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FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINE

The fundamental doctrine of this organization shall be the Bible standard of full salvation, which is repentance, baptism in water by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and the baptism of the Holy Ghost with the initial sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance.

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What I Owe My District Superintendent Earl R. Story

I owe him respect as an ambassador of God, sent to lead me to a better way of fellowship with my brethren, instead of a selfish, uncaring existence I might be guilty of, but for his guidance.

I owe him my trust, that he may be free to serve the district unhampered by faultfinding and criticism.

I owe my superintendent prayer, that God may make his services a blessing to all fellow ministers in our district.

I owe my superintendent the protection of kindly silence by refraining from repeating the slander of unkind gossip that would worry him and prevent him from doing his best.

I owe him enough of my time to help him in his work whenever he may need me.

I owe him kindness and encouragement when vexations and annoyances make his work difficult.

I owe my superintendent consideration not to interrupt and hinder his work by financial worry.

I owe my superintendent my attention when I hear him speak, as he may have something very beneficial to say that would bless me for years to come.

> Plan now to attend the 1994 General Conference September 29 - October 3 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Every church is encouraged to collect an offering to send their pastor to the annual General Conference. This act of thoughtfulness will be a blessing to your pastor and your church.

> G.I. Vittitow Oistrict Superintendent

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Our Unbelievable God Pastor H. Michael Anderson District Secretary Burkesville, Kentucky

It is one of the most beloved stories of Jesus. Endlessly told by preachers and trusted by parents; it gives hope that those who left God can be welcomed back to God. Its theme is magnified by the fact that it is the third of three stories, all intended to remind the listener that God is ready to receive—whether they left by confusion, carelessness or choice—those who want to come back. Which illustration is it? The parable of the Lost Son.

The account, recorded by Doctor Luke in chapter 15 of his letter to Theophilus, is simple enough that it is retold to the youngest Sunday School class and easily grasped by every student who listens. Yet, sometimes familiarity brings indifference. Notice it again with three emphases.

The Unbelievable Gripon the Son. The younger son is obviously loved and well provided for by the father. He has been told and by experience proved that he can ask his father for anything without fear of mockery or punishment. Rather, his wishes are received with serious contemplation. So the son asks for his inheritance early. He does not want to wait for the day of his father's death to receive what his father has gained in life, but wants the benefit of his father's labor while he is young enough to go into the world and enjoy it.

Why would the son ask for it early? If the father was willing to give his son his inheritance before his death, then surely he provided well for his needs while alive. What was so alluring that it drove the boy to look beyond the welfare of his father? What had he seen, or heard, or dreamed that was so powerful that its vision was greater than the father's love?

This is an unbelievable grip on the son making him eager to leave. How could a son so well cared for by a father be so zealous to run away? Yet it happens again and again. Children who have more than they need, steal something from a store. Teenagers living in comfortable homes, eager to move away. Adults surrounded by the marks of success, dreaming of starting life over. Yet life that does not find its satisfaction in God is always searching for something more.

The Unbelievable Grime of Sin. The father agrees to the son's request and the son is soon off to the far country and a life of wasteful spending. We know the story well, he exhausts his funds and discovers himself friendless. The hunger pains crush his pride and he is willing to accept any job so that he may eat. The only thing available is the task of feeding pigs. Here his fall is highlighted by his temptation to eat with the pigs he is hired to feed.

Sin does not congratulate people for leaving God. It does not reward. Rather it punishes by making offers it will never fulfill and painting pictures that will never be possessed. And all the time it entices with the unattainable it abuses and degrades its subjects.

The Unbelievable Grace of the Savior. Eventually the young man came to his senses. Surrounded by the sight, sounds and smell of the swine he suddenly realized that the newest employee of his father lived better than he. Knowing he is not worthy, he nevertheless determines to return home—but as a servant, not a son. So he begins the journey not knowing if his father will accept him even as a slave.

But Father has been waiting and watching. This is the unbelievable grace of the father. After the son has taken what the father earned, left home, wasted it and fallen in the pit of sin; Father is still eager to receive the son home. How far does the grace extend? Father meets the young man on the road before others can see his condition, wraps him in his arms, ignores his plea to become a son but rather sends a servant to the home to return with the shoes, coat and ring that restores him to his place as a son. What grace! Unbelievable grace!

This grace is not extended for us to abuse, but to call us home. We must get the word out to our departed friends now that they have a place at home and a warm welcome!

Add it up. The unbelievable grip on humanity, the unbelievable grime of sin is all overcome by the unbelievable grace of God. It adds up to an unbelievable God that we know.

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Senior Camp 1994 Dalena Puckett

What words could possibly describe the events of Senior Camp '94? "Awesome" and "Anointed" are the closest. I believe I can speak for every young person who attended youth camp by saying that my life was completely changed. Allow me to share a few of my memories with you.

I arrived on Monday with anticipation bubbling inside me. I could hardly wait for choir practice to start because that was the official beginning of Senior Camp. Our choir director, Brother Joe Cox, who did an excellent job, got us going with "Send It On Down." It was a great start.

Everyone was a little eager to hear the new camp evangelist, Brother Steve Cole. I had personally never heard him and was a little scared that he wouldn't be very good. I really got scared when I saw how, well, short he was. (Please forgive me, Bro. Cole!) But my fears quickly vanished when I heard him preach on Monday night. He preached with such an anointing. He had such a unique style of preaching that no one seemed to notice how much time was passing. It was a wonderful first day.

Everyone came into the Tuesday morning services pepped up because of the previous night's service. (Also, we had only been there one night, so no one was really tired yet!) We heard two good messages, each ending with the altar area full of young people crying out to God. After choir practice, a lot of new friends were made and old friends from the previous years got together to catch up on the past year's activities. Then, the power of God fell again in the night service. For two hours straight, young people from all over the district poured their hearts out to God. Direction was given to many young people, and some received the blessing that they had wanted for a long time. For me, it was the greatest service of the entire week.

Wednesday was much like Tuesday. The power of God fell in each service. On Wednesday night Brother Cole preached about a love story from the Song of Solomon. It was an awesome message. No one even seemed to notice that it lasted for almost three hours. I personally feel that if you did not hear it, you should invest in the tapes. You will not be sorry, trust me!

Thursday and Friday were the wrapup days. Everyone began to feel a little sad because camp was almost over. But we did not let our sadness get in the way of receiving yet another blessing. It seemed we couldn't get enough of the presence of God. You could still find young people at the altar at midnight wanting to feel God again. It was awesome!

On Friday, the annual Preachers vs. All Stars softball game took place. For the past few years the Preachers have come out victorious. This year the All Stars had their minds made up to change the tide, and that is exactly what they did. They beat the Preachers by a score of 5-4. Great game!

Camp could not have been such a success without the wonderful leadership of Brother Tiller and Brother Marshall. On behalf of the Youth of Kentucky, I would like to thank them for sacrificing their time and effort to making this the best camp ever. Thanks also to Brothers Quady, Stamper, Russell, Edday, Ball, Marshall, Grace, and Tiller for allowing God to use them to speak to us in the day services. Thanks to Brother Cox for being such a wonderful choir leader, and thanks to Brother Cole for letting the anointing flow from him to us. And last, but definitely not least, thanks to Jesus Christ for visiting us in each service at Senior Camp '94.

See you all at Winter Youth Retreat '94 in Madisonville, December 28-30.

To the Senior Camp Workers;

A special thanks to all those who sacrificed their time and effort to make Senior Camp complete. Matrons, deans, cooks, custodians, maintenance, nurse, night watchman, food purchaser, concession stand help, recreation director, principal, devotion speakers, rally speakers, choir director, musicians, preservice music coordinator—it would not have been possible without you.

We are thankful for all of you who came and worked so hard to make it run as smooth as it did. You are great people. We'll look forward to seeing you again next year. Bro. Ron Tiller and Bro. Scott Marshall To the Kentucky District

Just a note of thanks for the love offering at Senior Camp. You all are special people and we love you very much. Seeing the young people pray at camp and receive something from God makes everything totally worth while.

Bro. and Sis. Tiller, Brittany and Chera

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Dear Fellow Followers of Christ,

Greetings in the wonderful name of our great God, Jesus!

Twenty years ago in August I was busy packing and planning for my first year as a student at Texas Bible College. I remember my feelings—excitement mixed with uncertainty! I didn't know what lay ahead or what God had planned for my life; but I was willing to go wherever God wanted and do whatever God directed. I have tried to remain obedient to God's direction during my twenty years of ministry—almost half of that spent among you in our progressive Kentucky District.

Now, I find myself packing and planning again. While we were in Texas for the tenth church anniversary of Sister Anderson's father, we unexpectedly received a telephone call from Texas Bible College. Brother J.R. Ensey, college president, asked if we could meet with him while in Texas. We arranged a time to meet where he explained they had a faculty couple leaving and needed someone to quickly fill the gap. They asked if Sister Anderson and I would be interested. We felt good about this door the Lord was opening and made it a matter of prayer. The Texas Bible College Board of Directors met the next week and Brother Ensey called us to offer us the open position. We have agreed to go and must leave the Kentucky District.

I called Brother Vittitow after meeting with Brother Ensey and spoke to him again after accepting this call. We informed the District Board and Burkesville church on August 18. We are needed in Houston for orientation and classes before August 31.

My resignation as district secretary will be effective upon the appointment of my successor by the District Board. Until then all district mail should be sent to Brother Vittitow. Sister Anderson resigned as editor with the completion of the September issue of the Kentucky District News. We will do our best to work for a smooth transition with whomever is selected and, of course, will be available to help our replacements assume their new duties.

It has been my great privilege to serve as the district secretary for over five years and in some district office capacity for over seven years. I wish time and travel allowed us to visit with you again before our departure, but we look forward to seeing you at conferences in the future. Above all the lessons gained and memories we will cherish, I count your friendship the dearest.

Always yours for a progressive Kentucky,

H. Michael Anderson District Secretary and Treasurer

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A Volunteer Mission in Morehead

Editor's note: this article was originally published in Life Care Leader magazine. Pastor Lloyd Dean has pastored in Morehead for 37 years and has served the Kentucky District United Pentecostal Church in several capacities. He was the first editor of the Kentucky District News, was district Sunday Schools Director, Section N Presbyter and District Secretary and Treasurer. Presently Brother Dean is an honorary member of the Kentucky District Board.

"Jesus said, 'Go ye into all the world' and I think Life Care Center is a part of that command," Lloyd Dean said recalling his 26-year ministry at Life Care Center of Morehead, Kentucky.

Reverend Dean, pastor of the United Pentecostal Church in Morehead, and his wife, Arvetta, are dedicated to that great commission. Since Life Care Center of Morehead opened in 1968, the Deans have held weekly church services there and have visited the center thousands of times.

"They are supportive of the nursing center," said Sally Netherly, who has worked in the facility's medical records department for 23 years. "A lot of people volunteer their time and talents, but most of them don't last as long as the Deans."

True to their calling, the Deans, along with other volunteers from their church, conduct services each Monday at 6:30 pm in Life Care Center.

Approximately 20 residents faithfully participate in each service. Reverend Dean usually asks one of them to open the service with prayer. Then, songs are sung and some of the residents testify of the goodness of the Lord. Many of them are thankful for this place, for a roof over their heads and for food.

Charlie Littleton, who has been a resident at the center for 16 years, eagerly awaits these weekly meetings. "The Deans are friendly people. Someone you love, " he said. "They always come. Since I've been here, the only thing that kept them away was when we had a foot of snow on the ground."

The Deans also visit those residents who would like to attend the services but are physically unable to.

Melvin Rice, a resident who is no longer able to regularly attend the services, enjoys the Deans frequent visits.

"I've known Lloyd Dean for many years," Mr. Rice said. "I used to work with his father. The Deans are just good people who'll do anything for you."

Although 26 years of weekly volunteer work is an extremely commendable accomplishment, the Deans go beyond that achievement and serve the residents in some way almost every day.

It is not unusual for Mrs. Dean to run errands for the residents. She

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may bring toothpaste, crackers, doughnuts or anything else the residents ask for, as long as members of the nursing staff approve it.

"One resident who was diabetic mentioned she loved blackberry cobbler, but couldn't eat it because of the sugar," Sally Netherly explained. "Mrs. Dean went home later and prepared blackberry cobbler using artificial sweetener. The resident loved it, and she thanked Mrs. Dean over and over."

Reverend Dean officiates funerals, conducts baptisms and stops by the facility frequently to talk or pray with the residents.

For the times when the Deans aren't at the facility residents may listen to Reverend Dean's weekly service on Saturday morning at 11 a.m. The "I Have Hope" radio program on WWOR lasts thirty minutes.

With such a full agenda—the radio program, church duties and volunteer work—what keeps the Deans going after all these years?

"When we first started, I was nervous," Mrs. Dean said. "But now the residents and staff members are just like family. When we don't go as often, I miss them. One day I may have to stay in a nursing home. I'd want someone to visit me. I enjoy helping at the nursing home and wish I could do more."

Written by Lisa Hamilton

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The First Face She Will See

The hymn writer Fanny Crosby gave us more than 6,000 gospel songs. Although blinded by an illness at the age of 6 weeks, she never became bitter. One time a preacher sympathetically remarked, "I think it is a great pity that the Master did not give you sight when He showered so many other gifts upon you." She replied quickly, "Do you know that if at birth I had been able to make one petition, it would have been that I should be born blind?" "Why?" asked the surprised clergyman. "Because when I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior!"

One of Miss Crosby's hymns was so personal that for many years she kept it to herself. Kenneth Osbeck, author of several books on hymnology, says its revelation to the public came about this way: "One day at a Bible conterence in Northfield, Massachusetts, Miss Crosby was asked by D.L. Moody to give a personal testimony. At first she besitated, then quietly rose and said, 'There is one hymn I have written which has never been published. I call it my soul's poem. Sometimes when I am troubled, I repeat it to myself, for it brings comfort to my heart.' She then recited while many wept, 'Someday the silver cord will break, and I no more as now shall sing; but oh, the joy when I shall wake within the palace of the King! I shall see Him face to face, and tell the story—saved by grace!'' That is the sure hope of every child of God!