

# Central Baptist Association

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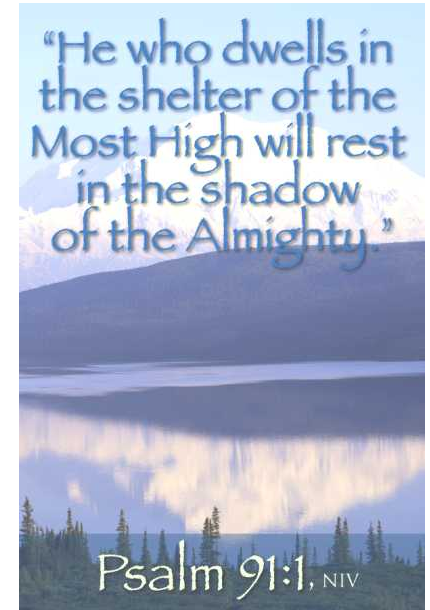


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Due to some mechanical glitches, we were unable to send all of the newsletters for May. If you failed to receive one we apologize. The May newsletter is available online. We have a new format for our newsletter. Please feel free to send your comments to:

[newsletter@cbabq.com](mailto:newsletter@cbabq.com)



# Central Connection

Central Baptist Association

newsletter@cbabq.com



Volume 16, Issue 6

## ??...Riddle Me This...??

A man is trapped in a room. The room has only two possible exits: two doors. Through the first door there is a room constructed from magnifying glass. The blazing hot sun instantly fries anything or anyone that enters. Through the second door there is a fire-breathing

dragon. How does the man escape?

Answer next month

If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

Why do roman paramedics refer to IV's as "4's"?

Those that think it permissible to tell white lies soon grow color blind.

~Austin O'Malley



## Rumors, Secrets & Lies... OH MY!

by Kevin Branham

Three words that can cause the world to end, the fall of modern civilization, stop time in it's tracks and... Well, maybe not that bad. These words do seem tied to a lot, if not most, of the problems encountered in the world today, things that are so easy to prevent, yet the hardest to control. Let's take a closer look.

Rumors seem to be the start of all things. Rumors are everywhere and running wild. They seem to grow with blinding speed and as they grow, they intensify to a point of nuclear

*...a triple bypass and his right ear amputated...*

melt down. Rumors can literally destroy lives and families. Most rumors start at the lack of information. When someone doesn't know all of the details, well, let's just make some up. Usually when a story starts, "I heard from some people...", it is probably going to be a little exaggerated. Rumors can be started when something good or bad happens and then people withhold that information. Of course there are reasons for not giving out confidential information, but most of the time it is nothing more that

the old adage of "knowledge is power" or "I know something you don't." When something happens that has the potential to grow into a rumor, the quickest way to stop it is get the truth out as fast as possible. Remember, knowledge is power only if everyone has the knowledge. We have all witnessed this, Pastor Johnny goes into the hospital for a broken toe. The people who hear about it don't pass on the correct information. Next thing you know, Pastor Johnny has had a triple bypass and his right ear amputated. By getting the word out, rumors can be reduced. One solution, when in

doubt, ask the person involved. Also remember, if you did not witness the event, how many people down the line are you hearing the information from. You know like, you heard it from Jack who heard it from his wife, who heard it from Suzie, who overheard Butch.



Secrets, to use a John Wayne line "I hate secrets, never

Continued on page 10

## Just Thinking



Yesterday I drove I-25 down to Los Lunas for our monthly pastor's lunch. I have mindlessly made the trip hundreds of times but yesterday was a day for reminiscing. When I was growing up in Valencia County, the Interstate in that section was only a dream in a state engineers mind. Going to Albuquerque meant driving up



Highway 85 through the Isleta Indian Reservation and then onto old Coors or driving up Highway 47 through Bosque Farms and onto Broadway Boulevard. Neither way was a quick drive even though traffic was considerably less.

I-25 is a definite improvement for many locations in Valencia County. It is fast and nonstop. It is convenient, efficient, and effective. In the great economy of travel, it saves time. However, this gain comes with a cost. When you travel the interstate, you lose all connection to the valley. Sure, you can look east and see across the valley to the Monzano Mountains which can be an inspiring view but it is too out of touch. There is no beckoning scenery to envelope you. That is not true with the other routes. The Isleta route passes through fields of alfalfa, and at one time, fields of vegetables. You can mark the seasons by watching the fields; spring irrigating, summer green, fall flocks of cranes, winter still. Past the fields, you follow the river curtained by ancient cottonwoods. Occasionally you can spot a skunk or raccoon wandering out of the protection of the

## Just Thinking *cont...*

trees. The road curves over a small rise and drops down into the swamp alive with ducks. At times, the swamp water laps over the road bed creating some unforgettable driving moments. All of these experiences are lost when you fly down the interstate. You miss a whole world even though you are in eyesight.

What did my reminiscing teach me? It made me wonder whether the gains that come with improvements, like the interstate, are worth what we lose. I wonder if some of our "new and improved" robs us of some of the subtle joys of life and of opportunities to struggle and grow. I use the word processor on my computer to do most of my writing because of the incredible ease at which I can manipulate text, fonts, and documents but I still find great satisfaction in pulling out my moleskin journal and writing some lines with a good fountain pen.



Opportunities for improvement surface every day. They surface in our personal lives and in our church. We often judge their validity by listing the gains. Seldom do we give much thought to the losses or opportunity costs. Continue to improve, refine, develop but do not throw out the things that give your life meaning. They can be pretty difficult to get back.

*Ken Goode*



| June 2008 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S         | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 1         | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8         | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22        | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29        | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |



June 15



Flag Day



# Church Needs / Items

## NEEDS

New Life Fellowship— Portable Projector, Part Time Music Person.

Northdale—Floor Buffer

## ITEMS TO GIVE AWAY

Recorders

Sunday School Material

Paper Folder

## NEW MEXICO SPORTSMEN OUTREACH BANQUET



Saturday, July 19, 2008

State Fair Grounds, Manual Lujan Building

Albuquerque, New Mexico

**3:00pm Doors Open**

**5:00pm Dinner**

Cost \$30.00

**\* BBQ Dinner**

with all the trimmings

**\* Thousands Of Dollars In Door Prizes**

Everyone Who Comes Will Receive Gifts From Our Sponsor.

Hunting Tips, Fishing Demo, Game Calling, And Country Music

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- or -

For more information, contact

Garland 505.292.2713 or BCNM 505.924.2314

## Cooperative Program

A number of years ago we lived in Japan and did a lot of work with Kanto Plains Baptist Church. Being in a place there were not a lot of churches and specifically not a lot of Baptist Churches, all the churches got to know each other pretty well. One day I was in Tokyo at the mission's office and in walked the pastor of an independent church, and he looked like his whole world had fallen in around him. I greeted him and asked him if he was OK and he just almost cried. He was humiliated and hurt. His financial support back in the states had dried up and he was broke and didn't even have a way to get home. The funds had dried up over night and he and his family were stranded. We managed to scrape up enough to get him and his family back home. Once home he did some serious praying; he became a Southern Baptist, completed seminary and is now serving as a pastor in a Southern Baptist Church. You will not find anybody who is a greater advocate of the cooperative program than him. He has been personally impacted by the cooperative program that saved his bacon.

Imagine what would happen if every missionary of both the International Mission Board and the Home Mission Board had to go out to the local church with their hands out soliciting funding. There would be some major consequences. First the local church would be inundated with calls and visits from missionaries all year long asking for money; asking for an opportunity to come and speak to the congregation about giving them money. Second, the missionaries would have to spend so much time in the US traveling and asking for money they wouldn't be able to be on the field doing the ministry. Third, like my friend, if the funding suddenly dries up the missionary get's stranded.

The Cooperative Program is a funding strategy to make sure that none of these things happen. The Southern Baptist Convention established the cooperative Program in 1925 to fund all missions and ministries of the Southern Baptist Convention. Every Southern Baptists gives a portion of their income to the local church: the local church gives part of it's funding to the Cooperative Program and the Cooperative Program is used to fund missionaries all over the world.

This means that every person who contributes to a Southern Baptist Church is partnering with thousands of missionaries both nationally and internationally. The dollars given through an SBC church sends doctors to minister to hurting people; sends agricultural missionaries to help developing nations to help them relieve hunger and of course sends the gospel to people who have never heard the gospel before.

Carl Russell

## ...OH MY cont. from page 2

know'd one of 'em to be kept." I have always told my son that there is no such thing as a secret, unless you are the only one that knows. I explained the secret mathematics formula which is, when 1 person knows then 2 know, when 2 know then 4 know, when 4 know 16 know, etc. The amount of people who know a secret grows faster than a wild fire. What you think is a secret is only so in your mind. All you have to remember is everyone will know what you say. I have tried to live by the rule of whatever I say I would not be afraid to have that person hear. It seems so simple, but yet so hard to do. Secrets also lead into rumors and will start that ball rolling.

Lies, I believe are the most damaging and hurtful of the evil three. Why do I believe it is the worst? Rumors and Secrets can be unintentional, but a Lie is something that you have to intentionally do. Most of the time it will cause hurt when the truth is revealed. Lies come in all shapes and sizes. The little white lie of telling someone their baby is the cutest or that they make the best pie around. Maybe it is telling the police officer you didn't know how fast you were going over the speed limit, when you



knew you were driving way too fast. How about the lie of telling someone they are doing an excellent job, when in reality they are not. If you have to lie about something, then try not to say anything at all. Compliments are great, but not when they are a lie.

I know that all of this seems like common sense, but everyday we are witness to these events and what damage they do. Remember rumors, secrets and lies are like an argument; there are 3 sides to everyone of them. There is your side, their side and the truth. You need to be able to get to the truth in the middle. God has always told us to keep the truth, Exodus 20:16 ~ Thou shall not bear false witness against thy neighbor. Exodus 23:1 ~ Do not spread false reports. Do not help a wicked man by being a malicious witness. Proverbs 12:19 ~ The lip of truth shall be established forever; but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

When you see the flying monkeys and you start saying rumors, secrets and lies... oh my, then just close your eyes and say there is no truth like God's truth and he will get you back home.

## Kids Korner

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" "Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life" she replied. The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

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A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied, "They couldn't get a baby-sitter."



Newsletter Articles  
Due by 15th of the Month

### May Riddle Answer:

Keep the first bulb switched on for a few minutes. It gets warm, right? So all you have to do then is ... switch it off, switch another one on, walk into the room

with bulbs, touch the two bulbs that are off and tell which one was switched on as the first one (the warm one) and the others can be easily identified ...