

PROMOTER

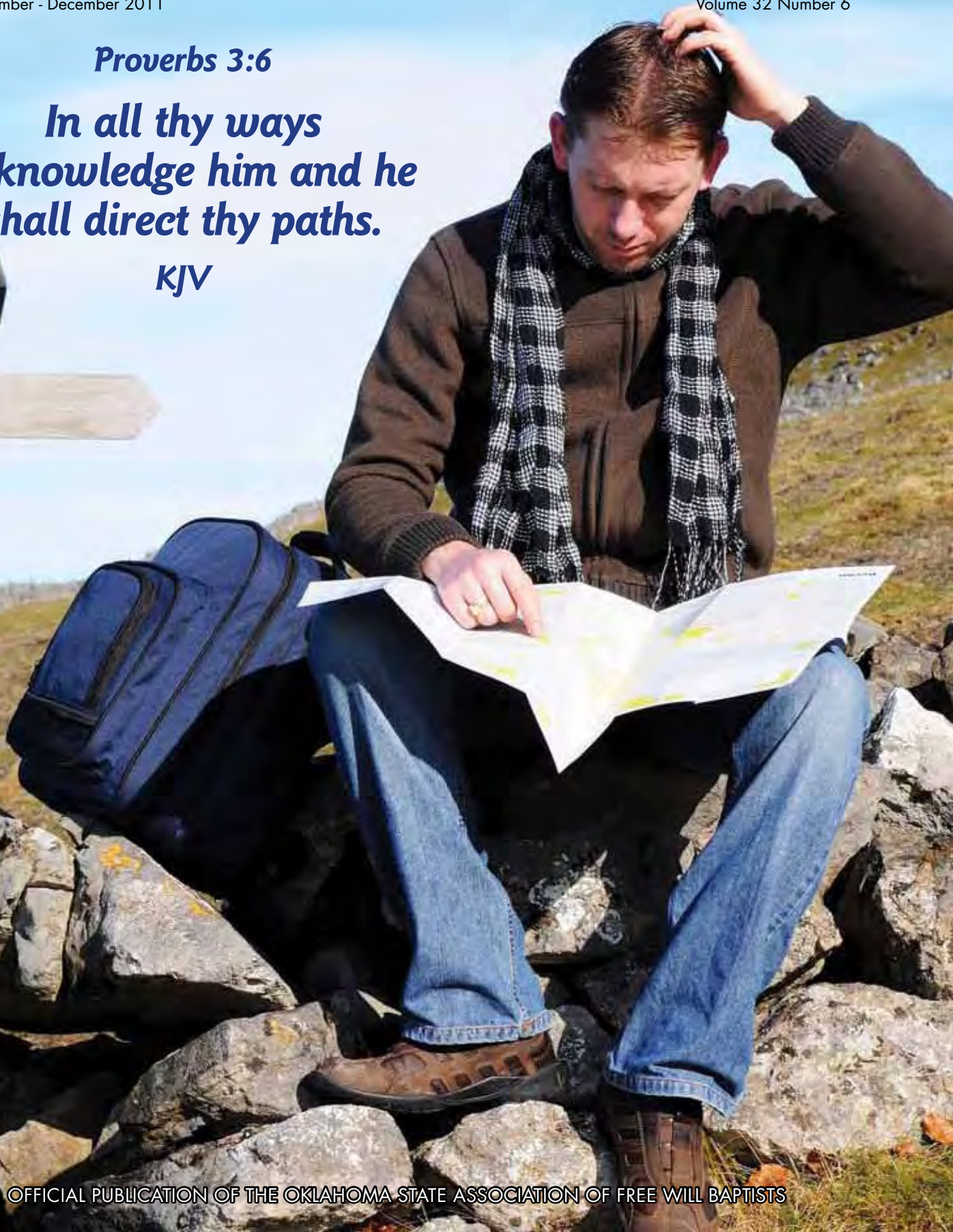
November - December 2011

Volume 32 Number 6

Proverbs 3:6

*In all thy ways
acknowledge him and he
shall direct thy paths.*

KJV



PIEDMONT CHURCH PLANTER ZACK ARCHER RESIGNS



After three years, Church Planter Zack Archer made the difficult decision to resign as church planter and the Epic FWB mission will cease to exist at this time. Zack and his team placed a strong emphasis on community involvement and being the church in Piedmont. No doubt, the community will miss the presence of the church. We are thankful for Zack, his family,

the team and the partnership with the First Oklahoma District Mission Board and many churches and individuals who supported the Piedmont mission through TSP and designated gifts. During the short life of the mission, three people were saved and the ministry of the Piedmont mission and Zack and his team impacted a host of other lives. For this, we- and others- will be eternally grateful for the work and influence of the Piedmont mission. At this time no decision has been made as to a future plant in Piedmont. ❧

ONE FWB CHURCH TO GO SELF-SUPPORTING



After only two years of state mission funding the One FWB Church in Moore will go self-supporting in January, 2012. We are delighted at the progress and stability of this new work and commend the team and Pastor Scott Berglan for a job well done. One Church began in January, 2010 with co-pastors Berglan and Phil Scowden. They met for the first year at Hillsdale then moved into their current facility located in the New City

Shopping Center in Moore. Scowden later resigned as co-pastor and began working to plant another church in Norman. Berglan became the lead pastor in mid 2011 and has led the church to this next phase in their existence. Since it's birth the church has seen steady growth and has seen many salvations. ❧



ELEVATE FWB CHURCH LAUNCHES WITH 288 IN ATTENDANCE



Pastor Steven Earp and a core from the former Grace FWB Church, Oklahoma City, and a slew of new people have been working for months to launch a new work and turn the former Grace facility over to their Hispanic daughter church they have had for several years. On Sunday, September 18th the new church named Elevate launched, meeting at Hillsdale's Barber Center with 288 in attendance. The excitement level was high and there were over 100 new prospects plus the already committed launch team. The most exciting news about the launch was the half dozen commitments that were made to Christ! We congratulate Pastor Earp and the team at Elevate. ❧



Free Will Baptist International Mission Board Selects Clint Morgan as General Director



Antioch, TN—On Tuesday evening, September 27, 2011, the Board of Free Will Baptist International Missions, during a called session in Nashville, Tennessee, voted to employ Clint Morgan as general director. Morgan has served as interim general director since February 10, 2011. “The board is thoroughly encouraged by the selection of Brother Clint,” declared Board Chairman Danny Williams as he announced the board’s decision to the office staff. “We are convinced

his stellar performance as interim director and his ability to think strategically eminently qualify him to lead this organization.” “I’m humbled by the board’s confidence in me and excited at this new opportunity to impact the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ,” Clint disclosed. “I have totally enjoyed these months getting to know and work with the office staff. I trust my tenure as general director will strengthen and encourage our Mission family scattered around the world. Please pray for me,” Morgan requested, “that I will lead with spiritual wisdom, strategic acuity, and consistent excellence.” ❧

OK FWB MISSIONS INCOME TRENDS FOR DESIGNATED GIVING AND TSP FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS...

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
\$633,739	\$646,584	\$748,963	\$699,183	\$633,616	Currently running even to 2010



Hillsdale
Jeff Sloan
 Christian Ministry
 Department Leader

I was sitting in Chapel and listening to three of our ministry students sharing about their summer internship experiences. Two of the students served in Oklahoma churches and the other had served out of state. Each of them spoke of the lessons learned and of what they were now doing with that experience. I'm proud to report that each of them is at work in a local church ministering to others and continuing to learn. In fact, before this Chapel emphasis is finished, there will have been nine students sharing similar experiences.

I am thankful for the churches and pastors that are willing to invest into our Christian Ministry students. They are a large part of our training for practical ministry. I appreciate the phone calls and emails requesting our students and providing them opportunities. The experiences provided are essential and invaluable!

The number of students enrolled in Hillsdale's CMIN program has grown to nearly seventy. They are studying in seven different areas: Missions, Educational Ministry, Theology, Worship and Music Studies, Youth Ministry, Pastoral Ministry, and Ministry and Business. The growth in enrollment for ministry students is due to a few factors; 1) a strong emphasis on Christian character development through a focused discipleship effort that has led to a high student retention rate, 2) current students benefitting from faculty mentoring which is leading to students recruiting other students, 3) referrals from pastors and youth pastors who believe in the ministry training Hillsdale is providing, 4) scholarship monies that are available from our Administrative team for the purpose of faculty recruitment of prospective students, 5) a diverse and highly qualified faculty with substantial ministry experience, and 6) valuable internship opportunities for upper classmen.

At Hillsdale we are excited about the continued growth of our ministry training program. Online class offerings are growing every semester, continued involvement in family ministry training conferences like RHP's D6 Conference, our new Worship and Music Studies degree, and the development of Christian Ministry Certificates for Pastoral and Educational Ministries are just a few. We believe that the keys to the ministry program's future growth are practicality, accessibility, quality, and affordability.

If you would like information on Hillsdale's ministry program, you can contact Jeff Sloan at jsloan@hc.edu or 405.912.9009. ☒

Hillsdale and D6

Relationship with Randall House
 Publications for Ministry Training



The D6 Model for Family Ministry has become an international movement. A quick survey of Christian Publishers will validate that statement. At the recent D6 Conference in Frisco, Texas, sponsored by RHP, there were well over 2000 in attendance. The speakers were excellent and the activities connected to the conference were amazing. And, the involvement of Hillsdale students was impactful.

Each year RHP has allowed Hillsdale ministry students to play an active role in the conference. From hosting rooms and introducing the speakers of the preconvention labs to passing out literature Hillsdale students have assisted. In fact, Hillsdale student's opportunities to serve continued to expand at this year's conference. Service at D6 provides valuable experiences and networking opportunities for our students and faculty.

The importance of exposing students to the principles of effective family ministry and the quality of the speakers validate the role of the D6 Conference in Hillsdale's ministry training. This year 19 students attended the conference and we are still hearing positive comments from Free Will Baptists all over the country about our students. The concepts learned at the conference are then discussed in ministry classes and strategies developed for implementation into local church ministry. The D6 Conference has become one of the highlights of the school year for our ministry students.

2 Ministry Students Serving in the Ukraine

Ashley Carter and Max Graves, both seniors with youth ministry interest, are serving a five month internship under Pastor Alexander Moseychuk at the Christian Family Center in Donetsk'. Their responsibilities include small group ministry, sports ministry, teaching conversational English at public schools, relief ministries, and involvement in teaching and preaching during local church worship services. Hillsdale began the relationship with Moseychuk and the Christian Family Center three summers ago when a group of Hillsdale students led a two week basketball camp and VBS for the center.

While overseas, Carter and Graves are continuing their education through our online offerings. Each is enrolled as a full-time student and interacts with faculty and their classmates through email, discussion posts, and video chats. Technology has expanded the possibilities for varieties of educational experiences. Max and Ashley's internships have opened new frontiers for ministry and cross-cultural training at Hillsdale. ☒

TESTIMONIES FROM THIS YEAR'S D6 CONFERENCE



My wife and I were so thankful for the D6 scholarships. As parents to five young ones, D6 reminded us

how critical it is for us to find ways to disciple our children daily. Whether they go on to live for self, or for Christ, will be mostly determined by how seriously we as parents accepted the call of Deuteronomy 6. We only get one chance to shape their hearts and worldview with a Kingdom focus, what we learned at D6 will certainly help us to do that. We are eternally grateful to the leadership with in Oklahoma FWB who made those scholarships possible.

Jason & Roxanna Myers
Felker FWB Church
Valliant, OK

D6 was a huge blessing in so many ways. The worship time, the Skit Guys, the concerts, the sessions.. it was all awesome! My goal was to rededicate and rejuvenate myself. I knew that in effort to be a better parent, wife, daughter and just a person change had to occur within as well as outwards. My biggest hurdle is with my daughter. I needed tools to equip me to better "control" her and better "mother" her. I can pray daily that God guides me but if my whole world isn't in sync, nothing will go right where it needs to. Since I have come back, our family has been doing our nightly devotions that our son Gabe reads out of his pictorial Bible in paragraph form. He is loving it and so is our daughter. They take turns with the nightly prayer. Before, we would do individual prayer time with the kids when we put them to bed. Now we are doing a family unit prayer time and then we put them to bed individually. This makes me feel a confidence that they are starting out their young lives in school on a positive note. We have restructured some other things as well. How we talk to each other (the kids) and what's respectable. Previously they knew what was acceptable and not, but consistency is the key more so now than ever. All that being said, so ever thankful D6, and lookin forward to next year!! God bless!

Marissa Davis



We feel the D6 conference is one of the best things FWB offers. The conference truly has a passion to see that each successive generation of every family lives more fully for God and provides great direction on how to make that passion a reality. The challenge to focus on the next generation was both refreshing and encouraging. We felt an even greater burden to be more intentional with our family time and create traditions that will allow the faith of our family to grow. Jen and I

spent time discussing ways we can spend even more time as a family and how create a home where Jesus is at the center of everything we do. The D6 conference reemphasized our belief that the family is one of God's greatest ways to spread the Gospel. We were challenged to make sure our home is a place that every guest knows Jesus is the most important person in our lives. From every friend from school to every neighbor that stops by, an opportunity is created to share the love of

Deuteronomy 6:7 tells us three things: Love God, treasure His Word, and teach this to the next generation. The vision of the D6 Conference is to champion a movement of parents who disciple their own kids and teens in partnership with their local church. The D6 Conference is dedicated to helping churches, leaders, parents, and volunteers to develop a generational discipleship model based on Deuteronomy 6. The State CE Board provided scholarships for 20 Oklahoma Free Will Baptists to attend this year's D6 Conference. The following paragraphs are testimonies from those who attended:

2012 DATES:

March 26-28 - Senior Adult Retreat at Western Hills Guest Lodge (Guest Speaker: Melvin Moon)

May 5 - State Competition at Hillsdale FWB College

June 10-15 - Kids' Camp at KBA

June 17-22 - ENCOUNTER Camp at KBA

June 24-29 - ENCOUNTER Camp at Alva

September 26-28 - D6 Conference in Frisco, TX

Jesus. We want to make sure we take advantage of that opportunity!

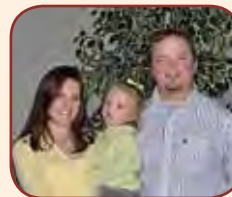
Kevin Harper
Calvary FWB Church
Norman, OK



A big thanks to the Oklahoma Free Will Baptist Christian Education Board! I truly appreciate being able to attend this year's D6 conference. I attended two years ago with my husband, learning from the perspec-

tive of a young wife with no children. Since then, my husband and I have been led into foster parenting. Thanks to the CE Board, I was able to attend this year and learn from the speakers, not necessarily as a church leader, but as a new mom in desperate need of refreshing and guidance in godly parenting. Every speaker challenged not only my personal walk, involvement in the church, and dedication to God's calling on my life, but especially my role in showing each child that comes into our home how to love the Lord. My hope is that more church leaders and lay workers, especially parents, will be able to attend future D6 Conferences. God is using this conference to inspire parents to take ownership in the spiritual formation of their children and grandchildren.

Jennifer Altom
Ada First FWB Church
Ada, OK



Randall house and D6 knocked it out of the park again. They have hit all areas of the family ministry and they continue to bring speakers that work for all different types of ministries. D6 is a refreshing 2 days that gives us a lifetime of ministry help. Thanks

Zack Archer

Compassion is Hereditary...

You may have heard me tell the story of how Nate broke his arm just before he played his first soccer game eight years ago at the age of 4. He was completely dejected that he would not get to play that Saturday. I assured him though, that if I had to hold his hand throughout the entire game he would get to play. I was delayed out of town that day though and the game started without me. I worried all the way to the field that I was letting my little boy down and he was not going to get to play. When I arrived, my fears were erased. I looked out on the field and he was playing... with his coach running up and down the field with him holding his hand! It was then that I understood best Jesus' words, "In as much as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me." There was nothing that lady could have done for me that day that would have touched me any more than the compassion she extended my son.

Recently, I was touched again in a very similar way. I was not able to make my little guys' (Hannah's and Emma's) games as I was out of town with Nate. This was the first time I had missed their games and I was

trusting Kim for play by play commentary via text. A little after Hannah's game started, I received a text that she was going in as Goalie! The coach set aside any preconceived ideas that most would have (including Dad. I was reluctant to allow her to play to begin with) that a 3 foot 35 pound legless 7 year old little girl could not play goalie and placed Hannah in the most intense position on the soccer field. From all reports, Hannah, along with the help of some strong defensive play from her teammates, proved herself worthy of her coach's trust.

Once again I have witnessed the intent of Christ's words in Matthew 25:40. Oh, did I mention, Hannah's coach is the teenage daughter of Nate's former coach that held his hand. *Compassion is hereditary!* ☒



John Hewett

Director
Arms of Compassion
A ministry of Oklahoma
Free Will Baptists



Waldo and JoAnn Young have faithfully served the Lord and our Free Will Baptist denomination for many years. They will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on November 9, 2011. On Sunday, November 6th, they will be honored at the Southern Oaks Free Will Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. Brother Waldo will be preaching in the morning worship service at 10:50am and the Young Family will provide the special music. Lunch will be served at 12:15 followed by more gospel singing at 1:30pm. A reception will follow at 2:00pm. ☒

Congratulations to Community FWB Church and Pastor John Henry Lippard as they continue construction on their new Family Life Center. Ground breaking was June 26, 2011.



Resource Manual for Church Events Released

“It’s over”. That’s what many pastors say regarding local church events known as revivals, evangelistic efforts, or Bible conferences. Pastors have lost their confidence and do not think these things will work anymore. Are they right?

Ken Hemphill pastor, past college president, denominational leader and prolific writer writes in *Before Revival Begins*: “As you consider this book, you may first be pondering this question: Is the revival meeting a help or hindrance to church growth? Is it a relic of past methodology or a God-given tool vital to the future of the church? Some of the materials written on church growth appear to give the impression that special meetings are archaic trappings of the past and can easily be discarded by the church of the twenty-first century. Before we cast aside the revival meeting or special evangelist meeting, I urge you to take a more balanced look.”

Interestingly enough those same preachers who say it’s over are excited about events hosted by others ministries or churches. Is there something duplicitous about this very common model?

However, it should be acknowledged that real challenges and frustrations drive the “it’s over” mind set. Pastors and parishioners are busy and successful events require extra money and time. Nevertheless, everyone makes time in their schedule for activities they deem important or beneficial. We may need to ask ourselves is a church revival as beneficial as a ball game, a trip to a restaurant, or attendance to the theatre or a concert? Has it become too convenient to duck the whole issue just by saying, “Those things don’t work anymore”?

While we decry these modes of outreach as antiquated, souls in our churches may be craving an encounter with God. We may desperately need a multi-day event dedicated to a genuine moving of the Holy Spirit. The cry of the soul for real revival cannot be ignored.

I want to encourage people to not say it’s over, but to understand that God may indeed want to have a new beginning in the ministry of the church. It just may be starting.

Encounter God Through Great Events In Your Local Church gives biblically based, logical tools that can

motivate the entire congregations create a platform for effective special events.

Jack Williams, who did the editorial work on the manual says: “Free Will Baptist evangelist Bob Thomas has written and published 72 page event-planning document designed for pastors, church workers, conference coordinators, and others who schedule single-day or multi-day gatherings. *Encounter God Through Great Events in Your Local Church* contains seven chapters of practical event-planning advice and suggestions, plus 20 pages of forms and time line guides.

Thomas has teamed with long-time Free Will Baptist meeting professional Dean Jones in an effort to provide solid advice on how to build an event-planning team, give local churches a hands-on planning document, and understand the spiritual lessons in planning well. The easy-to-understand book provides the missing pieces to analyze and evaluate large and small events”. ❧



Reverend Thomas leads Bob Thomas Ministries headquartered in Noble, Oklahoma, an evangelistic outreach launched in 1999. A well known vocalist and conference speaker, he graduated from California Christian College (1976) with a B.S. degree in Theology and completed a master’s degree at Moody Bible Institute in 2004.

Copies of ***Great events in Your Local Church*** can be ordered directly from Bob Thomas.

Contact him via email at:
btminc@hughes.net

or call him at:

405-872-1464

Visit his website at:

www.preacherbob.com

FINDING GOD'S WILL

Every year, I talk with several individuals who are dealing with the timeless struggle of how to determine God's Will in specific matters. Many have gone to extremes to come up with ways to discern God's will. I remember reading a story of a young believer who was very fond of two different young ladies. One was named Mary and the other Susan. While determining which girl to spend the rest of his life with, he went to Europe on business. Passing by a huge and very old cathedral, he went inside to pray about his dilemma. He knelt at one of the pews and began to pray. When he opened his eyes the sun was shining through one of the enormous stained-glass windows of the cathedral. At the bottom of the beautiful window were the words AVE MARIA. In an instant he had his answer. He thought God had answered his prayer. 'AVE MARIA' was so very close to 'HAVE MARY' that he decided it could not be coincidence. The trouble with his conclusion is that Mary was not a believer in Christ whereas Susan was a devoted follower of Christ. If the young man had been truly concerned with discerning God's will in this manner, a much better approach would have been to consider the teaching of 2 Corinthians 6:14 that the believer is not to be unequally yoked together with an unbeliever. It is sad that so many today spend so much time trying to 'find' God's will rather than trying to simply 'do' God's will.

Whenever I was younger I spent hours struggling with many questions such as, "God, what do you want of me?", "Am I where you want me to be?", What is your will for me in the

days ahead?". I constantly seemed afraid that I might somehow not be doing what He intended for me to do. I was very sincere in wanting to be sure that my days were being spent according to His plan.

One day while reading in Proverbs, I came across some verses that I had memorized as a youngster. The verses were Proverbs 3:5-6. *Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.* As I read those words on that day, I realized that this promise about direction for our lives involves three parts. The first is that we are to trust God completely. The second is that we are to obey God fully. The third part is not something that we can do but something that God himself does. It is He that gives direction to our paths. I believe that is true daily, weekly, monthly and yearly. I was spending way too much time worrying about whether God was doing His part and far too little time concentrating on what this passage tells me to do. As I walk in trust and obedience, I can proceed with confidence that God is directing my path for He always keeps his word.

If you wish to walk with confidence that you are in God's will, let me encourage you to trust God completely and obey Him fully. As you do your part rest assured He is doing His. ✠



Bro. Mike

*Written by Mike Wade,
Executive Director for
Oklahoma Free Will Baptists*



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 5-6, 2011 – Leadership Conference, Nashville, TN

March 5-7, 2012 - State Minister's Retreat – Wagoner, OK
(Guest Speakers: H.B. London and Will Harmon)

March 26-28, 2012 – Senior Adult Retreat – Wagoner, OK
(Guest Speaker: Melvin Moon)

May 5, 2012 – State CTS Competition – Hillsdale FWB College

June 10-15, 2012 – Kid's Camp – KBA, Talihina, OK

June 17-22, 2012 – ENCOUNTER Camp – KBA, Talihina, OK

June 24-29, 2012 – ENCOUNTER Camp – Alva, OK

July 15-18, 2012 – National Association Meeting, Memphis, TN

September 26-28, 2012 – D6 Conference in Frisco, TX

October 15-17, 2012 – State Association Meeting – Hillsdale FWB College