



- - BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE
SBC Executive Committee
901 Commerce #750
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-2355
Alvin C. Shackelford, Director
Dan Martin, News Editor
Marv Knox, Feature Editor

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Jim Newton, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 873-4041

DALLAS Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 511 N. Akard, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 720-0550

NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300

RICHMOND (Foreign) Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151

WASHINGTON Stan L. Haste, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

November 23, 1987

87-178

Panel Examines Role Of Private
Sector In Alleviating Hunger

N-BJC
By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP)--Acknowledging the effective ways private organizations have responded to the plight of the hungry, a U.S. House of Representatives committee questioned how much these groups should be expected to do in the face of declining federal government support of hunger-related programs.

"Charities, church and civic groups, private voluntary agencies, corporations, community associations and foundations are, on a daily basis, demonstrating enormous capacity to respond to the plight of the hungry," said Rep. Mickey Leland, D-Texas, during a hearing held by the House Select Committee on Hunger, which he chairs. "The question is, however, how much these organizations can be expected to do during a period of retreat from responsibility on the part of the federal government."

Leland said when the federal government cuts its spending for human services programs, the resources of non-profit groups are reduced at the very time the non-profit sector is called upon to do more. Although private support of charitable organizations has increased since 1980, those increased donations have not offset the cutbacks in federal funding, he said.

The pastor of a Southern Baptist Convention-affiliated church was among the witnesses who offered suggestions to the House panel on strengthening the relationship between the federal government and the private sector in hunger alleviation.

Henry C. Gregory III, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, testified that from earliest biblical history, the community of faith has had a deep concern for meeting the needs of the poor. Out of that tradition, he said, the church emerged as a community that shares "not just a spiritualized gospel, but a message of hope and helpfulness to persons in situations of suffering and deprivation."

Gregory, who described his church's involvement in food distribution as symbolic of what other local congregations are doing and seeking to do, said the work of local congregations and clusters of congregations is not enough.

"The demand is too great, the need is too widespread," he said. "The problem of hunger has increased in recent years. It involves the whole community and its solutions must involve collaboration of the community of the whole."

Gregory recommended the federal government provide additional financial assistance for counseling and hunger-prevention programs.

A United Way of America official praised a program initiated by Congress in 1982 -- the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program -- as a model of private sector-government cooperation.

Robert M. Beggan, United Way senior vice president, said the program has involved new participants -- including a 400 percent increase in the number of churches involved in the program -- in hunger-alleviation efforts and has increased the effectiveness of existing systems.

But Beggan said the program has limitations. Its funding is too low to meet the continuing emergency that is affecting more and more families; is irregular and often dries up when the need is the greatest; and is designed to "hold the line," not win the war, he said.

--more--

"The voluntary sector has proven itself an effective, knowledgeable, committed avenue for bringing new resources to the table, energizing volunteers and business on behalf of the hungry and homeless, coordinating existing structures and creating new ones," Beggan testified. "Our monetary and volunteer commitment has never been higher. But we need more cooperation and funding from government."

"The Emergency Food and Shelter Program and innovative state and local-level partnerships have shown that public-private sector partnership works. That emerging partnership must continue and be strengthened on the emergency level; it must also be applied to longer-term, systemic approaches. It must be a normal, expected way of doing business, with the voluntary sector asked not only to deliver services but to participate in designing and evaluating the systems that will make a difference."

--30--

Seminary Extension Honors
Trivocational Pastor

By Lee Hollaway

N- CO
(Seed)

Baptist Press
11/23/87

FLINT, Mich. (BP)--Being bivocational was not enough for Richard Sample; he also took on a third job -- and more.

Sample had been a Michigan pastor and schoolteacher for more than a decade when he helped establish the Center for Christian Studies in Flint in 1979. In his role as dean of the center, he has been responsible for scheduling, and in some cases teaching, a number of seminary extension courses each year. Last year students enrolled in eight courses, two of them taught by Sample.

In recognition of his successful leadership of the center over the past eight years, the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension Department has recognized Sample as seminary extension director of the year for 1987.

Working with the center has allowed Sample to use the doctor of philosophy degree in education he received from the University of Michigan shortly after he became pastor of Ainsworth Baptist Church in Flint, where he still serves.

It also has broadened the impact of his ministry. Pastors of 14 of 30 churches in Genesee Baptist Association have studied at the center, and two of them have earned seminary extension diplomas.

"This area had never had anything consistent and permanent in the way of Christian education" before the center opened, Sample noted. Because so many people have been involved and so many have benefited from it, Sample called the center "an associational adventure."

"From the very beginning, the major objective of the center has been to equip people for more effective ministry in their local church," he said. More than 200 people have taken seminary extension courses through the center.

Sample concedes being trivocational required discipline: "I have to plan my time very well, but you really can do a lot of things when you plan. I do not feel that I have neglected my family or my personal needs, even with all I have been involved with."

During the eight years Sample has been working with the center he also has been moderator of the association for two years, completed a five-year term as a member of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and become a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board-approved chaplain with the U.S. Air Force auxiliary.

He also has worked with the Flint rescue mission and juvenile center. During five of those years, his wife, Dorothy, was national president of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

"I guess you could call me 'multi-vocational,'" Sample said. "There are an awful lot of jobs to be done in this area."

--30--

Seminary Students Show Support
For Disfellowshipped Churches

By Pat Cole

MOJO
(SBTS)

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Pastors of three Southern Baptist churches that were "disfellowshipped" from their associations in October have received letters of encouragement from students and faculty at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

A total of 160 letters were mailed to Nancy Sehested, pastor of Prescott Memorial Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn.; Dale Lewis, pastor of Brushy Mountain Baptist Church in Checotah, Okla.; and Richard Vaughn, pastor of Fletcher Memorial Baptist Church in Lumberton, Texas.

The president of the campus group that sponsored the letter-writing campaign emphasized the letter writers do not necessarily agree with the theological positions of the churches or their pastors but they wrote "because of their belief in local church autonomy and the priesthood of the believer."

While reasons for the expulsions varied, all three incidents involved issues of local church autonomy and priesthood of the believer, said Kelley Milstead, a theology student from Rockingham, N.C., and president of the seminary's Women in Ministry organization. "We wanted to show there is a broad base of support (for the pastors)," she said.

Prescott Memorial was disfellowshipped by Shelby Baptist Association because the church called a woman as pastor. Brushy Mountain was excluded from Muskogee Baptist Association because its pastor was divorced and had remarried.

Emmanuel Baptist Association refused to seat messengers from Fletcher Memorial because the church had beliefs "not consistent with the Southern Baptist interpretation of Scriptures." Beliefs the association found questionable included healing, casting out demons, speaking in tongues and allowing dual membership.

The handwritten letters were composed during a one-day period at a table set up in the main classroom building on the seminary campus.

Members of Women in Ministry chose to coordinate the letter-writing campaign "partly because we're in touch with being excluded and disenfranchised," Milstead said.

--30--

Moyers: SBC Battle Has Changed
American Political Landscape

F. BJC
By Stan Haste

Baptist Press
11/23/87

WASHINGTON (BP)--To Bill Moyers, the significance of the struggle for control of the Southern Baptist Convention reaches beyond the boundaries of the nation's largest Protestant denomination, stretching even to the country's political system.

That is one conclusion reached by the veteran broadcast journalist in his upcoming three-part series, "Moyers: God and Politics," to be aired on consecutive Wednesday nights in December.

Another is that Southern Baptists are well on their way to becoming a different people than they were when Moyers was a boy in Marshall, Texas.

The former CBS television news commentator recalled growing up in Central Baptist Church in that east Texas town during a recent interview: "The first things I learned about faith and democracy I learned from people like Aaron and Lois Rives, Herbert and Mary Pace, James and Frances Neely, Marjorie and Cecil Edwards and a lot of other saints long departed. They didn't teach me a creed; there was no creed or coercion. We practiced the priesthood of the believer -- every Christian is competent to deal directly with God. No human being, no institution comes between you and God. That's Baptist."

While they argued about what the Bible meant in their lives, he says, "no one could enforce on any of us any particular interpretation of Scripture."

--more--

Further, he adds, the people in his boyhood church "taught me that the core of fellowship is not doctrine or dogma, but freedom, the soul's freedom to follow the teachings of the Bible and the Spirit of God as one feels led."

Moyers also remembers learning in church training union about "how Baptists had been born fighting for freedom and suffered for it and lost their lives in Europe for insisting on their right to interpret the Bible for themselves." And he learned that in colonial America, his denominational ancestors were beaten for seeking to exercise that right, were "driven into exile for preaching the gospel their way (and) refusing to pay taxes to support the Congregationalists and the Anglicans."

He also is convinced the current division among Southern Baptists represents more than a schism. "It isn't just a schism because Baptists have always, like amoebas, split and divided," he says.

It is on the larger political landscape that the conservative surge is having a potent effect. The conservative movement, he insists, "is going to continue to be a powerful social, cultural and political force in American life for some time to come."

Although Baptists long have debated the Bible's meaning for the political order, Moyers sees the current trend of insisting the Bible demands political partisanship in the secular realm as something new: "What's new is the determination of this sizable faction ... to make one view of the Bible -- their view -- the test of religious and political truth. For Baptists, that's radical. And that's having far-reaching implications on our political life, on our cultural life and on our religious life. That is new."

Although Moyers insists conservatives are sincere and convinced they are led by the Spirit of God, "They are nonetheless calling into question the historic integrity of Baptists as I was raised to think of Baptists."

Noting the alliance of some leaders in the conservative SBC movement with the politics and politicians of the "Religious Right," Moyers notes control of the SBC carries with it political overtones: "This control is politically important because the convention shapes how Baptists bring their influence to bear on candidates for office and issues such as school prayer, abortion and foreign policy. So the story is not just about Baptists. It's about the continuing battle over religious liberty in this country.

"Because our ethical sensitivities are informed by the theological underpinnings of our religious institutions, the outcome of this struggle will have much to say about the political landscape of the country long after Ronald Reagan has retired to California."

Among Southern Baptists interviewed on the Moyers special is Judge Paul Pressler of Houston, one of the architects of the conservative SBC movement. Another prominent conservative, W.A. Criswell of First Baptist Church of Dallas, also appears in a segment filmed in his office.

On the other side, outspoken moderates such as Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary President Russell H. Dilday and Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Executive Director James M. Dunn are featured.

"The Battle for the Bible" is the second of the three-part series. It is to be aired at 9 p.m. EST, Wednesday, Dec. 16, on national public television. Because times may vary in different parts of the country, viewers should consult local listings.

The first in the series, "The Kingdom Divided," examines the equally intense religious-political struggle in Central America. Moyers calls that struggle "a second Reformation of the Catholic Church." He describes the program as "the most important story I've reported" since his critically acclaimed CBS documentary, "The Vanishing Family: Crisis in Black America."

One week after the feature on Southern Baptists, Moyers is to present an in-depth introduction to the movement known as "Christian Reconstruction," a force he believes to be far more important than the Religious Right of the 1980s. The movement, he says, is built on the belief that "the person, family, church, schools -- all of society -- civil government, the arts, medicine, media, economics, law (and) business must be reconstructed under Christianity in accordance with biblical principles, values and laws."

The upcoming series was produced by Moyers' own company, Public Affairs Television Inc. of New York. It was underwritten by a grant from Chevron, with additional funding provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and public television stations.

--30--

(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Washington bureau of Baptist Press

U.S. Steps Up War
On Alcohol Abuse

By Tim Fields

N-60
(CLC)
Baptist Press
11/23/87

WASHINGTON (BP)--U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Otis Brown has announced new government initiatives designed to fight alcohol abuse.

Bowen outlined the government's plan during a national conference on alcohol abuse he convened in Washington.

The initiatives include the formation of a privately run citizens commission to promote public awareness and understanding about alcohol abuse and consideration of the possibility of legislation that would require warning labels on alcoholic beverages.

The government also would look at the possibility of pushing for voluntary changes in television and radio programming to dissuade youths from drinking alcoholic beverages, he said.

Alcoholism and alcohol abuse cost the United States about \$117 billion a year in medical bills and lost productivity, participants in the conference learned.

The cost to the nation is more than five times as high as the \$23 billion congressional leaders and the Reagan administration are trying to save in the current budget talks, said Thomas R. Burke, Bowen's chief of staff.

John V. Young, director of drug and alcohol concerns for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, commended the government's new initiatives designed to curb alcohol abuse and called on Southern Baptists to support them.

"Beverage alcohol is without question the most abused drug in American society," said Young. "The cost to society of alcohol-related problems goes far beyond the staggering \$117 billion per year.

"Alcohol abuse takes its toll in lives that are lost through drunk driving and in human suffering that is endured by the millions of alcoholics themselves. It also devastates people through spouse abuse, child abuse, divorce, fetal alcohol syndrome, lost productivity, crime, and plane, train, boat and industrial accidents."

Southern Baptists should not only let their voices be heard on the three main initiatives announced by Bowen, but they should also push for an excise tax on alcoholic beverages, Young said.

"Tax revenues generated from the sale of alcoholic beverages in 1984 amounted to \$12.6 billion, while the total cost of alcohol-related problems that year was \$120.8 billion. The net result was that for every dollar of alcohol revenue generated in this nation in 1984, society was required to pay \$9.54 to cover the costs of alcohol problems," he noted.

"A number of concerned groups such as the American Council on Alcohol Problems, the National Council on Alcoholism and the Center for Science in the Public Interest have been reminding Congress the present excise tax rates for beer and wine were established in 1951. During this 36-year period the consumer price index has gone up 405 percent.

"The financially affluent lobbying campaigns of the brewers, vintners and distillers have obviously been extremely successful in influencing the nation's lawmakers. In the face of the growing federal deficit, it is high time for the books to be balanced and for alcohol taxes to pay for some of the problems that are caused by this deadly drug," he contended.

--more--

Young urged Southern Baptists to let their voices be heard on the alcohol abuse issue by contacting their congressmen and senators to speak in favor of an excise tax increase on alcoholic beverages, tough laws to prohibit alcohol advertising campaigns that target youth, equal air time for education and prevention, and warning labels on alcoholic beverages.

--30--

N-Texas

Allen Challenges
Mission Volunteers

By Orville Scott

Baptist Press
11/23/87

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--When Baptists settle their differences and get back to God's business, they will have 10,000 lay mission volunteers serving around the world, predicted the former Southern Baptist Convention president who led in launching Mission Service Corps.

Jimmy R. Allen, who was elected SBC president when the convention adopted Mission Service Corps -- the army of lay mission volunteers -- as a key component of Southern Baptist mission efforts in 1977, spoke at a 10th anniversary breakfast of MSC during the Baptist General Convention of Texas in Fort Worth.

About 400 current and former MSC volunteers heard Allen say, "I believe that if we hadn't been caught up in controversy in the past few years, we would have 10,000 volunteers serving now."

Texas MSC Coordinator Sam Pearis said 2,198 MSC volunteers have been assigned from 1977 to October 1987, about 40 percent of them from Texas. About 1,000 adults of all ages are serving now, he said.

Allen, who is president of the SBC Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth, said MSC volunteers have done the equivalent of about \$1 million in services and support through the American Christian Television Network. His own family has been blessed in that his son, Scott, is an MSC worker, he added.

The days of sending missionaries to China are over, Allen said, but he envisions 1,000 Mission Service Corps volunteers teaching and serving there in other capacities. The Radio and Television Commission is negotiating with Chinese television officials for the Centurymen choir to do a concert including gospel music on nationwide television. It could be seen by 500 million Chinese, he said.

--30--

N-FMB

Baptist Trio Runs
Through South Korea

By Erich Bridges

Baptist Press
11/23/87

SEOUL, South Korea (BP)--Long-distance runner Stan Cottrell ran more than 250 miles in 10 days to salute the people of South Korea and Baptists there.

That's about "a marathon a day," said Southern Baptist missionary David Bishop, who organized the late October-early November run from the southern city of Mokp'o to Seoul.

Korean Baptist pastor Paek Shin Gi ran the entire distance with Cottrell. Bishop, a competitive marathon runner, joined the two for long portions of the run.

The distance was no big deal for Cottrell, a Southern Baptist who attends First Baptist Church of Atlanta. He has amazed the sports world for years with his record-setting runs across the United States, Europe and China. But Cottrell was almost ecstatic about Korean response to his latest feat.

"This is the best of the best," he said after finishing the run in Seoul where he was welcomed at the city's Olympic committee headquarters by Baptists, missionaries, Korean and International Olympic Committee officials and American Ambassador James Lilley. Seoul will host the Summer Olympics next year, and Baptists and missionaries plan a variety of ministries.

"I'm here to say how much we cherish the friendship between the United States and the people of Korea," he told the group. "Now the eyes of the world are upon you as you prepare for the 1988 Olympics, and I just salute you for your commitment and your effort."

--more--

"It's well known what Baptists are doing in Korea, and as one Christian to another I just want to encourage you. People back home are talking about what is going on in Korea. Your faithfulness and your love for the Lord are inspiring untold millions of people."

Escorted from start to finish by Korean police, the Baptist trio ran through dozens of towns and villages along the route, meeting with mayors and other officials and speaking in churches. On one Sunday morning Cottrell spoke in three different churches within 90 minutes, running from one to the next. But he said spontaneous encounters meant the most to him.

"The farmers would come up out of the rice fields and stand on the side of the road. People would blow their horns and wave -- the shop owners, the people in cars and buses," he related. At one city hall welcoming ceremony, two little girls emerged from the spectators and presented him with bouquets of flowers. "They did it on their own. They bowed very politely, and I guess they were maybe 10 years old. Just the look on their faces -- the joy and the smiles and half-embarrassed at the same time -- that kind of captures it."

People seemed to appreciate that someone would "care enough about their country and about them to come and meet them on this kind of one-on-one and person-to-person basis," Bishop said.

Both national television networks broadcast numerous reports on the run, providing wide public exposure for Baptists. The attention proved especially valuable in the southwest region where the run began. Baptist work there is weaker than in other areas, and many churches are struggling to grow.

"There were lots of little towns where the Baptist pastor was able to go to the mayor or even the governor in one situation," Bishop said. "They were able to be seen a little more as community leaders by being seen as responsible for bringing this event as it moved along the country and got nationwide news coverage. They gained some status, or 'face' if you will, in their communities."

Bishop and Cottrell praised the extensive cooperation between churches, missionaries, local governments, police, Olympic officials and the media in making the successful run possible.

"All I had to do was run," Cottrell said. "That was the easy part."

"China Run," the film documentary of Cottrell's 1984 journey across China, has been seen in Atlanta and Los Angeles and soon will be distributed across the United States, he said. He added he also has received permission to run across Vietnam early next year.

--30--

(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Richmond bureau of Baptist Press

Charlie Warren Named
Editor For Home Life

N-SSB

Baptist Press
11/23/87

NASHVILLE (BP) -- Charlie Warren, associate editor of the Baptist and Reflector, newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, has been named editor of Home Life magazine.

Warren, 40, will assume his new duties in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department Jan. 1, 1988.

"We are looking forward to Charlie helping us move into a better position of communicating with younger families. We must minister to a variety of families, and we hope to reach more young couples," said Gary Hauk, family enrichment section manager.

Warren has been associate editor of the Baptist and Reflector for eight years. He previously was associate editor of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission's World Mission Journal.

He also was senior editor of press relations for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and he has been a staff writer in the public relations department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

--more--

He was a missionary journeyman in Africa for two years and was assigned as publication coordinator for the Baptist Publishing House in Lusaka, Zambia.

Warren is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee. He holds a master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Home Life has been published by the Sunday School Board for 40 years and has a monthly circulation of more than 725,000.

--30--

N- (CO
(SBIS)

Religion 'Important'
To AIDS Victims

By Pat Cole

Baptist Press
11/23/87

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--AIDS victims often fail to seek religious counsel because they "fear a moral judgment will be made on their lifestyle," according to a University of Louisville psychiatry professor.

Robert Frierson told students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary religious issues often become important to people with AIDS as they confront the grief process that accompanies the condition. Yet AIDS victims are often afraid to share their religious concerns with pastors because of the stigma attached to the disease, he added.

The problem is "fueled by TV ministers who say AIDS is retribution for a particular type of lifestyle and that it's intended as God's judgment," said Frierson in a Nov. 11 address at the seminary's Ethics Luncheon, a student forum concerned with moral issues.

Frierson mentioned several psychological stresses associated with AIDS that are not common in other terminal diseases. While most people with terminal illnesses can expect sympathy from others, AIDS victims usually are shunned, he said.

"People have been known to lose their jobs, lose their insurance and their church affiliation by just being suspected of having AIDS," he said.

AIDS victims also experience "tremendous feelings of guilt" he added noting, victims worry about who they might have infected and also are concerned about who might have spread the disease to them.

People with AIDS see themselves as having little hope, he said: "There are no known survivors of AIDS. This leaves them (AIDS victims) with a tremendous sense of helplessness."

The way to solve the AIDS crisis is through education, Frierson said. While pastors, as trusted community leaders, could be effective communicators about AIDS prevention, he said, many are reluctant to address the issue for fear they might be perceived as "endorsing the behavior" that leads to AIDS.

A trusted pastor also could provide needed assistance in helping a person with AIDS to cope with the condition, he added. However, he cautioned pastors about "moralizing and being judgmental" with an AIDS patient even though they might disagree with the person's lifestyle.

Not all persons who have AIDS have been involved in homosexual activity, Frierson noted. While the majority of victims in the United States are homosexuals and bisexuals, as many heterosexuals as homosexuals have AIDS in Africa, he said.

AIDS is only transmitted through bodily fluids and not by casual contact with an AIDS carrier, he stressed. Besides sexual contact, AIDS is most often spread by intravenous drug users who use unsterile needles and by pregnant women who transmit AIDS to their unborn children.

--30--

Endowed Hunger Relief
Fund Is One-of-a-kind

N- (O)
(MO.)

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)--An endowed fund to help combat world hunger has been established by the Missouri Baptist Christian Life Commission in cooperation with the Missouri Baptist Foundation.

The project, to be known as "The Joy Fund," is believed to be the first of its kind in the Southern Baptist Convention. It has been endowed initially with \$2,200. Ninety percent of the income will be channeled through Southern Baptist world hunger funds to provide hunger relief in the United States and around the world. The remaining 10 percent will be returned to the fund to ensure its continued growth.

Robert Parham, Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission associate director with responsibility for hunger concerns, noted: "I know of no other situation similar to this in Southern Baptist life. It sounds like a model program which promises to provide hunger funds for years to come."

The endowed fund was proposed by William Hartley, a member of First Baptist Church in Lake St. Louis. An avid supporter of world hunger relief, Hartley has written skits and spoken in numerous churches about world hunger needs.

Hartley emphasized if each Missouri Baptist gave just one dime a day to world hunger relief, the total would be more than \$20 million annually. "There isn't any Southern Baptist who would let anybody die for a dime," he insisted. "It's just too good to be true."

When listeners suggested Hartley establish a foundation for world hunger to which people could contribute, he contacted Bart Tichenor, the Missouri Baptist Convention's moral concerns consultant. They began working with members of the Christian Life Commission and Missouri Baptist Foundation to bring the dream to reality.

Tichenor emphasized the new fund "will in no way take the place of or compete with world hunger offerings" but will serve to supplement them.

Parham described the creation of the fund as "a tangible affirmation of confidence in the future of hunger ministries within the Southern Baptist Convention."

Noting hunger relief giving often is linked to the amount of national media attention given to hunger needs, Parham added, "When you create a trust like this, it maintains a steady flow of income which is not affected by the ebb and flow of public attention."

--30--

AT - CO
(NOBTS)

Chic-fil-A Chief Cathy
Cites Recipe For Success

By Breena Kent Paine

Baptist Press
11/23/87

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Three keys to success "work for everybody under all circumstances," businessman Truett Cathy told faculty, staff and students of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

His wife, the former Jeanette McNeil, is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary. He addressed the seminarians during a recent chapel service.

Cathy is founder and president of Chic-fil-A, Inc., an Atlanta-based fast food chain with 351 restaurants in 31 states in regional shopping malls, four "dwarf houses" and five free-standing restaurants.

"You've got to want to," he said, stating the first key to success. "If you don't have the want to, nothing else will work; you've got to have a burning desire to achieve certain goals in your life."

Second, "You've got to develop the skills and the know-how," he added.

--more--

Third, "You've got to do it," Cathy said noting he has seen too many people both in the ministry and in the marketplace who are "doing less than their best."

"I'm one who believes we honor God in our successes and not in our failures, and I think we're called on to do our very best no matter what our field of endeavor," he noted.

Cathy's interest in business was sparked at the age of eight, when he discovered he could buy six Cokes for 25 cents at the corner grocery store: "I thought in my mind, if I had six empty bottles and a quarter, I could buy those Cokes and pedal them around to the neighbors for a nickel a piece and recognize a five cents profit.

"Because of this boyhood experience, I always determined in my mind that someday I'd have a business of my own."

Following World War II, Cathy and his brother opened The Dwarf House, a 24-hour restaurant. During that time, "I learned a new meaning to the word commitment."

Cathy lived next door to his restaurant, and "what time I was not working, I was over there trying to grab a few hours of rest. But the people knew that if they needed me, all they'd have to do is come tap on the window and I'd be there pronto -- totally committed."

"This is very important that we understand what commitment is. Because oftentimes, it's the difference between success and failure," Cathy continued. "Sometimes it just takes 5 percent more effort to pay 100 percent more dividends."

The recipient of several entrepreneur of the year and community service awards said: "Sometimes we miss job satisfaction simply because of the fact we do not perform at our very best. And if we're not performing our very best, we'll never reach our greatest potential."

But Cathy has found other career people to be too dedicated to their fields: "A businessman will be willing to sacrifice his family, his morals, and everything, for that almighty dollar oftentimes.

"Maybe what you want to be is a good preacher. But that doesn't mean sacrificing everything; it's using good, common sense. You can imagine what happens to this person if he doesn't give proper attention to his family. His ministry comes to a screeching halt. ... It's a matter of getting your priorities in the proper order."

Most of the the problems occurring within a company can be traced to an employee's personal problem, he said: "Why not start at the root of the problem? If you can help him to have a better relationship with his wife or her husband, a better relationship with family members, and encourage him to develop himself in a spiritual life, you'll go a long ways helping that person to be a better business person."

Cathy strives to accomplish this through devotionals and prayer meetings held within the company.

"You are going into full-time ministry," Cathy told the students. The only way some will ever know about God is through "how you act, your language, your caring spirit, your loving spirit."