

the Ambassador

Spring 2015

Five Ethical Mistakes of Preachers

An unethical preacher is a great liability to the work of God. His actions often distract people from the powerful message he is supposed to proclaim. The Apostle Paul put a great premium on ethical behavior in the ministry in passages such as 2 Corinthians 4:1–2 and 6:3–4. If any of these following items are true in your ministry, they are weakening your ability to minister, whether you realize it or not.

Have you hired a staff member from another church or ministry without speaking to their pastor or ministry leader in advance? If so, you have more than likely engaged in unethical behavior. Even in the business world, it is respectable and honorable for a potential employer to contact a prospect's current employer before hiring. I fear that the world has higher ethical standards than some preachers. The same can be said about receiving members into your church without contacting their previous pastor. Don't let the desire for a larger congregation curb your desire to be ethical and right with men and God.

Have you ever been unclear about the purpose of an offering in your church? Don't say that the offering is going in its entirety

to the guest evangelist or missionary if it isn't. If the offering is going to help cover the expenses of the meeting also, be sure to say so. If you want the entire offering to go to your guest preachers, then allow space in the budget of the church to cover the expenses of the meeting. While there are hucksters in every profession (including the ministry), I believe that this mistake is made mostly because of a lack of planning and forethought.

Have you ever passed along a piece of speculation about another ministry or preacher that was not a verifiable fact as if it were indeed true? If you want to hurt the brethren, just disseminate information that is not true or that is true but unnecessary for everyone to know. Preachers are often privy to the most sensitive information. Keep your confidences and don't help the devil do his work by spreading things that are unsubstantiated or untrue.

Are you handling the Word of God in a less-than-honest fashion? While all preachers should beware of this, those who are constantly preaching "hobby horse" sermons should especially

continued...



*A Word from the President
by Dr. Alton Beal*

New format! Details inside...

ENCOURAGE

Landmark Conference | July 13-15
But David encouraged himself in the Lord his God—1 Samuel 30:6 ambassadors.edu/landmark

beware. If you are not careful, you will begin to see Scripture through the lens of your favorite issue rather than seeing your issue through the lens of Scripture. Be sure that your messages are true to the context and the grammatical and historical interpretation of the passage.

Have you been lazy and undisciplined about the time you devote to the work of the ministry? The schedule of the preacher is unlike any other schedule I have ever seen. There is no punch clock, and the hours are indeed irregular! Sad to say, some laymen in our churches are working 40–60 hours a week while some preachers are getting their sermons on Saturday nights from the internet and thus neglecting the sheep. If a considerable part

of your time is spent on blogs and social media, you are robbing your people and ultimately God. Don't let it be said that those in the business world are more conscious of their time than those who are in the ministry. The minister of God ought to be more conscious and conscientious of time than anyone else because he remembers that time on this earth is limited.

As preachers of the Gospel, may we conduct ourselves in a way that “the ministry be not blamed” and that the “hidden things of dishonesty” are renounced. If I am going to be a preacher with God's power and blessing, then I must be an ethical preacher. By God's grace, Ambassador Baptist College will be a part of producing ethical preachers in an unethical day.

GAPS Are Made To Be Filled!

January 20th was the conclusion to an amazing miracle at Ambassador Baptist College. On that particular Tuesday, the Lord enabled the college to pay off its mortgage. For years, the administration, faculty, and staff members have prayed for this to happen.

During the summer of 2014, the college was notified of an estate gift that would enable us to pay \$500,000 toward the existing \$933,000 mortgage. This gift was left by a dear saint who attended a service in Florida where Dr. Beal and the college ensemble were ministering several years ago. Having been blessed by the ministry of the students, she indicated that she wanted to invest in training men and women for the ministry.

After receiving word of this gift, the administration strongly felt that God was beginning to answer the prayer about the college mortgage. A few weeks later, a friend of the college contacted the school and indicated that a small group of people were interested in helping the college eliminate its indebtedness. If Ambassador could raise \$183,000 by December 31st, then this group would pay the remaining \$250,000 of the mortgage. This was another totally unexpected blessing! Out of these blessings the GAP Campaign was developed, which stands for *God's Abundant Provision*.

With the help of many local churches, alumni, and friends of the college, the goal of \$183,000 was raised by the end of December. God filled the GAP and did a miracle!

Many people have asked about the significance of paying off the mortgage. It helps us in several ways. The most obvious benefit is that it eliminates a significant monthly payment and future interest that would have accrued. The college will now be able to invest more in the students and provide the quality programs needed for training them for the ministry. Being debt-free also enables us to place more emphasis on student scholarships and keeping tuition and room and board rates at a reasonable cost.

God's provision for the GAP Campaign is a vivid reminder of the importance of training men and women for full-time Christian service. While paying off a mortgage of close to \$1 million is a miracle, the greater miracle is seeing our students being transformed by the Word of God on a regular basis and being prepared for the ministry! To God be the glory for what He has done!

DR. RON COMFORT'S ITINERARY

Dates	Church	Location
May 3–6	Faith Bible Church	Mount Joy, PA
May 10–14	Grace Baptist Church	Louisburg, NC
May 17–21	Bible Baptist Church	Creedmoor, NC
May 24–28	Calvary Baptist Church	New Bern, NC
Jun 21–24	Ohana Baptist Church	Honolulu, HI
Jun 28–3	Calvary Baptist Church	Melbourne, Australia
July 5–10	Faith Baptist Church	Sydney, Australia
July 26–29	Grace Baptist Church	Ozark, AL
July 30–Aug 2	Perry Hill Road Baptist Church	Montgomery, AL
Sep 6–9	Grace Baptist Church	Waynesboro, PA

Visit www.ambassadors.edu/ChancellorDesk/ for updates.

DR. ALTON BEAL'S ITINERARY

Dates	Church	Location
Apr 26 am	Shining Light Baptist Church	Monroe, NC
Apr 26 pm	East Side Baptist Church	Asheboro, NC
May 10–15	Maranatha Baptist Church	Ripley, TN
May 17	Immanuel Baptist Church	Edenton, NC
May 31–Jun 1	Kendall Park Baptist Church	Kendall Park, NJ
June 6	New Hope Baptist Church	Roanoke, VA
June 8–13	Camp Joy	Whitewater, WI
June 21–26	Bill Rice Ranch	Murfreesboro, TN
June 28–July 1	Capitol Baptist Church	Dover, DE
July 11–12	East Side Baptist Church	Memphis, TN

Visit www.ambassadors.edu/PresidentCorner/ for updates.

AMBASSADOR
BAPTIST COLLEGE
GRADUATION OFFERING 2015

"my son in the faith . . ."

I TIMOTHY 1:2

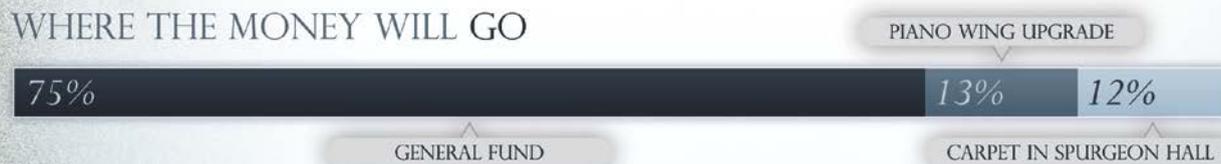
OUR GOAL

The goal for the 2015 GO is **\$100,000** by July 31st. **\$75,000** will go toward the general fund to help us fight the rising costs of education without raising the tuition for our students. The remaining **\$25,000** will be used to put new carpet in the classrooms in Spurgeon Hall and new keyboards for our music students in the piano practice wing.

HOW TO GIVE

- Give online at www.ambassadors.edu/gradoffering/
- Mail check to ABC (memo "Graduation Offering")
- Call the Business Office

WHERE THE MONEY WILL GO



Ambassador Baptist College, PO Box 158, Lattimore, NC 28089 • 704-434-0303 • www.ambassadors.edu/gradoffering/



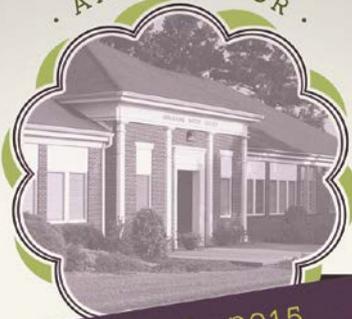
Prayer

- Future ministry opportunities for the Class of 2015
- Graduation Offering goal of \$100,000 by July 31st
- Enrollment for the fall 2015 semester
- Safety and fruitful ministry for the summer tour groups

Praises

- GAP Offering successful and mortgage paid in full
- A good number of new students this spring semester
- Fruitful reports from alumni around the world
- Folks saved through the witness of our current students

· AMBASSADOR ·



MAY 4-5 · 2015

ALUMNI DAYS

— HONORING THE CLASSES OF: —

- 1990 •
- 1995 •
- 2000 •
- 2005 •
- 2010 •

ALL ALUMNI ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND, REGARDLESS OF THEIR GRADUATION YEAR.

Church Administration Master of Ministries Module

www.ambassadors.edu/MastersModule/

This course is designed primarily for local church pastors and assistant pastors, with emphases on local church music, missions, finances, and Christian school and youth ministries.

Dates: June 1-5, 2015

Instructor: Dr. Roger Baker

Cost:

- \$800 for Credit (4 hours of Masters-level credit)
- Special tuition discount for pastors of churches that support ABC monthly: \$200 for Credit
- \$200 for Audit (any interested student may audit the course.)

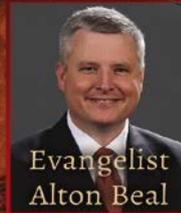
To receive credit, the following criteria must be met:

- ABC graduates may enroll in the program if they have more than two years of ministry experience.
- Non-ABC graduates may enroll if they have more than ten years of ministry experience, have a bachelor's degree, and are in agreement with Ambassador's philosophy and doctrinal statement.

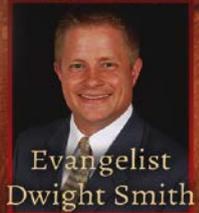
If you would like more information about the Master of Ministries program, please email info@ambassadors.edu. For specific questions about enrollment, please contact our Academic Dean, Mr. Matthew Hanke, at mhanke@ambassadors.edu. For information about on-campus housing, call 704-434-0303 or email info@ambassadors.edu.



Royal
PRIESTHOOD



Evangelist
Alton Beal



Evangelist
Dwight Smith

\$165

CAMP
BARNABAS

SUMMER MINISTRY CAMP

JULY 13-17, 2015

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.AMBASSADORS.EDU/CAMPBARNABAS/

Meet Staff Evangelist

Jeremiah Clark



Saved at the age of sixteen at a Christian camp, Jeremiah Clark experienced the transforming power of God during his teenage years. Two years later, he surrendered to serve the Lord in full-time Christian service and enrolled at Ambassador Baptist College. He graduated in 2004 and while serving on staff, he had the opportunity to travel and preach with several ministry teams from the college.

As a result of traveling with Neighborhood Bible Time and serving a summer at a Christian camp, God gave Jeremiah a growing burden for teenagers. This burden led him away from Ambassador in 2007 to serve as a youth pastor at a local church in central Indiana. During his time in youth ministry, God blessed him with an effective ministry resulting in the salvation of teenagers and seeing several surrender for full-time Christian service. In the summer of 2014, Jeremiah, his wife Janelle, and their three daughters launched out into evangelism to see souls saved and saints revived.

Brother Clark travels as a staff evangelist for ABC several weeks out of the year. He is available to preach in Christian school chapels, summer camps, youth rallies, and local churches. If you are interested in having him preach and present the ministry of ABC to your teens or church, you may contact him at jlark@ambassadors.edu or 704-477-9696.



Pastor
Mike Edwards



Dr. Ron Comfort

All-new format | July 13-15

Special emphasis tracks:

- Pastoral
- Music Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Ladies
- Baptist History

Registration required; to register, visit

www.ambassadors.edu/landmark

Landmark Conference

But David encouraged himself in the Lord his God—1 Samuel 30:6

ENCOURAGE

TEENS IN ACTION FOR CHRIST



EVANGELIST RICHARD HARPER

NOVEMBER 14,
2015

EMPIRE AT WAR



This summer, two groups will be touring the country, providing evenings of special music and preaching.

MEN'S QUARTET

Caleb Cajiuat
Seth Greenlee
Ethan Slepitis
Nathan Townsend
Nathan Shrock

LADIES' TRIO

Paige Scott
Heidi Haasz
Cheyenne Yates
Katie Stephens

Check the website to see if they'll be in a church near you!
ambassadors.edu/TravelGroups





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Lattimore, NC 28089

704-434-0303

www.ambassadors.edu

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Landmark Conference

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TAC Conference