



The Challenger

January 2018

From the Desk of the DOM

You may remember Henry Blackaby as the author of *Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God*. If you worked through that 12 week study or read the accompanying book, you probably are aware that Dr. Blackaby has a way of cutting through any and all red tape to pointedly, yet lovingly, address important spiritual issues in the lives of Christians.

He is especially dedicated to calling and encouraging followers of Jesus Christ to faithfully pursue what he calls “the love relationship” with the Lord. This pursuit is rooted in daily time in communion with God through reading Scripture, praying, meditation on the Word, and more. It is an essential practice which takes commitment and dedication to bear maximum fruit in our lives.

Henry and his son Richard have recently written another challenging book entitled *Flickering Lamps: Christ and His Church*. Once again, pursuit of the love relationship is addressed rather pointedly. “[We] do not just get too busy to spend time with God. [We] forsake meeting with [our] Savior. [We] need to repent.” (I’ve updated to first person pronouns to emphasize the personal identification many of us have with this challenge.)

Strong words, to be sure. But not too strong in any way, shape, or form. We are called to that time with God and failing to respond to that call is sin. As we begin this new year, may I be so bold as to invite you to join me in the quest to grow in the Lord through a daily time alone with Him? It will certainly require adjustment of schedule and dogged commitment at least. But, oh, the rewards are well worth it!

Tim Bowen

If you would like direction in understanding how to pursue a daily time with the Lord, feel free to call Tim at the BBA Office.

580-924-2351

What's Going on in Our Churches

Western Meadows is seeking a P/T Worship Minister. Send resumes to: j6420@yahoo.com

Streetman Rd is in search of a Music Leader/Pianist. If you're interested in leading our services, please contact us! We would love to hear your God given talent. Kent Moore 1-405-623-6666

FBC Cartwright is searching for a Bi-Vo Worship Minister. Send resumes to: stacierphillips@yahoo.com or P.O. Box 264 Cartwright, OK 74731

Utica is seeking a P/T Youth Minister. For more information, contact Leann Bishop. 580-920-9929

Stone Creek is seeking a Bi/Vo Pastor with a family to help us grow in God's grace. Send resumes to: Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 1262 Durant, OK 74702

FBC Colbert is seeking a music minister. Send resumes to fbccolbert@gmail.com

Hendrix Baptist has a 1993 Dodge Ram 15-passenger van in need of TLC. It will be given to an interested church who would put it to use. Contact Charles @ 580-838-2362

Greetings from the LTBRM!

I trust that you had a wonderful Christmas! Hopefully you're enjoying not only the gifts but The Gift! 2 Corinthians 5:17 says that if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold all things have become new. As we enter a new year, let me encourage you to consider ways that the LTBRM can partner with your church in ministry. We hope to minister to the Lake Texoma area throughout the upcoming year. If there are areas in which we could be a help to your church specifically, please don't hesitate to contact us. As groups contact us with a desire to minister, it would be of great benefit to be able to provide a list of opportunities in the LTBRM area. Perhaps there are new avenues for ministry that the Lord will reveal to you. Let His Spirit lead and connect willing hearts to needed ministries. God bless and Happy New Year! —Monty Wood

From the BBA Prayer Ministry Team Leader

Following is a good prayer to start our new year: "Eternal Father, let my first thought be of You. Let my first impulse be to worship You. Let my speech be Your name. Let my first action be to kneel before You in prayer. From these moments of quietness let light go forth, and joy and power with me through all the hours of the day. Keep me chaste (pure) in thought. Keep me temperate (self-controlled) and truthful. Keep me humble in my estimation of myself. Keep me honorable and generous in my dealings with others. Keep me loyal to every hallowed memory of the past. Keep me mindful of my eternal destiny as a child of yours. I ask You to speak in my words, think in my thoughts and work in my deeds." Have a happy New Year! Remember, the motive for prayer is God is worthy to be sought.

In His Grip, Bro. Anthony

Birthdays

Tommy Green	Jan. 04
Chloe Richards	Jan. 08
Kerry Groce	Jan. 12
Jeff Self	Jan. 19
Stacie Phillips	Jan. 29

Wedding Anniversaries

Darel & Cindy Bunch	01/11/—
Dusty & Carrie Rhodes	01/08/77
Donald & Cindy Ford	01/28/77

Ministry Anniversaries

Sonya Pass	01/01/01
Darel Bunch	01/01/99
Billie Robinson	01/01/00
Steven Harris	01/01/17
Tim Bowen	01/03/12
Royce Couch	01/21/01
Gary McLarry	01/30/11

Senior Adult Luncheons

Jan. 10—Kemp
Feb. 14—Albany

Bro. Roddy Arnold's new counseling ministry is now open. He offers affordable and compassionate guidance for all.

James Arnold, Th.D
Pastoral Care Ministry
115 S. Travis Ste. 309
Sherman, TX 75090
903-209-8500
jamesarnoldthd@gmail.com

Please pray for our pastorless churches:

Kenefic, Brown,
Colbert, Stone Creek

Operation Christmas Child

If you read Senior Adults Bible Studies for Life, look on page 67.

Here's the story: While handing out shoeboxes in Bosnia, a worker noticed a young boy off in a corner. He was told that the boy was blind. Oh, how the worker hoped the blind boy wouldn't receive crayons and a color book he couldn't use.

When the boy's box was opened, it contained a Walkman, the perfect gift for a child who can't see!

Our God who is Omnipresent, Omnipotent, and Omniscient is in control. Pray that the Lord's Name is glorified when the shoeboxes are given out and the Bible Studies are in progress.

After Christmas sales are perfect for buying items to pack away for 2018.

Thanks to everyone who has been kind to me!

--Dolores Kiser



GIVE THE CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Oklahoma Baptist Home for Girls is a place for girls who are unable to live at home for various reasons. It is part of the Oklahoma Baptist Homes for Children network which sponsors other children's homes in Oklahoma as well as Pregnancy Ministries, and Foster Care.

Currently, OBHG is in the middle of constructing a \$2M 13,000+ sq. ft. double cottage that will provide a stable foundation for these young ladies to live on. This cottage will house up to 16 girls and 3 sets of House Parents. Much like the foundation of this cottage, OBHG provides a clear view of a Christian family and encourages them to develop a strong Christian life that will give them a strong foundation for their lives.

By giving these girls a stable place to live in, OBHG is giving these girls a second chance at having a successful and productive adult life. OBHG needs about \$150K more to complete this cottage.

If you are **looking for a family Christmas Project**, please consider Oklahoma Baptist Home for Girls. By supporting this organization, you will give girls a chance at a better life. OBHC does not accept government funds or charge for its services.

For further information, please contact Rick Choate at rick.choate@obhc.org or visit www.obhc.org.



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Director of Missions----- Tim Bowen
 Admin. Assistant ----- Chloe Richards
 Moderator----- Scott Hamilton
 Vice-Moderator----- James Robinson
 Clerk----- Jessie Hopkins
 Treasurer----- Faye Boydston
 Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 - 4:30

We love to have your church's events in the Challenger. If you or your church have any announcements or news you would like to be included in next month's Challenger, please contact the BBA office before January 22nd.



January 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
January is Call to Prayer Month	HAPPY NEW YEAR BBA Closed	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Pastor/Staff Conference 10:30am at Calvary	10 Sr. Adult Luncheon @ Kemp	11 Budget & Finance Committee Meeting @ 5:30	12	13
14 BBA Closed January 15	MLK Day	16 Pastor/Staff Conference 10:30am at Calvary	17	18 BBA Exec Committee Meeting @ 5:30	19	20
21	22 BBA Exec Board Meeting @ FBC Calera	23 Pastor/Staff Conference 10:30am at Calvary	24	25	26	27
Sanctity of Human Life Sunday					United '18 D-Now Jan. 26-28	
28	29	30	31			
SEC Night of Prayer	URGENCY State Evangelism Conference OKC Southern Hills					