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85-143

**Ziglar Urges Students
To Become Soul Winners**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Zig Ziglar brought his famed salesmanship to Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville recently to encourage students and faculty to greater involvement in evangelism.

Ziglar, a Dallas businessman, popular motivational speaker and former first vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention, spoke on "Making Bold Mission Thrust a Reality" in a chapel address and student luncheon forum at the seminary.

Pointing to evangelism as the key to Bold Mission Thrust, Ziglar stressed "until we win the lost to Christ, nothing is more important."

He said the evangelistic emphasis by Southern Baptists can succeed "through men and women who are willing to forsake all and say, 'I believe in the virgin birth, the bodily resurrection, the inspiration of Scripture.'"

Ziglar related his own conversion experience and commitment to evangelism with his career in sales. "When I found Christ, I found something I could sell without overselling," Ziglar said. He defined selling as "transference of feeling...making the prospect feel about the product what you feel about it."

He urged faculty and students to become active soul-winners, stressing spiritual experience is more important to evangelism than theological knowledge.

"Men and women don't come to Christ based on your theological knowledge," he told the chapel audience. "They come on your belief about what Christ has done for you."

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**SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville, Tennessee**

Church Offers Stability,
Missions Directors Told

By Mark Kelly

Baptist Press
11/13/85

HOLLISTER, Mo. (BP)--Rural and urban cultures have come into conflict in the Ozarks, and the church may be the last institution offering stability, a professor of rural sociology from the University of Missouri told Southern Baptist leaders from the Ozarks.

Recent developments in technologies which have made urban lifestyles possible in remote rural areas in the Ozarks, explained Rex Campbell of Columbia, Mo.

Campbell spoke to about 75 Baptist directors of missions and key leaders from the Ozarks region gathered near Branson, Mo., for a conference sponsored by the rural-urban missions department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Living in their "hardscrabble environment" by hunting, fishing, trapping and subsistence farming, inhabitants of the "Ozarks-Ouachita" region always have been forced to adapt to changes in order to survive, Campbell said. As a result, "change is native to the Ozarks," he said.

Their lifestyle is now being threatened by a system encouraging earlier retirements with more adequate incomes, and by tens of thousands of "migrants" from Chicago, Springfield, St. Louis, California and Texas, flooding into the Ozarks in search of "amenities," Campbell said.

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Those new residents bring with them beliefs, value systems and behavior patterns not typical of the area. As a result, "We have the national culture mixing with the Ozarks culture, and the Ozarks culture is going down for the third time," Campbell said.

With retail services being pulled from smaller communities into larger commercial centers and the value of farmland suffering a 45 percent decline, the tax bases of many Ozarks counties are in serious trouble, Campbell noted.

Coupled with the reduction or elimination of federal block grants and revenue sharing programs, many once self-sufficient rural communities are having to face unsavory choices between tax increases, consolidation or reduction of services, he said.

Increasingly, the church may be the last viable institution in some towns, and thus congregations must take the initiative to rebuild a spirit of cooperation in the community as the Ozarks are reborn, Campbell observed.

Jesse Taylor, director of missions in Arkansas' Rocky Bayou Baptist Association, said his 28-church association typifies the dilemma described by Campbell. "Are we country?" he asked. "Well, there's not one stoplight in our three counties."

Yet, two new recreation and retirement communities in the area have resulted in "a substantial influx of 'outsiders' who have brought their city ways with them," Taylor said. The two cultures "have no real common meeting ground, except possibly in church," he observed.

"The Ozarks are changing, whether we want them to or not," he said. "Rather than fight it, we need to face it and decide how to live with it. We need to decide how to preserve what's most important." Responding to Campbell's challenge, conference participants looked closely at regional trends in religion, land use, industrial development and population changes. Placing those against a background of presentations on the history and culture of the Ozarks-Ouachita region, participants sought to develop strategies for reaching their communities in the face of their particular challenges.

They learned, for example, the Ozarks are the fastest-growing, non-metropolitan area in the nation, and 80 percent of the region's incorporated townships actually are stable or growing in population, rather than declining. They also were told farm size in the Ozarks has grown while the number of farms has declined.

Gary Farley, associate director of the Home Mission Board's rural-urban missions department, urged conferees to "maintain a dynamic relationship between continuity and change" in their communities. "Some things need to change," he said. "But some things also need to be held on to. We must get involved with the people and listen to their stories. We need to help them see a vision for ministry and what can be done."

Because the association is closer to people's needs and can respond more readily than a state or national convention, it has tremendous potential to "reach further and do more," concluded James Lewis of the Home Mission Board's associational missions division.

"No one else can dream the dream that's appropriate for your association," Lewis explained. "We've got to keep before us the vision that...will build bridges to the people, cross frontiers to their needs and carry the gospel where it hasn't been before."

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Mahanes Urges Ohioans
Support Cooperative Program

Baptist Press
11/13/85

GROVE CITY, Ohio (BP)--Kenneth Mahanes, president of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, urged all churches in the state to give generously through the Cooperative Program, the national unified budget of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Mahanes, pastor of Far Hills Baptist Church, Dayton, and Ohio's representative on the SBC Executive Committee, used his presidential address to endorse the Southern Baptist financial plan of support for missions at home and overseas.

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He said Far Hills Church, the largest cooperating church in the Ohio convention, wants to pay off its debt in three years so it can increase its contribution through the Cooperative Program, expected to be \$132,000 this year. "Every dollar spent in debt service is a dollar lost in mission work for the Lord," he said.

Mahanes was reelected to a second term as president by acclamation. In an unusual move the convention also reelected both vice-presidents by acclamation.

The convention adopted a 1986 Cooperative Program budget of \$2,784,972, with 41 percent (\$141,850) going to national and world missions through the SBC. This is up from 40.5 percent in 1985. Ohio is advancing its SBC share by .5 percent per year to reach 50-50 distribution.

Resolutions endorsed Good News America simultaneous revivals next spring and Planned Growth In Giving stewardship plan. The convention's president, executive director and associate executive director made public commitments to PGG at the meeting. Other staff members will make their commitments during the evangelism conference next January. Another resolution pledged the SBC Peace Committee "our support, encouragement and prayers."

Emphasis continued on planting new churches and missions. It is reported that 162 new congregational starts have been made in the last five associational years toward the goal of 185. The Ohio convention presently has 508 churches and 107 missions.

The 1986 convention will meet in suburban Cincinnati Nov. 4-6.

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New Mexico Baptists
Reelect Convention Officers

Baptist Press
11/13/85

CLOVIS, N.M. (BP)—New Mexico Baptists adopted a \$2.3 million Cooperative Program budget at their seventy-third annual meeting at First Baptist Church, Clovis, Nov. 5-7.

The state's total budget for 1986 is \$4,942,074. The \$2.3 million budget will be raised in the state and the additional budgeted amount will come from the Home Mission Board, the Sunday School Board, special mission offerings, etc. The budget is less than one percent above the 1985 budget and will be divided on a 70-30 ratio—70 percent to be used in New Mexico with 30 percent being sent through the Cooperative Program for missions ministries around the world. This is the same percentage as last year.

Reelected convention officers were: Milford Misener, pastor of First Baptist Church, Belen, president; Luis Gomez, pastor of El Buen Pastor, Gallup, first vice-president, and Wesley McAfee, pastor of Sandia Baptist Church, Clovis, second vice-president.

One thousand and twenty-two registered for the convention with 615 messengers and 407 visitors. It was one of the largest attended in the nearly 75-year history of the convention.

A harmonious convention from start to finish, the convention focused on the upcoming "Good News America" revivals scheduled for the spring. The theme for the sessions was "Let Revival Fires Burn." The convention was preceded by the annual WMU/Brotherhood conventions in which Willie Jack Doyeto, Albuquerque Indian lay leader, was named "Man of the Year."

Next year's meeting will be held at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Oct. 30-Nov. 1.

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D.C. Convention Messengers
Opt To Avoid Resolutions

Baptist Press
11/13/85

WASHINGTON (BP)—In response to recent controversies within the Southern Baptist Convention, messengers to the District of Columbia Baptist Convention opted not to deal with any resolutions during their annual meeting Nov. 7-8.

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The recommendation to suspend resolutions came from the convention's executive committee as an attempt to avoid divisive controversies, explained James A. Langley, convention executive director. Instead, messengers heard about the importance of working together in a "fellowship of love" to reach people in their own communities, throughout the nation and around the world.

Among those addressing the convention were Wendell Belew, director of the Home Mission Board's missions ministries division; Joel Gregory, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, and Margaret Tarpley, Southern Baptist missionary to Nigeria.

Delegates elected Gary Javens, pastor of Clifton Park Baptist Church, Silver Spring, Md., new convention president.

A budget of \$696,811—including \$238,220 in support from the Home Mission Board and Sunday School Board—was adopted. The convention is expected to give 32 percent of receipts from its 70 member churches to world mission causes sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention and American Baptist Churches in the USA.

Next year's meeting will be Nov. 12-13 at First Baptist Church, Hyattsville, Md.

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Indiana Baptists Aid
Northwest Association

Baptist Press
11/13/85

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. (BP)—A record 398 messengers attended the twenty-seventh meeting of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana which convened in Merrillville Nov. 5-7.

Don Deel, pastor of host East Lake Baptist, Merrillville, was elected convention president. He has been pastor of the church since 1972, leading to relocate and build new facilities. He is active in the Northwest Association and a member of the state convention executive board.

Immediate past president Bob Latham completed two terms and was ineligible for reelection. He is pastor of Northside Baptist Church, Indianapolis.

A highlight of the convention was the gathering of non-perishable food and clothing for the thousands of hungry and hurting in northwest Indiana, where the unemployment rate exceeds 35 percent. An appeal to help was made through the state convention's newsmagazine, The Indiana Baptist. The contributions were estimated to be worth more than \$10,000.

Messengers adopted a Cooperative Program budget of \$1,526,000. The convention will continue sharing 32 percent of the total, the same as last year, with the SBC Cooperative Program.

No resolutions or motions were presented by the messengers. Debate and differences seemed non-existent. The 1986 meeting will be Nov. 11-13 at First Southern Baptist Church, Clarksville.

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David Haywood Promoted
To Telecommunications Post

Baptist Press
11/13/85

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—David Haywood, photojournalist in the Baptist Sunday School Board's office of communication since 1980, has been promoted to NewScene design editor in the office.

Haywood, 31, will coordinate production of SBC NewScene, a weekly denominational news program on the Baptist Telecommunication Network (BTN).

A North Carolina native, Haywood holds the B.A. degree from Mars Hill College and the M.Div. degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

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Court To Review Sex Bias
In Sectarian Schools

By Stan Hasteley

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to decide if an Ohio law barring sex discrimination may be applied to a Dayton Christian school system which fired a teacher for mounting a legal challenge protesting school policy against allowing women with young children to continue teaching.

Linda Hoskinson, who taught at the elementary level in Dayton Christian Schools from 1974 to 1979, lost her job after she sought legal advice upon being notified by school officials her contract would not be renewed because she was pregnant. School officials announced then a policy that women teachers with young children should remain at home with them. Such a policy was based on biblical principles, the officials claimed.

The school system was founded by two independent congregations in Dayton, Patterson Park Church and Christian Tabernacle.

After Hoskinson consulted an attorney about her legal options, she was summarily dismissed for refusal to abide by what school officials called a "biblical chain of command" compelling her to refrain from taking grievances outside the system.

Hoskinson then filed a complaint with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, which first attempted to resolve the matter by what it described as "informal methods of conference, conciliation and persuasion."

But the school system countered by filing a federal lawsuit challenging the civil rights panel's jurisdiction in the dispute on church-state grounds. A U.S. district court disagreed, however, ruling for Hoskinson.

In its review of that decision, a three-judge panel of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously reversed the district court last June, agreeing with school officials that both religion clauses of the First Amendment were violated by the civil rights panel in intervening in the dispute. That ruling set the stage for a final appeal to the nation's highest court.

Ohio Attorney General Anthony J. Celebrezze Jr. asked the high court to review the case because of what he described as its "monumental import" in enforcing anti-discrimination laws. The state's interests in the case, he wrote, are of the "highest order."

Celebrezze cited previous Supreme Court decisions that "compelling governmental interests" override claimed First Amendment exemption from state regulation, including the 1983 ruling in *Bob Jones University v. U.S.* that the government has a prevailing interest in eradicating race discrimination. He also cited a 1982 decision that an Amish employer must pay social security taxes on his employees despite a religious objection, a 1944 ruling that child labor laws extend to religious groups, and an 1878 decision upholding a law forbidding polygamy.

In a written brief filed on behalf of the Christian schools, prominent church-state lawyer William Bentley Ball, of Harrisburg, Pa., tried unsuccessfully to have the high court reject the appeal or affirm the Sixth Circuit decision.

Calling actions by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission "highly coercive," Ball quoted approvingly from the lower panel's ruling that "the tender ages of the children exposed to Linda Hoskinson...compels the conclusion that the state interference with Dayton Christian Schools selection of religious role models constitutes a substantial burden on religious freedom."

He also agreed with the Sixth Circuit's conclusion that "The congregations and parents are faced essentially with either supporting a school staffed by faculty who flout basic tenets of their religion or abandoning their support of Christian education altogether."

The high court is expected to hear oral arguments in the case early next year and issue a decision before adjourning the current term next July. (85-488, Ohio Civil Rights Commission v. Dayton Christian Schools)

(BP)

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NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION