

Fulfilling A Dream In 2013

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH, PASTOR



Gerald B. Collingsworth, Pastor



The Heart Of A Church



Introduction: The local New Testament church is the only institution that Christ willingly gave His life for. Notice *Ephesians 5:25*, “Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.” Someone once rightly stated, “The local church is Christ’s mirror, reflecting His heartbeat to a lost and dying world.”

If you want to examine a church, you must take a careful look at what it actually believes. Let me share with you just a few of the things that will reveal the heart of a local church.

FIRST: THE SCRIPTURES THEY USE.

I PETER 1:23

There is only one properly translated English Bible and that is the old King James Bible. By the way, it is not a version, but a translation. No honest Bible student will tell you that the King James Bible came after all these so-called modern versions. They got their ideas from the King James. I would never join a church that was uncertain as to which Bible was correct, nor where a pastor used the KJB, but approved of other bibles.

SECOND: THE SERVICE THEY OFFER.

JOHN 20:21

“As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.”

No church can be a true church unless they offer true service to our Lord. What is that service? Soul-winning! It is sharing the Gospel! *Luke 19:10*, “For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

One of the most razor sharp soul-winners that I have ever known is Dr. Bob Gray, Sr., of Longview, Texas. He truly understands the Great Commission. Question: In your church, when was the last time soul-winning was even brought up?

THIRD: THE SPIRIT THEY REVEAL.

II COR. 3:17

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

No church is exempt from trials and stress. Some will say, “I know a church that died because of all the strife and turmoil.” No! A church does not die from stress and turmoil. It dies or lives according to how it responds. The devil and his followers know that to kill a church, you must create a bad spirit. This is why a quality church will cultivate a right spirit no matter how severe the trials they face. I am fully convinced that, in a church that is right with God, there is a warm, fragrant spirit. It is something you cannot explain, but that you know it is there.

FOUR: THE STANDARDS THEY PRACTICE.

JAMES 1:22

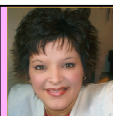
“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”

Continued



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Joseph and Alison Collingsworth are moving to Ohio and joining the membership of the Heritage Baptist Church. Joseph and Alison are both graduates of Berean Baptist College of Fleming Island, Florida.



Kim Kline's Oatmeal Valentine Cookies

2 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
3/4 cup sugar

2 tbsp. milk
1 egg
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 cup rolled oats

3/4 cup butter, room temperature
Decorative red sugar, optional

Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Place in a large mixing bowl along with butter, sugar, milk, egg and vanilla; beat until smooth. Stir in oats. On a floured board, roll the dough to 1/8-inch thickness. Cut into heart shapes; decorate with red sugar if desired. Bake on an ungreased cookie sheet at 375 degrees for 15-18 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from cookie sheet and cool on wire racks. Yields: 2-1/2 dozen 3-inch cookies.



Heritage Highlanders February 2013 Schedule

Saturday February 2

Lesson on Loving Yourself Make love notes

Psalm 139:14

Saturday February 16

Presidents Day Lesson - Our Forefathers

Proverbs 1:5

Saturday February 9

Baking: Sweet Treats!

Psalms 81:16

Saturday February 23

Soulwinning Lesson

John 3:16



Libby Robinson

Valentines' Day

As we all know, Valentines' Day is just around the corner. Red and pink decorations have filled the displays at the groceries stores. Florists are stocking

up in preparation for extra business, and couples are planning gifts for their significant other (hopefully!) - "Love is in the air"! We all think about love a little bit more when Valentine's Day comes around, but I'm thinking of love a little differently this year.

A few weeks ago I read a verse that stuck with me so deeply that I haven't been able to stop thinking about it. ***Psalm 4:2*** says, "***O ye sons of men, how long will ye turn my glory into shame? how long will ye love vanity, and seek after leasing?***" The question that has stuck so firmly in my mind is "***... how long will ye love vanity..?***" One morning I read this verse, and before I knew it, I couldn't read the words through my tears. I could almost hear the Lord saying to me, "My daughter, how long will ye love vanity? How long are you going to keep focusing on things that don't truly matter? When will you learn to turn your eyes upon me?" This verse is so convicting to me.

Think about a newly married couple. All they want to do is spend time with one another and talk to one another; and if they aren't talking to one other, they're talking about talking with one another! They do this because they love each other, they're infatuated with each other. When you love someone or something, it consumes your thoughts and attention. So, when God says, "... how long will ye love vanity...?" He is saying "How long will you be consumed with vanity?" The "love" here is talking about infatuation, and the word "vanity" here doesn't mean arrogance or narcissism. It simply means anything that isn't truly important. It can mean money, clothes, shopping, hobbies, sports, television, magazines, books, work, or anything that doesn't make a difference in eternity. So in Psalm 4:2, the Lord is saying "How long are you going to be infatuated with things that don't make a difference?" "***Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher. All is vanity.***" (***Ecclesiastes 1:2***)

I don't believe there is anything wrong with the festivities of Valentine's Day. The flowers are beautiful, the decorations are fun, and I'm quite partial to the massive stuffed animals, but while love is on your mind, take time to think about what you love and are infatuated with. What captivates most of your attention? What are your eyes set upon? (***Proverbs 23:5***) What do you spend most of your time doing? If your answer is "vanities", then purpose in your heart that you will "***... love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul and with all thy might.***" (***Deuteronomy 6:5***)

I miss Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. John R Rice, Lester Roloff, Dr. Curtis Hutson, and Dr. Jack Hyles. What wonderfully well-balanced men of God. But don't forget that with all their graciousness and sweet personality, they were men of strong conviction and practiced high moral standards.

A Precious Memory: I was preaching with Brother Hyles several years ago. I was to preach before him. As I walked up to stand behind the pulpit, he walked up and said, "Son, I'm an old man. Don't make me look bad." Then I got up and preached an anemic sermon that did not cause a soul to stir. He got up and preached like a 30-year-old and the altar was lined with broken and repentant hearts.

FIFTH: THE STRENGTH OF THEIR COMPASSION.

JUDE VERSE 22

"And of some have compassion, making a difference."

The church that has compassion will preach the entire Word of God and let the chips fall where they may. But it will also respond to the pain, disappointments, and tears of the broken hearted. Those who have a burden because of a teenager that has gone astray, or a home that has no love.

Someone said to me years ago, "Compassion always makes a difference."

Conclusion: How should you respond to what I have put down in print? The reader should respond by reviewing their faith to see if it is real, and by renewing their commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.

Prayer of Salvation

If you were to die today, are you 100% sure you would go to Heaven?

If not, would you be willing to pray this prayer with me?

"Dear Jesus, I'm asking you to come into my heart and forgive me of my sins. I'm trusting you, Jesus, as my Saviour.

Thank you for saving me. Amen." (Romans 10:9 and 10:13)



Prayer of Service

"Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6)

A MAN AND HIS WIFE WERE DRIVING HOME FROM A FRIEND'S PARTY. "HONEY, HAS ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU HOW HANDSOME, SEXY AND IRRESISTIBLE YOU ARE TO WOMEN?" SHE ASKED.

FLATTERED, HE REPLIED, "NO, I DON'T RECALL ANYONE EVER TELLING ME THAT."

"THEN WHATEVER GAVE YOU THAT IDEA AT THE PARTY TONIGHT?"

Are You The Church Member God Intended You To Be?



Jarrod
Collingsworth
Choir Director

Introduction: It has been stated by many a preacher that probably the greatest apostle was the apostle Paul. His mission trips help to establish two-thirds of the early churches, yet when reading Scripture the accomplishment of this task cannot be given to one man, but through a close look at Scripture one would assess that this was a result of the church members Paul had in those churches. We see in these church members a quality that certainly had to contribute to the greatness of the work accomplished during Paul's ministry.

The Helpers: In Romans 16 we see Paul make reference to his helpers in Christ. In my 30 years as a pastor's kid I can truly say that I believe this is one of the areas that helped form the greatness in Paul's ministry. Pastors desire a church full of people that are willing to help in the service for Christ. Paul had helpers who he could trust to get things accomplished even when he was gone doing the work for Christ in another city. As a church member you need to ask yourself how you can be a better help to your pastor. What gifts has God bestowed upon you that can be used in service for Christ? Do not be a church member that lets the talent God gave you lay hidden in ground, but rather used in service.

The Encouragers: Imagine going to work every day and sharing wonderful ideas that you know will help your company grow only to see those ideas tossed aside. How heart-broken you would be since you know those ideas would contribute to having a more successful company. Now ask yourself how your pastor feels when you take the sermon that will help your life and you just seem to toss it aside for whatever else that may seem more important to you? In Acts 13 we see the Gentiles want nothing more than to hear Paul preach again. The Scriptures state they were glad and were asking him to preach again next week. You can be the greatest encouragement to your pastor by showing him that you love to hear the Scriptures preached and that you want nothing more than to hear him preach them again. If you want a pastor who enjoys his job and wants to continue doing it day after day, and week after week then show him how much you enjoy his preaching.

Conclusion: It does not take much to be the church member God wants you to be. God is not asking you to stand up and preach the message. He is not asking you to sing a special or put on an usher's jacket, but what God has shown is that every church member has the responsibility to be a help and encouragement to their pastor. Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing to find out one day that you were the reason your pastor kept preaching the truth? We have a responsibility and an obligation to do these two simple tasks. Will you join me in 2013 in helping and encouraging our pastor to keep being what we need?

Something to 'CROW' about!

1. Heritage Baptist Church has had someone saved and baptized every week for the last seven (7) years in a row!
2. Past graduates of Heritage Baptist Academy sang for us during one of our Sunday Evening services. Even the pianist is a graduate.



Graduates of Heritage Baptist Academy



"I'M GETTING OVERTONES OF POTASSIUM NITRATE, WITH JUST A HINT OF SULFUR."

A motorist received a receipt from the police clerk for his traffic fine.

"Oh, come on," he complained. "What am I supposed to do with this?"

"Keep it," the clerk replied. "When you collect four, you get a bicycle."



"THE AVERAGE PERSON FINDS 10 TO 25 COINS UNDER HIS FURNITURE CUSHIONS EACH YEAR., BUT YOU HAVEN'T REPORTED ANY."



Mrs. Francie Taylor

Your Appetites

How important is the Word of God to you? Is it so vital to your life that you cannot go a day without the reading of Scripture? Bible Commentary writer Matthew Henry said this: "Many have the Word of Christ dwelling in them, but it dwells in them poorly" Colossians 3:16 instructs us to "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" but some settle for poverty while riches remain untouched at their fingertips.

A hunger to read, study and memorize God's Word is directly related to our appetites. If you were to eat a large bowl of ice cream before dinner, chances are that you wouldn't crave a salad and a wholesome meal after that snack. If our life is too full of other interests and pursuits, we won't have a hunger or thirst for time in the Word. If you are struggling to find time to read your Bible, check your mental "diet." Perhaps there is some junk food in there somewhere (romance novels, magazines, heavy Internet usage, etc.) that needs to be cut back or eliminated altogether.

We need to read our Bibles daily. By feeding on the Word instead of fasting from the Word, we allow God to train us to be sober, sound and fruitful. What's stopping you from reading your Bible every day? Whatever it is, you must decide to remove the obstacle, or you can expect to experience a less-than-satisfying life. Daily Bible reading is vital to spiritual health, which is exactly why the enemy launches such a vigorous attack against it!



Dr. Jack and Beverly Hyles

The King James Bible

The Devil is not trying to get you to endorse the NIV He would just as soon have you endorse the Reader's Digest Condensed Version or the Douay Version or any other version as long as you leave the King James Bible.

There was a day when a Christian had two choices: the American Standard or the King James Bible. Then came the RSV, giving a person two places to escape the King James Bible. Then came the NIV, giving a person three places to escape the King James Bible. Then came the New King James Bible, giving people four places to escape the King James Bible. And now there are hundreds of versions, giving people hundreds of places to escape the King James Bible. I am also including the children's Bibles. A children's Bible that is not exactly the King James text is one of the Devil's bibles. Some say, "How do you expect children to understand the

Bible?" My mama helped me understand the King James Bible quite well. The trouble with the average person is not that he can't understand the Bible; his trouble is that he does not read the Bible.



"ROBINSON, WE ARE GOING GREEN, SO WE'RE REPLACING YOU WITH THIS PLANT."

"NASA SAYS THE MARS ROVER HAS MADE A MAJOR DISCOVERY. SCIENTISTS HOPE IT FOUND SIGNS OF LIFE THERE. AMERICANS ARE JUST HOPING IT FOUND SOME TWINKIES."

A WIFE TEXTS HER HUSBAND ON A FROSTY WINTER'S MORNING. "WINDOWS FROZEN!" HER HUSBAND TEXTS BACK, "POUR LUKEWARM WATER OVER IT." FIVE MINUTES LATER COMES HER REPLY: "COMPUTER COMPLETELY MESSED UP NOW."



"SWEET TIRE TRACKS. MY MOM IS GONNA FREAK!"



Dr. Bob Gray

"When Principle Was King"

I unequivocally believe that Dr. Hyles lived a moral life and that he knew only one woman in his life and that was Mrs. Hyles. I heard the accusations, just as many of his followers did. Perhaps there are some of those men who still retain doubts in their minds as to his innocence, so they just try and ignore it.

However, what if someone very close to him decided to declare that the accusations were true ... then what would you believe? So, I think it is important to clear the air now and not wait until that could possibly happen. Let me give you several facts to consider.

1. Dr. Hyles was pure! He was careful what he said, thought and did. He avoided appearance of evil. Sexual innuendos were not a part of his private conversations, much less his public one. He preached and practiced the principle of purity. He believed in purity and he preached without compromise.
2. No woman ever accused Dr. Hyles of any impropriety. Nor, may I add, did anyone ever claim to be an eyewitness of impropriety. Look, we all know that if someone desires to do so, they can manipulate information so as to cast a hue of guilt on the one they seek to indict. To me, it is the lack of the "smoking gun" that makes me confident of his innocence.
3. False accusations are always a tool of the enemy. It is amazing how quickly those, who down deep really did not align with his methods or principles, abandoned him. For me, I did not wait to see if others believed he was guilty to make my decision. I made my decision by applying the principles I saw Dr. Hyles apply time and time again for others. Some leaders got off the fence of their fear and took his side out of convenience but not of principle. Perhaps they waited so as to not harm their ministries, but Dr. Hyles always assumed and declared innocence for others immediately.

So, why is this such an important issue? What difference does it make, you may ask? Well, I believe it makes a huge difference to the cause for which Dr. Hyles gave his life. The haters will attack to destroy the cause. The distorters will accuse in order to accomplish their goal of redefining that cause. Stand strong, my brethren, we ought not to allow that to happen. We have a responsibility to defend him even in death, as he defended many in his life. It is our duty. Besides, he was my friend and it is the right and principled thing to do.

Some food for thought.....or..... **Seed From The Silo!**

Young People Don't Know Even the Basics About Abortion

"How many abortions do you think have happened in the past 40 years? Just take a guess."

I watched a pro-lifer pose this question to a young man recently. The well-educated 20-something hesitated and then shrugged. "Just a rough estimate?" the pro-lifer prompted. "Okay," he said. "Maybe about 100,000." The pro-lifer replied, "Actually, it's more [like] 55 million." The young man looked shocked.

This simple experience made me wonder how many Americans don't know the sheer number of abortions that occur every year.

Micaiah Bilger for LifeNews.com

Democrats Pushing to Fund Abortions on U.S. Military Bases

Democrats in Congress are pushing hard to force Americans to fund abortions at military base hospitals with their taxpayer dollars. Current U.S. policy prohibits taxpayer funding of such abortions, except if the mother's life is in danger, but Democrats want to fund abortions in cases of rape or incest.

Senate Democrats approved a defense funding bill with a pro-abortion amendment attached to it that would allow for taxpayer financing of abortions, while House Republicans approved similar legislation with the current pro-life policy in place.

Now the bills head to a conference committee, where pro-life Republicans and pro-abortion Democrats will fight it out over which language will appear in the final version of the bill that will eventually go to President Barack Obama for his signature.

LifeNews.com

The Unfriendly Political Environment

In light of [November's] election results, a Mississippi senator believes a bill aimed at protecting military chaplains from being forced to perform same-sex "marriage" ceremonies or marriage-like ceremonies on military bases faces an uphill battle.

In September, Senator Roger Wicker (R) joined colleague Jim Inhofe (R-OK) in introducing the Military Religious Freedom Act, which would protect conscientious military chaplains from having to perform same-sex marriage ceremonies and prohibit marriage or marriage-like ceremonies for same-sex couples—like the two lesbian ceremonies recently held at West Point—at military facilities....

Wicker suggests chances are not good for the Military Religious Freedom Act becoming law in the current political climate. *OneNewsNow.com*

Kagan Says, "Obama Wouldn't Have Picked Me If I Weren't a Woman"

In a revealing comment made during a talk before University of Tennessee Law School students, pro-abortion Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan admitted President Barack Obama probably would not have picked her if she were not a woman.

The admission of a sex-based decision on the part of President Obama lends credence to pro-life arguments that he was looking to pack the court with pro-abortion activists rather than selecting the most qualified judge for an open seat on the highest court.

LifeNews.com

What kind of seed are you sowing?



Dr. Al Lacy

For the time will come when they (the people in the ranks of "true Christianity") will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables (II Tim. 4:3-4).

Get a good look at what Paul said. We are living in the time he told us would come. Most "Christians" today do not want to hear PREACHING, so they turn from PREACHERS to teachers. They flock to churches where they will get the "deep stuff" . . . and they listen to television and radio teachers who give them the "deep stuff" but never offend them by stomping on their sins and their devilry Such men are NOT preachers of the Word (Isa. 58:1; Jer. 1:4-12; II Tim. 4:2).

Anyway, after this one service where I named a bunch of the sissy-britches, little television and radio teachers, a man came up to me and asked just what television and radio preachers he should listen to. I told him to FORGET IT and just to listen to his pastor. If there is a television or radio man left who really PREACHES THE KING JAMES BIBLE, I don't know of him. The man smiled nodded, and said, "Okay. That's what I'll do."

Our Statement of Faith

We accept the Holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments as being the verbally inspired Word of God and being perfectly preserved in the King James 1611 Bible. We do not believe it can be corrected or improved upon in any way. It is the final rule of faith and practice. **Psalm 12:6-7, I Peter 1:23**

We believe in the triune God, who is eternally in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Matt. 28:19-20**

We believe in the deity of Christ— His virgin birth, His sinless life, His death for the sins of the world, His bodily resurrection, His exaltation at God's right hand, His personal, imminent, and premillennial return.

I Corinthians 15:3-4, I Timothy 3:16, Acts 1:11

We believe that all men are sinners and are guilty before God; in need of a Saviour. **Romans 3:23**

We believe that men are born again through faith in Jesus Christ; that they become the children of God, eternally saved; that the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer to guide and help him in his testimony and service.

Acts 16:30-31, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 1:13, John 10:28

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in Glory, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost in hell. We believe that all believers have a responsibility to get the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into all the world. **John 5:28-29, Luke 16:22-23, Rev. 20:11-15**

We believe that Baptist churches were the first churches of Christianity and that Jesus founded a Baptist church. **John 1:35-37, Acts 1:22**

Baptist Beliefs

Biblical Authority
Autonomy of the Local Church
Priesthood of ALL Believers
Two ordinances - Baptism & Communion
Immersed Church Membership
Soul-liberty
Two officers - Pastors and Deacons
Separation of Church and State

Baptist Heritage

- John the Baptist, Exalter of Christ
- Meno Simons (1496-1561), Dutch Anabaptist leader
- Roger Williams (1603-1683), Founded the first Baptist church in America in 1638 in Providence, Rhode Island
- John Bunyan (1628-1688), Baptist preacher who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*
- John Newton (1725-1807), Baptist preacher that wrote *Amazing Grace*
- Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892), might be the greatest Baptist pastor
- John Franklyn Norris (1877-1952), founder of World Baptist Fellowship
- Jack Frasure Hyles (1926-2001), 10,000 baptisms per year

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