

GRAPEVINE

Spring/Summer 2014

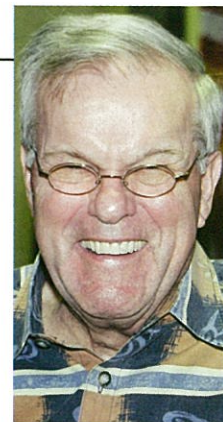
BIBLE TEACHING RESOURCES
by DON ANDERSON MINISTRIES



HOME BY MIDNIGHT

There were times when the life of the cowboy was very hard,
and I often feel compelled to show the toughness he had during those times.
Below freezing, miles from home, tired horses...
a man just had to be strong.

—artist, Kenneth Wyatt



Let's Carry It the Distance

"Abide with us oh Lord, for it is toward evening and the day of our life is far spent."

-Bishop Andrewes

Two cartoons have been drawn of me during my years of ministry. The first one, captioned "Let's Carry It the Distance," was given to me at the outset of my traveling and teaching ministry. The last cartoon was given to me by John Stuart, who, with Barbara, the young woman who would eventually become his lovely wife, was in junior high school when I came to his church in 1959 as the youth minister in Bremerton, Washington.

His caricature was done in celebration of my 80th birthday. Both are reproduced here.

John's gives you a picture of the shambles of what's left!

Do you remember humorist Tom Bodett of Motel 6 fame who promised guests, "We'll leave the light on for you"? Bodett's body of work includes far more than hotel chain commercials. Bodett's book *The End of the Road* offers delightful stories from Homer, Alaska. Bodett also hosted a radio program called *The End of the Road* which began with these opening remarks: "Welcome once again to the *End of the Road* show, brought to you every week, rain or shine, or high taxes, from beautiful Homer, Alaska, and the last decent parking place in North America."

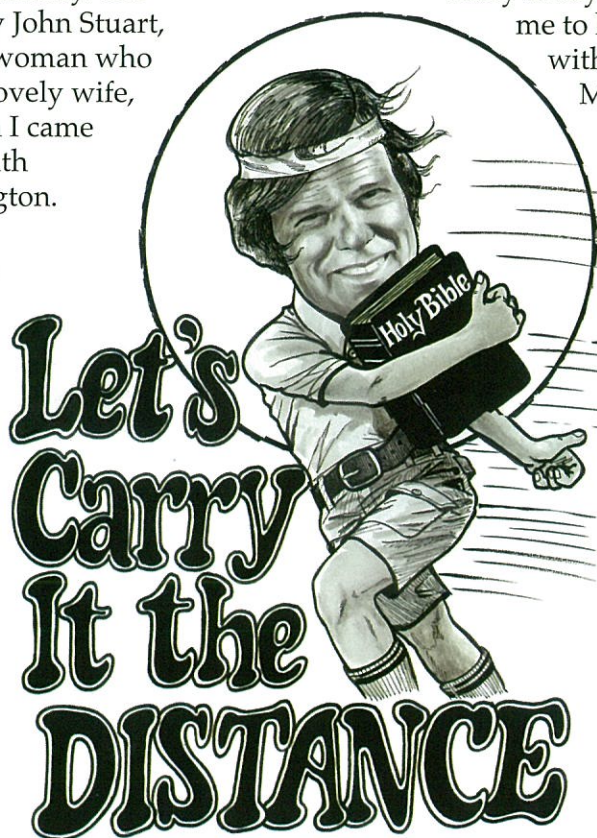
On March 11, 2014, I had my own *end of the road* experience. After our 42nd year of traveling and teaching, Pearl and I have now reached the end of the road.

As I was growing up, my heroes included two very special Bible teachers: Dr. Mitchell from Portland, Oregon, who is now with the Lord, and J. Vernon McGee from Los Angeles, also with the Lord.

Dr. Howard Hendricks, in his inductive Bible study methods class at Dallas Seminary, fired me up to teach God's word verse by verse. He, too, is in heaven. I find myself singing, "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?"

Early in my career, God arranged for me to have a wonderful week with Ms. Wetherell Johnson and Ms. Alverda E. Hertzler in northern California as they were beginning Bible Study Fellowship. At the time I was serving on the staff of The Firs camp and conference center in Bellingham, Washington. For the next summer's camp, I eliminated outside speakers and taught the counselors God's word, training them to do the same in their cabins. It was amazing what God did, not only in maturing the counselors, but in affecting the lives of the campers who heard the presentation of the gospel from someone living with them as a counselor 24 hours a day.

I had experienced a touch of that earlier while serving on Young Life staff during seminary. The simple principle of Young Life was "you've got to go where they are." The Lord used two wonderful verses in the Pauline epistles to help forge my camp philosophy. The first was Colossians 3:11b, "Christ is all and in all." Not only is Christ all a person needs, but He is in all that a person does. There is no distinction between the sacred and the secular. This concept, welded together with the



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GRAPEVINE

Spring/Summer 2014

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From the Editor

This combined spring/summer issue of the *Grapevine* commemorates a milestone: the end of Don and Pearl Anderson's traveling ministry. Don will continue to teach the Bible via the internet at OnePlace.com, at camps and conferences, and on the radio. And even though Don won't actually be on the road any more, his teaching will be available via Skype technology this fall and winter. Yes, you can still attend a virtual, real time BTR class via Skype and even interact with Don. See the FAX section for Karen Domel's report on ministry opportunities available via technology.

Another area of ministry which Don and Pearl plan to pursue involves personal discipleship. The inaugural BTR discipleship weekend was held this spring in Granbury, Texas. Five couples from Texas, Arizona, and the Pacific Northwest, were invited to participate. We let the dust settle, and caught up with each couple several weeks after the weekend. We hope you'll enjoy reading about their responses to the event. If you are interested in participating in such a weekend, please contact the BTR office for more details.

May this summer be full of relaxation, refreshment, and blessings for you and yours. Thank you for your support. See you here, there, in the air...or over the internet!

—M. Jane Rodgers

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Cover: *Home Before Midnight*, by Kenneth Wyatt



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

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BTR Discipleship: Looking for

by Jane Rodgers

What do a former Navy SEAL, veteran airline pilot, retired lieutenant commander of the Navy, civil engineer from Nassau, Bahamas, and two-time participant on the hit reality television show *Survivor* have in common? Plenty, as it turns out. The five men and their equally accomplished wives, all committed followers of Christ, attended the inaugural BTR discipleship weekend with Don and Pearl Anderson in Granbury, Texas, March 14-16, 2014.

The couples met at a lakehouse provided by Pat and Cindy Hawkins. Ken and Carolyn Stanford provided meals.

Plans are underway for a repeat, and BTR hopes to expand the discipleship ministry to other locales as well.

Don and Pearl were inspired to invest in the lives of others via an organized discipleship effort after reading Joel Rosenberg's *The Invested Life*. Rosenberg advises others to look for "FAT Christians"—meaning, faithful, available, and teachable believers.

"Pearl and I chose five couples; each couple is a treasure to us," said Don of the group who gathered this spring for a program featuring opportunities for servant leadership, lessons in inductive Bible study, insights into the blending of marriage and ministry, and a focus on understanding the spiritual gifts. The philosophy behind the discipleship weekend is found in Paul's admonition to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:1-2: "So, my son, be strong in the grace that Jesus Christ gives. Everything that you have heard me teach in public you should in turn entrust to reliable men, who will be able to pass it on to others" (Phillips).

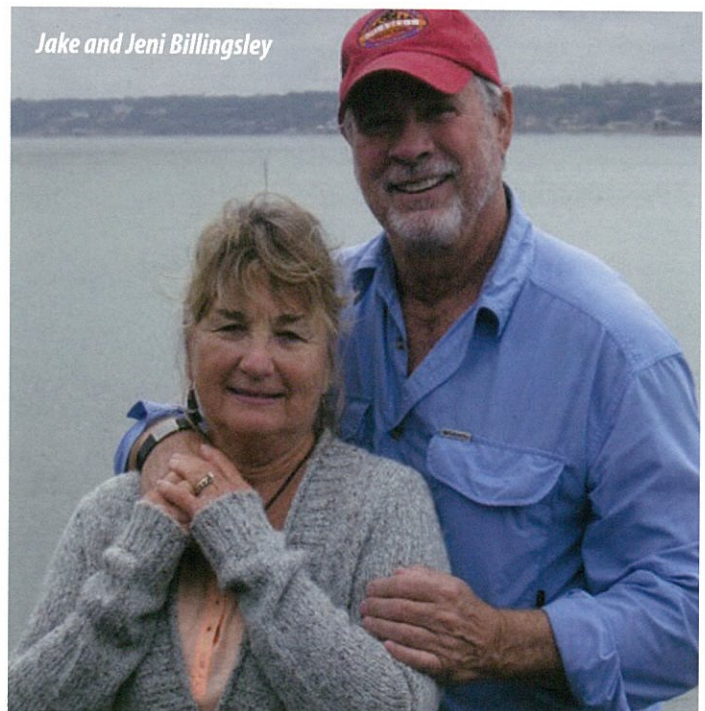
Recently we caught up with the five couples to gauge their reactions to the weekend, now that the proverbial dust has settled...and a few months have passed.

BILLINGSLEY

Jake and Jeni Billingsley are no strangers to our *Grapevine* readers. Jake's appearance on *Survivor Thailand* garnered national, even international acclaim, and we've reported on that unusual opportunity in previous issues. Jake and Jeni met Don and Pearl when they attended Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church when Don pastored there.

"Don became our Bible teacher and he and Pearl are our Bible mentors and good friends," said Jeni, a retired family counselor.

Jeni and Jake, who is a writer, former Dallas commercial real estate broker, and former Colorado big



game guide, now make their home in the Sun City Festival community in Buckeye, Arizona. They have been married for 19 years and their large blended family includes five children and nine grandchildren.

"We felt honored that Don and Pearl included us in this group of people that they wanted to disciple," said the couple.

The Billingsleys expected to learn more about God's word and become better acquainted with the other four couples invited to the BTR weekend event. They were not disappointed.

"After the weekend, we understood better just how important relationships are. Discipleship and relationships are about 'breaking bread' together and sharing the word with one another," said Jeni.

The Billingsleys noted that having a book of the Bible chosen for them to "read, study, understand, and interpret" encouraged them to dig deeper into God's word and to better understand inductive Bible study methods. This was among the highlights of the weekend.

' a few FAT Christians

BROWN

Doug and Kynell Brown did not have far to travel to attend the discipleship weekend. The couple—he, an American Airlines pilot and she, a flight attendant—live in Granbury. The pair, each with over 25 years of service with American, recently started flying together on a DFW to Hawaii route that requires 26 hour layovers in Hawaii between flights. Fortunately, their schedules allowed them to spend the weekend with Don and Pearl in Texas.

The Browns' connections with BTR come naturally. Kynell's parents, Ken and Carolyn Stanford, are BTR board members.

Doug Brown started flying when he was very young, making a deal with the local airport manager to clean bathrooms in exchange for flight time and lessons. He always wanted to be a pilot, and the story of how he came to work for American Airlines is nothing short of remarkable, but perhaps best saved for another issue. Suffice it to say, it was a God thing, as was meeting Kynell in Los Angeles on her first day as an American employee.

"Doug was one of the nicest guys I had ever met," recalled Kynell of that day in 1987. The couple married in 1988.

"We didn't actually live together till three months after we were married," said Doug, who added that Kynell was finally transferred to Los Angeles after their marriage.

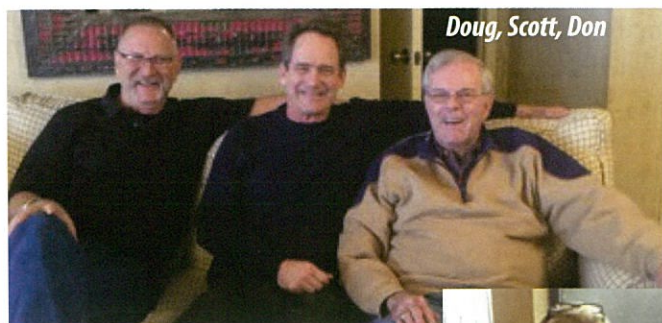
Doug's salvation followed his marriage. "Nothing about me felt special until I was saved and was brought out of my shell," he recalled of the August 1998 Sunday when he felt compelled to attend church, despite having returned home around 3:00 a.m. from a flight.

"Something grabbed me by the collar and pulled me out of bed," mused Doug, who remembered a "warm feeling of here it is, I get it now," in church that day.

After his salvation, Doug started attending men's Bible studies and became more involved with his father-in-law, appreciating the older man's walk with the Lord. The Browns attended the weekend at Don's invitation, as did the other couples.

"I want to go where I am led," said Doug. "I was a little taken aback that Don would select me. I thought, I'm not ready. I haven't learned enough. It took Don and Pearl's faith in me to get me started, and I really feel this is where we belong," said Doug.

"The couples weekend focused on what we can



Doug, Scott, Don

fine tune and offer. I was impressed at the group.... I was born again in 1998. I've been a youth [in the faith]. It's time to get serious and crack down and get a job and step forward and be responsible and make a difference," said Doug. "I didn't always feel that I could make that big a difference until I was encouraged by Don."

Both Kynell and Doug affirm that the discipleship weekend was enriched by the "amazing group of people" in attendance. They noted that among the highlights were the fellowship building, Bible study, sharing, and mutual opportunities for service.

"I hope that we will be in a position to do that for others. It's a great way to direct this ministry. We would want to have a discipleship weekend with others," said both Browns.

"A big mistake people make in their walk is not listening to that still small voice inside you," said Doug, who added, "Be quiet and listen to God. Let God guide you. If we are here listening, God will use us and put us where we need to be."

continued on next page



Kynell



Jeannie, Jeni, Denise, & Pearl

BORGMANN

Scott and Jeannie Borgmann have resided in Bremerton, Washington, since Scott, a Navy SEAL, retired from the service in 2000. Scott is currently a junior high teacher; Jeannie is a dental hygienist who earned her credentials from the University of Hawaii when the Borgmanns were stationed there. Scott's mom and dad also live with the family in Bremerton.

"Many ask how that works, and we say just fine. I feel blessed to be able to share my life with my parents," said Scott. Scott and Jeannie, married since 1981, are also the parents of two daughters, one of whom recently wed.

"Our first connection to Don and Pearl was when we went to the Dunes Bible camp three years ago. Don was teaching that weekend. There was an instant connection and we have been growing closer ever since," said Scott.

The Borgmanns expected to be "blessed and challenged" by the discipleship weekend.

"Needless to say, God did not disappoint us as he used Don and Pearl to bless us through their teaching and challenge us to stretch our faith," said Scott.

"We wanted to hear what God wanted to do with us through Don and Pearl's direction. We also wanted to spend time with the other couples that Don chose to be discipled," Scott continued. Both Scott and Jeannie noted that they especially enjoyed the fellowship with the other couples, Don's teaching, and the superb food.

"I learned that we must continue to push our faith by stepping out into uncharted territory to grow. We must always be in the word and on our knees if we want to have meaningful development in faith. Hebrews 1:1: 'Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.' In order to be assured we must read the word of God and reflect on His promises. To possess this conviction for the things we have not seen but only read about, there must be an understanding of how God's word is connected. This can only come through a purposeful study of the word. Don has provided us with a method that makes study purposeful," Scott added.

CAMPBELL

Ginear and Kervin Campbell hail from the island of New Providence (Nassau), Bahamas. Both attended Lamar University in Beaumont, where Ginear earned a bachelor's degree in communications and Kervin earned bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering. The couple lives and works in Fort Worth, and Kervin is also pursuing an MBA from the University of Texas at Arlington.

The Campbells, married since 2005, are expecting

Kervin and Ginear Campbell



a little girl this August. Kervin met Don and Pearl at the Fort Worth businesspeople's class held at St. Andrew's in downtown Fort Worth.

"It was like a divine connection from the Lord with Don and Pearl," said Kervin of his first encounter with the Andersons. "I have attended all of Don's tour classes in Fort Worth since, and with Ginear's relocation to a job in Fort Worth, she was able to attend the business lunchtime classes as well."

Kervin has used BTR materials independently, calling them "a tremendous resource" to help in the "understanding" and "rightly dividing" of God's word.

Like the other couples, Kervin and Ginear expected to get to know the others chosen for the mentoring program. "We hope to continue to build relationships with the other disciples as we start this journey together," said Kervin.

The Campbells count the "guidance and wisdom" received during the weekend as among the biggest blessings of the event.

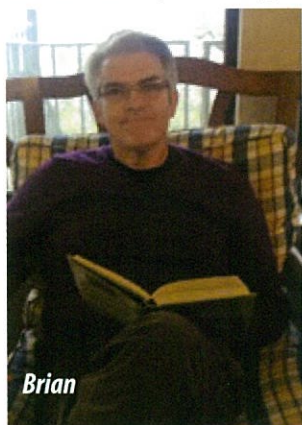
"The weekend was very energizing and emotional for us. We were able to get away from the hustle and bustle of our daily life activities and clear our minds and re-group to the purpose. Sometimes in life, the noise in the market place can become so loud and distracting that the next time you look up, you have lost a lot of time and have really not accomplished anything eternal or toward your divine purpose. It is like a ship that slowly drifts off the path because its captain had his head down looking at

too many other things and was not focused on taking the ship to its destination. This weekend with Don and Pearl allowed us to get direction and re-focus the ship in the right direction with our purpose in life,” said Kervin.

“We give all glory to the Lord for all He has done in our lives. Who would have thought that a couple of kids from a little island in the Bahamas would end up connecting with such awesome people in Don and Pearl, and the other disciples in this group, and that we would be chosen to be a part of this without having to qualify or perform to attain the honor? Well the Who is named Jesus Christ, and He knew all along what was prepared for us and we are so excited to be alive and living in His will,” said Kervin, summing up the experience.

MAHONEY

Like the Borgmanns, **Brian and Denise Mahoney** live in Bremerton, Washington. Denise grew up in New



Brunswick, Canada, and Brian is from Stratford, Connecticut. The Navy brought the Mahoneys to Bremerton and their current jobs keep them there. Brian, a retired Navy lieutenant commander, works for the government at Keyport, supporting military maintenance programs. Denise is a high school art teacher.

The Mahoneys met in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where, as Denise puts it, “Brian’s ship pulled into port and we hit it off immediately.” They will celebrate their 30th anniversary this year. The couple has two adult children.

“Brian and I met Don and Pearl at a family camp [at the Dunes] in Washington that our church attends. At our second family camp, they chose us and another couple from our church and told us they would like to disciple us and teach us how to become teachers of the Bible,” said Denise, who noted that Don’s intentionality in choosing them “warmed our hearts.”

Don’s vision for discipleship is one the Mahoneys have embraced wholeheartedly.

Both Brian and Denise say that meeting the other couples selected for the weekend was “an amazing experience.”

“We both knew that we would be in relationship with these people for the rest of our lives,” said Denise. “We came to the weekend out of curiosity and respect for Don, but we left with a sense of so much more. Now we had a sense of purpose, commitment and a desire to grow

closer to our Lord and King.”

Denise especially praises the marriage and spiritual gifts workshops offered during the weekend. “I had never explored my spiritual gifts, and it was a complete blessing to have others tell me what they felt were my own. The whole weekend was one of complete focus on spiritual growth and learning to hear God’s direction for our lives and understand how His commission applies to us individually” Denise said.

Don, Pearl, and BTR plan to continue the process of discipleship with these five couples, eventually expanding to include groups in other cities. With the inaugural weekend deemed a success, others who may be interested in this expansion of the ministry of BTR are invited to contact the office for details on how to host a discipleship weekend in their areas.



*Ken & Carolyn Stanford (Director)
prepared all the meals*

Don & Fran Saddoris (Director)

*Pat & Cindy Hawkins (Director)
Provided the lake house for the weekend*

Bible Teaching Resources **FAX**

RECIPE CORNER

Donna's Delights **BREAKFAST PIZZA**

1 lb. bulk pork sausage, browned and drained
1 pkg. of 8 refrigerated crescent rolls
1 c. frozen loosely-packed hash brown potatoes, thawed (I use Simply Potatoes)
1 c. shredded cheese
5 eggs
¼ cup milk
½ tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. pepper

In a skillet, cook sausage until browned; drain off excess fat. Separate crescent dough into 8 triangles. Place dough in an ungreased 12 inch pizza pan, with points toward the center. Press dough over the bottom and up the sides of the pan to form a crust; seal perforations. Spoon sausage over crust. Sprinkle with potatoes; top with cheese.

Beat together eggs, milk, salt and pepper. Pour over crust. Bake in 375 oven for 25 – 30 minutes or until set.

BTR tech upgrades

by Karen Domel

Over the past six months, we have continued to work on the wonderful technological resources God has made available to BTR. We are excited about the opportunities available through technology and want to take advantage of any that will help us introduce folks to Bible Teaching Resources and Don's teaching. Technology is allowing us to offer ministry tools and classes to a larger audience.

New BTR website

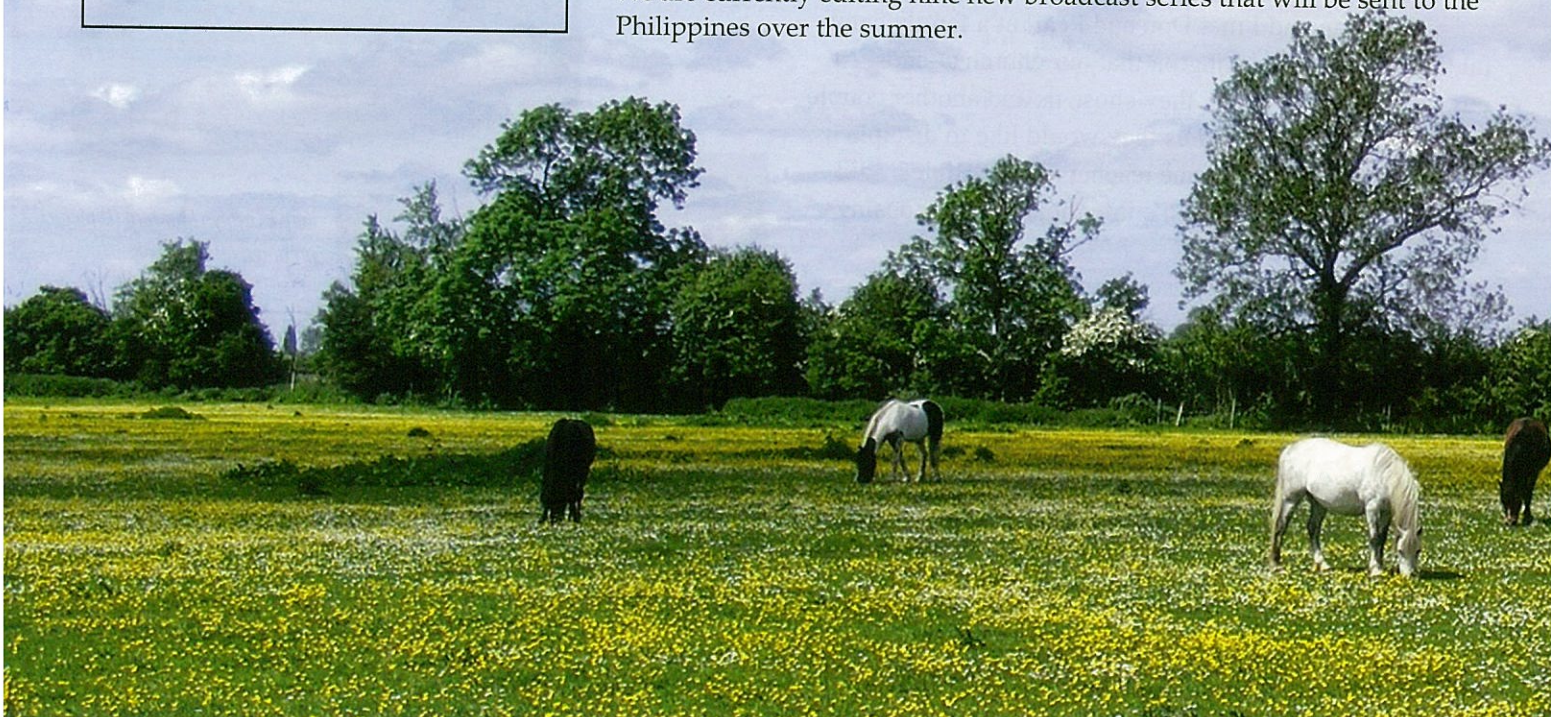
The new BTR website, rolled out in December 2013, is running well. It is regularly updated with daily devotionals, Don's weekly e-newsletter links, and OnePlace.com broadcast study guides. The look is clean and functionality has increased via the Wordpress format which makes the website compatible with multiple devices such as phones, tablets, and computers. The webstore has been redesigned with Woo Commerce to improve security. The user-friendly design allows us to add new resources and edit current items.. As with any new product, we would appreciate any feedback to help us improve. Visit www.bibleteachingresources.org and give the website a try.

OnePlace.com

In February, OnePlace.com rolled out a new format for the ministries on its site. While it is a little more challenging to find our issues of *The Grapevine*, *A Great While Before Day* and webstore promotions, we are pleased that our contact info and web address are prominent. Each Monday a new broadcast becomes available as we continue to offer Don's many Bible study series. Join us for "James" starting June 16, 2014, at <http://www.oneplace.com/ministries/persevering-and-pressing-on/>.

Philippines MPR broadcast

We are currently editing nine new broadcast series that will be sent to the Philippines over the summer.



Facebook & Twitter

These social networking tools for BTR became available in early January.

Visit our **BTR Facebook** page and be sure to “like” us. We post scriptures, quotations, links to daily devotionals, links to Don’s weekly e-newsletter, and info about OnePlace.com broadcasts. Also featured are links to the BTR website, Logos.com, and BTR on Twitter. We hope you will “like” us on our Facebook page @ <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bible-Teaching-Resources/379443508834041> and invite others to “like” us, also.

As for **Twitter**, we began tweeting in January. Please “follow” us on Twitter at BTR@BibleTeachRes to get our daily tweets and feel free to re-tweet any of these.

Our hope is to reach new folks with these social networking tools. These mediums allow us to reach seekers and followers of Christ all around the world. We look forward to seeing how God will use this technology in the ministry.

Classes on Skype

With Skype technology, folks can enjoy Don’s Bible classes with his personal interaction, but without the travel that has proved physically challenging. BTR will be scheduling classes for the fall; see the back cover of this issue for details. However, we wanted to provide some basic instructions to guide you through facilitating a Bible study class with Skype using your computer (or other device) and /or a television.

Some TVs allow you to use Skype directly through the set or with the assistance of an all-in-one TV webcam or Skype-ready Blu-Ray player. For any TV that does not have these connections and equipment, it is very simple to connect your TV to your laptop or tablet via a media

interface and adapter. The kind of media interface and adapter will be determined by your device and TV, but these connectors are very common. If you do not have one at home, you can find one at any store that sells tablets or computers. Try Walmart or Best Buy. Your TV & device instruction manuals or help online should specify what will be needed.

If your TV requires connection to a laptop or tablet, you will need to download Skype at Skype.com if it was not pre-loaded on your device. Skype is a free software that will allow you to make video calls from your electronic devices—phones, tablets and computers. Once you have downloaded the software, Skype will guide you through setting up your account and adding contacts. You can search Skype names to connect with other video callers. Skype will work on any device with an internet connection, microphone, and webcam. It is functional on Windows or Mac. The software is user friendly and the built-in support section assists with questions or troubleshooting.

Although Skype technology might seem complicated, you will be surprised at how easy it is to set up and use the software. With the many variations of devices and TVs available, some with pre-loaded software on their systems, it is impossible for us to cover every scenario. Technology designers have worked hard to make the connections, set-up and functionality as simple as possible so that Skype is available for everyone.

Should you desire to use Skype to receive Don’s teaching, **BTR staff members will be happy to help with any questions or troubleshooting when you are setting up and testing your connection for classes.**





Pearl's Reflections

by Pearl Anderson

My dear friends, brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am sharing with you a prayer from "Acts of Praise – Your Most Basic Act of Worship," from the devotional *31 Days of Praise* by Ruth Meyers.

Lord, I'm Yours. Whatever the cost may be, may Your will be done in my life. I realize I'm not here on earth to do my own thing, or to seek my own fulfillment or my own glory. I'm not here to indulge my desires, to increase my possessions, to impress people, to be popular, to prove I'm somebody important, or to promote myself. I'm not here even to be relevant or successful by human standards. I'm here to please you.

I offer myself to You, for You are worthy. All that I am or hope to be, I owe to You. I'm Yours by creation, and every day I receive from You life and breath and all things. And I'm Yours because You bought me, and the price You paid was the precious blood of Christ. You alone, the Triune God, are worthy to be my Lord and Master. I yield to You, my gracious and glorious heavenly Father; to the Lord Jesus who loved me and gave Himself for me; to the Holy Spirit and His gracious influence and empowering.

All that I am and all that I have I give to You.

I give You any rebellion in me, which resists doing Your will. I give You my pride and self-dependence, which tell me I can do Your will in my own power if I try hard enough. I give You my fears, which tell me I'll never be able to do Your will in some areas

of life. I consent to let You energize me...to create within me, moment by moment, both the desire and the power to do Your will.

I give You my body and each of its members...my entire inner being: my mind, my emotional life, my will...my loved ones... my marriage or my hopes for marriage... my abilities and gifts...my strengths and weaknesses...my health...my status (high or low)...my possessions...my past, my present, and my future...when and how I'll go Home.

I'm here to love You, to obey You, to glorify You. O my Beloved, may I be a joy to You!

Other gleanings I have shared with you over the year come from the following works, all of which I highly recommend:

The Valley of Vision

by Arthur Bennett

Hinds' Feet on High Places

by Hannah R. Hurnard

Lord, Could You Hurry a Little?

by Ruth Harms Calkin

As your sister in Christ I am suggesting that you include this prayer for a month with your devotional material. It will feed your soul.

My love always in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Pearl

"I will rejoice in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation! The Sovereign Lord is my strength! He makes me as surefooted as a deer, able to tread upon the heights."

Habakkuk 3:18-19 (NLT)

The Circuit Rider

by Kenneth Wyatt

A man he was, don't doubt you none,
Plumb clean thru, foot to head.
And not just size nor deeds he'd done,
Most was the things he'd said.

Ah, big he was with a lop-side smile,
And gentle, too, you bet.
Ask him—he'd go that extra mile;
A stranger never met.

"He's from south Texas," Papa believed.
"Comes 'bout twice a year.
Joy comes with him, and when he leaves,
The women shed a tear."

A claw-hammer coat, a black felt hat,
Boots run down at the heel,
Proud on a tall bay horse he sat.
The Leather Book was real.

The Reverend, that was Mama's choice,
Preacher to all us rest.
But names didn't matter—just the voice
When certain you'd be blest.

Then, singin' he was at a fearsome pace;
The power of God was near.
That circuit rider led us to grace,
An' love shoved out the fear.

Sudden, he'd open the Book leather bound.
Holy was the word come true!
The birth, the death, then life all around,
Jesus' life plumb thru!



Glory came down and flooded the place;
Religion was right as rain.
You could see God's peace on every face;
Pardon washed every stain.
That man of the cloth could do it all—
Touched every child and man.
Listen close...you'd hear the angels call
From thrones in the promised land.

Then, baptizing done and scripture all taught,
Plus, I guess, marryin' a few,
The rider rode on—leavin' one thought...
That "God loves 'specially you!"

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The painting reproduced above, "The Circuit Rider," is by Kenneth Wyatt.

***Knowing the Times* by D. Martin Lloyd-Jones**

This book is filled with addresses that Martin Lloyd-Jones proclaimed from 1942 to 1977. Most refreshing is the primary focus of Dr. Jones on the word of God. Regarding the Reformation, he asserts, “in contrast the great thing that stands out about the reformers was that they were men who went back to the Bible. They said nothing matters but this; this they said is the Word of God in the Old Testament and the New Testament. This is not theory, supposition, or speculation. This is the living God speaking to men. He gave His Word to the prophets, they wrote it. He gave it to the apostles, they recorded it. And here it is for us. Here we have something which is in a category of its own: the Living Word of God speaking to men about Himself, about men, about the only way they can come together and live together. They stood for the authority of the Bible not for scholastic philosophy” (98).

***The Real Win – A Man’s Quest for Authentic Success* by Colt McCoy & Matt Carter**

Max Lucado offers the following endorsement of this book: “Colt McCoy & Matt Carter lead men to win. Not just in athletics or careers, but in life.”

The book is packed with inspiration and practical guidance. I heartily recommend it. Note the following description of the “rock-steady man” from McCoy and Carter’s work:

A man once met famed spiritual leader, Billy Graham at a dinner, and asked him “what was the most satisfying part of his life in ministry?” The man expected to hear stories about the big revivals or about being a spiritual advisor to world leaders. Or about writing books that affected lives the world over. But Dr. Graham waved off and said “It’s none of that, by far the greatest joy of my life has been knowing Jesus. Hearing Him speak to me, having Him guide me, sensing His presence. He has been the greatest pleasure of my life.” Dr. Graham delighted himself in the Lord and the Lord gave him the desire of his heart. (36)

***Seven Men and the Secret of Their Greatness* by Eric Metaxas**

The seven men chosen by Metaxas are George Washington, William Wilberforce, Eric Liddell, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Jackie Robinson, Pope John Paul II, and Charles W. Colson.

Metaxas worked for Charles W. Colson for a period of time in Prison Fellowship. He writes this of Colson, “Throughout his ministry, Chuck loved to say that no matter what, Christians must be at their posts, doing their duty. And that message—*stay at your posts*, was on the pins that mourners were given at the Washington National Cathedral memorial service, attended by the great and powerful of the land who sat side by side with those who, like Chuck, had once been locked away behind bars. People Chuck had loved and served, dined with and prayed with.”

According to Metaxas, Colson’s message was affirmed at the funeral by his daughter Emily, who told mourners, “*Today is a celebration of my father’s life, but today is also about us – you and me. What will we do in the shadow of such an extraordinary role model? There is work to be done. I encourage you to continue the work God has begun through my father’s life. Do the right thing, seek the truth, defend the weak, live courageous lives*”(190-91).

***The Auschwitz Escape* by Joel C. Rosenberg**

This book was released in the middle of March; I devoured it immediately. I have so appreciated Joel Rosenberg and the works he has written on Bible prophecy. This historical novel is different because it features events that happened during WWII under Hitler’s Third Reich.

On Palm Sunday of this year, Pearl and I had the privilege of sitting at the feet of Rosenberg as he expounded the scripture in the morning service and offered several insights concerning the whole project of writing *The Auschwitz Escape*.

Natan Sharansky recommends the book thus: “Joel C. Rosenberg is a masterful storyteller, a true friend of Israel and of the Jewish people. He understands [our] problems...better than any American novelist I know and turns it into a chilling, prescient and unforgettable read.”

Joel sums it all up by saying “evil unchecked is a prelude to genocide.” This book is a most read!

mailbag



Dear Don & Pearl,

Thank you so much for letting me barge in on you last week. It's so encouraging to visit with someone who has "been there/done that" with such faithfulness.

Don, you don't remember this but Prof. Hendricks brought a few of us over to meet you and ask questions. It had to have been around 1972. I understand now fully why he wanted us to be exposed to you and ministry as the Lord intended.

I called your secretary this morning and she shared that the doctor put you in a brace and perhaps delay the surgery. We can pray about that as well as the transition into the next [part] of your lives. If our name comes to mind we would appreciate your prayer for us as well. Prof. said: "It's difficult to make a race horse into a trotter." How true he was.

Have a great week! And again thank you,
In Christ,
Bruce Ewing

Don,

Well as you already know I used to draw a lot, and that never left me and continues to today. It is something I really treasure doing, helps me get away from it all, if you know what I mean.

Mostly cartoon caricatures, in fact in 1980 I really began this in earnest by making a large poster board size cartoon for each of my 8th grade students. This has become quite a conversation piece in the area, as I run into these former students now grown up with married grown up kids of their own. I have continued doing caricatures of friends and others in the area, many birthday cards, get well cards, etc. There are probably 3000 to 3500 of these things floating around western Washington and beyond. Besides those kinds of cards I have begun to do cards for people who have come into my life and have lifted me up and improved my life in numerous ways. Simply as a "thank you" to them....

Well just some background to say this: I was thinking the other day while using your devotional book, you know Don Anderson, outside of my folks, is the one guy who has had the biggest impact up on my life. I need to get a cartoon of him, ring him up, and send it. Whenever I give my testimony of when I received Christ, it is your ministry and camping program...[is] where I begin....

Then you were there during some difficult times. During those years, you stood beside me along with my mom and dad and I will be eternally grateful for it. And of course there was Firwood, and my two years there, more growth and wonderful memories, I was and am so blessed.

This caricature is a small token of thanks, but it's what I do, hope you enjoy.

Also—tell Pearl hi and thank her as well for the encouragement and help to me in my life.

Sincerely, Because of Him
John Stuart

Dear Don,

Thank you so much for the Revelation CDs. I am so thrilled to have my third set, and I am going to be very stingy and not share these; however, I will offer your address to those inquiring about them. Please thank Kathleen for me for being so prompt in sending them.

It has been probably 25 or 30 years since I had the privilege of sitting in your Bible studies, so I don't expect you to remember my friend Ann, whom I brought with me. Ann had never had a Bible in her possession until she rented one from the library for 2 weeks. We were challenged one Sunday in church to invite a person with whom we worked to go to church with us. I thought, "I can do that." However it was almost noontime and the Lord hadn't directed me towards anyone, so as I passed Central Records on the way out, I invited the shy new girl to join me for lunch. As we were eating I asked her how she liked the firm, and she liked it. I asked her how everything was going with her in her recent move to Dallas with her husband, Dennis, and she said, "Fine." Then suddenly Ann began to cry and said her father had died recently and she felt so badly leaving Luella (her mother) at home alone with her grandmother who had dementia.

Well, I realized the Lord knew exactly who He wanted me to have lunch with. I asked Ann if she took comfort in the Psalms, and she said she had read them when she checked a Bible out of the library. I asked her if she had a Bible and she told me that was her only exposure to one, so I told her I had an extra one at my desk and I would love for her to take it and read the Psalms and keep it as long as she liked. I asked her if she would like to go to church with me, and she said she would meet me there on Sunday. I asked her if she knew how to find her way around in Psalms and she knew nothing about the books in the Bible, or what verses were or chapters. I paled. I gave her the abbreviated version of Jesus and salvation by quoting John 3:16 and told her I would be available to answer any questions she might have. I probably wouldn't have the answers immediately, but I could find out and would get back to her.

Ann became a very close friend and we had lunch together every work day. She started coming with me to your Bible studies and to church on Sundays, and every evening she called with a list of questions. It kept me hopping to have the answers to the prior day's questions, and I sometimes took longer than one day to find them. Ann accepted Christ and began sharing with her husband, who was an avowed atheist. He wanted NO part of religion or Christianity. So, I said, Ann, we will have to breach the walls Satan has erected in his heart by praying the Lord will open his spiritual eyes.

continued on page 15

1 Corinthians 10:31—
“Whether than you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God”—excited me about what I was proposing to do. The summons of the Spirit seemed to be that He wanted me to travel and teach. He wanted me to go where “they” are, to build relationships and to teach the word of God.

My favorite biblical hero is the apostle Paul, who spent his entire life traveling and teaching the word on three different missionary journeys. The start of Paul’s first missionary journey is recorded in Acts 13:4-5, the beginnings of his second missionary journey in Acts 16:1, and the start of his third missionary journey in Acts 19:1. In Acts 20:32, Paul responds to an emotional send-off from the Ephesian elders with these heartfelt words: “Now I’m turning you over to God, our marvelous God whose gracious Word can make you into what he wants you to be and give you everything you could possibly need in this community of holy friends” (The Message).

Our journey of traveling ministry began in January 1973. I drove a little blue Opel affectingly called the “pregnant roller skate,” and I began to take my Bible and lecture notes wherever anybody wanted to have a Bible class. The blue Opel turned to a blue Buick and later Buicks turned to Oldsmobiles. Finally, we’ve ended the road in Suburbans and Tahoes.

We’ve not taken offerings or initiated letting our needs be known at classes. We have not given high pressure gospel invitations, although we have made available free of charge an audio series based upon John 3:1-21 called “How to Become a Christian.” We have also distributed a publication of Dallas Seminary called, “How To Have a Happy and Meaningful Life.”

All this traveling has earned us our million mile gold card from American Airlines. Cowboy poet and artist Kenneth Wyatt has painted a picture and written a poem, both called “The Circuit Rider,” honoring the circuit riders who rode from town to town, carrying the gospel. I guess I’ve been a



circuit riding *teacher*, rather than a preacher. After our last class, the employees of State National, presented me with a wonderful painting by Kenneth Wyatt called “Home before Midnight,” reproduced on the cover of this issue. The original hangs above our fireplace, reminding Pearl and me that for many nights during these last four decades, one of my goals was always to leave where I was in time to be home by midnight.

Over the years, we’ve conducted classes, camps, and conferences in nearly 70 locales. Let me pay tribute to God’s faithfulness, mercy,

love, and provision by mentioning these stops, first the Texas ones: Dallas, Fort Worth, Arlington, Denton, Gainesville, Sherman, Greenville, Granbury, Emory, Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, Amarillo, Austin, Hide-A-Way Lake, San Antonio, Wichita Falls, Houston, Bryan/College Station, Waco, Tyler, Van, Emerald Bay, Holly Lake, Eagle Bluff, T-Bar-M in New Braunfels, Temple, Plano, Jasper, Hollytree Chapel, Mt. Pleasant, Summer’s Mill in Salado, Duncanville, McKinney, and Sardis. In Louisiana, we’ve taught in Alexandria; while in Oklahoma, we’ve ministered in Tulsa, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma City, and Edmond. In Missouri, we’ve been to Harrisonville and to Stonecroft in Branson. Fort Smith, Arkansas; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Omaha, Nebraska; Anchorage, Alaska; Panama City, Florida; Datil, New Mexico, and the island of Maui in Hawaii, have also been stops along the way. In Colorado, we’ve ministered in Buena Vista, Winter Park, Estes Park, and Breckenridge. In the Northwest, our stops have included Cannon Beach, Oregon; Bellingham, Washington, and the Dunes in Ocean Park, Washington. We’ve served with Holy Land Tours in Israel and the Middle East. Other international ministry has included Barbados, Grand Cayman, the Dominican Republic, Little Cayman; Victoria, Vancouver, and Burnaby, B.C.; and St. John, New Brunswick.

Besides all this, we’ve sponsored teen travel camps to Florida and California and children’s camps for kids. Family camps at Trail West in Buena Vista, Colorado, make for special memories, as

do conferences for men, women, and couples at Kaleo Lodge in Van and Summer's Mill in Salado. In all, we've held more than 5,000 Bible classes, plus camps, conferences, teacher training seminars, and, most recently, discipleship weekends like the one featured in this issue. I pastored two community churches along the way: Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church for 22 years and Emerald Bay for 11. I have files full of materials from hundreds of weddings and funerals at which I have been honored to officiate.

We've been totally focused on the teaching of the word, and believe we have, in our limited way, carried the word the distance. Jeremiah 15:16: "When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty" (NIV).

Bishop Andrewes prayed this wonderful prayer: "Let the power of the Father shepherd me. The wisdom of the Son enlighten me and the operation of the Spirit quicken me."

There's no better way to close than with Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 4:7-9: "This priceless treasure we hold, so to speak, in a common earthenware jar—to show that the splendid power of it belongs to God and not to us. We are handicapped on all sides but we are never frustrated: we are puzzled, but never in despair. We are persecuted, but we never have to stand it alone: we may be knocked down but we are never knocked out!" (Phillips).

It's been a glorious run, and with Skype and new technology, we may not be on the road any longer, but we can and will keep teaching the word.

If you are reading this, you have been part of the ride, and you are deeply appreciated. Rest assured, we are keeping on till the finish line.

mailbag *continued*

After a few years, Dennis was transferred to Washington and they moved to Virginia. I have kept up with Ann by calling her perhaps once a year, but in I believe it was 2004 when I got a letter from Ann saying after 30 years Dennis had gone to church with her one Saturday night and the young minister and Dennis just "clicked." They began meeting, and lo and behold, she referred me to a website showing Dennis being baptized in a Virginia swimming pool. We never stopped praying for Dennis, though I didn't always pray for him every night, but at least I continued every week. Now she says he wants to assume being head of the house and that means hurrying her up before church because he doesn't want to be late, and he volunteers them for greeter spots, and other service positions within the church. Ann has grown to be very proficient in the Scriptures and if she hadn't been so interested in your teaching, she would have never continued opening herself up to my fumbling attempts to disciple someone. I learned a valuable lesson, too. Be very careful what you promise the Lord you will do. He will certainly provide the opportunity....

Just thought you might like an update.

Please give Pearl my best wishes, and again, thank you Don for the important place you have occupied in my life.

Best wishes,
Mary Lou

Hi Don & Pearl,

Loved the picture of you two; thank you for sending it. Time sure is passing quickly. I have the big 60th birthday this year, so, I have decided to start marking my years by my second birthday. Praise the Lord I'll be 36 this year.

I just have to say, thank you for your teaching. Having a good foundation in the word has made knowing and loving God much easier. May God keep on blessing you and those you come into contact with.

All our love,
Myra & Hal Lomax

MEMORIALS & GIFTS

IN HONOR OF Garner & Meloyde Roberts
by Linda K. Porter

IN MEMORY OF George G. Butler
by Jay and Ann Thompson

IN MEMORY OF Lonnie Holotik, Sr.
by Merry Ann Chenoweth

IN MEMORY OF Dick Dillingham
by Ben and Sue Hughes

IN MEMORY OF Joyce Burns
by Tori L. Bredin

IN MEMORY OF W. Nathan Alexander
and Joyce Burns
by Stephen and Sandra Alexander

IN MEMORY OF Alvis Dowell
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