

August 19, 1954

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

ARKANSAN NAMED DIRECTOR
OF BAPTIST GIRLS CAMP

NASHVILLE, Tenn. ---(BP)--Miss Arvine Bell, teacher at Ouachita College, Arkadelphia, Ark., for the past three years, has been named director of Camp Crestridge for Girls. The camp, scheduled to open June 6, 1955, is a part of the Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly program.

Miss Bell taught physical education and did Baptist student work at Ouachita College prior to this summer. She is serving as correlator of the Ridgecrest recreational program for staff and guests. (MAT ENCLOSED)

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NBC DIRECTOR FEATURE
LECTURER AT RIDGECREST

RIDGECREST, N. C. ---(BP)--Edward Stanley, director of religious programming for the National Broadcasting Company, New York, N.Y., was the feature lecturer for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Workshop held at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly recently.

Others appearing on program were the producer and director of the NBC program, "Frontiers of Faith," and Henry Bowling, chief engineer for the "Baptist Hour."

Conference was under direction of Paul M. Stevens, Commission director.

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CUTLINE FOR ENCLOSED MAT--Wilburn L. Taylor, planning and scheduling supervisor in the Operations Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, a new position in the Board's extensive re-organization, effective September 1. Taylor has been production manager of Farm and Ranch magazine, Nashville, since 1951.--BAPTIST PRESS.

CUTLINE FOR ENCLOSED MAT--Norris Gilliam, Contracts and Investments Counselor to the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, will assume his new duties September 1. Prior to this Gilliam served as executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation.--BAPTIST PRESS

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of ten articles discussing some of the problems of Southern Baptist life. The opinions of Dr. Tiffany are his own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor.

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS ARE FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF KEEPING WORSHIP MEANINGFUL AND AT THE SAME TIME EVANGELISM FRUITFUL WITHOUT THE SACRIFICE OF EITHER.

By: Henry W. Tiffany

Meeting this problem requires first that we rid ourselves of too narrow a view of worship and a too limited a view of evangelism, otherwise worship will overemphasize the ritual and evangelism will under emphasize what follows the decision to accept Christ as Saviour and Lord. This means to rethink the meaning of worship and evangelism and see the primary aim of both is to win to Christ, build up in Christ and send out for Christ. This task demands an adequate program for the church and a right spiritual tone and direction in all church activities.

The aim of both is to show people what it means to be a disciple of Christ and direct them in fuller Christian living by opening their ears to hear God's voice, lifting their eyes to see God, and yielding their wills to God's will that they walk with God in God's way of life for them.

Meaningful worship requires a worthy response on the part of the worshiper to the nature and action of God as revealed in the Bible and demonstrated in the life of Christ. The mind is fixed on who God is, what God has given, is giving and will give. The word of God is the basis of worship, as well as evangelism, and the music, the sermon, and the offering are interpretations and applications of God's word.

Overemphasis on any one part of worship or under emphasis on any one phase of evangelism weakens the worth of worship and lessens the effectiveness of evangelism. The hymns sung, the money given, and the prayers offered are confessions of the fact that our persons and possessions are God's; that they are token offerings teaching that labor is wrought and life lived for his sake. At the heart of worship and evangelism is the desire for union with God in mind, heart, will, and deed. Both honor the word of God which is the authoritative guide book in a world of disorder, lawlessness, and unbelief.

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Worship and evangelism aim at honoring God's word in the heart, proclaiming it with the lips and living it in daily life. Scripture calls it "adorning the doctrines" by holy, righteous, and clean living. Both seek a genuine spiritual awakening and response, express expectancy of God's using us in a good work, therefore they must awaken dormant consciences, arouse interest and issue in action.

Worship without evangelism is a misnomer as is evangelism without worship. Evangelism should have a central place in worship and worship a central place in evangelism. Evangelism is the life blood of teaching, preaching, and worshiping, hence a worship program without an evangelistic aim is one without vitality, power and a proper perspective.

Worship without evangelism may be likened to a farmer who plows the field, prepares the soil, sows the seed, and cultivates the crop but does not seek to harvest the ripe grain. Evangelism without worship is like a farmer gathering the grain and failing to use it. Neither worship nor evangelism is an end within itself, but both seek to produce full grown men and women in Christ.

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Henry W. Tiffany is pastor of Park Place Baptist Church, Norfolk, Va.

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.....Dr. Frank Tripp's mother died recently in Winnewood, Okla. Dr. Tripp is executive secretary and superintendent of the Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans.

.....Ex-Senator William Anderson Frost, 82, who for eighteen years from 1922 to 1940, was business manager of the Western Recorder, died recently in a Kentucky hospital.

.....More than 1,800 women registered for the Woman's Missionary Union Conference which closed recently at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly.

.....Irvin George Neufield, Emporia, Kans., is the new librarian at Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz.

.....C. Stuart Patterson, Greenville, S.C., has been named assistant professor of chemistry, Furman University.

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THE DANGER OF "BIG-PREACHERITIS" Horace G. Hammett

Early one Sunday morning on my way to a distant preaching engagement, I stopped at a filling station to get a drink of water. Someone asked another, "Are you going to church?" "Yes," he said, "a big preacher is to be there today." I thought to myself, "He ought to go every Sunday, every service because worship is necessary to the redeemed man. In fact, God is always there."

Here is the cropping up of a deadly disease--"big-preacheritis."

But who started it? Who keeps alive this idea? We all do. Let there come along an occasion of any kind that calls for a speaker or preacher, and what do we say?--"Let's get a big preacher."

Thus we are in danger of promoting irregular attendance at worship services by encouraging people to come only when they can hear a so-called big preacher. Of course, any church should benefit occasionally by having an outstanding preacher, if such can be found! But why, oh why, every time say, "Let's get a big preacher."

A big preacher! He's right there in the pulpit every Sunday. Who? Your pastor, of course! Every true preacher of the gospel is a great preacher. He has a great call, a great message, great convictions, and great results. Certainly it was the right kind of layman who said recently, "I had rather hear my pastor preach than any preacher in the world." That kind of faithfulness will make great preaching. BAPTIST PRESS

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Horace G. Hammett is promotion secretary for the State Convention of the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina.