

# Evangelistically Speaking

Volume 12, Issue 11

November 2003

*Special points of interest:*

- Please remember to notify us of address changes as soon as possible following a move. This will help us manage costs.

## From Ted's Pen

Does it really benefit one to fear the Lord? After all, we have accomplished much in this world and we continue to make great achievements almost every day. We sometimes feel so self-sufficient and see little need for fearing the Lord. But, we read in Psalms 25:12-13: "What man is he that feareth the Lord? Him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose. His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth." Let us never become so proud that we forget to fear God and keep His commandments.

We have just finished our work for the month of October and it was a very, very busy time for us. However, we enjoyed every day of it and tried to live it to its fullest. I must admit that both of

us were almost totally exhausted at the end of the month. I kept thinking that I hear of preachers who suffer from "burnout" and I have never even thought that I have been afflicted with that. I did conclude last month though that I had reached the point of "worn out" and we both were ready to come home and rest a little while.

Our work began in October with the Ladies Day at Maynard, Arkansas where Barbara spoke on Saturday, October 4. She will give you more information about that in an article that she is preparing for the paper this month. We left Maynard that afternoon and went to Salem, Arkansas for me to begin a meeting the next day and it continued through Wednesday night, October 8.



We enjoyed a very good meeting with the Salem congregation. Brother David Gibson has been preaching at Salem for more than 15 years, but has resigned his work effective January 1, 2004 and will be moving away. He and his family will surely be missed by the Salem brethren. It was a pleasure to spend some time with Paul and Helen Morphis who worship at Salem.

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## A Note from Barbara



It has been my pleasure to speak at a number of special Ladies Day programs through the years. Each one has been enjoyable for some particular reason and even though I am always nervous at the end of the day I always am thankful for the opportunity to share with my sisters in Christ in study of the word of God, in prayer, singing, and great fellowship.

I have enjoyed two wonderful opportunities during the month of October. On October 4 I spoke at a ladies day program at Maynard, Arkansas. Ted had preached in a gospel meeting there last June and I was looking forward so very much to meeting all of them again. The house was almost full with ladies representing 13 different congregations in the area and visitors from five different denominational groups as well. What a good day we had.

I spoke to the ladies about "Choices." The choices that we make in this life are so very important. Women of today can be anyone they want to be and can do about anything and everything that they choose to do. In Ephesians 5:16 we are told to "redeem

the time for the days are evil." We need to be careful of our time and of the choices that we make.

When I was a young girl, 14 of my classmates and I did almost everything together. After we left school we continued to be very close and now for several years we have met once each year and just enjoy our memories and our friendship through the years. We have invited others of our classmates to join us, but they will not come. They did not feel included in our earlier years and we have learned that some were hurt because they were not included in our "clique."

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## From Ted's Pen (Continued)

Paul is one of our very valuable co-workers in the work in Romania and has been for several years. On Sunday, October 12 I preached at the Skaggs congregation in Pocahontas, Arkansas. They were having a special series of lessons on the theme, "Glorifying God" and asked me to present two sermons in that series. I enjoyed being with the brethren there. Brother Gerald Fears has been preaching at Skaggs forever it seems to me, but I am quite sure that it hasn't been that long. On October 15 I spoke on a lectureship at the church in Jerusalem, Arkansas and enjoyed being with the brethren there.

We left on Thursday morning, October 16 for New England. We have been working in that section of the country with various congregations for 30 years. This time we worked with the church in Fall River, Massachu-

setts which is a congregation that the Levy church has been assisting for several years. We were just thrilled to work with these good brethren again. They hosted a retreat for preachers and their wives from all of the northeastern part of the U.S. The theme for their studies was "Prayer in the Life of the Preacher." I was assigned the subject, "Pivotal Prayers" and I did the best that I could to present the fact that God really does answer our prayers. There is overwhelming evidence of that throughout the Bible and most Christians can give personal instances where they know that God answered their prayers.

One of the great works being conducted in the building of the Fall River church is the Southern New England School of Biblical Studies. This is a satellite of Sunset International Biblical Institute in Lubbock, Texas. I was simply amazed at how this thing works. I am not a

scholar when it comes to technology. And, when I saw these students who sit in the class room in Fall River and participate in a class being taught in Lubbock both visibly and audibly it just amazed me. There are nine students enrolled in the school at the present time.

They are making a real effort to recruit more men to come and study the Bible and then plant new churches and strengthen existing congregations throughout New England. If 400 congregations or individuals could give \$100 per month to support men to go to school, can you imagine what could be accomplished with \$40,000 each month in training preachers for the Northeast? Brother Mike Mullen is the local preacher and the director of the school and is doing a wonderful work. He and his family have been working with the church there for 16 years and I am so thankful for them and their commitment to the Lord and His church. The church has three elders and three deacons. I am so very proud of the Fall River church of Christ.

One of the things that I learned at the retreat was how great the need is for missionaries who will work in the Northeast. Here are some figures that we were given. In the state of Texas there are 20,000,000 people and 2,500 congregations of the church of Christ. In the northeast United States there are 60,000,000 people and 400 small and very small congregations of the church of Christ. If there were as many congregations per capita in New England as there are in Texas, there would be 7,500 congregations. We are far, far, behind aren't we?

It reminded me of how many mission fields there are right here in the U.S. and how challenged we should feel to take the gospel to our homeland. Real "homeland security" would result if Christians would teach and preach the gospel to our own people with greater zeal than we have had before.

We left in the SNOW! One morning while we were there it was 22 degrees and the day we left it was 27 degrees and snowing. I am not ready for winter and was glad to get off the plane in Little Rock that day and find temperatures nearing 90 degrees.

### Lectureships

We remind you of the fifth annual Evangelistically Speaking Lectureship which will be conducted April 2-4, 2004 at the Mars Hill church building. Brother Neale Pryor will be our speaker for the first service on Friday night, April 2nd. Why don't you plan to be one of more than 300 people present for that service.

### Congratulations

The Levy congregation has each year a special contribution on what they call "Harvest Sunday." All of the special contribution is used for mission work. Three years ago I challenged them to raise \$50,000 on Harvest Sunday and they came real close. Since then they have exceeded that amount. This year on October 26 the mission contribution exceeded \$83,000! Thank you Levy for setting a great example of generous giving for all of us.

- Ted

## A Note from Barbara (Continued)

At the time we did not think of ourselves in that way, but we hurt some people and for that we are all sorry. Choices really do make a difference.

I also spoke about being a mother and how we can get so caught up in providing "things" for our children that we don't take the time to enjoy them as we should. All too soon they are grown and we are left with our "things" until it's time to go to the nursing home. Many of us spend half our life gathering our "things" and the other half getting rid of them in garage sales!

I also worked with Sister Betty Bender who with her husband, Duane Bender, worked extensively in the New England area for many years. Betty is now widowed, but continues to do a great work in the church among women. We taught classes al-

most all day on one Saturday for the wives of the preacher students in the Southern New England School of Biblical Studies. These young ladies were full of questions about living the life of a preachers wife. Betty and I did our best to encourage them and give them a wealth of information from our experiences through the years. It was really nice to work with Betty and get to know all the young ladies that we met. I might also mention that these wives of student preachers have a wonderful example among them in Nancy Mullen the wife of Mike Mullen the local preacher and director of the school. She is such a good role model for them.

Let me encourage all of you ladies to use your choices to do what is right and good at the present time while time is on your side. Our choices today will determine the choice that God makes regarding

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## Marty's Thoughts

and how it works. The mission statement of Birkman International states that we will “provide the leading worldwide comprehensive methodology for human understanding that optimizes personal, team, and organizational performance.”

While there are other tools available, such as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and the Keirsey Temperament Sorter, the Birkman Method is unique in nature. It consists of four indicators:

### Interests

An individual's broad occupational interests and those activities that provide the greatest sense of personal fulfillment.

### Usual Style

An individual's most productive behavior. This behavior is viewed as acceptable by self and others and is adaptive in nature.

### Needs

The ideal environment and set of task demands for an individual. While we can learn to manage those situations that clash with our needs, we must have our needs satisfied in some areas of life.

### Stress Behavior

The behavior that manifests itself when our needs are not met.

The effectiveness of Birkman is dramatically illustrated in the “Coaching” and “Differences to Watch” reports that are used to help individuals learn to better interact with one another. Please contact me for additional information regarding this tool.

## The Birkman Method®

### At Birkman International we believe:

- Individual differences allow creative options
- Individuals have both strengths and weaknesses
- In the emphasis of the positive aspects of personality
- These differences relate to personal, social, and occupational behavior
- Individuals can manage and strengthen positive behaviors
- In providing opportunity for personal, team, and organizational growth
- Every organization has its distinctive culture which needs to be acknowledged

### How the Birkman Method® Works

- You complete a confidential web-based assessment consisting of 200 questions (30-45 minutes in length)
- Your Birkman Profile is provided to you by a certified consultant during a one-on-one feedback session (about an hour in length)

### Applications for the Birkman Profile

- Improving **group communications**—especially when group members are not familiar with one another
- **Enhancing family relationships** between husbands, wives, parents, and children
- **Career management**—identifying a job that allows you to maximize your strengths and abilities
- Helping prospective **college students** identify areas of study that match their skill set
- Provides data that can assist in **conflict resolution**
- Improves **self-understanding**

## 2004 SPM Seminar Schedule

January 9-10  
 February 27-28  
 March 19-20  
 April 23-24  
 July 16-17

### Upcoming Schedule

November 9  
 Colony, Bee Branch, Arkansas (Ted—AM)  
 Greenbrier, Arkansas (Ted—PM)

November 12  
 Lectureship, Plumerville, Arkansas (Ted)

November 16  
 Cave City, Arkansas (Ted—AM)  
 Southside, Batesville, Arkansas (Ted—PM)

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***GIFTS OF MEMORIAL AND HONOR***

In Memory of  
MABEL BOUNDRA  
by  
The Boundra Family

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In Memory of  
HAZEL STUFFLEBEEM  
by  
Mary and Toma Walker