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August 2023 Edition

### "Believe it, or Not."

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (2 Timothy 3:16)

For those of you who have visited Pigeon Forge in Tennessee, you have probably seen the Ripley's Believe it or not exhibit there on the main drag. Inside their exhibit is a variety of artifacts, pictures, and other items that stretch the imagination to say the least. The whole idea behind their exhibit is the question, "do you believe it or not?" I share this because in our world today, the same could be said of the Bible; do you believe it or not.

I read recently about a teacher in New England who decided to quiz a group of college-bound high school juniors and seniors on their knowledge of the Bible. The answers were astounding. Some of their responses to the questions showed that they believed that "Sodom and Gomorrah were lovers;" "Jezebel was Ahab's donkey;" and the New Testament gospels were written by Matthew, Mark, Luther and John." Some of the answers given were "Eve was created from an apple;" and "Jesus was baptized by Moses."

These students understanding of the bible may be humorous, but you might be surprised at what answers you would get from the average church member. In his book called "Absolute Confusion," George Barna found that most folks see little to no difference in the beliefs of the varied denominations. He found that two-thirds of all adults (62%) believe that "it does not matter what religious faith you follow because all faiths teach similar lessons about life." In a George Barna survey among professing Christians... Bana found that among professing Christians, only 18 percent (2 out of 10) read the Bible every day; and, even worse, 25 percent (1 out of 4) have never read the Bible. A Gallup poll revealed that of the 33 percent that claim to read the Bible, half could not name the 4 gospels.

The Bible is a collection of 66 books, written by about 40 authors over a period of more than 1,600 years. It is a book that has one theme that is expressed in many ways. It is a book that includes history, prophecy, poetry, biography, philosophy, and science. The Bible for the most part is... God's Love letter to His people. Believe It!

I want to encourage pastors, preachers, and teachers to register for the Dr. David Allen class coming up on Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. For those able to attend the daytime class at Cadiz Baptist church that starts at 9:00 AM. For our Bi-vocational pastors and others who are busy during the day, Dr. Allen will teach another class at the Little River Baptist Center starting at 6:00 P.M. dealing with the subject of preparing when time is short. Make sure you register for one of the classes.

In Christ, Bro. Bobby



"We Inspire NYC"
Teacher Tote
Mission Project

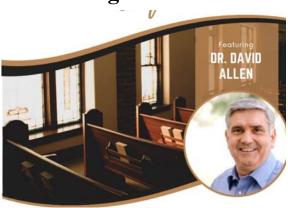
Churches are encouraged to receive an offering between now and August 1st to help with the teacher tote project. This would be a great VBS mission project! Please send your offering to the Baptist Center earmarked: "We Inspire NYC"



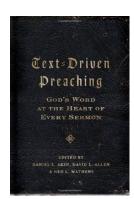
## **Calendar of Events**

- 6-Ponderosa BC Homecoming, 10:00 a.m.
- 7- Executive Team Mtg., 6:00 p.m., Mission Board, 7:00 p.m.

## August 28th



# Refresh Your Preaching Conference Cadiz BC



#### Schedule

Session 1: 9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Session 2: 10:30 – 11:45 a.m.

Lunch (on your own)

Session 3: 1:15 - 2:30 p.m.

Register here: <a href="https://bit.ly/RefreshLRBA">https://bit.ly/RefreshLRBA</a>

## **Preparing To Preach When Time Is Short**

Training for Bivocational Pastors

Little River Baptist Center, 6:00 p.m.

Register here: <a href="http://bit.ly/RefreshBiVo2023">http://bit.ly/RefreshBiVo2023</a>

## Sponsored by





#### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY Church Regular Special Bethany 1,806.21 Blue Spring 1,502.00 Buffalo Cadiz 898.74 818.86 1,250.00 Canton Cerulean 501.00 Crossroads 100.00 Delmont 500.10 Donaldson Creek 422.16 East Cadiz 616.20 500.00 Hurricane 400.00 899.36 26,885.00 Liberty Point Locust Grove 919.00 1,000.00 Maple Grove 350.00 New Hope 225.42 15.00 New Jerusalem New Light 50.00 Oak Grove 209.56 391.64 Ponderosa 400.00 Rock Front Rocky Ridge 250.00 South Union 168.15 Wallonia 400.00 2,528.00 Misc. Income Total 10,626.40 33,680.00 44,306.40 Interest NOW Acc. 2.92 250.00 Deaf Ministry 8,430,00 Mev Fredenburg Fund Van Replacement 25,000.00 10,629.32 Subtotals 33,680.00 Total income \$44,309.32 Monthly expense \$28,314.25 Regular Fund Beginning Balance 34,825.64 Interest Received 2.92 Gifts 35,743.40 Trans-Contingency Fund (100.00)Trans- Van Replacement Fund Trans-Building Maintenance Fund (100.00)Trans- Mev Fredenburg Fund



(11,367.51)

\$59,004.45

Expense Checks Written

Treasurer: Louise Fuller 7/25/23

**Ending Balance**