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May 31, 1991

91-81

Street witnessing precedes  
Southern Baptist Convention

By Mark Wingfield

*N. HMB*

ATLANTA (BP)--Nearly a week before the Southern Baptist Convention convened in Atlanta, several dozen messengers arrived to preach the gospel on the streets of their host city.

Early-arriving messengers were joined by Home Mission Board staff members in the evangelistic effort at 12 sites May 29-31. After the first two days of witnessing, approximately 60 professions of faith had been recorded along with about 40 renewed commitments to the Christian faith.

In all, nearly 100 Southern Baptists participated in the street witnessing project, said Thad Hamilton, HMB associate director of mass evangelism. The Baptists witnessed mainly near rapid rail stations and public parks, using techniques ranging from music to mime to traditional preaching.

Outside the Five Points MARTA station, the hub of Atlanta's rapid rail system, Sheron Kaye Rohmfeld of Houston drew a crowd by singing gospel tunes through a portable sound system. Using a cordless microphone, Rohmfeld roamed around one side of the large plaza singing tunes such as "Just a Closer Walk" and "The Old Rugged Cross."

With a fistful of tracts clutched near the microphone, she greeted passersby by giving them tracts and pats on the back. At other times, she asked individuals to sing along with the familiar hymn tunes.

Most of the time, people sang out when she placed the microphone in front of them. Some individuals even approached her and asked to sing.

While Rohmfeld sang, Missouri evangelist Jack Stanton, HMB President Larry Lewis and others mingled with the crowd, handing out New Testaments and tracts. When Rohmfeld stopped singing, Stanton and Lewis took turns preaching.

At one point, Rohmfeld gave a testimony about her first husband committing suicide, which led her to a life of shoplifting and eventually to jail, she said. After relating the hope she found in Jesus Christ, Rohmfeld led the loosely assembled group in a prayer of repentance and commitment to Jesus Christ.

She then asked all those who had made a commitment to stand. Six people immediately stood up from benches in the public plaza as pedestrian traffic passed by on both sides.

The plaza of the Five Points MARTA station attracts an odd mix of people ranging from the homeless to workers in nearby office buildings. Just around the corner from the Baptists, street vendors sold produce, a man preached about Islam and a woman wore a sandwich board proclaiming the impending end of the world.

Electrical current to power the Baptists' amplification system was provided by a Korean Catholic who runs a sandwich shop off the plaza. He encouraged the group to "turn it up" even louder than they had.

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Gig Rohmfeld, Sheron Kaye's husband, ran the sound system and passed out literature. He knows street evangelism can be effective, he explained during a break, because he became a Christian through the witness of a street evangelist in another city.

"This is what Jesus meant when he said to go out into the highways and hedges," HMB President Lewis explained in an interview immediately after leading a man to profess faith in Christ.

"I've witnessed to at least 50 people today, and most of them have been gracious. They have taken the tract and even asked for a New Testament. The two men I led to the Lord today both came up and asked me to talk to them about God."

The street evangelism project was scheduled for the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday prior to the Southern Baptist Convention. A One Day Soul Winning Encounter was slated for Saturday, with teams going door-to-door across the city.

Also on Saturday and Sunday preceding the convention, disaster relief units from five states were to feed the homeless two meals each day to relieve ongoing local feeding ministries.

Pre-convention meetings were to begin Sunday, June 2, and the SBC sessions were to begin Tuesday, June 4, and conclude Thursday, June 6.

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Missionaries commissioned  
in Atlanta

By Kelly Capers

N-NMB

Baptist Press  
5/31/91

ATLANTA (BP)--Forty-one missionaries from 20 states and two foreign countries were commissioned by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board May 26.

The commissioning service, held at Flat Creek Baptist Church in Fayetteville, Ga., was the climax of a week long missionary orientation. A procession of flags representing the 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Canada and the United Nations opened the ceremony, symbolizing territories where the Home Mission Board has active ministries.

Missionary Charles Short gave a brief testimony. Short, who serves in a suburb of Rochester, N.Y., captured the spirit of the ceremony in his simple statement, "The motivation of my ministry is that I know people need the Lord."

The culmination of the service was a charge to missionaries delivered by Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis.

Speaking from John, Lewis said Christ went where people lived, not waiting for them to come to him. "We have to get out of the Sunday morning go-to-meeting complex," he said.

With the help of the Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, the Home Mission Board currently supports more than 4,500 missionaries across the United States.

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Furman Baptist Convention Committees  
resolve trustee elections

N-CO/SC) Baptist Press  
5/31/91

COLUMBIA, SC (BP)--The Furman/South Carolina Baptist Convention Relations Committee and the executive committee of Furman University trustees reached a tentative agreement on a process for electing Furman trustees.

The accord came after a six hour negotiating session May 28 in Columbia. Two previous negotiating sessions had produced partial results.

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"This tentative agreement will be presented to the full Furman trustee board in a special called meeting," said Minor H. Mickel, chairwoman, Furman trustees. Mickel said a meeting will be called as soon as possible.

Robert D. Shrum, pastor, Oakland Church, Rock Hill, and chairman of SCBC relations committee, said "if the Furman trustees approve the recommendation of its executive committee it will be presented to the annual session of the South Carolina Baptist Convention in November."

The South Carolina Baptist Convention will meet Nov. 12-13 in Greenville.

Mickel and Shrum said details of the agreement will be released in a joint news conference after action is taken by the Furman trustees.

"We feel the agreement reached today is a good and fair solution and is in the best interest of Furman University and South Carolina Baptist Convention," said Mickel.

"I believe this agreement provides an excellent model for conflict resolution among Baptist entities across our convention," Shrum added. "We have taken into consideration the vested interest of both institutions and protected those interests."

The two committees have some additional details to resolve and expect to meet again in the near future.

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Supreme Court decision  
victory for pro-lifers

By Tom Strobe

Baptist Press  
5/31/91

*N-CLC*

WASHINGTON (BP)--The federal government can prohibit tax funds from use in abortion counseling, referral and promotion, the United States Supreme Court has ruled in an opinion that may have far-reaching implications.

The Supreme Court's 5-4 decision announced May 23 is a major victory for the pro-life movement. The opinion in *Rust v. Sullivan* supports regulations preventing Planned Parenthood and other clinics from using funds under Title X of the Public Health Service Act in "programs where abortion is a method of family planning."

"I'm delighted with this decision," said Richard D. Land, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. "It's always gratifying when the Supreme Court upholds a position espoused by the Christian Life Commission."

"Southern Baptists should be greatly encouraged that federal tax dollars will not be used to support abortion counseling," he said. "However, we must be prepared to repel the efforts of pro-abortionists who will seek to pass legislation in the U.S. Congress overturning this landmark decision."

Abortion rights supporters immediately called for a legislative remedy to the Court's decision.

"We urge the Senate and House to reauthorize Title X, stripping the program of these injurious regulations and committing the necessary funding to the program's implementation," said Faye Wattleton, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. "In affirming the Reagan/Bush administrations' Title X 'gag rule,' the Court has given government the green light to impose censorship on doctors and women and has re-established separate and unequal justice in America: quality health care for those who can afford it, second-class care for those who cannot."

President George Bush reportedly would veto such legislation if it were to pass both houses of Congress.

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The Court's opinion upheld rules issued by the Department of Health and Human Services near the end of the administration of Ronald Reagan. The regulations were continued under President Bush by HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan. Court challenges prevented the regulations from being enforced.

The Court, with Chief Justice William Rehnquist writing the majority opinion, said the regulations were permissible because:

-- The HHS secretary's regulations were a justifiable interpretation of Congressional intent in passing Title X legislation;

-- The rules are not a violation of the free-speech rights of Title X recipients and their patients;

-- They do not infringe upon a woman's right to an abortion.

"The Supreme Court has rejected the bizarre concept that the Constitution or 'medical ethics' require that abortion be treated the same as contraception," said Douglas Johnson, legislative director of the National Right to Life Committee. "Any agency that refuses to accept tax dollars under the new rules proves that it is more committed to promoting abortion than to providing contraception."

Family planning clinics receive about \$140 million annually under Title X. Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion chain in the country, and its affiliates receive \$37 million in Title X funds.

The Court's opinion was particularly significant when refuting the claims that the regulations are a violation of free-speech and abortion rights.

"The government can, without violating the Constitution, selectively fund a program to encourage certain activities it believes to be in the public interest, without at the same time funding an alternate program which seeks to deal with the problem in another way," the majority opinion said.

"By requiring that the Title X grantee engage in abortion-related activity separately from activity receiving federal funding, Congress has ... not denied it the right to engage in abortion-related activities. Congress has merely refused to fund such activities out of the public fisc ...," the Court said.

"Individuals who are voluntarily employed for a Title X project must perform their duties in accordance with the regulation's restrictions on abortion counseling and referral. . . . The employees' freedom of expression is limited during the time that they actually work for the project; but this limitation is a consequence of their decision to accept employment in a project, the scope of which is permissibly restricted by the funding authority."

The Court also said, "The Government has no constitutional duty to subsidize an activity merely because the activity is constitutionally protected and may validly choose to fund childbirth over abortion and 'implement that judgment by the allocation of public funds' for medical services relating to childbirth but not to those relating to abortion."

The Court's opinion appears to affirm arguments voiced by the CLC and other groups in calling for Congressional content restrictions on grants by the National Endowment for the Arts, which has been criticized for funding sacrilegious and sexually explicit art.

"We hope the Court's upholding of the principle that with federal dollars come federal guidelines will be applied to the controversy involving the NEA," Land said. "The Rust decision indicates that artists do not have a constitutional right to unfettered access to federal dollars without any restrictions on how those dollars are spent."

Rehnquist was joined in the majority by justices Byron White, Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy and David Souter. It was Souter's first vote on an abortion-related case.

"We are pleased to see Justice David Souter join the majority opinion in this case . . .," said Michael Whitehead, general counsel for the CLC. "However, as we argued in our amicus brief, we hope that the Court will soon find the occasion to do more than uphold funding restrictions and will instead reverse Roe v. Wade outright."

The CLC joined National Right to Life in a brief in the fall asking the Court to use Rust to overturn Roe v. Wade. -30-

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Congress gives pro-choicers  
a victory

By Tom Strode

Baptist Press  
5/31/91

WASHINGTON (BP)--The first Congressional roll-call vote on abortion in 1991 proved a victory for the pro-choice community.

The House of Representatives voted May 22 to require United States armed services medical facilities overseas to provide abortion on demand when the procedure is paid for by the client. The margin was 220-208, a shift from September 1990, when a nearly identical proposal was defeated 216-220.

The vote was on an amendment offered to the Department of Defense authorization bill (HR 2100) by Rep. Les AuCoin, D.-Ore.

Critics of the amendment say it would allow abortion throughout all stages of pregnancy and would allow no exemptions for pro-life physicians or nurses who believe participating in the procedure would be immoral.

"To so entangle the U.S. government, through the medical facilities of its military branches, in the taking of unborn human life is a violation of the consciences of millions of American taxpayers who believe that abortion is murder," said James A. Smith, director of government relations for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

"While proponents of the AuCoin amendment argued that they have separated the government by requiring military women and dependents to pay for the abortion services, this is mere window dressing," Smith said. "After all, military doctors and nurses will be performing the abortions in military facilities, using equipment purchased and maintained by the military services.

"Southern Baptists should contact their senators and urge them to remove the AuCoin amendment when the Senate considers the defense authorization bill. Concerned citizens should also contact the President and ask him to veto this legislation if the abortion-on-demand provision is not removed."

A pro-life representative said during debate the White House had signaled its intentions to veto the bill if the AuCoin amendment is included. A White House spokesman could not verify such a communication.

Since 1988, the Department of Defense has allowed abortions at military hospitals and clinics on foreign soil only when the mother's life is in danger.

Senators may be contacted at United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. President George Bush may be written at The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500.

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McSwain named provost  
at Southern Seminary

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5/31/91

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Larry L. McSwain, dean of the School of Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will become provost at the Louisville, Ky., school Aug. 1.

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McSwain has taught church and community at Southern Seminary since 1970. The Pond Creek, Okla., native has been dean since 1988 and was the seminary's director of master of divinity studies from 1980-83. As provost, he will be the seminary's chief academic officer. He succeeds G. Willis Bennett who is retiring after 32 years as a professor and administrator.

McSwain, 50, earned the bachelor of arts degree from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, the bachelor of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and the doctor of sacred theology degree from Southern Seminary. McSwain has been pastor of Southern Baptist churches in Oklahoma and Indiana. He has authored or co-authored three books and written numerous articles.

Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt said he appointed McSwain because of his "outstanding leadership qualities and his proven effectiveness as a teacher and administrator."

McSwain's responsibilities as theology school dean will be assumed temporarily by Walter C. Jackson, professor of ministry and director of supervised ministry experience at the seminary. Jackson, who will be acting dean for the 1991-92 academic year, joined the faculty in 1982.

Honeycutt said a permanent dean for the school will be named no later than next spring. The new theology dean will be "an evangelical scholar as defined in the Covenant Renewal document" recently adopted by the school's faculty and trustees, he said.

In the covenant, faculty and trustees agreed to fill future teaching positions with "conservative evangelical scholars."

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Soldiers of Gulf War  
pave way for ministry

By Frank Wm. White

SSB

Baptist Press  
5/31/91

NASHVILLE (BP)--When U.S. soldiers moved into Iraq in late February they not only freed Kuwait from aggression but also may have unwittingly opened doors for new ministries by Southern Baptists and other organizations.

Many organizations, including Southern Baptists, have found new opportunities to send volunteer doctors and relief supplies to Kurdish refugee camps in Iraq and Iran. That may be only the beginning of what can happen in the aftermath of the Gulf War.

America's presence in the Gulf shattered many stereotypes.

Particularly in Iraq, the government's controlled information system had told the people that all Americans are "infidels" who cannot be trusted.

The American army, the people were told, was ruthless and U.S. soldiers would torture them if they ever reached Iraqi soil. The U.S. Army's four-day sweep deep into Iraq and the subsequent stay in Iraqi territory gave the people first-hand knowledge of a different U.S. Army than had been described to them.

As the thousands of Iraqi soldiers surrendered to U.S. forces they found that they were not tortured but were treated kindly and given food, clothing and shelter.

In the days following the Feb. 28 cease-fire, Iraqi soldiers continued to surrender to U.S. forces because they had learned they could get food and shelter that otherwise had not been available to them.

While U.S. forces remained in Iraq south of the Euphrates River until the formal withdrawal of troops was arranged, the people of the southern Iraq region also found a spontaneous and freely given compassion from the U.S. soldiers.

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The same soldiers who had fiercely fought their way across the desert in their destructive Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles were now providing food for the people whose lives had been disrupted by the fighting.

Then, as refugees fled from civil strife in Basra and elsewhere, the U.S. soldiers began to provide refuge for them.

Seemingly overnight, the U.S. military machine turned from an aggressive fighting force to a benevolent humanitarian organization. As the soldiers' own food supplies ran low from the increased demands, leaders made arrangements to provide additional food supplies for the civilians. When baby formula became an obvious need, Army leaders saw to it that ample supplies were provided with unusual speed.

Just as the Iraqi soldiers expressed surprise at the kind treatment from their American captors, the civilians expressed gratitude to the people who gave them aid.

At the Safwan Temporary Refugee Site in southern Iraq within sight of the Kuwait border, as many as 12,000 Iraqis found comfort at the hands of soldiers from the U.S. Army's 3rd Armored Division.

"We were told you would kill us and torture us. That was not true. Saddam tried to kill us. He has tortured us. You have helped us," an Iraqi man said on a hot, dusty afternoon in the Safwan site as he sat with a group of other men expressing gratitude to U.S. soldiers.

With broken English and some interpreting for others who could not find the English words to describe their feelings, several of the men expressed thanks for the soldiers who, at least temporarily, had limited the power of the Saddam machine.

Each man in turn told how he escaped with his family, without his family or had seen his family murdered by Saddam's Army. Some showed scars, wounds or roughly healing broken bones to add credibility to their tales of horror. They begged the U.S. soldiers to stay and protect them from the brutality of their own government.

Later, one man stood by a U.S. Army vehicle and pleaded for the Americans not to leave. "It would be better for me to lie down here and let you crush my head under your wheels than for me to return home." His dark eyes reflected his anguish as he said, "That would be a better death for me than to die at the hand's of Saddam's army."

Children in the refugee camps and towns found soldiers to be softhearted sources for food -- especially candy -- or perhaps radios, watches, ink pens or any other item the children could find to treasure. Many children often were content with the security of holding a soldier's hand, walking with him wherever he went.

Youths with little to occupy their time in the refugee camps found the soldiers readily accepted challenges to reflex games, arm wrestling or other tests of strength. They developed temporary bonds of friendship despite the language barrier and cultural disparity.

From young children to old men, many Iraqis had personal contact with Americans that shattered the tales of demagoguery.

As those refugees travel to other countries or as those youths and children become adults, the brief contact with compassionate Americans may provide an open door for ministry.

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Frank Wm. White, a newswriter in the Sunday School Board's office of communications, has returned from the Persian Gulf. He is a Tennessee National Guard public affairs officer and was assigned to the U.S. Army's VII Corps Public Affairs. This story represents his impressions while in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq.

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Southern Seminary  
honors Kathryn Chapman

N-60  
SBTS  
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LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Kathryn N. Chapman, professor of childhood education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, is the first recipient of the Louisville, Ky., school's Findley B. and Louvenia Edge Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence.

Chapman, a faculty member at Southern since 1978, was selected by a committee composed of faculty, student and alumni representatives. The award, named in honor of the emeritus professor of Christian education at the seminary and his wife, has been endowed by the Edges and friends of the couple.

The recipient receives a cash prize of \$2,500. The honoree is selected on the basis of effective teaching, personal care for students and demonstrated concern for students' spiritual development.

Chapman, a native of Crawfordville, Ga., was director of children's work at Third Baptist Church in St. Louis for six years prior to joining the seminary faculty. She earned the B.S. degree from Georgia College in Milledgeville, the M.R.E. degree from Southern Seminary and the Ed.D. degree from St. Louis University. Before beginning her seminary studies, Chapman was a fifth grade public school teacher in Atlanta for eight years. She is the author of three books and numerous articles.

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Southern graduates urged  
to seek 'God's middle time'

N-60  
SBTS  
K Baptist Press  
5/31/91

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Southern Baptist Theological Seminary graduates were urged at the school's 167th commencement to steer a middle course amidst the diverse demands of the Christian faith.

Barbara Brown Zikmund, president of Hartford (Conn.) Seminary, urged the 267 graduates at the Louisville, Ky., seminary May 24 to seek "God's middle time" as they form their ministries.

Zikmund, citing the work of sociologist David Byers, identified four polarities that have helped shape Christianity throughout its history:

-- the need for individual salvation versus the collective needs of the whole faith community.

-- the need to nurture an intimate relationship with God versus the need to build relationships with other people.

-- the need to define orthodoxy versus the need for freedom in Christ.

--the need for pastoral ministry versus the need for a prophetic witness.

Effective Christian leaders, she said, balance the tensions between the polarities of the Christian life. "Your faithfulness is always found in the midst of ambiguity," said Zikmund.

During the commencement, the seminary presented the first Findley B. and Louvenia Edge Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence to Kathryn Chapman, professor of childhood education. Findley Edge is emeritus professor of Christian education at the school. The award was endowed by the Edges and friends of the couple. Chapman has taught at the seminary since 1978.

In a separate ceremony the same day, the seminary's Boyce Bible School awarded certificates and diplomas to 59 graduates. Boyce, founded in 1974, provides ministerial training for persons without college degrees.

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Christian fiction author hopes  
book will lead others to Christ

By Chip Alford

F.S.B.

COLUMBUS, Ohio (BP)--Colleen Snyder cannot imagine life without books.

"My earliest childhood memories are of my mother reading 'Winnie the Pooh' to us kids," said the 36-year-old Columbus, Ohio, bookkeeper and budding author. "She would sit there with this stuffed bear on her lap and act out all the characters. It was wonderful."

Snyder continues the tradition with her own children, Katie, 10, and 7-year-old Mark Jr., better known as "Bear." But she was determined to share a more eternal message with her kids than could be conveyed through humorous bedtime stories.

After becoming a Christian as a young adult, Snyder developed a voracious appetite for books with religious themes.

"Somebody introduced me to the C.S. Lewis 'Chronicles of Narnia' books and I loved them," Snyder said, referring to a series of fiction fantasy novels by the British scholar/theologian. "When Katie got old enough I began reading them to her, and we read through them twice and she still wanted to hear them again."

But rather than read through the series a third time, Snyder decided to take a stab at writing her own children's book.

"I had been writing a lot for years, not for publication, just for my own enjoyment," said Snyder. "But I thought I might be able to write a story that could get across to Katie and Bear some biblical principles, so that they could come to faith in Jesus as children instead of having to wait until they are grown up like I did."

"I saw that C.S. Lewis incorporated fantasy into his writing and that you can marry fantasy and Christianity without losing the message of Christ. Seeing how well he did it made me at least want to try."

Initially, Snyder wrote her "book" as a story to read only to her children. She wrote each chapter in longhand while her daughter was away at kindergarten. The story revolved around two children, Katie and Mark, who were on a mystical journey to "Chayah," the Hebrew word for "life" or "heaven."

"I wrote a chapter a day so we could read something new each night," Snyder remembered. "And Katie was a very strict editor because if I ever didn't come through she would say, 'But Mommy, you promised me a new chapter.'"

The handwritten manuscript was finished in less than three weeks, and Snyder typed the first copy with then two-year-old Bear lying across her shoulder. She eventually shared the story with a "writing buddy" from California who encouraged her to revise the story and submit it for publication.

"I had to make some changes," Snyder explained. "There were some theological kinks that had to be worked out, and then I decided to turn the whole story into an allegory that would demonstrate the journey to faith in Christ."

Snyder made several revisions before submitting the manuscript to publishers for consideration. The story title was changed from "Journey to Chayah" to "Journey to Amanah." "Amanah" is the Hebrew word for "faith." Most of the characters were given Hebrew names with meanings relative to their role in the story, and their ages were changed to make them appeal to teen-agers and young adults, as well as children.

As most writers do, Snyder had to face rejections before Broadman Press agreed to publish "Journey to Amanah: The Beginning." The book, which is being billed as a Christian fiction novel, is scheduled for a July release.

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In its published form, "Journey to Amanah" follows the adventures of Rachael and Jonathan Adamson. On their mystical journey, the two learn about "Haben Jah" (the Son of God), and must decide whether to trust him or "Adam Chata," (man of sin) the evil governor of "Tebel-Ayr" (city of confusion).

Tempted at every turn, the young travelers are led astray by false guides who take them to dangerous locations like "The City of Delights" and the "Pit of Despair." They are given helpful guides as well, but in the end it is their own faith that determines whether they arrive at their destination.

In many ways, Snyder said the story parallels her own journey of faith.

"On New Year's Eve in 1974 I was alone in my apartment. I can remember getting on my knees and crying out to God, if there was a God, to take my life and do something with it, or I'd take it myself," Snyder recalled.

"That night while I cried and prayed I felt a peace and I knew everything was going to be all right."

A short time later Snyder joined the Air Force and was assigned to a missile unit squadron in North Carolina.

"My squadron commander and immediate supervisor were born-again Christians. They took me under their wing and their families kind of adopted me and got me involved in a Bible study. That is where my walk with the Lord really began and I've been walking with him ever since."

Today, Snyder is an active member at Trinity Grace Brethren Church in Columbus with her husband, Mark. But like the characters in her book, she, too, has faced obstacles in her Christian pilgrimage. One was overcoming the New Age philosophy she had been taught during her childhood and adolescence. She purposely included New Age terminology and ideas in her book and had the characters discover them to be false teachings.

"I was hoping to counter a lot of the New Age philosophy that is being taught out there today, the subtlety of it, how it twists Scripture and results in confusion," she said.

Perhaps more important, though, is Snyder's hope that the book will actually become a tool for evangelism. She was thrilled when Broadman asked her to include her Christian testimony as an epilogue to the story.

"My hope for this book is that someone would read it and come to faith in Christ," she said. "If only one person does that, then it will have all been worth it."

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(BP) photos mailed to state Baptist newspapers by SSB Bureau of Baptist Press

RTVC employee receiving  
an Emmy nomination

Baptist Press  
5/31/91  
N-10 JMC RTVC

FORT WORTH (BP)--An Emmy Award nomination has been received by Radio and Television Commission producer and director Bernie Hargis for his work on the commission's documentary "Winds of Freedom."

Hargis received a letter from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences that he has been nominated for the honor in the 1991 Daytime Emmy Awards competition. The nomination is for "Outstanding Achievement in Directing -- Special Class."

Hargis will attend the awards presentation in Los Angeles June 22.

The Radio-TV Commission produced "Winds of Freedom," hosted by David Hartman, formerly of Good Morning America for the ABC Television Network.

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The documentary explores the role individual Christians and some churches played in moves toward democracy in countries where new freedoms offer opportunities for individual Christian growth and innovative ways of spreading the gospel.

"Winds of Freedom" recently won a Silver Angel award from Excellence in Media, a non-profit Los Angeles organization that honors creators of media that are deemed to be outstanding and to have high moral, spiritual or social impact.

"Winds of Freedom" was videotaped on location in Russia, Romania, Hungary and East Berlin.

Hargis was director and associate producer of the Radio-TV Commission documentary "China: Walls and Bridges," also made for ABC Television, which won an Emmy in 1989 and a Silver Angel in 1990.