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BIM Informer

Bible Institute of Missouri Newsletter

BIM Contributors (2013)

Congregations:
39th Street Church of Christ, Independence, MO
Camdenton Church of Christ, MO
Carthage Church of Christ, MO
Freedom Church of Christ, MO
Highlandville Church of Christ, MO
Kansas Expressway Church of Christ, Springfield, MO
Mountain Grove Church of Christ, MO
Washburn Church of Christ, MO
West Road Church of Christ, Mountain Home, AR

Individuals:
Barnes, Jimmie Heavin, Clyde and Robbie
Clouse, Harry and Donetta Loudermill, Carolyn
Dalton, Gary and Marilyn Sanders, Tiffany
Eakins, Kent and Angela

Free Desk Chairs
The Kansas Expressway Church of Christ has about 70 folding desk chairs that they would like to give away free of charge to a good home. If interested, please call 417-869-2284 for more details.

BIM Informer Online
Thanks to Chuck Northrop, the past editions of the *BIM Informer* are now available online. Go to www.bim-us.org, click on the "Resources" tab, and then click on "BIM Informer."

Bible Institute of Missouri
A Work of the [Kansas Expressway Church of Christ](http://www.bibleinstituteofmissouri.com)
www.bibleinstituteofmissouri.com

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General Information:
* Two-Year Program
* 40+ Courses
* Preacher Training
* Free Tuition
* 2400 Classroom Hours
* Mission Opportunities

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Bible Institute of Missouri Newsletter August 2013

"The One Whom You Worship . . . Him I Proclaim to You"

Jerry Sullins

In Paul's second missionary journey, while in Berea undergoing threats from unbelieving Jews from Thessalonica, he was taken to Athens for his own protection. As always, he used this as an opportunity to preach to a city that "was given over to idols." Through his efforts in preaching in the synagogue and in the marketplace, he was able to reach out with the gospel to Jews and Gentiles alike. It was in that great city that Paul introduced to the Gentile people the true and the living God. The one God in "whom we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28). Some did obey, but most rejected the message. Such is the case with our world today. Some obey, but most reject.

The need to proclaim the Word of God still exists in our day as it did in Athens over 2,000 years ago. More and more, we are faced with a godless society that is giving itself over to the same sins that existed during the days of the apostles. When reading the Old or New Testament, one can see that man has not changed. The same sins that destroyed the world in the days of Noah still exist today. The times of Sodom and Gomorrah, the ancient kingdoms of old, as well as the Israelites were all brought down because of their sins.

Is there hope today? Yes, there is great hope through the gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ. According to Jesus, "There are few who find it." He was not saying that we should give up, for it was He who would give His disciples the charge to "preach the gospel to every creature." Jesus has not rescinded that charge. It is our responsibility to fulfill that Great Commission.

We need your help. We know that there are men who are willing to take the responsibility of fulfilling the Great Commission. The fact is that these men need encouragement to do the great work of proclaiming the message of the King. You may know of someone—a son, grandson, or someone in your local congregation—who would be willing with some encouragement to train to be a preacher. We are asking you to help us get in touch with those men who you think would be willing to dedicate their lives to this most important work.

Please inform those who might be interested that we are tuition free. The funds necessary for them to come to school can be raised to supply their personal needs while they come and train to do the work of an evangelist. All it takes is a willing mind to come for the training. We have a wonderful facility and a full-time staff who are qualified to provide you with a thorough knowledge of God's Word as well as training in the area of how to proclaim His Word to the lost.

If you have any prospects, please contact us at 417-865-4543 or 417-619-8197 or go online at www.bim-us.org.

"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." 2 Timothy 2:2



Mission Report

The instructors at the Bible Institute of Missouri have been and continue to be involved in regular mission work. The work they do on the mission field not only benefits the church abroad but also brings a richness of experience back to the classroom. Firsthand mission experiences are also available to the students who train at the BIM.

During the summer break from classes at the BIM, Chuck Northrop made a mission trip to Costa Rica. This trip was very similar to the one he made in 2012 when he took two of our students from the BIM at the time—Allen Fishchgrabe and Jesse Young. Below is an excerpt from the trip he made this summer.



“This year’s trip to Costa Rica was my third trip to this area of the world. It was a very profitable trip with numerous public and private studies resulting in five baptisms. Twenty-two workers from Mexico and the United States labored with the Costa Rican brethren and accomplished much good. . . .

“As with last year, we labored with three congregations in Costa Rica. Most of the vacation areas of Costa Rica are southeast of San Jose on the Atlantic side of the country, but our work was in the northwest part of the nation. Our normal day began with a devotional and short lesson at the church buildings. For the most part, the younger American men delivered the messages for the devotional. After the devotional, we would head out to go ‘knock doors.’ As with last year, I put ‘knock doors’ in quotes because that is what we call it in the States. However, in Mexico and Costa Rica, we really do not knock on the doors of people’s houses. Generally, we would go up to the edge of their property and call out, ‘good morning’ or ‘good afternoon’ in Spanish. Then they would come to the edge of their property, and we would invite them to the services of the church and try to set up a personal Bible study. We did this up until lunch time which was around noon. Then, during the afternoon, the ladies conducted a Vacation Bible School for children of the community. Most

of the men would go back out to ‘knock doors’ until about four or five o’clock in the afternoon. Afterwards, we headed back to our hotel to relax and freshen up before going to supper and to the evening services.

“Our work in Costa Rica took us to three cities this year. As stated, the first part of our work was in Cañas which is in the coastal plains near the Colorado Gulf of the Pacific Ocean and has a population of 20,306. Herman Chandler is the local preacher. We worked here from Wednesday, July 3rd until Sunday, July 7th. The theme of this gospel meeting was ‘The Powerful Gospel of Christ.’ The second part of our work was in Tilaran which is a small city in the central hills with a population of 7,301. Ofilio Castaneda is the local evangelist. We were there from Sunday, July 7th through Thursday evening, July 11th. The theme of this gospel meeting was ‘The Perfect Unity’ (Ephesians 4:1-6). The third city of our work was in San Jose de Upala. Upala is a city and a region in the far north central part of Costa Rica. This San Jose is not the capital of the nation but a small town in the region of Upala near the border of Nicaragua. We labored here from Friday, July 12th through Sunday, July 14th. The theme of this gospel meeting was ‘True Christianity.’ In all three places, the brethren cooperated and labored with us hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder. They were an encouragement to us, and I hope we were an encouragement to them.

“In all, I had a part in nine private Bible studies (six of which I conducted) and preached six times (twice in each city). The twenty-two North American laborers conducted around one hundred Bible classes, devotional lessons, and sermons. All of this took place in less than two weeks! The seed was definitely sown, and we are confident God will give the increase. I am reminded of Isaiah 55:11 which says, ‘So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.’”

—Chuck Northrop

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

Faculty Focus

In this issue and in upcoming issues of the *BIM Informer*, we will be highlighting different faculty members. Each instructor of the Bible Institute of Missouri is an important asset in the fulfillment of the school’s mission. These men bring to the classroom their years of experience in preaching and teaching, both locally and abroad. They each are truly committed to teaching “faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2).



Tim Kidwell is an instructor for the Bible Institute of Missouri. He comes from a long line of gospel preachers—both his father and grandfather were preachers. He has preached for 34 years, servings as a minister for congregations in Alabama, Arkansas, Maryland, Florida,

Texas, Georgia, and Missouri. He worked in stateside mission work for 8 years in Maryland and has been active in yearly mission trips to Guyana, South America for the past 15 years. In addition to preaching and missions, he has also conducted marriage seminars with his wife Robin. He has spoken for numerous lectureships and gospel meetings. Throughout his ministry, he has also conducted song leading and singing classes. He has been married 33 years to Robin (Lowe) Kidwell. They have 3 daughters Holly, Autumn, and Reagan. Two of his daughters are also married to gospel preachers. He has 5 grandchildren. He presently serves as an elder and preacher for the Branson Church of Christ in Branson, Missouri.

He Died for Me!

Tim Kidwell

The man had a gun pointed directly at my head. He had forced me to kneel down in front of him. As the gunman cocked his pistol he sneered, “Say your prayers!” As I knelt on the sidewalk, shaking, my thoughts turned to my wife and children. I thought of all the things I had planned to do that would never be accomplished. My heart thumped loudly in my chest. I squeezed my eyes tightly together. I held my breath as I waited for the explosion of a bullet that would end my life.

Suddenly, I heard the sound of a struggle. I opened my eyes to see the gunman and another man wrestling on the ground. A bright light flashed and a deafening explosion rocked the night. Nearby a siren began to sound. The gunman quickly vanished into the night leaving me behind with a stranger who lay in a puddle of blood. My life had been spared. No, my life had been given back to me, purchased by the blood of a stranger.

I ask you, if this had happened to you would you ever forget it? Would it be possible for you to spend too much time trying to learn information about the man who died in your place? Would it be possible to appreciate this man too much? Could anyone make you feel embarrassed or ashamed because you wanted others to know about the man who saved your life? Do you think you would stop telling this story if people made fun of you for sharing it? Could you tell the story too many times?

The fact is this did happen to you. It happened to all of us. Around two thousand years ago Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on a cross so that you and I would not have to die. But the death He saved us from is far worse than any physical death we could experience. Jesus saved us from eternal death. Because of His death we now have the opportunity to live with God forever in heaven instead of eternal torment in hell.

Which is more important, a temporary physical life or an eternal spiritual one? Which story is easier to tell, the one of the man saving our physical life, or the story of Jesus saving our spiritual life?

I ask you: Since this did happen to you, will you ever forget it? Will it be possible for you to spend too much time trying to learn information about the man, Jesus, who died in your place? Will it be possible to appreciate Jesus too much? Can anyone make you feel embarrassed or ashamed because you want others to know about the man who saved your spiritual life? Do you think you will stop telling this story if people make fun of you for sharing it? Can you tell the story too many times?

Why, then, are you not telling it? “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation” (Romans 1:16).