

His Word for His World



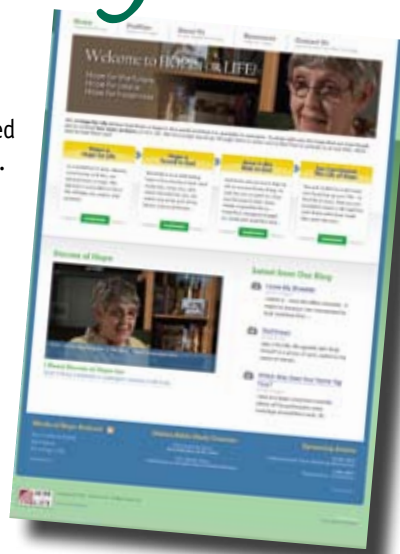
The Newsletter of Herald of Truth
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From the Field: *And God gives the increase...*

God promised that if seed is sown, He will give the increase.

Some of our recent efforts have involved preparing the soil so seed can be sown. We just completed a comprehensive revision of the evangelistic website **hopeforlife.org**. This was a significant effort to better communicate the good news of Jesus to those who visit the site. The revised site still serves as the main contact point for our television, radio, internet, and print products. A non-believer visiting the site can view one of ten testimonial videos. Some are stories of finding hope in Jesus, and others are stories of how hope in Jesus carried people through times of trouble. There is an interactive blog updated weekly to engage seekers in conversation. A visitor may also listen to podcasts designed to stimulate interest in the good news of Jesus.

This site is designed to help people realize that there is hope in this world, that it is found in God, and that Jesus is the way to God. There is also a section to encourage them to realize that they can have this hope. There are additional resources they can study, and on-line Bible study



courses. There is a response mechanism to ask questions, request prayers, or be connected to people in their area who can personally assist them to find hope in Christ.

This internet tool utilizes the written word, videos, blogs, and podcasts to communicate the good news of Jesus. Visitors to the site can read, watch, listen, or interact on this site. The ultimate goal is to connect each seeker to a local body of believers who will follow up on their interest.

During the past few months, significant “seed sowing and watering” has been done in Argentina. A media blitz involving television, radio, newspaper, and internet was launched with the intent of driving traffic to our Spanish evangelistic site. A booklet was produced presenting God’s plan to save us, explaining what to expect when visiting a church of Christ, and including a list of congregations in the Buenos Aires area. Free copies of the booklet were distributed to respondents.

Tim Archer spoke during a campaign at the Caballito congregation in Buenos Aires at the end of October. Local missionaries **Dario Lopera**, **Joel Banks**, and **Oswaldo Valdez** coordinated the planning. Dozens of contacts were received during the media blitz and a number of visitors attended the conference. Local Christians are conducting ongoing Bible studies with those contacts.

God does give the increase. In 2008, Gurue, Mozambique, was the focus of an evangelistic project. In partnership with local congregations, a campaign was held, four young men were baptized, and a number of ongoing studies set up. Bibles and literature were provided for use in working with those interested in knowing more about Jesus. One year later, there are three new congregations, each with an average attendance of 60 people. To date, 120 souls have been baptized into Christ. God will continue to give the increase in Cuba, Malawi, Argentina, Zambia, Honduras, Mozambique, and in all those places where contacts have been referred.

God’s plan still works all over this world. Prayers, Bibles, literature, preaching, teaching, mass media, and Bible studies are the tools used. Herald of Truth team members, donors, and local church members are the means God uses. Baptisms and local church growth are the results. It happens just like God said it would.



Life, At Best, Is Transitory

by Bill Brant

“Must, must, must – all of us get in our minds that his world is not our home, and that life, at best, is transitory.”

The email from a friend of forty years was prompted by his just finding out that another long time friend was diagnosed with cancer and the future was clouded at best. Things change when we realize our time is short. Oh, I know we cavalierly say that we’re all terminal, it’s just a matter of when we die not if. Yet, bravado usually is short lived when the real end is near.

As believers in an Almighty God we mentally, sometimes verbally, and even on rare occasions orally acknowledge that by faith we confidently hope to see His face in heaven as promised in Revelation 22:4.

Yet we live our lives as if our earthly existence is the only place we’ll ever live. We are supposed to be in the world but not of the world. As followers of the Messiah, we are to be different,

with our focus on heaven. Not on a car, a job, or a house in the “good” neighborhood.

I am reminded of the words Albert Brumley penned in 1937:

This world is not my home, I’m just passing through.

My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue.

The angels beckon me from heaven’s open door

And I can’t feel at home in this world anymore.

The images of being pilgrims, strangers, wanderers in this world are in both the Old and New Testaments. That the journey is not complete until we are with Jehovah Rapha as described in Revelation 21 and 22. So what about the here and now? How do we exist on this side of Heaven? The words of Jesus reverberate through the centuries: “I have given them Your Word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.” John 17: 14-15.

It seems most opportune that as a new year begins, we must recalibrate our perspectives and live as if we truly believe that “life, at best, is transitory” and being with God is where we want to live.

TV Spots Available

High Definition television 30 and 60 second spots with a tag line saying “from your friends at Herald of Truth Ministries and your local churches of Christ” are now available free of charge at heraldoftruth.net and heraldoftruth.org/resources/video.

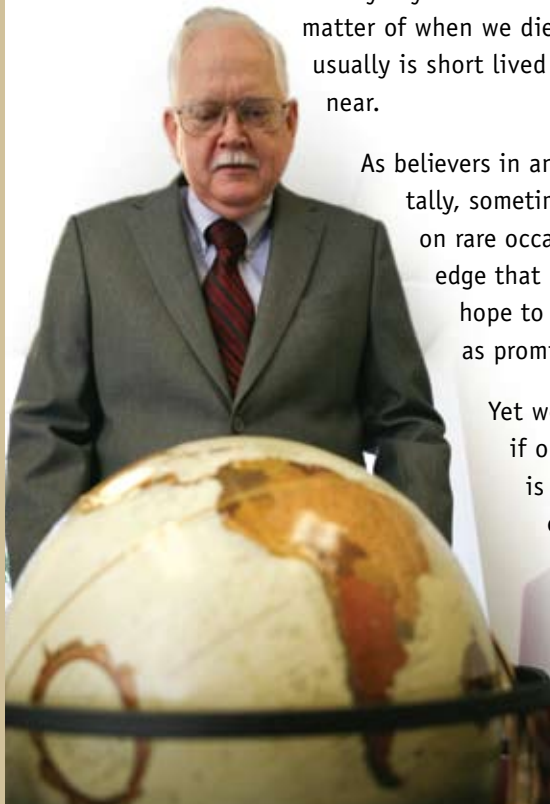
“For years television commercials have introduced new cars, fast food and clothing to the American public. We want to introduce them to Jesus” said **Bill Brant**, President of Herald of Truth. “We want to be the greeting, the handshake, as we take people who are searching and tell them about Jesus”, he added.

The spots can be downloaded and taken to the local TV sta-

tion and local cable company, then aired as Public Service announcements or as paid advertisements. “We found that local stations respond more positively when a member of their community asks them to air the spots.” Brant commented.

The viewer will be directed to hopeforlife.org, Herald of Truth’s evangelistic website and eventually connected to a local congregation for follow up.

Herald of Truth Ministries has been creating mass media evangelistic opportunities since 1952. It continues to take the words of Jesus to His world.



Now Booking Seminars for 2010-2011

Herald of Truth is now scheduling dates for the three seminars we have developed to assist congregations be better equipped to share the good news of Jesus in their communities.

Sharing Our Story is presented by Steve Ridgell, and equips and motivates Christians to share the good news of Jesus by telling stories – stories from Scripture and stories from their live and the lives of believers today.

Christ and Culture, presented by Tim Archer, deals with how Christians interact with our culture in a way that is Godly, Christ centered, and relevant.

Salt Talk, by Bill Brant, examines what it means to live as the “salt of the earth” in this world.

These may be presented individually, or linked sequentially. The only cost to the hosting congregation is transportation, hotel, meals, and an opportunity to tell the Herald of Truth story to the congregation, elders, or Mission Committee. Contact Bill Brant, bbrant@heraldoftruth.org, for more information or to schedule a seminar.

Why We Go Fundraiser in Nashville



457 people gathered at Schermerhorn Symphony Center for the “Why We Go” fundraiser for Herald of Truth on October 6, 2009, where **Jim Bill McInteer**, president of 21st Century Christian, was the recipient of the *Andrew Factor* recognition.

The evening began with a performance by the Freed Hardeman University Alumni Singers and Freed Hardeman University Chorale conducted by **John Robert Hall**.

Gary Bradley, pulpit minister for the Mayfair Church of Christ, Huntsville, Alabama was the keynote speaker telling why he has gone to do mission work in Cuba for the last fourteen years.

It was at this point in the program that the *Andrew Factor* recognition was presented to McInteer, who received a standing ovation.

After **Bill Brant**, President of Herald of Truth Ministries, reviewed the many works the organization is doing around the world and donations were made, the singers surrounded the audience offering “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” as a departing blessing to the attendees.

The *Andrew Factor* recognition is a presentation made to an individual who, like Andrew in John 1:41-42, tells people about Jesus and then brings them to Him using forms of mass media.

WHAT OUR RESPONDENTS *are saying...*

“I’m tired of feeling this emptiness in my heart. I really need help.”
Kassandra, United States

“How do you respond to people that ask you why you believe God is real?”
Jason, United States

“I’m looking forward to learning more about the word of God.”
Cheryl, United States

“I am anticipating the arrival of the course with hope that my life will change.”
Akinda, Nigeria

“I was given your yellow pamphlet Jesus and His Church. I was very moved and excited to read it. You see I have little to no experience in scripture...”
Joseph, Malawi

“I’m tired of feeling this emptiness in my heart... I really need help.”
Kassandra, United States

“Please do kindly send to me your free Bible course. I would like to know more about God’s word.”
Mohopem, India

“I would like to find a bible study group and a church I can call home.”
Catherine, United States

“Until this day when i come across this site from the net i never believe there is hope for life.”
Ige, Nigeria

“Taking part in this study is helping me feel closer to God and Jesus Christ.”
Joyce, Canada

U P C O M I N G M I N I S T R Y

February

Tim Archer will be in Honduras to do follow up from our nationwide television project and to speak at the Baxter Institute.

March

Bill Brant, Tim Archer, Juan Monroy, and Steve Ridgell will be in Cuba speaking at the National Preacher’s Conference and participating in the 25th anniversary of the Herald of Truth presence in Cuba.

COME SEE US

March 24-27

Karen Presley and other members of our team will be at the **Tulsa Workshop, Tulsa, Oklahoma**. Come by and visit our booth.

May 4-7

The Herald of Truth team will be at the **Pepperdine Lectures, Malibu, California**.

June 30-July 2

Join us for breakfast at 7am on Friday, July 2, during Summer Celebration at **Lipscomb University, Nashville, Tennessee**.

Open Invitation

You are always invited to visit us at one of our home congregations in or around Abilene, Texas.

Karen Presley teaches a Ladies’ Bible class Sundays at **Hawley church of Christ**.

Tim Archer teaches Bible class and preaches for the Bilingual congregation meeting at **University church of Christ, Abilene**.

Bill Brant and Steve Ridgell teach Sunday adult classes at **Southern Hills church of Christ**.

Steve preaches Wednesday nights at Southern Hills.

His Word for His World is the official newsletter of Herald of Truth.



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Our Mission

- Sowing the Seed through Mass Media.
- Watering the Seed through Evangelistic Events, Scripture and Literature Distributions.
- Reaping the Harvest through Discipleship and Connecting Respondents with Local Churches.



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