



INDEPENDENT
BAPTIST
CHURCH



INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 2011

Thank God for air conditioning! These past few months have been scorchers! My thoughts and prayers have been with our missionaries who live in climates experiencing this kind of heat almost year round. In spite of the heat, there has been a lot of activity here around the church; a church planting meeting, a Master Clubs girls' camp-in held in the gymnasium, an RU picnic on the grounds, a special Independence Day service, and many Bible Study Class fellowships. There have been four babies born with baby showers galore. We held an entire week of VBT services, and the Junior Camp and Teen Camp weeks were reported injury-free. We even kicked off our new soul-winning program, Advance Community Outreach.

Lest you think the summer activity is over, let me remind you of a few upcoming events you need to keep on your calendar. There are more baby showers this month, along with a

bridal shower. The Men's Camp Out is only a few weeks away so you need to get your registration in as soon as possible! This is such a special time for the men and boys from the church to spend some time away from the hustle and bustle of this area, and to take time reflecting on strengthening our relationship with God and each other. The Hispanic church has family camp coming up, and the month ends with the beginning of a wonderful thing, the first day of school!

It has been amazing to see how God has blessed us this year, and I am so thankful for the support the members of Independent Baptist Church have given through their service in the church and to their friends and neighbors. It has been a blessing to watch Christians grow in their walk with the Lord and in their desire to share the good news of Christ with those around them. I am excited about the feedback I have been get-

ting about the new outreach program. People have shared with me stories of how they are reaching out to their community – some for the very first time! We have had visitors in church and people saved and baptized. God is blessing our faithfulness! If you do not yet belong to an Advance Outreach team, I would encourage you to contact the team leader from your area and sign up! Ask him what areas need the most help, but first start with your street and your neighbors. Ask God to show you how you can reach out to them and show them Christ's love. Make this last month of the summer count for eternity!



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INDEPENDENT BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

By: Rick Dove

I Timothy 4:15, 16

Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

As I think about college coming up in a few weeks, I think of these verses of Scripture. They remind us we are to meditate on



Scripture taking heed to it by applying it to our lives. By so doing, we will help ourselves and those around us. College helps us get into God's Word in a systematic way that we may be able to see a change in our lives. Many times, we need to be motivated to study, to go beyond devotions and to set aside more time to be in God's Word so Christ can make changes in our lives.

Let me encourage you to prayerfully consider attending our Bible college this semester. The evening classes this semester are: Monday, 6:30, Doctrines (Man and Sin), 8:30, Fundamentals of Speech; Thursday, 6:30, Bible Geography, 8:30, Homiletics I; Friday, 6:30, Gospel of John, 8:30, Fundamentals of Music.

Registration is Monday evening, August 22 at 6:00 in the cafeteria with classes beginning on Thursday evening, August 25 at 6:30. I pray I will see many of you there.



Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. Ephesians 5:17



JUST A THOUGHT

By: Valerie Creed

The Bible is very clear about God's will for us. Some things are not so clear, but rather confusing. Why do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Why do we ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Why do noses run and feet smell? It is hard to understand your house can burn up as it burns down, your forms can be filled in by filling them out, and your alarm can go off by going on. If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? When the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. God's will, on the other hand, is very simplistic. He is not willing that any should perish; willing all

men to be saved. Once saved, God wills our sanctification and our giving of thanks in all things. Following God's will, our well doing will put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. Put in plain English; God wills our will, will willingly be as He wills. Will yours?



MEN'S CAMPOUT

This campout is for men to get away and relax, have some fun, and grow spiritually. The Bible refers to us coming apart in Mark 6:31a "And he (Jesus) said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while..." We have set aside a time, August 11- 13, for us to come apart. Some of you will bring your sons with you and enjoy some father-and-son time together. Some will be just men spending time with other men sharing what God has done or sharing what each feels God would have him do. Make plans to be with us. The cost is \$30 per person or \$70 per family. We will be going to Kennedyville, MD. Make sure you get your form in quickly.

ADVANCING?

By: James Stroud

There are many stories in the Bible of various ways Jesus presented the Gospel to those in need of a Savior. He talked about water with a woman at a well, and came to small man's house who He had noticed in a tree. He met a religious man secretly and talked about a second birth, and then he met a rich man selling all he had. This past month during the "hot spell", a grandfather took his two-year-old grandson out and gave bottles of water to workers along Piscataway Road and invited them to our church with a Gospel invitation. What a great idea! Every

worker received this invitation joyfully, and eternity alone will reveal the harvest from this act of compassion. Are you busy giving out the Gospel? Have you joined a team as part of our Advance Outreach program? On Wednesday nights, Pastor is instructing us on how to present the Gospel, and time is made to meet with your area's captain. Let's get busy and allow the Lord to give us some amazing stories of His grace in action, in the lives of those who we call neighbors. I'm sure Nicodemus, the woman at the well, Zacchaeus and countless others were thankful for the Savior crossing their paths.

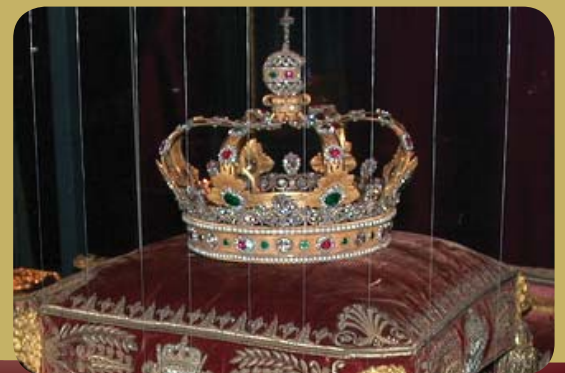
TEEN TRUTHS

By: James Stroud

Solomon lived in such a dysfunctional family. His older, half brother raped his half sister, who is then murdered by another half brother. Still another brother rebels against his dad and steals his kingdom. To add to the list, Solomon was a child of an adulteress relationship.

Who would have guessed xxx he would be king and would have the Bible describe him as the wisest man to have ever lived? What was the difference in his life? Some would have tried to commit suicide; others would have taken drugs or lived a promiscuous lifestyle. Yet we see Solomon devoted His life to God and His Word. Thirty-one chapters of God's Word give us an insight into the wisdom God bestowed upon him.

Wisdom is not a magical spell that suddenly comes upon you. It is not a new feeling. It is a process of making the right decisions based upon the principles of God's Word. How will you know you have this wisdom? You will know when you are older and can look back on your life. You will be able to see that while others floundered in bad decisions, you were blessed with a steady succession of sound decisions. As a teen, you may need wisdom more than an older person simply because of the major decisions you face in life. As Solomon, do not desire things, but ask God for wisdom and watch Him bless your life.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Jail Seminar
August 6

Sarah Weller Baby Shower
August 7

Men's Camp Out
August 11 - 13

College & Career Scavenger Hunt
August 13

Young at Heart Meal
August 14

Jennifer Ackley Baby Shower
August 14

Ushers Banquet
August 20

Hispanic Family Camp
August 25 - 29

Kala Lee Bridal Shower
August 28

IBA Parent/Teacher Orientation
August 29

First Day of School
August 31



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P.O. BOX 206 CLINTON, MD 20735