

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY REMINDER

Volume XXI

March 13, 2016

Number 7

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Bertha Segebart
Cradle Roll 2: VOLUNTEER NEEDED!
Sun. Eve. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: LeAnna White
Cradle Roll 2: Seth White
Wed. Wed. Eve. Service ---- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
Cradle Roll 2: VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of February 28, 2016

Sunday School ----- 22
Sunday Morning Service ----- 36
Sunday Evening Service ----- 33
Wed. Eve. Service, 03/02/16 ----- 15

Week of March 6, 2016

Sunday School ----- 13
Sunday Morning Service ----- 21
Sunday Evening Service ----- 18
Wed. Eve. Service, 03/09/16 ----- 23

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of February 28, 2016

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,557.15
Total Received for Week of 02/28/16: \$ 1,557.15

Week of March 6, 2016

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,148.55
Total Received for Week of 03/06/16: \$ 1,148.55

**Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed
to operate the church EACH WEEK,
as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00**

LISTEN TO -



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

PLUMBING REPAIR FUND -

Amount For Entire Project ----- \$6,606.99
Amount Received So Far ----- \$ 867.00
Total **STILL NEEDED** to pay off: \$5,739.99

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today - OK?* Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianist/ Organist
----- Greeter
Shayne Hooper, Brian Crawford, Charity Crawford ----- S.S. Teachers
Larry & Mary Byars, ----- Outreach
Bertha Segebart ----- Custodian
Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford



AGEISM IN THE AGE OF HIPSTER CHRISTIANITY

by Mary DeMuth

A couple years ago I attended a splashy conference full of vibrant energy. The speakers donned hipster clothes (they knew the trend before it became a thing), shared relevant messages, and generally pumped me up to rah-rah-rah follow Jesus. I left the conference energized but also a bit jaded and cynical. *Where were*

the matriarchs and patriarchs of the faith?

When I attended Cape Town 2010, I had two very significant encounters. As a table group leader, I had the privilege of leading six people in discussion during our time there.

One man, an Iraqi Christian, told of his imprisonment for his faith, how he dared to operate a Christian radio station before and after regime changes. I wanted him to become my father. He was old, grayed, and definitely not hipster, but oh his heart, how it radiated Jesus!

The other man told of his son being shot (and paralyzed) in their home in South Africa. He had a beautiful story, one of anguish, yet full of God's restoration. He heard my story of abuse, and at the last moment we shared together, pulled me aside, put his hands on my shoulders, and said this to me, "*Mary, on behalf of all men, I apologize to you.*" Tears wept between us as this patriarch salved a wound I thought would never heal.

Both these men were over sixty years old. They did not wear skinny jeans. They had no platforms, no real "tribe" to call their own. They didn't have people chasing after their guru ways. Neither had a Twitter handle, a blog, or a podcast. They seemed unaffected by trend and The Next Big Thing. *They simply spent their lives in sacrifice for the One who sacrificed for them.*

I appreciate younger Christians. And, of course, I'm grateful for their gifts, verve and guts. I even think they're cool.

But I believe we miss out on the breadth and depth of the Christian life when we marginalize or dismiss those who have walked with Jesus for decades, who have successfully moved away from Me-First, Ego-driven Christianity and have settled into selfless service. Who have learned the beautiful art of finishing well, of practicing long obedience in the same direction.

Instead of tattoos, they sport battle scars.

Instead of skinny jeans, they've endured lean years, learning to rely on Jesus.

Instead of piercings, they've been pierced by health concerns, death of loved ones, ministry failures. (Oh, why is it that we flock to those who only have ministry success?)

Instead of highlighted hair, gray punctuates their crown.

We should welcome these voices to the platform, sit at their feet, listening intently. The author of Hebrews reminds us to remember them. *"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation" (Hebrews 13:7).* Notice that we're to view the OUTCOME of their faith. This indicates a track record of faithfulness, not just three awesome years of church planting success.

R. C. Sproul wrote, *"When I last crossed a decade barrier in my own aging process, God was good enough to grant me this small bit of wisdom—the Bible honors age, not youth."*

(continued inside)

And yet, our celebrity-obsessed culture that values trend and the hip factor, worships youth, deifying and idolizing perpetual adolescence. This may be true in the world, but it should not be true in the church - *we should look different, act different, value the marginalized, the powerless, the overlooked.*

Job 12:12 reminds us, *“With the ancient is wisdom; and in length of days understanding.”*

The Apostle Paul whose words we prize admitted to being old as he wrote from prison, *“Yet for love's sake I rather beseech thee, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ” (Philemon 1:9).*

Peter warns all of us to walk with humility, subjecting ourselves to those farther along the journey than us. *“Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble” (I Peter 5:5).*

Wouldn't it be amazing if we dared to listen to and honored those who have walked before us by giving them the stage? We stand on the shoulders of our predecessors, but God is not yet finished with them. Why not dignify those whose lives have played out well, who have so much to offer? ■

- Mary DeMuth is a Christian writer and blogger



SBC President Ronnie Floyd

THE SBC: 100 Days of Narcissistic Prophet Syndrome Remaining?

Ronnie Floyd has 100 days remaining at the helm of the SBC. The prophetic mantle shall be passed to another. The fire from heaven shall be enjoined to the next mega-church golden boy of the Convention. The power of vision casting will transfer to the next anointed one, the next one in line as “God’s man for the hour”.

Floyd wrote *“My Last 100 Days As Southern Baptist President”*, posted March 7 in the Baptist Press.

Much of his article is a summary of the many things he’s done as President, including the preparations for the upcoming convention in St. Louis. Surprisingly, he failed to actually tout his longstanding plea of “Awaken America”. Presumably, SBC brethren are still praying for this. (Please don’t; instead, please be on your face before God pleading with him to awaken the SBC...back to Scripture, back to the Great Commission, and back to obedience.)

The first few sections of his article outline his action as president in making various appointments to various committees of the bloated convention. He appoints 68 people to the

Committee on Committees; he appoints people to the Committee on Resolutions; he appoints parliamentarians; he appoints to the Credentials Committee; he appoints to the Tellers Committee. It’s a chore of such magnitude that no mighty prophet of the Old Testament would likely dare assume such duties.

(Please understand, fellow SBC-er, these numerous committees are absolutely essential to the core goal of the Convention ... no, not the one of spreading the Gospel ... the other one. The one that insures a heirarchy of bureacracy so entangling that no one lacking appropriate anointing ever rises to any leadership in the Convention proper. The effective use of appointments and the plethora of committees prevents the woeful possibility that a non vision-caster might rise to influence.)

In the section of his article where he comments on his media responses, particularly those before Super Tuesday, Floyd says,

“I am honored to be able to represent Southern Baptists in the media during a time when evangelicals may not be presented in the best light.”

While we can be certain that he surely looked crisp and dapper in the latest Armani fashion, I’m not so sure about “presenting evangelicals in the best light”. Is this why he bounded over to IHOP (the International House of Prayer cult) to participate with Word of Faith (WOF) & New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) heretics ... so that he could present evangelicals in the best light? Or does he view his NAR buddies as authentic evangelicals too?

Yet, it’s the next section of Floyd’s article that is most bristle-provoking. Here’s the excerpt:

“Weekly SBC article released each Monday -

“Each president of the Southern Baptist Convention has to *fulfill their vision* as God leads them, but I have chosen to write articles related to our convention weekly. These are published on my blog each Monday.

My team informed me that by the time I finish my term at the conclusion of our 2016 convention in St. Louis, I will have written no less than 110 articles related to the Southern Baptist Convention. Yes, I have written a lot about our work together as Southern Baptists.

I have done this because *I believe in the power of Habakkuk 2:2*: “The Lord answered me: Write down this vision; clearly inscribe it on tablets so one may easily read it.”

God has used many of these weekly articles to *forward the vision* not only within our convention, *but way beyond*. Therefore, in these last 100 days, *I will continue to write. God uses the written word.*” (Highlights mine)

Umm ... Is Ronnie Floyd suffering from Narcissistic Prophet Syndrome? The thoroughly unbiblical presence of vision-casting has been prevalent during Floyd’s tenure, and still runs amok among SBC leadership and agencies.

That Floyd is prolific is not a problem, and that he is encouraging other pastors and leaders to write is not worrisome.

Leaders need to lead. Leaders need to guide through any and all media available. Nothing at all wrong with that.

What is worrisome with Floyd is that, as he did in the excerpt above, *he writes as if he has some special anointing that brings greater weight to his tomes, that he has some unique prophetic vision from God that he is bound to share with the unenlightened*. You almost expect Floyd to announce he’s bounded the zenith of Mt. Carmel and is summoning fire from heaven in order to “forward the vision“. (Yes, it is that ridiculous.)

(Just a reminder, if you are a believer, you too are anointed. Neither Floyd, nor his NAR apostle pals, nor anyone else, has some “super-anointing” unavailable to you. See I John 2:27.)

Ronnie, sir, you are not Habakkuk. Despite the fact that you have buddies who claim to be modern day apostles (no, they’re not), you aren’t one either. Neither are you a prophet. The last Old Testament prophet died, beheaded by Herod (for proclaiming the truth, oddly enough). Remember John the Baptist?

The Words Habakkuk received from God were for him, not you. The vision he received was for him, not you. There is no super spiritual power in the verse you quoted that imbues your words with any greater, or less, import than the words of any other man. Nor have you received a vision from on high.

That you believe Habakkuk the Word of God is good; that’s a no-brainer for an SBC president. There is much for us to learn from all Scripture; but that Scripture is not about us ... it is about God, His “vision”, and His Revelation. Habakkuk isn’t about you, Ronnie.

To suggest that this verse give you some greater prophetic, vision-casting credence is WRONG! Ronnie, you’re succumbing to (and encouraging) faulty hermeneutics that is awfully, awfully characteristic of prosperity gospel heretics over on TBN. (Ask Beth Moore about them. She’s joined them there daily! Hopefully, you’re not going for a bouffant hairdo too.) In fact, you’re encouraging what already abounds around the evangelical church, especially the SBC, a heretical “HUMAN-neutics”.

Floyd’s use of “way beyond” is reminiscent of the oh, so worrisome words he uttered at the Executive Committee meeting in February, evidently justifying his embrace of participation with blatantly heretical “evangelicals”... He says -

“Furthermore this price was not paid for Southern Baptists to become like some exclusive club that is so narrow we cannot cooperate with other evangelicals and even beyond...” (Emphasis mine)

“Even beyond.” Okay. The Gospel? Yeah, it’s exclusive, very exclusive. I’m still sticking with the “Avoid them” command from Paul with regards to false teachers. (Romans 1:17) Shouldn’t we be telling Southern Baptists to obey that command, too?

But, let’s move on...

He says, *“I will continue to write. God uses the written word.”*

Umm, yeah, well ... **NO**. You aren’t an apostle; you aren’t a prophet; and, your written word, Ronnie, is as equally inspired as mine. Last time I checked, the canon of Scripture was closed. You may quote it; you may cite it; you may preach it; you may exhort others unto it – all things you should do ... *but you may not add to it!* (Rev. 22:18-19) Nor ought you suggest that your writing is somehow, again, specially endorsed by God!

God does use the written word **HIS WRITTEN WORD**. The singular focus we lack in the SBC is the one saturated with His Word ... the exegetical preaching and teaching of it; the proclamation of the Gospel from it; and the use of it as we claim to do in the Baptist Faith and Message ... “the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried...” (Yeah, can we, umm, please, do more of that?)

It’s woeful that we have a president of our convention who actually promotes, openly, patently unbiblical “vision-casting”. We have a vision in God’s Word. There are no new “visions” emanating from heaven; we have it - it’s THE BIBLE!

Our problem is that our self-aggrandizing human-neutics require us to elevate ourselves above the mere “written word,” unless those are words we (or Ronnie) penned. We take upon ourselves Christ’s job, “I will build my church,” and fail in basic obedience to our task, “preach the Gospel.” (Mark 16:15)

Still, we only have yet days to go until the current prophetic tenure ends. Yet, another one lies in the wings ... one with no less concern. Where Floyd may be writing God-usable words, J.D. Greear, the apparent “next anointed”, doesn’t just write them; he teaches believers how to hear God speak them and, apparently, how to jabber back to Him in tongues.

Folks, it’s not the end of a prophetic era in the SBC. It’s just the continuation of a drought of focus on the Word. (Not yours, Ronnie ... God’s).

Friends, please pray for an awakening in the SBC. We need an avalanche of repentance and a reformation within our ranks. Pray for that.

- by Bud Ahlheim, Pulpit & Pen



The Word of God shall stand forever—Isaiah 40:8