

foreman_60203

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/30/03

GEORGE FOREMAN: Heaven-bound heavyweight

George Foreman, two-time former heavyweight boxing champion and globally renowned corporate spokesman, is also an ordained minister and founder of the George Foreman Youth and Community Center in Houston.

Q:

In your book, you talk about your childhood-how you were raised in extreme poverty and had to learn everything the hard way. What was it like for you growing up?



I was raised in a one-parent home, and my mother had to work two jobs. When you're in a single-parent home, they try to give you a good foundation, but by the time you're 4 or 5 years old, from that point on you're pretty much on your own. You get your hand burned, and you learn not to put your hand on the fire. So everything I learned I had to learn the hard way. There are seven of us total, I'm number five of seven kids, four boys and three girls. Most of my childhood I was raised in the city of Houston, where I am now. But I started my boxing career in California.

Q:

gay_prayer_60203

May 30, 2003

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House prayer led by gay pastor

WASHINGTON (RNS)-For the first time, a pastor affiliated with the nation's largest primarily gay denomination has offered the opening prayer in the House of Representatives.

Steven Torrance, a police chaplain in Key West, Fla., and a pastor in the Metropolitan Community Church, offered the prayer May 1, which also was designated the National Day of Prayer.

"Help us to secure justice and equality for every human being; help us bring an end to division, and continue to build our country on peace and love," Torrance prayed in the House chambers.

gay_sbc_60203

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Gay-right protestors target SBC again

By Bob Allen

EthicsDaily.com

For the fourth consecutive year, homosexual-rights activists are organizing a presence at the Southern Baptist Convention to protest anti-homosexuality rhetoric by the convention.

sanangelo_51903

May 30, 2003

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Members of
Southland
Baptist Church
in San Angelo
dedicate
lumber to be
used in the
Habitat
project, part of
the church's
25th
anniversary
celebration."To
have children
give \$2.50 for
a 2 x 4 stud,
and then to see
that stud
become a part
of someone's
house, that's
when missions
becomes real."

San Angelo church builds a mission project in parking lot

By George Henson

Staff Writer

SAN ANGELO-Southland Baptist Church in San Angelo may be setting

a record for the shortest distance ever traveled on a mission trip. This mission is taking shape on the church parking lot.

hispanic_51903

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/19/03

Hispanic School OKs 2008 plans

SAN ANTONIO-Trustees of Hispanic Baptist Theological School approved final preparations to purchase an 82-acre tract across I-35 from the school's current facilities.

Meeting May 6, the board also elected a vice president for advancement, approved the first graduating class with bachelor of arts degrees, approved a strategic plan for 2003-2008 and granted the first sabbatical leave in the school's history.

The property purchase previously was affirmed by the Baptist General Convention of Texas Christian Education Coordinating Board.

iraq_51903

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/19/03

Iraqi Christians fear for safety

By Mark Mueller

Religion News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq (RNS)-Two weeks ago, Raad Karim Essa arrived home from work to find his furniture on the street. His Muslim landlord wasn't renting to Christians anymore.

Father Adda, an Assyrian Orthodox Christian, prepares for Palm Sunday at his ancient monastery on Mount Maqloub, just outside the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, April 19. The monastery was built in 363 A.D., and its renovation was funded by ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

Although Iraq under Saddam was primarily a Muslim state, the regime tolerated other religious groups. In post-war Iraq, Christians increasingly express fear that a Shiite Muslim majority will not grant freedom of worship for all.
(REUTERS/Nikola Solic Photo)

hesaid_51903

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/19/03

He Said/ She Said: The award

SHE SAID:

"Mrs. Wingfield, this is Denise May at Moss Haven." That greeting on our home answering machine started my heart pumping. Mrs. May is our assistant principal in charge of discipline. "Oh, no, I thought, who's in trouble? What did one of my sons do?"

All that went through my mind in the split second before the message continued, " ... there's nothing wrong."

Mrs. May must be used to my previous reactions. She continued, "Garrett wanted to share some good news with you, so if you get this message in the next half hour, please call me back."

iraqi_commission_51903

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/21/03

Commission urges religious freedom in Iraq

WASHINGTON (RNS)-The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom has urged President Bush to maintain his commitment to religious freedom for all Iraqis.

“Now that Saddam Hussein has been ousted, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom believes strongly it is essential to ensure that the Iraqi people can exercise their religious freedom in full accordance with international human rights standards,” commission members wrote Bush in a letter dated April 28. “The United States can help this become a reality.”

The commission expressed its concern that U.S. leadership is needed to prevent ethnic and sectarian violence and other human rights violations against Iraq's diverse religious communities.

iraqi_charities_51903

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/21/03

Charities find donors cool to Iraq aid

By Mark O'Keefe

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-Charities ramping up U.S. campaigns to benefit

war-torn Iraq are finding the early fund-raising climate much cooler than the 100-degree temperatures troops faced in the desert.

iraqi_freedom_51903

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/21/03

Iraqi Christians appeal for religious freedom

VATICAN CITY (RNS)-Iraq's Christian patriarchs and bishops have appealed for full religious, social and political freedom for the Christian descendants of the prophet Abraham in Iraq's new regime.

The Vatican issued the text of a joint statement made in Baghdad by leaders of the Chaldean, Assyrian, Syrian, Armenian, Greek and Latin rite churches in Iraq, where Muslims make up 90 percent of the population of 23 million.

The leaders said they hoped that "all the Iraqi people, who have known a long history marked by conflicts and successes, may live without distinction of religion or race in liberty, justice and respect in inter-religious and multiethnic coexistence."

explore_51903

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/19/03

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for June 1

The gospel never should be compromised

Galatians 1:1-12

By Jim Perkins

Madison Hills Baptist Church, San Antonio

family_51903

May 30, 2003

Posted: 5/19/03

LifeWay Family Bible Series for June 1

An urgent summons for evangelistic field hands

Matthew 9:35-38; Romans 10:14-15; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

By Tim Owens

First Baptist Church, Bryan