

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



The Tab has two missions: Come and see/Go and tell. The "Come and see" is the most obvious, but the "Go and tell" is equally important, although not as evident. My ministry is about 50 % outreach. Jimmy Smith, Barry Griffing, Gordon Strongitharm. . .all are functioning as outreach from the Tab into the world and the local community. A great many of you are involved also as you travel and witness.

But there is another outreach ministry which is perhaps the most powerful of all. It is the tape ministry. Each week Sandra Reed masters the tapes from the preceding Sunday. Her dad, Woody Thompson, then duplicates these in his own home. Susie McAlister spends two days a week overseeing the distribution. Each Thursday 10 ladies join her at the Tab office to physically prepare and mail the tapes --to all corners of the earth. While most of those in the USA are "paid subscribers," all the overseas tapes which go to missionaries and native workers are sent free of charge. Last year we mailed 20,000 tapes. This year the number will almost double.

Susie showed me the huge pile of letters she gets each week from Ghana, Nigeria, the Philippines and other troubled nations. All are writing, asking for more tapes. They are played everywhere: churches, street corners, open air meetings, homes. Over and over they are used. Susie gets more than 20 letters a week from native Christian leaders who have heard a tape and want to be on the list so they can use them in their churches.

Last year a pastor from India received some Jimmy Smith tapes. He played them at an open meeting. Thousands came to hear. Many were healed when the word of knowledge, spoken at the Tab months before, was heard in India. A Moslem from Africa stood on a street corner listening to me preach. He gave his life to Jesus, was banned from his family for renouncing Islam, and is now traveling as an evangelist. His sermons are mine and Curry's. His music is from the Tab.

When you contribute you are supporting this ministry. Only in glory will we know the full impact of these tiny cassette missionaries which go out each week to carry the Good News.

THE TRUMPET, Publication #642700 is published monthly by Tabernacle Church, 1616 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935. Second class postage paid at Melbourne, FL 32901.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tabernacle Church, 1619 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



A wonderful and unique thing has been happening Sunday night. It started the night Minnie Coleman was with us. We had sung only a couple of songs when it became obvious the Lord wanted to heal people. The altar filled; the anointing for ministry shifted from me to Minnie, to Jimmy Smith, to Barry, and back to me. It was a powerful time.

Easter Sunday night we had a foot-washing service, and the anointing for healing was even stronger. After the benediction, the musicians suddenly began playing and the people broke into spontaneous dancing, which lasted 30 minutes until, exhausted, we all staggered home.

The following Sunday, Curry led the service and called for public testimonies. That opened the door for another healing service, and Curry hardly had time to speak. The next week a similar thing happened as we took the wireless mike out in the audience and people testified, asked questions, and requested personal ministry. The body ministry was so strong there was no time for preaching.

April 20 I finally got a chance to preach on the subject of God's covering in the Word and the Holy Spirit. This time the anointing was on the preaching. Seldom have I felt as free. At the close I gave an invitation for people to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Curry came to the platform and ministered to the large group who responded. Not only did everyone receive the baptism, all received a prayer language as well. Again, the service ended with a spontaneous eruption of dancing and praise which began out in the congregation, moved to the platform with hundreds of people dancing, and lasted for another 30 minutes.

God is doing something special on Sunday night. You need to be with us.

May 3 Jackie and I will be in Tulsa. Oral Roberts University is giving me the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. While the intent of the university is to recognize my ministry, my heart will be with you that Sunday. Although I honor God and give Him the glory, it is because of this church that I will be in Tulsa. All I am springs from your ministry to me across the years. The degree means little--your love and confidence mean all.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



Here's one of those "who said it?" quotes.

"One of the things I think is important in this battle between good and bad is you gotta keep telling people what's good, because the bad folks are out there telling them what's bad."

Oral Roberts? Nope, he said "Something good is going to happen to you."

Norman Vincent Peale? Nope. He said, "There's power in positive thinking."

Bob Schuller? Wrong again. He said, "We need to follow the 'be happy attitudes.'"

Who then? None other than Donald Burr, who in four years built an airline from nothing to the ninth largest in the USA. Starting with 250 employees, his People Express now has about 4,000, and carries a million passengers a month to 39 American cities and one European capital.

Legalists and fundamentalists sneer at this "no condemnation" attitude. The reason the world is in such bad shape, they say, is because Christians aren't hard enough on sin. But such an attitude

leaves us with the impression God is out to get us.

God is not that kind of God. In fact, He sent His Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved (John 3:17).

Donald Burr is right. The world is filled with bad folks telling us what's bad. One of the things people love about the Tabernacle is the feeling of acceptance. The only time you're in for correction is when you start trying to push others. We don't have to point out what is bad about you--the Holy Spirit has already done that. Our task is to help you focus on, and do, what is good.

My dad insisted I not only learn but practice Tennyson's lines from Idylls of the King:

Live pure, speak true,
right wrong, follow the
King--

Else, wherefore born?

The Apostle Paul says it best, however. "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things" (Phil. 4:8).

THE TRUMPET, Publication #642700 is published monthly by Tabernacle Church, 1616 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935. Second class postage paid at Melbourne, FL 32901.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tabernacle Church, 1619 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



The problem with most preaching, and a lot of teaching, is the preacher/teacher winds up answering questions no one is really asking. The result is very few are really interested. They sit, bored but polite, while the rhetoric sails over their heads.

Curry and I have had several serious conversations about this. Both of us realize we are not called to preach or teach--but to communicate. Preaching and teaching is certainly part of this, just as writing and personal conversation is part of it. But we're determined to use every means available--and not get stuck in one rut.

Therefore, on July 13 we've planned a "town meeting" gathering to be held at the 9:30 a.m. hour--between the two worship services. The subject: EVERYTHING YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE TAB--BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK. (Or, never had the chance to ask.)

Curry and I will be at the front, along with all the staff members who do not have other duties at that hour, along with all the elders. Our purpose, to try to answer

any of the questions you may want to ask. In short, this is your chance to find out. If you want to write down a question ahead of time, then we'll read those and do our best to answer them. (We'll have a box at the front to receive your questions at the close of the 8:10 a.m. service, so write them out before you come. No need, of course, to sign your name.) If you want to wait until you get there and ask your question from the floor, we'll be delighted to hear it and try to provide an answer.

We'll see how well you respond, but I'm hoping we can do this on a regular schedule. We can deal with specific subjects such as divorce and remarriage, the sacraments, or even such subjects as Biblical interpretation. We have other valuable resource people in the church we will be calling on to help with the answers during those times.

So, circle July 13. It will be a special day including our groundbreaking at noon for the new teaching building. It's going to be a fun summer, and Sundays will be grand times of celebration.

THE TRUMPET, Publication #642700 is published monthly by Tabernacle Church, 1616 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935. Second class postage paid at Melbourne, FL 32901.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tabernacle Church, 1619 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



These are exciting yet critical days for the Tab Exciting because of marvelous opportunities for growth that lie ahead. Critical, for we are at a dangerous crossroads--if we take the wrong attitudinal direction we could quickly wind up in the morass of institutionalism where so many churches have disappeared. One of the ways to maintain right direction is to have the right leaders.

Four years ago I appointed our present elders. They have served us well. The original appointees were: Jim Bauman, Gene Berrey, Don Lees, Frank Kamer, Ralph Mull, Jim Maher, Woody Thompson and Roger Wilson. Frank Kamer has since left the Tab. Jim Maher is now the associate pastor of our sister church, New Covenant Fellowship in Palm Bay. Curry Vaughan, our senior pastor, was appointed to the elders when he arrived three years ago.

About a year ago the Lord began convicting me we should enlarge the present eldership in order to deal with the expanding ministry He was giving us. He did not give me a number, but I have chosen to limit the total to 12 (or

less) since a larger group is unwieldy. After a number of months of prayer and searching, I finally presented two names to the elders. They have been confirmed and in a few weeks will be ordained before the church.

Micah Savell (42) is a native of Mississippi. He and Norma first began attending the Tab in 1978. They have gone back and forth to Mississippi several times since but are now settled firmly in the community, living on south Merritt Island. Micah is in commercial real estate sales and development.

Lt.Col. Denny Tharp is Chief of the Spacecraft Division at Cape Canaveral Air Force Base Also 42, he was born in Tampa He and Suzi moved here two years ago and built a house on Willard Road between Curry Vaughan and Brooks Watson. They plan to stay after Denny retires.

Biographies of both will be published in future Trumpets. Although neither knew I was going to approach him about eldership, both confessed that in recent months God had spoken, telling each he would one day be an elder at the Tab. Therefore all we are doing is confirming what God has spoken.

THE TRUMPET, Publication #642700 is published monthly by Tabernacle Church, 1616 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935. Second class postage paid at Melbourne, FL 32901.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tabernacle Church, 1619 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



Two years ago when our home church took our annual group vacation to the mountains, we climaxed the trip with a day-long white water raft trip. This year the five couples tackled something even more ambitious. We backpacked up Mt. LeConte in Tennessee, the second highest peak in the east.

All went well till the second day when we started down. The first day we had climbed the 5.6 mile Alum Cave Trail in a driving rain, ascending 3,500 feet. After spending the night in a rustic lodge at the top, we started down Rainbow Falls Trail, a 6.7 mile hike which descends 4,500 feet into Gatlinburg. The clouds had cleared, but one mile down the trail I made a horrible discovery.

The day before Gene Berrey and I had dropped the group at the Alum Cave trailhead, then had taken Brooks Watson's car 14 miles farther to the Rainbow Falls trailhead where we would emerge the next day. We then took Gene's car back to the Alum Cave trailhead and caught up with the group. Now I remembered--I had left the keys to Brooks' car under the seat of Gene's car. There was noth-

ing to do but for Gene and me to leave the group and climb back to the top so we could descend the original trail to Gene's car.

A short way up the trail we met a young couple descending. Hearing our problem, they said they had a car in Gatlinburg. If we'd hike with them and then walk the additional three miles into town, they would take us to Gene's car. When I introduced myself to Dave and Amy Butt, they knew who I was. Spirit-baptized, he had just graduated from seminary and was taking his first church in Virginia the next Sunday. We passed our trudging group, who rejoiced as we went on ahead to get both cars. The Butts were full of questions, and Gene and I knew God put us there to help with answers.

It was a miracle that 10 mid-dleaged people could finish the tough climb without mishap. More miracle that we were able to share with this dedicated young couple eager to get started in ministry. They, in turn, blessed us by saving us a tedious walk back up the mountain carrying our heavy backpacks. God meets us not only on mountaintops but--in spite of our mistakes--in the valleys as well.

Climb on!

THE TRUMPET, Publication #642700 is published monthly by Tabernacle Church, 1616 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935. Second class postage paid at Melbourne, FL 32901.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tabernacle Church, 1619 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



My love affair with Inez Thompson goes back 22 years to when we were at Harbor City Baptist Church. Woody

worked for GE at Cape Canaveral. Both were staunch Texas Baptists (the staunchest kind). When I was fired, they opened their home for the first meetings of the new church. Woody soon became treasurer and Inez took over the books. She was also our pianist, childrens' choir director, Vacation Bible School leader, and my personal mother confessor and spiritual and practical advisor. (I later discovered she played that role with a number of others in the body.) No one ever fit the role of "mother of the church" more gracefully

Those were rough but wonderful days. The tough but loyal love shown by Inez as she often confronted me on areas of my personal weakness brought much healing. She challenged me to go ahead, to dare, to risk, to attempt the impossible. And when I returned from an early trip to Washington and told of being baptized in the Holy Spirit, even though it did not fit her Baptist tradition she not only encouraged me but testified of her own experience many years before. When

our church was dismissed from the local Baptist association, Woody and Inez were among the first to challenge us to move on--not only with the new wine but with the new wineskins of changing church structure.

When we enlarged our staff, Inez's ability to hear God in the finances of the church was evident. She became a full-time staff member, and Woody, then retired, worked with the tape duplication.

Later, as our community (and church) began to fill up with senior citizens, Inez caught God's vision and formed the JOY Group for senior saints. It has since become our largest church ministry.

In late summer I told Curry I felt we should ordain Inez as minister over the JOY Group. Curry prayed and came back saying God had told him she should be ordained as a fully recognized pastor. The elders (including Woody) and I agreed with enthusiasm. Thus, several Sunday evenings ago when the elders laid hands on Inez and ordained her as a pastor at the Tabernacle Church, it was not only precedent-setting, it was an inevitable recognition of God's call on the life of the Tab's leading lady.

THE TRUMPET, Publication #642700 is published monthly by Tabernacle Church, 1616 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935. Second class postage paid at Melbourne, FL 32901.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tabernacle Church, 1619 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



In 1780, deeply concerned that the children of England were being forced to work in the mines and factories, a British newspaper publisher, Robert Raikes, developed what he called "Sunday school" to teach children how to read and write. The first of these Sunday schools was located in the home of a Mrs. King in Gloucester. Mr. Raikes and his parish minister, Thomas Stock, were the first teachers. The weekly sessions lasted from 10 to 12 a.m. and 1 to 5:30 p.m. The curriculum was designed to teach the children to read, to worship God, and to study the catechism.

Across the years times changed. The Industrial Revolution was over. Child labor laws were passed. The federal government got involved with education. Mandatory school attendance laws were passed. The old need for Sunday school was gone.

The church, however, took over the program. Sunday school became a time when children and adults alike learned the Bible. In many respects it became the evangelistic arm of the church also.

However, as the times have

changed, so have the needs of the people. As a result, less and less are children interested in attending classes on Sunday--especially after attending classes five days a week in secular school.

These changing times and the presence of the Holy Spirit have motivated the Tab's children's leaders to seek the Lord concerning God's best method of training our children. This month's Trumpet carries the exciting announcement of the new program designed to challenge space age children to their highest capacities. This is just the first step, with more to come. So while it is time to bury the wonderful old concept of Sunday school, it is also time to welcome the birth of a new and exciting training concept for children.

Our adults, who continue to respond to the more formal method of teaching, will keep on meeting in the auditorium for the 9:30 a.m. class on Sunday morning. Presently Barry Griffing is teaching a powerful series on The Kingdom of God--Now. I will take over the class again in January for a new series. These are wonderful times to learn, expand our minds, and take on the mind of Christ in training.

THE TRUMPET, Publication #642700 is published monthly by Tabernacle Church, 1616 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935. Second class postage paid at Melbourne, FL 32901.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tabernacle Church, 1619 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

jamie buckingham



Last January 27 outstanding men and women met in Dallas with Oral Roberts to form a group known as Charismatic Bible Ministries. Roberts, who has been something of a "loner" for many years, felt it was time to open his life and ministry to other men and women of like spirit. We have since enlarged that group to include another 50 leaders, making it the most comprehensive and representative group of leaders in the world. In a day when a few powerful leaders seem bent on destroying unity for the sake of doctrine and methodology, the formation of this group is significant. Even though we do not agree on many areas of ministry, we are determined to stand together.

Out of this has come a new desire to share ourselves and our ministries with the entire body of Christ. Oral Roberts has led the way by offering the use of his City of Faith--perhaps the finest Christian hospital and medical center in the world--to the body of Christ. However, as we discussed this, one problem kept emerging. The City of Faith is in Tulsa, and those needing it are all over the nation.

Now much of that problem has been solved. This month the City of Faith entered into an arrangement with American Airlines that will allow free air travel to and from Tulsa for anyone needing the City of Faith for health care.

Full details of this new program are available in the church office. Call for information.

One of my contributions to the larger body of Christ is my new book for pre-adolescent children called: Let's Talk About Life. It is a candid discussion of growth and sex for preteens and their parents. In the light of the Surgeon General's latest report on AIDS, and his insistence that sex education be taught in all public schools, this book becomes critical for Christian parents to use with their children. In short, if you don't tell your children about sex, someone else will. The book is available through the church office. If you are ordering by mail, send \$6.95 plus \$1.00 for postage and wrapping. Make checks to the Tabernacle Church.

THE TRUMPET, Publication #642700 is published monthly by Tabernacle Church, 1616 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935. Second class postage paid at Melbourne, FL 32901.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Tabernacle Church, 1619 Ferndale Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935.