

GRAPEVINE

FALL 2007

BIBLE TEACHING RESOURCES by Don Anderson Ministries
Celebrating 35 Years

A large flock of seagulls is captured in flight over a sandy beach. In the background, a dark, craggy rock formation rises from the ocean. The sky is filled with the silhouettes of the birds, creating a sense of motion and freedom.

“O Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you and praise
your name, for in perfect
faithfulness you have done
marvelous things, things
planned long ago”
(Isaiah 25:1 NIV).

Five Things I Have Learned in 35 Years on the Road (a.k.a. *The First Day of the Rest of Our Lives*)

Isaiah 25:1 is a fitting verse to mark the 35th anniversary of Bible Teaching Resources: "O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago" (NIV). In context, the verse celebrates the first day in the promised kingdom when the Lord Jesus Christ will rule and reign.

Before joy comes sorrow and fear. The NET Bible translates the last verse of Isaiah 24 in this way: "The full moon will be covered up, the bright sun will be darkened; for the Lord who commands armies will rule on Mount Zion in Jerusalem in the presence of his assembly, in majestic splendor" (Isaiah 24:23 NET). The apostle Peter describes the horrific scene just preceding the kingdom in 2 Peter 3:10-14:

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief; when it comes, the heavens will disappear with a horrific noise, and the celestial bodies will melt away in a blaze, and the earth and every deed done on it will be laid bare. Since all these things are to melt away in this manner, what sort of people must we be, conducting our lives in holiness and godliness, while waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God? Because of this day, the heavens will be burned up and dissolve, and the celestial bodies will melt away in a blaze! But, according to his promise, we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness truly resides. Therefore, dear friends, since you are waiting for these things, strive to be found at peace, without spot or blemish, when you come into his presence (NET).

In his final words to the children of Israel on the plains of Moab before they begin the invasion of the promised land, Moses makes the following statement: "The everlasting God is a refuge, and underneath you are his eternal arms; he has driven out enemies before you, and has said, 'Destroy!'" (Deuteronomy 33:27 NET Bible).

In Isaiah 25, the dawn of the new day has come. The King of kings and Lord of lords is placed upon the throne of His father, David, to rule and reign in righteousness. What is the response of the citizens? "O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect

faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago" (Isaiah 25:1 NIV). This verse of celebration suggests five lessons I have

learned from 35 years on the road teaching God's word.

SALVATION starts it off: "O Lord, you are my God."

It was 68 years ago when, as a six year old boy, I went forward in a revival meeting at the First Baptist Church of Burns, Oregon. There I came to know Jesus Christ as

my savior. Over these 35 years on the road in ministry, it's been a joy to see many understand for the first time what it is to be a heir of salvation... to recognize that salvation is a gift that produces a relationship rather than a pursuit that leads to a performance.

John 1:12: "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name" (NASB). 1 John 5:11-12: "And the witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life" (NASB; see also Romans 10:9-11, Ephesians 2:8-9).

First is **SALVATION**. Next comes

GRATITUDE. In the words of Isaiah, "I will exalt you and praise your name."

One of the most exciting things that I have learned over the past 35 years is how to praise the Lord. Isaiah understood it. By exalting the Lord, the prophet indicates reverence for God's person and attributes. In praising God's name, Isaiah extols the Lord's actions, deeds, and reputation achieved by mighty works. Psalm 146:1-2: "Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live" (NIV).

In the words of sixteenth century Bishop Lancelot Andrews, "To thee I give thanks, Thee I worship, I praise,

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From the Editor

This issue marks the last celebrating 35 years of Bible Teaching Resources. It seems only fitting that we highlight the anniversary conference held June 23-30 at the Oregon coast, where a bunch of Texans and Northwesterners proved that Christians have a lot in common no matter their zip codes. It was a glorious week. At Cannon Beach, Bob and Esther Vernon sat down with us for a few hours and shared some of the exciting things happening with Pointman Leadership Institute, the ministry with which the retired LAPD assistant chief of police and author of *L.A. Justice* is affiliated. As Don transitions from touring to videoconferencing, we hope you will share our enthusiasm about the possibilities of this new technology. See the article in the FAX section. Check out the new CD resources available, too. Plan now to join Don and Pearl at one of the fall tour classes or perhaps at Granbury, Texas, for the November 16-17 Teacher Training Conference. Details are on the back cover and on page 10. We hope you'll enjoy the *Homework* article about Judy Huffhines's unique cake ministry, too. May this fall bring blessings to you and yours. Thank you for your continuing friendship and support.

—Jane Rodgers



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BIBLE TEACHING RESOURCES
by Don Anderson Ministries
P.O. Box 6611
Tyler, TX 75711-6611
email: Don@BibleTeachingResources.org
website: www.BibleTeachingResources.org
903.939.1201
FAX 903.939.1204
Toll-free phone:
1.877.DAM.PRAY (1.877.326.7729)

Editor: M. Jane Rodgers
Magazine designer: Keith D. Yates



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

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Cannon Beach 2007

by Jane Rodgers

Celebrating 35 Years of Bible Teaching Resources by Don Anderson Ministries



If you hold it at Cannon Beach, they will come. And so they did. Over 200 adults, teens, and children were guests at Cannon Beach Christian Conference Center June 23-30, 2007, to help Bible Teaching Resources celebrate 35 years of ministry. Folks from the local area attended various sessions as well.

Worship leader Larry Kent kept the crowd humming with a combination of hymns, praise songs, and more light hearted fare. Larry's wife, Mary, "the funniest person I know," according to her husband (and to the rest of us), arranged skits and other good times. As if the scenery were not enough, soloist Russell Newport brought a bit of heaven to earth with renditions of old favorites like "Oh How I Love Him," and "He's Alive." None will forget Russell's Tuesday evening concert, at which he offered everything from traditional fare to a rousing gospel rendition of "Shadrack," proving that octogenarians can still jive. Bob Vernon, former assistant police chief of the Los Angeles Police Department, spoke on biblical leadership principles and the burgeoning work of the Pointman Leadership Institute, which we have also featured in this issue (see page 6). Attendees will long remember Bob's many entertaining, poignant cop and personal stories...as well as his biblical insights. Introduced by Larry Kent's repertoire of TV theme songs, Don Anderson, on crutches awaiting hip surgery, ambled to the stage to present a series of messages. As Flatt & Scruggs crooned from Larry's synthesizer, "Come and listen to a story about a man named Jed...," Don took his seat in the director's chair and taught on the life of Abraham...mixed in with a few Herman cartoons and a healthy dose of cowboy poetry.

The sessions were unforgettable. So was the fashion show featuring Esther Vernon, Mary Kent, Carolyn Newport, and Loretta Miller.

As the old Girl Scout song goes, "Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver and the other gold." Many new friends were made. Many long time friends came for the joyous celebration. Here's a sampling.



Norval and Joan Magnusson of Bellingham, Washington, arrived mid week. Norval, a retired Georgia Pacific executive, is a longtime board member of The Firs, the camp in northern Washington where Don and Pearl ministered early in their career, in pre-Texas days.



Wanda Haase piled three kids in a minivan and trekked 2500 miles from Garden City, Missouri, for the week. Wanda knows the Andersons from Don's many conferences at Antioch Baptist Church in

Harrisonville, Missouri. The Haase crew camped at KOA facilities en route. Needless to say, Wanda richly deserved the Braveheart award bestowed upon her at week's end.

Texans making the trip included Clyde and Kathy Womack, Ben and Sharon McWilliams, and Barry and Julia Watts of Fort Worth. Granbury's John and Loretta Miller, Don and Fran Saddoris, and Sam and Sherry Elrod attended. Hideaway Lake was ably represented by Jim and Kathy Smith and Jim and Judy Huffhines. (Be sure to check out our *Homework* feature on Judy's cake ministry. See page 12.)

Chuck and Margie Taylor flew in from College Station, Texas, where Chuck, a retired auto dealer, coordinates the regional operations of Crown Financial Ministries. Both Chuck and Margie remain significantly involved in Wind River Ranch, serving on the board of the nonprofit corporation which now operates the Colorado facility. The Taylors, former Don Anderson Ministries board members, are longtime friends instrumental in starting the Sherman noon class, a regular feature of Don's yearly tours.



Blasts from the past were provided by **Bob and Debra Moore**, who had attended youth group at Don's first church in Bremerton, Washington. The Moores brought

photos from the early 1980s when Don took groups on Bible study/sailing excursions to the San Juan Islands and Vancouver, British Columbia, on the *Shawmanee*. Paul and JoAnn Macan of Hoquiam, Washington, retired teachers, also provided some sweet memories. JoAnn, who has agreed to write an article for an upcoming

Grapevine, uses Bible Teaching Resource material to teach women's Bible study classes. JoAnn served on Don and Pearl's staffs at The Firs and Pine Cove, in the early days. Bob and Esther Vernon also recalled early experiences with Don and Pearl—specifically an icy weekend retreat at the Firs Ski Chalet at which Don had invited Bob to speak. One hundred teens, snowed in, had to be fed and entertained even back in the 1970s—an unforgettable experience.



The conference also provided a bit of an Anderson family reunion. Don's sister Lila and her husband Herb Graves of Albany, Oregon, brought an entire entourage of friends—all of whom know how to have a good time. Anderson kids were in abundance, too. Mark and Donna Anderson Skorheim flew in from Tyler, where Mark pastors Faith Community Church and Donna is the area coordinator of Marketplace Ministries. Steve and Julea Anderson Gulbrandson ventured down from Portland with their kids Justus, Tayler, and Ella Grace, who were happy to see Grandma Pearl and Grandpa Don. Ray Devine drove down from Vancouver, too, a welcome sight.



Current and former board members and spouses included the Millers, Saddoris, Womacks, Taylors, Wattses, and Oklahoma's Junior and Joan Beaver, accompanied by sister in law Dorothy. Mike and Jane Rodgers made the

trek, too, actually driving Don's Suburban and a utility trailer full of supplies cross country for the event.

Although we have not calculated it precisely, the long distance award probably goes to Eddie and Brenda Jenkins who flew from Valrico, Florida, where Eddie, former minister of St. Luke Cumberland Presbyterian in Fort Worth, now pastors Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Guests enjoyed a week of fabulous music and fine teaching. Most enjoyed sightseeing excursions to Fort Clatsop, where Lewis and Clark wintered after reaching the Pacific Coast. Also high on lists of favorites were the Tillamook cheese factory, Ecola State Park, and the towns of Cannon Beach, Seaside, and Astoria. Many saved time for daily or nightly walks on the beach. Haystack Rock at sunset is unforgettable. The Cannon Beach staff, under the guidance of camp director Jeff Carlson and program manager Janet Kerns, provided wonderful meals, comfortable accommodations, and a superior children's program. Many guests were simply Cannon Beach regulars who plan their yearly vacations at the conference center. After a week of Oregonian hospitality, we can certainly see why.

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Profile

Bob Vernon & Pointman Leadership

by Jane Rodgers

The year was 1992. Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl F. Gates had announced his resignation. The search for a successor began. Assistant Chief Bob Vernon, a 37 year veteran of the force and committed evangelical Christian, was next in line. The job was his. Or so it seemed...till lobbying from gay rights activists and other liberal constituencies derailed Vernon's nomination. Edited recordings of messages previously delivered by Vernon at churches and Christian conferences flooded the Los Angeles airways. Never mind that the recorded snippets were taken out of context, grossly distorting Vernon's views. The sound bytes were damaging. Bob Vernon, lifelong cop, faced his darkest hour. Church friends doubted him. Fellow cops turned away. Willie L. Williams was appointed chief of police, a post he would hold for five years. Bob Vernon retired.

The whole experience hurt Bob and Esther Vernon deeply. What good could come of it? Nearly 40 years on the force wasted? How could God use all this for His glory?

As He so often does, God had some surprises for Bob and Esther. Rather than serving a city of 200 neighborhoods, since leaving the force Bob has had the opportunity to impact thousands of leaders of government, military, police, business, and non-profit organizations across the globe—potentially touching millions of lives by teaching leadership principles and offering the message of Christ to individuals in key positions. Pointman Leadership Institute—formerly known as the Vernon Group—has affiliates in the United States, South Africa, South America, and the United Kingdom, and offers its Principle Based Leadership Seminar to interested groups worldwide. The organization's website details the elements of the seminar:

- The difference between managers and leaders
- Forces that demand and resist change
- The behaviors of a leader
- Essentials for public/private sector leaders
- Eight character traits of dynamic leaders
- How principle based leadership works in real life
- The life cycle of organizations

Seminar principles are biblical, although in the regular sessions, Pointman trainers are careful not to use the language of scripture. For example, the Ten Ancient



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Principles of ethical conduct, as Pointman trainers present them, are actually based upon the Ten Commandments. Seminar participants are invited to attend a voluntary session—the contents of which are candidly described—to be held after the meetings. In this session, Pointman trainers clearly present the gospel of Jesus Christ, explaining that only through the power of the Holy Spirit does truly ethical human behavioral change take place. Many respond to the call of Christ.

Originally, the Vernon Group was asked to assist police agencies in former Soviet bloc countries. According to Pointman's website: "Police executives from these countries wanted to learn how to adapt to a more democratic model of police operation. This included a re-education based on the morals, ethics, and spiritual

concepts that define 'Western' culture."

In 1996, Vernon presented an overview

of the seminar to the International Association of Chiefs of Police. This

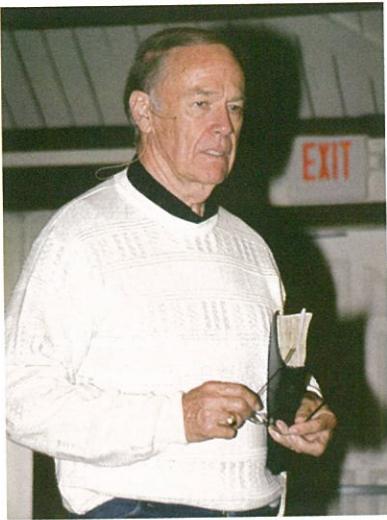
led to invitations from police agencies throughout the United States and internationally. Interest in the seminar spread to governmental agencies, industries, schools, non-profit and community groups. To date, Pointman Leadership Institute, with 40 trained presenters, has served clients from more than 40 countries—from military and police organizations to governmental agencies and legislatures to business

groups. The website www.pointmanleadership.org features a gallery of photos of an impressive array of clients—from Romanian educators to Mongolian parliaments to Czech police. Vernon himself has presented seminars in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Russia, and the People's Republic of China.

Vernon, the executive director of Pointman, draws no salary from the organization. Indeed, Pointman trainers are volunteers—men and women who have served or serve in leadership positions in business, police, government, education, and the military themselves, and who are passionate about biblical leadership and even more passionate about Christ. Pointman International is headquartered at California's Hume Lake Christian Camps, with which it is affiliated as an auxiliary entity. Bob also serves on the board of Hume Lake, nestled in the Sierras.

We caught up with Bob and Esther Vernon at Cannon Beach, where Bob served as a speaker at the 35th anniversary conference jointly sponsored by Bible Teaching Resources and CBCC. The Vernons graciously

Pointman representatives never break the host country's law.



shared their story... including insider tidbits about their personal history and the story of God's amazing work with Pointman.

Bob Vernon is a Los Angeles native; Esther grew up in California's San Gabriel Valley, about 40 miles away. They met when the pastors of their two churches decided to merge the college and

high school youth groups for a skating party one summer. Bob almost didn't go. He was, after all, a student at Biola, "Joe College," as he recalls, "too cool for that high school stuff." But a buddy wanted to meet some girls...so Bob accompanied him to the skating function. There he saw Esther, literally across a crowded room (or rink). With the lyrics from *South Pacific* ringing in his ears, Bob caught sight of Esther's smile and headed her way, just in time to help her exchange a pair of too small skates. He exacted a promise of a skate from her...and the rest was history. "We've been skating together ever since," laughs Esther. And they have. The Vernons will celebrate their 53rd anniversary this September. They have two children and six grandchildren. Daughter Pam Hare, a nurse, is married to an LAPD police officer. Grandson Matthew is also an LAPD cop. Son Robert Vernon, II, is a screenwriter and filmmaker who has worked with Focus on the Family's video and film department, including its award winning *Odyssey* series. Bob, Jr., was also the writer and director of the feature film *The Road to Redemption*, released by Worldwide Pictures in 2001.

It has been a good life for the Vernon family, though perhaps an unexpected life.

With the Korean War raging, Bob, Sr., left Biola to join the LAPD in 1954. A lifelong learner, he would subsequently earn an MBA from Pepperdine. He is also a graduate of the University of Southern California's Managerial Policy Institute and the FBI's National Executive Institute. Doctoral work at the University of California at Claremont was interrupted in 1984 by the demands of the Los Angeles Summer Olympics. Vernon's book *Eight Ethics of Highly Effective Leaders* is based upon his doctoral research.

When Bob retired from the LAPD, he was invited to go on an evangelical tour with the Christian Businessmen's Clubs. He met police officers—fellow Christians—who asked for assistance in training others in ethical leadership principles. Invitations followed. The story of how Pointman came to China is especially intriguing, illustrating God's hand in amazing ways.

When Bob and Pointman representatives were traveling to Mongolia, Chinese border guards expressed an interest in the training. This was curious. Later that year, Bob met a guest at a camp at which he was speaking in the United States. This woman mentioned she had a cousin in China and arranged an introduction. The cousin turned out to be none other than Finn Torjesen, the grandson of a Norwegian missionary to China. The elder Torjesen had gained legendary status after being murdered by the Japanese in 1939 during Japan's invasion of China early in World War II. Because of the esteem in which his grandfather is held even today in China (a monument to the missionary Peter Torjesen graces a city square in Shanxi province), Finn is well respected in the People's Republic. He operates a kiosk ministry in Shanxi province, distributing Chinese Bibles.

When Bob and Finn began e-mailing, it seemed unlikely that the two would ever meet. Bob planned to be in Beijing en route to Mongolia in 1995. Finn regretted that finances would not allow for a trip to meet him then. Surprisingly, when Bob landed in Beijing, who should greet him at the airport but a large Norwegian fellow with a sign lettered, "Bob Vernon"? It was Finn. His father had decided to fly into Beijing on the very same day and had wired Finn the money to pick him up. Finn opted to wait the half hour or so for Bob's plane. With Finn was Madame Wu, the sister in law of the premier of China. She arranged for officials to meet Bob the following week—and he presented the seminar's concepts to three high ranking Chinese generals. This contact led to Pointman's being invited to speak to all the police leaders of the 32 Chinese provinces: 64 men total would assemble in the Shanxi province for the event.

Pointman operates on careful principles. Pointman representatives never break the host country's law. At the Chinese seminar, an official inquired about the origins of the Ten Ancient Principles. Bob explained that these were found in the book of Exodus in the Bible, but that he could not show them to the official because it was illegal to bring Bibles into the country. So impressed was the official with Pointman's respect for Chinese law, that he arranged for the government to grant special permission for Pointman to "legally" bring Bibles into the country. As a result, Finn Torjesen is able to distribute Chinese Bibles today, albeit with some restrictions.

When invited by the host countries (and when that country's political situation is stable), Esther and the wives of other Pointman presenters accompany their husbands on international trips. These excursions are few, because trips can be fraught with risk and it is Pointman policy that wives must pay their own way. Still, when wives do accompany husbands, their presence is viewed as a sign of trust by representatives of the foreign countries. Esther also opens the Vernons' California home to international

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Bible Teaching Resources FAX



Recipes by Robichaux

Here's another old-time fall favorite from the kitchen of Johnnie Robichaux.

Corn Casserole

2 cans cream-style corn
1 onion, chopped
1 green bell pepper, chopped
1 small jar chopped pimento
1 1/3 cups Minute rice
salt & pepper
grated American or cheddar cheese

Mix all ingredients except cheese, and place in a greased casserole dish. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Remove foil, sprinkle cheese on top, and return dish to the oven until cheese is melted.

(originally printed in fall 1991 *Grapevine*)

Catch Don!

**Sundays, 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. services @ Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church.
1500 Lake Park Circle,
Hideaway, TX 75771.**

Fall Tour—September 16-October 25. See back cover for locations & times.

Teacher Training Conference—November 16-17 @ Pecan Plantation in Granbury, TX. See details on page 10.

NEW Resources

What You Need to Know about Abraham—updated CD series recorded at Cannon Beach is now available for purchase for \$20.00. Order online or use the order form on page 10. Request #CD201. Special 30th Anniversary set available for \$30. Includes tote bag, Abraham CD series, and 4 bonus CDs. Request #CD201plus.

Coming Soon! New Marriage CD

Marriage Metamorphosis will be available for purchase later this fall. Pre-orders are being accepted now! The 4 CD set includes a workbook and costs \$60.00. Order #CD990.

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for the transition from Bible study tours to video-conferencing. See Garner Roberts's article below for more details.
- Don's hip revision surgery is scheduled for November 26. Pray for this and also for safety on tour!
- Thank you for your many gifts. Please pray for God's continued provision through folks like you.

TRANSITIONS: FROM TOURS TO VIDEOCONFERENCES

Would You Attend a Live Videoconference Class?
by Garner Roberts

Like the words of the song, "the times they are a-changing," they certainly are at Bible Teaching Resources. As Don has previously announced, this will be his last year for traveling the "circuit," presenting Bible studies across Texas. However, Don is still anxious to teach. We are considering ways to help him continue to present the Bible, in a live format, to people in his classes.

Enter technology! God has presented new opportunities through technology, such as Don's podcasts now available for download on the internet. Videoconferencing technology, which is also under consideration, would allow Don to teach from his office in Tyler and interact with the people in his classes. The quality of sound and picture would make it seem as if Don were in the same room with folks.

Last winter, we took an informal poll of our Fort Worth Businesspeoples Class and our Granbury Evening Class, to see what level of interest people might have in attending a videoconference class. The response was great, with over 80% expressing their willingness to continue under this format.

We are currently looking at the costs related to this venture and determining if any of our existing locations already have the high-speed internet service or videoconferencing equipment required. The start-up cost for the set-up in Don's office and one remote set-up would be approximately \$12,000.00 (plus the cost of the internet service). Additional remote set-ups would run around \$7,000.00.

We are excited about these new possibilities and looking to God for guidance regarding how we should proceed. Please be in prayer for Don and Bible Teaching Resources, as we seek ways to continue to serve the Lord and be faithful to His call of ministry.

Ledbetter India Update

BTR board members Terry and Laurie Ledbetter journeyed to Bangalore, India, last April to teach a marriage course for students and spouses at the Evangelical Theological Seminary, an affiliate of the Asian Christian Academy. Terry also served as commencement speaker for the 2007



Our trip to India was a great blessing. We were surprised that it was so hot in April. Previously we had been in India in July and it was cool.

There was an air of anticipation on the campus as there are at all schools just prior to graduation. The excitement was compounded by the fact that they were finishing a beautiful new worship building at which all the graduation activities would take place. The building was named The House of Worship. It was an honor when Joy George, the president of ACA, ask us to dedicate The House of Worship to the Lord.

Laurie and I were greatly blessed as we delivered six hours of lectures on marriage to about 120 seminary students and spouses. Even though there are cultural differences in courtship and marriage (almost all marriages, including Christian marriages, are arranged in India) the biblical concepts and principles were readily received by these eager students. One gentleman came up to us after the seminar and told us he was going to be married in two months and that if the only reason we came was for his benefit, it was worth it.

My graduation challenge outlined the way the Lord has touched me throughout my life, encouraging the graduates that God had equipped them to minister to many people just as He had used different people to minister to me.



Pearl's Reflections

by Pearl Anderson

The 35th anniversary celebration of Bible Teaching Resources, a.k.a. Don Anderson Ministries, has brought memories, notes, and reminiscences about experiences of almost 50 years of ministry.

Two weeks after Don's graduation from Dallas Theological Seminary in 1959, we arrived in Bremerton, Washington, where Don would serve as youth minister of the First Presbyterian Church, now called the Lincoln Avenue Bible Church. Wilbur Scafe was the pastor. We were excited to see Wilbur and Vera's daughter, Carol, and her husband, Neil Day, at Cannon Beach this June.

From the church in Bremerton, we went to The Firs Bible and Missionary Conference Center in Bellingham, Washington. Long time board members, Norval and Joan Magnusson represented The Firs, as did Paul and Joan Macan, at Cannon Beach this summer.

From The Firs, our next move was to Pine Cove Conference Center near Tyler, Texas. Would you believe Joan Johnson (Birdie) Macan, who was the leader of the girl counselors our second summer at Pine Cove, was at the celebration at Cannon Beach? We had a lot to talk about.

Don Anderson Ministries has occupied our thoughts, prayers and energy for almost one-half of our lifetime.

We have experienced every emotion available to human beings:

- spiritual fulfillment...and discontent
- victories...and humiliating defeats
- loving loyal relationships...and lost relationships
- abundant provision...and lean times

Does this read like your life too?

Through all the 35 years of Bible Teaching Resources, we can attest to the faithfulness of God. He has been there on the mountain-top as well as in the low-valley experiences... and everywhere in between.

One thing we have learned: GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD AND ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES.

"If you keep looking steadily into God's perfect law—the law that sets you free—and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it."

—James 1:25 (NLT)

The unfailing love of the Lord never ends! By his mercies we have been kept from complete destruction. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each day. I say to myself, "The Lord is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!" The Lord is wonderfully good to those who wait for him and seek him.

—Lamentations 3:22–25 (NLT)

Faithful is the one who is calling you, who also will do it.

—1 Thessalonians 5:24 (DAV)

To God be the glory!

Registration & Order Form

TEACHER TRAINING CONFERENCE

November 16-17, 2007 (\$50 deposit per person)

NEW!

- Marriage Metamorphosis* preorder—\$60
- Abraham* CDs—\$20
- Special 35th Anniversary set—\$30

BOOKS

- Keep the Fire!*—\$15
- God Wants a Relationship*—\$15
- A Word from the Word*—devotional—\$20

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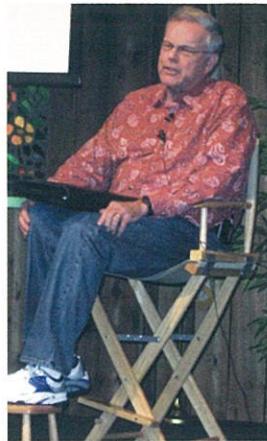
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Teacher Training Conference

November 16-17, 2007

**Pecan Plantation
Granbury, TX**

Join Don in a small group setting to learn time-tested techniques of Bible study, preparation, and teaching.



What you'll learn...

How to study scripture inductively, prepare lessons, gather illustrations to teach.

What you'll receive...

Methods & ideas for teaching, three reference books, training manual and highlighters, the option to purchase tapes & books at a discount.

How to sign up...

Mail or FAX the registration form to our office with a \$50.00 per person deposit. You may also register online at www.BibleTeachingResources.org.

Other stuff to know...

Cost for the conference is \$125 per person. This price includes 3 meals and materials. Pecan Plantation offers comfortable accommodations @ the special additional rate of \$75/night + applicable taxes. Contact Ministries office to reserve rooms.

Newcomers...folks who have taken the course in the past but desire a refresher...all are welcome!

OnePlace.com & Podcasting Update

Not only can you access Don Anderson's messages on the internet through the www.OnePlace.com website (click on the "Persevering and Pressing On" link to do so), but you may also subscribe and receive an automatic download of Don's weekly messages that will be sent straight to your computer, iPod, or other mp3 player. Use the link on the Bible Teaching Resources website or visit the OnePlace.com website to subscribe. Nearly 2000 folks have already done so!

iPod Winners

Jenny Coffey of Red Oak, TX is the winner of our first iPod Nano giveaway.

Tom Schoonover of Austin, TX won the second iPod Nano in the July 31 drawing.

BOOKSHELF

by Don Anderson

Epicenter: Why the Current Rumblings in the Middle East Will Change Your Future by Joel C. Rosenberg (Tyndale)

Joel Rosenberg has become one of my very favorite authors concerning prophetic issues. It is important that you read *Epicenter* before you read any of his other works, for here Rosenberg explains how world and Middle East events relate to biblical prophecy. This is a must-read.

The Last Jihad by Joel C. Rosenberg (Tyndale)

This book is the first in a series of fabulous fictional accounts with extraordinary parallels to current events and biblical prophecy. After reading *The Last Jihad* and later novels in the series, I find myself noticing news items illustrating the very topics Joel addresses.

The Last Days by Joel C. Rosenberg (Tyndale)

This second book in Rosenberg's series offers a futuristic scenario that seems so realistic you expect to read about the events in the daily paper. The author follows the same characters and pursues similar themes through all four novels.

The Ezekiel Option by Joel C. Rosenberg (Tyndale)

This excellent fictional work parallels Ezekiel 38 and 39.

The Copper Scroll by Joel C. Rosenberg (Tyndale)

Here Joel creates a scenario concerning the Dead Sea Scrolls and the search for the temple treasures. The journey is breathtaking from the first page to the end of the novel. I am excited about Rosenberg's contribution to our understanding of how contemporary events line up with biblical prophecy.

Bob Vernon *continued from page 7*

visitors who come to the United States on Pointman business, something she never imagined doing. "We share our lives with them," she muses. "We pray before meals and just live our lives before them." It is rare to be invited into someone's home in Europe; most entertaining occurs at restaurants. Esther's warm California welcome builds many a bridge.

Esther has had to learn to be flexible, married to Bob, a naturally gregarious man who started inviting crowds to the house from day one of their marriage.

In addition to a sense of hospitality, the Vernons share a lifelong love of Christian camping. They met Don and Pearl Anderson when Bob was invited to speak to a youth camp at The Firs in northern Washington in the early 1970s. That experience involved a snowed in weekend with 100 kids...but that's another story. The Vernons have also long been involved with Hume Lake Ministries and Hume Lake Christian Camps. Their kids grew up going to camp. Bob, a consummate storyteller, has often been a featured speaker at camps and conferences. "Our whole lives have been in camp work," Esther comments.

Bob Vernon thought he could help the city of Los Angeles as police chief. He knew God would guide him. But it wasn't to be. Instead he was forced out. God closed the door to influence in one city, but opened the doors of influence to the world.

That was God's way. And He has worked all things together for good for his remarkable couple for whom we can only suppose, the best is yet to be.

For more information on Bob Vernon and Pointman Leadership Institute, visit www.pointmanleadership.org.

There Is a Place

Cowboy Poetry by Joe Kreger

**There is a place I'm going.
Though, as yet, I don't know when.
But, I know it lies beyond the realm
of death and pain and sin.**

**Infirmitiy will have no dominion.
Eternal joy will abound.
Floods and drought and poverty
won't touch that Higher Ground.**

**We'll break free from the shackles
of bodies tired and worn.
Our voices will join in unending praise,
never more to mourn.**

**There will be no need for justice
in a place that's ruled by grace.
Doubt will pass from our memories
when we see the Savior's face.**

**Each day will be a reunion
with loved ones we long to see.
Saints of old will be our companions
when we sit at the Father's knee.**

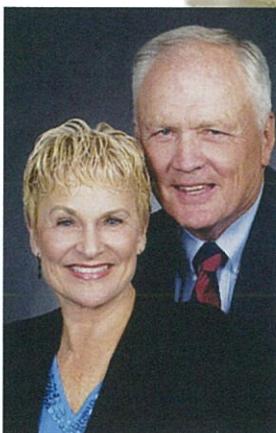
**The veil that clouds our vision
will be forever gone.
We'll live in the Light, freed from night
in the Land of Eternal Dawn.**

**This promised destination
can't be reached by what we've done.
Our passage is bought and paid for
with the Blood shed by the Son.**

**Come and join me in the journey
to that far-off Promised Place.
Take Jesus as your
Savior,
and receive His
Gift of Grace.**

(“There Is a Place,” from Gatherin’ Strays by Joe Kreger – 2 CD set. Tonkawa, OK: Hamilton Productions. Copyright © Joe Kreger, 2004.) Used by permission.

The Cake Lady



Judy Huffhines doesn't mind being known as "The Cake Lady." She has enjoyed baking and sharing miniature cakes with others as part of her personal ministry for the past decade.

When husband Jim retired from Texas Instruments and Judy retired from a career in human resources, the pair moved from Houston to White Bluff on Lake Whitney, where they became actively involved in Fort Graham Baptist Church. Soon Judy was baking small cakes that she and others could use for church related visits. Judy also baked cakes to give to newcomers in the White Bluff community. She gave cakes to the church youth to take home to their families. Each year, the fall festival cake walk was supplied with Judy's cakes as prizes. Judy also distributed cakes as random acts of kindness to service providers or to folks who just seemed to need cheering up. The postman might receive a chocolate cake. Or Judy would give a coffee cake to a policeman patrolling the area. "I always gave my name and indicated where I lived when I did that," she recalls, "just so the policeman would know it was okay." At one point, Judy averaged baking 18 cakes per week...she has made as many as 54 in one week!

At Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church, where Jim and Judy have been members since their move to the neighborhood in 2003, Judy continues to share her cakes as she visits shut-ins or remembers folks on their birthdays. She bakes for special occasions, too—like the Valentine cakes she made for widows one year or the "tuxedo" cakes she made for the dads at church one Father's Day. Jim, a retired engineer, often lends his technical expertise to the design of some of the special cakes...but Judy is the chief baker.

Judy purchases small foil pans and decorative plastic bags safe for food in bulk. She stocks up on cake mixes and other ingredients on sale, too. Her recipe is simple

and easily varied to make all sorts of cakes.

"Each cake requires two powders, two dairy products, two liquids, and a special item," says Judy. Each batch makes six small cakes...and Judy estimates that, to date, she has given away at least 4000 of these baked treats. Those who know her probably do not find this number overwhelming, because she exudes boundless enthusiasm and energy.

Judy Huffhines has found a simple way to open the door to the human heart. Let them eat cake.

Judy's Basic Cake Recipe

Two powders: a cake mix & a small package of instant pudding
 Two dairy products: 4 eggs & 8 oz. fat-free sour cream
 Two liquids: 6 oz. oil & 4 oz. warm water
 A seventh item: special flavoring or ingredient like chocolate chips, poppy seeds, etc.

Beat together cake mix, pudding, eggs, sour cream, oil & water. Add seventh ingredient according to type of cake. Pour batter into six mini-loaf pans coated lightly with non-stick cooking spray. Bake 35 minutes @ 350 degrees. After loaves are cool, place each cake—still in its foil pan—in a decorative plastic bag & give away!

CHOCOLATE CAKE: Use a chocolate cake mix & chocolate instant pudding. Item 7 should be a 12 oz. bag of chocolate chips.

COFFEE CAKE: Use a yellow cake mix & vanilla instant pudding. Item 7 is a generous sprinkling of cinnamon/sugar and pecan pieces in the middle. If desired, you may top the cake with a glaze made from $\frac{1}{2}$ box of powdered sugar & 4 T. of water.

LEMON CAKE: Use a lemon cake mix & lemon instant pudding. Item 7 is a lemon glaze on top made of $\frac{1}{2}$ box powdered sugar, 2 T. bottled lemon juice, water as needed for consistency.

POPPY SEED CAKE: Use a yellow cake mix & vanilla instant pudding. Item 7 is 2 T. poppy seeds in the mix.

COCONUT CAKE: Use a white cake mix & vanilla instant pudding. Substitute 8 oz. cream of coconut for the sour cream. Item 7 is 1 cup of flaked coconut. You may top this cake with a glaze of $\frac{1}{2}$ box powdered sugar, 4 T. water, & $\frac{1}{2}$ cup coconut, natural or toasted.

SPICE CAKE: Use spice or carrot cake mix & vanilla instant pudding. Item 7 is a combination of additional spices: 1 tsp. cinnamon, 1 tsp. nutmeg, 1 tsp. allspice, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. cloves.

APPLE CAKE: Use a spice or carrot cake mix & vanilla instant pudding. Item 7 will be 1 tsp. cinnamon & 1 apple, cut into small pieces.

BANANA CAKE: Use a banana cake mix & banana instant pudding. Item 7 (optional) is $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped nuts.

STRAWBERRY CAKE: Use a strawberry cake mix & strawberry instant pudding or Jello. Item 7 is 1 cup chopped fresh or frozen strawberries. Glaze cake, if desired.

Cannon Beach *continued from page 5*

The 35th anniversary conference reminded us all of the importance of getting away from the pressures of daily life and enjoying time in God's word and creation, fellowshipping with other believers in an informal setting. And we say, in gratitude to Him and to all who have helped make these 35 years of ministry possible: To God be the glory, great things He has done!

Cannon Beach Quotations

Don Anderson:

Thank you Jesus, Jeff and Janet! You made our 35th the best yet!



Ben & Sharon McWilliams, Fort Worth, TX:

What a week! Ben and I had never been to that part of the country, so the scenery was surprisingly beautiful - overlooking the

Pacific Ocean, hearing the waves dash the rocks, smelling the fresh air, laughing with friends. Our short jaunts around the area and the fun shopping opportunities were an added benefit. But the teaching...it was incredible! All in all, we loved the total package of biblical teaching in a beautiful place with special friends!

Barry Watts, Fort Worth, TX:

Our time at Cannon Beach was wonderful. Don's Bible teaching of Abraham was excellent... Bob Vernon's police stories were fascinating with great spiritual applications... the music was the best of contemporary and traditional worship. We fell in love with the quaint town of Cannon Beach and could not get over the georgeous flowers. The memory of Haystack Rock, the beautiful sunsets, people riding horses on the beach, and campfires at night will be highlighted when we think of Oregon.

Don Saddoris, Bluff Dale, TX:

Don had told us during his Bible study tours that those of us from Texas would see a little bit of heaven if we went to Cannon Beach. So, we made our reservation a full year in advance. Sure enough, the Oregon coast is beautiful and did not disappoint. But for me, the little bit of heaven was the conference itself. Don's Bible study on Abraham was great, as always. And we had the added treat of having Bob Vernon share leadership principles developed from God's word. Icing on the cake was the music of Russell Newport and Larry Kent; the kind of music you can just close your eyes and hope it never ends.



Joan Beaver, Broken Arrow, OK:

We were not disappointed in any area! The Cannon Beach Conference Center was especially meaningful to me as the founder, Evangeline McNeill, was the sister of Helen Duff Baugh, the founder of Stonecroft Ministries and Christian Women's Clubs. I knew Mrs. Baugh personally from serving for 30 plus years in that ministry. Also, the fellowship of people we had known through Don Anderson Ministries was an added gift.

Anne Schilperoort, Yakima, WA:

I knew about the Andersons because of The Firs in Bellingham (my parents were board members). Don shows his love for the Lord so naturally—so he is not only a great teacher but a wonderful example to us younger folks—that we can continue to grow in our relationship with Christ. It was also so exciting to hear about Bob Vernon's new ministry in so many closed countries...how God opened that door after his great disappointment is a huge encouragement to me to wait upon the Lord.

Spencer & Ruth Stamper, Cosmopolis, WA:

We've been coming [to Cannon Beach] for over 15 years.... We love the fellowship and the time in God's word—refreshment for the rest of the year. We have attended two of Don's Labor Day weekend gatherings at The Dunes camp on the Long Beach Peninsula in Washington.... We read the daily scriptures in *A Great While Before Day*.... This week we received encouragement during a difficult time in our lives.

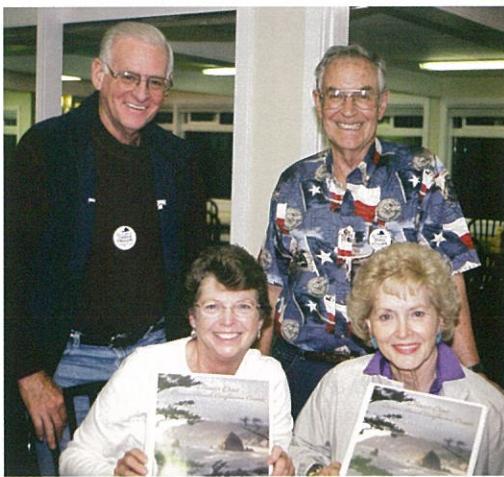
Louise Van Ryn, Bend, OR:

[Bible Teaching Resources] has helped me to draw closer to the Lord...[Cannon Beach]
—What a wonderful place to come to be refreshed and restored in our wonderful Lord and Savior!

Jim & Kathy Smith, Dallas & Hideaway, TX:

This was our first time at Cannon Beach. We were very pleased—it was very enjoyable.

continued on page 15



I bless and thee I glorify. Thou art worthy, O Lord God, to receive praises and thanks."

Third, A PROMISE MADE IS A PROMISE KEPT.

Isaiah reminds us that the Lord's promises

are given "in perfect faithfulness." "Perfect faithfulness" indicates reliability, dependability, loyalty to a person or a standard. When God makes a promise you can take it to the bank. It is a promise kept.

Numbers 23:19: "God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?" (NIV). Deuteronomy 32:4: "He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he" (NIV; see also Joshua 23:14, 1 Kings 8:56, Lamentations 3:22-23, Hebrews 13:5, Psalm 89:33-34)

With great joy, Pearl and I celebrated 54 years of marriage on August 14, 2007. To God be the glory, great things He has done!

Yes, with the Lord, a promise made is a promise kept.

Fourth, GOD MAKES IT HAPPEN. Isaiah puts it this way: "You have done marvelous things." He makes it happen.

Revelation 15:3: "And they sang the song of Moses the bond-servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying, 'Great and marvelous are Thy works, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Thy ways, Thou King of the nations'" (NASB). Those marvelous works done by our Lord include creation, the cross, and the promise of His coming again. On earth, He healed the sick. He raised the dead. He stilled the storm. Jeremiah 32:27: "I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?" (NIV; see also Ecclesiastes 3:11, Psalm 147:5, John 15:5, Isaiah 26:12, James 1:17, Ephesians 3:20).

To paraphrase a popular song, "We ain't seen nothing yet," either! 1 Corinthians 2:9: "but just as it is written, 'Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him'" (NASB).

Finally, the fifth lesson from 35 years on the road is

this: HIS PLAN AND PURPOSE PREVAIL. Isaiah reminds us of "Things planned long ago."

Ephesians 1:4: "just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love" (NASB).

Romans 8:28-30: "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified" (NASB, see also Proverbs 19:21, Isaiah 42:9, Isaiah 46:10).

Often my life has been often characterized by invalid assumptions. The remedy? Memorizing Isaiah 55:8-11 works wonders: "'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,' declares the Lord. 'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do

not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it'" (NIV). Proverbs 3:5-7 also keeps believers on track: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways

acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil" (NIV).

Thirty-five years on the road has taught me simple truths to finish by.

1. Salvation—"O Lord, you are my God." A relationship with God is most important, not a performance.

2. Gratitude—"I will exalt you and praise your name." Let's thank Him.

3. A promise made is a promise kept—"for in perfect faithfulness." God keeps His word.

4. He makes it happen—"you have done marvelous things." God is the ultimate mover and shaker.



5. His plan and purpose prevail—"things planned long ago." God knows His plan and He operates accordingly.

Today is indeed the first day of the rest of our lives at Bible Teaching Resources. Our prayer is to make a strong finish. Let me quote the legendary sage of Hallmark greeting cards, Maxine, when she sums it up: "Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body. But rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, Diet Coke in the other, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming 'WOO HOO what a ride!'"



Cannon Beach continued from page 13

Neil & Carol Day, Yakima, WA:

This is our first time at Cannon Beach. We heard about the conference in the *Grapevine*. We've been quite satisfied.

Trent Peterson, Napa, CA:

I enjoyed the speakers. Cannon Beach is just as beautiful as Mt. Herman, CA.

Chuck & Margie Taylor, College Station, TX:

Cannon Beach is a nice place...the conference was outstanding. Having two featured speakers is a great change of pace. The music just could not be improved! Russell? How can words describe his Tuesday evening performance?

Joe Webb, Fruita, CO:

[We've come to Cannon Beach] nine times—CBCC offers great kids programs and a time to get away and be with

the Lord and my family.... Don definitely has a love for the Lord and knows scripture. He and Bob Vernon inspired me to keep the Lord first! Great conference!

Eddie & Brenda Jenkins, Valrico, FL:

Cannon Beach is a beautiful area; the conference center is well run and seems to be a wonderful place for families.... I use Don's resources regularly in my teaching... Don and Pearl are really God's special servants and we cherish their love and friendship. They are so faithful in their walk and talk...people are drawn to them. Authentic Christianity always does this! It was our great joy and privilege to share this week with them and also Larry, Mary, Russell, Carolyn, Bob & Esther Vernon.

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FALL TOUR 2007

September 16 – October 25, 2007

SUNDAY

6:30 p.m.—FT. WORTH EVENING CLASS
Broadway Plaza @ Cityview Retirement Community
5301 Bryant Irvin Rd., Ft. Worth, TX 76132
Dr. & Mrs. Barry Watts 817.763.9180
Dr. & Mrs. Ben McWilliams 817.428.9653

MONDAY

12:20 p.m.—FT. WORTH BUSINESSPEOPLES NOON CLASS
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 10th & Lamar,
Ft. Worth, TX 76102
Garner Roberts, office: 817.763.5831
Ronnie Montgomery, home: 817.732.0978
(Lunch available @ 11:50 a.m.)

7:00 p.m.—GRANBURY EVENING CLASS
Lakeside Baptist Church
500 W Bluebonnet Dr., Granbury
(On the hill at Hwy 144 & Contrary Creek Rd.)
Don & Fran Saddoris, home: 254.728.3200
John & Loretta Miller, home: 817.326.4968

TUESDAY

12:00 p.m.—WACO NOON CLASS
Study begins @ 12:20 p.m.
Gratziano's: 254.752.8789
217 Franklin Street, Waco, TX (next to Ninfa's)
Gary Gray, office: 254.772.0024
Ronnie Marroquin, office: 254.751.1194

7:00 p.m.—TEMPLE EVENING CLASS
Temple Bible Church, Room 302
3205 Oakview Dr., Temple, TX 76502
Robert & Lucinda Berry: 254.913.8598 or
e-mail rberry7316@aol.com (no meal will be served)

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

WEDNESDAY

12:20 p.m.—SHERMAN/DENISON BUSINESSPEOPLES CLASS
Grandy's
3201 Texoma Parkway
Sherman, TX 75090
Larry Watkins, office: 903.868.1623
Tom Cassidy, office: 903.465.6063
(Lunch available @ 11:45 a.m.)

7:30 p.m.—FT WORTH EVENING CLASS
McKinney Memorial Bible Church
4805 Arborlawn Dr., Ft. Worth, TX 76109
Use south entrance, room # and directions posted inside
entrance
Tom & Joan Cochran, home: 817.738.1855 or cell: 817.907.7763

THURSDAY

11:45 a.m.—FT. WORTH STATE NATIONAL COMPANIES CLASS
8200 Anderson Blvd., Ft. Worth, TX 76120
Terry Ledbetter, office: 817.265.2000
Kay Gaudin, Administrative Assistant, extension 1215

7:30 p.m.—TYLER EVENING CLASS
Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church
1500 Lake Park Cir., Lindale, TX 75771
BTR office: 903.939.1201
Class hosts:
Doug & Alice Byrd, home: 903.882.1419; Tom & Beverly Hall,
home: 903.882.6644

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