

COOL CONNECTION

Volume 6 Issue 2

February 2016

Winter Bible Conference Went to the Stars!!

January 30-31 was a wonderful time in the life of our church. Led by Johnnie McClinton, we engaged in our study of **Second Corinthians**:

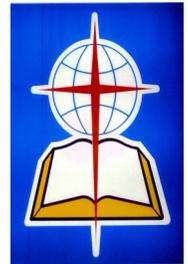
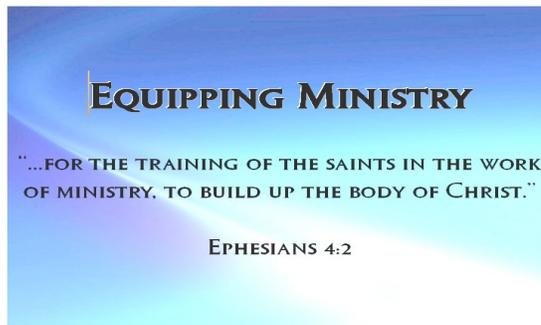


The Church's Ministry Handbook. Well attended, this event featured 6 sessions over 2 days with breakfast and lunch on Saturday provided by the Hullums. We had a great time of worship, prayer, and study and all in attendance were able to participate and enjoy.

In this study we learned a lot about the Apostle Paul and how he handled the many challenges of doing the ministry of the Lord. It is hard for us to understand that he faced such opposition both from inside and outside the church. We think of him as such a great leader and writer of his epistles that we can come to think that he didn't face much opposition. But when he listed out the oppositions he faced, we all were encouraged and motivated to continue to grow in our ability to minister to

others in the Name of Jesus.

The enjoyment of this time together has become an annual tradition dating back to January 2010. So for the last 7 years we have gathered in January to spend two days of intensive study of a book of the Bible. Each year has had an amazing impact on our church and we anticipate that our study this year will help us as we face the challenges of ministry in this day and time of our lives. As Paul did not lose courage, neither will we and when we face opposition to the ministry to which our Lord has called us, we will come against the strongholds of Satan with the tools of Spiritual warfare that we learned about in this study. Nothing can stand against the power of God and when we are walking in His will, working in His way, victory will be assured regardless of the opposition we face.



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It's on my heart...

I want to thank all who were involved in our annual Winter Bible Conference. This is the 7th time we have met in January to study the Word of God together. As the Word of God never goes out void, we know that God will richly use this study in the hearts of all who were in attendance. Well done leadership team and a special thank you to our Director of Equipping Ministry, Dr. Johnnie McClinton for a job

very well done. I am already looking forward to next year's study.

Speaking of study, I hope all are enjoying our study of Church History on Sunday Nights. This month, we will only meet twice, on the 14th and on the 28th. But in this study, as we look back at over 2,000 years of church history, we are learning of the people of faith that have faithfully brought down to us the Gospel message and we are learning of the great heritage we have as Christians today. We

have learned of great heroes like Augustine of Hippo and Nestorius who stood against opposition and false teachings.

I hope you are able to join us for these wonderful times of fellowship and study. It will help you to better appreciate all that God has given to you in and through the life of our church today. Come and be a part of this life-changing study!

In His Love,
Pastor Chuck

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPORT

Jesus, however, invited them: "Let the little children come to Me, and don't stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."
Luke 18:16 (HCSB)

I love the theme, "**Come and See.**" The children of Coolidge are coming and seeing God at work on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings at First Baptist Church. We had 20 children in attendance last Wednesday evening for Gospel Kids and 14 children in attendance last Sunday morning in Sunday School. Natalie and Emily have already completed Mrs. Hullum's 21 Day Challenge by praying that the Holy Spirit will speak to their hearts each



day as they look up, read, and then copy designated Bible verses into their notebooks. Several other children have also nearly completed the challenge. This is the 6th time the children have worked on Mrs. Hullum's 21 Day Challenge. They are studying different verses each cycle that are important to living a vibrant Christian life.

Two of our children, Santiago and Emily, are learning what it means to share God's love with others personally. They went with Deborah Hullum and Roger Anderson during the 4 by 4 visitation hour last Sunday afternoon. Deborah had recently taken pictures of children participating in a school function and gave these to the children and parents that they visited. It was Emily and Santiago who boldly shared God's love with the people they visited by telling them about what they do in Sunday school and Gospel Kids and then inviting them to come. They went even further by asking if there was anything they could pray about for them.

(Continued on page 3)

Outreach Opportunities

(Keeping the "Main Thing"
the "Main Thing"!))

We are all ministers, and as we learned in our January's Bible study in Second Corinthians, there are challenges we can face as we serve others. However, be not discouraged! As a church body, we are able to encourage, support, and disciple each other to become the ministers that He wants us to be. Then, knowing that the power of the Holy Spirit goes before us, we can boldly go out with confidence into the different ministries that God allows for us to be a part of to lead others into a closer relationship with Him. What an incredible responsibility! What an incredible privilege! What is your ministry? Is it helping in the kitchen? Is it taking the garbage cans out each week for trash pick-up? Is it greeting guests and our church family? Is it working the sound system? Is it decorating the church? Is it keeping the van in working order and filled with gas? Is it preparing the Lord's Supper? Is it going to the nursing home to sing? Is it washing the towels after a baptism? Is it cleaning the church? Is it helping with VBS? Is it singing? Is it visiting out with families in the community? Is it working in the flower beds? Is it teaching a class? Is it hosting a Bible study in your home? Is it sending out cards? Is it visiting the sick? Is it making phone calls? The list can go on and on and on! But do you see? There is something for everyone, and there is no ministry too

M.E.N.'s Prayer Breakfast

Saturday February 20th

at 8:30 am

**The food is great!
Come together as the
Christian Men of Coolidge
and Pray for God's Presence
in our city!**

insignificant for the life of the church. Step out, get involved in one or more ministries. When you are doing God's work, He is right there with you. What an incredible responsibility! What an incredible privilege! .

Deborah

(Continued from page 2)

At one place, Santiago prayed with a grandmother for her grandson going through his last chemo treatment for cancer, and at another place, he prayed for a child with diabetes. At the end of each prayer, Santiago prayed that the children would know Jesus in their hearts. Emily, Santiago, Roger, and Deborah gave up their Sunday afternoon to, "Go and tell." May they serve as examples to all of us.

Jo Lynn

MISSIONS

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8 (HCSB)

Disaster Relief Efforts Continue in 3 States and Bear Spiritual Fruit



GARLAND—When sharing the gospel, SBTC Disaster Relief veteran chaplains Wayne and Ann Barber don’t even pause for breakfast. The Barbers recently ended a weeklong deployment in Rowlett and Garland where they offered spiritual comfort to survivors of the Dec. 26 tornadoes.

One frigid morning the couple found several tornado victims eating breakfast at the Garland hotel where they were also staying. They shared the gospel and saw three people make professions of faith at the hotel.

Opportunities for spiritual contacts come at unexpected moments in disaster relief. In a ravaged Rowlett neighborhood, Wayne Barber recalled meeting two contractors, both Christians,

who were meeting with an electrician who was not a believer. Barber explained the gospel to the electrician who accepted Christ as savior. “His friends [the contractors] were thrilled.”

“Our DR recovery teams worked very hard in Garland and Rowlett, but we felt that residents could use some encouragement.

Our chaplains went through the neighborhoods knocking on doors, praying with those in need and sharing Jesus with many,” said Gordon Knight, SBTC director of chaplains. Calling DR chaplains, “the hands and feet of the gospel during times of crisis,” Knight also commended the work of chaplains Carol Yarber and Terry Bunch, who deployed to Rowlett the week before the Barbers.

SBTC DR volunteers have had ample opportunities to serve of late.

“We have been busy,” SBTC director of disaster relief Scottie Stice affirmed, adding that SBTC DR volunteers had assisted tornado victims in Ovilla, Farmersville, Rowlett and Garland. “In the same time frame, we’ve sent teams to Pine Bluff, Ark., and

Eureka, Mo., to help flood victims.”

Whether manning an SBTC laundry unit and washing dozens of loads of clothes in Missouri, doing clean out and recovery in Arkansas, securing tarps to tornado-damaged roofs in Texas or removing downed trees and debris from victims’ yards, DR volunteers have answered the call.

Two mud-out teams are leaving for Missouri next week, Stice said, adding that additional workers are also expected to serve in Rowlett and Garland.

Spiritual Impact in Disaster

From Dec. 26 - Jan. 22, SBTC DR teams in Texas, Missouri and Arkansas have not only served the physical needs of tornado and flood victims, but they have also ministered to the spiritual needs of those who hurt.

121 Gospel Presentations

27 Professions of Faith

254 Spiritual Contacts

200 Bibles and Tracts

(Our Cooperative Program Giving gives direct support to this and other wonderful ministries. We are

a part of this!!! *Laura*)

January 27th, 2016

By: Jane Rodgers

TEXAN Correspondent



Spring is just around the corner. Mowing and trimming and general upkeep of the grounds are necessary for the church's appearance that we all desire. Tune up your mowers and trimmers so that you can help in this continuing effort. We appreciate any and all help!

ON MARCH 19TH, we will have our spring cleaning day. This is a church-wide effort that has something for everyone to help with! Let's get together to make sure that our church looks its best for Easter. It will begin at 9:30 a.m., with a light breakfast, and will go till noon. Please mark your calendar now to participate. Thanks!

Glen

NEWARK, Del. (BP) -- Ask Blake Hardcastle, director of the University of Delaware Baptist Student Ministry, for the best way to engage 22,000 college students with the Gospel, and his answer is clear -- reach them where they are, on campus.

This large, highly-concentrated pocket of lostness is nestled in the heart of Newark, Del., at the state's largest university.

At the University of Delaware, as well as many other campuses around the country, organizations need proper credentials to have a presence on campus. As a registered student organization, the Baptist Student Ministry has access to UD students in a way that the city's local churches don't.

Curtis Hill, senior pastor of Ogletown Baptist Church in Newark, sees BSM as a crucial partner in the church's ministry to collegians.

"If I'm thinking missional strategy," Hill said, BSM is "an effective platform" to gain access to those students.

Layered cooperation

The relationship between Ogletown and BSM involves multiple layers of cooperation. It begins with Ogletown's giving through the Cooperative Program, the Southern Baptist channel of support for state, national and international missions and ministry. The Cooperative Program helps fund the work of the Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network (also known as the Baptist Convention of Maryland-Delaware), such as the BSM at UD and other collegiate ministries in the two-state convention. The church also is part of the Delaware Baptist Association, which dedicates a portion of its budget to collegiate ministry at UD.

In addition, Ogletown funds a staff member dedicated to collegiate ministry who works primarily on campus with Hardcastle. And the church makes direct contributions to BSM.

Hardcastle, a member of Ogletown, said the partnership began about 12 years ago when church leadership realized they had no clear strategy in place to reach college students. Some students would attend services, he said, but it was little more than a "spiritual checkmark" for them; they weren't fully integrated into the church body.

"[Students] just don't come to the church on their own. You have to be on campus to access them," Hardcastle said.

Building relationships and making personal connections are key to reaching students, he said. BSM conducts various acts of kindness to foster awareness, such as handing out free donuts and taking out dorm residents' trash. Once connections are made, students are more receptive to Gospel conversations, he said.

BSM then seeks to make disciples through outreach and social activities, a weekly large-group Bible study on campus, smaller groups that meet during the week, one-on-one discipleship, missions and service projects, and opportunities for students to serve in leadership positions.

Reprinted from Baptist Press (www.baptistpress.com), news service of the Southern Baptist Convention. (Bi-Stone Baptist Association has a wonderful Student Ministry at Navarro College in Mexia. Check it out! *Laura*)

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He Came, We Go

Worshipping God Together

Experiencing God

Reaching Out

Giving Generously

Student Ministry News

¹² Let no one despise your youth; instead, you should be an example to the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

1 Timothy 4:12 (HCSB)

Here we are in February already. Where did January go? Student ministry is back in full swing. Wednesdays are still our biggest day. We have been having some great conversations and learning God's word. I am excited to see that they are now asking questions and willing to answer them too.

February is thought of as the month of "Love" because of Valentine's day but we as Christians know the truth, that every day is a day of "Love", because we have God. God's love transcends anything we could every begin to comprehend. God has agape love. Let us all take the

time this month and show love to others. It takes twenty-one days to develop or break a habit. God is giving us twenty-nine in February to love on our neighbors. On Valentine's Day we will be having a "Love Feast" after church. I hope to see a lot of youth there so they can see our church family loving on each other.

Please be in prayers for all our students as we head into school testing. This can be very stressful to the students, but also remember to lift up the faculty and staff of the schools, as well as the families of those testing. God is so good and shows such patience with us.

Update on two of our youth that graduated last school year, Mr. Kyle Tollet and Mr. Brandan Carpenter, are both attending Navarro College in Corsicana. They are in their second semesters, and trying to adjust to becoming adults. Please keep them in your prayers. They have both found home churches in Corsicana, and have become very active with the Baptist Student Ministry.

In His Hands

Melanie