



I am greatly encouraged as I see God working in the lives of his servants, and realize how important their church planting ministries are to Him. Years ago, God began preparing J D and Vanessa Young and their family for His work. Today, they are in a very strategic location to fill in the gap as veteran missionaries Leslie and Alba Priday are on a temporary medical leave. I hope that you too are encouraged by their recent letters. Please pray for them and allow God to use you as He leads.

*John Peebles,  
IBFI Mission Director  
Psalm 16:1*

## HELP FOR HONDURAS – THE YOUNG FAMILY

*“Come over...and help us.” Acts 16:9*

Dear Churches and Praying Friends,

We thank you for your continued prayers and support of our ministry. The month of May was exceptional. My mom came down for a visit. As well, I graduated from the Spanish Institute of Honduras at a low-advanced level of Spanish. Although I have graduated from Spanish school here, I am continuing to study online a couple of hours a day with a different Spanish school based out of Columbia.

The country is beginning to open up here from the pandemic, allowing for more outreach opportunities. We have been passing out tracts and giving out the Gospel on the street. God has been blessing the mission works that we have been helping. It has been exciting to see new people joining the services and others who have not attended in a while returning. I have been preaching or teaching a couple of times a month. My Spanish has been slowly improving.

Within the next few months, the new building for one of the mission works will be ready for them to move in. Many prayers are being answered, along with the people sacrificing to see this building completed. We have committed our first two years here in Honduras to help two missionaries with their various mission works. We are fast approaching one year on the field here, and we have learned a lot.



We are praying about different villages nearby to plant a new church in the coming years. We have several Hondurans that are interested in helping us accomplish this task for the Lord. Pray for God's leading as we search for a specific area to minister. We have visited several villages nearby without a Gospel witness that need the light of Christ shining there. We are ever thankful for your prayers and support for our ministry to serve Christ in on your behalf.

*In Christ,  
Jimmie Young*

## HOPE FOR HONDURAS – LESLIE AND ALBA PRIDAY

*“That they might set their hope in God” Psalm 78:7*

Dear Praying Partners,

We thank you for your prayers and financial support and count it a privilege to be your missionaries to Honduras. Thank you so much for your prayers for Alba. She received her last chemotherapy for this round May 25th. Her appointments are every three weeks. At that time, they run blood tests, also. Each time her blood test results improve. Now they are giving her maintenance treatments. But she is **much stronger** now. The doctor said that this is a good time to let her body rest and recover from the chemotherapy treatments. We praise the Lord! Please pray for ALBA'S health and strength and ABOVE ALL PLEASE PRAY FOR A MIRACULOUS AND GOD-GLORIFYING HEALING OF HER BODY.

I have been privileged to preach in four churches while we have been here. I was excited to teach six classes in the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary (norrisseminary.org) in Fort Worth, Texas. Also, we were able to attend some of our home church's mission conference. In May, we attended the Annual Fellowship Meeting of the Independent Baptist Fellowship International (ibfi.us) and I was honored to be asked to teach in the Missions Seminar. Our friend, Bro. Phillip Sawilowsky of OLIVE TREE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL has asked me to translate the materials from their video series called the Virtual Tour of Israel from their Jewish Heritage Night classes (olivetreeministryinternational.org).

The work in Siguatepeque continues to have church services via Zoom. They meet Sunday mornings in the building we rent. Missionary Bro. J.D. Young helps with the technology getting it projected on the screen, leads the music, and I teach from here via Zoom. Sometimes Bro. Young preaches too. We continue to have the Sunday night and our mid-week prayer services via Zoom only. My parents' work is now able to have in person services, so on Sunday night; we merge our services on Zoom. I continue to teach two discipleship classes a week on the Gospel of John via Zoom. In June, Bro. Young renewed the visitation going door to door. I recently was asked by one of our men to talk to his ten-year-old son about his salvation after our prayer service, and the little boy received Christ as his Savior! That was so exciting! So, in spite of the obstacles, God's work continues.

We are planning a trip for several weeks to Honduras in August. I must renew my residence visa I.D. card and Alba has to get her new I.D. card.



We will have special services and Lord willing; I will be baptizing several people. If you would like to help with the expenses of this trip, please send a check to IBFI (made out to the IBFI) designated for LESLIE & ALBA'S travel funds.

I have been updating our website, so check it out! Thank you again for your faithful prayers and financial support. May God bless you greatly.

*Yours with Hope for Honduras,  
Leslie & Alba Priday*

## INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

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## INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

# The Searchlight

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2021 VOLUME 38 ISSUE 2

## IBFI Fall Fellowship Meeting

Tuesday-Thursday • Oct. 12-14, 2021

Raymond W. Barber Conference Center, Fort Worth, Texas

<b>Tuesday</b> 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 2:00 PM 7:00 PM	Bro. Paul King Bro. Tony Thomas Bro. Charles Pugh  NBBS Hour Dr. Jonathan Stewart NBBS President (& NBBS Students)	Messiah Baptist Church Santa Fe Baptist Church First Baptist Church of Cottondale Board of Directors' Meeting – NBBS Conference Room Norris Bible Baptist Seminary Texas Victory Baptist Church	Richland Hills, Texas Weatherford, Texas Paradise, Texas   Weatherford, Texas
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 AM 10:00 AM  11:00 AM 7:00 PM	Bro. Steve Hill The President's Hour  Bro. Jeremy Bennett Dr. Raymond Barber, IBFI President Emeritus NBBS Chancellor	Faith Baptist Church Bro. Eric Crawford, Heritage Baptist Church  General Assembly / School Update / Special Offering / Business Session Missionary to Brazil, Worth Baptist Church	Smithville, Texas Haslet, Texas  Fort Worth, Texas
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Bro. Dale Harris, Sr. Bro. Frank Hefner Bro. Tyler Gillit	Worth Baptist Church  Emmanuel Baptist Church Mountain Home Baptist Church Worth Baptist Church	Fort Worth, Texas  Jacksonville, Texas Jacksboro, Texas Fort Worth, Texas

**OFFERING  
GOAL:  
\$40,000.00**

**IBFI Mission Agency**  
Helping Independent Baptist churches get their missionaries to the field

With local church sent missionaries serving in

- Brazil
- Dominican Republic
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Malawi
- Mexico
- USA

Help us expand to reach around the world!  
Visit us on the web: [www.ibfi.us](http://www.ibfi.us) email: [missionoffice@ibfi.us](mailto:missionoffice@ibfi.us)

It can be a very transforming experience to start the day in class at a Bible school like NBBS - where you will be taught, by preachers, the Word of God in a very comprehensive manner. II Corinthians 3:18

**Spring Semester at NBBS Starts January 11, 2022!**

O Lord; in the morning will I look up Ps. 5:3

The inward man is renewed day by day. II Cor. 4:16

# INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL



TRAINING PREACHERS • PROMOTING MISSIONARIES  
PUBLISHING IBFI NEWS • STRENGTHENING THE BRETHERN

ESTHER 4:14

## FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

**The Searchlight**  
A publication and ministry of the Independent Baptist Fellowship International  
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IBFI Board of Directors: Pastor Eric Crawford, Dr. Raymond Barber, Mission Director John Peebles, NBBS President Jonathan Stewart, Pastor Glen Anderson, Pastor Barry Bedwell, Pastor Mark Brown, Pastor Chad Fitts, Pastor Tyler Gillit, Pastor David Grice, Pastor Heath Hogue, Pastor Charles Pugh, Pastor David Pugh, Pastor Kenneth Ralph, and Pastor Charles Wetherbee



## A CALL FOR GOD'S PEOPLE TO RE-EVALUATE GOD'S WORD

### Dr. Raymond W. Barber, IBFI President Emeritus



It was my privilege to be born in a pastor's home where the Bible was always the Number One Book. Each day my dad, Dr. R. J. Barber, Sr., gathered the family (nine of us kids), around the Bible for daily devotions. Not only did he teach the Word, he lived the Word, and for thirty years he preached the Word. My own ministry of seventy years has been built upon the Scriptures. I am sharing the outline of one of my sermons entitled:

#### "A REVIVAL OF THE WORD OF GOD" II CHRONICLES 34:14-21;29-33

**INTRODUCTION:** Appraisal of the Word of God

1. ACCURACY—Psalm 119:160
2. AUTHENTICITY—II Peter 1:19
3. AUTHORITY—John 5:39
4. AVAILABILITY—II Timothy 2:9
5. ACCEPTABILITY—Acts 2:41

**CAUTION:** The following would be devastating losses!

- If we lose the Bible, we lose the knowledge of the true God—Genesis 1:1.
- If we lose the Bible, we lose the wisdom that leads us to salvation—II Timothy 3:14,15.
- If we lose the Bible, we lose civil liberty and personal freedom—John 17:17; 8:32.

**MESSAGE:** "A REVIVAL OF THE WORD OF GOD"

#### I. THE WORD OF GOD DISCOVERED—II Chronicles 34:14-15

**OBSERVATION:** It was not until after the house of God was repaired and the budget was met that the Word was discovered.

**OBSERVATION:** The Bible is the greatest discovery you can make.

- More **precious** than fine gold.
- More **powerful** than the forces of nature and man combined.
- More **piercing** than a sword with two edges.
- The Bible is **not** the Book of the **week**, the **month**, the **year**, the **decade**, the **millennium**.

**IT IS THE BOOK OF THE AGES!**

“Get the **new look** from the old Book,  
Get the **new look** from the Bible.  
The **inward look**, the **outward look**,  
The **upward look** from the **old, old book.**”

#### II. THE WORD OF GOD DECLARED—II Chronicles 34:16-19

**OBSERVATION:** The Word of God must be declared:

1. Uncompromisingly
2. Unconditionally
3. Unceasingly
4. Fervently
5. Forcefully
6. Faithfully
7. Powerfully
8. Prolifically
9. Profoundly

• FAITH COMETH BY HEARING!

#### III. THE WORD OF GOD DISOBEYED—II Chronicles 34:20,21

- The reason **revival** had not come was because the people of God had flagrantly disobeyed the **word of God**.
- The reason God's **wrath** fell was because God's **Word** had been disobeyed.

#### IV. THE WORD OF GOD DISSEMINATED—II Chronicles 34:29-33

**CONCLUSION:** The preaching of the Word is God's prescribed

method of propagating the truth—II Timothy 4:1-4.

**APPEAL:** Invitation to make God's Word the Number One Book in your life—

Psalm 119:11, Psalm 119:105, Psalm 119:130.

**CHALLENGE:** Make a commitment to read a portion of God's Word every day.

- Two things will revolutionize your life and revolutionize the church:
  1. Reading the Bible
  2. Praying
- There were five distinct periods of **revival** and **renewal from King Asa to King Josiah**.  
Every one of these came as a result of a **return to the Word of God**.

## NEW HAPPENINGS!



### Eric Crawford, IBFI President

What a blessing it was to attend the Opening Day Rally at the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary! There was a great crowd, and many of the students were present which made for a great start to the semester. I have enjoyed fellowshiping with the returning students and getting to know new students while teaching my Pentateuch class. I am amazed at the potential each of these students have, and look forward to how God is going to use them in the future. Please continue to pray for NBBS, the faculty, and students as we start another school year.

Recently, the IBFI Mission Agency has experienced tremendous growth with the addition of several missionaries such as the Jeremy Bennet family, sent to Brazil, out of Worth Baptist Church in Fort Worth. We also have Jacob Luman, Tony Roa, and Zach Doty who have formed the ABCP to help church planters. This is a unique ministry that is needed to assist and partner with church planters. Each of these men are sent out of their local churches, and have already made an impact in helping struggling churches. They will be helping Heath VanZandt this fall as he plants a church just ten miles north of Fort Worth, in Rhome, Texas. Heath is a recent graduate of NBBS, and is sent out of Santa Fe Baptist Church in Weatherford, Texas. We are excited for Bro. VanZandt as he begins this church plant in an area that is growing quickly and has no Independent Baptist Church. I hope every pastor would consider setting up a meeting with these missionaries as well as supporting them.

The fall fellowship meeting is almost upon us, and this year's meeting will be held at the Raymond W. Barber Conference Center in Fort Worth, Texas. Normally, the fall fellowship meetings are not held in Texas, but is changed, so we can continue to work on, and keep everyone up to date on the possible sale and relocation of the IBFI office and NBBS.

The for sale sign is about to be placed on the property since many projects have been completed in preparation of the property going on the market. There are some that may have questions about why we are selling the property. Norris Bible Baptist Seminary is in need of more space, which by the way, is a great "problem" to have to deal with. This past May after several years of deliberation by the board it was decided that the best way forward was to sell the current property and to relocate and to build new facilities debt free instead of keeping what we have by building and adding more debt. These are exciting times for the seminary and the fellowship.

I hope you will make every effort to attend the fall meeting and pray for God's will and direction concerning the sale and relocation.



### Jonathan J. Stewart, NBBS President

*The last issue of the Searchlight had a very warm article form Dr. Raymond Barber about the church and school ministry of Bro. & Mrs. Manuel Ortiz in San Antonio. Due to*

*space restrictions we were not able to include several very special pictures in that issue, so we are doing so in this edition. What God has done through the Bible Baptist Seminary and Norris Bible Baptist Seminary, He has also been doing through the Seminario Biblico Bautista in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Ortiz's father, Manuel Ortiz, Sr., started this seminary in 1950. His son, Manual Ortiz, Jr., took over the directorship after his father. J. Frank Norris was an inspiration to Bro. Ortiz's father as he was to the founders of NBBS. This write up to follow is largely the words of one of Bro. Ortiz's daughters.*

Dr. Manuel G. Ortiz went to be with our Lord on April 9, 2021, at the blessed age of 84. He was born on March 4, 1937, in San Antonio, Texas.

Pastor Manuel G. Ortiz grew up in a Christian home, and accepted Christ as his Savior at an early age. He was one of the five original members of the First Mexican Fundamental Baptist Church that his father started in 1943, in San Antonio, Texas. In 1952, his father also started the Seminario Biblico Bautista.



As a teen, Manuel served as a Sunday School teacher, and also directed a vacation Bible school where many children came to know the Lord. At age 15, his leadership roles expanded to serving as president of the church youth group and as a missionary working at mission "Belen" in San Antonio, Texas.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army, from 1960-1966, with the last rank of Staff Sergeant. He traveled to many places and countries such as Korea, Thailand, and India. In 1966, he was honorably discharged, and God returned him back home safely to his beloved family and church, where he actively and faithfully served.



## THE SHARED HERITAGE OF DR. MANUEL ORTIZ WITH THE IBFI AND THE NBBS

His secular jobs included working for the U.S. Postal service, social worker for Head Start Children Development, and probation officer and counselor for the juvenile courts, where he helped many youth in crisis who needed Jesus Christ.

His further education for the ministry included attending classes at Seminario Biblico Bautista and Bible Baptist Seminary in Arlington, Texas. He continued his education in San Antonio College, and also graduated from Southwest Texas State University in 1975, with a B.S. in Law Enforcement. In May 1976, he was ordained into the ministry as the pastor of the First Mexican Fundamental Baptist Church to continue the work his father.

As pastor, he faithfully and without any regret, served the Lord whole-heartedly for 45 years. He fervently preached the gospel, and was used to bring many to know his Savior, Jesus Christ. Following the ordinances of Christ, he baptized many believers in the US, and in Mexico. He supported many missions in the United States, and Mexico, many which are thriving churches today. He was very much involved in and supported the Independent Baptist Fellowship International and Norris Bible Baptist Seminary, both of Fort Worth, Texas. He advocated the importance of having a fellowship where missions and fundamental Baptist churches from Mexico, and the US can belong to and look out for the ministries in need. As director of the Seminario Biblico Bautista, he helped prepare many for God's service and ministry. He received an Honorary Doctorate in Theology from Louisiana Baptist University, May of 2005. He served on the board of the Pot O' Gold Ranch, and supported it for fifty years by taking youth there for summer camp.

He is admired by many for his love of Christ and the gospel, and his unwavering and steadfast faith in God in this ever changing compromising world.



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT DALE HARRIS, SR.



### Kenneth Ralph, Alumni President

Bro. Dale Harris was saved in April of 1987 at the age of 26, just a few days after his wife, Cheryl. During a revival at Central Baptist Church in Burkburnett, Texas. In 1990, they joined Liberty Baptist Church where Bro. Jerry Reed was the pastor and, they both began to grow in a great way.

He and Cheryl served in many ways: Sunday school, junior Church, visitation, van/bus ministry, youth and nursing home ministry. While teaching the 3rd grade Sunday school class, God called Bro. Harris to preach. In 1996, he was licensed to preach at Calvary Baptist Church in Burkburnett, Texas. After working with Bro. Johnny Dowell he realized God wanted him to be in full time service. Then attending an Opening Day Rally in 1997, Bro. Dale soon realized Norris was where God wanted him to prepare for the ministry.



In 1998, they sold their house in Wichita Falls, Texas, and started at Norris in the fall. In the spring of 2003, he graduated. He was called to pastor Grace Baptist Church in Midlothian, Texas, where he and Cheryl served for nine years. In July of 2012, God called him to serve as the pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Texas.

Emmanuel Baptist Church has taken on Norris Bible Baptist Seminary for support and continues to be among the seminary's faithful supporters. Bro. Benjamin Thrift, one of the young men from EBC, is now enrolled as a student in the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary. Bro. Harris continues to be a great encouragement to those who know him.

Bro. Dale Harris says: "I am so thankful for my wife, the school, the men and women of God who have invested in my life, and the many friends made along the way as we serve our Lord together. Through it all God's been good!"

I think we would all agree with Bro. Harris that God has been good to us. If you are interested in submitting your testimony or information about what God is doing through you, do so by emailing me at Pastor@pbtinfo.org.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### IBF METROPLEX MEETINGS

In view of the COVID-19 situation, the monthly meetings have been randomly held with scheduled meetings to start in the near future.

### IBFI FALL FELLOWSHIP MEETING

**Make your plans NOW to attend**

Tuesday - Thursday, October 12 - 14, 2021  
Raymond W. Barber Conference Center  
Fort Worth, Texas

Full details will be at the IBFI website  
[www.ibfi.us](http://www.ibfi.us)

## HOTEL INFORMATION

### Best Western Fort Worth Inn & Suites

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