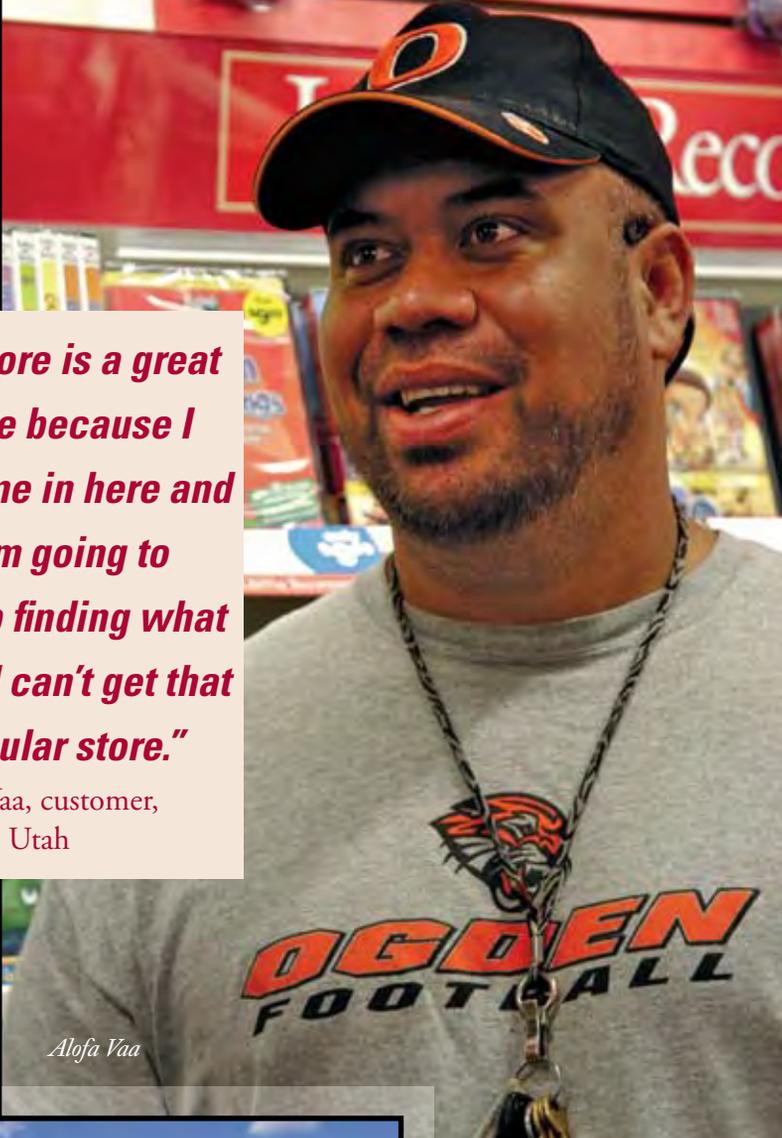
mission is to provide biblical resources that spiritually transform lives and cultures. The Salt Lake City LifeWay Christian Store is welcomed and much needed, says one area minister.

### Oasis of truth

"Given the dominance of the LDS church in this area this bookstore is an oasis of truth," said Dan Walker, director of missions for the Salt Lake Baptist Association. "There are a number of bookstores here, both secular and Mormon, but I know if one of our churches sends someone over [to the LifeWay store] looking for help with something they are not only going to find something based on the true gospel of Jesus Christ, they are going to be

***“This store is a great resource because I can come in here and know I’m going to get help finding what I need. I can’t get that at a secular store.”***

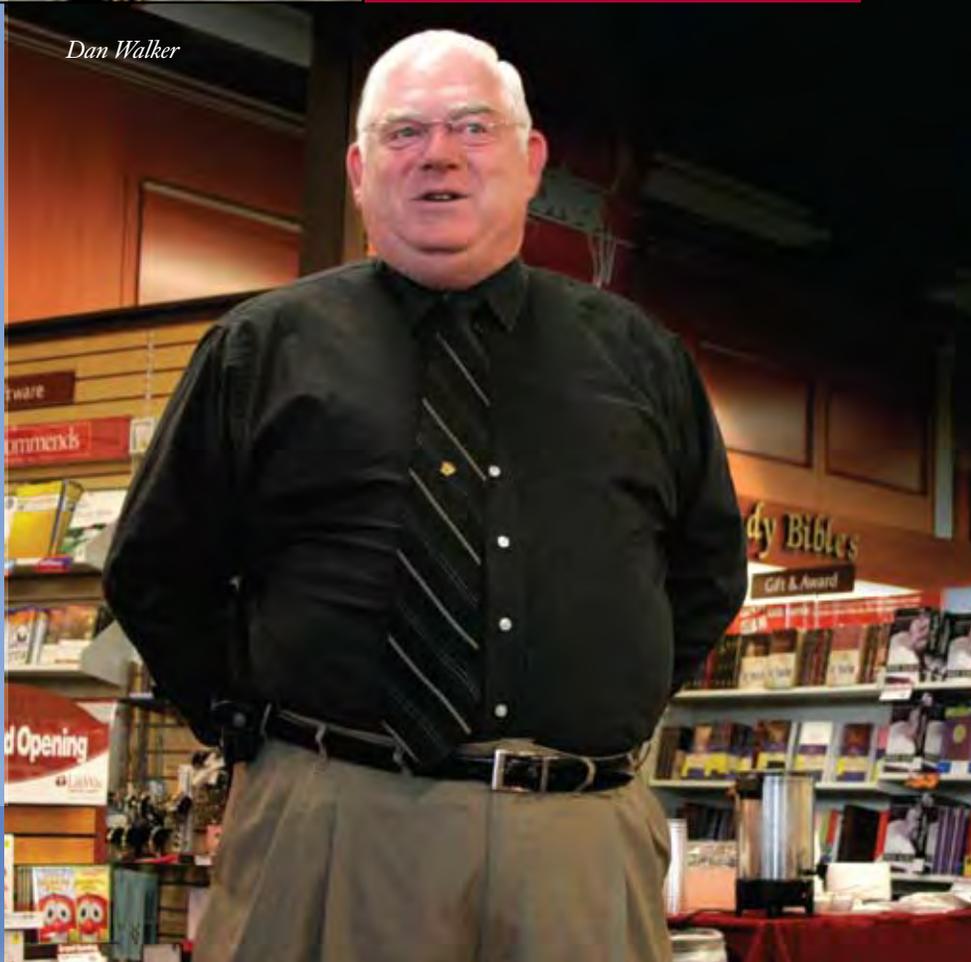
– Alofa Vaa, customer,  
Ogden, Utah



*Alofa Vaa*

***“There are 32 Southern Baptist churches in the Salt Lake Association; 29 of them have about 100 members or less.”***

– Dan Walker, director of missions,  
Salt Lake Baptist Association



*Dan Walker*



***“We realize how important our opportunity to minister to our customers is.”***

– LifeWay Christian Store  
manager Robert Romney

helped by someone who sees their job as a ministry.”

Store manager Robert Romney echoes Walker’s observation. Although Romney grew up in a Christian home, his parents were former Mormons. He very much sees the LifeWay Christian Store as an opportunity to support churches, minister to Christians and witness to the Mormons who do come into the store.

“We had a woman come in from Provo, which is heavily Mormon and a long drive from here,” Romney said. “She just burst into tears. When she was finally able to collect herself, she said it was such a relief to just be in a place where people loved Jesus. We have people drive all the way from Wyoming and Idaho just to shop at this store. They come from two to three hours away. We realize how important our opportunity to minister to our customers is.”

Walker said there are 32 Southern Baptist churches in the Salt Lake Baptist Association; 29 of them have about 100 members or less. He said the pressure and persecution these churches are under can be intense at times. To help them, the store stocks additional resources on world religions and especially Mormonism.

“We do have a larger section on Mormonism than other LifeWay stores do but that is because churches will come in looking for books to do training on how to witness to Mormons,” Romney said. “We see it as an opportunity to help equip the church to reach people for Christ.”

Walker said a challenge Christians face is how Mormons have tried to blur the distinction in doctrines – and with some success – between Mormonism and historical

Christianity. However, even a cursory examination of the two reveals significant differences.

Robert Bowman, an apologetics specialist with the North American Mission Board, writes in a summary on Mormonism found on NAMB’s Web site, “Mormonism is not faithfully or soundly Christian because it deviates from historic, biblical standards of orthodox Christianity. For example, Mormonism teaches that God the Father is an exalted Man, that Jesus, angels, and human beings were all the literal spirit offspring of our ‘heavenly Father and Mother,’ and that the ultimate goal of the Christian life is to become exalted to Godhood ourselves.”

Romney said his staff understands those differences and conventional witnessing approaches do not work with Mormons.

“When we have Mormons come into the store and we start talking with them, we know that we can’t use words like salvation, atonement and accepting Christ,” he said. “They use those same words and they have different meanings for them. We have to explain the gospel using different terms.”

David Pigg, director of western region store operations for LifeWay Christian Stores, said the approach of the Salt Lake City staff underscores one of LifeWay’s core values.

“Stores like this help us reach out to non-traditional markets where there are not a lot of Southern Baptists,” he said. “This is our mission field in a sense and we have a great opportunity to reach a lot of people for the Lord. That’s our goal. That’s really the heart of the staff here.” ■

### Facts & Trends Online

• For a slideshow on Salt Lake City and the LifeWay Christian Store’s ministry, and an additional feature on LifeWay Christian Store manager Robert Romney, go to [www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends).



# Comparing Christianity & Mormonism

compiled by Rob Phillips

## Jesus

What the Bible Says About Jesus:	What Mormonism Says About Jesus:
<p>1. He is the virgin-born Son of God, conceived by the Holy Ghost (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35).</p> <p>[Satan is a created – and fallen – angel].</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus “was born in the same personal, real and literal sense that any mortal son is born to a mortal father.” (<i>Bruce R. McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, pp. 547, 742</i>)</li> <li>• “Let it not be forgotten, that He is essentially greater than any and all others, by reason (1) of His seniority as the oldest or first born; (2) of His unique status in the flesh as the offspring of a mortal mother and of an immortal, or resurrected and glorified, Father ...” (<i>James E. Talmage, Articles of Faith, p. 426</i>)</li> <li>• “Lucifer – this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind.” (<i>Milton R. Hunter of the First Council of Seventy, The Gospel Through the Ages, p. 15</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>2. Jesus did not marry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Jesus was the bridegroom at the marriage of Cana – We say it was Jesus Christ who was married, to be brought into relation whereby he could see his seed.” (<i>Orson Hyde, apostle, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 2, p. 82</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>3. Jesus is the foundation of the true church (Matthew 16:18; Acts 4:11-12; Colossians 1:18).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joseph Smith: “I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him, but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet.” (<i>History of the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 408-9</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>4. Jesus is the judge of all (John 5:22).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “No man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith ... Every man and woman must have the certificate of Joseph Smith, Junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are.” (<i>Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, vol. 7, p. 289</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>5. Jesus is the one who resurrects all (John 5:28-29).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joseph Smith will receive the keys of the resurrection. “If we ask who will stand at the head of the resurrection in this last dispensation, the answer is – Joseph Smith, Junior, the Prophet of God. He is the man who will be resurrected and receive the keys of the resurrection, and he will seal this authority upon others, and they will hunt up their friends and resurrect them.” (<i>Brigham Young, Discourses of Brigham Young, p. 116</i>).</li> </ul>
<p>6. Jesus is the eternal Son of God, the Creator, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and Holy Spirit (John 1:1-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-13).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A “council of the Gods” created the world. “In the beginning, the head of the Gods called a council of the Gods; and they came together and concocted a plan to create the world and people it ... In all congregations when I have preached on the subject of the Deity, it has been the plurality of Gods.” (<i>Joseph Smith, History of the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 308, 474</i>).</li> </ul>

## *Holy Spirit*

<b>What the Bible Says About The Holy Spirit:</b>	<b>What Mormonism Says About The Holy Spirit:</b>
1. The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the triune Godhead (Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19-20).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joseph Smith taught that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit “constitute three distinct personages and three Gods.” <i>(Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 370)</i></li> </ul>
2. The Holy Spirit is co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Son (Acts 5:3-4).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Father has a body of flesh and bones. So does the Son. But the Holy Ghost is “a personage of spirit.” <i>(Doctrines and Covenants 130:22)</i></li> </ul>
3. The Holy Spirit and the Holy Ghost are two biblical names for the same person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Holy Ghost ... is a personage distinct from the Holy Spirit. As a personage, the Holy Ghost cannot any more than the Father and the Son be everywhere present in person.” <i>(John A. Widsoe, Evidences and Reconciliations, p. 76).</i></li> </ul>
4. The Holy Spirit/Holy Ghost is God (Acts 5:3-4).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Holy Ghost is yet a spiritual body and waiting to take to himself a body as the Saviour did or as the gods before them took bodies.” <i>(Joseph Smith, April 6, 1843; see Discourses on the Holy Ghost compiled by N.B. Lundwall, p. 73)</i></li> </ul>

“Jesus said,  
 ‘I am the way,  
 the truth, and the  
 life. No ones comes  
 to the Father except  
 through me.’”  
 ~ John 14:6



## *Gospel of Jesus Christ*

<b>What the Bible Says About The Gospel:</b>	<b>What Mormonism Says About The Gospel:</b>
<p>1. Christ's death at Calvary paid our sin debt and purchased our salvation so that everlasting life is received by grace through faith in the Person and work of Jesus (John 3:16, 5:24; Romans 4:4-5; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus' death, burial and resurrection made it possible for mankind to be resurrected, but "men will be punished for their own sins." (<i>Article of Faith #2 by Joseph Smith</i>).</li> <li>• Through the atonement of Christ "all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel." (<i>Article of Faith #3 by Joseph Smith</i>)</li> <li>• "There is no salvation outside The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." (<i>Bruce McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, p. 670</i>)</li> <li>• "Baptism ... is for the remission of sins ... (and) is the gate to the celestial kingdom of heaven." (<i>Bruce McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, p. 70</i>)</li> <li>• There is "no salvation without accepting Joseph Smith ... No man can eject that testimony without accepting most dreadful consequences, for he cannot enter the kingdom of God." (<i>Joseph Fielding Smith, Doctrines of Salvation, Vol. 1, p. 188</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>2. The Bible teaches that at death, man's eternal destiny is fixed in one of two places: heaven or hell (Luke 16:19-31).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtually all men are saved in "General Salvation ... meaning resurrection." (<i>Contributions of Joseph Smith by Stephen L. Richards, p. 5</i>)</li> <li>• Then, based on works, all men will spend eternity in one of three levels of heaven – telestial, terrestrial or celestial. A few "sons of perdition" will not be saved/resurrected.</li> </ul>
<p>3. All men are sinners by nature and by volition (Romans 3:23, 5:12; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no such thing as original sin. All men are gods in embryo. "God and man are of the same race, differing only in their degrees of advancement." (<i>Apostle John Widtsoe, Rational Theology, p. 61</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>4. There is no second chance for salvation after death (Hebrews 9:27).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mormons may be baptized on behalf of the dead for their salvation. "If a man cannot enter the kingdom of God without baptism, then the dead must be baptized." (<i>Joseph Fielding Smith, Doctrines of Salvation, Vol. II, p. 141</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>5. Once a person is justified, his or her salvation is eternally secure, based on the finished work of Christ at Calvary and the faithfulness of God (John 5:24, 10:27-30; Romans 4:21, 8:28-39; Hebrews 7:25, 10:14; 1 Peter 1:1-5).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Believers must do works to earn a level of heaven and risk losing their position in that heaven if they are not faithful in service. For example, failure to marry in an LDS church will "damn" persons so that their eternal progression will be stopped short of godhood. (<i>See Doctrine and Covenants 132:16-20</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>6. Each individual is a unique created person whose beginning came at the moment of conception; after death, that person retains his or her personhood and spends eternity in heaven or hell.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each individual has four stages of life (eternal progression):             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Eternally existing intelligence.</li> <li>2. Pre-mortal spirit born by procreation of God and one of his wives.</li> <li>3. Mortal probation (present life on earth).</li> <li>4. Post-mortal status that depends on works done in this life. Eternity is spent in one of three heavens: telestial (everyone makes it at least this far); terrestrial (good and religious folk make it here); and celestial (only Mormons who have fulfilled the requirements for godhood make it here).</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

# LifeWay VBS

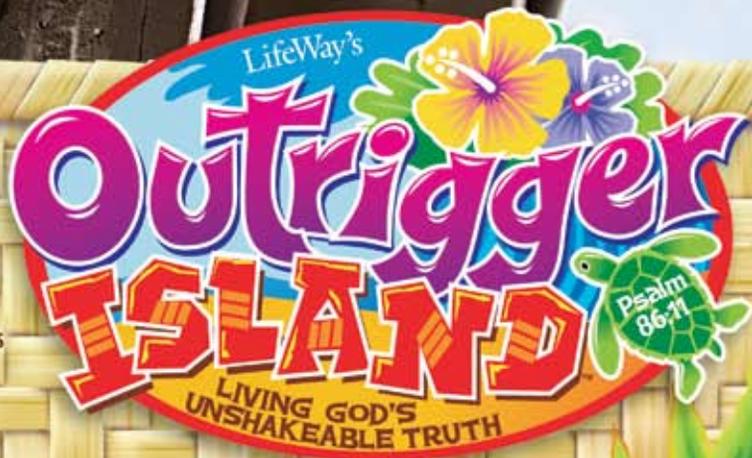


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LifeWay | Kids

# LifeWay's 2008 doctrine study explores *Baptist Faith & Message 2000*

by Kelly Davis Shrout

What does it mean to be made in God's image? What is the free agency of man? What do Baptists believe about the social order? These and other topics are explored in the 2008 Baptist doctrine study based on the 21 articles that form *The Baptist Faith & Message 2000*.

LifeWay published *Baptist Doctrine Study 2008: The Baptist Faith & Message* to provide an explanation of the foundational doctrines, or teachings, of the Baptist faith such as the doctrine of God, doctrine of man, doctrine of Christ, doctrine of the Holy Spirit and the doctrine of the church.

The study also incorporates historical and contemporary illustrations and provides guided applications. Participants in the six-session study learn to articulate the basic Baptist beliefs by learning Christian doctrine.

Three denominational leaders served as authors of the study: Chuck Kelley, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Richard Land, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission; and Albert Mohler, president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

## Scripture is divine revelation

The first section of the doctrine study examines the Word of God. The first article of *The Baptist Faith & Message* outlines the specific doctrines of the Bible and proclaims the Bible to be a "perfect treasure of divine instruction." The Bible is God's revelation

of Himself to mankind. The study explains that all Scripture is trustworthy and stands as a testimony to Christ, who is Himself "the focus of divine revelation."

The doctrinal study shows how the Bible is authoritative, infallible, inerrant, sufficient and eternal.

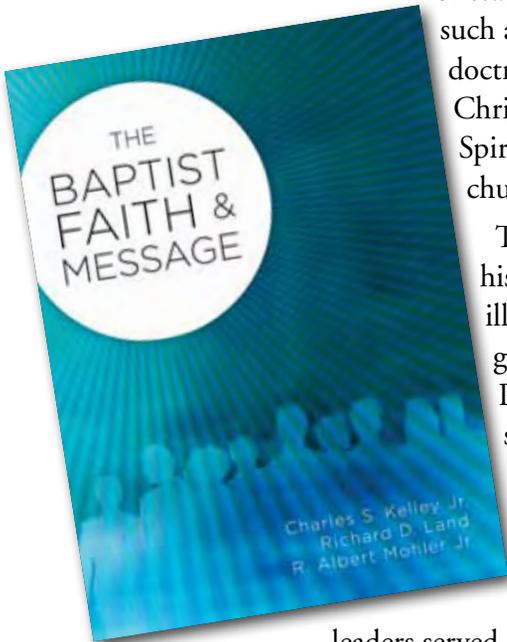
"*The Baptist Faith & Message* does not begin with the Scriptures by mere accident or custom," write the authors of the study, noting that all doctrines from the study are based on the Bible.

## God is infinite, holy

The second article in *The Baptist Faith & Message* outlines the doctrine of God, stating that there is only one living and true God, and describes God as "an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe."

*The Baptist Faith & Message* explains that God reveals Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with "distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being."

God is Triune and the doctrine of the Trinity stands as an essential principle of Christian truth. "Without this doctrine there is no true Christianity, for the Bible reveals that there is only one God and He is the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit," write the authors. "Biblical Christianity affirms one God in three persons."



## God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

The 2008 doctrinal study examines each aspect of the Trinity as mentioned in *The Baptist Faith & Message*.

“God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace,” states *The Baptist Faith & Message’s* article 2A. The doctrine study examines God’s providential hand as seen in His care and protection, His provision and His moral structure of the universe.

“God’s providence is seen in the unfolding purpose of God’s grace,” the authors write. “The record of history is a testimony to God’s purpose and providence.” The study describes the following attributes of God the Father: He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving and all wise.

God also reveals Himself through His Son, Jesus Christ.

“The full deity and full humanity of Christ are fundamental to true Christianity,” write the authors.

The doctrine study outlines the various aspects of Christ’s life, birth, death, resurrection, ascension, and return to teach participants how to confront false teachings with vigor and truth.

The authors also give explanations of terms such as “incarnation,” “atonement,” “propitiation” and “substitutionary.” Guided responses pose reflective questions such as, “Why do you believe in the resurrection of Christ?” Guided questions throughout the chapters add an applicable element to the study.

The Holy Spirit is described as the “Spirit of God, fully divine.” The Holy Spirit exalts Christ and convicts men of sin. Article 2C in *The Baptist Faith & Message* states, “At the moment

of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ.”

The authors outline the role of the Spirit in the creation of the Bible and explain how the Bible can simultaneously be the words of men and the Word of God.

“... [T]he Bible presents the process of inspiration – verbal plenary inspiration – as the Holy Spirit moving the human authors of Scripture to write exactly what He wanted them to write,” explain the authors. “At the same time, the words the human authors wrote were the very words they wanted to write. This is because the Holy Spirit works within believers to accomplish His sovereign purposes.”

The authors further teach that the ministry of the Spirit includes convicting of sin, calling unbelievers to salvation, bringing regeneration, illuminating truth and sealing believers’ salvation.

The section on the Holy Spirit provides a forum to look up specific references and write personal feedback on the lessons.

## Man, the image of God

The study points out that both male and female were created in God’s image as written in Genesis 1:27. When tempted, Adam and Eve disobeyed God and fell from innocence into sin. Once Adam sinned, state the authors, all humanity came under the condemnation of sin.

LifeWay publishes a Baptist Doctrine Study for adults every year. The Southern Baptist Convention designates a week in April as the Baptist Doctrine Study week on the denominational calendar. This year’s week is April 13-17. Churches, of course, may conduct the study any time they choose. It can also be studied individually.

*Baptist Doctrine Study 2008: The Baptist Faith & Message* is available through customer service at [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com) and (800) 458-2772 and from LifeWay Christian Stores at [www.lifewaystores.com](http://www.lifewaystores.com) and (800) 233-1123.

“Only God’s plan of redemption allows us to have fellowship with God,” they write. “By God’s grace, demonstrated and made ours in Christ, we are restored to fellowship with God and are able to fulfill the purpose for which we were made.”

The doctrine of salvation, God’s purpose of grace, and the church are also explored in the doctrine study. In the section on the church, the authors define the structure of the church and explain key terms like “bishop,” “elder,” “pastor” and “deacon.”

The authors of the study also write on baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Believers’ baptism by immersion in water pictures the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, providing “a beautiful picture of our salvation and reminding us of His saving

work,” write the authors.

Like baptism, the Lord’s Supper is symbolic. “Baptists believe the Lord’s Supper is not a sacrament but an ordinance,” write the authors. The elements of the Lord’s Supper symbolize Christ’s atoning work and are observed as a congregation.

The doctrine study also addresses other aspects of *The Baptist Faith & Message* such as the Lord’s Day, the Kingdom, last things (eschatology), evangelism and missions education and stewardship.

The study ends with chapters on cooperation, the Christian and the social order, peace and war, religious liberty and the family. ■

## Does It Matter Whether Your Bible’s English Is Up-to-Date?

For the 21st century Bible reader, it matters plenty.

Over 1.3 billion people now speak or read in English, which has brought about rapid changes in the language. Some grammar, vocabulary, and rules of punctuation that would have been commonly accepted just a few decades ago are now either obscure or obsolete, leaving readers of less up-to-date translations guessing at their meaning.

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# Civics 101 - Churches have rights

by Steven Lewis

If you are like most people, you probably haven't looked at the U.S. Constitution since high school civics class. What about the Bill of Rights? What about the First Amendment?



Do your church leaders know about the religious freedoms and rights of churches under the First Amendment? Survey your paid and volunteer leaders and ask:

- Can you quote the First Amendment?
- What rights does the First Amendment give the church?
- Do you know that church leaders can waive those rights through well-intentioned decisions made in ignorance?

Most church leaders don't know. Surprisingly, most judges and attorneys don't know either.

America's Founding Fathers granted churches incredible rights under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Knowing how these rights apply is critical.

## The First Amendment reads:

### Amendment 1 -

#### Freedom of Religion, Press, Expression

**“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”**

Collective ignorance of the First Amendment by all sides can waste a great deal of money and time and expose churches to damages that could have been avoided if the church had properly protected and asserted its First Amendment rights. Upon

proper pleadings filed for a church by the church's attorney, most courts will immediately dismiss a lawsuit on the grounds that the First Amendment precludes their consideration of the claim.

## Rights may be relinquished in ignorance

It is critical for church leaders to understand that decisions made in ignorance may put a church's First Amendment rights in jeopardy.

The First Amendment protects the religious freedoms of churches, but it does not protect churches from its leaders' waiving of those rights. Uninformed decisions and poorly drafted documents can create legal causes of action that otherwise would not exist. Seek out a knowledgeable attorney's counsel.

Create a committee and purchase some resources to ensure your church functions with an understanding of these issues. Immediately begin a thorough, careful process of reviewing and improving the language in your church bylaws, personnel policies, operating policies, agreements, releases, authorizations and other documents. Review the terms of your insurance policies. Act now, before your church finds itself in the

### Editor's note:

The content of this article is for general, informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute advertising, invite an attorney-client relationship or serve as a source for legal advice. Neither you nor your church should rely upon any information contained in the article for any purpose without seeking legal counsel from a duly licensed attorney competent to practice law in your jurisdiction.

This article is derived from a resource manual Steven Lewis has written for churches to help them operate with excellence. After earning his masters of business administration and law degrees from the University of Oklahoma in 1984, Lewis was called to the ministry to serve as an attorney for churches. As president of Church Excellence, Inc. ([www.churchexcellence.org](http://www.churchexcellence.org)), a ministry designed to help churches achieve excellence in their core ministerial practices, he has studied church ministerial practices and written about and led conferences on church legal leadership issues for the last two decades. He and his wife, Kim, are the parents of three children and members of Henderson Hills Baptist Church in Edmond, Okla.

middle of a crisis that could easily have been avoided.

## Selection, termination of ministers, employees

Generally churches are protected in their right to refuse to hire a non-Christian. Churches usually can require an employee to be a member of the church and to agree to live in accordance with a Christian lifestyle agreement.

Specifically in regard to a ministerial staff member or other employee whose position includes spiritual religious functions, a church's decision to terminate usually is not reviewable by a court. Courts literally are precluded by the First Amendment from considering whether a church may have wrongfully terminated an employee with religious functions.

However, if a church isn't careful, it may create rights in ignorance that can serve as a basis for a lawsuit not preventable under the First Amendment. Courts in different jurisdictions have different opinions about whether a church can waive its First Amendment rights by agreeing to do certain things under the provisions of the church's bylaws, personnel policies, operating policies or agreements.

Some courts say they won't consider violations of such documents or agreements, but other courts appear to be more than happy to make a church keep its promises. Some courts have conducted trials to determine who are the members, who is eligible to vote, whether the bylaws or policies were violated, and, if so, what damages can be awarded to a plaintiff employee.

Judges can review church leaders' decisions to adopt improper language or neglect to include protective language in their ministerial

operating documents. The results of this review can determine whether a judge dismisses a case or allows a trial to occur.

The same issues apply to church discipline of members. The provisions in a church's documents may be the key factor in whether or not a court allows a disciplined former member to sue the church for defamation or violation of privacy rights. Courts are split on this issue as well.

The best practice is to include language in the church's governing documents that allow it to complete a disciplinary action and that acknowledges the church's right to properly communicate details of the disciplinary matter to its members as scripturally necessary. One court held that a defendant church had to prove that its former member had knowingly waived her right to withdraw from the church's discipline and had knowingly consented to the church communicating disciplinary matters to its members. When the church couldn't meet the court's requirements, the former member was authorized to ask a jury for damages for defamation for all communications occurring after she withdrew as a member and told the church to leave her alone.

## Be forewarned

Before your church hires an attorney, make certain he or she understands the First Amendment. Most attorneys don't have experience with First Amendment church issues. Ask the attorney upfront about his understanding of how the First Amendment applies to church freedoms from judicial intervention because critical decisions have to be made in the first few days after a lawsuit is filed. Attorneys will charge your church for their time invested in researching your rights – a legitimate expense – but you don't want to pay unnecessary fees for their education. ■

# CONNECT Conferences

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the Lines

Are you concerned about the ever-growing number of young adults disconnected from God and the Church? Join us for a unique gathering designed to untangle the communication lines between the Church and a generation of young adults.

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Orlando, Florida	Thursday–Friday, September 18–19
Tulsa, Oklahoma	Thursday–Friday, September 25–26

Dates and locations subject to change without notice.

For full details, or to register, visit [threadsmedia.com/events](http://threadsmedia.com/events) or call 1.800.254.2022.

threads  
by LifeWay

# Marriages strengthened, equipped at Festival of Marriage

*story by Jerry Higgins, photography by Gibbs Frazier*

**T**here are myriad reasons couples attend LifeWay's Festival of Marriage weekend retreats.

Some are looking for creative suggestions on how to spice up their marriage. Some look for reinforcement, while others are going through great difficulties and need spiritual and emotional support to keep the union together.

And some, like Eugene and Irene Luckadoo of Polkville, N.C., never knew about it but came on a suggestion from a church staffer. Unlike the majority of the 900 people who attended the Oct. 19-21 session at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center, there isn't much the Luckadoos haven't faced in their marriage, including serious medical issues. Fifty-four years of marriage will do that to a couple.

“Our youth director [Dale Byrd at Polkville Baptist Church] told us, ‘You have to go,’” Irene said. “I told him that was for young people and we’re old people. But, for older people, this has been a blessing. Every one of the teachers was wonderful. Old people need to hear this and this helped bring us together especially after what we went through last year. I just love him that much more.”

Eugene was told by two doctors last year that he would not survive a quadruple bypass, but he did. He said the Festival of Marriage helped reinforce how God has worked in his family’s life and how he is lucky to have married Irene.

“I was a Christian and she was a Christian girl, and this was the girl that God brought to me [in their late teens],” Eugene said. “We dated for three years before we married at 21 and 22. We experienced all the stuff they talked about here. This was great.”

### Marriage is about God

Now in its 28th year, the Festivals of Marriage provide couples a chance to attend biblically-based “hot topic” workshops on communication, raising children in a Christian home, resolving conflict and how to have a better sex life.

At Ridgecrest, featured speakers Gary and Barb Rosberg, hosts of a daily radio program and authors of numerous marriage and family resources, “coached” the group on ways to improve their marriages, with the emphasis on bringing God into the marriage.

The Rosbergs spoke about the love needs of marriage based on interviews with 700 couples and how similar/different the needs are between men and women. They spoke about how sex was a creation of God to be enjoyed within the confines of “the marriage bed” and the importance of bringing God into the bedroom. They also spoke about how true forgiveness can be achieved to strengthen a marriage and conducted a “renewal of the covenant of marriage” ceremony.

*Lee and Blair Peeples,  
Winston, Ga., renew their vows  
to each other during the  
candlelight ceremony at the  
Fall Festival of Marriage.*



*Right: Barb Rosberg illustrates a point during the evening session.*

*Below: Paul and Terri Micale from Florence, S.C.*



Gary Rosberg said that the No. 1 love need for couples is unconditional love, adding that when couples reach a crisis point, they can either put the relationship over the issue or put the issue over the relationship. The relationship is “not negotiable,” he said.

“Marriage is not about you,” he said. “It’s about Who provided it for you. Marriage is hard. We all bleed and hurt. If you know Christ, the Holy Spirit is in you.”

In their research for their latest book, *The 5 Sex Needs of Men & Women*, the Rosbergs found the No. 1 need for women is affirmation and the top male need is mutual satisfaction.

“Women long for attention,” Barb Rosberg said. “Hebrews 13:4 says, ‘Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled.’ Men, how you treat your wife ... will determine how (your marriage) will go.”

The Rosbergs said forgiveness is the top foundation to a great marriage. When there is conflict, a number of emotional responses that occur – some good, some bad. Once people get past the early stages (offense, hurt and



*Right: Allan and Pat Gates speak during the workshop “Busy Life! How’s Your Marriage?”*

anger), in order to close the “loop” of the conflict, there must be proper heart preparation and sincere communication for healing.

“God can bring out the old wounds and heal them,” Barb Rosberg said. “You have old issues you never dealt with. Remember that a woman is not a man and a man is not a woman. Connect with the emotions.”

Beginning last November, LifeWay became the sponsor of the Rosbergs’ daily radio broadcast “Dr. Gary and Barb Rosberg – Your Marriage Coaches,” a 30-minute call-in program broadcast in 48 markets across the country and on the Internet at [www.drgaryandbarb.com](http://www.drgaryandbarb.com). “It’s kind of Dr. Laura (Schlessinger) with grace,” Gary Rosberg said.

### Combating real-life issues

Scott and Angela Hunter started a family ministry at Sandy Ridge Baptist Church in Hickory, N.C., in 2005 after attending the FOM retreat for several years. They have three girls – one from Scott’s first marriage – and they attended the Festival of Marriage after Scott had an extramarital affair, Angela Hunter said.

**“Marriage is not about you. It’s about Who provided it for you.”**

– Gary Rosberg

This year, the Hunters were workshop instructors, teaching classes on conflict and communication. They said they find the Festival of Marriage “life changing” and are happy to contribute to the teaching.

“Just because you come here or go to marriage counseling doesn’t mean you are weak,” Scott Hunter said. “This gives you the ability to have a great marriage. This retreat has been a Godsend to us. This has strengthened the bond in our marriage.”

Mark Satterfield, LifeWay’s FOM event coordinator, said 30 people received Christ during the three weeks of retreats. He credits people like the Hunters for showing couples that God works when you surrender.

“They came one weekend where it was a make-or-break point of their marriage,” Satterfield said. “They received hope. They were able to receive a spark in their marriage and the next thing you know they started bringing couples to the conference because of the transformation that took place in their marriage. Now the Hunters teach for us and share their testimony. They’re real and they’re authentic.

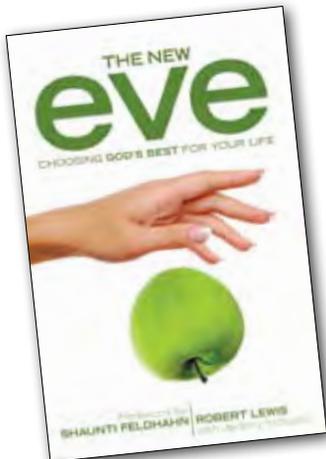
“That’s what couples want to come and hear,” Satterfield said. “They want to hear about people’s failures and their successes and how can they use that in their own marriage. There are a lot of Scott and Angela Hunters in this room. People can bring that back to their church and have an influence on other couples.” ■

#### Facts & Trends Online

- View a slideshow from the Festival of Marriage event and read an interview with the Rosbergs at [www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends](http://www.lifeway.com/factsandtrends).

# Resources

for you from LifeWay



## Broadman & Holman

### ■ *The New Eve*

by Robert Lewis with Jeremy Howard,  
foreword by Shaunti Feldhahn

*The New Eve* is a stirring counterpart to Lewis' teachings on authentic biblical manhood, defining Christian womanhood in the context of the modern world. He says, "Many women lack a clear, compelling, biblical vision for what it means to be a Christian woman living in the 21st century. *The New Eve* sets forth and expounds upon five bold moves for today's discerning woman: live from the inside out, adopt a biblical definition of womanhood, embrace a big-picture perspective on life, live with the end in mind and use wisdom with a man. Releases Feb. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4687-6,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4687-7. Hardback. \$19.99

### ■ *The Promise: How God Works All Things Together for Good*

by Robert J. Morgan

In *The Promise*, best-selling author Robert J. Morgan reveals the remarkable power of a single Bible verse – Romans 8:28 ("We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God ...") that will give readers an unshakable basis for confidence and joy.

Filled with real-life illustrations of triumph over tragedy, *The Promise* not only empowers us to deal effectively with everyday stress and strain, but also offers solid assurance to anyone facing serious trouble. Releases Feb. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4683-8,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4683-4. Hardback. \$19.99

### ■ *Lola Mazola's Happyland Adventure: My John 3:16 Book*

by Robert J. Morgan, illustrations by Glin Dibley

No ordinary children's book, *Lola Mazola's Happyland Adventure* gives parents a very special do-it-yourself way of leading kids to

Christ through the doorway of John 3:16. The adorable title character learns the meaning and truth of John 3:16 in relation to her desperate desire to visit the Happyland theme park. After the story, a suggested prayer guides children to receive Christ's promise of salvation and everlasting life, while Lola invites them to sign and date a commemorative certificate, cementing this special moment in their memories. Best-selling author Robert J. Morgan has told this story to children for years and personally witnessed hundreds of them in turn express faith in Jesus. Releases Feb. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4633-3,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4633-8. Hardback. \$9.99

### ■ *Better Love Now! Making Your Marriage a Lifelong Love Affair*

by Tommy Nelson with David Delk

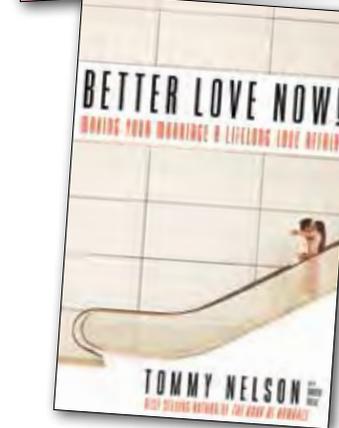
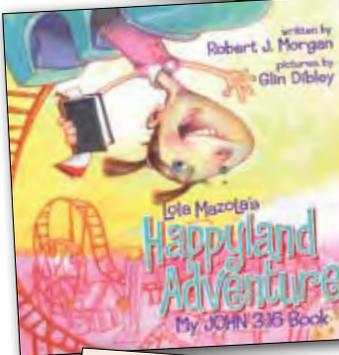
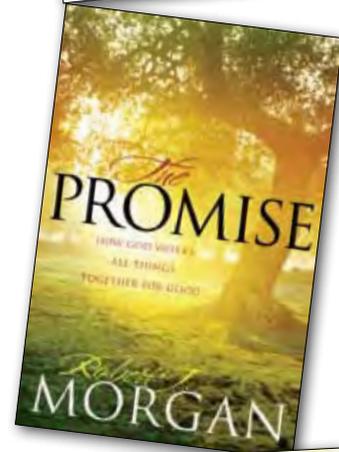
"Something is wrong with our culture's understanding of marriage," says best-selling author and Bible teacher Tommy Nelson. In *Better Love Now!* Nelson mends that understanding, comparing the essential but too often ignored elements of matrimony to fence posts. With wisdom, humor and frankness, he clearly expounds on the areas that keep a marriage standing strong: priorities, communication, your life together, family life, respect and sex. Best of all, Nelson mixes scientific and psychological insight with biblical assuredness, exciting readers about the improving state of their sacred union. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4072-0,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4072-0. Hardback. \$19.99

### ■ *Role of a Lifetime: Your Part in God's Story*

by Lucinda Secrest McDowell

In *Role of a Lifetime*, Lucinda Secrest McDowell helps readers better understand their unique part and important purpose in the greater story of God's Kingdom. Indeed, each life is cast into an ongoing adventure, but too often we play it safe,



assuming ourselves to be minor characters. McDowell storyboards a pathway toward passion and significance, a life marked by radical faith and an ever-deepening relationship with God that will make a difference in our own lives and the lives of others. Questions and journal space following each chapter encourage further introspection or group discussion. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4662-3,

ISBN-10: 0-8054-4662-1. Paperback. \$12.99

■ ***Spiritual Outdoor Adventures: The Pursuit of Faith***

by Jimmy Sites

This unique resource for Christian outdoor enthusiasts looks, feels and reads like a popular hunting magazine packed with helpful field tips, exciting articles and stories, spiritual insights and interesting advertisements from outdoor suppliers like Bass Pro Shops and Mathews Bows. *The Pursuit of Faith* “bookazine” stands alone but can also be used as a small group member book in relation to the *Spiritual Outdoor Adventures Resource Kit* that includes spiritually engaging lessons such as “Bravehearts,” “Scouting for Success” and “A Look at Life from the Deer Stand.” Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4641-8,

ISBN-10: 0-8054-4641-9. Paperback. \$9.99

■ ***Spiritual Outdoor Adventures Resource Kit***

by Jimmy Sites

An all-in-one guide for churches, men’s groups and outdoor ministries, the *Spiritual Outdoor Adventures Resource Kit* gathers two DVDs and one leader’s guide CD-ROM packed with dynamic, exciting and inspiring content.

Each disc features three episodes of *Spiritual Outdoor Adventures*. Both discs include 17-minute nature music videos for assembling or ministry time; Christian testimony from missionary Steve Saint and Mincaye, the Wadani tribesman

from Ecuador who killed Saint’s father; prayer for salvation; and other helpful and educational resources. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4638-8,

ISBN-10: 0-8054-4638-9.

2 DVDs and 1 CD-ROM

(leader’s guide) in double disc amorage case. \$49.99

■ ***Spiritual Outdoor Adventures: A Day with Knight and Hale***

by Jimmy Sites

For the Christian outdoors enthusiast, this DVD features three episodes of Jimmy Sites’s popular *Spiritual Outdoor Adventures* television show (“A Day with Knight and Hale,” “First Toms” and “Crazy Quail and Pheasant on the Wing”). Special guests include the owners of Knight and Hale Game Calls on their Kentucky farm, Tennessee Titans football head coach Jeff Fisher, and Site’s wife and son on their first turkey hunt. In the title episode, Sites bags a nice longbeard, as well as valuable insights from legendary hunters Harold Knight and David Hale. “Crazy Quail and Pheasant” includes a trip to a minor league ballpark where Sites and friends give away 4,000 outdoorsman Bibles – a controversial event covered by ESPN. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4644-9,

ISBN-10: 0-8054-4644-3. \$9.99

■ ***Spiritual Outdoor Adventures: A Look at Life from a Deer Stand***

by Jimmy Sites

This DVD features three episodes of Jimmy Sites’s popular *Spiritual Outdoor Adventures* television show (“A Look at Life from the Deer Stand,” “Bruiser Bucks of the Texas Hill Country” and “Never Give Up”). Special guests include author Steve Chapman at Legends Ranch in Michigan, C’Mere Deer developer Ivan Hawthorn in the hill country of south Texas, and a father/son group in Saskatchewan’s Boreal Forest. In “A Look at Life from a Deer Stand,” Chapman’s insights into the Christian life are as solid



# Resources

for you from LifeWay

as his bow hunting skills. “Bruiser Bucks” includes a discussion about God’s trophy room. “Never Give Up” shows how God sees us through all things, in the end. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4643-2,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4643-5. \$9.99

■ ***Spiritual Outdoor Adventures: Brave Hearts***

by Jimmy Sites

This DVD features three episodes of Jimmy Sites’s popular Spiritual Outdoor Adventures television show (“Bravehearts,” “Crafty Cats” and “Wild Boar Mania”). Highlights include a specially filmed Old-West styled encounter with a herd bull at four yards, the chase for a seven-foot-long

mountain lion in New Mexico, and the approaching of a 500-pound Russian boar. In “Bravehearts,” Sites hunts alongside Chase, a 20-year-old who is fighting cancer, and reminds viewers how to face the struggles of life with a brave heart. “Crafty Cats” includes coverage of an SOA Men’s Day in Georgia, showcasing the outreach’s emphasis on helping others become better citizens and outdoors people. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4637-1,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4637-0. \$9.99

■ ***Spiritual Outdoor Adventures: C’Mere Deer Whitetail Camp***

by Jimmy Sites

For the Christian outdoors enthusiast, this DVD features

three episodes of Jimmy Sites’s popular Spiritual Outdoor Adventures television show (“C’Mere Deer Whitetail Camp,” “Bear Essentials,” and “Trophy of a Lifetime”). Special guests include C’Mere Deer developer Ivan Hawthorn field testing his company’s liquid and power deer attractants; Sites’s father, Carroll Sites, joining him for a sub-zero temperature buck hunt; and a 6 x 6 bull Jimmy encounters in the beautiful mountains of New Mexico. In “Bear Essentials” fathers are given a chance to share the most important aspects of life with their sons. “Trophy of a Lifetime” reminds viewers how important it is to spend time with their kids in

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LifeWay Kids

the outdoors, no matter what age they may be. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4642-5,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4642-7. \$9.99

■ ***Spiritual Outdoor Adventures: Talk the Talk with the Duck Man***

by Jimmy Sites

This DVD features three episodes of Jimmy Sites's popular Spiritual Outdoor Adventures television show ("Talk the Talk with the Duck Man," "Hevi on the Snows" and "One More Day"). Special guests include famous duck hunter Phil Robertson in the swamps of Louisiana, world champion goose caller James Prince on the Katy Prairie in Texas, and Diamond Rio lead singer Marty Roe trout fishing on the Little Red River in the Ozarks of Arkansas. In "Talk the Talk with the Duck Man," master duck hunter Robertson tells us about the Master of his life. "Hevi on the Snows" finds spiritual analogies in how geese work together and the Bible's clear teaching about how we must also work together. "One More Day" is an SOA classic, discussing the implications of having only one more day on earth. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4640-1,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4640-0. \$9.99

■ ***Spiritual Outdoor Adventures: The Brahma Buck***

by Jimmy Sites

This DVD features three episodes of Jimmy Sites's popular Spiritual Outdoor Adventures television show ("The Brahma Buck," "Prairie Pronghorns" and "Scouting for Success"). Highlights include two bucks in a fight to the death, World Strong Man competition runner-up Jason Patterson's awesome rifle shot, Sites's survival skills kicking in when he and his crew are stranded for three days in the Alaskan wilderness. Armed with only a bow, a tent and a can of pepper spray in an area inhabited by bull moose and grizzly

bears, Sites has the chance to show how thorough scouting can make the difference not only for a successful hunt, but also for a successful life in "Scouting for Success."

Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4636-4,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4636-2. \$9.99

\* Bonus content in each of the six preceding DVDs includes a special "How to Tune Your Bow" demonstration with Matt McPherson from *Mathews Bows*, Christian testimony from missionary Steve Saint and Mincaye (the Waodani tribesman from Ecuador who killed Saint's father) and a prayer for salvation led by Sites.

■ ***Sisters, Ink***

by Rebeca Seitz

*Sisters, Ink* marks the first in a series of novels written by, for and about scrapbookers. At the center of the creativity and humor are four unlikely young adult sisters, each separately adopted during early childhood into the loving home of Marilyn and Jack Sinclair.

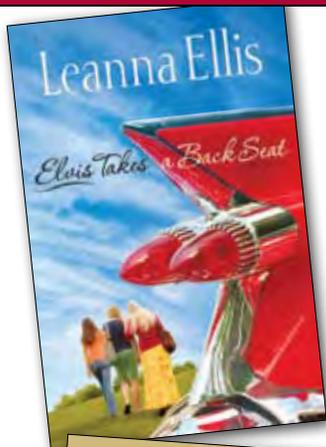
Ten years after their mother, Marilyn, died, the multiracial Sinclair sisters (Meg, Kendra, Tandy and Joy) still return to her converted attic scrapping studio in the small town of Stars Hill, Tenn., to encourage each other through life's highs and lows. Book one spotlights Tandy, a successful yet haunted attorney, now living back in Orlando, Fla., where she spent the first eight years of her life as a junkie's kid. When a leave of absence at work leads her to an extended visit with her sisters in Stars Hill, a business opportunity, rekindled romance and fresh understanding of God's will soon follow. Releases Feb. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4690-6,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4690-7.  
Paperback. \$14.99



# Resources

for you from LifeWay



■ ***Elvis Takes a Back Seat***  
by Leanna Ellis

*Elvis Takes a Back Seat*, by award-winning novelist Leanna Ellis, is the endearing story of Claudia, a young widow determined to fulfill her husband's last request by hauling a three-foot bust of Elvis Presley in the backseat of a vintage Cadillac from Dallas to Memphis to return it to its rightful owner. The road trip – taken with an eccentric aunt who actually knew the “King of Rock ‘n’ Roll,” and a temperamental teen with a suspicious mind of her own – hits some royal roadblocks and detours as these women uncover pieces of their past along with the bust's mysterious history. What they find along the way changes their lives forever, inspiring readers to also step out in faith. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4696-8,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4696-6. Paperback. \$14.99

■ ***A DivorceCare Resource – When the Vow Breaks: A Survival and Recovery Guide for Christians Facing Divorce***  
by Joseph Warren Kniskern, foreword by Steve Grissom, founder, DivorceCare

Now an official resource of the nationwide DivorceCare ministry, this new edition of *When the Vow Breaks* offers practical advice to Christians regarding the top five felt needs and issues that result from facing divorce: kids, finances, anger, depression and loneliness.

In this sensitive and thorough guide, author/attorney Joseph Warren Kniskern recounts the emotions of his own failed marriage and shares a comprehensive study on what the Bible says about marriage and divorce. More important, he shows how God continues to work in people's lives to provide hope and encouragement in the aftermath of divorce. Kniskern also provides important insights about how to seek reconciliation, secure proper marriage counseling, find a good attorney and

negotiate settlements and custody issues. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4653-1  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4653-2. Paperback. \$14.99

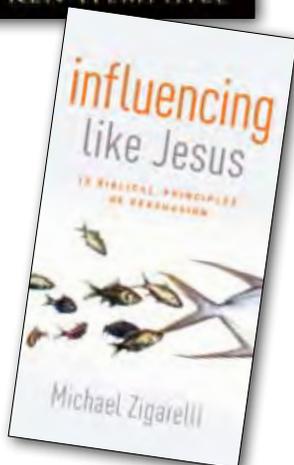
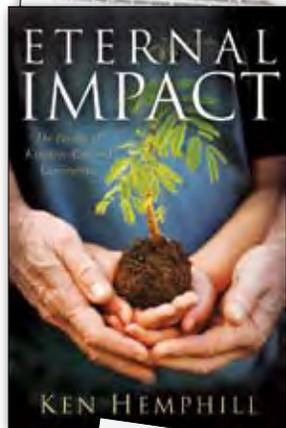
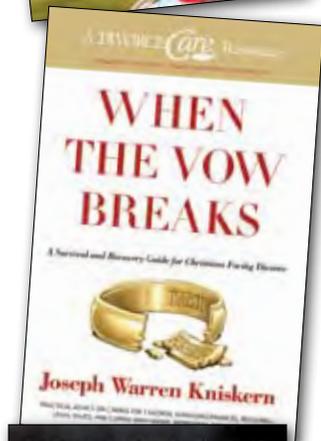
■ ***Eternal Impact: The Passion of Kingdom-Centered Communities***  
by Ken Hemphill

Greatly respected church strategist Ken Hemphill believes the only process that will radically transform the mission and structure of today's community of believers is the Word of God applied by the Holy Spirit. Toward that goal, *Eternal Impact* presents to readers a biblical study of the New Testament church, focusing on the founding principles of the church in Matthew 16 and the birth of the church in Acts 2. Also included are chapters on the eight key characteristics of Kingdom-centered churches and discussions on leadership and giftedness among church members. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4660-9,  
ISBN-10: 0-8054-4660-5. Paperback. \$14.99

■ ***Influencing Like Jesus: 15 Biblical Principles of Persuasion***  
by Michael Zigarelli

The concept of leadership is not just for business, ministry or political professionals. It's an inherent part of the life of anyone who is hoping to persuade someone else in any matter of thinking or behavior, a skill to be sharpened for the good of all. Teacher and student, parent and child, friend to friend, neighbor to neighbor, at home, at work, everywhere; the element of influence is always at hand. *Influencing Like Jesus* is management professor and author Michael Zigarelli's clearly conceived study of history's most effective and widely noted leader: Jesus, a truly persuasive figure who would sometimes have only to say, “Follow me,” to change the course of a person's life. Among the principles of action examined





# Planning for Baptist Hymnal 2008

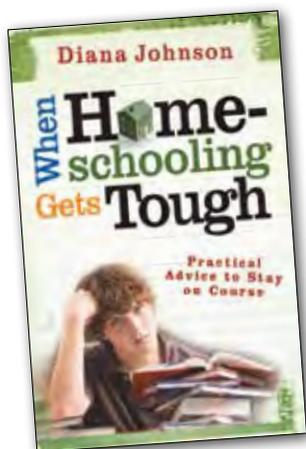
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Register at [www.lifewayworship.com](http://www.lifewayworship.com) to download the 2008 Budget Planning Worksheet, receive the latest Worship Project news and updates, plus review product availability and preorder information.



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in the book are: pray for change, know your audience, connect through similarity, serve their needs and ask their opinion. Also explored are five key traits of a godly influencer: authenticity, compassion, honesty, excellence and gentleness.

Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4710-1,

ISBN-10: 0-8054-4710-5. Paperback. \$14.99

■ ***When Homeschooling Gets Tough: Practical Advice to Stay on Course***  
by Diana Johnson

Diana Johnson has more than 20 years of experience as a homeschool parent and nearly 15 years of experience managing the homeschool department at a Christian bookstore. *When Homeschooling Gets Tough* is largely based on her direct interaction with a broad range of customers.

Many homeschoolers struggle with feelings of inadequacy and failure when their homeschool situation is not picture-perfect. In this timely book, Johnson offers homeschooling parents practical advice mixed with spiritual insight about controlling the curriculum quest, defining basic educational objectives for different age groups, streamlining commitments, and developing realistic goals and schedules. Releases Jan. 1.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4546-6,

ISBN-10: 0-8054-4546-3. Paperback. \$9.99

## LifeWay Church Resources

■ ***FAITH Evangelism 2***

Totally re-designed, *FAITH Evangelism 2* provides the unique combination of a proven witnessing tool, a built-in multiplying/mentoring strategy and a direct connection to the open group ministry of the church for assimilation. Follow-up study focuses on leadership development and team building. This structure works in any size church or even a smaller group within the church. Join thousands of churches that successfully use the FAITH Evangelism strategy and your

church will be hitting on all cylinders.

Twelve sessions, plus four optional sessions. Releases in January.

2 Journal, LifeWay product #0-0503-5789,

\$10.95; 2 Guide Facilitator, LifeWay product #0-0503-5792, \$24.95

■ ***Surrendering the Secret: Healing the Heartbreak of Abortion***

by Pat Layton

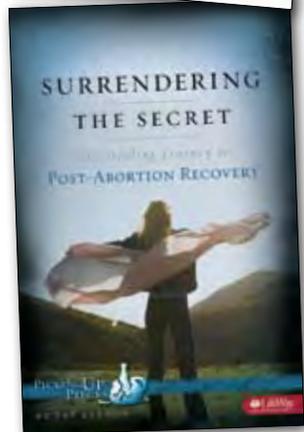
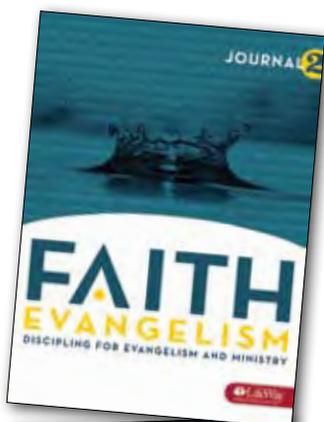
This is a powerful new study, adapted and expanded, from the best-selling *Picking Up the Pieces* series from Serendipity. Many women hide the secret of abortion deep in their hearts and, as a result, suffer severe consequences. They carry a great burden of shame and failure, afraid to reveal their hidden pain. By doing so they are forced to endure the long-lasting effects in isolation. Three new resources include the revised member book, leader guide and leader kit. The kit includes DVDs, one leader guide, and one member book. The member book continues to serve as a stand-alone resource for group study, but leaders are encouraged to purchase the kit to enhance study sessions and group discussions. The DVD messages, featuring author Pat Layton, founder and president of A Woman's Place Ministries, Inc., model for viewers the healing process of those suffering from post-abortion guilt and shame as women share their stories. The final session is a memorial service that helps bring closure for the study participants. This Christian-based ministry helps women find the path to healing through honest and interactive Bible study, meaningful group experiences and caring community. Consider scheduling it in homes or locations that are safe and comfortable for women who may not be part of a local church. Eight sessions. Releases in January.

Learner guide, LifeWay product #0-0512-3170,

\$7.99; Leader guide, LifeWay product #0-0512-

3171, \$14.95; Leader kit, LifeWay product

#0-0511-6685, \$149.95



■ **Fuel 2, Volume 7: Doctrine of the Church**

Part of a two-year exploration of the basic doctrines of our faith that will spark life into your student ministry, this volume helps students break through any confusion they may have regarding the doctrines of angels, Satan and “last things.” At the end of this volume, you can have confidence that your students have been taught the foundations of these doctrines. Releases in February.

DVDs & CD-ROMs, LifeWay product #0-0509-9525, \$159.95; CD-ROMs, LifeWay product #0-0509-9524, \$9.95

■ **Youth Ministry in a Box**

Created with the small church in mind, *Youth Ministry in a Box* contains everything needed to lay a biblical foundation for students in grades 7-12, one quarter at a time.

The contents of each box are based upon a theme for the quarter allowing teachers to present a topic in Sunday school and reinforce that same topic through a different study in discipleship time later in the week. Each themed box provides leaders with three months of Bible study and discipleship options along with a preview copy of another Bible study. As a bonus you'll receive a discount coupon to LifeWay's Centrifuge summer camp for students. Releases in January.

Character, LifeWay product #0-0511-3492, \$149.95; Discernment, LifeWay product #0-0511-7725, \$149.95

■ **Fuel Fire Starters: Heartstoppers**

This resource offers brief videos you can use when you need a discussion-starter, sermon illustration or want to use the power of multimedia to support a biblical truth. Chosen from the best of the popular *Fuel* curriculum, this collection of 10 videos is provided in both DVD and MediaShout formats. Releases in February. LifeWay product #0-0512-1893, \$49.95

■ **Discernamos la voz de Dios (Discerning The Voice Of God, Spanish edition)**

by Priscilla Shirer

This popular study has been translated into Spanish. Author and speaker Priscilla Shirer helps participants know the voice of God – His language, character and tone of voice. By growing closer to God through His Word, participants will be able to discern God's voice from the voice of strangers. The study contains about 30 minutes of personal study for five days each week for a total of six weeks, plus leader helps for facilitating the group sessions. Releases in February.

LifeWay product #0-0510-0764, \$12.95

## LifeWay Worship

### Easter Collections

■ **The Risen Christ**

features the songs of Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend, created by Don Cason and Karla Worley, arranged and orchestrated by Dave Williamson, narrations by Karla Worley

SATB/Medium/ 59 minutes

Ten theologically rich songs by Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend form the basis for this Easter musical. Actual footage from The Visual Bible film, “Matthew,” incorporated into an accompaniment DVD, coupled with Dave Williamson's cinematic scoring, create an epic experience for your church. Many of the songs provide year-round use for missions, Bible reading, communion, discipleship, invitations and congregational singing.

SATB choral book, ISBN 0-0513-0807, \$8.95; Listening CD; Accompaniment CD (split); Accompaniment DVD (2 mixes: (a) split w/orch-left, voices-right, (b)split w/click trax-left, string section submix-right); Rehearsal CD (soprano); Rehearsal CD (alto); Rehearsal CD (tenor); Rehearsal CD (bass); Choir CDs (pkg./10); Orchestration CD-ROM; Promo pak (choral book/DVD); Simplified



# Resources

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strings (synth part) and Simplified brass (synth part) are also available.

■ ***Joy in the House: Songs of Praise, Passion and Purpose*** created by Phil Barfoot, arranged and orchestrated by Dave Williamson

SATB/Moderate

When a worship-leading choir sings praises to the Lord with passion, energy, expression, and joy, something contagious happens.

*Joy in the House* captures this contagious spirit with songs of praise, passion and purpose. This new collection from Phil Barfoot continues his best-selling series of choral collections including “You Are God Alone,” “House of Praise,” “High Praises,” “Rise Up and Praise

Him” and “The Anchor Holds.” The unique quality of Barfoot’s work comes from his constant communication with ministers of music in churches across America, finding and meeting the needs of their ministries in the collections he creates. You’ll find 11 new, fresh choir-friendly arrangements by Dave Williamson that will take your choir and congregation to a new level of joy in the house. SATB choral book, ISBN 9-7814-1585-8592, \$9.95; Listening CD\*; Accompaniment CD; Orchestration and CD promo pak are also available.

■ ***3:16 The Numbers of Hope*** arranged by Travis Cottrell, orchestrated by Phillip Keveren,

narration by Mike Harland

SATB w/ praise team/medium to difficult/58 minutes

Three simple numbers and 26 words from the Gospel of John are one of the most famous passages of Scripture. In a dark world where numbers such as 9/11 can dredge up feelings of despair, 3:16 becomes a set of numbers that offer hope. When beloved pastor and prolific author Max Lucado realized that Palm Sunday 2008 would bear the same three numbers on the calendar as the “Hope Diamond” of Scripture, he began a massive effort to spread its message to millions through a word-by-word study of John 3:16 in his book *3:16 The Numbers of Hope*. As

## Beth Moore messages are the heart of this retreat-in-a-box

It’s often difficult to love people well. Yet when you do love well, you reveal God to others and strengthen your faith. Introducing *Loving Well*, a relationship retreat-in-a-box for your women’s ministry.

This multimedia kit features four heart-to-heart messages from Beth Moore, plus downloads, leader helps, a Journal, and more! Visit [www.lovingwell.tv](http://www.lovingwell.tv), where you can preview the kit, hear from other women who have experienced *Loving Well*, and conveniently order online.



FREE  
Travis Cottrell CD  
with Kit  
Purchase

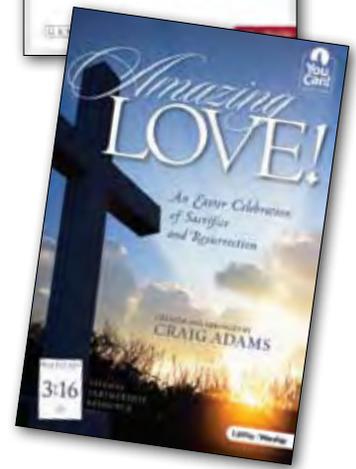
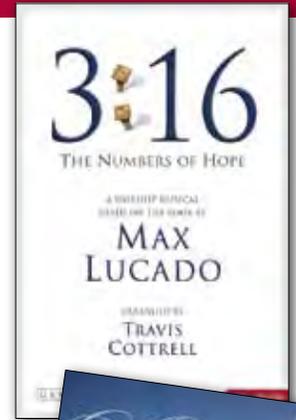
[www.lovingwell.tv](http://www.lovingwell.tv)

LifeWay | Women

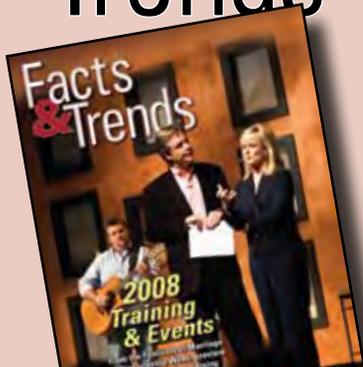
word of this simple yet powerful resource spread, LifeWay and others came alongside to develop companion pieces ranging from curriculum to devotions to this inspiring musical with the same title. This live worship experience is led by Travis Cottrell and includes narrations from Lucado's book, adapted for presentation by Mike Harland. Each song was carefully selected to continue the theme of hope that comes from understanding the extent of our Savior's love for us. This beautiful mix of Easter and non-seasonal songs is perfect for worship any time of the year. Your congregation will want to sing along to the "What a Friend" medley, which includes classic hymns, and your choir will love singing this powerful message from a Scripture that brings hope to the world. SATB choral book, ISBN 9-7814-1585-9735, \$8.95; Listening CD;\* Accompaniment CD; Accompaniment DVD; Rehearsal tracks; CD-ROM orchestration (pdf); Bulletins (pack of 100); Posters (pack of 10) and CD promo pak are also available.

■ ***Amazing Love! An Easter Celebration of Sacrifice and Resurrection***  
created and arranged by Craig Adams  
SATB/easy/30 minutes

A powerful centerpiece for any Easter season, *Amazing Love!* is a passionate musical centered around the truth of John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world." Ideal for small to medium choirs, this You Can! choral resource with inspirational narration and soul-stirring anthems is also perfect for larger choirs with limited rehearsal time. Enjoy popular Christian hits, most-loved hymns, and three new songs with connecting narration. They emphasize the beauty of the cross of Christ and the glory of His resurrection. Share this message with your community, or create a worship experience to close out your church's journey through Max Lucado's book, *3:16 The Numbers of Hope*. Celebrate the amazing love of Jesus Christ this Easter! SATB choral book, ISBN 9-7814-1585-8875, \$5.95; Listening CD\*; Accompaniment CD; *You Can!* kit; Bulletins (pack of 100) and CD promo pak are also available.



# Facts & Trends



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- **Visit** *Facts & Trends Online* for more information about the Mormon religion.
- **Read** Salt Lake City LifeWay Christian Store Manager Robert Romney's testimony of becoming a Christian despite growing up in a Mormon environment.
- **Print** a pdf of "A Comparison of Christianity and Mormonism" to share with others.

## Building Bridges: Southern Baptists and Calvinism

- **Go to** *Facts & Trends Online* to read about the discussion and to hear audio from conference sessions. LifeWay's Ridgecrest Conference Center hosted the Building Bridges: Southern Baptists and Calvinism event co-sponsored by Founders Ministries and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in November 2007.



## Festival of Marriage

- **View** a slideshow of the Festival of Marriage retreat held at Ridgecrest and view dates for 2008 events.
- **Read** about the new LifeWay resource *The Great Marriage Experience Video Series: The Five Sex Needs of Men and Women* written by conference speakers Gary and Barb Rosberg.



LifeWay Christian Store  
manager's testimony

Features added throughout the month – keep checking with us!

### In your opinion ...

- **Participate** in the *Facts & Trends Online* poll:  
*Q: In your opinion, how involved are younger people in the Southern Baptist Convention?*

### Waffles and spaghetti can coexist

- **Enjoy** how authors and marriage specialists Bill and Pam Farrel's study, *Men Are Like Waffles, Women Are Like Spaghetti*, makes the differences between men and women just as obvious as the difference between waffles and spaghetti.
- **Read** more about this new marriage resource offered through LifeWay Christian Resources.
- **Listen** to an *Inside LifeWay* podcast with the Farrels as they discuss how waffles and spaghetti can coexist.



Bill and Pam Farrel

### Marriage insights

### Ridgecrest gets a face lift

- **Listen** to an interview with Byron Hill, executive director of LifeWay Conference Centers and Camps, on what to expect in 2008. After 100 years of service and ministry, LifeWay's Ridgecrest Conference Center recently built new facilities and has plans for additional conference space.



### Have feedback?

Submit your views on topics discussed in this issue of *Facts & Trends*.

### About us:

*Facts & Trends* readers may now enjoy special features such as photo slideshows, audio and supplemental articles with LifeWay's experts at *Facts & Trends Online*.

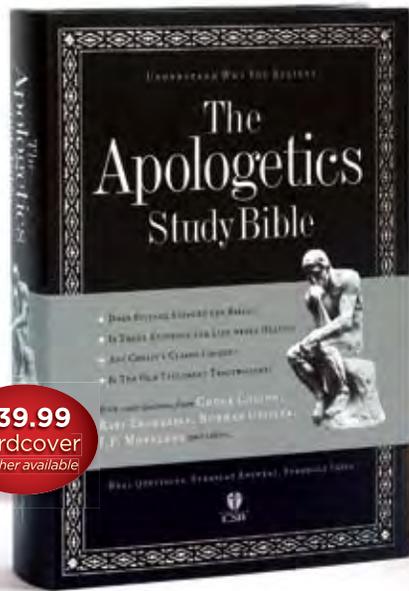
### We want to know ...

- **Submit** a personal testimony to *Facts & Trends Online* of how God spoke to you through an event. Do you plan to attend any LifeWay training events, conferences or camps this year?

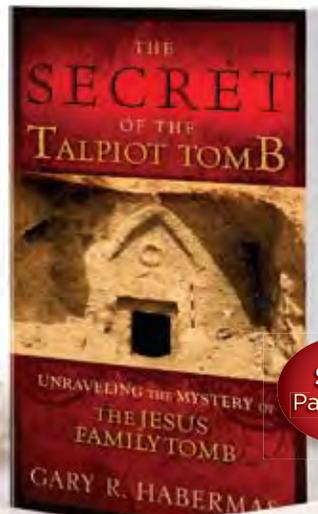
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