

BaptistWay Bible Series for Nov. 28: Weakness in Christ can be a mighty thing_112204

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BaptistWay Bible Series for Nov. 28

Weakness in Christ can be a mighty thing

2 Corinthians 12:14-13:13

By Todd Still

Truett Seminary, Waco

BaptistWay Bible Series for Dec. 5: Jesus teaches followers how to be disciples_112204

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Jesus teaches followers how to be disciples

Matthew 5:1-16

By Todd Still

Truett Seminary, Waco

Bob Jones president praises Bush election_112204

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Bob Jones president praises Bush election

By Adelle Banks

Religion News Service

GREENVILLE, S.C. (RNS)-The president of Bob Jones University, a fundamentalist school in South Carolina, has written President Bush to say his re-election shows God has given the nation "a reprieve from the agenda

of paganism.”

Baptist Briefs_112204

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Baptist Briefs

SBTC holds 7th annual meeting. The Southern Baptists of Texas Convention adopted a \$19.2 million budget and re-elected Chris Osborne, pastor of Central Baptist Church in College Station, as president during its annual meeting at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano. Also elected were Ed Ethridge, director of missions of North Texas Baptist Association, as first vice president; Bill Sutton, pastor at First Baptist Church, McAllen, second vice president; and Brenda Wills of First Baptist Church in Fort Worth, secretary-treasurer. Messengers approved a resolution urging parents to “ensure the godly education” of children “whether in public schools, private schools, home schools or through the church's education program.” Other resolutions opposed embryonic stem-cell research and supported a ban on “partial-birth” abortions, urged Senate confirmation of judges who will “not legislate from the bench,” decried religious persecution and ethnic cleansing, voiced support for the United States' opposition to terror, promoted Christian citizenship and encouraged SBTC churches to double their number of baptisms next year.

CBF offers conference for Christian educators. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Initiative for Congregational Life will sponsor its 5th

annual "True Survivor" conference for Christian educators March 7-9 at Royal Lane Baptist Church in Dallas. The conference will provide continuing education and fellowship for Christian educators, age group ministers and church education staff. Conference leaders Diana Garland of the Baylor University School of Social Work, Dave Odom with the Center for Congregational Health and Bo Prosser, CBF coordinator for congregational life, will focus on the theme, "Missional Leadership: The Island of Intentionality." The Jack Naish Distinguished Educator Award recognizing excellence in Christian education will be presented during the conference. The conference costs \$50, and more information is available by contacting Toni Draper at (800) 352-8741 or tdraper@thefellowship.info.

SBC creates Hispanic task force. The Southern Baptist Convention has appointed a task force to increase mission efforts among the nation's growing Hispanic population. Bob Reccord, president of the SBC North American Mission Board, said he created the task force of Hispanic leaders to determine the needs and hopes of Hispanic churches within the denomination. Daniel Sanchez, director of the Scarborough Center for Church Planting and Church Growth at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, will chair the 15-member task force. The task force is expected to make recommendations to the mission board next year.

Alcohol-related wreck changed future student minister's

life_112204

November 19, 2004

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Alcohol-related wreck changed future student minister's life

By Leann Callaway

Special to the Baptist Standard

SUGAR LAND—Casey Cease killed a friend nine years ago in an alcohol-related car accident, and guilt left him wanting to kill himself.

ANOTHER VIEW by Joe Alcorta: Consider reasons to offer thanks_112204

November 19, 2004

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ANOTHER VIEW:

Consider reasons to offer thanks

By Joe Alcorta

Americans will celebrate Thanksgiving Day Nov. 25. Next to Christmas, Thanksgiving is the most popular holiday in our nation. Most businesses and all schools allow their employees to be off that Thursday.

We celebrate Thanksgiving because in October 1789, both houses of Congress requested President George Washington to proclaim a day of thanksgiving.

DOWN HOME: Decisions await matrimonial path_112204

November 19, 2004

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DOWN HOME: Decisions await matrimonial path

Seeing as how I'm a guy, my Logically-Anticipated-Consequences radar doesn't always function as it should.

This has been true lately. My L-A-C radar failed me miserably, although my Oh-Yeah-That-Makes-Perfect-Sense hindsight still functions with 20/20 clarity.

A couple of weeks ago, I told you about how Lindsay-our oldest daughter, flesh of our flesh, wellspring of abundant joy and a junior in college-is getting married.

EDITORIAL: Calculus of lame duckery_112204

November 19, 2004

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EDITORIAL: Calculus of lame duckery

My, how time flies. Just three weeks ago, we didn't know who would occupy the White House the next four years. Now, we're hearing "President Bush" and "lame duck" in the same sentence.

Poor guy. He hasn't even lifted his hand to take his second oath of office, and everybody from preachers to pundits is talking about how his effectiveness soon will be limited. He even acknowledged he's got about 18 months to accomplish the major goals of his administration. Then his clout will diminish rapidly, because friends and foes will know they can wait him out if they don't want to follow his lead.

Second-term presidents aren't the only lame ducks. Bosses nearing retirement often exert very little influence. Workers about to transfer are lame ducks, as are coaches with eyes on the next team. Parents can

become lame ducks when their children allow others to influence them more than Mom and Dad.

EDITORIAL: Hunger offering Every penny counts_112204

November 19, 2004

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EDITORIAL: Hunger offering: Every penny counts

Baptist tables will creak this week under the burden of Thanksgiving feasts. No wonder Thanksgiving is one of our most popular holidays. We appreciate the Three F's of the day—family, football and food. And even if some folks quibble about how much they enjoy family and football, the appreciation for food is unanimous.

This Thanksgiving, as Texas Baptists dig in to the turkey, green bean casserole, candied sweet potatoes, fresh rolls, pie and other special dishes on our tables, we should remember victims of hunger across our state, throughout the nation and around the world. This is the season we collect the Texas Baptist Offering for World Hunger, which truly is an investment in the people Jesus called “the least of these.” And rather than mere acts of charity, our gifts provide an accurate reflection of our love for and devotion to him (Matthew 25:31-46).

Middle-class Baptists sometimes have a hard time comprehending poverty and the depths of hunger. But the Baptist General Convention of Texas' Christian Life Commission has created a paint-by-numbers portrait of hunger. See:

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Nov. 28: Following Christ is about relationship, not ritual_112

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LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Nov. 28

Following Christ is about relationship, not ritual

Luke 13:1-35

By Pakon Chan

Chinese Baptist Church, Arlington

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Dec. 5: Meals can be times of eternal significance_112204

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LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Dec. 5

Meals can be times of eternal significance

Luke 14:1, 7-15

By Pakon Chan

Chinese Baptist Church, Arlington

LifeWay Family Bible Series for Nov. 28: Tell everyone the good news-God is great_112204

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for Nov. 28

Tell everyone the good news-God is great

Psalm 145:3-5, 8-9, 11-21

By Angela Hamm

First Baptist Church, Lewisville