



THE RECORD

Volume XXXIII December, 2010 Number 10



Is It Worth It?

Recently, I was asked this question. It was the first time in several years. As I stopped to consider my reply I wondered if maybe this is a good question for all of us as we soon approach another Christmas and the close of another year.

I didn't take long to reflect on my answer before saying, "Absolutely, without question!" I would want to live my life for Christ and serve Him just like I have these past 40 years even if I were given the chance to start all over again! It wouldn't even matter if there is a Heaven or not, like Andre Crouch used to sing. But why is it worth it?

- Because of people like John H., Thomas C., Kenneth F., Glen D., Charles S., and others like them who are now in Heaven because I had a small part in sharing the gospel with them. I know they are grateful, and I sure am, too! I can't wait to see them again one day! One of these men actually asked to be buried with the Billy Graham tract in his hands that I used to lead him to faith in Christ, as a "last" witness to his grown sons at the funeral service.
- Because of others like Bob or Greg or Bill or Mike who have told me I was more than a Pastor to them, but God let me be a disciple-maker and "mentor" in their lives through our friendship. I am humbled that God let me serve and encourage others in their faith. Ken, who is also now in Heaven, told me once that I was his "Barnabas". Paul said it like this one day, "For what is our...joy...in the presence of Jesus when He comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy!" (1 Thess. 2:19,20)
- Because of Kevin, Adam, and Aaron – three sons who all know Jesus as their personal Savior, and who are now pursuing the same faith handed down by the generations before! My service, to the Lord, professionally, did not hurt them, it helped them! I would ask, "Do your children individually know the Lord, and will they go to Heaven for sure one day?"
- Last of all, because "service to the Lord" in a life is a gift, it's not a burden. Can you imagine a life lived just for self without the elements of "service to the Lord"? I can't, but I've witnessed too many Christians who can! Oh, what missed joy and blessing...to use all or anything you have to serve the One who gave it! The hymn write wrote, "O for a thousand tongues to sing (not just one) my great Redeemer's praise!"

Worth it?? Yes! And, so much so that I plan to "re-dedicate" myself to "it" again this coming Christmas and this coming new year!

Kent Pate
Executive Director

**A word from our
Director of Hispanic Ministries**



THE SHEPHERD'S ROD

Most of us have heard about or read the Twenty-third Psalm. We have a problem when we get to verse four when we read, "Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me." The question that comes to our mind is, "how can a rod and a staff comfort a person?"

When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, an army was behind them, the mountains around them and the sea before them. There was no way out - only through. When Moses stretched his rod over the sea, the Lord opened a path and they walked through on dry ground.

Throughout the Bible the rod and staff are images of comfort, protection, security and power. Especially the shepherd's rod and staff. There was the "crook" that was used to discipline a wandering sheep, or to rescue it from a gully. The rod and staff were also a "club like" weapon that was used for chasing away those who would steal the sheep.

In this Psalm, written by a shepherd about "The Shepherd", we have a picture of pure protection. It describes a valley of the deepest darkness, with treacherous gullies and lurking predators. Yet the sheep "fear no evil" because "Your rod and staff comfort me."

There are days when we seem to be in a "Red Sea Place." We feel trapped or hemmed in. Other times we awaken to a night so dark or a valley so deep and threatening that we become paralyzed with fear.

That is when we recognize how blessed we are to have THE SHEPHERD as our protector and comforter.

Our Shepherd will bring us together to work in His Kingdom towards reaching the Hispanic and any other precious race that our Lord will bring to Himself.

NOW is the time to trust our Comforter, our Shepherd whether we die or live. Let's consider Him - Jesus is our supreme example of willingness to suffer in obedience to God and **enduring** even the cruel cross!

"FELIZ NAVIDAD Y 2011 ATRAVEZ DE NUESTRO PASTOR, JESUCRISTO"



November 28-December 5 ~ BGCT & SBTC Week of Prayer for International Missions

December 6 ~ Church/Denomination Dev. Team Mtg.
2 p.m. @ RBA Office

December 8 ~ Community Ministry Dev. Team Mtg.
11:30 a.m. @ RBA Office

December 16 ~ Church Development Team Mtg.
10 a.m. @ RBA Office

December 24 - January 3 ~ RBA Office Closed

A Look Ahead...

January 11 ~ Spiritual Development Team Mtg.
11:30 a.m. @ RBA Office

January 13 ~ Team Leader Meeting
2 p.m. @ RBA Office

January 18 ~ Admin. Dev. Team Mtg.
2 p.m. @ RBA Office

January 20 ~ RBA Gathering
6 p.m. @ FBC, Yantis

January 24 ~ Missions Development Team Mtg.
7 p.m. @ RBA Office

January 25 ~ Leadership Development Team Mtg.
11:30 a.m. @ RBA Office

January 29 ~ Hispanic "Colossians" Conference
w/ Dr. Rudy Gonzalez



Week of Prayer for International Missions
November 28 - December 5

2011 Evangelism Rally



Guest Speaker: Dr. Tommy Nelson,
Pastor at Denton Bible Church

When: Sunday, Feb. 27, 2011 @ 6:30 p.m.

Where: First Baptist Church, SS

Go to www.dentonbible.org
to hear some of
Dr. Nelson's recent sermons.

Dr. Nelson's Information

Tom Nelson was born December 29, 1950 in Waco, Texas. One of four boys, Tommy spent his childhood playing football and baseball. In college, he chose North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas) in Denton, where he played quarterback for the Eagles and graduated in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education/Biology. One day a Navigator came to talk to Tom's roommate, and Tom "heard" the Gospel as he listened over his roommate's shoulder. That was 1972, and Tom believed and trusted in Christ. He attended Dallas Theological Seminary '77-82' while an associate pastor of Denton Bible Church. He has been pastoring at Denton Bible Church thirty-two years and is presently Senior Pastor. Tommy currently serves on the Dallas Theological Seminary Board of Incorporate Members.

He has authored six books: The Story of God (previously published as The Big Picture), The Book of Romance, A Life Well Lived: A Study on the Book of Ecclesiastes, ∴ (previously published as The Problem of Life With God), Better Love Now, The Twelve Essentials of Godly Success, and his book of poetry The Musings of an Evangelical Mind. Tommy is the teacher for six DVD series, speaker emeritus for the Song of Solomon Bible conferences held around the country each year, and his taped messages travel throughout the world. He has also been a featured speaker for Focus on the Family, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and FamilyLife Today.

Tom married his best friend, Teresa Newman, in August, 1974. Their older son, Benjamin, works for the United States Department of Homeland Security. He and his wife, Amanda, live nearby and have made them the proud grandparents of Thomas Clark (T.C.), Gabrielle (Gaby), and Ryan. Their other son, John Clark, played baseball for the University of Kansas Jayhawks and is a former professional baseball player. He is married to Jenni, and their first child, Jake, was born in early 2009. They love having all of their family close by.

January RBA Gathering

Thursday, January 20, 2011

at First Baptist Church, Yantis

Meal at 6 p.m.

Meeting will start at 6:45 p.m.



We would like to wish you
and yours a
very Merry Christmas!
Kent Pate, Eloy Gonzalez
and Shelly Huff

February 1, 2011

Tax Seminar

2011 Tax Seminar
with Gene Hill
at First Baptist Church, SS

Ministers
2 p.m.

Church
Treasurers and Secretaries
6:30 p.m.

Gene Hill is one of the leading presenters regarding taxes for ministers and churches. He is a reliable source for up-to-date information in the tax code.

Topics include:

Accountable Reimbursements:

- Mileage logs
- What is a business mile?
- What is the difference in an auto allowance and an accountable reimbursement plan?

W-2's and 1099's - Who gets what? What goes on it?

941's - What do you need to know?

Contributions - What is a contribution?

Housing Allowance - Who can have one and how much?

Free Seminar!

Church News

If your church has a special event or information you'd like to share in the newsletter, please email info@rehobothonline.org or call the office, 903-885-2868. The Newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month.



Please be in prayer for our:
Pastorless Churches

Enloe
FBC, Como
Journey Baptist
Ridgeway Baptist Church
Sulphur River Cowboy Church
White Oak



Donna Dewberry,
Creator of OneStroke Painting
as seen on HSN,
Create TV and PBS,
is coming to
Sulphur Springs, TX
Feb 10-12, 2011



The RBA Office has been made aware of 8-10 church pews that are available.

If anyone is interested in them please call
(903)243-5996 ~ 9a.m. - 6p.m.

Hispanic Conference

January 29, 2011 at
Iglesia Bautista Ridgecrest
8 a.m. - Noon

Dr. Rudy Gonzalez will be doing an exposition
on the book of Colossians.

Date :Feb 10, 2011

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Where: Calvary Baptist Church 130 Lee Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

Cost: \$35 per person

Whats Included: All supplies included except water basin, double loader and paint brushes

Time: Feb 11-12, 2011 (9:00am - 5:00pm)

Where: Calvary Baptist Church 130 Lee Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

Cost: \$125 Per Day

Whats Included: All supplies included except water basin, double loader and paint brushes

*Please Contact Amanda at
Dewberry Crafts to sign-up #352-394-7344*

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Mission Statement

*The mission of Rehoboth Baptist Association
is to offer leading edge assistance in creating
healthy New Testament churches that honor
Jesus Christ by their very existence.*



Changed lives through Christ-centered churches

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 160
Sulphur Springs, TX

KENT PATE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ELOY GONZALEZ, DIRECTOR OF HISPANIC MINISTRIES
SHELLY HUFF, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Friday 8:30AM - 2:30PM