

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Mary Byars
 Cradle Roll 2: Larry Byars
 6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Kristi Hooper
 Cradle Roll 2: Andrea Hooper
 Wed. Evening Service ---- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
 Cradle Roll 2: NEED VOLUNTEER!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of October 9, 2016

Sunday School ----- 24
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 28
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 27
 Wed. Eve., 10/12/16 Service ----- 26

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of October 9, 2016

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 737.11
 Total Received for Week of 10/09/16: \$ 737.11
 Average amount of UNDESIGNATED Offerings
 needed to operate the church **EACH WEEK,**
as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00



GIVE OUT A GOSPEL TRACT THIS WEEK!

LISTEN TO -



1928 Atwater Kent

ABIDINGRADIO.COM

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 Segebarr ----- Custodian
 Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY
REMINDER

Volume XIX

October 16, 2016

Number 38



WITNESSING WITH GOSPEL TRACTS

Gospel tracts and pamphlets are very important tools in evangelism. The printing press was a wonderful gift from God and has been used greatly for the glory of Jesus Christ. The printed page can greatly multiply our efforts in the service of the Lord and tracts can oftentimes go places where we cannot go.

BE CAREFUL ABOUT THE MESSAGE -

The first consideration in the use of Gospel tracts is to be certain that the content is scriptural.

There are three problems with many gospel tracts:

1. MANY TRACTS DO NOT CONTAIN A CLEAR AND BIBLICAL PRESENTATION OF THE GOSPEL. Many refer to salvation in an unscriptural and confusing manner, such as "asking Jesus into my heart" or "giving my life to Christ." Salvation is not to give one's life to Christ, but is to trust the finished atonement of Christ. Nowhere in the New Testament do we see the Lord Jesus or the Apostles telling people to give their lives to Christ or to ask Jesus into their hearts. We need to follow the Bible very carefully in the terminology we use so that people are not confused and so they do not make false professions of faith.

2. THE SECOND SERIOUS DRAWBACK IS THAT MOST TRACTS DO NOT DEAL WITH REPENTANCE. Most don't even mention the word or even hint at the concept, yet the Lord Jesus Christ and His apostles preached repentance plainly and demanded it from those who would be saved. Salvation only comes by "*repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ*" (Acts 20:21). Any presentation of the gospel should include the fact that God "*now commandeth all men every where to repent*" (Acts 17:30). Whether or not the word "repentance"

(continued inside)

is used in a Gospel tract, the idea should be. What is repentance? It is a turning, a change of direction (I Thess. 1:9). When I receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour, I am turning my back to the old life.

3. ANOTHER PROBLEM IS THAT MANY SIMPLY DO NOT GIVE ENOUGH INFORMATION. Large numbers of people in North America today are as ignorant of the true God of the Bible and of the basics of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as any Hindu in darkest Asia. It is crucial that we begin with the basics with these people, and that we explain biblical terms thoroughly, otherwise, when they hear terms such as “saved,” “believe,” “Christ,” “God,” “sin,” they won't have the proper idea of what we are talking about, and any “profession” they make will be empty.

THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN PASSING OUT TRACTS -

Giving out tracts is something every born again believer can do, young or old.

1. Remember that it is each believer's responsibility to give out the Gospel (see Mat. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:15; Lk. 24:45-48; Acts 1:8; II Cor. 5:17-21; Phil. 2:16; II Tim. 4:5).

2. Remember that by giving out the Gospel you are offering the greatest gift in the world. When we give out the gospel we are offering dead people life; we are offering poor people riches; we are offering sick people healing; we are offering lost people salvation.

3. It is wise to read the tracts first yourself before giving them out to others. This way you will know exactly what it says and you can refer to it when you talk to people. Also, by first reading tracts before giving them away you can see if the tract contains something that is not true or leaves out something important such as repentance.

4. Make a commitment to give out so many tracts each week.

5. Always be pleasant and polite. Remember that you are a complete stranger to the people you are

approaching. Ask kindly, “May I give you something special to read?” or “I have some Good News for You” or “May I give you something that has been a blessing in my own life?” If they are busy ask them to put it in their pocket and read at home.

6. Keep in mind that the goal is not merely to give out tracts but to find opportunities to witness to people about the Lord Jesus Christ with the goal of leading them to salvation. Use the tracts to open the conversation, and when you find someone who is interested take the time to talk further with him and see if he or she is willing to meet again. We must remember that it is not enough to give out tracts; the objective is to see people come to Christ and baptized and discipled (Matt. 28:19-20).

7. Don't get upset or discouraged if someone says something against Jesus and the Bible or they mock you and what you are doing (see Mat. 5:11-12; Jn. 15:20; Lk. 9:26; Phil. 1:29).

8. Give out tracts to those who look like they might be interested and to those who don't. We cannot look upon the hearts of men and we cannot know who God might be dealing with. Jesus said preach the Gospel to every creature (see Mk. 16:15).

9. Be sure there is a name and address stamped on each tract so that if someone is interested they have a contact for further help. A Gospel correspondence course is a good way to follow up on tract distribution.

10. One of the most important things about tract distribution is faithfulness and persistence. Do the work faithfully (I Cor. 4:2).

11. Remember that our real enemy in tract distribution is Satan. Be sure you are spiritually prepared (Eph. 6:11-12).



not anticipate: immersing the user in a religious journey. The participant sits while wearing a special set of virtual reality goggles, which put him into a three-dimensional depiction of the world of the Second Temple. The tour begins in the open air shuk (market) in Jerusalem of approximately 2,000 years ago. It wanders by Robinson's Arch and the Royal Stoa in the southwest corner in all their full glory, before passing in through the gates of the Temple.

The virtual tour brings “visitors” through the Temple courtyards, past the altar, into the midst of the priests and their daily activity. The tour ends inside the Temple, where the visitor can see the menorah, the seven branched lamp, and the rack that held the show breads. Though animal sacrifices are not shown, the High Priest is seen performing the ketoret, the daily service in which the incense composed of 11 spices was burned on the small ‘Gold Altar.’ ... Creating this project was no simple task. It entailed bringing together cutting edge technology with esoteric learning, history, and live actors. Matanel Libi, the CEO, began the project five years ago, driven by a desire to create a way for people to see the Temple in all its glory.”

9 SCIENTISTS SAY HEALTH BENEFITS FROM ALCOHOL MAY BE GREATLY EXAGGERATED - The following is from “Scientists Say,” Fox News, Sept. 26, 2016:

“Despite claims in recent years that a glass of red wine could reduce chances of getting heart disease, new research is discovering that the information may be faulty. Scientists are now saying that many of the studies touting alcohol's benefits were actually subsidized by alcohol companies, reports Wired. The real science behind these so-called benefits may have been grossly exaggerated and may have led to the systemic burying of a serious risk of imbibing too much alcohol--cancer. Research conducted in 2014 by Boston University professor Curt Ellison led to the declaration that the consumption of moderate amounts of red wine could help in the fight against heart disease. The study was widely cited and heralded by wine industry insiders. But Ellison's research was supported by ‘unrestricted educational donations’ from the liquor industry, according to Addiction magazine. ... The science behind much of the research is also allegedly flawed. ...

A study released earlier this year in the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs reviewed findings from 87 previously published reports on drinking and death, from all causes. The report found that all but 13 of those reviewed had critical flaws. ... The 13 studies that did account for abstainer bias found no health benefits associated with drinking. The re-evaluation of alcohol consumption is already causing governments to make policy changes. In January new guidelines put forth by the U.K.'s Chief Medical Officers warned that any level of drinking alcohol increases the chance of getting several different types of cancers. ... In January, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services removed language in its guidelines on alcohol consumption that said light drinking could lower the risk of heart disease for some

people.”

Three thousand years ago the last word about alcoholic consumption was given in God's Word: **“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise” (Proverbs 20:1).**

9 ECUMENICAL PRAYER FOR REVIVAL - There are many calls these days for ecumenical revival prayer. The latest is an initiative of the Archbishop of Canterbury geared for the spring of 2017. “Catholics, Baptists, Pentecostals, Copts, Methodists, Orthodox Christians and members of free churches will unite under the Anglican umbrella after the presidents of Churches Together in England (CTE) announced on Monday they would accept the invitation to pray in the 10 days before Pentecost 2017.

They will write to their churches--which range from Seventh-Day Adventists churches to Coptic Orthodox churches--and encourage them to participate. ‘We pray to the Father that his family, called to be one in Jesus Christ, may see the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to transform many lives and communities in our land,’ they said” (“Missions of Christians to Unite in Prayer for Revival,” ChristianToday.com, Sept. 19, 2016).

Prayer is exactly what we need today. It is the only thing powerful enough to solve the problems we face. But ecumenical prayer is blatant disobedience to God's Word. The unity spoken of in the New Testament is a unity of being “perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (I Corinthians 1:10). This speaks of the unity found in a sound New Testament church, but these are churches that typically aren't praying much. The mid-week prayer amounts to a few minutes of half-hearted supplication, mostly for physical ailments. Typically, there are no earnest prayer sessions preceding special meetings. There is little to no prayer for the nation in obedience to I Timothy 2:1-2 and for God to send forth laborers into the harvest in obedience to Luke 10:2. Fasting and prayer is a foreign thing to the typical Bible-believing church. Prayer is mentioned 407 times in the Bible and 121 times in the New Testament. It is one of the four foundational characteristics of the first church in Jerusalem (“**they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship and breaking bread and prayer,**” Acts 2:42). Prayer is to be first of all (I Tim. 2:1-2). It was a major emphasis of Christ's teaching (Mat. 6:5-13; 7:7-11), and the apostle Paul mentioned prayer in practically every one of his Epistles. But it is grossly neglected in our day.

**GIVE OUT A GOSPEL
TRACT THIS WEEK!**

BE CAREFUL ABOUT VIDEO GAMES

by Evangelist David Cloud

We read in Ephesians: ***“See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is” (Eph. 5:15-17).***

Video games are very addictive and they are great time wasters. Also many of them have very wicked content. Even the more innocent games use rock music as a background, thus addicting young people to the sensual rock rhythms.

If young people are allowed to play video games, they must be carefully chosen and the play time must be strictly limited by the parents.

ADDICTION

“The more we looked into it the more we found that gaming was taking over the lives of kids.”

“Some studies suggest that gaming is absolutely taking over the minds of children all together.”

“Virtual life becomes more appealing than real life.”

Beware of role playing games. Nothing takes over young people’s hearts and minds more than these. They are called MMORPG (massively multiplayer online role-playing games).

The most addictive games in 2015 are the following: Madden, Dota 2, Grand Theft Auto, Tetris, Candy Crush Saga (the company is valued at \$7.5 billion), Minecraft, EverQuest (called “never rest” and “ever crack”), The Sims (player has omnipotent control over people), World of Warcraft (called World of War Crack), Call of Duty (the last two are played by more than 100 million players), Halo 3 (called Halodiction), Total War, Pong, Civilization, Diablo 3, Super Meat Boy, Team Fortress 2, Dark Souls 2, Counter Strike, Starcraft 2, Persona 4 Golden, Monster Hunter 3, Elder Scrolls, Angry Birds, Faster Than Light, Peggle, League of Legends, Civilization V, Pokemon.

Even in remote places like Nepal, gaming competition is becoming popular. A report on Nepali gamers in the Kathmandu Post (Aug. 29, 2015) was entitled “By Their Bootstraps.” Gaming started in Nepal in internet cafes in 2010. The 2015 Colors E-sports Carnival at the Civil Mall had 500 participants competing at Defense of the Ancients (DOTA), a multi-online battle game.

OCCULT

Many of the video games are occultic. Consider the current craze, Pokémon Go. Almost overnight it has become the most popular mobile game in American history, increasing the stock market value of part owner Nintendo more than 50%. “Pokémon Go, the newest iteration of the nearly 20-year-old Pokémon franchise, engages players in an ‘augmented reality’ where they try to find and capture Pokémon hidden throughout the real

world. The Australian Business Review has suggested that it may be a ‘watershed moment’ in the development of virtual reality” (“Pokémon Go craze drawing gamers to church,” Baptist Press News, July 15, 2016). The game “uses the mobile phone’s camera to create the perception that the Pokémon characters are actually in front of the players.” It is so engaging and addictive that people have crashed their automobiles and walked into dangerous situations. Two men recently fell off a cliff near San Diego while engaged in the game.

Pastor David Brown, First Baptist Church of Oak Creek, Wisconsin, who made the effort to investigate Pokémon and apply the test of God’s Word to it in 1999, says, “The name Pokémon is derived from POKETet MONster. ... One of the first things I did was to find out who produced the Trading Card Game. Here is an exact quote right from the Web page of the producer - ‘The Pokémon Trading Card Game is a new collectable Card Game that is made and distributed by Wizards of the Coast. The same company that made the best-selling game ... Magic: The Gathering.’ Wizards of the Coast also owns TSR, the producers of Dungeons & Dragons. When I discovered who owned the American Pokémon Trading Card Game rights, I knew it was not just an innocent card game for elementary school children. [The Pokémon rap mantra says]: ‘I will travel across the land/ Searching far and wide/ Each Pokémon to understand/ The power that’s inside/ Gotta catch them all.’ ... To be sure it is a game, but a game that does not glorify God! When God says something is wrong, it is wrong regardless of what form it is in. Not only that, but many of the kids who play this game are seduced into believing the principles that the game subtly teaches” (Dave Brown, “The Problem with Pokémon”).

In the official literature, the main characters of the game are described as headstrong, stubborn, quibbling, hormonal, having a fascination with and trying to “score” with the opposite sex, self-centered, vindictive, obnoxious, and prone to cross-dressing!

Pokémon promotes the search for occultic power. The cards are called “energy cards.” Players engage in “pretend” occultic warfare. Currently there are 729 species of Pokémon monsters, and 151 of them are sought by Pokémon Go players. Two of them are named Abra and Kadabra, long associated with magic. The Abra card promotes the ability to read minds. The Kadabra character has a pentagram on his forehead. What an incredibly dangerous, wicked influence for children! Nintendolife says there are poison types, psychic types, dark types, fairy types, dragon types, and ghost types.

There is nothing innocent about Pokémon. It is a clever attempt at demonic mind-control. For more about the dangers of Pokémon see “The Problem with Pokémon” by David Brown, <http://logosresourcepages.org/Occult/more.htm>

Violence

Beware of violent games. One of the most popular is Grand Theft Auto. Players assume the role of lawless, destructive

criminals who kill innocent bystanders, policemen, and military personnel, “while dealing with only temporary consequences.” It has been called a cop-killing training machine. Some of the versions require the player to torture people in brutal ways to advance to new levels. Sexual elements include hiring and killing prostitutes (by means of the player’s choice of fist, machete, bat, or gun). Real life murders have been committed by people who were obsessive players of Grand Theft Auto and have even admitted to being inspired by the game.

WASTING TIME

“How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man” (Prov. 6:9-11).

The average gamer spends eight hours per week playing video games. ***This equates to 416 hours per year.***

Last year, a teen told me he wanted to learn to study the Bible on his phone, but when I asked to look at his phone, I found that it was filled with games. I challenged him to get rid of them and to spend that time on Bible study and other profitable things. I told him that until he was willing to put aside wasteful things, he wouldn’t make much progress in his spiritual life.

One young Christian lady we know became concerned about how much time she was spending on video games, and she decided to figure it up. She concluded that she was spending three months out of a year playing games! She deleted the games from her iPad and is spending that time memorizing Scripture and other profitable things.

Young people who want to find God’s will must learn to be careful about time. ***“Redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16).***

To redeem the time we must learn how to set priorities.

- A major priority is Bible study and prayer. The young person must not allow anything to interfere with his devotional life. Not only must he give time to it, but he must also give his attention to it. If something is crowding out the Word of God and making it impossible to meditate, that thing should be put out of one’s life (Mk. 4:19).

- Another priority is to be faithful to the assemblies (Heb. 10:25). As a new believer at age 23, I determined that I would never take a job that would keep me out of church, and the Lord always provided jobs that didn’t interfere with the Lord’s service.

- Nothing must be allowed to hinder my Christian life and the will of God. Multitudes of young people have backslidden and gotten out of God’s will because of secular education and jobs, as we have already noted.

To redeem the time we must learn to fill our lives with wholesome and eternally profitable things. God has filled even this fallen world with wonderful things for those who are wise enough to chose excellent above the empty. We deal with this in

the section of “The Youth.” A few examples of profitable things are Bible study, evangelism, wholesome music, church ministries, good literature, educational documentaries, photography, learning new skills, creation science, geology, history, and physical exercise. The most profitable occupation is to seek the Lord. The creation is fascinating, but the Creator is far more so, and to try to enjoy God’s creation without putting God first in your heart and life is idolatry. Above all, the wise young person will study God.

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

9 3D TECHNOLOGY PROVES HEBREW BIBLE UNCHANGED FOR 2,000 YEARS - The following is excerpted from “3D tech proves,” The Times of Israel, Sept. 22, 2016:

“The charred lump of a 2,000-year-old scroll sat in an Israeli archaeologist’s storeroom for decades, too brittle to open. Now, new imaging technology has revealed what was written inside: the earliest evidence of a biblical text in its standardized form. The discovery, announced in a Science Advances journal article by researchers in Kentucky and Jerusalem on Wednesday, was made using ‘virtual unwrapping,’ a 3D digital analysis of an X-ray scan. Researchers say it is the first time they have been able to read the text of an ancient scroll without having to physically open it. ... The digital technology, funded by Google and the US National Science Foundation, is slated to be released to the public as open source software by the end of next year. Researchers hope to use the technology to peek inside other ancient documents too fragile to unwrap ...

The biblical scroll examined in the study was first discovered by archaeologists in 1970 at Ein Gedi, the site of an ancient Jewish community near the Dead Sea. Inside the ancient synagogue’s ark, archaeologists found lumps of scroll fragments. The synagogue was destroyed in an ancient fire, charring the scrolls. The dry climate of the area kept them preserved, but when archaeologists touched them, the scrolls would begin to disintegrate. So the charred logs were shelved for nearly half a century, with no one knowing what was written inside. ... The text discovered in the charred Ein Gedi scroll is ‘100 percent identical’ to the version of the Book of Leviticus that has been in use for centuries, said Dead Sea Scroll scholar Emmanuel Tov from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, who participated in the study. ‘This is quite amazing for us,’ he said. ‘In 2,000 years, this text has not changed.’”

9 FIRST CENTURY TEMPLE RESTORED BY TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY TECHNOLOGY - The following is excerpted from “The Temple Has ‘Reappeared,’” BreakingIsraelNews.com, Sept. 19, 2016:

“A new project from The Temple Mount Heritage Foundation and ArchTour is perhaps the closest you can get to experiencing the Temple, at least until it is really built. The newly unveiled project uses virtual reality, a new technology used mainly for gaming and entertainment, in a way its innovators probably did

