

## 10 Evangelism Questions for Church Leaders to Ask

*By Chuck Lawless, Nov 28, 2016 blog*

If you're a church leader, you're responsible for modeling evangelism for your congregation. Maybe asking these questions will challenge you to be more evangelistic:

1. Am I broken over lostness? Paul was willing to be accursed so others might be saved (Rom 9:3). That kind of burden results in evangelistic leaders.

2. Was I more evangelistic earlier in my spiritual journey? Our evangelistic fire often burns most brightly during the first months after our conversion. The problem is that most of us are far from those days – and too far from that fire.

3. What keeps me from doing evangelism today? Honest evaluation is a good start toward improvement.

4. What are the names of the non-believers for whom I am praying regularly? Your prayer life is a starting place to determine your evangelistic passion.

5. What intentional connections am I making with non-believers? It's so easy for church leaders to get cocooned in the church world

that we must intentionally choose to connect with unbelievers.

6. How many genuine friendships with non-believers do I have? We won't reach non-believers if we don't really know any of them.

7. When was the last time I personally shared the gospel with someone? A mentor once challenged me to tell the good news to somebody at least once a week. That's a good start.

8. Have I limited my evangelism to talking only with non-believers who come to me? It happens to most of us – we proclaim the gospel from the pulpit or in our office, and we fail to initiate evangelism in the street.

9. Do my church members and friends know my conversion story? Many church members don't know the testimony of their closest friends in the church. If we don't even tell our story to other believers, we're not likely to tell it to the lost world.

10. Will I intentionally tell somebody about Jesus today? Your answer to this question will determine what you do with this post.

What are your responses to these questions?

### Churches:

- Argenta
- Arthur
- Atwood
- Boody
- Calvary
- Emmanuel
- Fellowship
- Findlay
- Forsyth
- Galilee
- Hammond
- Heyworth
- Lincoln
- Lovington
- Mt. Zion
- Shiloh
- Sullivan
- Summit Avenue
- Tabernacle
- Tri-Valley

### Mission Statement

*Central Baptist Association exists to foster relationships among churches in order to assist them in fulfilling the Great Commission.*

*The Vision of CBA is to see churches collaborating together to build the Kingdom of God.*

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## Prayer Pointers

***Fight Your Battles On Your Knees And You'll Win Every Time!*** *From Thomas E. Miller*



For many years I've been blessed reading Charles Stanley's books. In 2005 he wrote, "Living the Extraordinary Life-Nine principles to discover it." Some of you may have read it. In my opinion the entire book is good reading, but principle number 8 is one all of us will profit from learning.

Dr. Stanley reminds us that prayer is an intentional, learned activity for God's children. Matthew 7:7-11, gives us the three basic steps for an effective prayer life: ask, seek and knock. Dr. Stanley goes on to say that, "Well-meaning Christians can miss fantastic opportunities and blessings because they have taken a completely passive role in their prayer lives. Too often, seeking and knocking are overlooked as the believer

merely asks God for something once or twice and then sits back and forgets all about the matter."

When we pray, do we have confidence that God will answer, or do we feel unworthy of His attention? Are our prayers specific or general? Is our prayer life a haphazard response to needs and desires, or nourishment for the life of the Lord Jesus Christ within us? Dr. Stanley reminds us that there are two responsibilities in prayer. God's responsibility and our responsibility. We can't have one without the other; prayer is both divine and human. Jesus had in mind that we are to become actively involved in the prayer process. Prayer is not a spectator sport. The Sermon on the Mount is addressed

*(Continued on page 2)*



# Pastor Darren Morrow

Pastor Darren Morrow has been the Pastor at Summit Avenue Baptist Church since July 9th, 2006.

Chris: Where were you raised?

Darren: *I was raised in Pierce City, MO.*

Chris: Who influenced you coming to Christ?

Darren: *I guess you could say that my family influenced my coming to Christ. We attended church and my dad was the song leader and my mom was a Sunday School teacher.*

Chris: How did you meet your wife?

Darren: *I met Sheri in 1990 when I helped a mutual friend install an air conditioner in her house. Then four years later she called me and invited me to dinner by way of the same mutual friend. We've been married for 23 years this November. We have 3 daughters, one of which is deceased, and 7 grandchildren; 5 who live in Springfield, MO and the other two in Memphis, TN.*

Chris: What is the first church where you were pastor?

Darren: *The first church I pastored was Pioneer Baptist Church, in Pioneer, MO.*

Chris: Have you traveled? If so, where was your favorite place you'd like to go back to if you could?

Darren: *The only place I've been that I'd like to go back to is the mountains of Tennessee. I like to fish, hunt and camp. Best fish I ever caught was a trout.*

Chris: How do you want to be remembered?

Darren: *I want to be remembered as a faithful man who loved Christ and really walked with Jesus.*

Chris: What have you learned since becoming a pastor that you'd like to share other pastors? With laymen?

Darren: *To Pastors I'd say, "Stay in the Bible, preach the truth, try to read it through a couple times a year. Love the Word of God."*

*To laymen I'd say, "Your pastor really needs prayer. One of our long-time members of Summit, Marge Meisenheimer (who is 105 years old) always says, "Prayer is the least I can do and the most I can do." I recently read a book that said, "We need to quit giving God a report and just ask him for what we want."*

Chris: How can we pray for you?

Darren: *Pray that God would heal me of renal failure, and save my daughter Jessica, and that God would use me. Also, that Summit Ave. would experience revival. (He's been in renal failure since 2008, and right now he has dialysis in his home.)*

Chris: What would you like to see the Association become in the next 5-10 years?

Darren: *I think we're in a good place with the great interest in the prayer meetings that Mark Lash has started. I'd like to see revival in all our association churches. Several of our respected elders, like Dennis Blankenship, Frank Marshall, and Tom Miller have been praying for revival to happen in their lifetimes.*

Thank you Pastor Darren for sharing with us about yourself.

I hope to have additional interviews from our CBA Pastors in future issues.

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(PRAYER POINTERS Continued from page 1)

to the followers of Christ. He is talking to His own children.

Dr. Stanley makes us aware there are at least four reasons why God delays answering our prayer requests, even when our request may agree with God's known will.

## Why does God delay?

1. God sees within us attitudes of rebellion, bitterness or unforgiveness, or if He notices certain unhealthy habits in our lifestyles, God postpones the answer for His children.
2. God may be in the process of testing our sincerity in order to build into us a persistent spirit. If we are really in earnest, we will not make our request known just once and then give up. God would have us keep on praying-keep on asking, seeking and knocking. Persevere. Don't give up. Endure.
3. God often delays to build our faith. He strengthens our trust by testing us. As you and I begin to ask, seek, and knock, something happens in our walk with God. When we talk to Him, we are building and nourishing our relationship with Him. We are

getting to know Him and who He is and how He operates. What God wants to give us above everything else is Himself. He wants us to know Him.

4. God delays are to develop patience within us as we endure in prayer until His timing is right. God's timing does not always match our own. He is far more interested in our knowing Him than in our getting from Him everything our hearts desire.

Is prayer a vital part of your daily schedule? There is no way for Jesus Christ to be part of our lives unless we are praying men and women. We need to talk, share and relate with Him all day long. He is our lives. Every moment we spend with Him is a blessing. Nowhere does the Bible say that prayer is easy. It involves a struggle-there will be times when Satan will attack us as we are on our knees, harassing us with doubt and sending distracting thoughts into our minds. One of Satan's most effective weapons is to cause us to have feelings of worthlessness before God. Scripture shatters this fear by boldly proclaiming that we have freedom in Christ to approach the very throne of God in prayer.

# CBA Pastors, Staff & families. March



## Birthdays

- 3-Paige Davis (Arthur)
- 5-Tracy Smith (Mt. Zion)
- 6-Scott Andrews (Emmanuel)
- 11-Susan Baker (Hammond/Lovington)
- 13-Aubrey Krol (Galilee)
- 24-Tom Miller (Tabernacle)-retired DOM

## Wedding Ann.

- 9-Tom & Kellijo Leach (Tabernacle)
- 26-Andrew & Lataine Crowther (Forsyth)
- 26th-Joey & Aubrey Krol (Galilee)



## JOB OPENING

### CBA Ministry Assistant

Part-time: 18-20 hours a week

Requires computer and accounting skills

Job Training included

Send your resume, or contact Chris Granda  
for a job application  
at [cbadecaturoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:cbadecaturoffice@yahoo.com).

# priority

## IBSA Annual Women's Conference

Tabernacle Baptist Church, Decatur

Save the date!

April 28-29  
2017

Cost is \$25 per person  
(IBSA affiliated church)

### The women's event of the year!

- Fresh challenge to serve where God leads you
- Teaching from top ministry leaders and missionaries
- Spiritual renewal and worship among friends

[IBSA.org/Women](http://IBSA.org/Women)

### TESTIMONIES:

"I attended this Priority Conference last year and it was very informative and well worth the money I spent to attend."-Chris Granda, Summit Ave.

"It was a good opportunity to see first-hand what missionaries do and how it affects them. It helps you know more about deciding to go on mission trips or becoming a missionary yourself; and about supporting agencies and missionaries that give and go when and where I can't go."-Pat Walker, Tabernacle

## SBC DISASTER RELIEF

Put our 2017 training date on your calendar now in order to become a part of the Illinois Baptist Disaster Relief Ministry!

### March 31-April 1, 2017-Central Training at Pasfield Southern Baptist Church, Springfield, IL

Training includes: Introduction to Disaster Relief, Food Preparation, Mudout, Childcare, Chaplaincy, Assessment, Communications, Shower Trailer, Search & Rescue, and more.

**COST:** \$30 for New Trainees; \$10 for Renewals.

For more information go to [IBSA.org/DR](http://IBSA.org/DR) or contact  
[DebbieMuller@IBSA.org](mailto:DebbieMuller@IBSA.org); (217) 391-3126

## DONATE TO DISASTER RELIEF

Illinois Baptist Disaster Relief is funded through individual and church donations. 100% of all monies received will support the needs of storm victims through our volunteers as they help home owners recover from the storm damage. All gifts to IBDR are tax deductible.

You may also donate by mailing a check payable to IBSA Disaster Relief to:

Illinois Baptist Disaster Relief  
P.O. Box 19247  
Springfield, IL 62703

*\*Please write Illinois Disaster Relief on the subject line.*



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DAY MARCH 11th, 2017 9:45 AM-3:30 PM

At First Baptist Church, Mt. Zion  
**COST: \$15**

This is a great opportunity for kids in grades 1st-6th to experience mission work they can do locally! The cost is \$15 and is not due until the day of the event on March 11.

E-mail Mallory at [mdevitt@fbcmtzion.org](mailto:mdevitt@fbcmtzion.org), to register. Please include student's name, grade, parents names, address and phone number.

If you would be interested in helping with this event please call Mallory at 972-4419.





# NEWS from the Pews!

**FBC, Atwood**-will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of our Church on Sunday, March 5th. We will begin the day with a Continental Breakfast and Fellowship Time at 9 am and will have a special Anniversary Service at 10 am.

**Calvary-is** having Don Estep come on March 5th to tell about how to start an AWANA group at our church.

**Galilee-is** hosting a free concert by *The Chosen Ones* on Saturday, March 18th at 6 PM at the church, 3470 Christmas Tree Rd., Decatur.

**Tabernacle**-*"Dare To Be"* Ladies Conference, March 4, 7-10 PM at Tabernacle. Featuring Natalie Grant & Charlotte Gambrell, tickets can be ordered online from WBGL.org.

IBSA sponsored *Priority Women's Resource Conf.* at Tabernacle on April 28th-29th. \$25 per person.

## Our CBA Churches that have AWANAS:

Atwood      Mt. Zion  
Tabernacle      Calvary-is considering it

# Honor Your Pastor's Wife

By Rebecca Davis, *afaJournal*, Mar. 2017

In March 2015, Crossway launched a 31-day online campaign to encourage and honor ministry wives for their service to the church. While there is nothing official that sets aside March as an annual time to honor ministry wives, Crossway offers a wealth of information to help you bless your pastor's wife this month or any time of the year. ([www.crossway.org/PastorsWifeAppreciation](http://www.crossway.org/PastorsWifeAppreciation))

The website contains practical ideas, means of encouragement, video interviews, and relevant articles about daily life from ministers' wives and women in ministry. The information is helpful to ministry wives as well as anyone who wants to love on the pastor's wife in tangible ways.

As a pastor's wife I consider it an honor, a responsibility, and a challenge for which I'm grateful. My

husband and I came up with the following ways to bless a pastor and his wife on a regular basis.

>Recognize and respect that the main role of the pastor's wife is to love, encourage, and support her husband.

>Ask the pastor's wife what responsibility has been unnecessarily put on her at church and relieve her of it.

>Provide couples with young children trusted childcare on a routine basis so they can spend time together.

>Recognize difficult seasons and long days in ministry, and respond in practical ways such as providing meals or cleaning their house.

>Respect the pastor and his wife during worship by allowing them to worship as a family without distractions.

The Next *Pastor's Gathering Lunch*  
Thurs, March 16  
11:30-12:30

TOPIC: Preaching helps & tips

Lunch will be provided, if you contact Randy at (225) 315-7905 before noon on March 15th.

Central Baptist Association

All Annual Meeting Messengers are requested to attend this meeting.

**Spring Semi-Annual Meeting**  
Saturday, April 1st, 2017  
9:30 AM-12 Noon  
At Summit Ave. Baptist Church  
1715 N. Summit Ave., Decatur

# Mark Your Calendar

## March 2017 *Pastor's Wife Appreciation Month*

5th-12th-Week of Prayer for Annie Armstrong Offering & Mission Study

9th at 7 PM-CBA Leadership Team Meeting at Emmanuel/CBA

11th-Children's Ministry Day at Mt. Zion, FBC

13th at 6 PM-Church Relations Team Mtg. at CBA office

16th (11:30-12:30) *Pastor's Gathering Lunch at Emmanuel FH*

17-18th-Disaster Relief Training-Central

19th-Church planting Emphasis Sunday

24th-25th-Ministers' Wives Retreat

31st-Apr. 1st-Small Church Conference at Lake Sallateeska

## April 2017

1st at 9:30 AM-12 Noon-CBA Semi Annual Meeting at Summit Ave.

9th-PALM SUNDAY & Cooperative Program Sunday

14th-GOOD FRIDAY

16th-EASTER SUNDAY-*He is Risen!*

28th-29th-Priority Women's Resource Conf. at Tabernacle

FOCUS FUNNIES

"Sorry, but all my records were lost in the flood."