

# Let's Roll

Make a difference

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## From Pastor Bill . . .

Dear Friends of Gospel ~ **The ministry of our generation has never in the history of the world been like this.** We are doing things that never were even thought of, so it seems, like the audio/visual outreaches. Years ago, I watched Jim Baker lead the forefront in this area and start what is now referred to as the "electronic church." As an old-fashioned fundamentalist and local church man, this rubbed me *real wrong*. I, frankly, resented and despised this whole "electronic church" stuff.

Some reasons for my attitude were its lack of accountability, usurping of the local authority, inability to care for those it ministered to, and the robbing of God's people without accounting, to name a few. Like a giant that would not be held back, T.V. church grew and grew. For a short time, Jerry Falwell represented the fundamentalist Bible-believer in this new media. He soon became a money monopolized ministry, spending 1/3 of his program time asking for support, and if you were ever talked into sending any money, never could get off his mailing list!!! Ha! Later, he compromised more and more, to where he rejoined the Southern Baptist Convention again, and allowed rock and roll music of any kind into his college, as long as it was called "Christian."

I suppose I am telling you all this to let you know why we have been so slow at getting into reaching people through one of the newest ministries at Gospel . . . the DVD or T.V. ministry. **About a year ago, God, and I mean God, raised up Warren Brown, who had much experience in audio/visual to come on board with us.** He started from scratch, working on a very limited budget, and was very creative in so many areas. He has put together two cameras, a great sound system, duplicating system, lighting system, and editing system for us. **We now have high quality DVDs available of all main services with an introduction and conclusion.**

I would put his work up against any you see on T.V. today, including the most popular ones, like Charles Stanley. I am not blowing smoke here, either; these DVDs are of the utmost quality. **Every detail is being thought of - from lighting the eyes of the speaker (so good communication can be transmitted by expressions) to sound so good that you think you are there.**



Warren Brown

Oh, sometimes we fail, but not many times . . . Warren is a perfectionist who is not satisfied with anything less than the best reproduction of the real service. Why? **Because he wants Jesus to be glorified and people to get what God has for them.**

Much time in investigation with T.V. broadcasting stations, experts in the field from Bob Jones University's Audio/Visual department, and other sources is constantly going on. **We are close to entering the cable T.V. arena and launching our preaching services for the public to watch.** This has been a "vision" of mine for many years ... praying secretly, asking Jesus to raise a man up to head this ministry and see it through for Him. **Well, He has raised up Warren Brown for us, that is for sure.**

The station where we are going to launch this ministry has a viewing audience of over one million people. The possibilities are enormous. **If we had 500 people watch the broadcast, it would double the outreach of my preaching.** These 500 tell others and who knows where it will go. I am not seeking fame, and do not need more work, **but dear one, there needs to be a “Biblical voice” representing “old-time, fundamental truths” on the air.**

When I view the array of religious programs available for the seeking soul on T.V., it grieves me. People like Joel Osteen, who has replaced Norman Vincent Peale, and preaches a “positive Gospel,” as it were, are giving people the wrong idea of “who God is.” **Sin is not mentioned by these “positive folks” and repentance is rarely mentioned, if at all, yet we know that much of the Bible is given to warning the sinner of his sinful way and compelling him to repent or perish.**

Since about a year ago, we have put audio sermons on our website, as an experiment, and found that thousands of downloads with many e-mail comments have ensued. People are using and enjoying the sermon ministry via the website, and it is growing in numbers monthly (see Mrs. Chapin's article).

We send audio CDs to our missionaries, who have written back to us with much appreciation and about personal encouragement they have received, too. I do not know the end of this, but believe in the age of electronics we live in, it will keep growing and reaching many that we *could not* or *would not* get to through door-to-door and other conventional means. **Don't get the idea that we are stopping any conventional means, because we are not.** We are “adding” to the number of ways we are reaching out to lost souls, multiplying and diversifying our methods, not diminishing them.

Well, that's the short of it . . . please pray for us in this. The Evil One is obviously not pleased with us, and resists us on every hand, but we submit to God, resist the devil and he flees. (James 4:7)

Love you all, Bill

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## What's Happening at Gospel

**We are in full swing with our fall activities and thrilled to be part of God's work in southwest Florida.** School has now been in session for about seven weeks; the Awana program for kids on Wednesday nights has been going well since the middle of September, and every Sunday has been a great day in the Lord at the services of GBC.

In our last publication, I made mention about the mini- construction project we had going in the McKinney Fellowship Hall. Here is what has taken place up to this point. We have built a false wall about six feet away from the wall which has our mural. This six foot space will now be used as a storage area for flowers and extra chairs. Pocket doors were set up on both sides of the wall for easy access. We took down the curtain that was hung on the far side of the Hall and have now opened that area up for seating. The library has also been opened up because the wall that separated it and the flower room (many of you probably never knew there was another room behind the library) has been torn down to create one large library. Eventually, a passageway will be cut from the church foyer into the new library to provide easy access for people leaving the auditorium.

We are in the process of painting the walls in the library. Tile has already been selected for the floor (the carpet in that room has been there since the early 1980's) and we are making final selections on the shelving for the walls. We are hoping to find a glass case to display some of the items which are for sale. This is an exciting thing and when it is all done, I cannot wait to show it off.

**As of the writing of this newsletter, our next big event is the Creation Seminar with Dr. Grady McMurtry.** Dr. McMurtry has been here on two other occasions and has always done a fabulous job in presenting the material. He is very knowledgeable and adept at answering your questions. **The session which will draw much attention will be Tuesday evening (Oct. 30th) when he deals with global warming.** I am sorry that many of you winter people will miss his presentation, but if you are interested, you may visit his website at [www.creationworldview.org](http://www.creationworldview.org). The meetings will be held from **October 28-31.**

Please note some of the upcoming events which are listed below. **I believe we provide some of the greatest events for you, which will in turn reap some great spiritual dividends, if you make your plans to attend. January 20, 2008** will begin our annual **Revival** meetings. This will be the first time Gospel Baptist Church has ever had **Ron Comfort**, but I am sure it will not be the last. **Ron Comfort** is the

president of Ambassador Baptist Bible College in North Carolina and has been traveling in evangelism for many years.

Another North Carolina man will be here for our **Mission's Conference in March (9-12)**. **Danny Whetstone** is the head of Worldwide New Testament Baptist Missions and is a powerful preacher when it comes to evangelism and the cause of missions.

**February 16, 2008** will once again bring the ladies together for the annual **Time Apart for Ladies**. Also, **March 2**, Gospel Baptist Church will celebrate its **28th Anniversary**. Please plan on coming this weekend for a great time. Some winter people only come for a couple of weeks. **If at all possible, I would love to see March 2 be part of the time that you are here.**

Well, regardless of whether you can be here or not, the website can make you feel a little at home with us. Check out the myriad of events listed as well as all the extra goodies. You'll enjoy it. Thanks for your prayers for us each month. We covet them dearly.

John Boutchia

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## Youth News

Coming to the end of October and into November marks the beginning of the snowbird migration to the sunny south. Already some of you have begun to trickle down to your winter's nest.

**This time of year also marks increased activity in our youth department.** Last month, we began our **Initiative 70** discipleship program. We are encouraging teens to take initiative in serving the Lord. Each month, the teens that have signed up for the program earn points by being faithful in attendance, reciting a passage from Psalm 119, coming to youth activities, bringing visitors to church, or by just by being involved in one of our many ministries at the church. One Wednesday night each month, the teens have the opportunity to take over the youth service. Teens take turns in special music, leading singing, giving testimonies, bringing a devotional, planning an activity, and bringing snacks and drinks for afterwards.

The top three boys and girls in the program will be rewarded with a trip to the Hyles-Anderson Youth Conference in July of 2008. **My heart has been blessed seeing our young folks taking the initiative to serve the Lord.**

**This month, our church will host the southwest Florida teen rally on November 2nd.** I'm thankful that a male quartet from Pensacola Christian College will be ministering to us by song that evening. Joining the quartet, Youth Pastor Matt Fitch will be our special speaker. The service will be as usual with congregational singing, special music, a Bible trivia game, preaching by our preacher boys, and a message from the Word of God. We conclude the rally with pizza and fellowship in the McKinney Hall. Usually, about 100-150 teens attend our rallies. **We are praying that God will do a special work in the lives of young people that night.**

Thank you, again, for your prayers. We are asking the Lord for more opportunities to reach young people with the Gospel and then help them to be disciples of Christ.

I would ask you to continue to pray for our college students: Melissa Smith at Florida Baptist College, and Crawford Wiley at Bob Jones University. We are thankful for their desire to serve the Lord and are praying that others in the youth ministry will follow their footsteps.

Because He Lives, Marty

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## On-Line Audio Sermon Ministry

In the spring of 2006, we began offering free audio sermon downloads on our web site. Initially, Pastor Bill hand picked about 30 of his existing sermons for an on-line "Sermon Library." Each week we've added the current Sunday sermons. Today, we have approximately 180 on-line sermons in 32 categories.

Traffic on the web site nearly doubled with the addition of audio sermons. Previously, we averaged 650 visitors per month. We currently average 1115

*"I believe that the Lord has been encouraging me to visit your Church," email from someone who has been listening to our sermons on-line.*

visitors per month, with the audio sermon page consistently being one of the most visited pages.

We began keeping track of the number of sermon downloads in September, 2006. During the first three months, the 98 available sermons were downloaded 933 times! As the sermon library grew, so did the number of downloads. By the end of September 2007, we had counted 6,435 downloads.

Our internet listening audience extends well beyond our doors. Just within the past two months, people from Chile, Mexico, Czech Republic, Brazil, Canada, Hungary, Portugal, South Africa, Ghana, Singapore, Sweden, Japan and the Netherlands have visited our web site.

I've been blessed with a front row seat as the Lord has taken the audio sermon ministry and given it an extensive and ever-growing outreach. What an encouragement it is to me to see the tangible evidence from month-to-month that the Gospel message is being heard some place in the world, each day, as a result of our work here at GBC.

In His Service, Kim Chapin, Web Site Secretary

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***"If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies. If they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees. Let no one go there unwarned and unprayed for. "***

***Charles H. Spurgeon***

### Recommended Sermons

"If Diagnosed Today, Saul Would Be Bi-Polar"

Pastor Bill Lytell

"The Heaviest Emotion In The World"

Pastor Bill Lytell

### Upcoming Events at Gospel

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| November 6, 2007    | Ladies' Just Because                         |
| November 14, 2007   | AWANA Farm Festival                          |
| January 20-25, 2008 | Revival services with Ron Comfort            |
| February 16, 2008   | Ladies' Time Apart                           |
| March 2, 2008       | 28th Anniversary Service for GBC             |
| March 9-12, 2008    | Mission's Conference with<br>Danny Whetstone |