



Let's Roll

Make a difference

Ask yourself . . .

*"What am I going to do
to get the Word of God out?"*

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From Pastor Bill . . .

Dear Fellow Warriors ~ Our theme this month is the work of teaching kids from about three years old to 10 years old. This is a beautiful age and usually the kids are very cooperative and have a deep sense of honesty about them. This age, before the hormones kick-in and make them harder to reach, is important to the maximum.

I was reached for Christ at about five years old by a Sunday School teacher who used a flannel graph and showed the story of the Gospel to me. For the first time in my many Sunday School lessons, the Holy Spirit broke through the darkness and into my understanding. I became very convicted of sin and of my sense of need.

On the way home, I asked my Mom to help me to be saved. Sitting in that back seat and leaning towards the front seat, I bowed my head and heart, and trusted Jesus as my Savior and Lord. For any skeptic out there, that decision has lasted all these years (I'm 56 now) and permanently sold me on children's ministries.

If our church is characterized by anything, it is characterized by our concern, love, and efforts toward reaching children for Jesus. Much of our time, talents, and treasures are spent in this ministry emphasis. No ministry, no matter how noble, runs on "emphasis, rightness or importance," though. A person must be raised up who has a personal burden for it, and will sacrifice themselves for it.

Miss Carolyn Miley is such a person. She walked into our doors about 23 years ago and that was a great day for Gospel Baptist Church. Miss Miley heads up the primary area of teaching the Junior Church program, while I am preaching to the adults at 11:00 AM. on Sundays. She is not alone, don't get me wrong; there are many, many more who have joined hands with her and help her, but she is the main pillar.

She has probably led more people to Christ in the last 23 years than any other person in our ministry. Oh, I do not mean that she preaches "easy believism" or "just pray this prayer." She really explains the Gospel through many mediums and insists on a genuine spirit of each child coming forward to trust Christ.

Are you currently in such a ministry??? If not, *why not*??? Time is short, death is sure, and you know enough Gospel to save the world, if they would believe . . . So, go to your Pastor, and ask him to make a place for you to help in Junior Church!!

Life in Christ is so good,
Bill Lytell, Senior Pastor

Junior Church at Gospel



What's Happening at Gospel

It is amazing how busy these few months are in the beginning of the calendar year. Though it is busy, it is most certainly exciting as we preach, teach and together carry-out the work of the ministry.

Danny Whetstone, president of World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions, was the keynote speaker at our Missionary Conference held on March 9th – 12th, and he preached powerfully. We enjoyed a presentation by Cambodian national pastor, Souern Sihok (pronounced "Soon" "Seahawk"), as well as a testimony by Sixto Tan, a national pastor in the Philippines. Also with us were Myanmar national pastor, Timothy Mang, and Ron Grossman, missionary to the Jewish in Ottawa, Canada.

Our prayer is that God would move in the hearts of men and women to be involved in the greatest thing in the world: The Great Commission! We want to give all we can financially to missions, yet that is not the *extent* of missions. God wants **us** and He may very well be calling someone this week to fulltime Christian service.

On March 2nd, GBC celebrated its 28th anniversary. Twenty-six-year member, Jean Powell Riffle, shared a testimony about some of the early days of the church and how much fun and fellowship was had with those early-believers. There were three charter members in attendance that morning: Jim and Beth McCollum and Gloria Stevens.

"God has been faithful to us and we desire to be faithful to Him."

We recognized those who have joined at every five-year mark and were thrilled that Hal Riffle has been a member of Gospel Baptist for 25 years. There were 15 people who have been members for 15 years, seven people who have been members for 10 years, 16 people who have been members for five years and 27 people who had joined in the last year. Hallelujah! We praise the Lord for His goodness to us all these years.

We are making many preparations for the Easter Services. The big event of that day will certainly be the Sunrise Service held at Bonita Beach Park. It is our prayer, that of the 1500+ people who will attend, someone will come for salvation.

Also planned for that weekend will be a Passover Seder with Missionary Mark Robinson. This will be a great time to invite Jewish friends to this as the Gospel will clearly be presented, but it is also a wonderful opportunity for us Gentiles to learn about the significance of the Passover.

I trust you will enjoy this newsletter on children's ministries, specifically, Junior Church (3-years-old to the 2nd grade) & Youth Worship (3rd – 6th grade).

I am grateful for Carolyn Miley and her dedication to this ministry since 1985. She has faithfully taught these children over the years and it is wonderful to watch them walk around singing many of the great choruses.

Also, I am very thankful for Pastor Moon & Jeff Larson and their leadership over the Youth Worship services. They, along with many others, are involved in singing with and teaching these children during the main service.

You may ask, "Why do we have these special services?" The answer is threefold. Number one: it helps alleviate problems of inattentiveness, as we have many bus children who are not accustomed to sitting in "big" church. Number two: it provides the kids an opportunity to hear the Bible on their level of thinking. Number three: it gives adults the opportunity to teach and preach to the children; in other words, help in the ministry.

We are thankful for these ministries and ask that you would pray for them and pray that God might use you in some way to work with children (Mt. 9:14).

For His glory, John Boutchia

Junior Church: Ages 3 yrs - 2nd grade



Youth Worship: 3rd - 6th Grade



Junior Church: What Can Children Teach Me?



Carolyn Miley

“What can a class of Junior Church children ever teach me?” Wow, what a question! The answer is quite simple - a whole lot! From the student who doesn't stop crying to the student who doesn't stop talking, God made these very precious children who need stability, love, and guidance to teach *me*. This is what I needed in my life, as well. Through the studying and reading of God's Word, God convicts and directs *me* so I can teach *them*.

As I teach these children, I am reminded that my relationship with the Father has to be number one. My daily walk with my Lord is the only way I will ever be able to teach about the God I love. God's Word has convicted me over and over again as I see myself through the eyes of these children.

Wisdom is something which I lack, and I need to ask the Lord to direct me in what I say to these precious little ones. What worked last week for little Susie doesn't work this week. The same is true with my life as I interact with others. So, I need to reflect on what God gave to me so I can help.

As I tell my children, we will always learn until the day we die. Just like the children of Israel, we should learn from our past. But, like them, we seem to make the same mistakes over and over again.

Submitted by Carolyn Miley
Member, GBC

*"The unbelieving mind would not be convinced by any proof, and the worshiping heart needs none."
A. W. Tozer*

Youth News

March is here and with it comes windy days and warmer weather. This month the teens will participate in the Lee Women's Center "Walk for Life." This event will help raise money for the Lee Women's Center, which endeavors to educate young ladies facing unplanned pregnancy. Their trained counselors provide factual information on abortion, pregnancy and fetal development.

Because life begins at conception, we at Gospel Baptist believe that abortion is murder. Jeremiah wrote: *"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."* (Jeremiah 1:5) Life is precious and a great gift from God. We, as believers in Christ, should do our part in saving the nearly 4,000 innocent lives killed every day. Thus, each of our teens has the opportunity to raise money to help this ministry in their quest to save lives.

Two months ago, Pastor Lytell asked me to supervise the Youth Worship Service which runs simultaneously during our 11:00 a.m. Worship Service in the auditorium. The Youth Worship Service consists of young people from 3rd grade through 6th grade. Each service is supervised by two adult couples and one preacher. Usually, 40 - 65 kids are in every Youth Worship Service.

We teach the kids Bible verses, Bible songs, and missionary stories. We have team competitions using Bible trivia games, sword drills, and Scripture memory. The service always concludes with a message from the Word of God and an invitation for salvation. Almost on a weekly basis, young people are being led to Christ and/or surrendering to an area of conviction. Please continue to pray for this fruitful ministry that we see many more young folks saved and surrender to being obedient to the Word of God. We also pray that through this ministry many moms and dads will come to a saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Marty Moon

Upcoming Events at Gospel	
GBCS FACCS Jr. Fine Arts Competition	Friday, April 25th
GBCS Senior High Graduation	Friday, May 30th
GBCS K-5 Graduation	Thursday, June 5th
Vacation Bible School with Evangelist Kevin Walker and family	Monday - Friday June 16th - 20th

Recommended Sermons

I've Come From Lodebar
February 2, 1997
Preached by Pastor Bill Lytell

Miracle Space
October 15, 1995
Preached by Pastor Bill Lytell

Sermons can be downloaded at
www.gospelbaptistchurch.com