

# The OKLAHOMA BAPTIST

Serving Churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Oklahoma

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## Resolutions...Solutions or Contusions?

By Chris Gonthier  
BMAO Moral Action

In today's world we seek to turn over a new leaf every January 1. Some of the top ideas center around losing weight and changing our diets.

While there is nothing wrong about being careful what you eat and generally getting healthy, we must be careful to not put ourselves in bondage. Going to the gym, walking and other exercises can be helpful, but not to the degree we assume.

1 Timothy 4:8 tells us, "For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."

Understand this is a comparison, physical exercise is not as important as spiritual exercise. It does not mean that we should not care about our temples that God gave to us.

In all actuality, what really happens is we make well intentioned commitments, but go into depression when we cannot fulfill them.

We feel like a failure because we get caught up in the moment, without actually considering the Lord's will. Things that actually were committed have become omitted.

Truth is we need to apply Joshua 24:15-16. "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve

the Lord.

And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods;"

There definitely needs to be forethought before we make decisions, especially those with major implications or long-term commitments.

Exodus 32:26 tells us, "Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, who is on the Lord's side? Let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him."

Moses asked the appropriate question, and the sons of Levi responded correctly. Rather than making decisions, and then asking God to bless, why not stand with the Lord where He already is?

In 1 Kings 18:21 we see the following: "And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word."

Notice how the sons of Levi properly responded, but in this last passage there was not a word.

Perhaps one of the greatest life lessons is what happened in the book of Ruth. Let's look at Ruth 1:15-16 to understand why Ruth was blessed, and

not Orpah.

"And she said, Behold, thy sister in law is gone back unto her people, and unto her gods: return thou after thy sister in law. And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God, my God."

We notice several things from the discourse Naomi had with her daughters-in-law. First is the fact that Naomi was not spiritually minded at the time if she were suggesting people return to false gods.

Second, Orpah made a very unwise choice, she betrayed her mother-in-law and God with a kiss.

Ruth 1:14, "And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her."

So Orpah went back to her people and to her gods, but not so with Ruth. She stayed true to her mother-in-law and showed great character and resolve.

The end results were amazing, with a Moabite woman becoming a part of the lineage of the Messiah. What a huge blessing that was bestowed upon her simply because she was willing to follow God's will for her life. Orpah was lost in obscurity and does not impact us the way Ruth does.

It is amazing that an act that we view as a sign of love, actually sealed the deal to break fellowship. A kiss turned into betrayal; just as kisses today are sometimes used to promote a physical relationship that isn't ordained of God.

Serving God is a choice that has to be made prior to encountering resistance. It is not always easy to serve the Lord, but we must be resolute, or resolved to stand firm.

("Resolutions," cont on pg 7)



# CBC Setting Big Plans for Gala

Central Baptist College has announced the date for our Third Annual Scholarship Gala.

The event will take place on Saturday, April 2, at 6:00pm at the Conway Expo Center. The black-tie optional event will be a celebration of "Courageous Faith."

The proceeds from the event will benefit the Central Baptist College Scholarship Fund which supports all institutionally funded scholarships.

The keynote speaker for the event will be writer, director, actor, and author, Alex Kendrick. He is known for his work in the movies *Overcomer*, *War Room*, *Courageous*, *Fireproof*, *Facing the Giants*, and *Flywheel*.

In 2002, Kendrick along with brother Stephen, founded Sherwood Pictures. They immediately began producing their first movie, *Flywheel*.

Kendrick wrote, directed, produced, and acted in the film. The film went on to sell over a million copies. This is just the first of several movies that Kendrick has developed.

Kendrick has received more than 30 awards for his work. Besides writing,

acting and directing, Kendrick is also an author.

He co-wrote *Defined* and the NY Times bestsellers *The Love Dare*, *The Resolution for Men*, and *The Battle Plan for Prayer*.

Kendrick has dedicated his life to serving Jesus Christ and making his truth and love known among the

nations through movies, books, speaking and prayer.

Make plans to join us for an incredible evening of Courageous Faith.

Event sponsorships begin at \$2,000. Single tickets are on sale for \$100 each.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [cbc.edu/gala](http://cbc.edu/gala) or contact Amy Reed, Director of Development, at [areed@cbc.edu](mailto:areed@cbc.edu) or 501-205-8934.

SAVE THE DATE

CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE

3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL  
*Scholarship Gala*

APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> 2022

COURAGEOUS *Faith*

WITH ALEX KENDRICK  
WRITER, DIRECTOR, ACTOR & AUTHOR

Known for his work in the movies *OVERCOMER*, *WAR ROOM*, *COURAGEOUS*, *FIREPROOF*, *FACING THE GIANTS*, AND *FLYWHEEL*. He has co-written the new book *Defined* and the New York Times best sellers: *The Love Dare*, *The Resolution for Men*, and *The Battle Plan for Prayer*.

Alex and his brothers, Stephen and Shannon, operate Kendrick Brothers Productions. He and his wife, Christiana, live in Albany, Georgia with their 6 children and are active members of Sherwood Church.

## The OKLAHOMA BAPTIST

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# "I Was Just Thinkin'"

By Narita Roady

## "Testing, Testing 1-2-3"

I will forever remember the dread and panic of taking tests in school. Even times I studied well, I was still filled with apprehension of not knowing the answer for sure.

If it was a pop quiz, or I was unprepared, the cold, clammy hand of the fear of failure clutched at my heart.

In the latter cases, I had a repertoire of several sophisticated methods I referred to as guess-timation.

For example, on a True/false test I simply struck my tall-man and pointer fingers soundly on the edge of my desk. If Mr. Pointer felt the most pain then the answer was true, and if Mr. Tall-man hurt the worst, it was false!

That is only one of many brilliant strategies I had at my disposal.

Many of my methods and others must still exist as you will see, by the following answers from children's tests:

*Genetics explains why you look like your father, and if you don't, why you should.*

*The cause of perfume disappearing is evaporation. Evaporation gets blamed for a lot of things people forget to put the top on.*

*I'm not sure how clouds are formed, but clouds know how to do it and that's important thing.*

*Water vapor gets together in a cloud. When it is big enough to be called a drop, it does.*

*Rain is saved up in cloud banks.*

*Mushrooms always grow in damp places which is why they look like umbrellas.*

*The word, trousers, is an uncommon noun because it is singular at the top and plural at the bottom.*

*Some people can tell what time it is by looking at the sun, but I have never been able to make out all the numbers.*

*When planets run around in circles we say they are orbiting, when people do it we say they are crazy.*

*The spinal column is a long bunch of bones. The head sits on top and you sit on the bottom.*

Yes, guess-timation is alive and well in schools today! Not only did these students need their books to get the right answers, they also needed some old fashion studying!

They made noble, even brave attempts in their replies, but they were still dead wrong! I believe they were sincere in wanting to give the right answer, but that still didn't make their responses correct!

As Christians we are also students, but we are called disciples. We attend the School of Life. God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are our teachers and our text book is the Bible. Classes are daily; tests are certain, and pop quizzes are pretty frequent too!

No matter how sincere we are, the wrong answers will have lasting consequences in our lives and others. We need the Bible to find the correct solutions to life's questions.



## SURPRISE! POP QUIZ!

Now honestly ask yourself these questions and see how well you measure up as a disciple of the Word.

Have you made a commitment to be in class each day? This not only includes regular and special church services, but keeping your private

appointment with God daily.  
2 Timothy 2:15

Have you set apart a specific amount of time you will spend in your studies? Choosing a time of day when you are most alert?

Psalms 63:1

This may require sacrifice, like rising early or forgoing other entertainment.  
Psalms 119:148

Do you have a specific place to study with good lighting and adequate space to work?

Matthew 6:6

Have you gathered the necessary tools to study: your Bible, a pen, a notebook, highlighters, and a concordance or Bible dictionary?

Do you take notes for reference and future study? Take notes during sermons, jotting down scriptures, and important points.

Also write down scriptures that the Holy Spirit draws your attention to any insights God gives you and answers in the Word to situations in your life. These notes will be an invaluable reference later and may even help others going throughout similar situations.

2 Timothy 3:16

Before you start, talk to the Lord and ask Him to guide your study and make

("Testing, cont on pg 7)

## “Adapting to a New Religious Climate”

The religious climate has been changing for years and is quite alarming. Surveys report that on any given Sunday only 17 percent of the population is in church.

Some believe that America has all the churches it needs, but the exact opposite is true: Surveyors predict that by 2050, North America will need 300,000 to 400,000 new churches – double the number - just to keep up with population growth.

Seven American states qualify as unreached people groups with only two percent of their populations being evangelical. Missiologists state that it requires at least ten percent of a people group to effectively evangelize their neighbors.

This makes a dangerous assumption that only ten percent are doing the work of evangelism. In reality, only 3-5% of believers are actively sharing their faith.

A new study takes a deeper look at what are being described as the “nones.” In 1972 only five percent of Americans claimed “no religion” on general social surveys, but in 2018 that number rose to 23.7%.

This makes the “nones” as numerous as evangelical Protestants and Roman Catholics put together.

Every indication is that the “nones” will be the largest group in the United States in the next decade!

In *The Nones: Where They Came From, Who They Are, and Where They Are Going*, author Ryan Burge digs deep into what Christians need to know to more effectively reach this new, ever-increasing demographic group.

Dan White, Jr. recently tweeted, “The church has tried to do so much of its mission from the stage! We need a break from the stage in order to reorient us to the streets.”

Will Mancini challenges us with this thought: “Church has to be more than a show on Sunday with a few hooks in the water!” How do we get back to the

mission of God in local neighborhoods and reach communities with the gospel?

Recommit to making disciples from where we work, live, and play.

God strategically positions us in the right places, at the right times, with the right people. Do you have a discipleship pathway that equips, empowers, and releases your church to make disciples in the coffee shops, at the ball fields, and in the homes of their neighbors?

The time has come to not only have program-driven discipleship but to train our people to be ready and prepared to disciple when God opens the door.

Also, know that just because people are going to church does not mean they are believers or are growing in Christ.

We must begin praying continually for our communities.

Prayer is the difference between the best you can do and the best God can do. I was too young when I began pastoring my first church, but God convicted me recently that He called me and He placed me there. He loves using us before we feel like we are ready and loves using us after we think we are done.

God loves using us in our weaknesses because that is when He receives the most glory. The key is your willingness to prayerfully submit to His voice. Pray for discernment in having the right motives, actions, and

message.

Then give the “nones” and others all the wrong reasons to show up. Ryan Burge shared that theologians think primarily vertically while political science thinks horizontally.

While you should not stop focusing on theology, the challenge is to begin focusing on loving those around us as Christ desires us to love them. You can be theologically sound and culturally relevant, but if you are only vertically focused you can miss opportunities to be Christ to others (i.e., the Good Samaritan!).

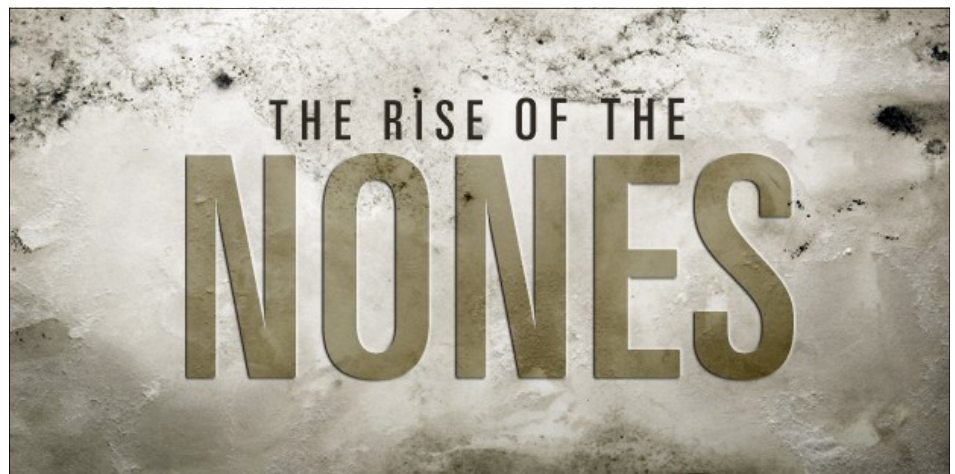
Maybe people come to church for the wrong reasons - a meal or other event - but then the Holy Spirit uses that draw them.

Have you lost your credibility as living, acting, and reacting like the body of Christ God has called you to do? Studies say that people believe your message based on your actual words (7%), your tone (38%), and your body language (55%).

Church, what does your body language say to the world and your community? Can they see that your actions are giving credibility to what you say you believe?

Are you acting and reacting to the culture in a supernatural, biblical manner? Jesus said we are to turn the other cheek, love our enemies, bless those who curse us, and pray for those who persecute us. How are you doing at that?

(“Religious Climate,” cont on pg 8)



# “The Importance of Family Care”

By Bo. Larry Barker

We have been discussing soul care and are now focusing on family care, team care, member care, and health care. In the area of family care, you must first take care of your marriage.

No one can be the husband to your wife that God has called you to be.

First and foremost, make sure you are still dating your wife. I saw how one church, Calvary Baptist in Horn Lake, MS, where couples met with their pastor for a “Date Night with a Purpose.”

First there was a devotional, then couples were dismissed and given a hand out sheet to discuss on their date. What a great idea!

Include everyone in the activities so they feel part of the team. Now we want to focus on family care to help everyone enjoy the ministry together.

When we lived in Romania and made in-country visits, and I always took one of our three children with me. They looked forward to their time with me and my other two enjoyed the time with their mother. This gave me the opportunity for quality time with them and to find out how they were doing, like what were they enjoying the most? (Always start with the positive first!)

Then what were they struggling with the most? Doing so gave us the perfect chance to talk heart to heart about what they were thankful for and what they wished was different. Take advantage of every chance to listen to your children.

Take field trips, and look for ways to have quality family time. When you're close to interesting sights and destinations, make sure you enjoy them together.

When we lived in Romania, we took a tour of Dracula's Castle in Braun, but what in the States when we were close, we made sure to visit Mount Rushmore, the Grand Canyon, and any beach that was available. Take family breaks.

Do not miss the big events in their lives. Attend the concerts, school plays, and other activities they are involved in.

Another church meeting is not more important than your children, and time passes quickly. Let them know that they are your priority.

When my daughter sang in the school talent show we were there. When the boys played football, we were in the stands on Friday nights.

No, you won't necessarily make everything and yes, you will probably miss some things, but make sure you prioritize what's important because your presence means everything to them.

Let your children serve where they want to. Be careful not to overload your family with responsibilities they struggle with. Challenge them to serve, but give them the same consideration every church member has to find a place where they can thrive, enjoy, and utilize their spiritual gifts.

All believers should be challenged to be willing to do all that is needed, but

not have to do everything. I must admit that I have been guilty of giving my family jobs they did not want to do because no one else was willing. Be careful and understanding in this area.

Hold your family to a high biblical standard, but don't allow others to place unrealistic expectations on them. Your children must behave and be corrected when necessary, but don't use guilt to motivate them by reminding them that they're PKs (pastors kids).

Believe me, they know and they already feel the weight of living in a glass house. There is definitely a fine line, sometimes, between privilege and being taken advantage of because of your family.

Involve them, allow them to find their sweet spot, realize they are distinctively different, and give the space to decide where they will serve.

Be careful what you say and discuss in front of them. If all they ever hear is the bad side of ministry, they might think all ministry is negative and begin to pull away.

Make sure they are not too close to conversations taking place during the difficult times.

One time, I mentioned “a wolf in sheep's clothing” at the dinner table. My wife immediately looked my way, reminding me the children were present. I changed the subject, but a couple weeks later my youngest asked a group of men standing in the parking lot with me, “Which one of you is the wolf in sheep's clothing?” Be careful.

Pray with your children. Pray for them, but make sure you pray with them. They need to hear you praying over them, asking God to care for them, for Jesus to become their Lord and Savior, and for the the Holy Spirit to guide and direct them. as they begin to develop a hunger and thirst for the things of God, listen to them.

Don't overlook the importance of a family altar, an excellent opportunity to disciple your first responsibility, your family. It's easy to overlook this, but it should be scheduled, intentional, and protected from being forgotten.

Your family is your first mission field. Begin from day one and continue through the years to train and teach them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.



# "That Reminds Me"

By Jesse Spurlock

## "Considering Money"

When I was growing up I never saw a \$100 bill. I heard they existed, but I thought I would probably never see one. As long as I lived on the farm, I certainly never saw one.

Joining the Marines kept my ignorance going, because my pay was \$78 a month before taxes.

I was sure a \$100 bill probably existed, but they were obviously printed for the very wealthy and not for me.

My first job in the Marines was payroll clerk, but the officer actually handled the money. My job was to call the name of the one being paid, and the officer would dole out the money. "Dole," is a good word for it, because the pay was so low for the military at that time, the largest bill was a \$20.

My pay in the Marines did increase to \$140.40 per month as a sergeant, but I still never saw a \$100 bill. Apparently they still didn't trust me with such a large bill because they still only paid me with \$20s.

When I became a policeman, I saw a lot of \$100 bills, but they weren't mine. I has so many bills to pay that after depositing my check, had I cashed a check for \$100 it would have bounced.

By the time I went to work for the Federal Reserve I had seen a lot of \$100 bills, but not usually all at once. When I went to work for the Federal Reserve Bank they showed me the vault with stacks and stacks of bills of all denominations.

The \$100 stack was really impressive. I asked the Cash Services employee how much money was in the vault. Very casually he said, "Oh, several billion I suppose."

I asked, "Don't you know closer than that?" He laughed and said, "Yes, but if I

told you I'd have to kill you."

A few days later a Brinks Armored car came in to pick

up a load of currency. Cash Services people had rolled out a two foot by six foot, four wheel cart, holding high stacks of bundles of \$20 bills. I was told there was \$8,000,000 on the cart.

That day we were have a bank-wide food day. Employees from each department had brought food in for the day.

The Brinks driver was a former employee, so some of his friends fixed him a plate and brought it out to him. He pulled up a stool beside the \$8,000,000 cart, put his plate on it and began to devour the food, totally oblivious to the value of his table.

The Bible gives any warnings about having a love of money and having our affections on things of this earth. I don't know if the driver was a Christian or

not, but one thing was sure.

From his actions, it was obvious his love of money was secondary to his love of good food.

Recalling that incident, I was reminded of the number of times God's Word warns about money. 1 Timothy 6:10 warns us, not about money, but

the love of money.

"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

In Hebrews 13:5 God warns us about covetousness, which usually involves money. "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

In Luke 12:15 Jesus reminds us to "... take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

It isn't about our having money, but rather about our money having us.



## **“Resolutions,” cont from pg 1**

Philippians 1:20-21, “According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

We must stand firm in our commitment to the Lord, and we will be blessed for it. Even if the saved person were to die, oh, what a great victory he would have.

In Joshua we see this is a family decision. Fathers need to stand up and lead their families into worship and service of the Lord.

Children in the home should not be allowed to dictate whether or not they are going to go to church. Set boundaries

and give direction because children need guidance.

Are we going to damage ourselves because we want to be trendy and get on the resolution bandwagon? Or are we going to decide to stray true and focus on God?

In Isaiah 45:20 we see the following, “Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that cannot save.”

We are focused oftentimes on things that cannot help us. We have essentially made things to be gods that

should never have the position that we have given to them.

We have elevated things such as government to such a position that God never intended.

Government should never take the place of the church in the ministry that is performed.

We allow the job to become our god, when it robs us of time that should be spent with God. We must earn a living, but sometimes we exceed what is just and right, and spend time to the excess.

Our families can also get in the way of our serving the Lord. Remember that the Lord is a jealous God, and he can and will remove obstacles that hinder our service to him.

Our favorite political party, or candidate, will not save us; so why do we practically worship them?

In Joshua 24:16 we see that godly actions have an influence on others.

“And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods;”

Since our actions influence others, are you leading people to good? Or to bad? Every action has “fall out” or some form of consequences. We need to choose wisely.

Jeremiah 10:5 says, “They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: They must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.”

We should choose freely to do the things that God commands us to do. Perhaps the best thing we can do is to ask ourselves the following questions.

Psalm 94:16, “Who will stand up for me against the evildoers? Or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?”

What will your answer(s) be?

Where do your loyalties lie?

## **“Testing 1-2-3” cont from pg 3**

you attentive to the things He would have you learn.

Psalms 31:3; 32:8

Do you memorize scriptures the Lord lays on your heart?

Psalm 119:11

Do you apply what you learn? We have not actually learned something until we can apply it to our lives and use it?

Deuteronomy 4:9

Always check your answers against your Textbook, the Bible. God’s Word will never contradict itself.

If your answer doesn’t agree with God’s Word, then it didn’t come from the Lord, and it’s wrong.

Yes, there will always be tests in our lives but if we are persistent in studying Life’s textbook, God’s Holy Word, we need never fear complete failure and we can expect to get a passing grade!

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

2 Peter 1:5-10

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***“As Christians we are also students, but we are called disciples. We attend the School of Life. God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are our teachers and our text book is the Bible. Classes are daily; tests are certain, and pop quizzes are pretty frequent too!”***

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# Lifeword Moving Forward in Faith

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

"But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Hebrews 11:6

The Lifeword team is moving forward into 2022 through faith in God alone. Ambitious plans call for steadfast faith! We have a clear mandate to assist the churches of BMA America in obeying His Great Commission, and we have faith that He will provide for us as we follow Him.

The following are the goals Lifeword will pursue in 2022:

## A New Discipleship Portal

The Lifeword Cloud has proven to be one of the most effective efforts to reach the world for Christ ever employed by Lifeword. In 2021 alone, over six million people visited lifeword.org to discover the wonder of Jesus Christ.

In the next phase of cloud development, Lifeword intends to invite visitors to engage in a discipleship process with the goal of linking them with a local church!

Presently Lifeword's Director of Audience Engagement Yalanda Merrell is leading our efforts to create and produce content in our Discipleship Portal.

In 2022 we intend to move into the actual build, testing, and implementation of the Discipleship Portal.

## A New Video Studio

Lifeword's move into Internet ministry four years ago necessitated the introduction and production of video content. This called for the redesign of the Lifeword audio production studio to be used for video.

The move has served the ministry well! Thousands of hours of video content have been shot in that small production area. As the need for video content

continues to increase, the need for more studio space has become critical.

The warehouse space on our present campus was originally designed as a television production area. Lifeword intends to build a warehouse at the back of our present facilities and reclaim the present warehouse area for the purpose it was originally intended.

This will give us four times the video production area that we have presently and will allow for more gospel programming to be produced.

## More Languages to Reach More People

Presently Lifeword has a gospel presentation in 134 different languages of the world. In 2022 we expect to increase that language count to at least 20 new languages.

Our goal within the next five years is to share the story of Jesus in at least 200 languages.

We need your continued support and prayers to meet all of these ambitious goals! We need faith that our God will provide for our needs financially as we follow His plans.

Please remember the ministry of Lifeword as you pray and give. We pledge to continue to take the gospel to

## **"Religious Climate," continued from pg 4**

Reacting to the world in a Christian manner is counterintuitive and counter reactive. How do you do that? Mark Batterson says, "We absorb the sinful, hurtful energy of others and convert it into a righteous response. Being treated wrongly becomes a catalyst for prayer. Nothing reconditions our spiritual reflexes like prayer!"

Grace means I will love you no matter what, and truth means I'll be honest with you no matter what. It always circles back to prayer, so you must pray for discernment to be both wise and harmless.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**World Missions Sunday  
February 27**

**Central District  
Mid-year Meeting  
Golden Corral, Norman  
March 5**

**BMAO Midyear Meeting  
FMB Lindsay  
April 2**

(Location may be subject to change)

**BMAA National Meeting  
Springfield, MO  
April 18-20**

places where people have never heard and share with them in their heart languages.

We have only one job at Lifeword . . . to tell the story. We are trusting that 2022 will be the greatest in Lifeword history.

How can your church best honor and glorify God in your present situation?

Love on people who are far from God with no expectations and no strings attached. Allow God to show you ways to demonstrate His love in practical ways. Allow the "body language" of your church to remind the people in your community that the church is a force for good and that it does create a world less awful.

The light may seem dim, but imagine what it would be without any light!

*(Other resources include the following: The Art of Neighboring by Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon, Future Church by Will Mancini and Cory Hartman.)*