

70 YEARS OF
BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

1950



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P.O. Box 309
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BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE



ROBERT HODGES



BERTHIE WOOD



LELAND HOMER



LORRAINE TRAYFORD



EDWARD SAUNDERS



JOHN BLAND



JACK MCEWEN



G. B. VICK PRES.



HAROLD JAYNE



JEAN LOWRY



GENE MILIONI



DORIS WITMEYER



ALBERT FARE



IRENE JIMENEZ



CLYDE BOYD

CLASS OF 1951

BBC

...AT THE BEGINNING

CRAIG
PHOTO CO.



ON THE TABLE

RANDY HARP

BBFI COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR

I am excited for you to read through this special, commemorative edition of the *Tribune* as we celebrate the 70th graduating class of Baptist Bible College. I graduated from BBC in 1999. I know there have been several great classes, but I will argue with anyone that this class was one of the best. Many of my best friends today are the friendships I established while a student. Many of my best memories today are those I experienced while a student. I heard Elmer Towns describe what makes BBC great. He said it isn't the amazing campus. It isn't the robust library. It is not even the highly qualified professors or the gifted administration.

He said what makes BBC great is the passion for evangelism and the strongest of commitments to the Word of God. Men and women for 70 years have come to BBC and left with a passion for evangelism and a commitment to the Word of

God. You hear that over and over, even as you read through the pages of this issue.

The bulk of this issue is a walk through the decades of BBC. Other than the 1950s, each author for the respective decade was a student during that decade. You will read factual information about BBC during those years as well as some personal reflections. I am sure you will also enjoy looking through the pictures and seeing how BBC has grown and changed over the years. A second feature is a personal reflection from professor Ray Adams. He holds a unique perspective of BBC as being the only person who

has worked for every president. A third feature is a brief biographical look at each of the seven presidents of BBC. Throughout, you will read several congratulatory remarks directed toward BBC and many people sharing memories. With an issue like this, it is impossible to include all that we wanted. There is a QR code here on this page you can scan to see additional

pictures. There are also several historic videos and audio clips to enjoy. I am thankful for each person who helped contribute to this special edition.

Even though this is the first print *Tribune* in a while, the BBFI Communication Office has been busy over

the last year. We have hosted two Virtual National Fellowship Meetings, organized several Zoom Conferences helping pastors and churches through the pandemic, and grown our online presence exponentially. We desire to continue to provide resources to help pastors and churches, but we can't do it without your partnership. Thank you to each church and individual that has contributed financially over the past year.

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve Christ as I serve the pastors, missionaries, and churches of the BBFI.



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COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

BAPTIST BIBLE TRIBUNE

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Randy Harp

BBFI NATIONAL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 20-22

TAKE
COURAGE

JOSHUA 1:9

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

I am grateful to have been a student at Baptist Bible College from the earliest days. I am pleased that after 70 years BBC is still training young people for ministry. Very few organizations have accomplished what the BBFI has in church planting and missions through the years. I pray God would continue to raise up pastors and missionaries through BBC to continue this great work in the years to come.

Al Janney (Class of 1952)

Little did I know that when I "entered to learn" that I would later "go forth to serve" in the state legislature. I am grateful for all I learned while attending BBC. Congratulations on 70 years of training pastors, missionaries, and teachers!

Mike Moon (Attended 1978-1979)

WORDS OF CONGRATULATIONS

Teresa and I offer our congratulations to Baptist Bible College in Springfield and the graduates of its 70th class. For 70 years, Baptist Bible College has graduated strong leaders of faith and public service, and we are proud to have such great training institutions like this one right here in Missouri. Congratulations to all on this milestone!

MO Governor Mike Parson

Congratulations graduates Baptist Bible College is one of the most powerful ministry training tools in God's hand in the past 70 years. In 1969, I wrote The 10 Largest Sunday Schools in the America and five of the pastors of these churches were affiliated with BBC in Springfield. No college has produced more megachurch planters who have gone out with only three years of training, yet, built incredibly influential soul wining churches and impacted America and the world. May each of your graduates walk in their shadows, yet build churches just as influential as those early pioneers. Now, let's complete the Great Commission in our generation.

Elmer Towns (Adjunct Professor 2013 and 2016)

Congratulations to Baptist Bible College on the graduation of your 70th class. What a great accomplishment! What a great legacy!

Thom Rainer

CONTINUED
ON P. 46



BBFI

CELEBRATING

BBC'S INFLUENCE AROUND THE WORLD

TIM ADRIAN

BBFI PRESIDENT

My parents served God faithfully within our Fellowship during their entire 64-year marriage. They fell in love as teenagers at BBC. Their story is not unique.

BBC. Marriage. Ministry. Two generations later, my daughter Rachel repeated the same pattern. Down through the years, I guess I've met a thousand people with virtually the same experience. Perhaps this narrative has been discounted from time to time, but what could be more beautiful than two starry-eyed kids committing to love each other and serve God for the rest of their lives? Much of our Fellowship has been built on BBC couples that served the Lord as teammates all across our country and the world.

The shadow of BBC falls across virtually everyone in our Fellowship. Graduates have served both within and outside of our BBF network, and many have accomplished the purposes of God in amazing ways. Thousands of former BBC kids challenged to live a life of faithfulness while at school have done just that. They have served often in lonely places without a lot of human fanfare, but under the full attention of God.

The preachers of our Fellowship have long been identified as passionate, vibrant, and at times animated pulpiteers. Singer and comedian Mark Lowry described Independent Baptist preachers by saying, "They may not have been accurate, but they were never in doubt." Putting the humor aside, our preachers have always been strong and authoritative defenders of the Gospel. While many things are taught in a classroom, the preaching skillset was observed firsthand by an ongoing parade of enthusiastic speakers. Jerry Thorpe once told me, "When I got to BBC, the preaching literally changed my life. What I heard in chapel and at High Street Baptist challenged me in multiple ways."

Much of the work of God in our Fellowship has been possible because of networking. Joint efforts between churches

and missionaries have taken the Gospel to new places and new people. The recruitment of people and the raising of funds have resulted in schools, camps, missionary endeavors, new buildings, evangelistic campaigns, and much more. This type of teamwork within our Fellowship has undoubtedly had as much impact as any other single thing. Every generation of BBC students continues to point to their "old college buddies" as some of the greatest friends of their life.

Thousands
of former BBC
kids, challenged
to live a life of
faithfulness while
at school, **have
done just that.**

Perhaps the critical component of BBC influence has been the injection of fervent zeal for ministry. Students have always been challenged to do something great for God, and thus, BBF pastors are known to be dedicated to evangelism, discipleship, and church development. This "fire in the gut" factor has spurred many to action when confronted with the spiritual need of a nation, a city, or a people. My son Matt, a 2008 BBC grad, stated, "BBC didn't just teach theology. They taught a practical application of our theology. We were exposed to people who paired our understanding of the Scriptures with our God-given mission."

Our Fellowship has always been known as a theologically conservative group. From

time to time, we have argued somewhat over the finer points. However, there has never been a need to debate amongst ourselves the Virgin Birth, the Blood Atonement, the Inspiration of Scripture, the Deity of Christ, or His Bodily Resurrection. Our BBF is and always has been convinced of these truths. We've spent most of our time and energy pushing the Gospel forward and not debating our core beliefs. We owe much of this blessing to the fact our fundamental doctrines have been taught and emphasized at BBC throughout its existence.

Even to this present day, BBC grads continue to do amazing things. Pastors of rapidly growing churches, university presidents, missionaries with phenomenal ministries, leaders, and contributors to para-church organizations, youth pastors, professors, writers, teachers, and the list could go on and on. It has been accurately stated, "The proof of a school is found in their graduates." Those tempted to say BBC has lost its edge only need to look as far as the most recent alumni.

Many in our Fellowship didn't attend BBC but were certainly and dramatically affected by it, nonetheless. I graduated from a school where virtually every administrator and professor were graduates of BBC. A similar ministry

philosophy, emphasis on work ethic, value of innovation, and zeal for eternal souls was pushed deep into my heart. Perhaps this explains why our international Bible colleges and institutes have proven to be so effective.

It will take heaven to reveal the global impact of the Baptist Bible Fellowship. The Gospel has been preached, churches have been built, leaders have been trained, and thousands upon thousands either have or will enter the Lord's presence. Our Fellowship is identified by missionaries, pastors, churches, higher learning institutions, and a great deal more. If a living pulse of the BBF has been felt in nearly every corner of this world, it has largely been Baptist Bible College providing the heartbeat.



BBFI MISSIONS
**70 YEARS OF
MISSIONS AT BBC**

JON KONNERUP
BBFI MISSION DIRECTOR

As we approach the milestone celebration of Baptist Bible College's 70th Commencement Exercise, it seems fitting to reflect on all God has done through the BBFI around the world for God's glory. Over 20,000 churches have been started, and many of those are starting new churches as well. Most of our missionaries have been trained through Baptist Bible College in Springfield, MO. Just think of all the people worldwide who will get to spend eternity with Jesus because of the BBC's ministry.

My parents, Richard and Jeannine Konnerup, were trained at BBC in the late 1950s and served in Africa for 58 years planting churches in Ethiopia and Kenya. My brother, Ole Konnerup, and his wife, Renee, both attended BBC and have served in Kenya for over 40 years. My sister, Jacque, attended BBC and worked in the Mission Office twice in the 1970s and 2000s until she retired.

Several years ago, I met with a media organization that used to visit missionaries worldwide and tell their stories on cable TV and videotape. Their representative told me, in their opinion, that BBFI missionaries were doing the most effective work in church planting and training national leaders of all they had seen. They believed it was because of their training and preparation.

A now-retired pastor, who did not come from a BBF church, once told me he was leaning toward missions. He asked his pastor, who was not a BBF pastor, where he should study to be a missionary. His pastor said, "If you are going to be a missionary, you need to go to Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri, to get the best education possible for missions."

BBC still plays a significantly vital role today concerning the mission efforts of the BBFI. Our colleges still provide the training that is required to serve with the BBFI on the mission field. In every country I visit, the missionaries express the need for more missionaries.

The world population is growing at a fast rate. With that growth comes a greater responsibility to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. There are currently more opportunities to spread the Gospel than ever before. Therefore, it is imperative that we see men and women answering God's call to missions. In Matthew 9:38, we are commanded to pray for more laborers to fulfill the Great Commission. In response to this command, the BBFI Mission Office has launched Project 938 to rally churches to pray for more laborers. Project 938 is an intentional call for concerted prayer that men and women will hear and surrender to the call of God and will then receive their training from one of our colleges. 938 Sunday will be held on October 3, 2021, and we are encouraging churches from all over the world to come together on that day to pray for more laborers.

The same God who has worked through BBC and the BBFI is the same God who wants us to reach our world today! Will you pray?



BOSTON BAPTIST COLLEGE
**GRATEFUL
REFLECTIONS**

DAVID MELTON
BOSTON BAPTIST COLLEGE PRESIDENT

I spent a lot of time in my youth hanging around BBC since my Dad was a professor for a long time. Some of my memories are pretty embarrassing. I remember as a young kid going to the "new" field house to see basketball games. It really struck me as appropriate this year that the Patriots won another championship! In my kid days, the recognitions were yet in the future, but those teams played so hard - and we cheered HARD! I used to wander away from my family and sit alone a few rows behind the visitor bench...for the express reason to yell at the refs. I was really letting them have it one night when I failed to realize that W.E. Dowell had slipped in to pull for the team and was just a couple of rows in front of me. After a horrendous call (it must have been!) I told the refs how dumb they were, and blind, how badly they needed glasses...and suddenly that giant of a man (in so many ways), the president of the college, MY DAD'S BOSS, looked up at me and gently (and appropriately) scolded me. Whew. I went for a coke a few minutes later and hid in the lobby for the rest of that game - certainly a bit wiser.

I have another memory that rushes back to me that also includes Dr. Dowell. I feel honored to say that as a kid, my parents took me to G.B. Vick's funeral. I had never been to such an event and haven't been to many like it since. Dr. Vick, the founding President, had come to Springfield from Detroit and had died at his desk while at the college. There was even something appropriate about that - for the one who had done so much. I remember sitting in stunned silence in the vast audience as tributes were paid to Dr. Vick. But I have one memory above them all from that day. Dr. Dowell got up to conclude the memorial and told us that the original plan was to have Dr. Vick's body rolled out of the Fieldhouse by the funeral director. But then, with a choked voice, Dr. Dowell told us that one of the men up front, from that group of the founders, had said, "I think we ought to carry the chief out." And so they did. I hadn't cried in public very many times until that moment. It wasn't so embarrassing though, everybody wept.

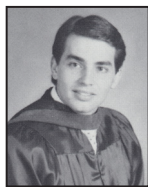
I have been privileged to know and in recent cases, work with every president of BBC. It's a terribly difficult job and a job that absolutely comes with a double helping of criticism. But God has provided BBC with remarkable leaders for each moment along the way. I would be terribly remiss if I didn't share an encounter between Boston Baptist College and President Mike Randall. Somehow, I'm sure from back in the day when for a short while, Boston was a branch campus of BBC, the title deed for the Boston campus had been signed over to BBC. Years later, when we were working on a refinance in Boston, a lawyer called and told us, "Your property belongs to somebody out in Missouri!" Nightmare scenarios took little imagination! I contacted Dr. Randall. His simple and immediate response, "Well, you just send me what we need to sign, and we will fix this immediately!" I have never forgotten his godliness. I never will.

Happy Birthday, BBC. Thank you for your footprint across the globe. Thank you for your leaders, from G.B. Vick to Mark Milioni, who have guided you through all kinds of storms and victories with skill, perseverance, and heart. Full steam ahead.



70 YEARS OF HISTORY 1950-2020

BAPTIST BIBLE



MARK MILIONI
BBC PRESIDENT

How many thousands of us can re-tell the story? The story is that of the Texas Hotel in Ft.

Worth, TX and the birth of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, Baptist Bible College, Baptist Bible Fellowship Missions Office and the Baptist Bible Tribune. There are indeed thousands that can tell the story, even if the story seems to change a bit every time it is told.

Our founders are legends. Worthy of great honor, those men stood and spoke with courage in a very difficult situation and atmosphere for what they believed. Out of their willingness to try, they would birth one of the most powerful gospel training and sending stations the world has ever known. Into every state in America and to many foreign countries pastors and missionaries came to study and learn at Baptist Bible College.

Beginning with very humble settings – old Army barracks, classrooms graciously held in the High Street Baptist Church until buildings on campus were finished, students came – not because of the facilities, not because of the location, and not necessarily because of the people leading classes. Students began to flock to BBC because it was a place of great passion.

Passion for the lost was mentioned in every class, passion for the gospel was urged by every professor, passion for doctrine, passion for godly life – BBC was a place of passion for God. Hearts were on fire and students not only couldn't wait to come and learn, they couldn't wait to go and serve.

Those early years and decades were

filled with a special spirit, a spirit of intensity for God, for the gospel and for each other. Like a mighty army, they were prepared and sent with the support of a new and growing Fellowship. Like the Apostle Paul, the new graduates were willing to go where the gospel had never been preached.

With a focus on preparation for full-time ministry, students were lectured and challenged to serve in a local church, plant a church in the United States or to go and plant a church in a foreign country. This was the place to prepare.

The halls, classrooms and dorms have experienced nearly 50,000 students and over 12,000 graduates have been on the campus of Baptist Bible College over the years. Many came with no idea of where they would go after graduation, they simply came to learn, and to listen for God's direction.

More than just an academic experience, BBC was a life-shaping atmosphere. From all over the country students learned together, had fun together, and went through difficulties together. Fellow students became friends for life, whether near or far, we cheered for each other, we wept and prayed for each other. There is a spirit of brother and sister hood that is hard to put into words. Students from every decade have a love, respect and admiration for each other. We love to share our stories and memories with each other.

Many like to talk about the leaders of their time at BBC. Men like G.B. Vick, John Rawlings, W.E. Dowell, R.O. Woodworth, Noel Smith, Wendell Zimmerman, Ford Harper, Fred and Effie Donnelson, James

Combs, A.V. Henderson, Parker Dailey, Bill Sears, David Cavin, Curtis Goldman and many others.

Students love to remember their favorite professors. Faculty are truly the heart of a college, pouring themselves into their students. Which professor stand out to you? Can you remember Eli Harju, Kevin McAndrews, John Ross, or Earl Smith? Maybe you came in later years and think about Ken and Norma Gillming, James Sewell, Hunter Sherman, Bill Bartlett, Ray Adams, Richard Bemart, Ken Howard, Bill Dowell Jr., Wilma Boyd, Joe Gleason, Russ Dell, Ray Pratt, Ken and Carrie Liles, Robert Terry, Richard and Beverly Boland, David and Barbara Lingo, Bill Levergood, Shirley McCullough, Shirley Johnson, Leo Thompson and Mary Herman.

In years to come BBC graduates will talk about Kevin Carson, Craig Dunning, Randy Harp, Julie Beck, Chris Beck, Steve Dowell, Terry Wallace, Cindy Evans, Bill and Mary Ann Piatt, Steve Mowris, Lisa Brown and Danny McNamara. (Apologies for not naming more, all are appreciated.)

BBC has been served by faithful leaders, each facing difficulties, dealing with pastors, students, faculties, facilities and finances. Founding President G.B. Vick was a master organizer, recognized by world leaders with respect and admiration. He not only served as President of the fastest growing Bible college in America he also served as the pastor of one of the largest churches in America at the same time. His successor, W.E. Dowell, was known for his booming prophetic voice and compassionate



COLLEGE

heart. The third President, A.V. Henderson was known as a premier pulpiteer. Known for shorter messages with deep powerful truths. Dr. Leland Kennedy led BBC through precarious times with insightful knowledge of the BBFI. Fifth President Mike Randall, a former professor, local pastor and Editor of the Baptist Bible Tribune worked to develop BBC academically and to give needed attention to the facilities. Sixth President Jim Edge served with a great passion and friendship to the student body. Seventh and current President Mark Milioni is leading BBC to a renewed health, a strong foundation and vision for the future. President Milioni is unique in that his parents are products of the ministry of G.B. Vick and Temple Baptist Church in Detroit, MI.

Just as the calendar changes, the news changes, politics changes so does the culture and church world. The Fellowship today is not what it used to be, but neither are churches or Christianity in America. However, there are some things that remain the same – God’s Word, God’s Ways and God’s heart to reach the world. That is why BBC is needed today more than ever.

To continue to make a difference, BBC has expanded degree programs and opportunities. Students will find more degree

programs and options. This is important as new avenues of ministry are found in churches, businesses and education.

Today students are still taught the fundamentals of the faith, challenged to share their faith and taught the basics of leading a church and ministry. They are taught Scripture, history of Christianity and even the stories of the Baptist Bible Fellowship. Our students are active in local churches, hear challenging speakers in chapel and still have fun in the dorms. BBC is both alike and different from our past.

In the words of G.B., “Our methods may change but our message will be the same.”

Baptist Bible College has been used by God to reach the world. May we continue to be used by God in a powerful way.

The halls, classrooms and dorms have experienced **nearly 50,000 students, and over 12,000 graduates** have been on the campus of Baptist Bible College over the years.

THROUGH THE DECADES

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1950

R.O. Woodworth addresses Baptist Bible College supporters at the first groundbreaking on the property.



By Jon Jones
Class of 1998

BBC IN THE 1950s

THE FOUNDATIONAL YEARS

The beginning of Baptist Bible College (BBC) in May of 1950 was remarkable, to say the least. The Baptist Bible Fellowship, Baptist Bible College (BBC), and the *Baptist Bible Tribune* were all conceived simultaneously on May 24, 1950, as over 100 people gathered for the purpose of deciding to start a new college. While the college was formed as part of a break from the World Fundamental Baptist Missionary Fellowship (WFBMF), the beginnings of the college were born out of intense unity behind the mission of planting and building local churches, sending out missionaries, and training up Christian workers to serve around the world. Following the unanimous agreement at the famous Texas Hotel Meeting in Fort Worth, Texas. The group

chose Springfield, Missouri as the location for the college. Classes were slated to begin in September, a mere four months away.

As part of the foundational meetings, G.B. Vick was elected as the president of the college. The first trustees elected were Dr. Dallas Billington, Akron Baptist Temple (Akron, Ohio), Rev. Loys Vess, Central Baptist Church (Denton, Texas), Rev. John Rawlings, Central Baptist Church (Tyler, Texas), Rev. Charles McDowell, Fellowship Baptist Church (Borger, Texas), Rev. Wendell Zimmerman, Kansas City Baptist Temple (Kansas City, Missouri), Rev. William Beall, Southside Baptist Church (Denison, Texas), and Rev. J.C. Brown, Grace Baptist Church (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma). Rev. Wendell

Zimmerman was elected as the chairman of the trustees. History portrays Vick as a master leader who was adept at organization, administration, and personnel selection. All of these skills would be needed right away as the college lacked land, buildings, and necessary governmental approvals. On June 23, 1950, the *Baptist Bible Tribune's* inaugural issue reported the trustees of the college had purchased a five-acre property that had previously been a city park.

By June 30, the college had received a decree that allowed the college to operate as a non-profit, tax-exempt educational institution.[v] By the end of July, the Tribune reported that the college had broken ground on a two-story dorm that could accommodate up to 128 students. [vi]



May 1951
Students in the cafeteria
during BBC's first
commencement week



1956
Shorthand class



1954 Basketball team
Front row: Alva Johnston, Don McSpadden, Jerry Falwell, Tommy Trammel, Charlie Talley
Back row: Melvin Quinlan, Willard Stafford, Harry Tays, Leland Kennedy, Harold Rawlings



1955
Quartet

Notable Alumni by Year

Concerning the BBF, it could be argued that the 1950s had as many notable alumni as any decade. The challenge of any list like this is leaving someone off. In the given list, you will find a list of wonderful servants of Christ, many who are no longer with us. However, do not consider the list exhaustive into outstanding graduates from the 1950s.

Class of 1951

The inaugural graduating class of 17 students includes such familiar names as Robert Hodges, Harold Jayne, and Gene Milioni. Gene Milioni pastored the same church in Findlay, Ohio, for almost 50 years. His nephew, Mark Milioni, is the current president of the college.

Class of 1952

The class of 1952 was almost double the size of 1951 and included graduates such as Al Janney, James Barta, and Carl Bush.

Class of 1953

In 1953, the college topped 50 graduates for the first time as BBC continued to grow. Some notable graduates from this

class are Bill Sears, Julius Blaz, Dale and Wilma Barton, Neal Brillhart, Richard and Peggy Boone, Ralph Liles, Joe Lingo, Herb Rawlings, and Bernie Rogers.

Class of 1954

In 1954, the graduation class surpassed 60 students with notable graduates Logan Coffey, Eli Harju, Dorothy Hooge, Dixie



I came to BBC from a farming community in Iowa. God called me to preach, and I needed training. This decision took me around the world and changed my life. **I will always be thankful for the ministry of Baptist Bible College.** Congratulations as you celebrate 70 years.

Boyd Lyons (Class of 1956)
missionary to the Philippines



1950
Campus library



1953
Opening Day assembly

"The faculty was composed of nine 'regular faculty' members and approximately ten 'special instructors.'"



1950
Back row: Jim White, Earl Smith, Freda Smith, Althea Barlow, Dorothy Woodworth, Kevin McAndrews, and Noel Smith
Front row: John Ross, Fred Donnelson, John Rawlings, G.B. Vick, W.E. Dowell, R.O. Woodworth

According to the Tribune, the initial faculty of Baptist Bible College was composed of the following: **G. Beauchamp Vick**, president, Sunday School Administration and conducting; **W. E. Dowell**, president of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, Pentateuch; **Noel Smith**, Theology and Bible Analysis; **John Ross**, Expositions and Prophetic Outlines; **R. O Woodworth**, manager, Synthesis and Personal Evangelism; **Earl Smith**, Elementary Theory and Wind Instruments; **Mrs. Freda Smith**, Piano and Organ; **Fred Donnelson**, Missions, Life of Christ, Life of Paul and Church History; **Kevin McAndrews**, English and Speech.[vii]

Dorothy Woodworth, Kevin McAndrews, Noel Smith.



1955
Opening week

Hathaway, Harold Rawlings, and Jewell Smith.

Class of 1955

As the college reached its fifth graduating class, it continued to grow in size and produce world changers. Some notable graduates from this class are Clyde Aynes, Bill Fortson, Ford Harper, Marvin Hooze, Bob Hughes, Alta Lingo, and Mary O'Dell.

Class of 1956

The class of 1956 was the largest one yet and included notable graduates such as Jerry Falwell, Alvis Edmonson, Granville LaForge, Boyd Lyons, J.T. McCracken, Manuel Nevius, and Lavonne Steffy.

Class of 1957

This class continues to provide many names known throughout the BBF and beyond. This was the first graduating class that was more than 100. Notable graduates include Bill and Bernice Brewer, Marjorie Browning, Elmer and Mary Deal, Don Davis, J.C. Joiner, Jess Hill, Leland Kennedy, David Steffy, and Damon and Faye Woods.

Class of 1958

BBC topped 500 students for the first time in 1958. Some of those graduates in 1958 include Ken Adrian, Georgine Brooks, Mel Brown, Len Chavis, George Golden, Richard Hester, Don Ledbetter, Tom McGrath, Fred Neidy, and Harry Vickery.

Class of 1959

The last class of the decade would prove to be the largest in BBCs short history. Notable graduates from 1959 include Lonnie Brooks, Jerry Byars, and Bruce Melton.

Campus Activities

There were many activities for students to be involved in during the early years of the college. All of the yearbooks from the 1950s reflect fairly elaborate Halloween parties, many of which were held at the fairgrounds. It seems that most of the classes had yearly class parties that were often held at the class sponsor's house. Mission Prayer Band was attended by numerous students and included a significant variety of activities at the



1954

Construction on the Administration building



1956

Missions students



I think back on the summer of 1949, when I surrendered my life to the Lord's work at a youth camp in Turner Falls, OK, along with forty-some others, who made the same decision. This group of young people made up almost half of the first year class at BBC in 1950. **The training I received in those three years, formed the future of my ministry endeavors**, of which I'm truly thankful.

Herb Rawlings (Class of 1953)

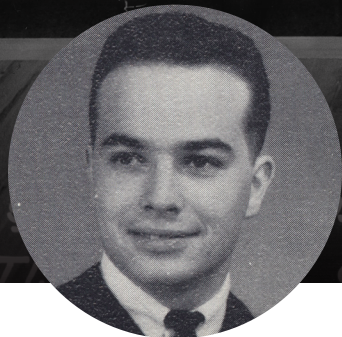
meetings. Student wives had weekly Bible Studies available to them, which helped them grow in their faith, feel connected, and make friends. The school had various singing groups such as the college choir, ensembles, trios, and quartets to be involved in. The yearbook staff was student-led, and students also published a campus newspaper. The Tribune also provided students with a small number of work opportunities.

Basketball games and intramural sports provided more extra-curricular activities for both athletes as well as spectators. Lastly, it should be noted that many students were pastoring local churches while completing their education.

A Growing Campus

With a student body experiencing continuous growth throughout the 1950s, came the need

for additional facilities. The campus property was in a near-constant state of construction seeing building projects that included Berea Hall – Boys dormitory (1951), Bethany Hall – Girls dormitory (1953), Administration Building A (1954), Berea Annex – Zimmerman Hall (1955), Administration Building B (1956), Fine Arts Auditorium (1956), Dean of Women Apartment (1957), and Bethany Hall Annex (1959).



By Mike Randall
Class of 1963

BBC
IN THE

1960s

A SPECIAL TIME FOR BBC

For many reasons, the decade of the 1960s was special in the history of Baptist Bible College. During this period, with God's help, the school expanded in several areas with increased enrollment, improved financial support, multiple construction projects, and expanded academic programs. In the process of being trained, students themselves made life decisions and were able to discover their unique potential. Humanly speaking, support by BBFI churches and dynamic leadership made this possible.

Because of Student Enrollment

In the fall of 1960, the enrollment at Baptist Bible College was 618, an increase of 99 from the year earlier. In the fall of 1969,

the enrollment was 1,570, an increase of 154%. In 1960, 146 students graduated from the school. In 1969, the graduating class was 265 strong. In the decade, the school presented 1,767 diplomas to graduates. With larger enrollment came increased giving by churches. Receipts for 1960 totaled \$243,485. That amount grew yearly to a total of \$944,839 in 1969. These achievements in enrollment, students graduated, and finances made this decade special. (Mike Randall, *G. B. Vick, His Life and Legacy*, Springfield, Missouri, Midwest Book Services, 1998, p. 139.)

Because of Campus Development

It was during the decade of the 1960s that eight significant structures were constructed.

These facilities expanded the overall campus and impacted the experience of the student body. In 1963, the Fellowship Hall men's dormitory was constructed (later, it was renovated to become the Leland Kennedy Fine Arts Building). In 1965, two married student apartment buildings were constructed (A and B). In 1967, two more married student apartment buildings were constructed (C and D). Also, Harper Hall men's dormitory and Donnelson Hall women's dormitory were built. In 1968 and 1969, the 5,000-seat W. E. Dowell Fieldhouse was constructed, with a dining facility on the basement floor (R. O. Woodworth Dining Hall). Also, in 1969, a radio tower for the school's 100,000 watt FM station KWFC was erected on campus.



These construction projects made this decade special for BBC. (*G. B. Vick, His Life and Legacy*, p 31.)

Because of Academic Expansion

On a personal level, I enrolled at the college in 1960 and graduated in 1963. Until the early 1960s, Baptist Bible College offered only a three-year diploma in the fields of Pastoral Studies, Missions, Christian Education (Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry), Church Business (Secretarial and Administration), and Music Ministry. In 1967, I returned to the school as a faculty member, having earned a master's degree in communication at Texas Christian University. I was hired as part of the faculty, which would expand course offerings to

a fourth-year to provide a baccalaureate degree. This expansion was designed to better prepare those entering full-time vocational ministry, whatever path that might be. (The added year also helped enhance enrollment.) During the 1960s, I was pleased to work beside such distinguished faculty as Eli Harju, Peter Connolly, Ken Connolly, Don Davis, Dick Melton, Bill Sears, Richard and Jan Bemardt, Bill Bartlett, Betty Hovestrydt, Ken and Norma Gillming, Larry and Marcia Wofford, Jim Sewell, Hunter Sherman, R. O. Woodworth, Noel Smith, Jimmie and Wilma Boyd, Richard and Beverly Boland, Ed and Celia Stewart.

Because of Life Decisions

The college years are typically a period

when young adults make decisions that impact the rest of their lives. That was certainly true of me and a large majority of my classmates at Baptist Bible College. When I was a BBC student in the 1960s, I met, courted, and married my life partner, Gaylon Alexander (now Randall). It was also during this period that career decisions were made. Those called to Christian service decided to pursue the pastorate, missions, church staff, youth work, children's ministry, or Christian education. Whether seeking an internship, continuing in higher education, or accepting a position in a church or school would depend on the career decision. Finally, lifetime friendships were made during the college years at BBC. In my case, I made many lasting lifetime friendships,



1963
From city park to sprawling
campus in 13 years

I would like to express **my deepest congratulations to BBC for it's 70th year of graduating men and women for service to the Lord around the world.** God bless them and BBC for future years in His service.

Herb Gilbert (Class of 1963)

which endure to the present. Those decisions of a life partner, a lifetime ministry career, and lasting friendships made the 1960s at BBC special.

Because of Discovered Potential

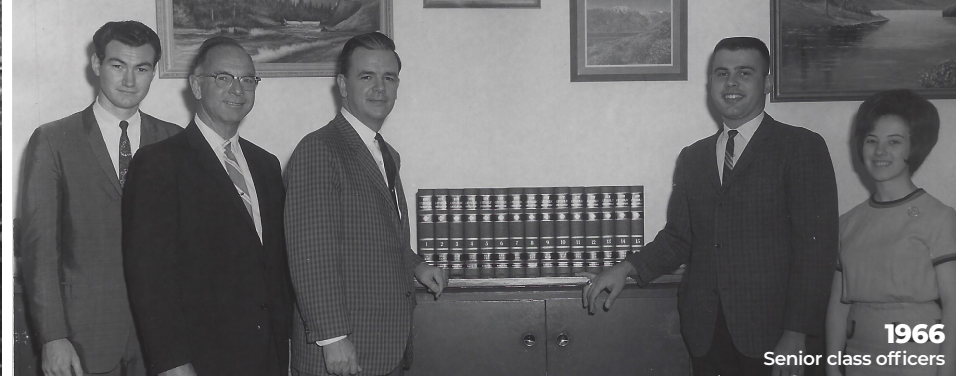
When a person is in training for vocational ministry, they don't know who among their classmates will achieve and who will not. It is also difficult for faculty to predict which students will fulfill their potential. Time, training, motivation, testing, hard work, determination, endurance, and results validate a person's vocational success. Of the 1,767 graduates of the Baptist Bible College during the decade of the 1960s, many, many achieved their potential. Originally, I thought about creating a list, but citing only ten

persons per class would exhaust this article's space. As the following paragraph shows, many more than 100 graduates during the 1960s distinguished themselves in Christian ministry after graduation. The decade was special because of discovered potential.

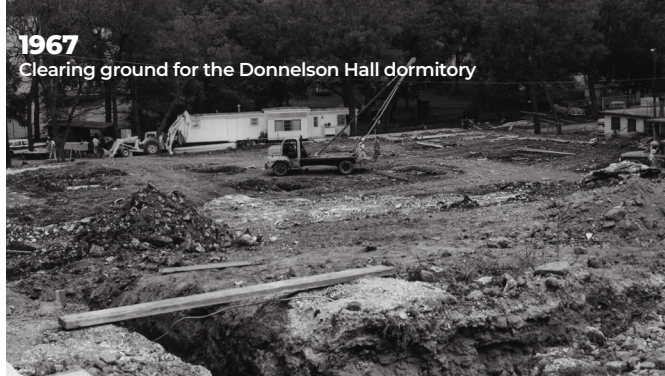
Because of a Growing Fellowship

The years of continued growth of BBC during the 1960s coincided with the growth of its parent organization, the Baptist Bible Fellowship International. The April 1969 issue of *Christian Life* magazine contained this statement, "The fastest growing denomination in the United States is the Baptist Bible Fellowship, which began in 1950 with 13 churches and now lists almost 2,000 in their yearbook. Some estimate

their membership at one million, added in less than two decades. Evangelism is their main emphasis, and their ministers invite the lost to 'walk the aisle' every Sunday to receive Christ." This growth happened because, in the 1960s, an increasing number of churches were being planted by the BBFI. Existing churches also grew, reaching new people for Christ. As a result, more young people surrendered to full-time Christian service and enrolled at Baptist Bible College. The Graduation Reporter for BBC's Graduation Fellowship Week in May 1969 stated that 700 churches provided the school monthly financial support. The growing Fellowship provided increasing numbers of students and increased funding for BBC during this special decade.



1966
Senior class officers



1967
Clearing ground for the Donnelson Hall dormitory



1969
The Vicks



1962
Graduation at the SMS fieldhouse



1968-9
Construction of the W. E. Dowell Fieldhouse

Because of Dynamic Leadership

The decade of the 1960s was the second ten years of the dynamic leadership of founding BBC President G. B. Vick (he passed away in 1975), who also pastored the 17,000+ member Temple Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan. He was on campus one week per month, where he directed operations, met with staff, conducted necessary faculty and staff meetings, and often spoke in chapel. For many years he annually taught a special lecture series to students. He determined to make the school tuition-free, so all persons who felt called by God could attend. His desire was for BBC to be unique and a leader among Bible colleges. His leadership and financial acumen enabled him to elicit giving from

pastors/churches and raise large amounts of money to cover school operations and build needed facilities. When not present, Business Manager R.O. Woodworth served as chief operating officer. Woodworth had been a construction superintendent before entering the ministry, so he was instrumental in coordinating all campus projects. During the decade, Vick was assisted by Vice President John Rawlings, Woodworth, and in 1969, Executive Vice President W. E. Dowell. His leadership, assisted by the above men and

“Congratulations to my alma mater, Baptist Bible College, for **faithfully preparing men and women for Christian service over the past seventy years**. You are as faithful to God's word today as you were on opening day in 1950.

Rick Blue (Class of 1965 and 2015 4th Year)

Fellowship leaders, made the 1960s a special decade for Baptist Bible College. (*G. B. Vick, His Life and Legacy*, p. 30.)

The 1960s may not be the only decade described as “special” for Baptist Bible College. Still, few others experienced the enrollment increases, campus development, academic expansion, life decisions, discovered potential, Fellowship church support, and dynamic leadership as the decade from 1960 to 1969.

1975
Parker Dailey
preaching



BBC
IN THE

1970s

A DECADE OF CONTRAST, CHANGE

Baptist Bible College in the 70s was a unique college experience. The hair and clothing styles at the mall didn't match what could be seen on campus. BBC students stood out like a sore thumb — but we survived!

My husband's freshman class had 1,500 students. With large classes, it was easy to play pranks on an unsuspecting student who had worked all night before coming to a 7:30 a.m. class. He remembers seeing a sleeping young man get an elbow and his "friend" telling him, "He asked you to stand and pray." And, of course, the sleepy man stood and prayed.

Students in the first row of J.H. Melton's theology class were known for needing umbrellas. One student came

dressed in his raincoat and umbrella. Melton didn't see the humor and told the guy he made an "F" for the day and to leave the room.

I arrived on campus as a newlywed, but my husband had been a single student for two years and shared many stories of "date night," which consisted of Friday nights and all day Sunday. Single students could not hold hands on campus. I'm told that some dorms' bottom floor was set aside for a "social parlor" so dating couples could meet and talk. I'm also told it was nicknamed the "Passion Hut."

I remember the fear I felt the first time I heard Billy Bartlett speak to our Bible History class. Walking into the original Fine Arts Auditorium full of students I didn't know

was scary enough. But I seriously doubted my calling to ministry when Bartlett spouted off the list of the Northern and Southern Kings and ended with "and all the 'Bo-Am Boys.'" He said them as fast and easy — as if he was saying the "ABCs". Then he dropped the bomb — "Know these kings for a test!"

Not all students stayed in ministry. But many continue to be faithful church members around the world and are still grateful for the Christian education they received that still benefits them today.

Gary Edwards said, "I'll never forget working in the cafeteria. Now, as a layperson, I have always been able to share God's Word because of an excellent education."

I only visited the single girl's dorms, but I admired the close friendships that dorm

By Donna Braymer
Class of 1977



1977
Patriots Chorale



1975
Second floor Berrea



c. 1975
Elmer and Mary Deal
teaching Missions class

“One of the greatest privileges of my life was to attend BBC, not only did it equip me for ministry, but it instilled a passion for soul winning and church building.

Rick Carter (Class of 1971)

life provided.

Janie Sportel said, “I cherish the memories and friendships built of nights singing with my roomies’ till all hours. We still get together every few years and reminisce. Dorm life taught us to open our hearts, learn to share and give to each other in many ways since we were all from different back-grounds.”

The ‘70s gave us opportunities to hear the “giants of the faith” speak in chapel in person. Men such as founder G.B. Vick, Bill Dowell, Sr and Jr., John Rawlings, and the unforgettable “Reggie” Woodworth who insisted we memorize scriptures, so we were prepared to lead others to Christ. We freshmen were sure he had been personal friends with Moses.

As I flipped through some year-books of this decade, I’m overwhelmed by so many professors and college staff who made it their calling to work at BBC. I’m also amazed at some professors’ youthfulness, who we thought were very elderly when they stood before us in class.

Chapel could be hilarious, especially when someone said something they probably shouldn’t have. Paul Foster remembered, “I was in chapel when missionaries from Hawaii sang. Woodworth liked it a lot and got up afterward and said something like, ‘That is music you can make love to.’” In his defense, I’m sure the definition of that phrase

has changed many times over the decades.

Some remember Noel Smith, Bob Jones, Jr., Jack Hyles, Jack Van Impe, Bruce Wilkinson, Jerry Falwell, and A.V. Henderson (the short and sweet messages), John Rice, and Bob Harrington speaking in chapel as well as Bill and Gloria Gaither, singing.

Jim Goodman said, “The 70s was a pretty amazing time in the history of BBFI and BBC. It was a transitional period — the last years to be under the leadership of G.B. Vick and W.E. Dowell. I remember a full



Fieldhouse for Fellowship Week.”

Marcie McCartney Warrick said, “One memory that affected me the most was when Dr. Vick passed away while in his office at BBC in 1975. Having grown up on the mission field of Brazil, I had never attended a funeral. We had a huge service in the Fieldhouse. It was so touching and yet so overwhelming to lose such a tremendous man of God. I will forever be grateful for my experiences at BBC.”

It was also a blessing to have seasoned missionaries become our teachers because of unrest in their country or losing a mate. Hearing the stories firsthand from Elmer and Mary Deal was such a privilege. Who can forget the story of the African missionary friend with a glass eye? Deal would describe how the man would remove his glass eye,

place it on a stump and tell the workers, “I’ll be watching you while I’m gone.”

Ladies had a different class schedule than the men who would be preaching. We had Doctrine classes while the men practiced their preaching. Our support status in ministry was just as important, and we knew we could make or break a man’s ministry — if God gave her a man. Baptist Bridal College was always the joke around campus.

Paul Fisher added, “These were the times that made men and women — I would not trade a minute of it.”

One of my favorite classes was called “Special Problems.” Mrs. Helen Hughes, a former missionary to the Philippines, taught the class. She did her best to prepare us for any situation — and I feel like she succeeded. By year three, I felt like I understood my

ministry role better. Back then you could graduate with a diploma after year three. Mary Herman and Betty Hovestreydt gave us the tools to teach and lead children to Christ — and flannelgraph!

Norma and Kenneth Gillming were an important fixture of the campus as she and the other English teachers tried to teach us to speak properly. Gillming would get his words backward and say something amusing he never intended. James Sewell, Joe Gleason, Hunter Sherman, and other men did their best to teach theology to the guys.

The traveling groups were a blessing to countless camps and churches, attracting students to the campus. Young men had the opportunity to practice their preaching. We had the smooth sounds of Sonlight, The Singing Patriots, and the Liberty Belles.



In a sea of generic religious teachings, it's exciting that **Baptist Bible College has continued to give our students a biblical foundation that will weather these difficult and ungodly storms for ministry.** Congratulations on 70 years of masterful training of godly men and women.

Keith Gillming (Class of 1976 & 1977 4th Year)



Congratulations to Baptist Bible College and its 70th Graduating Class. **May it continue to “Shine Through the Night and Send forth the Light.”**

Jim and Debbie Goodman (Class of 1975)

Plus, music majors taught and directed an incredible choir of other music majors. (I'm sure the first choir they worked with in the real world was a shock to their system.)

The drama class under Shirley Johnson's direction made an eternal impact on hundreds who accepted Christ after watching the production of “Once To Die.” I remember seeing it the first time at a Fellowship Meeting at G.B. Vick's church in Detroit, Michigan, where the Singing Patriots had been asked to sing under Lee Payne's direction. Afterward, I made a long-distance call (I don't remember how I pulled that off in

1974) to make sure my newlywed husband was really “saved.” (He was. He promised!)

Sure, the rules were tough. Guys had to wear ties to theology classes. Thankfully, maxi dresses were in style, but so were mini skirts. But no mini's at BBC. Ladies' dresses had to be very close to her knees, and jeans or slacks were only worn in secret. Movies in theaters were a big no-no. Our college application form had us promise not to play cards. But who can forget the marathon Rook games on bus trips? Now I'm told that Rook cards are not the same as “face” cards, so we weren't telling lies as we played.

(Whew! I've felt guilty all these years!) But those rules prepared us to work with any kind of pastor and church culture. We could adapt to what was needed to get the Gospel to a dying world.

And that is precisely what BBC has done for all of these decades. Not only do we have lifelong friends around the world from the days in Springfield, Missouri, but with our eyes opened to the need of a lost world — we went. The 25th anniversary of BBC was celebrated while we were there, and I'm grateful to those who had a vision for what the BBFI could be... and is! To God be the glory, great things He has done.



By Linzy Slayden
Class of 1983

BBC
IN THE

1980s

A FLOOD OF MEMORIES

The 80s form a large part of the collective memory of our nation.

For many people in the United States, the late 1970s was a troubled and troubling time. The radical and countercultural movements of the 1960s and early 1970s, the Watergate scandal, the Vietnam War, uncertainty in the Middle East, and economic crisis at home had undermined Americans' confidence in their fellow citizens and in their government. By the end of Jimmy Carter's presidency, the idealistic dreams of the 1960s were worn down by inflation, foreign policy turmoil, and rising crime. In response, many Americans embraced a new conservatism in social, economic, and political life during the 1980s, characterized by the policies of

President Ronald Reagan. Often remembered for its materialism and consumerism, the decade also saw the rise of the "yuppie," an explosion of blockbuster movies, and the emergence of cable networks like MTV, which introduced the music video and launched the careers of many iconic artists.

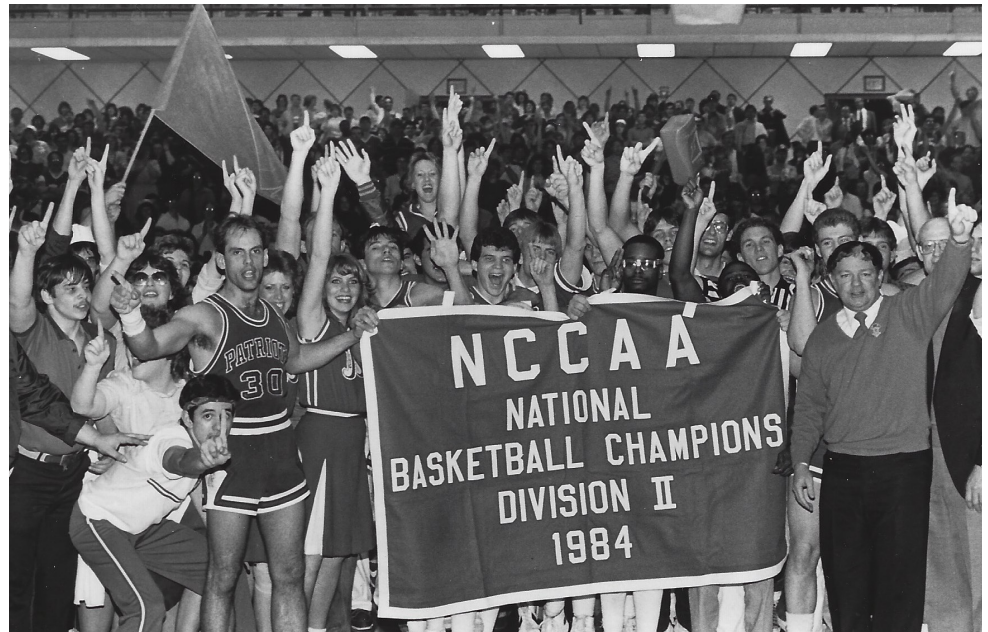
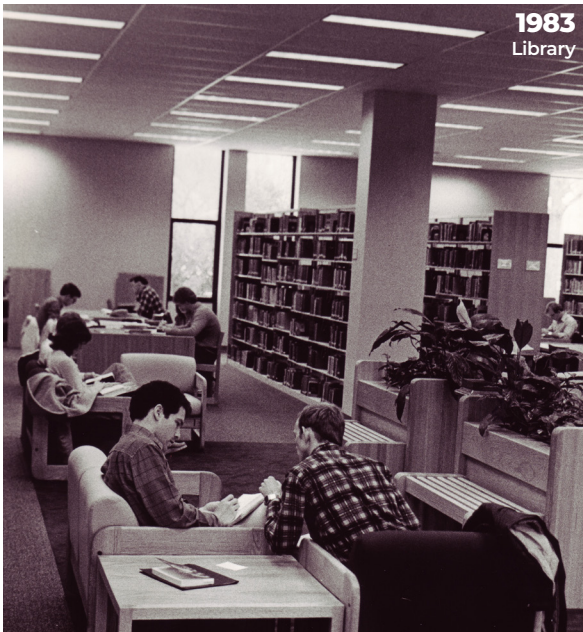
The 80s form a large part of the collective memory of Baptist Bible College, too, and give us the background of life for those called into the ministry.

It was a decade of change for Baptist Bible College that would impact life beyond our country's borders and into eternity.

Before the school began, G.B. Vick, W.E. Dowell, Fred Donnelson, and R.O. Woodworth met in a small room to discuss a college motto. Things were done with a

bit more spontaneity back then, and the first motto suggested is the one we have now. As suggested by G.B. Vick, it has epitomized the spirit of this college for 70 yrs: "Enter to Learn, Go Forth to Serve." Methods of teaching have changed. Processes have changed. Technology had changed. The culture has changed... but the need and the focus, and the end result remain the same.

Many prospective students arrived at BBC fully expecting that by the time they were handed their diploma on that glorious graduation night, they would have "arrived"! The first few weeks had an exciting "camp-like" atmosphere, but we were soon reminded this was a college with structure, responsibilities, classes, tests, papers to be completed, and life lessons to be learned.



We heard Ken Gillming tell us that we need to know, that we don't know it all, and we have entered a lifelong learning process. He surprised us by saying that even he didn't know it all, but he knew where to go to find the answers.

We found that Christian growth is a slow step-by-step process. The Lord builds upon each truth we learn and incorporates into our lives. We discovered attitude and obedience determined the rate of growth. These were great lessons for ministry life.

Christianity isn't just a spiritual exercise but a relationship we needed to continue to work to develop. BBC gave us these tools and the understanding we needed to live life and reach people for Christ in the 80s and beyond.

There are so many memories that helped shape us. There was move-in day and getting all settled. We made lifelong friends in the registration line, in the classrooms, and studying together in the library.

Many of the churches held special events the first few weeks of school in September, with several having dinner on the grounds to meet the new students.

Homestyle Pizza across the street offered pizza at 25 cents a slice and 35 cents for toppings.

Snack shop theology and surrounding the professors who would take time to sit down and talk.

Part-time and full-time jobs working around the class schedules... late night studying and early morning classes.

Open gym times on Saturday mornings in the Field House for students with families.

We were able to meet missionaries like Elmer and Mary Deal... and realizing the personal and corporate responsibilities and implications of the Great Commission.

Class discussions about theology, but also living out our faith in practical ways. I remember one young lady fainted in class as Joe Gleason described the crucifixion. We were fortunate to have a nurse attending the class that day.

It was a blessing and honor to sit under the teaching of such faculty as... James Sewell always asking, "What does the Bible say?" and reminding us to ask "What would Oscar Pew Sitter think about this?" Ken Howard, Bill Bartlett, Hunter Sherman, Joe



Gleason, Ken and Norma Gillming, Tom Bulick, Kim Correll, Bill Dowell Jr., Mary Herman, Richard and Beverly Boland, Eli Harju, Doug Kutilek, Richard Christ, Ray Adams and his excellent teaching sprinkled with his corny jokes highlight a few of those professors that made a lasting impact. These are just a few of the men and women who poured their lives into students and made learning enjoyable.

Former student Doni Young Hatfield states, "Mary Herman must be recognized for her outstanding work molding those with a desire to teach into brave, confident, managing professionals who were extremely prepared for their service with children. The teaching that I received there is utilized every day in the classroom or the Children's Ministry and Women's Ministries as a

pastor's wife. A piece of my heart remains at my Alma Mater."

The teaching received from Mary Herman, Norma Gillming, Beverly Boland, and other ladies was used every day in ministries to all ages. It is invaluable.

A.V. Henderson moving chapel from Tuesday/Thursday to Monday/Wednesday/Friday.

Chapel was a refreshing break from classes with Dr. Boland leading with his unique style. We had some outstanding preachers and missionaries challenge the students during these chapel services. We heard S.M. Lockeridge, Jack Hyles, Ed Dobson, Ed Hindson, Jack Van Impe, Bob Jones Jr., Jerry Falwell, Parker Dailey, Gary Grey, David Cavin, Jerry Thorpe, Effie Donnelson giving her testimony,

and so many more. Who can forget R.O. Woodworth leaving chapel ten minutes into his message because he forgot about his dentist appointment or A.V. Henderson's short yet powerful messages?

The retirement of Ford Harper at the end of the fall semester in 1982 after serving faithfully for 28 years was a touching moment. He stated that ministering to students and then watching them faithfully carry on the work of serving the Lord brought him his greatest joy.

The announcement in March 1981 that President Reagan had been shot.

Special Lectures Week always informative and challenging.

The fun and the experience of the Vick Speech Tournament.

Sports at that time were exciting with



I want to congratulate President Milioni and Baptist Bible College on this 70th Anniversary. **My time at BBC set the direction of my life....** BBC has been used to plant churches that preach the life-changing Gospel of Jesus around the world. I'm so grateful for BBC.

Eddie Lyons (Class of 1981)



1983



BBC/CBC basketball rivalries, multiple NCAA basketball championships, baseball, and soccer. We had intramural sports like bowling, volleyball, basketball, and softball. We all enjoyed the pep band and the cheerleaders. We all enjoyed the Flying Club, KWFC, Ham radio, Mission prayer band, wives fellowship, concert band, CEP groups, and the many other special occasions or opportunities that came our way as students.

We all enjoyed the Student Center and an expanded library during this decade.

And it was fun watching Tony Isaacs and the Tae Kwon Do team do their thing.

Other collected memories include extended curfew in celebration of winning NCAA championships in basketball, midnight breakfast during finals week, late Friday nights cleaning for white glove in the dorms, talking on the phone with a long cord that could stretch down the hallway into your room, and close the door for privacy. Hall

meetings, Social Parlor, the fun and tension in the air over the East/West flag football games, the school plays (Mr. Scrooge, Once To Die, or God's Final Call), hours in the library. We enjoyed outdoor concerts in the fall with a big flat-bed trailer for a stage where various groups and individuals would sing. We sat on blankets and pulled out the jackets and sweaters because of the evening chill. We would go on hayrides, see the Passion Play, and enjoy the Patriot Quartet, Sonlight Quartet, Liberty Belles, the Singing Men, Heritage Singers, and the concert band.

The Faculty/Senior basketball game in 1982... was there much basketball played?

May Fellowship and all the excitement of family and guests coming, great preachers, and graduation!

It should be said, our current president Mark Milioni was a 1988 graduate, as was his wife, Barb, who was the class speaker and graduated with a higher grade point average than he did.

A walk down memory lane brings sweet memories. We are reminded that despite the changes in the world, the Word never changes; despite the changes in our lives, the need never changes; despite the challenges in our culture, God never changes. These were the truths we were taught during our time at BBC.

Baptist Bible College was and is a place that challenged us to do something great for the Lord. It instilled in us a spirit to win souls, start and build churches, take the gospel around the world and if we didn't go, send those whom God had called because we are co-laborers together. We were to pour into others the teachings of the Lord Jesus that they too might enjoy a home in heaven and a victorious life here. And that the local church is key to real, lasting effectiveness.

We indeed enter to learn and go forth to serve, and the mission, I'm happy to say, continues today.



BBC
IN THE

1990s

By Kevin Carson
Class of 1994

WE FOUND IT

The 1990s brought many changes to Baptist Bible College and ultimately became a decade of transition for the school and the Baptist Bible Fellowship. Coming out of some very rough years, Leland Kennedy alongside Gary Grey, Parker Dailey, and Rick Carter fought for the school's very existence. I remember visiting the school in 1989, meeting with Gary Grey, beginning a long friendship with Shirley Hackler, visiting classes, and determining BBC was the place for me—not just me, of course, because my twin brother Craig came as well.

Second Generation Returned

The 1990s saw the return of a second (and sometimes third) generation of students. The Carsons, Haleys, Liles, Clarks,

Melugins, Kolbs, Lingos, Stirewalts, Sears, Zeiks, Brillharts, Doughertys, Harmons, Slaydens, Autersons, Todds, Eberts, Thrifts, Robinsons, and Hardys are just a few examples. Our parents received a quality education years earlier; we returned with a love for Christ and a burden to reach souls all over the world as we had watched our parents doing.

Craig and I specifically prayed we would find two other friends at BBC who were the quality of my dad's lifelong friends and classmates, George Crawford and Art Ball. God answered our prayer many times over. In addition to all the friendships we found, ten of us especially became close: Rick, K.B., Matthew, Steve, Darren, Jeff, Bob, and Earl. In the twenty-seven years

since, four served Christ as pastors, three as missionaries, two as leaders in para-church organizations, and one as a faithful businessman in his local church.

Now our children have begun to walk the halls of BBC as students who seek to serve Christ as well. The third generation has arrived and, in some instances, like with the Harmons, the fourth generation.

Professors, Chapel, Global Fellowship Meeting, Special Lectures, and More

As students, we enjoyed the professors our parents both knew, learned from, and loved. In God's kindness to all of us, Dr. Kennedy invited Eli Harju back to BBC in 1989. As our parents had, we enjoyed



Congratulations BBC on 70 classes graduated.
I'm honored to be a part of one of them.

Brian Moore (Class of 1999)

fighting the Philistine giant with David, walking the streets of Jerusalem with Christ, and going on missionary journeys with Paul. Although Dr. Harju told us he was not that old, he taught as if he was with them. His adorning smile, sense of humor, love of all things Baptist, and commitment to the church made him a campus favorite. He passionately invested in us students, occasionally would give a high-5 going down the hallway, and loved the “joy boys.” Often he would end class, “Well, that’s the way it is. Want to fight?” With that, we would know we were dismissed.

Of course, that is not all. God gave us an entire faculty who were committed to us, the local church, the mission fields of the world, and the lost. In theology, Russ Dell

and Ray Pratt differed on the finer points of theology, while Hunter Sherman and James Sewell ribbed each other continually. Ray Adams found a way to include fishing in his lectures, while Joe Gleason taught hunting through hermeneutics. Dick Bemart challenged us to be trend-setters in ministry classes one hour while teaching us to be anchored to the text in Greek the next. The late Ken Howard never got to the end of Romans or 1 Corinthians, but he taught us to love the detail of the text. The original “Dr. Pepper” Leo Thompson, Hollis Cook, Shirley Johnson, Shirley McCullough, Mittie Mitchell, the Liles—then the Lingos, Tommy Moore, the Bolands, Bill Dowell, Michael Dove, Mary Herman, Julie Beck, and Chris Beck are just a few of the

committed faculty who served us well.

In chapel, not only did we get to hear many of the alumni who came to speak for us, but we also had the privilege of hearing many of the founders as some slowly left the earthly scene for heaven. Students in our decade got to hear the great W.E. Dowell, F.Frank Collins, Art Wilson, John Rawlings, A.V. Henderson, Parker Dailey, Carl Boonstra, and others. Who will forget R.O. Woodworth in the middle of a message remembering he had a doctor’s appointment—so he left mid-sermon?

The Global Fellowship Meeting in 1994 sticks out as a banner event of the decade. Missionaries, nationals, alumni, pastors, and laypeople from all over the world came to this meeting. Oh, what a meeting! We



celebrated the good work God was doing through the BBFI. Daniel Kim from Seoul, Korea, preached the commencement service on Friday morning.

Special weeks delighted, challenged, and educated students. The Presidential Lecture Series continued a long tradition passed down from G.B. Vick. In a pivotal time for independent Baptists, Bill Monroe taught on the fundamentals. Missions Emphasis Week highlighted the importance of the Gospel, the worldwide efforts of the BBFI, and challenged us all to love the peoples of the world. In the early part of the decade, BBFI alumni put on youth emphasis week, and many alumni came back to teach in the fun alumni weeks.

Student Life

Campus buzzed with activity all hours of the day—literally. Every student I have asked about the '90s includes Midnight Breakfast as

part of their favorites. The faculty showed up, and the cafeteria workers did not disappoint. Pajamas. Pancakes. Eggs. Bacon. Lots and lots of laughs in the middle of the tests.

The BBC Café usually was the hub of social activity. From Nerd Night to the Christmas Banquet, from breakfast (I married one of the breakfast servers) to lunch and then dinner, the cafeteria produced all kinds of fun—even late-night studying in the Presidential Dining Room for Howard's tests.

The East/West Football game was another student favorite. Colleen Kent reminded me that her 32-year-old married husband was MVP, stopping the West's all-star running back.

Formal sports took huge steps in this decade. Men's basketball suffered throughout the decade from a very tough NCCAA region. Although we had quality teams, the regional banner eluded us. Craig

Killinen broke the men's scoring record for the Patriots in three years. In addition, Lady Patriots volleyball became very competitive going to the national tournament, and Candi Todd became the first female All-American in women's sports history at BBC. Further, Women's basketball was introduced during this decade.

Jobs? In the '90s, many students took their turn, at least for a while in the cafeteria, at Auto Magic, MCI, or Waffle House. Of course, there were plenty more places. Students went to school from 7:30 am—12:20 pm primarily, then they scurried all over Springfield to afford their classes. The married guys—God bless them—often worked all night. All of us singles stayed up all night, too. Like today's students, we didn't have all the video games to keep us up once we returned to the dorms after work, but we managed to stay up anyway.

Students experienced the highs and



the lows of BBC life in this decade. We all hurt with Dr. Kennedy when his sweet wife Joy lost her earthly battle with cancer. We rejoiced with him as well when his family provided both the Joy Kennedy Chapel and the Fountain.

We thanked Oklahoma and Nebraska for remodeled classrooms, saw the Nola Dowell and Bethany Dorms raised, and remember all the other dorms on campus full of students: Smith, Harper, Zimmerman, Collins, Woodworth, Donnelson, Vick, and ABCD apartments.

Who can forget the All-American Diner across the street for midnight snacks and listening to KWFC through our irons?

Grads, Grad School, and Alumni

The Graduate School, under the direction of Robert Terrey, grew. Started in 1986 with Parker Dailey as its Executive Director, graduates could earn one of four Master's

degrees. The Graduate School increased throughout the decade. Eventually, Dr. Terrey retired, which brought Greg Christopher as the Dean. Biblical Counseling was introduced to the Graduate School in 1999. In many ways, the quality and value of the Graduate School was the best kept secret of the BBFI.

In this decade, 1,091 Bachelor's degrees were granted and 116 Master's degrees, in addition to scores of 3-year graduate degrees, associates, and missions certificates. Students "Entered to Learn and went forth to Serve."

Many of the alumni of the 1990s have served well and have even come full circle to lead in the BBFI and BBC. Brian Garrison works as an Assistant Missions Director, Jason Todd and Nate Harmon are both Vice Presidents at BBC, Randy Harp is the Communication Director for the BBFI and a faculty member at BBC, Tina Ebert serves

as the Dean of Women, Jon and Mike Haley both serve the BBFI in multiple positions, Scott Phillips is the Dean of Online Education at BBC, Jon Slayden served BBC as Campus Chaplain, David Giles taught for years on the faculty, Kevin Kolb is the Chairman of the Missouri BBF, and I am finishing my twenty-second year. This just begins the list of all the ways the graduates of the 1990s have run well.

Fruit that Remains

The late David Lingo challenged almost every student in our decade to have fruit that remains. He challenged us as Jesus challenged His disciples with these words, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain..." (John 15:16). As the students and graduates of the 1990s, I believe God has done just that.



BBC
IN THE

2000s

By Cha Polk
Class of 2010

NEW MILLENIUM, SAME MISSION

It's the year 2000, also referred to as Y2K, and the beginning of the new millennium. And while the world was caught up in the significant advances of technology, Baptist Bible College was adjusting to the times and creating a space for students to stand out in Christian Leadership. In the first ten years of the new Millennium, BBC grew to play a massive role in my personal life. From experiencing college days, recreation teams, speakers, music teams, and my own college career, BBC became one of the most influential places outside of my home and church family. Let's look back at these ten years and how the college left its mark on the start of the millennia.

This decade saw two incredible presidents, President Mike Randall, and

President Jim Edge. As a student, I had the privilege of knowing and being led by both of them. President Mike Randall led the college to uplift its academic focus. He consistently attended sporting events and supported students in their pursuit of ministry. President Jim Edge also supported students in their pursuit of ministry and encouraged students to invest in both the college and the surrounding community.

Baptist Bible College would not be what it is today without the dedication from its faculty and professors. Ray Adams, Bill Levergood, Kevin Carson, Terry Allcorn, and James Sewell were just a few of the students' favorites who made unforgettable memories throughout this decade, as well as the decades before and after.

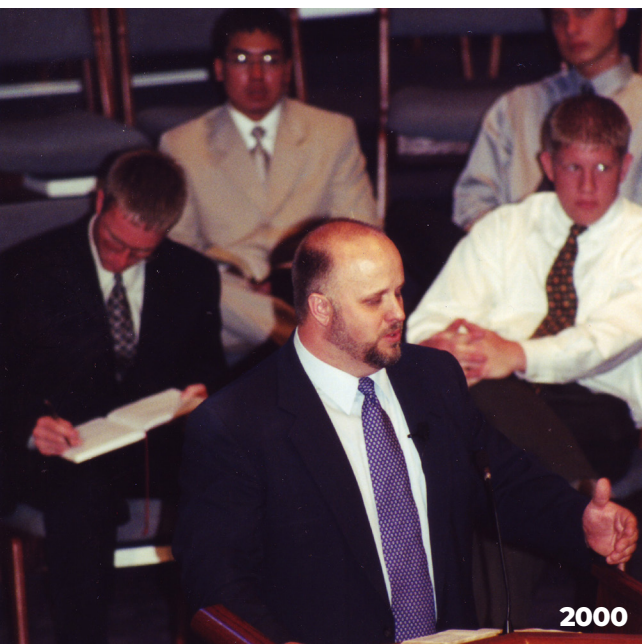
While we would normally consider an opportunity to do loads of homework a burden, Levergood turned this chapel announcement into one of the most anticipated moments of the school year. At the end of each semester, students were allowed one final opportunity to turn in any previously missed homework. His dramatic announcements were always met with cheers, a standing ovation, and a week full of all-nighters and coffee overloads. While a little taboo now, the then called "sudden-death" was a time students would look forward to all year. Why we didn't do our homework in the first place is still lost on me, but the excitement of Levergood suddenly cutting short his announcements will forever be remembered.



2001
Patriots basketball



2001
Patriots cheerleaders



2000



2009
Class outside

Ray Adams and Kevin Carson were not only loved for their investment in the student body, but they were also admired for their radio personalities as sports announcers for BBC Athletics. They traveled with the teams and reported the games to listeners all around the world. Becoming some of the teams' most prominent supporters, attending almost every game, they endured pranks from, gave counsel to, and encouraged the performance of BBC's athletes. They kept up with teams and connected the faculty to the athletic teams in the most incredible way. The athletes of the 2000s appreciate these two, and it's incredible to continue seeing their support even through the years now.

If you got through the 2000s at BBC without attending a class or hearing from

the honorable James Sewell, were you ever actually a student there? Even before the 2000s, Sewell challenged students with his teaching and impressed them in Bible History and the life of possibly every single disciple. It's hard to hear, "What does the Bible say?" and not think of time spent learning from Sewell. Time and time again, he did all that he could to point us back to Scripture and challenge our ability to lead others well. Once quoted as saying, "If serving is beneath you, leadership is beyond you." Dr. Sewell gave our pastors and ministry leaders the necessary tools to serve with their whole hearts, entirely founded in Scripture. Sewell was a legend, and he will forever be remembered as such. He impacted each of the students' lives, whether you

passed his classes or not.

Highly known for his love of Scripture and teaching Personal Evangelism, Terry Allcorn gave students some of the most heartfelt lessons I've ever experienced in class. He has an ability to motivate students in sharing the reason for their faith and inspiring them to memorize Scripture for the sake of it shaping their lives. Taking classes with Allcorn provided me with boldness in sharing my faith with my own family. At the time, it was just passing a class, but in the long run, many would say the skills they took away from memorizing so much Scripture are still being used today.

Much like the advancement of technology in the 2000s, BBC saw a rise in student-led events. Technology made others



2001
Student government



2000
Students in ministry

more accessible, work more efficient, and placed knowledge in the hands of anyone with access to a computer or cell phone. Similarly, students began taking the Gospel to others in more ways than meeting in the church. Students found ways to expand BBC's reach in the community, making the Gospel more accessible to the city of Springfield. Not only did students feel supported by the faculty and staff to know and serve their community, but they were also given the tools and freedom to begin doing so.

In the early 2000s, students created a monthly night of worship that invited other colleges to the BBC's campus and called

it Breakdown. With a goal to impact the community, BBC students invited Southern Missouri state (SMU), Evangel University, Central Bible College, and Drury University to hear a message and worship together on our campus. It was named "Breakdown" with the idea of breaking down the barriers between the colleges and providing an opportunity to hear the Gospel. Breakdown saw speakers like Jon Slayden, the college's Presidents, Ed Trinkle, Brian Moore, Aaron Cavin, and many, many more. Many of the students who led worship at Breakdown went on to lead in bands and worship teams at churches and traveling teams and continue to serve in those ministries even now.

Students also started a ladies' conference in 2008, named ONE, "Others Need Each other." The campus opened its doors to the churches in and around Springfield and those connected to the college. It ran for several years with the help of ministry leaders and devoted students, passing responsibilities from graduating class to graduating class. Attendance grew to more than 300 over the years, all because passionate students were encouraged to pursue Christian Leadership and make an impact in the world.

With close proximity to the Robberson Elementary School, students also began a tutoring and mentoring program between

2001
Vick Speech tournament



2000
Impact 21 drama



2001
Vick Speech tournament



students and the classrooms at Robberson. After reading with them in class or helping to understand and finish schoolwork, students would play with the elementary kids on the playground, building relationships with them, and showing them their value. While students could not directly share their faith in Jesus with the kids of Robberson Elementary, they could make them feel seen and cared about during the time spent each week.

BBC has always had a goal of making effective Christian leaders, and through every program created and run by its students, the evidence of the school's work was in full effect.

Baptist Bible College graduated several classes through this decade, but the one that made the most impact in my life is the one that closed it out. As a participant of the 2010 graduating class, I walked away with the Youth Ministry Award, a ministry position at a church plant in New England, and a group of friends that has been vital to my stay in ministry. Much of my time at BBC was spent with the basketball teams, serving at events and conferences the school held, and leading worship for the college ministry at Seminole Baptist Church. This gave me a front row seat in seeing some of the best and firsts the college had to offer. We saw the first time the men's

and women's basketball teams made it to Nationals simultaneously. We saw the first women's soccer team in the school's history. We saw the first time a woman won the Youth Ministry Award. And we saw the best, in my opinion, group of students graduate throughout the ten years. This is a group that continues to serve and impact the world at churches, schools, and businesses worldwide.

To the students, churches, staff, and faculty who were a part of Baptist Bible College at any time 2000-2010, we celebrate you and your accomplishments. You are appreciated, and neither the school nor I would be who we are today without you.



By David Botts
Class of 2012

BBC IN THE 2010s

GOD IS STILL AT WORK

For BBC, the decade of the 2010s is the one that is most fresh on our minds. Even though it is recent, there is evidence that God was active and moving through it. For many graduates of this decade, God is still writing their stories as they enter classrooms, businesses, churches, and countries all over the globe.

Many significant events took place during the decade. The most significant would be the hiring of Mark Million as the president of BBC. With the school facing some significant challenges, he was installed to the office during the May 2012 Fellowship Week. There were many who wondered about this hiring, and during the installation service, President Million

indicated the direction that he wanted to take the college. He reminded the audience of the founding principles that had driven the institution's founding: producing world-class pastors, missionaries, and church leaders. He noted how over the years, that vision expanded to include educators and business leaders. His vision would be to bring BBC to the forefront as a world-class institution that would prepare robust Christians regardless of their major.

The decade of the 2010s also saw its fair share of great professors. Long-time faculty members would retire, bringing their decades of faithful service to the Lord to an end. Faculty members such as Bill Dowell, Jr., James Sewell, and David and

Barba Lingo said their goodbyes. Many students were introduced to a love of the Scriptures with Dr. Sewell's famous question when he would ask, "What does the Bible say?" For others, a deep love of missions and engaging people worldwide with the truth of the Scriptures was instilled in them through the faithful teaching of the Lingos. Young pastors would preach some of their first sermons under the watchful eye of Bill Dowell, Jr. In the end, these faculty members showed their flexibility in being able to connect with students in this decade and inspire them for work like they had in previous decades.

The 2010s also saw the growth of a new degree path in Biblical counseling



2013



2018

See you at the pole



2017

BBC Cares team

under the direction of Kevin Carson and Bill Piatt. This pathway showed the college's commitment to minister to people who were struggling or needed help in their communities and churches.

The 2010s would also see the addition of new faculty members like new missions professor Craig Dunning. Danny McNamara would join most recently as the primary New Testament faculty member. Randy Harp would begin to serve as the Division of Ministry Studies Chair and oversee the pastoral program while also serving as the Baptist Bible Tribune editor. These new faces would bring fresh energy to the campus as they push students to serve faithfully and think deeply.

One theme that would be on full display by the faculty and staff during the decade would be the unwavering commitment to the life of the local church. As a student, it would not be uncommon to sit in class with a pastor or staff member in a local Springfield area church. Both of the deans in the Student Life department served their local churches in significant ways. From the Academic Dean serving as a deacon to the President serving interim pastor stints and then pastoring a church in the area, students were shown one of the greatest strengths of BBC's founding: the local church is the vehicle that God is using to change the world.

The 2010s also showed a recurring truth on full display: God is not done with Baptist

Bible College. Multiple times through this decade, there would be questions about the college's viability and whether it would survive. I have had the privilege to teach at BBC in some role since 2012, and I have often been asked how the college was doing. Many people would ask if I thought the college would survive, and my answer has always been the same, "God has a plan for BBC, and as long as we stay faithful to the plan, then God will honor that plan." What is that plan? Train students to be faithful to the Scriptures and spread the message of the Gospel regardless of where the Lord places us.

One thing this decade has shown, as we start BBC's newest decade, is that the future



of Baptist Bible College is bright. While a new generation of teachers, business leaders, pastors, and missionaries are beginning their training, the commitment of BBC hasn't changed. Sure, if you were to visit the campus today, it would look slightly different and sound a little different from the BBC you might have attended. However, the same core values that drove the college in its founding are still there. A belief in the Scriptures and the Gospel as the only thing that can transform lives, the local church as the outpost of accomplishing God's plan for the world, and a deep commitment to raising up missionaries to go all over the globe are still there.





MAY GOD BLESS BBC
FOR DECADES TO COME
AS GENERATIONS CONTINUE TO

**ENTER TO LEARN...
AND GO FORTH TO SERVE. >>>**

One result of longevity is getting to be an eyewitness to the blessings of God. After nearly 50 years working at Baptist Bible College, I can reflect upon the greatness (and challenges) of God's working at BBC. I am in the somewhat-unique position to be able to say I have worked for every president in the college's 70-year history. It is from that vantage point of age and endurance that I want to reminisce about the privilege and honor it has been to be co-laborers alongside those who have led Baptist Bible College through the decades.

Prior to serving at BBC for 42 years as a teacher and administrator, I was a student employee for more than five years. It was during those years as a student laborer I had the opportunity to meet, observe, and work alongside BBC's first president, George Beauchamp Vick. In the early-to-mid 1970s, BBC reached its peak in enrollment and graduates under the founding president. Dr. Vick was a larger-than-life personality who continued to pastor the great Temple Baptist Church of Detroit, MI, while serving BBC. He surrounded himself with capable leaders like W.E. Dowell, Parker Dailey, and R.O. Woodworth. BBC students of the early '70s, always knew when Dr. Vick was on campus for his usual monthly visits to Springfield because the food in the cafeteria was dramatically better for a couple of days. It was as a student employee in the Café that I had opportunities to be around Dr. Vick while serving food to his meetings. Even though I was nervous to be in his presence, Dr. Vick made everyone around him feel at ease and applauded their service to the Lord.

He could immediately make someone feel like they mattered in their work for God. While visiting the campus on September 29, 1975, G.B. Vick slumped to the floor of his office and slipped into the presence of Jesus. He had faithfully served his Savior right up to the very end of his earthly tabernacle.

Dr. William Edgar Dowell, Sr. became the second president at BBC. Although Dr. Dowell was not as tall as many might think, he was a giant of a man, bigger than life, whose presence dominated a room. His penetrating, "preachers" voice, needed little amplification as he could sway a crowd even in a building the size of the fieldhouse that bears his name, with no need of a microphone.

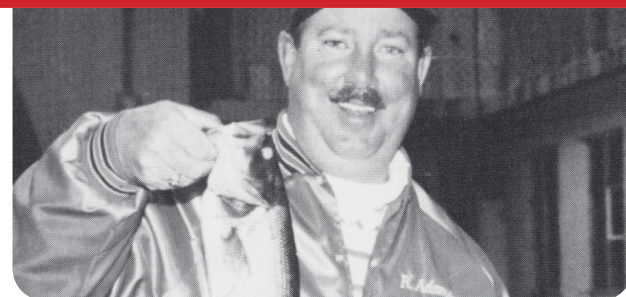
In spite of his awing stature, Dr. Dowell was one of the meekest and mildest pastors you would ever meet. He was humble and he truly cared about people, no matter what their background. Dr. Dowell was well loved and respected all around the Baptist Bible Fellowship. He was often referred to as "the pastor's pastor." The students of BBC loved Dr. Dowell. He hired me on the faculty in 1979 and I distinctly remember that meeting as he welcomed me and then said, "Ray, you're going to need to get your hair cut." How ironic is that?

I took Dr. Dowell fishing on several occasions and he loved it. I once caught a 7-pound bass directly across the pond from the president. He cried out, "Wow, boy what a fish!" I immediately proceeded to release the fish for another day. Dr. Dowell, in that penetrating voice shouted, "Boy, what are you doing?" He apparently wanted to eat

that fish; not release it! We laughed heartily about that for years. Near the end of Dr. Dowell's life, I visited him at Maranatha Village, and wondered if he would recognize me. As I walked through the door of his room, Dr. Dowell looked at me, and in a now-weakened voice said, "There's that ol' fisherman!" We had a long talk about serving together at BBC. I loved Dr. Dowell!

A.V. Henderson, became the third president of BBC in the summer of 1983. Dr. Henderson was a master "pulpitier." He would move crowds and hold them spellbound as he declared the Word of God. The brevity of his messages, yet the profundity of his content, was known around the world. The students of BBC loved to hear their president speak in chapel.

I knew Dr. Henderson to be a very organized and a matter-of-fact leader who would make well-informed decisions in a dramatic and calculated way. He often stated, "He had never lost an argument in his office." In spite of his often aloof persona, Dr. Henderson was really a kind and friendly man. Some of his confidants were able to see that side of him, but most BBC students never did. I was very surprised the day he called me into his office and offered me the position of Dean of Students at Boston Baptist College (A.V. Henderson was president of both colleges in those days). I told him I was honored and would pray about it, but I knew I would rather be a professor at BBC than move to Boston. When I respectfully declined the position a few days later, he assured me understood. In 1986, Dr. Henderson resigned as the



GIANTS

BY RAY ADAMS

President of BBC.

Enter Dr. Leland R. Kennedy. In the spring of 1986, Dr. Kennedy stepped into a difficult and daunting situation as he assumed the leadership of BBC. I was hired at that time to be a part of Dr. Kennedy's administration as his Dean of Students. This enabled me to work closely and personally with this capable leader. Things were tight financially for the college in this season, but churches and individuals around the nation began supporting Dr. Kennedy's efforts to help BBC survive. Through his austere and budgeted initiatives Dr. Kennedy saw the blessing of God as BBC became strong again. Enrollment had declined during the previous decade, but Dr. Kennedy worked hard to turn that trend around. By the end of the 1990s, BBC had seen student enrollment increase back to nearly 1,000. The college was healthier under Dr. Kennedy's 16-year tenure.

Dr. Kennedy enjoyed laughing and would frequently play practical jokes on faculty and students alike. I occasionally had to encourage him not to laugh so heartily at some of the student's antics and practical jokes as it would just encourage such rowdy behavior. He simply saw the humor in some of those things and just couldn't contain himself. When Dr. Kennedy retired from BBC, one of his friends and co-laborers, Dr. Mike Randall assumed the helm of BBC.

Dr. Randall had served as Vice President of BBC under Dr. Kennedy, and then excelled in his role as the editor of the *Baptist Bible Tribune*. He accepted the opportunity to lead BBC in 2002.

Mike Randall was a delight to work with as I continued as his dean of students. Dr. Randall was highly organized and an educator at heart. He regularly met with his administration and built consensus with his team. I must admit, prior to being diagnosed with sleep apnea, I had been known to slip into a coma during some of those meetings. Dr. Randall was always gracious and kind. I loved working with Mike Randall and to this day acknowledge him as a mentor and friend.

When Dr. Randall decided to retire, one of his assistants and confidants, Pastor Jim Edge, became BBC's sixth president. I enjoyed my time working with Dr. Edge, whose leadership style was dramatically different and our administration meetings became less frequent and more brief. Jim Edge was a President the students related to and appreciated. He would frequently "hang out" with the students at sporting events and student activities. It was during Dr. Edge's presidency that budget constraints required a trimming of faculty and administrative roles. After more than 25 years as the dean of students, I stepped down and joined the faculty full-time once again.

My relationship with President Edge remained amiable and friendly going forward. It really was a blessing in disguise for me. Returning to the classroom full-time freed me to pursue other more leisurely ministry opportunities. For example, I had been a part of BBC's athletic programs for many years as the dean of students, but also broadcasting Patriot basketball on KWFC, BBC's 100,000-watt radio station. I enjoyed

doing the play-by-play for both men's and many ladies' basketball games over 30 years. It was a delight to travel with and be a part of the various teams. I also had the freedom to more aggressively engage in another one of my ministry passions — leading tours to the Holy Land! Along with Dr. Craig Dunning, the head of BBC's Intercultural Studies Department, we have been able to orchestrate more frequent educational tours for students and pastors to Israel. Leading of over 20 tours has been a huge blessing in my life!

When President Edge resigned in late 2011, I entered into a new era of service at BBC under the leadership of President Mark Milioni. Mark and Barbara Milioni were both students of mine in the late 1980s. I was so relieved to discover I was not the one who awarded the president his only B during his years as a student. Praise the Lord!

These last nine years have flown by with Dr. Milioni as the president of our school. He is an inspirational leader who encourages both students and faculty to excel in all they do. Although we continue to struggle with enrollment, our accreditation with two national agencies has never been stronger. President Mark has cast a vision of missions, local church, and evangelism for our entire campus. My optimism for BBC's future is very high with Dr. Milioni as the President.

Today, I am enjoying my ministry as much or more than I ever have in my history with our great college. May God continue to bless Baptist Bible College!



1950-1975



Undeveloped land
purchased in 1950
for the BBC campus

G.B.
VICK

1950 was a big year in the life of George Beauchamp “G.B.” Vick and his family. Dr. Vick was the son of a pastor and began his ministry serving at First Baptist Church of Ft. Worth, Texas, under the leadership of J. Frank Norris. In 1929, he became the music director and organizer for city-wide crusades with evangelists Wade House and Mordecai Ham. In 1936, he became the superintendent of Temple Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan, and became co-pastor in 1948, serving alongside Norris. In 1950, the church elected Vick to be their sole senior pastor.

1950 changed everything. The famous Texas Hotel meeting, held in May 1950, served as the catalyst for the parting of ways with Norris and his Baptist movement. Out of that meeting arose the formation of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, Baptist Bible College, the Baptist Bible Fellowship Missions Office, and the Baptist Bible Tribune. The men leading the new movement urged Vick to become the founding president of this new college, and he accepted. Meanwhile, in June 1950, Temple Baptist elected Vick to serve solely as senior pastor. These events ushered in a truly historic time in Baptist fundamentalism. For the next 25 years,

Vick led both Baptist Bible College and the church to unprecedented growth and influence.

G.B. Vick was a leader who possessed vision and integrity. Through his quiet demeanor and his somewhat introverted personality, Vick was ever the intense, mission-focused organizer. Every aspect of ministry that he lead experienced tremendous growth and a loyal following. He led people everywhere closer to the Savior.

In the first issue of the Baptist Bible Tribune published in 1950, Vick stated, “May I say that it is my desire and I believe the desire of the other brethren, my true fellow soldiers in the army of the Lord, that we shall not band ourselves together for the purpose of fighting anybody, but with malice toward none, with love for all, we have put our hands to the plow, and will not look back, and with the help of God, and under the smiles of heaven, we shall do the job that God has given us to do. We shall carry the blessed Gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth.”

G.B. Vick carried out the jobs God had for him. His leadership and determination helped thousands of Christian leaders to reach tens of thousands for Christ.



W.E. DOWELL

Following the death of G.B. Vick in 1975, William Edgar “W.E.” Dowell became the second president of Baptist Bible College. The history of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International and Baptist Bible College cannot be told without understanding the significance, leadership, and influence of W.E. Dowell.

Born and raised in Texas, Bill and his wife, Nola, began a life of ministry in southern California, where he served as a church planter, pastor, and evangelist. While preaching a revival meeting, he met Charlie Dyer, pastor of High Street Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri. Dyer and Dowell developed a deep trust, and when Dyer announced his retirement, he recommended Dowell take his place. Dowell became pastor of that great church which he led for twenty-two impactful years. He was a great preacher, pastor, and well-respected leader.

Dowell was involved with the Baptist Bible Fellowship and Baptist Bible College from the very beginning. Dowell was elected to serve as the first president of the new fellowship. His influence in the new movement and Springfield’s central location made the city a natural choice for the new college. Dowell graciously offered the church facilities’ use, and the fledgling college held its first classes there in 1950.

Dowell’s involvement increased in 1968 when he became the Executive Vice President of the college. In this role, he frequented the classrooms and served as the on-site administrator. He developed a deep love for the students and spent time with them in classes, at ballgames, at concerts, and many school functions.

In 1975, following the sudden death of Dr. G.B. Vick, W.E. Dowell became the second president of BBC. He guided the school with integrity until his retirement in 1983 because of health reasons.

By Mark Milioni | Class of 1988



A.V. HENDERSON

Known as a master in the pulpit, A.V.

Henderson became a respected pastor, speaker, and leader in the early years of the Baptist Bible Fellowship. Born September 18, 1919, in Anson, TX, Henderson spent more than 75 years in ministry as a pastor in Louisiana, Texas, Indiana, Delaware, and Michigan. He followed G.B. Vick as the pastor at the Temple Baptist Church of Detroit. Throughout his ministry, he was active in the BBFI, serving in several national offices. He served as BBFI president from 1972 to 1974.

The pulpit came to life under A.V. Henderson. Many today still talk about his preaching abilities. He was so well prepared that without notes, he began to preach as he stood to approach the pulpit. With great biblical insight, spiritual power, and conviction, many were changed for eternity under Henderson’s ministry.

In 1976, A. V. Henderson co-founded the Baptist Bible Institute East in Shrub Oak, New York, which went on to become Boston Baptist College in 2002. Following the retirement of W.E. Dowell, the Fellowship looked to a trusted leader and respected pastor, and in May 1983, Henderson became the third president of Baptist Bible College. He was president for three important and difficult years.

During his administration, Henderson oversaw the beginning of the Graduate School of Theology in the fall of 1985. There were significant personnel appointments during this time. Namely, Russell Dell was named to serve as Academic Dean following the retirement of Ken Gillming. Robert Terrey was named Dean of the new Graduate School. Through the most difficult of times, A.V. Henderson was a true gentleman and respected man of God.

By Mark Milioni | Class of 1988



LELAND KENNEDY

In 1986, Leland Kennedy was called upon to serve as the fourth president of Baptist Bible College. Kennedy comes from a ministry family; his father was a pastor and was present during the founding of the BBFI. The Kennedy family was reached for Christ through the ministry of John Rawlings. Kennedy was a 1956 graduate of Baptist Bible College, becoming the first alumnus to return and serve as college president.

Kennedy served as a pastor for many years. He also served as BBFI president. This experience gave Kennedy insight into the difficult financial situation BBC was facing upon his arrival. With his proven leadership serving the BBFI and his many friendships, he led the Fellowship in raising an immediate substantial offering to keep the college alive. He continued to pour himself into the health and future of BBC, traveling, preaching, meeting, promoting, and raising funds.

Parker Daily, a long-time Kansas City pastor, served alongside Kennedy as his vice-president. He later asked Gary Gray, who was pastoring in Wichita, Kansas, to move to Springfield and serve as executive vice-president, overseeing daily campus functions.

Work began in 1999 for BBC to apply for accreditation with the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. This required an incredible amount of work on behalf of faculty and administrators. The Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges had previously approved the college in 1978.

In 1995, Leland's wife Joy passed away from cancer. To celebrate her life and influence, the Joy Kennedy Memorial Prayer Chapel was built and dedicated in May 1996. Kennedy later married Nelda Blaylock from Oklahoma.

There were many significant accomplishments under Kennedy; addressing immediate financial needs, leading the college to begin the accreditation process, remodeling facilities, and beginning to re-grow student enrollment.

By Mark Milioni | Class of 1988



MIKE RANDALL

Serving as the fifth president of Baptist Bible College was the culmination of a life of service in the church and to the Baptist Bible Fellowship for Mike and Gaylon Randall. Growing up in California, Mike accepted the Lord as his personal Savior as a college freshman and shortly afterward surrendered to full-time vocational ministry. To prepare, he enrolled at BBC in 1960 to study pastoral ministry. BBC was in its tenth year and it was growing quickly.

Mike met Gaylon during his first semester at BBC, and the two were married on July 6, 1962. Mike was elected as the president of his 1963 graduating class. The newlyweds moved to Texas, where Mike attended Texas Christian University. He would later graduate with both a Bachelor's and Master of Arts degree in Speech. The Randalls moved to Altus, Oklahoma, to serve on staff of Tabernacle Baptist. When BBC learned of Mike's advanced degree in speech, he was asked to move back to Springfield to be a part of the faculty, which they did in the fall of 1967. In 1969 Randall became the pastor of the newly formed Park Crest Baptist Church in Springfield. The summer of 1974 found the Randalls transitioning to serve in Toledo, Ohio, where they served for six years until moving to Mishawaka, Indiana, to serve as Pastor of Twin City Baptist Church.

In 1984 Mike was asked to serve as a Trustee at BBC, and in 1991 President Leland Kennedy asked Mike to come back and serve as vice president of BBC. The BBFI leaders reached out to Mike in 1995, asking him to serve as the Baptist Bible Tribune editor. In May 2002, Mike Randall was installed as the president of BBC.

Randall faced several difficult issues during his six years of service but served with great faith and focus.

By Mark Milioni | Class of 1988



JIM EDGE

Following the retirement of BBC president Mike Randall, Jim Edge was installed as the sixth BBC President in February 2008.

Edge is a native of Springfield, Missouri, growing up under the ministry of David Cavin at High Street Baptist Church. Jim met Carol Henry while both were students at Baptist Bible College. In 1993, Jim and Carol married, graduated from BBC, and moved to the Boston area to start a church.

Edge started the Heritage Park Baptist Church in Burlington, MA. This church became an instrumental church in this needy northeastern part of the country. Jim won many souls to Christ, discipled, taught, and encouraged these new believers. Over their 30 years at Heritage, the church would build buildings and grow in attendance. Heritage would become involved in mission work far and near, seeing several churches planted in the northeast.

Jim stepped up to help Boston Baptist College during a critical time serving as vice president for ten years. He was instrumental in moving Boston Baptist College, formally known as Baptist Bible College East, from New York to Boston. Jim was also involved in the Massachusetts BBF, serving several terms as state director and leading youth camps.

For personal reasons, Jim and Carol moved back to Springfield. Shortly afterward, Edge began serving at BBC as executive assistant to President Mike Randall. Having been a church planter, a faithful, proven leader, and an experienced administrator, he was chosen to become the BBC's next president. Jim poured himself into the needs BBC faced including financial and facility issues, enrollment trends, and a curriculum update. The students truly enjoyed the personal attention of President Edge and the love he had for them.

By Mark Milioni | Class of 1988



MARK MILIONI

Mark Milioni's relationship with Baptist Bible College dates back decades. His uncle was in the first graduating class of BBC in 1951. His mother and father are direct products of the ministry of G.B. Vick, who, along with being president of BBC, also pastored Temple Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan. This is where his parents met and were married. Later, the Milioni family moved to Findlay, Ohio, where they help found Trinity Baptist Church.

The family later moved back to Albion, Michigan, where Mark grew up, went to high school, and met Barb. After high school, Mark and Barb were married. After a short stint as a police officer, Mark surrendered to full-time vocational ministry. He and Barb then enrolled at BBC.

Following graduation in 1988, they moved back to Albion, where Milioni served as the youth pastor in his home church. After just a few weeks, the pastor resigned, and the church asked him to serve as pastor. They remained there until 2003. From 2003 until 2012, Milioni served as senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Medina, Ohio. Under his leadership, the church prospered numerically, financially, and spiritually.

In the fall of 2011, Milioni received a call from the Baptist Bible College trustees regarding the need for a new president. On May 15, 2012, Milioni was inaugurated as the seventh president of BBC.

Facing unprecedented challenges in Christian higher education, including accreditation, enrollment, finances, facilities, etc., Milioni took the helm and his leadership at BBC has been stellar. Confronting these and other challenges, the college has emerged stronger and facing a bright future. Offices and programs have been streamlined, key personnel has been hired, and the creation of 100% online degree programs has propelled the college into new arenas of growth and advancement.

By Roland Dudley

MY **BBC** MEMORIES

Gary Tomberlin

Class of 1964

My years at BBC are unforgettable and were filled with love, joy, peace and a lot of friends. I have so much respect for G.B. Vick, Kenneth Gillming, Eli Harju and many others. They were the best of the best.

Randy Perkins

Class of 1971

R.O. Woodworth made us memorize over 50 verses in the Personal Evangelism class. I didn't really like it then, but I know now that it was one of the greatest blessings of my life. I also loved sitting in Jack Baskins' missions' classes. They prepared me more than I would have ever imagined.

Robert Hart

Class of 1973

We were told to go some place and plant a church and let God work through you. My wife and I did just that. We planted a church in the suburbs of Albany, NY and stayed for 40 years.

Edward Schraff

Class of 1974

My favorite memories are the times spent in fellowship with some dear friends. We had very little money, but we had great times. Many have been lifelong friends that we stay in touch with today.

Karen Driver Keel

Class of 1978

My favorite memory is the snowball fights in the common area between the buildings. My greatest takeaway was learning that it's all about your relationship with Christ.

James Evans

Class of 1979

I learned that the foundational training I received in my four years at BBC has been of great value to me through the years. It was a great blessing being under the teaching of the godly men and women who served as faculty.

Linzy Slayden

Class of 1983

My favorite memory is winning the Vick Speech Tournament in Expository Preaching and in Original Oratory. This is because I quit junior college in Illinois three semesters in a row because I was afraid to speak in front of people. The Lord saved me, gave me something to say and the power to say it.

Jennifer Kennedy

Class of 1991

There are so many great memories from my time at BBC. I loved the friends we made while there. We spent many evenings spending time with our neighbors in the "B" married apartments. We could always count on our friends when we had hard times and needed help. I got written up once while walking from my 3rd floor apartment to the laundry room on the 1st floor because I had sweats on. This was in around 20-degree weather. I also loved the time between classes in the snack shop. There was always great conversation going on.

Lonnie Lehrman

Class of 1992

The greatest lesson that BBC taught me was to stay teachable. I strive to do that everyday.

Mark Wooley

Class of 1994

I learned that you never stop learning and growing in the Lord. I loved playing piano and traveling with the BBC quartets and the Singing Patriots.

Jason Henderson

Class of 1995

I walked on campus as a freshman thinking I had my life all planned out. I left as a graduate with a realization that I know nothing, and my future lies in God's hands.

Brian Weed

Class of 1997

My favorite memory is convincing Rachel Barnes to go on a date with me. Thankfully she eventually married me. There are several lessons I have carried with me many years after graduating. Lessons such as seeking personal holiness, go forth and serve, do everything with excellence, and work hard have molded me as a missionary.

Nate Harmon

Class of 1999

I loved my time at BBC. I was given the opportunity to travel for BBC. For four years. I traveled the country with some of my closest friends to this date. I am thankful for the experiences that helped shape who I am today.

Ben Seyden

Class of 1999

In Mike Randall's class we were required to memorize Rudyard Kipling's poem "IF." I hated it at the time, but I also made my kids



Sue Goldman Garard

As a seasoned, experienced, inspirational humorist, Sue has spoken at High Street and many other churches in our Fellowship as well as on several mission fields. Love offering only and references.

(417) 818-3367 Kgarard@drury.edu

memorize it as they grew up. Even today when my son is playing soccer for his college team, I shout to “keep your head when those around you are losing theirs.” I will always appreciate Dr. Randall for that gift.

God very God became Man very Man. I quote Ray Pratt in at least one sermon per month. I will never forget the Gold Glove boxer turned theologian who taught me that those who stand for good theology are the toughest men on the planet.

Erwin Santosa

Class of 2000

My favorite memory is when Eli Harju would sing, “Bad boys,” the theme song from the TV series Cops, whenever someone from the Admin Office or Student Life called a student out of his class.

Kaitlin Peele

Class of 2012

God is more concerned with my holiness than He is with my happiness.

Blaze Lehrman

Class of 2020

I will always remember what professor Craig Dunning taught us. In order to have Gospel conversations, you have to have conversations.

Dennis Mays

Class of 2021

My favorite memory was winning the ACCA Men’s Basketball National Championship.



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“WORDS OF CONGRATULATIONS

Leland Kennedy (Class of 1953)

Congratulations family and friends of Baptist Bible College for your seventy years of service. You are blessed with the inheritance of a fellowship of great men who founded and perpetuated the ministry of Baptist Bible College. These were men of great faith, passion, and sacrifice for the purpose of training students to win the world for Christ, thus consummating the Great Commission. Students of the Class of 2021, congratulations for being a part of this great history and being a part of the 70th Graduating Class of Baptist Bible College. May you continue to carry out the founding purpose of our college and meet the responsibility of winning your generation. Remember, you “entered to learn, and you go forth to serve”.

Jerry Thorpe (Attended 1955-1956)

I have made most of my best friends and have been challenged to do out of the ordinary things for God because of my association with BBC and the pastors and preaching of the BBFI

John Gross (Class of 1962)

Baptist Bible College has trained many outstanding students through these last 70 years that have in return been responsible for spreading the gospel around the world... with many great teachers of influence. The faculty, administration and leaders are to be congratulated and commended for their years of faithfulness and dedication to the gospel message. God bless you.

Bill Dowell, Jr. (Class of 1962 & 1963 4th Year)

On this 70th graduation ceremony at Baptist Bible College, we pray for God's great blessing to be with these very special graduates who faithfully finished all their courses in a difficult time due to COVID 19 and its restrictions. Congratulations to the class of 2021.

Jerry Prevo (Class of 1967)

Baptist Bible College prepared me for the ministry God had for me. Forty-seven years in Alaska where 40,000 people said they got saved. Now as the Interim President of Liberty University. I thank God for Baptist Bible College that provided an affordable education for me.

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Jim Baize (Class of 1969 and 1970 4th Year)
Baptist Bible College was a godsend in my life. BBC prepared me for ministry and provided an amazing, godly wife! May God give BBC another 70 years – or until the Lord comes back for us all!

Don Elmore (Class of 1970)
I would like to congratulate BBC for the world influence that springs from the walls and halls of this institution. Also, for the leadership at BBC that influenced pastors all over the world. I will always love and respect BBC.

Rick Blackwood (Class of 1980)
The greatest gift God gave me to prepare for ministry was Baptist Bible College. BBC shaped my life and prepared me for the great challenges that lay ahead. Paul challenged Timothy: “Preach the Word: be prepared.” BBC was the answer to that challenge for me.

Randy Abell (Class of 1983)
Congratulations to Baptist Bible College for

its 70 years of ministry! I owe much to the BBF and BBC and am thankful for all those who brought it together and supported it.

Jason Petermann (Class of 1992)
Congratulations to the 70th graduating class of Baptist Bible College. You share a long history of young men and women called by God to make a difference in our world with the gospel. We are praying for you as you take your next steps.

Jon Haley (Class of 1995)
Congratulations to the class of 2021. You have the distinct honor of being the 70th graduating class of BBC. I pray God will bless you as you go out and change the world one life at a time.

Jon Slayden (Class of 1999)
A huge congratulations to the graduating class of 2021! What an amazing accomplishment! You are the 70th graduating class of Baptist Bible College. 70 years of impact will now continue through

your heart for God, His Word, and for people all over the world. Our alumni are eager to stand with you to carry on this amazing legacy

Gary Fuller
70 years! Where has the time gone? BBC, we are so proud of you. Only eternity will be able to count the souls saved and lives changed because of your investment. Thank you staff, administration, professors, students, graduates and supporters. Well done.

Bruce Garner
70 years of training Christian leaders with integrity in their hearts and skill in their hands. Congratulations, Baptist Bible College!

Terry Kizer
Congratulations Baptist Bible College on 70 years of producing next gen leaders. I’m excited to see how God will use our college and our network to impact the world for our neighbors, nations, and next generations!



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Celebrating 70 Years of Graduating Leaders in Ministry
Congratulations BBC and 2021 Senior Class!

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A man in traditional Hmong clothing, including a white headwrap and a dark blue jacket, is carrying a long wooden staff over his shoulder. He is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background is a blurred image of a building.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 3
2021

P R O J E C T 938

REGISTER

Registration will begin May 3, 2021
at Project938.world

In-person church registration for Project 938 will
begin during Fellowship Week at Baptist Bible
College, Springfield, MO (May 3-5, 2021).

Upon registration, churches will receive an
Introduction Packet that will include everything
needed to begin planning for Project 938.

**GO TO PROJECT938.WORLD
FOR MORE INFORMATION**

CONGRATULATIONS

Baptist Bible College



70 YEARS
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WHAT HAS BBC MEANT TO ME?



CLASS OF 2021

KEY AWARD
WINNERS

Brynn Gotcher

I started attending Baptist Bible College in 2017. I was ready to begin studying ministry and was looking forward to everything my college years had in store for me. One thing I honestly did not expect, though, was the profound impact this college and the people here would have on my life. The classes I have taken over the last four years have equipped me for future ministry. My professors genuinely cared about me and wanted to see me succeed. They pushed me to work hard for the glory of God and encouraged me through the hardships I faced in my personal life.

Throughout my years here at BBC, I have also been able to form friendships with so many incredible individuals. They have encouraged me to be more like Christ. Even though we will be serving in different areas of ministry and will be moving to different parts of the country and even the world, I am confident that these will be lifelong friends. Because of the bonds I have formed, I know I will always have people to call and lean on. Knowing this as I get started in full-time ministry is the most encouraging thing I could ask for.

Baptist Bible College also does an incredible job of getting students connected with churches and pastors throughout our Fellowship. Our college has allowed us to attend state fellowship meetings, world mission forums, and Fellowship Weeks at the end of the school year. Beyond the benefit of being personally connected with new pastors and places, this is also a blessing because we got to see what God is doing all around the world. I could continue sharing why BBC has been so important and impactful to me, but it all boils down to the fact that Baptist Bible College points its students to be more like Christ. It teaches them to embody that spirit in whatever ministry or occupation they go into after they graduate. I cannot thank BBC enough for pouring into me these last four years and for giving me lifelong friendships and connections for the future.



Dennis Mays

What has Baptist Bible College meant to me? Simply put, it has been a second chance. BBC has allowed me a second chance at realizing and fulfilling God's call on my life. From the age of 16 to 27, my life was marked by bad decisions and broken relationships. I had done everything in life without considering what God wanted from me. This ended abruptly in 2014. I was charged with my third DWI and faced severe punishment by the court. By God's grace, I was allowed to go through an extensive court-ordered treatment program instead of going to prison. During this treatment program, I started working part time on maintenance at BBC under Chris Williams. While working at the school, I was welcomed by faculty, staff, and students into the family. I knew God wanted me to help people who had experienced things like myself, so I enrolled at BBC as a Biblical Counseling major in the fall of 2017. After my first semester and hearing about how much more of an impact I could have on a broader audience as a pastor, I switched my major to Pastoral Studies. My passion for helping others is stronger now than it was four years ago. God has used this second chance at education and ministry to equip me to serve Him and His church better.

I would not be where I am today if it were not for God and BBC. The administration, faculty, staff, alumni, and students are my largest support system and best friends. This school has been my educational institution and place of employment for five years now, and I would not trade my time here for anything. On top of a second chance at education and ministry, while at BBC, God has brought my wife (Emily) and I together. We now have a one-and-a-half-year-old daughter named Annabelle, and I hope BBC is as special to her as it is to Emily and me. BBC means a lot of things to a lot of different people. To me, it has meant a second chance at becoming who God has created and called me to be.

CLASS OF
2021

BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

70 YEARS

TRAINING EFFECTIVE CHRISTIAN LEADERS SINCE 1950



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"NOAH FOUND GRACE IN THE EYES OF THE LORD" [GENESIS 6:8].



Lesson 1

Title: Noah's Godliness
Bible Account: Genesis 6:5-12

Memory Verse: "Noah walked with God" (Genesis 6:9).

Life Application: The student will understand that he can live for God even in an evil world.



Lesson 2

Title: Noah's Obedience
Bible Account: Genesis 6:13-22

Memory Verse: "Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him" (Genesis 6:22).

Life Application: The student will choose to obey God's Word.



Lesson 3

Title: Noah's Deliverance
Bible Account: Genesis 7:1-24

Memory Verse: "Come thou and all thy house into the ark" (Genesis 7:1).

Life Application: The student will realize that God watches over His children and can protect them completely.



Lesson 4

Title: Noah's Worship
Bible Account: Genesis 8:1-3, 15-22

Memory Verse: "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD" (Psalm 95:6).

Life Application: The student will worship God because of what He has done for him.



Lesson 5

Title: Noah's Sign
Bible Account: Genesis 9:8-17

Memory Verse: "I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth" (Genesis 9:13).

Life Application: The student will rest in the assurance that comes with God's promises.

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