

BaptistWay Bible Series for Jan. 1: Jesus provides the model for talking with God

December 20, 2005

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BaptistWay Bible Series for Jan. 1

Jesus provides the model for talking with God

- Luke 11:1-13

By Jeffrey Lee

Family Bible Series for Jan. 1: Work was a part of God's original plan

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Family Bible Series for Jan. 1

Work was a part of God's original plan

- Genesis 1:26-28, 31, 2:15; Proverbs 6:6-10; Colossians 3:22-4:1

By Donald Raney

Explore the Bible Series for Jan. 1: Christians are to lead lives of worship

December 20, 2005

Posted: 12/20/05

Explore the Bible Series for Jan. 1

Christians are to lead lives of worship

- Romans 12:1-8

By Trey Turner

Canyon Creek Baptist Church, Temple

I am afraid worship is 'dumbed-down' more than we realize because of the consumer culture around us. Worship is limited to that which wells up in us because something profoundly affects our emotions and engages our feelings. For that matter, good movies have the ability (and budgets) to do

that more than most worship services. If we are limited to worshipping only when feeling grips us, we may be weaker spiritually than we need to be. Do we think worship can happen by an act of the will, but not before the emotions?

Around the State

December 20, 2005

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Around the State

The Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas has presented its Horizon Award to **George Young**, who ministers to individuals older than 60 at Trinity Church in San Antonio. The award is given to someone who exemplifies excellence in aging adult leadership.

♦ **John Baugh**, founder of Sysco Corporation in Houston, was presented the Abner V. McCall Religious Liberty Award by the Baylor Alumni Association Dec. 17 during fall commencement. The award is given to Baylor alumni or friends who exemplify the dedication and commitment to religious liberty demonstrated by the former Baylor University president for whom the award is named. A Baylor regent emeritus, Baugh also is a founding trustee of Houston Baptist University and served as a director of the Baptist Foundation of Texas more than 25 years. He is the author of *The Battle for Baptist Integrity*. He and his wife, **Eula Mae**, are members of Tallowood Church in Houston.



A group of students from Howard Payne University took time from their studies for a mission trip to help flood victims in New Orleans reclaim their homes. From right to left are Shane Blackshear, Jared Renshaw, the New Orleans couple they helped, Vicente Richarte (background), Josh Houser, Joanna Brown, Aaron Brown (background), Jessica Oster and Brandon Wilson.

♦ **Virgil Grotfeldt**, assistant professor in art at Houston Baptist University, has been nominated for the Hunting Art Prize. Members of Houston's art community selected nominees who have made a long-term commitment to their career and have a five-year, post-graduate exhibition record reflecting national exposure. The competition has a \$50,000 first-place award.

Vote tally dispute points to internal IMB disagreement

December 20, 2005

Posted: 12/16/05

Vote tally dispute points to internal IMB disagreement

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—Conflicting reports about the vote totals for a new International Mission Board policy on speaking in tongues are focusing public attention on what may be a deeper disagreement about the agency's leadership.

Texas Baptist Forum

December 20, 2005

Posted: 12/16/05

Texas Baptist Forum

Speak up for Christmas

“Let the redeemed of the Lord say so” (Psalm 107:2).

This Christmas season has included many surprises. Some of us were surprised by the department stores that opted not to use the word “Christmas” in their ads this year.

• Jump to online-only letters below
Letters are welcomed. Send them to marvknox@baptiststandard.com ; 250 words maximum.



"When you consider that 80 to 90 percent of the American public celebrates Christmas, that (retailers) actively solicit and advertise to ... make millions and millions of dollars, and they're not willing to mention the words 'Merry Christmas,' something is drastically wrong."

Manuel Zamorano

Protester, who called off his boycott of Macy's department stores after the chain reinstituted "Merry Christmas" in its advertising (RNS)

"When did it become the responsibility of department stores to preach the gospel? It is not the purpose of retail establishments to advance the cause of Christ. I do not recall Jesus ever saying, 'Why haven't you turned my marketplace into a house of prayer?' If Christ is missing from Christmas, don't blame department stores. The real reason is somewhere closer to home. ... No wonder Christ seems to be missing from Christmas-Christians keep looking for him in the mall."

James Evans

Pastor of First Baptist Church in Auburn, Ala.
(EthicsDaily.com)

"The speaker believes a Christmas tree is a Christmas tree, and it is as simple as that."

Ron Bonjean

Spokesman for House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., explaining Hastert's decision not to label the Capitol Christmas tree a "holiday tree"
(Washington Times/RNS)

"I think the 'Person' of the Year should be God. On the one hand, more people seem certain they know God's will on the social issues of the day. On the other, all of us feel the need to find answers as we confront the 'acts of God' dominating the news, like diseases and global catastrophes."

Coleen Rowley

Former FBI agent and one of three "whistleblowers" honored as Time magazine's "Persons of the Year" in 2002 (RNS)

Right or Wrong? A question of wedding vows

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Right or Wrong? A question of wedding vows

"I attended a wedding recently. Nowhere in the vows did the bride say she would obey her husband. This seems to be a trend. Do you think that's why there are so many divorces-the wives are not submitting to their husbands?"

Disney movie inspires Christian musicians' project

December 20, 2005

Posted: 10/28/05

Disney movie inspires Christian musicians' project

By **Beau Black**

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—If Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ* awakened movie studios to a huge religious market, Disney's *Chronicles Of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* is trying to tap it for all it's worth—with a loud boost from the contemporary Christian music industry.

Storylist for week of 11/07/05

December 20, 2005

Storylist for week of 11/07/05

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Mercer taps Baylor interim for school's presidency

December 20, 2005

Posted: 12/16/05

Mercer taps Baylor interim for school's presidency

By Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

MACON, Ga. (ABP)—Baylor University Interim President Bill Underwood has been elected president of Mercer University, promising to retain the school's historic Baptist identity despite a recent break with the Georgia

Baptist Convention.

Warren urges ministry to AIDS victims

December 20, 2005

Posted: 12/16/05

Warren urges ministry to AIDS victims

By Phillip Jordan

Associated Baptist Press

LAKE FOREST, Calif. (ABP)-Megachurch pastor Rick Warren used a conference timed to conclude on World AIDS Day to announce a new commitment to caring for the millions of people infected with HIV and AIDS.

Gonzales ministry aids

‘suffering church of Chiapas’

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A volunteer
talks with a
girl in the
Mexican
village of
Acteal.

Baptist
churches
have raised
funds the
families of
84

evangelical
Christians
charged
with a
1997
massacre.

They
maintain
their
innocence
and claim
the real
killers have
not been
brought to
justice.

(Photos by
Craig Bird)

Gonzales ministry aids 'suffering church of Chiapas'

By Craig Bird

Special to the Baptist Standard

SAN CRISTOBAL, Mexico—Christmas 2005 will be a little more hopeful for some families in Acteal, Mexico, thanks to a Texas Baptist woman's ministry. But for the eighth consecutive year, prison walls will mute the celebration.