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**DECEMBER 2024** 

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### PTIST FAITH MISSION NEWS & REPORTS

Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world

#### AN AWESOME TRIP TO BRAZIL



AJ & Barbara Hensley .

ajcaragua@gmail.com 30524 Mimi St Sebring, FL 33870-0530 859-539-1424 Barb 859-539-2302 Aj

November 12, 2024

As we prepared to go to Brazil this month, we also had to make another type of preparation. We were told that a hurricane was slated to come right over our town, so we needed to prepare our trailer for this destruction that we were told was coming our way. So, we prayed and pre-pared what we were told to prepare and put our 7 bags in the car and started on the 3-hour trip to Miami airport.

On this trip, we were unsure even when we arrived in the airport if it would be open or shut down because of the hurricane. About halfway to the airport, we looked out the right side of the car and saw what we thought was a tornado looming there. Believe you me, we upped our prayers, stepped on the gas, and kept one eye on the twister and one eye on the road. By the grace of God, we outran it and got to the airport; it was open and we flew to Brazil. As we were waiting for our flight, we saw on the news that the

tornado passed across the road we were on and wreaked havoc as it passed across Florida. This was my first time to see a tornado up close and personal and hopefully my last.

This trip to Brazil turned into an AWESOME trip. Not only was the Bluegrass Baptist Seminary business conducted but we were able to do much, much more. The first part of our trip was to expose the church where we aftend in Florida, with the Pastor, his wife and two young adults to the ministries in Brazil, the church plants, mission, and the Guarani Indian group that we have worked with in the state of Rio. Then we had the fun privilege of helping the Church in Caraguatatuba to host the Childrens Day festivities where we did face painting, popped popcorn, and made cotton candy and hot dogs. Amid all this fun, the church pastor, his wife, the youth director, his wife, and the youth brought several skits that told the children of the love of God and the plan of salvation.

In those 7 suitcases we carried shorts and t-shirts for the Indian children and another group of work with. Also, we carried children that the missionaries

A GREAT TIME was had by

all!!!!



Barbara and the team from Florida ministering to children in Brazil



lots of American candies, many



DECEMBER 2024

NEWS & REPORTS =

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(407) 417-0204 | grsledd@hotmail.com You can also contribute online at www.bfmnow. org using the "Give" button. If it is for a specific missionary or project, it should be so designated. The greatest need each month is for the Missionary

Support Fund.



All correspondence concerning address changes, address additions, questions, and other information about mailing should be addressed to:

Steve Wainright 736 Berry Lane Lexington, KY 40502 wainright50@gmail.com

If making a change of address, please include the old address along with the new address.



Follow us on social media @BFMNOW

## A NEW BELIEVER IN



Iohn Mark & Judy Hatcher JMHatcher@aol.com 2 T Impasse de la Picardie 31830 Plaisance du Touch

November 12, 2024 Dear Brothers and Sisters, It's Thanksgiving month

and we have much for which to be thankful. You are on our Thanksgiving list.

Last week at our Bible Study in Mazere, a young man testified that he had put his faith in Christ the previous weekend. I mentioned this career soldier in army special forces in my last letter. He just recently started coming to the Bible study. It is great to see his interest and commitment to the Lord.

Once a month, we have a men's prayer breakfast. This past Saturday there was a range of men from twenty years old to seventy-one years old present. It is very encouraging to see the interest that these men have in helping each other through fellowship, counsel and prayer. The ladies meet every other week for prayer.

Our Sunday meetings and other Bible studies in six other locations are going well and we are encouraged by what God is doing in the lives of the individuals who participate.

Patricia, a lady who lived not far from us when we met her in our former neighborhood, has been in long term hospital care for several weeks. We have witnessed to her as have others from our congregation over the last dozen or so years. Judy has picked her up and brought her to our church meetings. She shows greater interest now and asks for prayer, but has never made a clear commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation. Barbara, one of the ladies from our congregation, has done a lot to help her. Your prayers for Patricia are greatly appreci-

Thank you for your prayers and support. May God bless you and your ministry.

Your fellow servants, John and Judy Hatcher



View past issues of the BFM News & Reports in our Legacy Library!

What will you find in the Legacy Library?

Gems stretching all the way back from 1940 to today that tell of the Lord's faithfulness to His people over 8 decades.

For example, in the December 1999 issue, the Hatchers were writing shortly after their arrival in France. They shared about the frustration of not being able to communicate freely in French as they were learning the language, so they asked us to pray. They also asked for us to most importantly pray that the Lord would convict those in France of "sin, righteousness, and judgment".

# The Lord heard and is still answering those prayers...all

for His glory! God is so good. Visit bfmnow.org

& click the "Our History" tab.

PRAY FOR OUR **COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS** 

Terry Adkins • Harold Draper • Philip duBarry Benton Glover • Paul Hatcher • Dan Hillard Kenny Hurst • Randy Jones • Darrell Messer David Mitchell • Dave Parks • Mark Pyles David Pitman • George Sledd • Sheridan Stanton Jonathan Turner • Steve Wainright

May God give them wisdom and discernment.

**GIVE ONLINE** at www.bfmnow.org

December 2024

# TEACHING HOW TO STUDY & TACKLE DIFFICULT PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE



Roger & Julie Tate rojuta@gmail.com P.O. Box 96 Kitale, Kenya East Africa, 30200

November 11, 2024 Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ,

We are nearing the end of our first term of this academic year and things are progressing well, although we are tired and a little worn out. The Christmas season is just around the corner, and I am looking forward to it, although the Christmas season in Kenya is nothing like the Christmas season in the States.

I am teaching three classes this term – 1) General Principles of Interpretation, 2) The Pentateuch, and 3) Hebrews and General Epistles. I would like to focus this month on just the third one - Hebrews and General Epistles. This has been an excellent class so far and I have had good opportunities to have many great discussions and learning moments with my beloved students. If you have ever read through Hebrews and the General Epistles, and I know you have, I'm sure that you noticed there are a lot of difficult and challenging passages in these books. There have been lots of disputes about some of these passages over the last two thousand years and challenges about some of these passages have been presented from both unbelievers and those within Christianity. My students will soon be in churches

preaching and teaching from these passages and they not only need to know what they are talking about and teaching, but they also need to know how to defend their teaching from possibly obstinate and even hostile opposition. I want to give them experience on studying and teaching these challenging passages and experience in facing "hostile" opposition. (In case you were wondering what kinds of challenging passages I have in mind, consider 1) How can Jesus be made perfect through suffering in Hebrews 2:10? 2) Is it possible to lose your salvation according to Hebrews 6:4-6? 3) Are people saved through faith or action and is James 2:14-25 in opposition to Paul's teaching of faith alone? 4) Does the prayer of faith in James 5:13-15 always heal the sick and if the sick person is not healed does that mean someone is lacking faith? 5) Does baptism save us according to 1 Peter 3:21? 6) In what way has the Lord "bought" the false prophets of Peter 2:1? 7) Do believers reach a state of sinlessness according to 1 John 3:5-6 and 5:18? 8) Who are the angels who did not keep their positions of authority in Jude 6 and what exactly happened to them? 9) Why does Jude quote from Apocryphal books? And others). So, each student is going to get an opportunity to teach in class on one of these or other challenging passages and then field tough questions from the "hostile" and "opposing" members of the audience

(meaning myself and the other students who are being tasked with being "obstinate opposers and schismatics").

There is a definite purpose for this assignment. Not everyone that they will be speaking to in their churches, or in seminars, or even in people's homes will agree with them. Some will oppose them vehemently, and my beloved students need to know how to deal with such situations and scenarios. Here is what I want them to learn. 1) I want them to learn how to deeply study the Scriptures and to be able to tackle and understand difficult and challenging passages. Not every passage of Scripture is easy to understand, and a good interpretation doesn't always pop out at you when you first read it. Sometimes it takes a lot of work and sweat to understand a text. 2) I want them to be able to logically organize the defense of their position and to understand other people's positions on those passages as well. 3) I want them to experience teaching through a passage that might make them feel a little uncomfortable. 4)

I want them to experience opposition and hostility in a friendly environment and to learn how to lovingly and Biblically present and defend their position on the Word of God in a Christ-like way. Not every environment they encounter will be friendly and resistance can be hard to face. Better to learn how to face it amongst peers than amongst true enemies. 5) I want them to learn and then defend the truths of Scripture. 6) I want them to learn that they are not pertect followers of Christ, perfect Bible students, or perfect interpreters of Scripture. They could end up being wrong in their interpretation and presentation of their teaching and if they are wrong, I want them to learn to be open to the truth of Scripture and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, bless my beloved students and teach them the truths of Your Word and how to present and defend this truth to Your people and to the world.

Blessings to all, Roger, Julie & Chloe

#### VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS FUND

Please prayerfully consider helping us support our faithful veteran missionaries in their senior years by giving a recurring generous offering designated for "VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSION FUND."

You can do that by simply making your contribution to Baptist Faith Missions and designating it for "Pension Fund" or "Veteran Missionary Pensioners" or by anything that says "Pension." We will know what you mean, and your offerings will go directly toward honoring our Veteran Missionaries Pensioners who have served our Lord and us so faithfully and sacrificially.

You can mail your contribution to our Treasurer, George Sledd. Or you can give online by going to our website and clicking on the gold "GIVE" button.

When you make your transaction online, you will be given the "Recurring option: \_\_Yes! Please register me for the recurring program!"

We pray and hope you will.

Member of the Florida team with a child

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### Continued from page 1

school supplies, paint supplies, and wooden things to paint. All of this was given to the children in Caraguatatuba to help with their school needs and for their fun activities for Children's

Day. God is so 'good all the time and all the time God is good. Just the Tooks on the faces of the children when they received these things were without a doubt too precious to imagine. Thank you to all who contributed to this trip.

One of the purposes for this trip was to meet others who have an interest in the Seminary. We also met with some churches the with same inter-The est. churches were interested in how

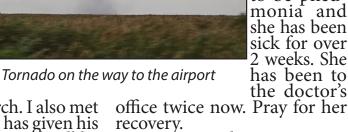
they could be involved as a church. I also met with a friend who has given his life to the ministry and will be ordained this month. He wants to enroll in this upcoming semester. How AWESOME is the God we serve?!?

While we were there, we had a small glitch with our communications systems in the Seminary. As the students were taking one of their exams, their test scores became scrambled, and the computer crashed (the students were in a panic). The problem was solved in about 45 minutes. All's well that ends well.

Next summer's trip will be involved in much traveling to several other Seminaries in Brazil. It looks like we will be going there at least 3 different times. Pray for the future students and for our health and for

the Bluegrass Baptist Seminary. We also ask'that you pray for one of our Pastor friends Brazil; his name Pastor Markus and he has been in the hospital for a week now with heart problems. As we were

concluding the trip became <sup>¹</sup>sick with what they call grip (a bad cold) and when we got back to the States, Barbara also became sick. It turned out to be pneumonia and she has been sick for over 2 weeks. She



Just to complete our trip, we came home with no damage to our home, just the loss of everything in our refrigerator and freezer, but we have a good friend who came and cleaned out everything so we did not

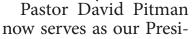
out everything so we did not have to come home to a stinking mess. Thank God for good friends.

In His service, Aj and Barbara



We were pleased to honor Bro. Randy Jones and Pastor Dave Parks at the Thanksgiving Conference for their many faithful years of service to BFM as President and Executive Secretary.

Please join us in our prayers to God for His continued – and increased – blessings on Baptist Faith Missions under our new leadership who assumed their ministry responsibilities in January 2024.



dent and Pastor Philip duBarry serves as Executive Secretary.

All of these faithful servants of the Lord and BFM are pastors, BFM Directors, and "messengers of the churches, the glory of Christ" (2 Corinthians 8:23).

We are excited to see what the Lord has in the store for BFM in the years to come as we continue to partner with sending churches and their missionaries to go into the nations of the world to make disciples and establish New Testament churches for the glory of God ... and all in prayerful and confident dependence on the grace of God.

We have never been more mindful of our need of God's sovereign provision ("...for without Me, you can do nothing" John 15:5); and never more confident that He will supply it "according to His riches in Glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

We all are renewing our prayers to God to 'enlarge the place of your tent, and let them stretch out the curtains of your habitations; do not spare; lengthen your cords, and strengthen your stakes" (Isaiah 54:1-2; Galatians 4:26-27). And we are also renewing our commitment to "Attempt great things for God; Expect great things from God." Thank you for your continued partnership with us!





Bro. Philip duBarry, Executive Secretary of BFM, presented Bro. Randy Jones and Pastor Dave Parks with plaques to honor their many faithful years of service to BFM as President and Executive Secretary.



Randy Jones & Dave Parks

DECEMBER 2024

**b**fm

### A BRIEF RECAP OF THE 69TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING CONFERENCE

Happenings ...recent developments in BFM

The Lord blessed the 69th Annual Thanksgiving Conference! We heard four excellent sermons that made us ponder the question:

### "What is the Value of a Soul?"

We pray you will ponder the same question and live every day placing the same value God places on them. We also want to thank the dear brothers and sisters at New Hope Baptist Church in Dearborn Heights, Michigan, along with Grace Missionary Baptist in Wyandotte for their warm hospitality and wonderful meals!

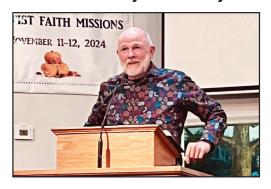
### **Message Recaps:**

#### Pastor George Sledd



Pastor George Sledd from Jordan Baptist Church in Sanford, Florida, preached from Matthew 16:24-27, reminding us that if the soul is so valuable, it is worth winning at all costs.

#### Missionary Bobby Wacaser



Bro. Bobby Wacaser, missionary to Brazil, preached from Matthew 10:29-31, reminding us that people are of infinite value to God before they are saved, but they experience that value when they come to know Christ. That's what it's all about: that we would know Christ, not just know about Christ (John 17:3).

#### Bro. John Moore



Bro. John Moore, who is preparing for the ministry, preached from John 10:7-11 about "The Value a Shepherd Sees in His Sheep". He also pointed us to Psalm 23 and our Good Shepherd who personally cares for us and provides for us. A soul's value rests on Christ and He will have all that He paid for! Each sheep is precious to the Shepherd.

#### Pastor Mark Campbell



Pastor Mark Campbell preached from Jonah 4:9-11, comparing and contrasting how God values a soul versus how Jonah valued a soul. Jonah didn't value the souls of Nineveh like God valued them, but God used the half-hearted prophet to bring His message of repentance to these people because He valued their souls.

Stay tuned to our website and social media for conferences coming in 2025!

**b**fm

NEWS & REPORTS -



### **UPDATE**

IF YOU HAVEN'T GIVEN YOUR THANKSGIVING OFFERING YET ... WOULD YOU PLEASE DO SO RIGHT NOW?

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE TOWARD OUR \$50,000 GOAL SO WE CAN SUPPLY THE NEEDS OF OUR MISSIONARIES OVER THE COMING YEAR.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORD!

You can make a secure donation online with a check or credit card. Just click the "GIVE" button on our homepage at BFMNOW.ORG!



"...that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality..." [2 Corinthians 8:2] There is just no way that we can exaggerate or over-state the importance of our Thanksgiving Offering. The Thanksgiving Offering is indispensable if we are to maintain providing our missionaries with the levels of service and benefits we are giving them now – and we certainly can't increase the benefits we give them without a very generous Thanksgiving Offering.

All the offerings given to the Thanksgiving Offering go directly toward the support of our missionaries by funding the commitments, benefits, and services we give them over the course of the next year.

#### Consider these truths:

- ► All the commitments, benefits, and services we give our missionaries are funded through offerings and contributions given to the *Missionary Support Fund*
- ► The only contribution streams that supply the Missionary Support Fund are the monthly offerings given to the Missionary Support Fund and the THANKSGIVING OFFERING
- ► The monthly Missionary Support Fund contributions do not sustain all the accrued annual disbursements for the commitments, benefits, and services we give our missionaries
- ► Therefore, we need and depend upon the THANKSGIVING OFFERINGS to make up for the monthly deficits we will incur in providing the commitments, benefits, and services we give our missionaries over the upcoming year
- ► This year's THANKSGIVING OF-FERING will make up for next year's monthly deficits in Missionary Support

- Fund contributions and disbursements
- ► IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE SUFFI-CIENT THANKSGIVING OFFER-ING FUNDS NOW IN ADVANCE OF NEXT YEAR'S DISBURSEMENTS, THEN WE WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO REDUCE THE COMMIT-MENTS, BENEFITS, AND SERVICES WE GIVE TO OUR MISSIONARIES
  - we have no other reserves, subsidies, or endowments to draw from or fall back on
  - we cannot borrow money to operate
- ► So, it is essential that we all give as generously as possible so our missionaries' needs will be supplied
- ► Will you give a generous personal THANKSGIVING OFFERING right now?
  - and, at the same time, may we encourage you to commit to making monthly – even recurring – offerings to the Missionary Support Fund!
- ➤ Your missionaries' needs will be met and thanksgivings to God will abound and increase and continue!

## THANKSGIVING OFFERING FAQ

(Frequently Asked Questions)

Visit our FaithWorks Blog to learn more about this offering and some of our most frequently asked questions.

\*\*www.bfmnow.org/\*\*



"No more let sins
and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make
His blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found."

tgiving-faq/

NEWS & REPORTS -





Crown Him
with many crowns
The King
who left His throne
Creator of the universe
Born to the world
He holds
And with that
first drawn breath
The Word
has become flesh
Emmanuel
has come to us
O crown Him
all the earth

Crowned by
the angel choir
They tell His royal birth
Sing glory
in the highest height
And peace
upon the earth
They break
the silent night
Announcing
endless worth
The King of grace
and love is here
O crown Him
all the world

"Crown Him (Christmas)" Words by Tomlin, Carson, Redman, Kim, Taylor

# LEGACY GIFTS PLEASE CONSIDER REMEMBERING OUR PENSIONERS IN YOUR WILL

Ever since our Traditional Pension Fund was established years ago, that Fund has been supplied by numerous generous gifts that have been given to BFM. Some have donated properties to BFM and the sales of those properties have been allocated to our Pension Fund. Others have bequeathed Legacy Gifts to BFM in their wills. These gifts have sustained the on-going ministry of helping to support our Veteran Missionary Pensioners in their senior years after they are no longer physically able to continue their active on-the-field service. This is just another way you can perpetuate your partnership in missionary support for years to come. We pray you will consider helping our missionaries in this way also.

Consider your impact on the world.

### We GO... because HE CAME.

Merry
Christmas to
you & yours!



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Follow us on Instagram www.instagram.com/BFMnow

We encourage you to like, share, and retweet our posts!

### **WAYS TO GIVE**



### Give Online

You can make a secure donation online with a check or credit card.

Just click the *Give* button on our homepage at www.bfmnow.org





## Mail a Check



All offerings should be addressed to:

BFM, c/o George Sledd P.O. Box 471280 Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1280

If your offering is for a specific missionary or project, it should be so designated.

The greatest need each month is for the Missionary Support Fund.



# BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS NEWS & REPORTS

Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world

www.bfmnow.org



# **ONLINE EDITION**

### **PRAY & PRAISE**

...IN THIS ISSUE

#### ► JOHN MARK & JUDY HATCHER: PRAISE GOD for saving a young man in Mazere! PRAY for Patricia. [PAGE 2]

#### ► AJ & BARBARA HENSLEY: PRAISE

GOD for a safe and great trip to Brazil! PRAY for the seminary, for their health, and for Pastor Markus. [PAGE 1]

#### ► ROGER & JULIE TATE: PRAISE

GOD for the students in Roger's 3 classes! PRAY as they learn to study and tackle difficult passages of Scripture. [PAGE 3]

#### **▶ BOBBY & CHARLENE WACASER:**

PRAISE GOD for those who heard the gospel and those who professed faith in Christ as Lord and Savior! PRAY many more souls will come to know the Lord during the last Projeto Vida mission journey of 2024. PRAY for Yago & Manoela. [PAGE 8]

# PRAY ALSO FOR OUR OTHER FAITHFUL MISSIONARY FAMILIES!

ODALI & KATHY BARROS
MIKE & BEVERLY CREIGLOW
JUD & RAQUEL HATCHER





# 198 PROFESS FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST AS LORD & SAVIOR



Bobby & Charlene Wacaser

bobbymichael\_1@hotmail.com Rua Laudelino Ferreira Lopes, 279 Sobrado 1, Novo Mundo 81050-310 Curitiba. PR. Brasil

November 9, 2024

Our traveling missionary team, Projeto Vida, experienced an amazing month of outreach in three different cities! In all, the team shared the gospel with 4,831 people. Of those people that heard the gospel, 198 made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Oh, how great is the love and mercy of the God. Our team of missionaries returned to Curitiba, our home base, overflowing with gratitude and joy with how the Lord used and blessed their efforts. They had to spend a few days doing maintenance work and cleaning on the vehicles and equipment they use in their ministry, but they are now ready and excited to depart on what will be their last mission journey of the year. We pray that this next trip will be greatly blessed with many more individuals coming to know the Lord as well.

Our missionaries to Portugal, Yago and Manoela, called us a few days ago to

share some joyful news. They are expecting their first baby! We rejoice with them at this news. Along with their ministry of Bible study and outreach in Portugal, they are working diligently on the translation of their children's Bible study lessons into English for an upcoming mission effort in Egypt. The Lord has not opened the door for them to move there, as yet, but the ministry that called upon them to provide these Bible lessons is still in need of the material. They remain open to God's direction in how He wants to use them. Please keep them in your prayers.

Charlene and I are traveling tomorrow to the annual Thanksgiving Missions Conference on behalf of Baptist Faith Missions at the New Hope Baptist Church of Dearborn Heights, MI. We hope to see some of you there and will miss those who can't.

Thank you for your faithful love and support of our ministry. May the Lord bless you greatly.

In Christ's love, Bobby and Charlene Wacaser

"The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined."
-Isaiah 9:2

Go, spread the news of Emmanuel // Joy and peace for the weary heart // Lift up your heads for your King has come // Sing for the Light overwhelms the dark // Glory, shining for all to see // Hope alive, let the Gospel ring // God has made a way, He will have the praise // Tell the world His Name is Jesus!