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ISSUE 5

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THE MISSING ELEMENT IN OUR
WITNESS

BY DR. PAUL CHAPPELL



WE

could list many reasons we don't share the gospel as we should. We don't have time. We're afraid of rejection. Our calendars are too full. But I believe most of the time it goes deeper than all of these. We don't share the gospel because we don't care.

I don't mean that we don't care about the gospel. I mean that we have become complacent in *having* the gospel and are no longer burdened to be *sharing* the gospel.

Consider Paul at Athens. He presumably went there for a few days of rest on his way to the next city. But as he waited there in the city for Silas and Timothy, "his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry" (Acts 17:16).

Mar's Hill didn't begin with a great strategy for interacting with the philosophers of Athens. It began with a Christian man whose spirit was stirred over lost people without Christ.

Why don't we share the gospel as we should?

Perhaps it is because we are not as stirred as we should be.

Somehow, we get more roused over hobbies and vacations and fellowships and sports and events and programs than

we do over the people around us who are without Christ.

It wasn't just at Athens that Paul was stirred. We see it again as Paul was in Corinth. This time, Scripture says "Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ" (Acts 18:5).

Paul's compulsion to share the gospel was internal—in his own spirit. He didn't need someone telling him he should go soulwinning. He didn't need someone telling him to witness to his coworkers or neighbors or family.

For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!—1 Corinthians 9:16

I wonder what would happen if Christians today had a renewed stirring in their spirits for the needs of a lost world.

Our world isn't more godly than Paul's. Our cities aren't more bent toward Christ than Athens or Corinth were. But too often our spirits are less stirred than Paul's, our hearts less pressed to share the good news of Christ. When the internal motivation to share the gospel is missing, great programs and well-planned strategies will eventually fizzle out. When internal motivation to witness is missing, the best strategies will fizzle out. It has to come from within.



Dr. Paul Chappell

is the Founder and President of West Coast Baptist College.



IN REVIEW

WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE

LOOKING BACK OVER THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS

THE

last several months at West Coast Baptist College have been filled with ministry expansion. This past spring we were able to open the doors of our new Walther Center Library. We have over 100,000 books already on the shelves occupying 5,384 square feet of space on the second floor of the Walther Center. In June, Lancaster Baptist Church celebrated thirty-one years of ministry and hosted the annual Spiritual Leadership Conference. West Coast Baptist College also hosted the annual Alumni Luncheon with several hundred alumni in attendance. We were also able to welcome new students from around the country on opening day of the fall semester.

ALUMNI



LEFT: The New Walther Center Library is now open with over 100,000 volumes



LEFT: Pastor Chappell and the Lancaster Baptist Church family celebrated thirty-one years of ministry



ABOVE: Dane Keely and Tim Egge both received the Lighthouse Award for their labor of love in the ministry



ABOVE: Dr. Don Sisk teaching Dr. Bobby Roberson at the SLC Alumni Luncheon how to use an iPhone to take a selfie



LEFT: West Coast Baptist College welcomes new students to the fall semester

Q+A

BRANDON CAMPBELL

2001 GRADUATE



BRANDON CAMPBELL is the pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Wheatland, CA. He and his wife, Christine have four children.

When I was sixteen years old I surrendered to be a preacher during a missions conference at Lighthouse Baptist Church in Santa Maria, California. After graduating from West Coast Baptist College in 2001, I went back to my home church to work on staff as an assistant pastor and youth pastor for over fourteen years.

Two years before I became senior pastor at the Faith Baptist Church in Wheatland, the Lord began working on my heart about going into the pastorate. After a year of praying, I told my wife, and we began praying together. After several months we were confident that the Lord was leading me to pastor.

Before I talked to Pastor Scheidbach about what God was doing in my heart, he approached me and asked if I would be interested in the Faith Baptist Church. God opened many doors and answered many prayers. Twelve members voted unanimously for me to be their pastor. My first Sunday was November 20, 2015.

Wheatland is rural town about thirty miles north of Sacramento. It is a growing community. One of the things that drew me to Wheatland was the faith of a few people determined to keep a church from closing even though they had been through some very difficult circumstances.

So far, we have been able to cover Wheatland several times and two other small towns in our area through door knocking. We have recently started a street ministry where we hold verse signs, sing hymns, and pass out gospel tracts to people on the streets. We also

have a community outreach during the town Christmas Tree Light festival. We open the church doors and invite people to get hot chocolate, coffee, and homemade cookies. Hundreds of people have come through and received gospel tracts the last couple of years.

Besides our door knocking and street ministries we have seen a tremendous response to our missions program. We have been able to raise the support

Looking back over fourteen years as a youth pastor it has been a blessing to see several young people come through the youth group, go to Bible college, and now serving the Lord faithfully in ministry.

As a pastor it has been a blessing to see people growing in the Lord. It is a wonderful experience to see our church family excited about

“OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS GOD HAS TAUGHT ME TO TRULY LIVE BY FAITH. MY MOVE TO WHEATLAND WAS A HUGE STEP OF FAITH AND GOD PROVIDED EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.”

of the three missionaries our church supports and begin supporting six new missionaries in the last year and a half.

We have also seen a tremendous response to our prayer ministry. We regularly have church-wide prayer meetings every Sunday evening. It is a joy to see a people excited about and committed to prayer.

soulwinning and outreach.

Over the last couple of years God has taught me to truly live by faith. My move to Wheatland was a huge step of faith and God provided every step of the way. God has taught me the importance of prayer and my need to look to Him every step of the way. 📌

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT



DR. MIKE LESTER

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

On September 13, Mike Lester, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, received his doctorate. We appreciate his academic excellence for West Coast Baptist College and passion for local church ministry. Dr. Lester teaches many of our Bible classes such as Bible Doctrines, Romans, Hebrews and Isaiah. He also leads a growing singles class for ages 26 and up. He and his wife, Jenni, have 5 daughters, Megan (17), Katie (16), Jodi (14), Karlee (10), and Maggie (9). Megan is a freshman at West Coast Baptist College.



NEW PASTORATES

Thomas & Brittany (Brown) Strausbaugh
Pastoring Desert Streams Baptist Church
in Adelanto, California

Daniel & Virginia (Keckler) Shedd
Pastoring Calvary Baptist Church in
Granville, New York

Clark & Rachel (Mullaney) Graham
Pastoring East Hill Baptist Church in
Kent, Washington

Tom Green
Pastoring Calvary Baptist Church in
Reedsville, West Virginia

Dominic & Amanda (Stockwell) Kalmeta
Planting Restoration Baptist Church in
Murrieta, California October 2017

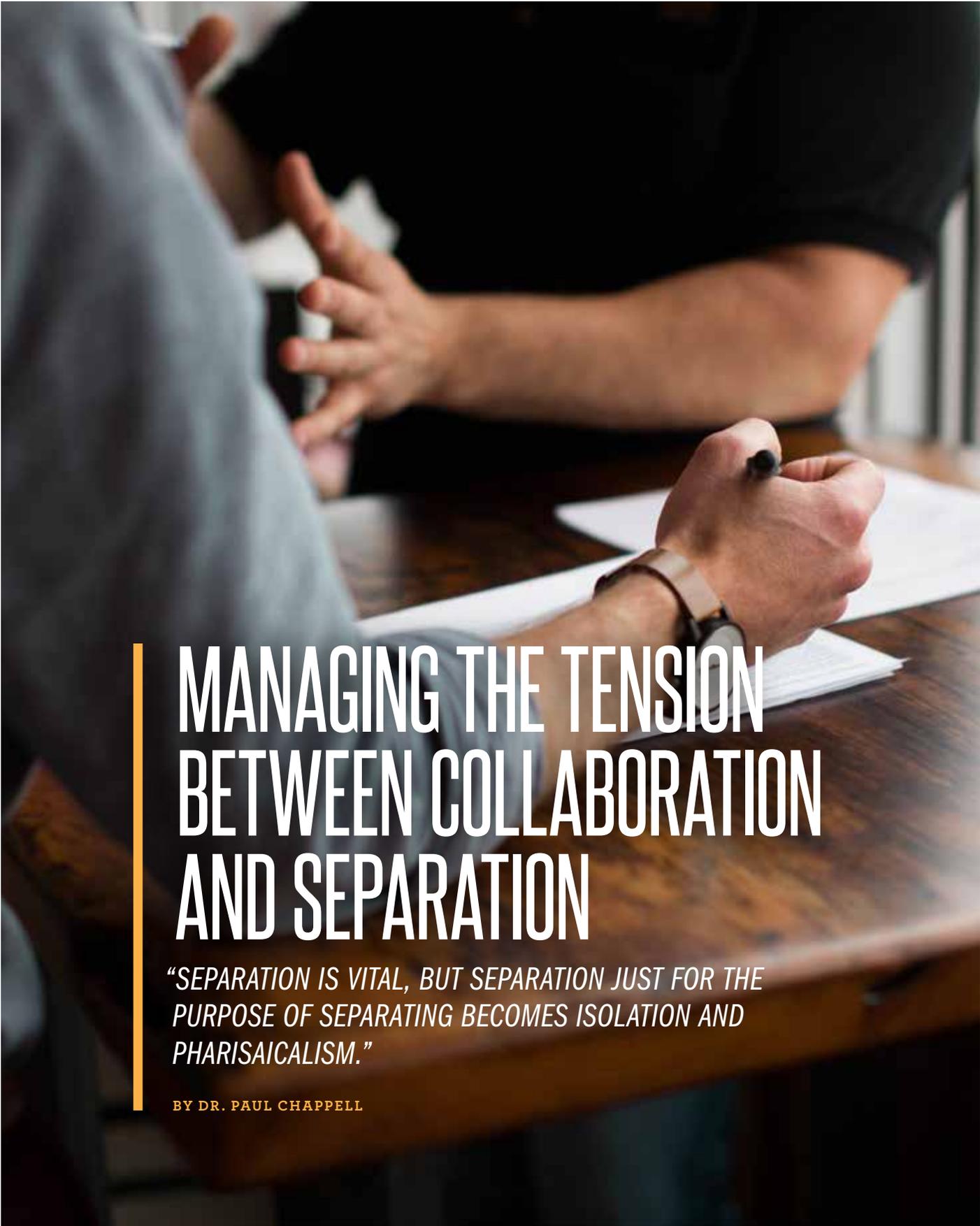
Eric & Rebecca (Furlong) Duenke
Pastoring New Life Chapel in
Rosamond, California

Nick Loewen
Planted Cornerstone Baptist Church in
Lapine, Oregon in July

Matt & Kristi McMorris
Pastoring Lifepointe Baptist Church in
Lodi, Wisconsin

Tim & Mandy (Fornal) Tenbrink
Pastoring Faith Baptist Church in Port
Orchard, Washington

Shawn & Brandy Suri
Started Northern Lakes Baptist Church in
Land O'Lakes, Wisconsin July 2017



MANAGING THE TENSION BETWEEN COLLABORATION AND SEPARATION

*“SEPARATION IS VITAL, BUT SEPARATION JUST FOR THE
PURPOSE OF SEPARATING BECOMES ISOLATION AND
PHARISAICALISM.”*

BY DR. PAUL CHAPPELL

WHEN I WAS GROWING UP IN THE 70S, THE WATCHWORD AMONG INDEPENDENT BAPTISTS WAS SEPARATION. And with good reason. Many of my mentors were men who had come out of denominations that denied the inerrancy of the Scriptures, miracles of the Bible, and even the virgin birth of Christ. I was privileged to personally know men who had taken a costly stand for truth—in many cases losing their churches, friendships, and being misunderstood for their convictions.

These were men who then watched the rise of what Fuller Seminary and Harold Ockenga termed “Neo-Evangelicalism”—an effort to bring together liberals and fundamentalists. Bible-believing pastors who had already taken a strong stand for truth recognized the danger of such collaboration and called for separation. Their concerns were further confirmed when Billy Graham began collaborating with leaders of all faiths, including inviting Catholics and Modernists (who denied the basic doctrines of the faith) to share the platform in his crusades. (A member of our church walked out of a planning meeting for the Los Angeles crusade when the Catholic priests were introduced.)

To those of us who received first-hand accounts of what it meant to stand for the faith against ecumenicalism and doctrinally-drifting denominationalism, we appreciate the courage of these who separated and taught us the importance of this Bible truth. We recognized that the birth of the autonomous Baptist, or independent Baptist, movement was made through courageous decisions, based on deeply-held convictions concerning the doctrine of separation.

In Amos 3:3, God poses the question to Israel, “Can two walk together, except they be agreed?” And in 2 Corinthians 6, Paul asks a series of questions with the same obvious answer:

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God...Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord...—2 Corinthians 6:14–17

So we know that ecclesiastical and personal separation from false religion and worldly living are an essential call to the Christian who desires to walk with God.

Now, we’ve come a generation or two from those who took these kinds of stands when it was so costly, and we have pastors in their 30s who have always been independent Baptists. These men have not had to pay the same price over decisions to separate. These younger leaders still hold to the fundamentals of our faith. They are our co-laborers...and there is much that my generation can learn from them.

If, however, the watchword of my generation was separation, the buzzword of younger leaders is collaboration.

Their heart for collaboration isn’t unbiblical. In fact, it is very much like the Apostle Paul who was more concerned that Christ be preached than that others recognize his leadership.

Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

—Philippians 1:15–18

Paul, who was willing to separate when need be, was also desirous to work with others who would “stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel” (Philippians 1:27).

Younger men (and I find myself applying that term to an increasingly older age) have less of the World War II,

single-leader-forge-the-way picture of leadership and a greater desire to work together with other leaders.

The bright side of this is that these men are usually less concerned with who gets the credit than they are with the desire to be a part of something larger than themselves.

The downside is that those of us who are more familiar with the top-down leadership style too easily feel uncomfortable with collaboration and can be suspicious of compromise, fearing a lack of separation.

So who's right? Both.

Who's wrong? Both can be.

There's a ditch on both sides of the road.

It is entirely possible to be so hyper-separated that you alienate fellow brothers and sisters in Christ who share your doctrinal convictions. The separatist who has no heart to collaborate is wrong, because the Bible commands us in 1 Corinthians 3:9 to be "labourers together with God." The leader who sets himself as superior to others and instructs people to follow him is fostering the carnality Paul warned against in this passage.

But just as it is possible to hyper-separate, it is entirely possible to so over-collaborate that you reach across lines of doctrine or holiness where there should be separation. The fact is that Bible-believing men can and should collaborate, but I fear there are some men today whose collaboration will lead them into alignments that belittle the preservation of Scripture, the "whosoever will" call of the gospel, and biblical worship in the church.

So what is the answer?

Both. And both in balance.

Collaboration is biblical and vital. But unchecked collaboration leads back to the compromise my mentors taught me to stay away from. Separation is vital, but separation just for the purpose of separating becomes isolation and pharisaicalism.

This is why we must manage the tension between separation and collaboration. And I would say that a big part of that is to learn from one another.

Those of us who have the spirit of a separatist and have taken a stand and avoided preaching in certain places or endorsing certain personalities, need to learn from and be reminded that there is a need for greater fellowship, prayer, and striving together with others.

The younger leader who desires greater collaboration needs to remember that there is great importance in the biblical commands regarding separation. In fact, decisions of collaboration must be made while keeping in mind the reality of the impact they will have on others. For instance, a pastor not only makes decisions for himself, but also for the influence he gives to those in the church he shepherds.

Even as separation just for the sake of separating is harmful, so collaboration just for the sake of collaborating ignores the strong Pauline admonition not to be a stumbling block. Romans 14, a chapter often used to argue the liberty we have in Christ, emphasizes that with liberty comes a responsibility to avoid causing a weaker brother to stumble.

Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way...It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.—Romans 14:13, 21

If you are a leader who enjoys greater collaboration, could I encourage you to guard against dismissing the importance of separation?

I am not exaggerating to say that the collaborative man whose emphasis is on simply getting rid of the old, tired, burdensome machinery of legalism and basking in the freedom of grace and innovation may unintentionally (or intentionally) begin to espouse, endorse, and platform ideologies that ten years ago he would have said were wrong—including differing Bible versions, Calvinism, charismatic doctrine, unholy worship, and more.

I recently was speaking with a young leader from our own state of California about this subject, and he expressed his concern over it as well. His words were that he fears that the current spirit of collaboration with some of the younger leaders could become the seeds for the next generation of new evangelicalism. (Remember, that's not my statement, but a statement

**"HOLD TO THE TRUTH AND FELLOWSHIP
WITH THOSE WHO DO. TRUTH IS NEVER
WORTH COMPROMISE. HOLD IT FAST. STUDY,
PREACH, AND LIVE SOUND DOCTRINE."**

from a thirty-something-year-old highly successful pastor who is glad to collaborate and is respectful of his father's generation.)

My challenge to you is to hold to the truth and fellowship with those who do. Truth is never worth compromise. Hold it fast. Study, preach, and live sound doctrine.

Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.—Titus 1:9

Remember that we are exhorted to “earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3). Don't over collaborate so you end up of a different doctrinal persuasion or dismissing the biblical ministry philosophy you've been taught.

Don't dismiss biblical separation. It is still a vital part of the Christian life, and we need to practice it now as much now as we ever did.

If you are a leader who defaults toward separation, could I encourage you to guard against dismissing those who need your encouragement?

Don't write others off. God often uses both Pauls and Apolloses to give the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6). Be willing to work to understand those younger than you and to rejoice in the ways they evidence another side of spiritual leadership that sometimes we are less drawn toward. My desire is to hold to a right position with a right spirit. Not every young man who is doing some things differently is a rebel.

It is possible to have collaboration without compromise. And it is possible to practice separation without pride.

May we be people who guard against the extremes of both—who collaborate with one another to contend for the faith and to lift up Jesus!

This is part one of a three-part contemporary theology series. Part 2 will include common questions and answers for pastors, and Part 3 will examine the DNA of a biblically-sound church. 📌



DR. PAUL CHAPPELL is the Founder and President of West Coast Baptist College.



UPDATE FROM NICARAGUA

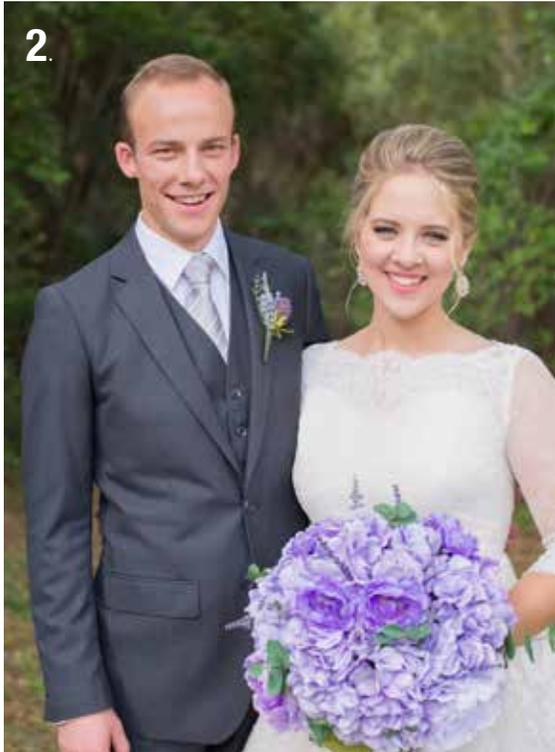
BRENT HOLLEY, 2011 GRADUATE

Thank you to all who have given and helped with the development of the new property for the Waspam church. The house is about 80% complete and is being used heavily for all aspects of the ministry. We have been holding services at the new property for the last several weeks and built four temporary Sunday School classrooms on site for now.

Over the last year, the Lord has impressed on my heart the importance of the people shifting their expectation of help from foreign funds to Him and to begin to take personal ownership for reaching others and not see it as the responsibility of the missionary or someone else. This is a spiritual change and for this we ask for your prayers.

We thank the Lord for the salvation of several souls over the last couple months. Cesar is a young man who received Christ and is now in discipleship. He has a desire to be more involved and study in the Bible Institute. Ora is a local business owner that has become a friend. She has begun to come to services and regularly expresses her thankfulness for the clear preaching and teaching of God's Word that she now gets.

Continue to pray for us as we work to reach the Miskito people of Nicaragua. 📌

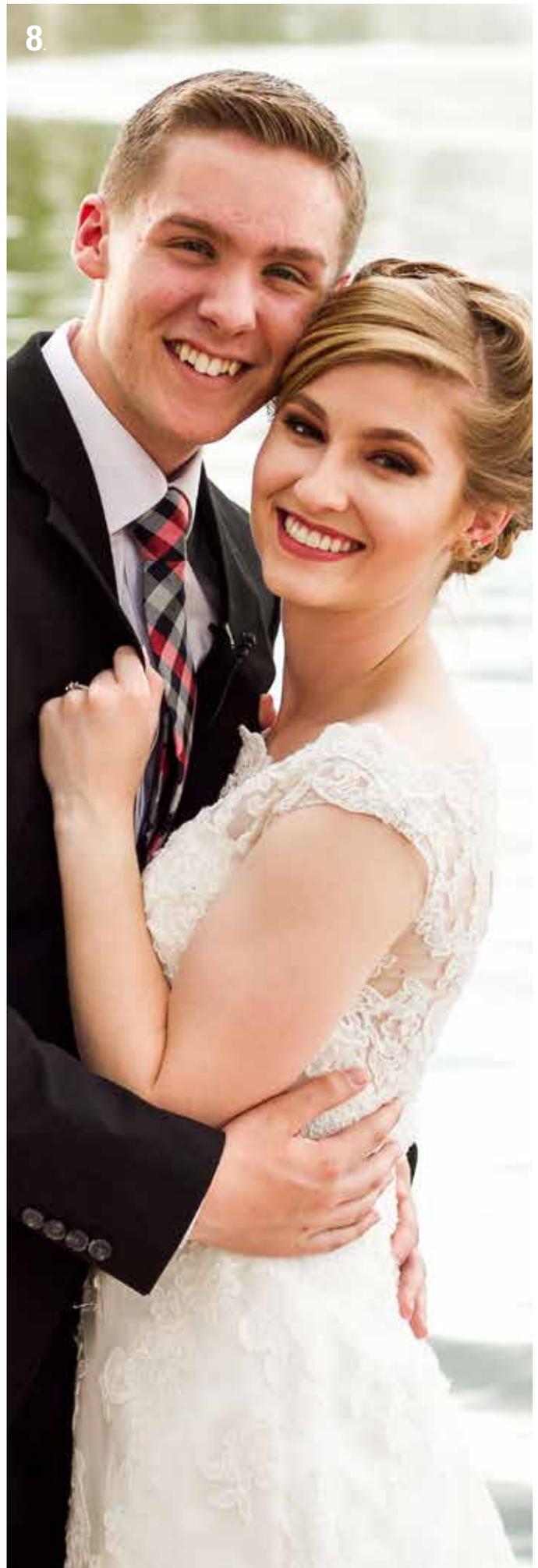


WEDDINGS

Justin Fong (2012) Jennifer Iringan (2013) July 22, 2016
 Katie Lundquist (2016) Alan Berry (2016) July 16, 2016
 Dallas Green (2017) Valerie Christman (2017) June 2, 2017
 Mark Ackling (2017) Hannah Breedlove (2016) **2**
 Daniel Booth (2017) Jessica Pyle (2017) August 19, 2017
 Chris Brown (2017) Kaitlin Maxwell (2017) May 26, 2017
 Jacob Fleming (2017) Gloria Trumble (2017) July 15, 2017
 Stephen Burton (2017) Michelle Little (2016) January 13, 2017
 Laurie Carr (2017) and Jordan Kosinski (2016) August 5, 2017 **6**
 Andrew Cashman (2017) Carissa Frisinger (2017) Sept 2017
 Michael Fernandez (2017) Ella Murphey (2017) May 20, 2017
 David Fox (2017) Kayla Thornton (2016) Jan 2017
 Kolby Hull (2017) Rachel Jeffcoat (2017) July 14, 2017
 Bethany James (2017) Joshua Furan (2017) June 9, 2017
 Leah Jamison (2017) Jonah Smith (2017) May 6, 2017
 Bethany Jones (2017) David Siers May 5, 2017 **8**
 Imaan Vicente-Roches (2017) Ha'ani Topasna (2017) July 29, 2017
 Jabez Walker (2017) Ashlynn Lee (2016) June 17, 2017
 Victoria Wass (2017) Jesse Topasna May 13, 2017
 Sarah Helwig (2009) Tyrell Dawson January 5, 2017
 Ayla Schmidt (2015) Tyler Johnson (2015) August 5, 2017
 Samantha Casequin (2016) Nathan Walsh (2016) September 2017

BIRTHS

Declan Travis to Travis and Julee (Weible) Phillips 5.28.16
 Austin Lance to Adam and Leanne (Eleccion) Pearlstein 6.20.17
 Jackson David to Austin & Lauren (Hansen) McKelroy 3.29.17 **1**
 Karlee Joy to Jake and Adri Carlisle December 2015
 Peyton Renee to Matt and Ashley (Haynes) Lee 9.9.16 **5**
 Serenity Rose to David & Jaclyn (Graves) Bower 6.12.17
 Silas Hudson to Sean and Elizabeth (Bullock) Kim 6.8.17
 Noah to Cody and Charity Frazier March 2017 (spent 82 days in NICU)
 Kinoa Lynn to Kyle & Tressa Gilstrap 7.28.17
 Caleb Anthony to Ethan & Bethany LeCroy 7.31.17
 Braxton Andrew to Andrew & Emily (Neufeld) Hays 8.2.17
 Ryder Keith Rissler to Rusty & Rachel (Snyder) Rissler 3.2.17
 Clark William to Brock & Ashley (Shea) Goetsch 8.5.17 **7**
 Pearce Mitchell to Mitchell & Alexa (Carlson) Crittenden 8.23.17 **3**
 Aidan Jack to Tim & Ashleigh (Mitchell) Winkelman 9.6.17 **4**
 Briar Rose to Justin & Danielle (Petruzzi) Barnette 5.13.17



Q+A

LUIS MONTAÑO

2003 GRADUATE

I surrendered my life to God before going to WCBC. I still had no clue what that meant nor did I know exactly what capacity I was going to serve the Lord full time. All I knew was He had my life to do with it as He saw fit. During my first year in WCBC I realized He wanted me to preach. So I surrendered to be a preacher. I knew God wanted me to focus on the Spanish-speaking world. And still I did not know what country. Toward the end of my fourth semester God placed Mexico in my heart, and I surrendered to what God had placed in my heart.

It has been said that “a faith that has not been tested cannot be trusted”. During deputation we faced our times of trial, and that was a preparation for what was to come in Hermosillo. As we got settled we started our massive door knocking endeavor for the launch of Iglesia Bautista de Hermosillo (Hermosillo Baptist Church). The goal was 10,000 flyers. My family was up for the task. Seeing that we had passed out about 7,000 invitations two weeks before launch day, I decided to pass out close to a 1,000 tracts in one day. Not knowing that I was already showing signs of dehydration from the previous days of door knocking, after four to five hours of door knocking I collapsed on the floor. I really don’t remember much. I do remember getting up but I have no recollection as to how much time I was out on the floor. I remember parts of how I got to the car and walking into the house. That is all I remember. My wife told me I came in and said “I don’t feel good” and then collapsed on the couch until



LUIS MONTAÑO is the pastor of Hermosillo Baptist Church in Hermosillo, Mexico. He and his wife, Maggie have three children.

the next day. I remembered feeling horrible for a couple of days, feeling sick to my stomach. I remember feeling desperate because we had so many invitations left and our launch day was approaching and I felt too ill to go out like I had been in the days past. After 4 days of getting back to speed I went out again but I still struggled with energy levels. I remember telling “I did all I could” I was scared we were going to

The lesson God is always reminding me in is to be faithful no matter what the outcome. The hardest things I felt was to continue even though I felt like a failure. I guess we all push for something great, but maybe great for me was 20 people saved, but even if 5 get saved that is “great” in God eyes. By nature I push, I organize, and by nature I want God to give me results

“THE LESSON GOD IS ALWAYS REMINDING ME IN IS TO BE FAITHFUL NO MATTER WHAT THE OUTCOME. THE HARDEST THINGS I FELT WAS TO CONTINUE EVEN THOUGH I FELT LIKE A FAILURE.”

have a small turnout because we did not pass out all the invitations. We ended up passing out just a little over 9,000. But God brought me to a state of weakness so that I could depend on Him more. I prayed more. Our launch date was awesome, as we saw more than 59 adults come, and over 12 saved, we knew that was the Lord’s doing.

like I imagine them. It has been a journey for me to learn that when things don’t come out like I wanted them, I can rest knowing that I did my best, and God deserves my best whether He decides to bless me with visual outcomes. I determined no matter how many come, I need to stay faithful. 🚀

WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE

STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND

How does it work?



The Student Assistance Fund allows students to complete their education and fulfill their call to full-time ministry due to the sustaining gifts given. Because West Coast Baptist College does not accept government funds, many students are unable to finish due to financial needs. Your gift will literally be God's answer to the prayers of a diligent student.

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West Coast Baptist College

Training Laborers for His Harvest

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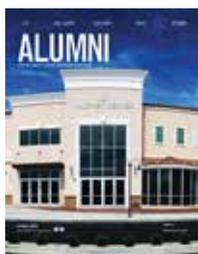
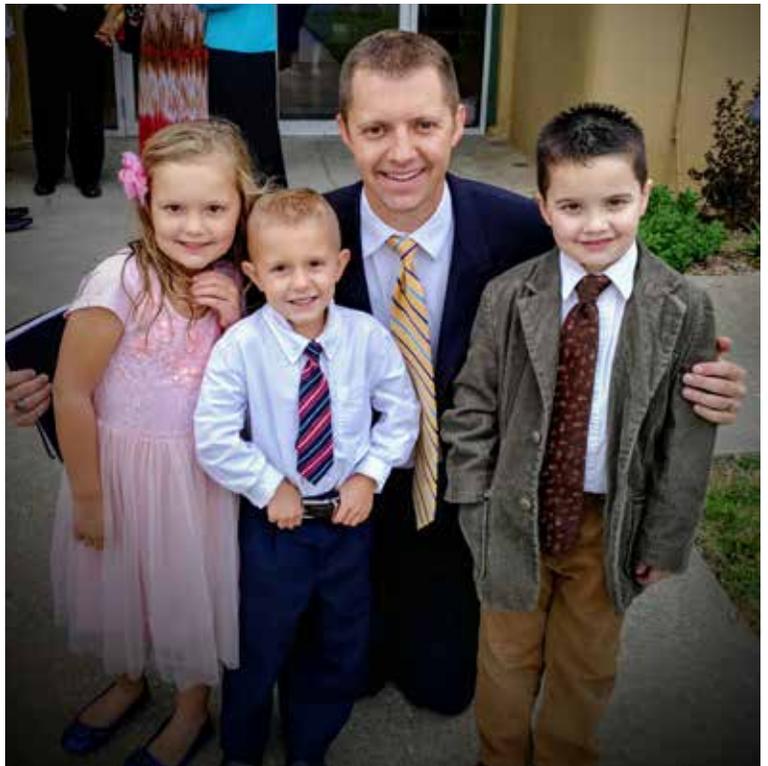
AN UPDATE FROM JUNCTION CITY BAPTIST CHURCH

ADAM LANGSTON, 2003 GRADUATE

The Lord has been blessing us at Junction City Baptist Church. Recently, we had several first-time visitors with four children getting baptized, including my second oldest son! What a privilege it is to see children come to Christ!

We thank the Lord that we had a young couple walk the aisle and accept Christ as their Saviour! Pray that these new believers will get plugged in and continue to grow.

The Lord truly blessed us with His presence and we are rejoicing in all He has done for us over the past six years. God is so good! Thanks so much for your prayers for us! 🙏



ALUMNI ISSUE 4

If you missed our last issue, visit wcbc.edu/alumni and download a copy! In it, you'll find articles on *Proper Perspective*, *Project Management*, and more.



WCBC.EDU/ALUMNI

We love to hear from you! If you have had a recent change in ministry or would like to share family news or prayer requests, feel free to contact us at alumni@wcbc.edu or at wcbc.edu/alumni.

Striving Together

Striving Together Conferences

A great opportunity to connect with other alumni

REGIONAL STRIVING Together Conferences, hosted by Dr. R.B. Ouellette and Dr. Paul Chappell, are held throughout the year for the purpose of equipping and training pastors and Christian leaders in the work of the Lord. Leadership training sessions, biblical preaching, and question-and-answer times provide a unique experience for spiritual growth and encouraging fellowship. You don't want to miss these opportunities to strive together with other like-minded men of God! You will leave having been equipped, strengthened, and refreshed for the work of the Lord.

REGISTRATION

For more information, or to register for one of these conferences, simply visit stconferences.com. Registration is free and includes session outlines and additional resources.

Register at stconferences.com or 661.946.4663 x2102



DR. PAUL CHAPPELL
LANCASTER BAPTIST CHURCH
LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA



DR. R.B. OUELLETTE
FRIST BAPTIST CHURCH
BRIDGEPORT, MICHIGAN



EMILY THOMPSON

2007 GRADUATE

During my junior year of high school in 2002, I wanted to know what my plans would be for college. I knew God wanted me to attend Bible college, but which one? A small group from my Christian school took a trip to see WCBC and one other Bible college in California. We went to the other college first and it was nice, but I knew in my heart, it wasn't the one for me. The day I walked onto the campus of WCBC was one I will never forget. You could sense God's hand was all over that place. I met so many people both staff and students that were so genuinely kind and down to earth, something this farm girl from the Midwest really appreciated. They loved Christ, they loved people and it was so evident. Before I landed back in Minnesota, I asked God if He would allow me to go and train at WCBC and every door seemed to open in that direction. So I began my college education the fall of 2003.

My husband, Daniel, and I felt early on in our marriage that God wanted us to have a part in helping the lives of foster children. Professionally, Daniel works with a lot of foster children and it



EMILY (STUEWE) THOMPSON is a member of Lancaster Baptist Church. She and her husband, Daniel have three children.

was through this that our eyes were opened to the great need of loving Christian homes for these children. "Mine eye affecteth mine heart..." has proven so true in this area. We were just starting our own family and wondered about God's perfect timing in all of it. We had a son under one and another baby on the way when we started the certification process. I can't say the process was easy but the day we got a call for that first placement for a little five year old girl was life-changing.

Since we have been married, we have been involved in various ministries at Lancaster Baptist Church. Being part of a local church Bible college really grounded me and helped me as I developed my own convictions and standards in my life. Pastor Chappell has influenced our lives by being a spiritual leader that fears God more than man. This is evidenced by his strong yet loving biblical preaching that leads to conviction and then spiritual growth. 📌

JENNIFER DAVIS

2002 GRADUATE

I was saved when I was five years old. My grandmother prepared the soil of my heart for salvation. My kindergarten teacher added water through her life and Bible lessons. She had a spirit about her that was contagious! One day, in Bible, she was talking about the "broad" road and the "narrow" road and how the narrow road lead to heaven. I kept thinking about that. I could not get it out of my mind. I was so afraid that I would not be able to "find" the narrow road. Some time later, I finally realized that I was a sinner and that Jesus had died for me.

Teaching first grade at Lancaster Baptist School is the passion of my life! I absolutely love it! My students have taught me so much about faith and compassion. It is such a blessing for me to see students, who are

now teenagers and young adults, who have a passion for the Lord and desire to serve Him with their lives. Some of my first students are now studying at West Coast.

God has taught me that He is such a loving Father. Everything I need is found in Him. He has such a wonderful plan for each part of my life and truly dreams more for me than I could ever dream for myself! My favorite verses are, "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him." (Psalm 62:5)

"And now, behold, the king walketh before you: and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons are with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day." (1 Samuel 12:2).

I will forever be grateful to Pastor Chappell and West Coast Baptist College for the eternal impact they have had on my life! Before coming here, I did not know what servant leadership was. First I heard it taught from the pulpit and then saw it lived out. Pastor Chappell and so many of my teachers reached out to me personally and made such a difference in my life. They are a daily visual to me of how Christ would have me live. They are my heroes! 📌



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As the time for Christ's return approaches, the need to take a firm stand in the Word of God worldwide grows stronger. West Coast Baptist College offers a Master's Degree in Religious Education with concentrations available in biblical studies, Christian education, or church music.

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