Take His Word to the World
Who You Are, Wherever You Are

Dr. Mark L. Bailey

Have you ever noticed we serve a God who often calls us to leave our comfort zones and serve in the stretching posture of faith? Abraham was summoned out of Ur; Jonah was sent to Nineveh. Yet many of our biblical models were asked to speak to their own people in their own locations. The call of God can come with direction to “go,” but sometimes it comes with direction to “stay” right where we are. We might even want to move, but God may say “stay put” and “bloom where you’re planted.” The Lord used Joseph in both a prison and a palace; He rescued Ruth in the fields and at the threshing floor; He asked Moses to lead in a desert in which he had wandered in previous years.

In this issue of Kindred Spirit we’ll consider God’s desire for us to take His Word to the world, whether He calls us to go or stay. In “Why Does God Bless Us?” Dr. Steve Strauss, who chairs the DTS World Missions department, walks readers through Psalm 67, which reveals that “God blesses His people so that the peoples might bless Him.” In “The Office: Taking the Word to Work,” Dr. Glenn Kreider, a professor in our Theological Studies department, turns the spotlight on some former students who are reaching businesswomen with the gospel. In “A Different Flight Path,” a DTS grad and Canadian veteran of World War II tells how God’s painful redirection led to a job that allowed him to minister to other military personnel. There are fewer better ways to reach businesswomen than by women in business. Military personnel understand their world and fellow soldiers.

The heart of missions is not necessarily where we live, but who we are and what we are doing wherever God calls us to go—or stay. Sometimes we get the idea that “finding the will of God” for our lives means finding where He wants us to live and work. But the New Testament focuses more on doing God’s will in whatever we are doing, no matter where we are. For example, “This is the will of God—your sanctification” (1 Thess. 4:3).

Are you a college student? An engineer? A barista? An athlete? A cancer patient? A subway rider? A file clerk? A surgeon? You can make disciples wherever you are—even if you are confined to a bed or wheelchair—through the medium of the Internet and/or with a cell phone.

So don’t get too comfortable. Can you sense God’s calling? As you read and pray with us, consider how you too can take His Word into your world.
Katherine “Kat” Armstrong (MA/CE, 2011) and Stephanie Giddens (ThM, 2009) share a lot in common. Both are native Texans who met at Texas A&M University. They reconnected on the campus of Dallas Theological Seminary, worked in the corporate world while attending classes, and served actively in women’s ministry. Both are married to DTS alumni (Brad Giddens [ThM, 2006] and Aaron Armstrong [ThM, 2011]). And both are passionate about ministry to their peers, a largely unreached people group: professional women in their twenties and thirties. Because of this passion, Kat and Stephanie founded Polish: Refining the Details (think nails, not Eastern Europe) three years ago as an outreach to these women.

Several years of demographic research and their own experiences in the church and the corporate world led Giddens and Armstrong to conclude that the church and existing parachurch organizations in Dallas could do more to reach these women. Both Stephanie and Kat realized they were interacting in the workplace with women whom they knew were not involved in church. Many, in fact, were ignorant of Christianity. Kat said, “I met women who had no understanding of the gospel, even in Dallas, Texas, and [I met] Christian women who were not intentional about connecting their faith to life.” She discovered few resources that helped her connect her faith and business spheres: to take the Word of God into the world of business. As a Christian, a seminary...
Women in their twenties and thirties have the lowest percentage of church involvement of any generation in the modern era. A faith-based, nonprofit ministry, Polish exists to help women connect the Word of God to everyday life so they can glorify Christ and navigate culture well. The target audience of Polish is young professional women who are unbelievers, unchurched Christians, and unconnected churchgoers. Polish has three major goals: to share the gospel with these women; to show them how Christ and the Bible are relevant to their lives; and to direct them to a church so they might connect with a Christian community for deeper life change.

**Two Women, One Vision**
Stephanie observed a similar disconnect between her business and church relationships. She did extensive sociological research on women and the corporate world and found two significant statistics. First, in the early years of the twenty-first century, for the first time single adult women outnumber married women. And many of these women work in the corporate world. Second, women in their twenties and thirties have the lowest percentage of church involvement of any generation in the modern era. Stephanie concluded, “Women’s ministry must recognize that most adult women are single and not involved in church.”

Although Stephanie’s ministry focus had become clearer during her time at seminary, it was on a road trip with her husband three years ago when the vision for Polish came together for her. Brad encouraged her to think more specifically about her ministry plans. A vision of a ministry that goes into the marketplace, reaches women with the gospel, and encourages them to join a local church took shape. When she returned to Dallas, she called Kat, and the two met to pray and consider how they might connect the truth of Christ and the Word to the women of Polish. Brad on a road trip with her husband three years ago when the vision for Polish came together for her. Brad encouraged her to think more specifically about her ministry plans. A vision of a ministry that goes into the marketplace, reaches women with the gospel, and encourages them to join a local church took shape. When she returned to Dallas, she called Kat, and the two met to pray and consider how they might connect the truth of Christ and the Word to the women of Polish.

**God’s Word in the Workplace**
Polish’s format is a biweekly luncheon with an affordable lunch with costs shared by the women and donors to Polish; a speaker who communicates a biblical message pointedly applied to their lives; a small-group discussion around the lunch table; and an opportunity to respond with commitment to Christ. Kat said, “We achieve goal one by sharing the gospel at every Polish luncheon and asking Polish attendees to respond to the gospel. We reach goal two through our biblical message with practical applications. And we reach goal three with our table discussion leaders. Our leaders are intentional to ask women at their table to visit their home church.”

Combining expertise in the Scriptures and knowledge of corporate culture, Polish’s leaders have created an outreach that is producing results. Speakers address timely topics such as failure phobia, the problem of evil, and karma versus grace. Young professional women are coming to faith in Christ, reading their Bibles, and connecting the truth of God’s Word to the world in which they live. Those who are inactive members of a local church are invited and encouraged to join one of the churches represented by the women of Polish.

**Dixie Kachiros is one example of how God is using Polish to change women’s lives. A non-Christian who was curious about God and Christianity, Dixie attended Polish luncheons for two years. She developed relationships with several leaders. When facing the unexpected death of her father-in-law, Dixie came to understand her need for a Savior. “My first step of faith led to the greatest gift I could ever receive—salvation and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ,” Dixie said. “I’m now taking baby steps. Even going to church is not a cultural norm for me, but through the encouragement of Polish and the leadership team, I am beginning a walk of faith and growing in Christ.”**

Polish is a ministry of women to women. The goal is not to replace traditional church women’s ministry, but to reach out to women outside the church and encourage them to become part of a local Christian community. Kat affirms that Polish is accomplishing what it set out to do. “What we do has never been done this way—in a luncheon setting to share the gospel with young professional women interested in Christianity, and to connect their faith and careers.”

The leaders of Polish envision a day when there will be Polish luncheons in every major city.

Stephanie said, “DTS equipped both of us, and many of our professors served as catalysts helping us, in the power of the Spirit, to make this vision a reality. Our hope is to see others join our cause, to help us find volunteer leaders, corporate sponsors, and ministry partners for the next phases of expansion.”

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**Pink Bibles for Hungry Hearts**

The Bible. For some—even Christians—it’s just a book. Or a doorstop. Or a dust collector. It sometimes feels like a textbook for me as I prepare lessons for Polish. For others, though, it’s a treasure.

Last year, a publisher donated some Bibles to us (in Polish pink, mind you) to distribute to women who didn’t own one. When we met a woman at Polish who didn’t own a Bible, we shared our little pink gem with her. Within a month she developed an insatiable hunger for the Word. She reads it every day. She met with Polish women to discuss faith; she purchased Bible study books to help her learn more; and she went to church. I saw her after a month, and she had a new sparkle in her eyes.

Now come with me to Rwanda, where Katherine Holloway of African Leadership And Reconciliation Ministries (ALARM) just completed the first round of micro-business training sponsored by Polish Africa. In her words, “The first thing we did was to distribute a Bible in the local language of the women. The women were overwhelmed with this gift. One woman shared that she had prayed for a Bible for three years. Another said that she was ashamed to go to church without a Bible and couldn’t believe that she had one now. A Muslim woman was thankful that she was given a Bible and not excluded because of her religion. Woman after woman told about the great blessing of such a gift. The Bible was used in every business teaching during the week to illustrate that the Bible contains relevant teachings about work and business.”

The Bible is not just another book. It transforms lives. Every day. All over the planet. We are privileged to be part of the process.

—Stephanie Giddens, Polish Codirector

polishdallas.org
Dr. Stephen J. Strauss

Why Does God Bless Us?

Ask an athlete trying out for the Olympics if she looks forward to making the team, and you’ll hear a resounding, “YEAH!”

Ask a bride and groom the week before their wedding, “Are you looking forward to your big day?” What do you think they’ll tell you?

Ask a child the last week of school if he’s looking forward to summer vacation, and you’ll see the sparkle in his eyes.

And ask any committed believer in Jesus Christ, if he or she wants to enjoy God’s blessing. You’ll hear the same answer: “Of course!” Why? Because God’s blessing is the ultimate good that we as disciples should long for. We want God to bless our homes. We want good health, job security, and fellowship and relevant instruction at church. But most of all, we want the blessing of God Himself—His presence, His forgiveness, His power over sin, and His guidance. Of course we want God’s blessing!

But why? Why do we want these things? Most of us want God to bless us because we want what’s best for us, and God knows what’s best. And that’s a good reason. It’s good to want to enjoy all that God has in store for us. But if that’s as far as our thinking goes—for God to bless us so we can have fulfilling lives—we short-circuit His plan. Because He wants His blessing to extend much further than simply our enjoying it. He wants us to take that blessing to another level, for our lives to spin outward to affect the entire world.

In Psalm 67, God lays out a vision for His blessing and its intended scope. As we explore the passage, notice two themes: first, God blesses His people; second, God blesses His people so that “the peoples” will bless Him.

GOD BLESSES HIS PEOPLE

The psalmist begins by establishing that God blesses His people (vv. 1–2, 6–7). The passage opens with a prayer to this end: “May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations” (vv. 1–2). The psalmist ends the psalm by saying, “Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God, will bless us. God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear him” (vv. 6–7).

The “yielding” the psalmist describes in verse 6 appears in the “completed” or “past” tense—the only past tense in the entire psalm. It’s as if the psalmist is saying, “Look around! He’s already done it! See His blessing everywhere.”

In the middle of the psalm we find examples of God’s blessing. His guidance and His just and righteous rule (v. 4). Israel could rest in the assurance that God controls the nations and brings justice in international affairs. We read, “May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.” That word “glad” is used for the joy of a wedding.
A Different Flight Path

Inside the Air Force building in Dauphin, Manitoba, I removed my hat and tucked it under my arm. I marched down the hall to the interview room, entered, stood at attention, and saluted the officers on the investigative panel. For what felt like hours, I answered question after question as levelly as I could.

As an eighteen-year-old pilot trainee, I had already completed ten weeks of basic and flight training. World War II raged. Nightly radio reports and newsreels displayed the devastation that German bombers rained on the streets of London. As soon as the Canadian government called for airmen, my friends and I enlisted. With ninety-six hours of actual flying time under my belt, I envisioned myself in a fighter plane shooting down German bombers over London and gaining hero status both at home and abroad.

“You’re grounded,” the lead officer of the panel concluded. “You will be reassigned.”

With those words, the officer shut down my dream of being a hero.

Maintaining the same stiff upper lip as my British father, I snapped to attention, saluted the officers, did an about-face, and exited.

A “Suspicious Oddball”

The previous week had been a nightmare. After doing well in boot camp and elementary flight instruction, I expected instrument flight to be a breeze. It wasn’t. Just when I felt I was getting the hang of it, a practice flight with an instructor put my career with the Air Force in jeopardy. That day, another pilot trainee and I both took off from parallel runways. Within minutes my instructor demanded control of our aircraft and returned us to the airstrip.

Once on the ground, the instructor exploded. “Titcombe, you put our lives in danger by allowing your craft to drift into the flight path of the other plane. Were you even aware of its location? That is the last time I will go up with you!”

After walking back to my barracks, I slumped on my bunk. My mind replayed the incident as I stared at the headgear in my hands. How will this incident affect my future with my unit? I wondered. What will my girl, Jeanie, think?

Harry Titcombe’s sweetheart, Jeanie, was still a teen in 1937 when this photo was taken with her twin, Bob.

Harry Titcombe (middle) received his basic training using this plane.
continued from previous page

Lost in my worries, I didn’t hear footsteps behind me, so I almost jumped when a hand touched my shoulder. Holmes, a friend from my unit, saw me return early from the practice run and came to discover what happened. After Holmes cried the story from me, a few moments of silence passed.

Peering into my face, Holmes said, “Titcombe, whatever the outcome is, I want you to know that the world needs more guys like you and fewer like me. You aren’t afraid to live out and share your Christian faith.”

Holmes’s words were small comfort, however, as that week progressed. I faced a string of physical and psychological tests, followed by several interviews. The most painful had been this last one. The officers criticized my behavior, labeling me a “suspicious oddball.” I didn’t drink, smoke, curs, or carouse like others in my unit. What was worse, I loved classical music. One officer accused me of carousing as well.

“Did you see what Israel’s God did?” And He specifically wants them to see His salvation—say, “Wow! Did you see what Israel’s God did?” And He wants them to tell others about Him. Our employment might provide meaningful work and give us a secure paycheck, but the primary reason God blesses us is so we might have a “light” on the job. If unemployed, we can encourage others in the same situation. The same is true of our education, our homes, our churches, our health—good or bad—and our talents. Our education and skills, our geographical locations, the languages we speak, the homes in which we dwell, the neighbor whose dog gets in the garden and messes it up, the person who runs the cash register—all of these God blesses us with so that the world might know Him and His salvation.

God blesses us so we can use our blessings as a catalyst to lead the nations to join us as we bow in worship before our God. We will reorder our priorities to turn our blessings to use every good and perfect gift as a way to bless others. Our employment might provide meaningful work and give us a secure paycheck, but the primary reason God blesses us is so we might have a “light” on the job. If unemployed, we can encourage others in the same situation. The same is true of our education, our homes, our churches, our health—good or bad—and our talents. Our education and skills, our geographical locations, the languages we speak, the homes in which we dwell, the neighbor whose dog gets in the garden and messes it up, the person who runs the cash register—all of these God blesses us with so that the world might know Him and His salvation.

God blesses us so we can use our blessings as a means for the peoples of the world to bless Him. If we believe this, the truth will radically change the way we respond to all we have received from Him. We will reorder our priorities to turn our blessings outward, using every good and perfect gift as a catalyst to lead the nations to join us as we bow in worship before our God.

Dr. Steve Strauss (ThM, 1980) is department chair and professor of World Missions and Intercultural Studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. He is the former director of SIM USA, and served as an SIM missionary in Ethiopia for nineteen years.

Why Does God Bless Us? continued from page 8

Why Does God Bless Us?

Clearly, God blesses His people—and abundantly!

Yet what’s the purpose of His blessing?

THE REASON GOD BLESSES HIS PEOPLE

God blesses His people so that the peoples might bless Him. The chorus of Psalm 67, repeated twice, makes this clear: “May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you” (vv. 3, 5). The Lord has in mind the people who will praise Him. What people? All the nations. Why? “That your ways may be known on earth” (v. 2). God wants the nations to say, “Wow! Did you see what Israel’s God did?” And He wants them to tell others about Him.

Imagine a friend telling a single guy, “I’ve met the perfect girl for you.” “Tell me about her.” “She’s fun. A good listener. Loves the same things you do.” “What’s that guy’s next thought? Is it, “Tell me more about her sometime”? Of course not! He’ll say, “When can I meet her? I want to get to know her, not just about her.”

The psalmist says that’s what God wants from the nations. He wants them to go beyond hearing about His saving ways and get to know Him personally. Because of the blessing of God’s just rule and guidance, the psalmist says all the nations can “be glad” (v. 4). This same phrase “be glad” is used for the joy of a wedding. Such happiness! Verse 4 also says the nations will “sing for joy,” that means to sing and shout out loud. God blesses His people so we can sing His praise.

We find this “outreach” effect of God’s blessing again in verse 7: “God will bless us and all the ends of the earth will fear him” (v. 7). See the result? The nations will have fear—reverence and awe—toward God. God wants them to say, “Wow! There’s a God worth trusting.”

In the past God blessed His people, Israel, so that all the peoples would see His blessing and in turn bless God. And though we live thousands of years later, God’s heart remains the same: He blesses His people today so that the peoples of the world might bless Him.

THE RAMIFICATIONS OF GOD’S BLESSING HIS PEOPLE

How do we extend God’s blessing? The psalm itself gives some clues for using God’s blessings to extend His reach. We can tell others about the ways God rescues us in desperate times (vv. 1–2). We can seek opportunities to display God’s just rule and guidance (vv. 3–4). And we can view our blessings—our relationships, our vacation time, even our trials—as ways to extend God’s reach. For the psalmist living in an agrarian society, “harvest” was the obvious indication of God’s blessing. And while most people in North America buy their corn from the store rather than plucking it from the field, God has given us a “harvest” too. We can spread His renown as we seek to use every blessing we’ve received to bless others so that God’s name is praised (vv. 6–7).

God still blesses us; His people, today. And He does so in order that every last one of us might bless Him with all that He has given us. Our food and our resources, our family and friends—God has given them to us to enjoy. But He gave them to us for a bigger reason: that “all the peoples” both far and near would bless Him.

Our employment might provide meaningful work and give us a secure paycheck, but the primary reason God blesses us with employment is so we might be a “light” on the job. If unemployed, we can encourage others in the same situation. The same is true of our education, our homes, our churches, our health—good or bad—and our talents. Our education and skills, our geographical locations, the languages we speak, the homes in which we dwell, the neighbor whose dog gets in the garden and messes it up, the person who runs the cash register—all of these God blesses us with so that the world might know Him and His salvation.

God blesses us so we can use our blessings as a means for the peoples of the world to bless Him. If we believe this, the truth will radically change the way we respond to all we have received from Him. We will reorder our priorities to turn our blessings outward, using every good and perfect gift as a catalyst to lead the nations to join us as we bow in worship before our God.
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Look Who’s Engaging the Culture
When Outreach magazine announced their 2012 Outreach Resources of the Year, three DTS alumni appeared on the list. In fact, in the ‘culture’ category, our alumni took both slots:

LEADERSHIP
The Nuts and Bolts of Church Planting: A Guide for Starting Any Kind of Church
By DTS professor Dr. Aubrey Malphurs (Baker Books)

HALF THE CHURCH: RECAPTURING GOD’S GLOBAL VISION FOR WOMEN
By Carolyn Castis James (Zondervan)

CULTURE
From the Garden to the City: The Bedeviling and Corrupting Power of Technology
By DTS web designer John Dyer (Kregel)

Tour the Holy Land with DTS
Holy Land Tour: March 8–20, 2013
Petra Extension, March 20–23, 2013
Walk where Jesus walked and move from black and white to full color as you read the biblical text while journeying with DTS to spiritually rich sites in Israel. Stay in exquisite accommodations and learn exceptional biblical insights. Dr. Mark Bailey, DTS president and professor of Bible Exposition, and Dr. Stephen Bramer, biblical insights. Dr. Mark Bailey, DTS president and chief operating officer.

DTS CONFERENCES
Join DTS for a Week in California
Head for the West Coast with DTS, and enjoy a family vacation while hearing from the Word from our own president, Dr. Mark Bailey, along with Chaplain Bill Bryan, Dr. James Allman, Dr. Mike Seigl, and Dr. Mark Hitchcock. Mark your calendar for today 29–August 4 and join us for Dallas Seminary’s sixty-seventh year at Mount Hermon Christian Conference Center near Santa Cruz, California. Bring the entire family and plan for a week of teaching, watching surfers, sunning, singing, hiking, resting, and breathing fresh air as you spend a week of revitalization among the redwoods. For more information call Mount Hermon at 831–355–4466 or email info@mounthermon.org.

DTS Conferences brought to you by the Howard G. Hendricks Center for Christian Leadership
Recovering our Creative Calling: Leading Cultural Change
How can Christians be agents of cultural renewal? The Recovering our Creative Calling: Leading Cultural Change conference will help Christian leaders rethink our postures toward the world around us—not just the culture of our society, but the culture of our own neighborhoods and churches—and learn to live transformational lives in that world.

Date: Monday, September 17, 2012
Location: Dallas Theological Seminary

All about Influence: A Women’s Leadership Conference
The DTS women’s All about Influence conference is a one-day leadership experience designed to equip women to reach, lead, and have an impact on those in their spheres of influence.

Date: Monday, November 12, 2012
Time: 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Location: Dallas Theological Seminary

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<td>Jennie Allen (MA[BS], 2005)**</td>
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| Second Time Around                                                   | Twin Hearts
JoAnn Durgin (Jim, MA[BS], 1986)                                         |
| Heaven Revealed                                                      | Living the New Testament
Dr. Paul Enns (ThM, 1973; ThD, 1979)                                        |
| Ten Questions Every Christian Must Answer                            | Alex McFarland and Dr. Elmer Towns (ThM, 1958)                                 |
| Is God Just a Human Invention?                                       | Sean McDowell and Jonathan Morrow (class of 2005)                               |
| Show Me How to Illustrate Evangelistic Sermons                      | Dr. R. Larry Moyer (ThM, 1973)                                                  |
| Show Me How to Preach Evangelistic Sermons                          | Dr. Tom Nelson (MA[BS], 1982)                                                    |
| Workplace Grace                                                     | William Peel (ThM, 1976)                                                        |
| Magnificent Surrender: Releasing the Riches of Living in the Lord    | Dr. Roger Helland (ThM, 1983)                                                   |
| Revelation (The John Walvoord Prophecy Commentaries)                | Dr. John F. Walvoord (ThM, 1934; ThB, 1934; ThD, 1936); rev. and ed. by Dr. Mark Hitchcock (ThM, 1991; PhD, 2006) and Philip Rawley (ThM, 1980; MA/CE, 2008) |
| Living into the Life of Jesus: The Formation of Christian Character  | Dr. Kraus Isler (ThM, 1977)                                                     |
| Mark: A Theological Commentary for Preachers                         | Dr. Abraham Kuruvilla (ThM, 2002)**                                              |
| A Definition and Critique of Postmodernism                          | Bruce A. Proctor (ThM, 1980)                                                     |
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| Bite-Size Bible Answers                                              |                                                            |
| Bite-Size Bible Handbook                                             |                                                            |
| Unmasking the Antichrist: Dispelling the Myths, Discovering the Truth | Dr. Ron Rhodes (ThM, 1983; ThD, 1986)                                           |
| Hidden in Plain Sight: Finding Wisdom and Meaning in the Parts of the Bible Most People Skip | Dr. Boyd Seevers (ThM, 1987)                                                    |
| Colossians and Philemon                                             | Dr. Robert W. Wall (ThM, 1973; ThD, 1979)                                      |
| Daniel (The John Walvoord Prophecy Commentaries)                    | Dr. John F. Walvoord (ThM, 1934; ThB, 1934; ThD, 1936); rev. and ed. by Dr. Charles Dyer (ThBM 1979; PhD 1986) and Philip Rawley (ThBM, 1980; MA/CE, 2008) |
| Tract: Evolution: Fact or Fiction?                                  | Dr. Roy B. Zuck (ThM, 1957; ThD, 196d)                                          |
| Dr. Charles Swindoll’s New Testament Insights series is now available through Logos Bible Software in conjunction with Zondervan resources. | |
NORTHEAST
Dr. Mark Bailey
Jun 23–27 Word of Life Fellowship, Schroon Lake, New York
Dr. Stephen Bramer
Aug 11–19 Central Manor Camp and Bible Conference, Washington Boro, Pennsylvania
Dr. Robert Garippa
Jul 1 Hawthorne Gospel Church, Hawthorne, New Jersey
Dr. Abraham Kuruvilla
Sep 2 Hawthorne Gospel Church, Hawthorne, New Jersey
Dr. Stanley Toussaint
Jun 17 Immanuel Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina

SOUTHEAST
Dr. Mark Bailey
Jun 1 Colonial Baptist Church, Cary, North Carolina
Aug 11–12 McLean Bible Church, Vienna, Virginia
Sep 16 Bayside Community Church, Tampa, Florida
Dr. Stephen Bramer
Aug 5, Sep 30 Bayside Community Church, Tampa, Florida
Dr. Stanley Toussaint
Jun 17 Immmanuel Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia
Dr. Mark Bailey
Jun 18–22 Billy Graham Training Center 2012 Seminar, The Cove, Asheville, North Carolina

WEST
Dr. Ronald B. Allen
Jul 25–28 Western Seminary, San Jose, California
Aug 4–11 Cannon Beach Conference Center, Cannon Beach, Oregon
Dr. James Allman
Jul 29–Aug 4 Mount Hermon Conference Center, Mount Hermon, California
Dr. Mark Bailey
Jul 29–Aug 4 Mount Hermon Conference Center, Mount Hermon, California
Chaplain Bill Bryan
Jul 29–Aug 4 Mount Hermon Conference Center, Mount Hermon, California
Dr. John Hannah
Jul 15 Elm Street Baptist Church, Sweet Home, Oregon
Aug 30–Sep 4 Weekend Conference, Elm Street Baptist Church, Sweet Home, Oregon
Dr. Mike Svigel
Jul 29–Aug 4 Mount Hermon Conference Center, Mount Hermon, California
Dr. Stanley Toussaint
Sep 21–23 All Church Camp, Chinese Independent Baptist Church, Oakland, California
Dr. Daniel B. Wallace
Sep 1–3 Retreat, Mandarin Baptist Church of Los Angeles, San Diego, California
Dr. Mike Svigel
Jul 29–Aug 4 Mount Hermon Conference Center, Mount Hermon, California
Dr. Stanley Toussaint
Sep 21–23 All Church Camp, Chinese Independent Baptist Church, Oakland, California
Dr. Daniel B. Wallace
Sep 1–3 Retreat, Mandarin Baptist Church of Los Angeles, San Diego, California

SOUTHWEST
Dr. Ronald B. Allen
Aug 26 Grace Church, Wichita Falls, Texas
Dr. Mark Bailey
Jul 15, Aug 5 Christ Chapel Bible Church, Fort Worth, Texas
Aug 8, 15, 22, 29 Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Prophecy Series, Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship, Dallas, Texas
Dr. Stephen Bramer
Jul 29–Aug 4 Family Camp, Crier Creek, Comfort, Texas
Dr. John Hannah
Jul 9–13 Bible Study Fellowship, San Antonio, Texas
Sep 9 Scofield Memorial Church, Dallas, Texas
Dr. Abraham Kuruvilla
Jun 10 Redeemer Bible Church, Dallas, Texas
Jul 1 Stonebriar Community Church, Frisco, Texas
Jul 8, 15, 22, 29 Northwest Bible Church, Dallas, Texas
Aug 5, 12, 19, 26 Trinity Bible Fellowship, Richardson, Texas
Dr. Daniel B. Wallace
Sep 15 Summer conference, Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Kingwood, Texas
Sep 22–23 First Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas
Sep 29 Apologetics Conference, Watermark Church, Dallas, Texas
Dr. Larry Waters
Jun 19–24 Toni & Friends Family Retreat, College Station, Texas

MIDWEST
Dr. Abraham Kuruvilla
Jun 27–29 Maranatha Bible Conference, Muskegon, Michigan
Dr. Stephen Bramer
Jul 6–20 Bible Teaching, CRIAR, Various locations, JORDAN and ISRAEL
Dr. Chip Dickens
Jun 22–24 Marriage Conference, Vienna, Austria
AUSTRIA; Jun 29–Jul 1 Marriage Conference, Bucharest, ROMANIA
Dr. John Hannah
May 13–Jun 12 Israel Tour Group, Various locations, ISRAEL
Dr. Larry Waters
May 29–Jun 7 Pastors Conference, Joni & Friends, Harbin and Nanjing, CHINA
Dr. Darrell L. Bock
Dr. Lee Jagers
Jul 7–17 Life Ministry CBU, Daresa Salaam, TANZANIA

Dr. Stephen Bramer
Jul 6–20 Bible Teaching, CRIAR, Various locations, JORDAN and ISRAEL
Dr. Chip Dickens
Jun 22–24 Marriage Conference, Vienna, Austria
AUSTRIA; Jun 29–Jul 1 Marriage Conference, Bucharest, Romania
Dr. John Hannah
May 13–Jun 12 Israel Tour Group, Various locations, Israel
Dr. Larry Waters
May 29–Jun 7 Pastors Conference, Joni & Friends, Harbin and Nanjing, China
Dr. Darrell L. Bock
Dr. Lee Jagers
Jul 7–17 Life Ministry CBU, Daresa Salaam, Tanzania

FROM THE CANCELLOR
Dr. Charles R. Swindoll
Spring/Summer 2012

What I considered to be the most God-awful letter became the most God-ordained statement for me.

As I left, my older brother showed a book in my hand titled, Through Gates of Splendor. It was the story of five young missionaries who lost their lives, and whose widows went on with their lives, ultimately evangelizing the Aucas Indians in Ecuador. I read that book on the troopship, sailing for seventeen days from San Diego to Japan, and then on down to Okinawa. As a result, my mind stopped resisting for the first time since I’d received that letter. My entire frame of reference changed yet again. Slowly, almost imperceptibly, I began to think, “Maybe there’s a plan here.”

A man I later met on the island gave me a copy of the Amplified New Testament. I read that little book about three times before I left Okinawa. He had circled one verse: Philippians 3:10. In that version it read, “For my determined purpose is that I may know Him—that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding [the wonders of His Person] more strongly and more clearly.”

On Okinawa, at the U.S. government’s expense, I had my first exposure to international missions. Away from all the crutches—all those things that made me comfortable—dulled my edge, along with all things familiar. For the first time I was enveloped in another culture. For the first time I was the foreigner. I found myself again and again having to look up and to learn a whole new way of walking. As a result, far removed from my comfort zone, I progressively became “more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him.” That intimate acquaintance introduced me to His heart for the whole world. That, too, was a first for me.

Jesus chose to leave the adoration of angels and make His dwelling among humans. Why? Because “God so loved the world.” Are you becoming intimately acquainted with Him? Are you making Him known? Are your circumstances difficult? It’s okay—allow Him to make you uncomfortable. It is in unexpected and difficult circumstances that we are poised to see the relevance of His Word for the needs of His world.

The verse art on the back cover was crafted by DTS graphic designer Linda Tomczak. You can view a short video of Ms. Tomczak talking her story at dts.edu/profiles.
How can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him?

...That is why the Scriptures say:

How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!

ROMANS 10:14–15, NLT