

CONNECTIONS

Stanley Heights Baptist Church

July-September 2019 Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 6, No. 3

From Pastor Baughman's Desk...

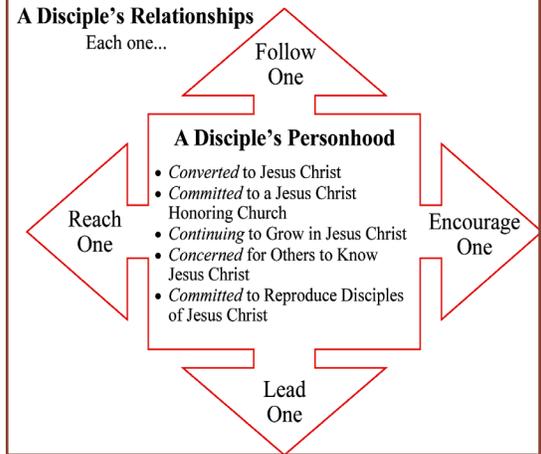
The Disciple's Personhood: Back To My Project, Our Church, and Your Life – Again!

In the last edition I told you the following: *Glorifying God by developing and deploying disciples in this generation for the next is not the responsibility of someone else. Rather it is each of us, through our church, developing as a disciple (a disciple's personhood) and deploying as a disciple (a disciple's impact through relationships) for God's glory.*

Look at the graphic with this article and remember that impacting others begins with your life transformed as a disciple consistently, intentionally choosing (as Jesus challenged His disciples)...

- Cross-bearing in self-denial (Luke 9:23)
- Continuing in the Word (John 8:31-32)
- Christlikeness in character (Luke 6:40)

Impacting others for Christ begins with being impacted by Christ!



CONDOLENCES to:
The family and friends of Dr. Wymal Porter in his passing in June.

WELCOME
NEW
MEMBERS



David & Peggy Edge



Emma Stoetzner



Hannah Squires



Vision for the World Day

Sunday, September 8 we will observe Vision for the World Day. The Polivka family and the Vernoy family will be with us for the day. Both families have some great stories to share about how God is working in their lives.

Faith Promise Commitment Cards will be made available as part of our yearly emphasis on giving to support missions. You may make a new commitment or alter your current commitment.

Hospitality to our missionaries includes a visit to the Missions

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Closet. If you would like to be a blessing to them, watch for the list of needs to be published or see Sandra Taylor. Items remaining in demand are postage stamps, Sudoku books, travel games, men's body wash, and Legos for kids. Deposit items in the bin at the right rear of the auditorium. Donations for music CD's are welcome. Earmark an offering envelope from the seatback with "Other" Missions Closet CD's.

Missions Trip 2019



On Monday, July 22nd, a group of 16 members of Stanley Heights will go on a trip to South Africa. We are partnering with David and Julie McCrum, missionaries sent from Stanley Heights, and with the church they serve at, Faith Baptist Church in Emalahleni, South Africa. While we are there, we will help with a conference for South African pastors, help with outreaches to youth and chil-



dren, host a "Family Fun Night", and then return on August 1st. Our goals are to serve the local church, edify and encourage believers, and to evangelize the lost.

The following people will be participating: Ed, Danielle and Eddy Lee Alexander; Chase and Clay Basinger; Jonathan and Hannah Bennet; Tim, Emily, Mikaylah and Harrison Cochran; Jordan Hill; Phyllis Hinson; and Mike, Sierra and Joel Whitesell. Please pray with us about this opportunity, and watch our Facebook page for updates.



Remembering Dr. Wymal Porter



Dr. Porter (September 22, 1923 - June 1, 2019) was a faithful servant of God. He taught in Tennessee Temple University and Temple Baptist Theological Seminary for 34 years. He gave the following testimony in the April-June, 2018 Connections Newsletter, advice that never grows old.

My Greatest Regret

As I look back over 94 years of my life, I see a number of things that I truly regret. However, there is one thing that I regret more than any other and it is that I did not yield to the convicting work of the Holy Spirit and trust Christ as my Savior when I was a teenager rather than waiting until I was twenty-seven. I wasted some of the best years of my life, and did some things for which I have paid the rest of my life.

It was in 1936-37 when I was thirteen or fourteen years old that I remember first being under conviction. I attended a revival service at the Baptist church in our rural community where the Holy Spirit clearly spoke to me about my sin and my need for Christ and salvation. I very foolishly resisted the Holy Spirit and left the service that night lost. Over the next several years, I heard the gospel many times and came under conviction many times but continued to resist. However, praise our long-suffering God, in March 1953, I again heard the gospel at the Calvary Baptist Church in Shreveport, Louisiana. That time, I yielded to the Holy Spirit and was saved when I trusted Christ as my Savior.

If there is one thing I would urge young people to do, it is that you would yield to the convicting work of the Holy Spirit and trust Christ as your Savior while you are young. If you will, you will not have to experience the regret that I have had and still do.

Life in Georgia

By Phyllis Hinson



"To be Georgian is to be Orthodox!" Georgia, the size of Ohio with 4 million people, borders the Black Sea, south of Russia and North of Armenia and Iran. Georgians trace their ancestry thru a grandson of Japheth. The Georgian language is 3000 years old. Conquered multiple times by larger nations surrounding them, yet they have endured.

Tbilisi, the capitol, is a conglomeration of orthodox buildings (ancient and modern), utilitarian and often decaying Soviet Era highrises, old European-styles townhouses, and modern new skyscrapers! Construction is everywhere and traffic is unbelievable. Tbilisi is now 1/3 of the total population as the countryside is abandoned for opportunity and modern life. The people are hospitable, food plentiful, climate mild, and modern conveniences are present in the city.



What is missing? The Gospel! Georgians claim national conversion to Christianity in the 3rd century. Orthodox history, images, traditions, and buildings are everywhere. Grape vines flourish in the city, and wine making is a national heritage.

Infants are baptized to secure their place in Heaven. However, there are no sermons, services, Sunday schools, Bible studies, Christian schools or universities except for Georgian Orthodox priests. No one reads the Bible.

In the last few years Georgia is Western looking politically, following an uneasy truce with Russia. The country is now open. A few missionaries are now there, including the Hinson's from SHBC. Please pray for the wonderful Georgian people, who trust in the traditions or orthodoxy, that there will be a desire for the Word of God, and He would build His Church in Georgia.

Editor's note: Phyllis' son Michael and wife Barbara are missionaries to Tbilisi. They have three children: Jude, Zachary, and Paul. Phyllis visited them in mid-April, 2019.

TO THE JEW FIRST...

SIMCHAT TORAH – REJOICING OF THE LAW

By Mark Oshman



Simchat Torah ("Rejoicing of the Law") is a holiday during which Jews celebrate God giving them His Law at Mount Sinai. Celebrating the holiday symbolizes the public assertion of a group's Jewish identity.

The author of Psalm One Hundred and Nineteen focused upon the benefits of God's ordinances: "The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver"; "O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day"; "I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law is my delight." He perceived the Law as a blessing for him, not a burden.

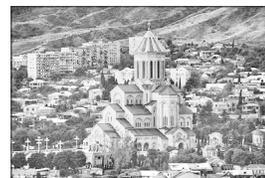
What can believers learn from Simchat Torah? Christians first need to recognize that God designed the Mosaic Law to regulate the conduct of a specific community (the Jews) over a limited period of time. After Jesus Christ's atonement, God annulled the legislative force underlying the Law.

However, the contents of the Mosaic Law reflected the perfect will of God. Paul acknowledged that the Law was holy and spiritual. He informed his protégé Timothy that "the law is good, if a man use it lawfully." Thus, believers should hold the Law in high esteem.

Jewish Trivia

There are 37 Jews in the United States Congress. Included in this number are only those who practice Judaism as a religion. There are 9 in the Senate and 28 in the House. All are Democrats with the exception of one Independent and two Republicans.

Source: Wikipedia (<https://en.wikipedia.org>)



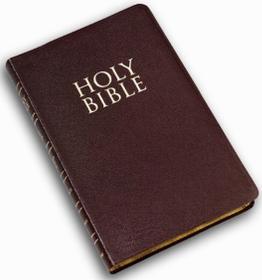
Becoming a Witness

Each one of us comes equipped to witness to some segment of the population. We have all had certain experiences in life that will resonate with someone that we meet along the way. Your life lessons and the empathy that you share with a lost person can turn an ordinary conversation into one about Jesus. Even if it is only a brief encounter, seeds can be planted in a person's heart with just two or three sentences in a few moments of time.

Here are a few suggestions to help you become comfortable with being a witness:

- Tell God of your desire to be His witness and ask him for a heart-felt compassion for people.
- Think on all things that you are thankful for and thank God often – gratefulness leads to a humble spirit and a tender heart for the lost.
- Seek answers for the things that cause you to doubt your faith and/or the Bible. If these are tripping points for you, they are likely tripping points for the lost as well.
- Choose to be “in” this world and not “of” this world – Ask God to focus you on things of His kingdom and to remove all things from your life that are not pleasing to Him.
- Begin to practice openly talking about things of God. Praying out loud will help prepare you.
- When witnessing, learn how to control the conversation and to take it in the direction of talking about Jesus. It is relatively easy given how little time people have to focus these days.
- Stay focused on being a witness and God will provide the opportunities.
- Speak about Jesus in simple terms that anyone can understand rather than Christian-ese.

The Bible is the True Word of God Because...



- God has protected the Bible for thousands of years.
- The Bible contains 66 books written over 1500 years by 40 different writers but it tells one “big story” of God’s plan of salvation that culminated in Jesus Christ. Four hundred silent years separated the 39 books of the Old Testament from the 27 of the New Testament yet they tell one unfolding story.
- The Bible was written by everyday people who were inspired by God.
- There are over 300 specific prophecies in the Old Testament that are fulfilled in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ in the New Testament.
- The early church had extremely high standards for what books were judged to be authentic and therefore included in the Bible. A book had to have been written by an Apostle or someone in their immediate circle, had to conform to basic Christian faith and had to be in widespread use among many churches.
- A majority of the greatest leaders and thinkers in history have affirmed the truth and impact of the Bible.
- The Bible has had a greater influence on the laws, art, ethics, music and literature of world civilization than any other book in history.
- Countless lives have been transformed unmistakably and forever through the Bible.
- We have copies of the manuscripts and throughout history these copies show that the Bible has been transmitted accurately. Variants or differences in manuscripts identified in the Bible do not impact or change key Christian beliefs or claims.
- The books of Moses were written 500 years before the earliest Hindu Scriptures. Moses wrote Genesis 2,000 years before Muhammad penned the Koran. While millions of other book titles come and go, the Bible is still the book by which all other books are measured.
- The Bible is one of the best-selling books of all times. It also holds the Guinness book world record of best-selling book of non-fiction.

Message for Those Who Stand at the Door Knocking

If only silence greets you there
As you knock upon my door,
Perhaps I was called into the air
To meet Jesus Christ, My Lord.

But in the event He tarry,
I've likely just stepped away.
Please deposit deliveries you carry,
Or graciously come another day.

I Thessalonians 4:16-17

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Teen Service Night



Memorial Day Picnic



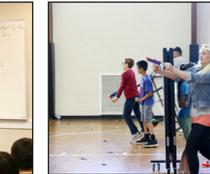
VBS



Reseeding America - New Haven



Nerf Wars



Senior Fellowship - IBJM Holocaust Museum



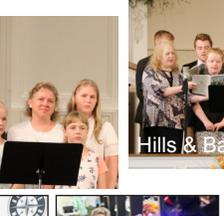
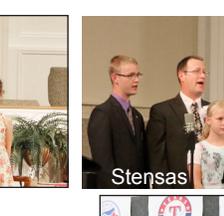
Easter Preparations and Drama



Good News Club



Family Sing Night



Ladies Retreat



Fundraisers



Musicians in Training Concert

