

Comment by Jinny Henson: The pork chop

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/12/06

COMMENT: The pork chop

By Jinny Henson

Scientists recently discovered falling in love produces the equivalent of an amphetamine-induced high. I realize after 12 years of marriage that no human would voluntarily make this commitment unless they were smoking crack. Which leads me to this conclusion: God is pretty smart.

I'd done them; the blind dates. You go to be polite and have as much in common with the guy as the UnaBomber. My parents met on a blind date, and who was I to tempt fate should history repeat itself? I'm no obsessive-compulsive, but when you're a girl dealing with something as serious as love here, you have to touch every light switch twice and avoid the cracks in the ground or you might just miss "the one."

Jinny Henson

Last of Arizona Baptist fraud convicts sentenced to prison

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/09/07

Last of Arizona Baptist fraud convicts sentenced to prison

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

PHOENIX (ABP)—One of the most egregious cases of fraud in non-profit history came to a close Feb. 2, when the former treasurer of the Baptist Foundation of Arizona was sentenced.

Donald Deardoff, 49, was ordered to serve four years in prison and pay \$159 million to victims of an investment scam. He received the sentence after pleading guilty in 2001 to two counts of fraud. Four other former foundation employees were also sentenced to lesser punishments Feb. 2.

Community service makes

impact on teens' faith development

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/09/07

Community service makes impact on teens' faith development

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO—Serving meals to homeless people at a church-sponsored shelter can have a greater impact than sitting in a pew every Sunday morning on how a teenager's faith develops, a new study has concluded.

"Involvement in community service is far more significant to the faith development of teens than involvement in worship," said Michael Sherr, assistant professor in the [School of Social Work](#) at Baylor University.

Healthy families bring others closer to Christ

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Posted: 2/09/07

Cesar
Gabriel,
pastor of
Iglesia
Bautista
Trinidad in
Laredo,
holds his
son during
the
Hispanic
Evangelism
Conference.

Healthy families bring others closer to Christ

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

SAN ANTONIO—The peace Christ offers draws people to him—if they aren't driven away by the conflict in Christians' lives, David Hormachea, host of the Vision Para Vivir media ministry, told participants at the Hispanic Evangelism Conference.

Non-Christians want the peace and joy Christ offers through a relationship with him, but sometimes they are turned off when they look at the family lives of people who call themselves Christians, Hormachea told the conference, sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas. They see broken families, divorced spouses and fighting children and wonder

how powerful the gospel can be, he added.



A member of the praise team from South San Fildelfia Baptist Church in San Antonio sings during the Hispanic Evangelism Conference.

Sale of lottery doesn't add up, gambling opponents insist

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Posted: 2/09/07

Sale of lottery doesn't add up, gambling opponents insist

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

AUSTIN—Gov. Rick Perry's proposal to [sell the lottery](#) just doesn't add up, according to Texas Baptist gambling opponents.

Suzii Paynter, director of the [Texas Christian Life Commission](#), and Weston Ware, legislative spokesman for [Texans Against Gambling](#), are two of many bipartisan leaders who questions Perry's logic in wanting to sell the lottery to a private group a year after [the lottery](#) recorded its highest sales and when the state has a \$14 billion surplus.

Aggies in New Orleans see big picture of God's work

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/09/07

Meaghan
Gasch
from First
Baptist
Church in
College
Station
cuts brush
with a
chainsaw.
(Photos
courtesy
of
Expression
Ministry at
First
Baptist
Church in
College
Station)

Aggies in New Orleans see big picture of God's work

By Marilyn Stewart

Louisiana Baptist Convention

NEW ORLEANS—Texas A&M University students from [First Baptist Church of College Station](#) see their part in rebuilding New Orleans much like the inner workings of the engineering systems they study—a small

component in the larger machine that God is operating in New Orleans.

“We came to do whatever we could in four days,” recent A&M graduate Emily Guevara said. “Knowing that others will come behind us and continue the work makes us know that this is not about us; it’s about what God is doing.”



Ryan Plesko from First Baptist Church in College Station installs an interior frame.

BaptistWay Bible Series for February 18: God still is a God who sends

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/09/07

BaptistWay Bible Series for February18

God still is a God who sends

• John 20:1-21

By David Wilkinson

Bible Studies for Life Series for February 18: When you see Jesus, you see God

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/09/07

Bible Studies for Life Series for February 18

When you see Jesus, you see God

• John 5:17-23,36-42,46-47

By Kenneth Lyle

Explore the Bible Series for February 18: Have courage to act on faith

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/09/07

Explore the Bible Series for February 18

Have courage to act on faith

- Esther 5:1-3; 7:1-6, 9-10

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

Esther took her life in her hands by coming into the king's presence uninvited, but the king received her and asked what she wanted. Esther revealed to the king she and all her people in his kingdom had been marked for death by Haman's devious and evil scheme. On learning of Haman's treachery, the king commanded he be hanged on the gallows Haman had built for Mordecai.

TOGETHER: A way for Baptists to bless the world

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/02/07

TOGETHER: A way for Baptists to bless the world

Word comes to us that [nine Christian pastors have been jailed](#) in Zimbabwe. The [Baptist World Alliance](#) has called for release of these pastors, who are working for peace and justice. This is but one example of what is happening in many places. And it is one of the reasons it is so important for Baptists from across North America to gather in Atlanta a year from now.

There is strength in numbers and in unity. Texas Baptists will join Baptists from across Canada, Mexico and all 50 states to celebrate our unity in the great gospel of Jesus Christ. The special emphasis for this meeting will be to help Baptists speak a clear word to a watching and listening world that we are Jesus People.



Executive Director BGCT Executive Board

We believe God loves the world so much that he sent Jesus and those who follow him into the world so people can have eternal life and not perish.

We believe God honors his word and his promises, and we can preach boldly the truth of God to a confused, broken and frightened world.

Bible Studies for Life Series for February 11: True belief engenders action

February 12, 2007

Updated: 2/08/07

Bible Studies for Life Series for February 11

True belief engenders action

• John 3:1-8,13-18

By Kenneth Lyle

Zimbabwe police arrest 9 pastors attending leadership seminar

February 12, 2007

Posted: 2/08/07

Zimbabwe police arrest 9 pastors attending leadership seminar

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Zimbabwe police arrested nine pastors at a gathering of more than 300 church leaders in late January. At least one of the pastors was Baptist. The arrests were made public Jan. 30 by the [Baptist World Alliance](#).

Raymond Motsi, pastor of Bulawayo Baptist Church, was among the group. The pastors have since been fined and released.

The pastors were charged with violating [Zimbabwe's](#) Public Order and Security Act, which forbids gatherings of more than three without the approval from the police. The meeting was planned by a Christian Alliance group in Kadoma, more than 150 kilometers west of Harare, the country's capital.

Christian Alliance has been accused by the Robert Mugabe-led government of plotting with opposition parties to overthrow his regime.