

The Sentinel

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The official news publication of The Bible Seminary

Summer 2014

Holy Land

Here We Come! - 10

- There is no backup plan - 2
- Getting Our Hands Dirty - 4
- One Voice United In Prayer - 7
- News & Family photos - 14
- Meet the new provost - 16
- From the President - 18

The Sentinel

The official news publication of The Bible Seminary

Summer 2014

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The Bible Seminary exists to glorify God by training Christian believers in a context of biblical community in all 66 books of the Bible so that they can serve the local church and fulfill the Great Commission by the power of God's Spirit.

About us

The Bible Seminary is an independent, non-denominational, 501(c)(3) institution of higher education incorporated in the state of Texas in 2010. The seminary offers an 8-course Bible Certificate program, and a 32-course, 96-hour Master of Divinity program for professional, vocational ministry training.

Affiliation

The Bible Seminary is an Affiliate institution of The Association for Biblical Higher Education. As such, it participates in and contributes to collegial and professional development activities of the Association. Affiliate status does not, however, constitute, imply, or presume ABHE accredited status at present or in the future.

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ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. For Admissions information, contact Dr. Mike Cuckler, Provost, or visit "Admissions" at TheBibleSeminary.org.

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TheBibleSeminary.org

The Sentinel is a bi-annual publication distributed free to family and friends of The Bible Seminary. Article ideas, news and photos may be submitted for consideration for publication to info@TheBibleSeminary.org.

About the cover:



The sun rising over the Golan Heights east of the Sea of Galilee in Israel. This issue of *The Sentinel* includes anticipatory highlights of our upcoming January 2015 study tour.

Similar to the picture, the dawn is rising on our first group of Master of Divinity students as they begin their final year of studies and prepare to embark on a much anticipated journey to the Holy Land as part of their program.

Dr. Lewis took this photo from a boat on the Sea of Galilee during his survey trip to Israel this past January in preparation for our upcoming trip.

See page 10 for the full story "Holy Land Here We Come!"

Meet our new Administrative Coordinator

In addition to our new provost, new faculty members, and newest board member that you will meet in this issue of *The Sentinel*, we are pleased to introduce you to our new Administrative Coordinator, Heidi Colbourn.

Heidi has lived in the Houston area for over 25 years. She graduated from Taylor High School in Katy, and earned a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Houston.

Her career journey has included work as a Realtor with Keller Williams; a teacher with Paratus Classical School, Katy ISD, and homeschooling; an SAP Security Business Analyst with Halliburton; a Quality Assurance Engineer with BindView Corporation; owner of an automobile dealership; and Gas Volume Analyst with ENRON. She has her Realtor's license, Generalist EC-6 Teacher Certification, and is a Microsoft Certified System Engineer (MCSE) and Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA).

Heidi adores her family, enjoys volunteering (Baseball Coach Assistant, Boy Scouts, and church), loves the body of Christ, and delights in encouraging others and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. A mother of two sons, Caleb and Jacob, their family attends a local church in Katy.

Look forward to meeting Heidi in the seminary office, on the phone, or by e-mail or letter!



Interested in helping market The Bible Seminary?

Check out our selection of TBS apparel, including shirts of varying sizes and styles (long-sleeved and short-sleeved, and button down and sport shirts) and hats.

Visit "My TBS - Store" at TheBibleSeminary.org.



The Sentinel



There Is No Backup Plan

By Dr. K. Lynn Lewis

Our youngest son applied to a college.
That's right, just one.

After extensive research across the globe considering vastly different schools and programs from California to Florida, America to Australia, only one stood out to him. So, he invested significant time in completing an extensive application, audition (including the writing and performing of at least three original songs), and interview process.

In my sharing of his journey with others, people often ask, "Where else has he applied?" or, even more directly, "What's his backup plan?"

An engineer by training and early career, I am not only a big fan of redundancy, I typically design for it. All 66 projects I worked on as an engineer included a series of redundancies built into the primary designs, as well outright backup plans for construction, use, and in case of possible failure.

I have seen too many things collapse, too many surprises upset very thorough and well-intentioned plans, and too many "sure things" turn into broken and shattered dreams.

Most of my forethoughts of actions and adventures – sometimes moments, but often days, weeks, even years in the works – include a backup plan. I may not write every plan out, or broadcast my dispositions, but my mind rehearses options and scenarios keyed to potential triggers.

So, I ponder the wisdom of anyone proceeding with anything with no backup plan.

However, in my pondering, I am struck by the reality that in the biggest and most important things in my life – specifically my life and my everlasting soul – I have no backup plan.

I have cast my lot – all that I have, all that I am, and all that I ever hope to be, both now and forevermore – with Jesus Christ, and with Jesus Christ alone.

I am trusting that He is the Way, the truth, and the life, and apart from Him, there is no other.

*"I have cast my lot...
with Jesus Christ, and
with Jesus Christ alone."*



In life and in death, if the Jewish and Christian scriptural promises are not true, I have no supplementary options on the table, or waiting for me out back, or buried or locked away somewhere that I can access in an emergency. I have no additional lifelines or phone-a-friends, no other "Get out of Hell Free" cards, no magic mirrors or escape portals or reset buttons or time machines.

I don't have a list of other religions to run to if Christianity doesn't work out.

I am not secretly banking on an underlying Godless reality of meaninglessness temporal existence and random chance.

I am not presuming an impersonal fundamental materiality of eternal oneness and unity.

I am not supposing a rationally enlightened allegiance to a future nothingness.

I am not expecting an anonymous continuance or terminus devoid of justice, righteous punishments, and gracious rewards.

I am not casting my hopes in prevailing victoriously over and through a maze of emotional, intellectual, moral, physical, and political battles in a worldly survival of the fittest contest.

I am not trusting my future hopes in a promising pastor, politician, priest, or professional; a particular program, prosperous possessions, or perceived power; or my ability to produce plentiful points on the scoreboard of life.

I am not hoping to one day brilliantly figure everything out and have all my intelligent (and foolish) questions answered so I can then – knowing all things there are to be known – make a completely informed and rational decision that requires absolutely zero faith.

No, I only have one plan – trust in Jesus Christ.

There is no backup plan.

Dr. Lewis serves as President of The Bible Seminary and is the author of "Meat and Potatoes for the Soul."



Getting Our Hands Dirty

The word “apprenticeship” typically conjures images of silversmiths, dusty workshops, and bustling colonial streets. To a typical 21st century mind, the model of apprenticeship-style education has grown to be a rather quaint, and if one is honest, antiquated method of learning a trade.

At TBS, however, we embrace this particular antiquity.

“For thousands of years, in every culture and every nation, the primary method of teaching and learning knowledge, skills, tasks, and trades has been through apprenticeship,” notes Dr. K Lynn Lewis, President of The Bible Seminary. “Learners spend time with experts listening and watching, doing together, and gaining proficiency under tutelage over time.”

It makes sense that the TBS Master of Divinity program employs an apprenticeship model that has produced centuries of people equipped to flourish in various trades.

However, welcoming antiquity does not preclude utilizing contemporary elements. For instance, TBS is not a computer-free zone. We enjoy the blessings of technology, and encourage its use, as evidenced by the fact that every TBS Master of Divinity student typically receives a free Logos

Bible Software package with more than 1,900 digital books and resources as part of their degree program.

One strength of apprenticeship-style education is relational discipleship. Gaining hands-on experience in the field while rubbing elbows with seasoned veterans has proven to work quite well throughout history, and we continue to utilize that “teaching by doing” model in a variety of ways.

A foundational component of our program is the Spiritual Formation and Ministry classes. Students typically take one each semester, for a total of six during the degree program, and are required to engage in a minimum of five hours of ministry service per week as part of the classes. Engaging with other

students and leaders in processing their ministry service is a key part of the classes.

According to Dr. Jim Leggett, founding President of TBS, “We believe that doing ministry, while learning about doing ministry, remains the best method of education.”

As to what ministries students engage in, the possibilities are almost endless. Many students already hold full or part-time ministry positions that count for their requirement.

“I don't have to put my notes in a box and wait six years until I become a pastor.”

Timeline: “Teaching By Doing”

M. Div. students measure out the dimensions of the Exodus tabernacle in a nearby field.



Fall 2012



M. Div. student Esmeralda Heer serves the class a traditional, Passover Seder meal.

(Above) Prior to worshipping in a representation of the tabernacle's Holy of Holies, M. Div. students simulate partaking in the Levitical sacrificial system by “killing” balloons representing calves.

TBS Board, Faculty and Staff take time to worship and pray for one another at our Orientation Retreat.



Fall 2013



M. Div. students visit a local sheep farm for an up close and personal experience with sheep and their present-day shepherd.

"I don't have to put my notes in a box and wait six years until I become a pastor," first year M. Div. student and youth pastor at Longpoint Baptist Church, Kevin Alvarez says, reflecting on all the times he has given sermons and presentations in class.

"As pastors, we have to speak a lot. We have these ideas and illustrations that may not go so well. It's kind of a trial and error thing. I get to try something and if it fails, it's just in front of my class."

Beyond all the opportunities to speak publicly, fellow M. Div. student and youth director Sara Stanley holds that even the material she reads in her books, hears in lectures and absorbs from other student's presentations takes on a whole new light because she is reading and listening with specific peoples' faces in mind.

"Reading this book *Move* has really got me thinking about how better to disciple my students," she says. "And not because I necessarily want to do it the way *Move* says, but all semester I've been thinking how can I apply what my fellow classmates are saying and what the Holy Spirit is impressing upon my heart to shape and disciple these students."

"I wouldn't have to answer that question in real time if I wasn't doing ministry and in school," she continues. "I could think to myself maybe in five years I'll make a plan, but instead, no, in five minutes I need to make a plan because tonight I'm going to my Wednesday program."

Doing ministry while studying ministry also helps students ask questions that are less theoretical and more practical.

"With our Biblical counseling class, people are coming up with examples of 'What if this would happen?'" Alvarez says. "But, I have examples that are going on right now. So if this is going on, its real life to me, it is not something in a book or a textbook. It is real life, and I get to apply it right now."

During the most recent spring semester, Master of Divinity students were engaged in impacting nearly 2,000 people directly, and thousands more indirectly, through 14 different ministries every week.

"What we teach and students learn during weekdays," says Dr. Lewis, "often shows up in sermons and ministry activities on the weekends. And then, we talk about those things in classes the next week. This happens week after week in such a way that seminary – in association with numerous other ministries in this community – is a practical laboratory of learning."

Alvarez appreciates that the wisdom he gleans in classes comes from both professors and other students. In classes of ranging in size from 8 to 16 students aged 22 to 56 from a variety of denominational, ethnic, experiential, and social backgrounds, as well as nationalities, he believes face-to-face interactions have proven invaluable.

"The tuition that you pay could just be for the interactions," he says. "You can't learn that from a book. You can read all these different books, but Paul went and saw me teach. Lynn takes the time to take me out to lunch. It's more than just the education part, it's the relationships."

The teaching by doing model extends beyond conversations with peers and mentors about ministry to one's own relationship with God. There comes a time in doing and studying ministry to pause, reflect and rest in God's presence. So, at TBS, students learn to rest by actually doing it.

"I used the solitude when we went on the retreat," Alvarez says, thinking back to the Spiritual Formation and Ministry III overnight retreat to the Cennacle Retreat House in Houston. "It felt like 2 or 3 days being in solitude. Even with some of the spiritual disciplines, being in ministry, you would think that you would already have it under your belt. But, you're surprised to find that you have a long way to go."

Like any good apprenticeship, transformation happens inside the apprentice. TBS "apprentices" are encouraged to gain both hands-on skills needed to succeed in their "trade", as well as the Master's touch with evidence of His hand working to craft and shape their lives.

"I am very program and event-driven as a youth pastor," Stanley says. "But, I haven't always been great at taking time to spend with God and God's Word to let that be the design for our program. Seminary forced me to pause, enjoy studying the Bible, and do what we should be doing as youth pastors, but rarely do because we're so focused on deadlines and things."

"I was a youth pastor before I ever started seminary, but the difference now is monumental," she continues. "Even in the book *Move*, the way you grow your program is not the program itself, but it is having leaders who are sold out for Jesus...seminary has sold me out for Jesus because now I understand."

"The tuition that you pay could just be for the interactions."

Spring 2014



M. Div. student Kevin Penner double checks "Martin Luther's" handiwork during a Bible history tour at Houston Baptist University's Dunham Bible Museum.



M. Div. student Kevin Alvarez delivers a sermon to his fellow classmates in Preaching I.



M. Div. student Israel Rivera shares the Word of God with a new found brother during his summer vocational ministry experience in Hawaii.

(Not pictured) M. Div. students learn how to rest and enjoy solitude with God by taking an overnight prayer retreat at the Cennacle Retreat House in Houston.

TBS Professor Named Dig Director

By Matt Larsen

The dig site at Khirbet el Maqatir is producing rumblings throughout the archaeological world, and TBS Church History professor Dr. Scott Stripling has the privilege of being right at the epicentre of the activity.

Stripling was recently named the Dig Director of the site at Khirbet el Maqatir, believed to be the site of the biblical city of Ai in Joshua 7-8. Having spent the past few seasons as a field supervisor at the site, Stripling accepted the Dig Director position at Khirbet el-Maqatir. Prior to joining the Associates of Biblical Research (ABR) staff, which has overseen excavations at Khirbet el-Maqatir since 1995, Stripling served as an ABR associate for three years, a field supervisor at Tal el-Hammam in Jordan for five seasons, and a supervisor at the Temple Mount Salvage Operation in Jerusalem for two seasons.

Stripling assumed the leadership role at Khirbet el-Maqatir shortly before the Israeli Antiquities Authority declared the dig one of the largest in Israel with over 70 workers during its most recent excavation from late May through early June of 2014.

In 2013, a rare Egyptian scarab was unearthed at Khirbet el-Maqatir, and *Christianity Today* voted the scarab the top archaeological discovery of 2013. Stripling's team discovered a similar scarab during the most recent excavation earlier this summer along with 311 coins, far more than previous seasons have produced. With the Bible's accuracy called into question based on a previously suggested site for Ai that does not align with the biblical text, these discoveries help validate the historical integrity of the Bible.



In addition to making discoveries that help prove Khirbet el-Maqatir to be Joshua's Ai, Stripling's team uncovered the remains of a New Testament village that may be the Ephraim referred to in John 11:54.

These, among other discoveries, garnered a whirlwind of attention for ABR's dig, including requests for interviews and article submissions from *Artifax* magazine and the most prominent journal published in Hebrew.

"It seems as if everyone in Israel is talking about our dig!" Stripling says.

TBS Professors, Students partake in Archaeology Symposium

By Matt Larsen

TBS faculty and students took a field trip last semester to Houston Baptist University where they heard TBS Church History Professor Dr. Scott Stripling give a lecture entitled "Ritual Purity at Khirbet el-Maqatir's First Century Village and First Jewish Revolt against Rome." Along with his fellow lecturers from the Associates of Biblical Research, Stripling helped listeners



understand how recent discoveries provide pivotal evidence pointing to Khirbet el-Maqatir being the site of biblical Ai in Joshua 7-8. Moreover, this evidence helps prove the reliability of the Bible as archaeology backs up what is seen in Scripture.

Stripling's lecture closed out a symposium in celebration of the exhibit at HBU's Dunham Bible Museum called "Khirbet



el-Maqatir: History of a Biblical Site." The exhibit features a number of artifacts from recent archaeological digs at Khirbet el-Maqatir, including an Egyptian scarab voted the top archaeological find of 2013 by *Christianity Today*.

Those interested can view the exhibit at the Dunham Bible Museum until December 2014 when the exhibit will be relocated to Five Points Museum in Cleveland, Tennessee.



"The **fire** must be kept **burning** on the altar **continuously**; it must **not go out**." Leviticus 6:13

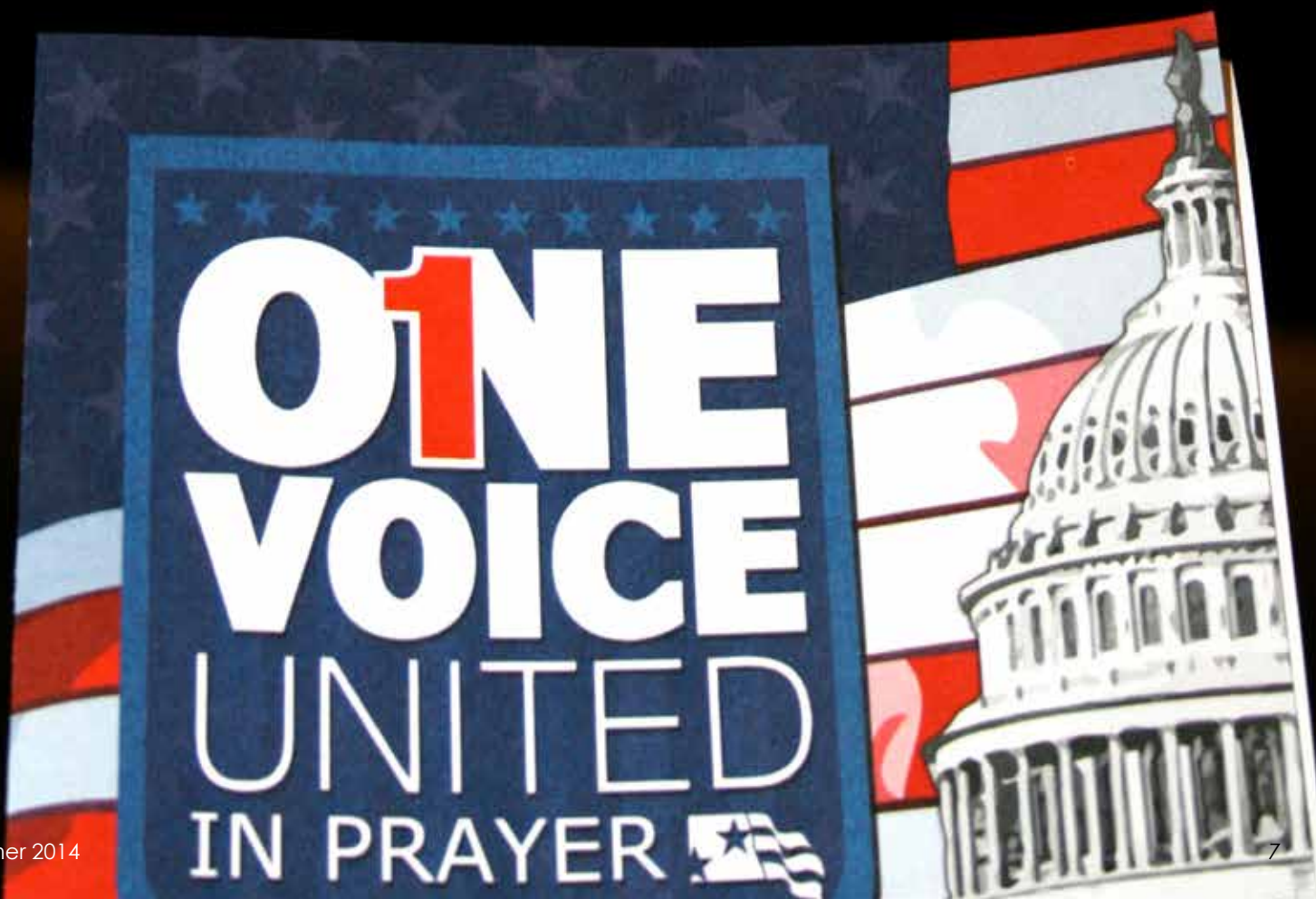
By Karen Coolidge

The glory of God was tangible in the dimly lit sanctuary, as a group of worshipers and prayer warriors focused all their attention on our Holy God, our Audience of One.

While the worship and prayer leaders led from the stage, others sat quietly in chairs reading Scripture or writing in journals, while others sang and worshiped along.

One woman sat at the altar, covered in a prayer shawl, interceding for those around her. Another paced the outside aisles, pleading on behalf of the nations. With closed eyes and outstretched arms, some pondered the treasures of God in their hearts. "Holy is the Lord God Almighty!" the prayer leader rang out, as many of the worshipers agreed with claps of joy.

(continued next page)



ONE
VOICE
UNITED
IN PRAYER



Twenty-four hours into the city of Katy's three-day, 24/7, fifty-hour non-stop worship and prayer service, the worshipers in the room remained focused on only Jesus.

For the third year in a row, this dynamic event called "Fire on the Altar" was held the last weekend in May. The purpose is simple yet profound: To establish 24/7 worship and prayer in West Houston and Katy, fueled by united worshipers of Jesus from every denomination and background.

This type of event is not a modern concept, as three-thousand years ago King David, as an outflow of his heart, commanded that the Ark of the covenant be brought into Jerusalem upon the shoulders of the Levites amidst the sounds of songs and musical instruments. He placed it in a tent, and appointed two hundred and eighty-eight prophetic singers and four thousand musicians to minister before the Lord, "to make petition, to give thanks and to praise the Lord" day and night (1 Chronicles 16:4). This was unlike anything that had been done in Israel's history, but it was God's plan. According to the official Fire on the Altar website, this order of worship has been embraced and instituted throughout the history of God's people ever since. Each time it is reintroduced, spiritual breakthrough, deliverance and victory follows.

Following David's model, fifty area churches and ministries partnered together this year for Fire on the Altar.

"Churches from different denominations and cultural backgrounds all joined together in one accord, sustaining fifty hours of non-stop prayer and worship," said Erica McLemore,

Administrator of Audience of One at the Great Southwest Prayer Center in Katy, Texas.

"We're really growing. Its like somebody poured water on a weed," said J.M. Mercado, Music Director at Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Community, reflecting on how God continues to bless Fire on the Altar. "People need to know that we can hold prayers like this, not minding the denomination."

Instead of being a stand alone event as in the past 2 years, this year's Fire on the Altar kicked off at the National Day of Prayer gathering at the Merrill center on Thursday, May 1st, with worship led by the nationally known Christian artists "The Afters". The event called "National Day of Prayer Ignites Fire on the Altar" then moved to the Great Southwest Prayer Center and continued until 9:00 pm Saturday, May 3rd.

As seen in David's model, this is no easy task to undertake. Sustaining just fifty hours of worship required between sixty and one hundred worship leaders, prayer leaders and audio/visual leaders. Each team consisted of 3 or more people and was required to undergo training includes not only on the Audience of One model, but also on the history of the Katy prayer movement as well as operational instructions such as transitioning on and off the stage, meeting prior to the set and an after set de-brief.

Having participated in Fire on the Altar in 2013, Mercado knew the experience was worth the work for his team of 10 musicians and prayer leaders that included his wife.

"Fire on the Altar sparked something in their hearts that was lacking," Mercado says. "My wife sometimes wanted to cry. Throughout the set, a lot of the ladies are crying. It's not performing; it's being used by the Holy Spirit.

"We sang through here," he whispered, pointing at his chest. "Not technical. Through the heart."

Fire on the Altar was birthed three years ago out of a vision given to Stephanie Leggett, a member and youth volunteer at Grace Fellowship United Methodist



Church. She says that in August of 2010, she cried out to God in frustration after several attempts to take a group of youth to the International House of Prayer (IHOP) in Kansas City has fallen apart. Leggett had visited IHOP several times, was moved by the 24/7 prayer and worship movement God has raised up there, and was eager for the youth of Katy to plug into what she saw God doing.

Leggett expressed her frustration to a youth ministry assistant, who replied, "Why don't you do a big worship thing right here?"

"I suppose it was a vision because in that instant I knew it would be three days, and I knew it would be where we were standing in the Epi (Grace Fellowship Youth Center), and I knew it would be a partnership with churches from around the community," Leggett said. She questioned God, who she believes encouraged what she was feeling as she felt He said, "You can only take them to Kansas twelve at a time. I want hundreds."

The idea for the event was then brainstormed by Leggett and Prayer Pastor Brenda Martin, along with prayer staff and various community church leaders, and was birthed as an all-aged, multi-denominational, and cross-cultural prayer and worship event.

Fire on the Altar has seen tremendous growth since its inception in 2012. That year, worship and prayer teams came from seventeen area churches and ministries. A team from The International House of Prayer came to Katy to train the teams on what 24/7 focused prayer and worship looks like. In 2013, God raised up twenty-seven different churches and ministries to sustain the three-day Fire on the Altar.

McLemore explains, "That year (2013) we felt the Lord calling us to pray for jubilee, restoration and revival. We have seen the effects of last year's prayers this year, as many people are giving testimonies of jubilee."

For example, she says she has seen marriages restored, as well as physical and emotional healings.

This year's event was different than previous years in that FOTA partnered with Christian radio station KSBJ, who heard of what God was doing in Katy and wanted to get on board. In addition, instead of having to spread the word to area churches and ministries to gather worshipers, area churches and ministries are asking how to join in on what God is already doing at the Great Southwest Prayer Center (GSPC).

The prayer movement in Katy has been underway for nearly eighteen years, birthed after Dr. Charles Wisdom returned from a Promise Keeper's conference to unite the pastor's of Katy in prayer. To this day the gathering has grown, as many area pastors and ministry leaders continue to meet weekly to lift the city and her people in prayer in the Katy Prayer Room, which was consecrated in 2005.

The first Audience of One sets at The Great Southwest Prayer Center came after a visit to IHOP by Pastor Jim Leggett, who caught the vision of the 24/7 prayer model and the dream to create a space for it to happen. Interestingly, the first two-hour set was actually already happening in the main sanctuary. The GSPC opened its doors in 2007, and the prayer movement has grown from those two hours a week to approximately one hundred and forty hours a month. With this, the vision to sustain 24/7 prayer and worship in the city of Katy at GSPC is coming to pass, just as was prophesied in 2007 by James Edward of the Beth El Prayer Room in Bethlehem.

"Each year, at the end of Fire on the Altar, we hear people say we need to do this more often. They have no idea God is already doing this here in the city!" said McLemore.

The schedule for current Audience of One hours can be found on the Grace Fellowship UMC website at www.whatisgrace.org.



Holy Land, Here we c

By Matt Larsen

Its so close, we can almost touch it.

On January 3, 2015, the first group of students from The Bible Seminary, along with some spouses, faculty, staff, and friends will travel to Israel together.

It will no longer be words on a page or a place recreated in our minds, but we will see, hear, taste, touch and smell the land of the Bible for ourselves. We will walk where Jesus walked; pray where He prayed; and grow in our faith as we experience the land and culture of His life, death, burial, and resurrection.

From now on, when we crack open our Bibles, the places will be as real to us as the Houston traffic we know all too well.

While this list of destinations is anything but exhaustive, you can find a complete itinerary for our journey at TheBibleSeminary.org and follow our travels at www.gtitours.org



Oh, the places

#3 Decapolis

Scythopolis (Beit She'an), capital of the ten Roman cities known as the Decapolis. One of the best displays of the Roman civilization in the Holy Land.

#1 Western Wall in Jerusalem

Reverent site on the Temple Mount where many Jews still go to offer prayers

#2 Church of the Holy Sepulchre

Believed site of Jesus' crucifixion and burial



Holy Land Trip Fund

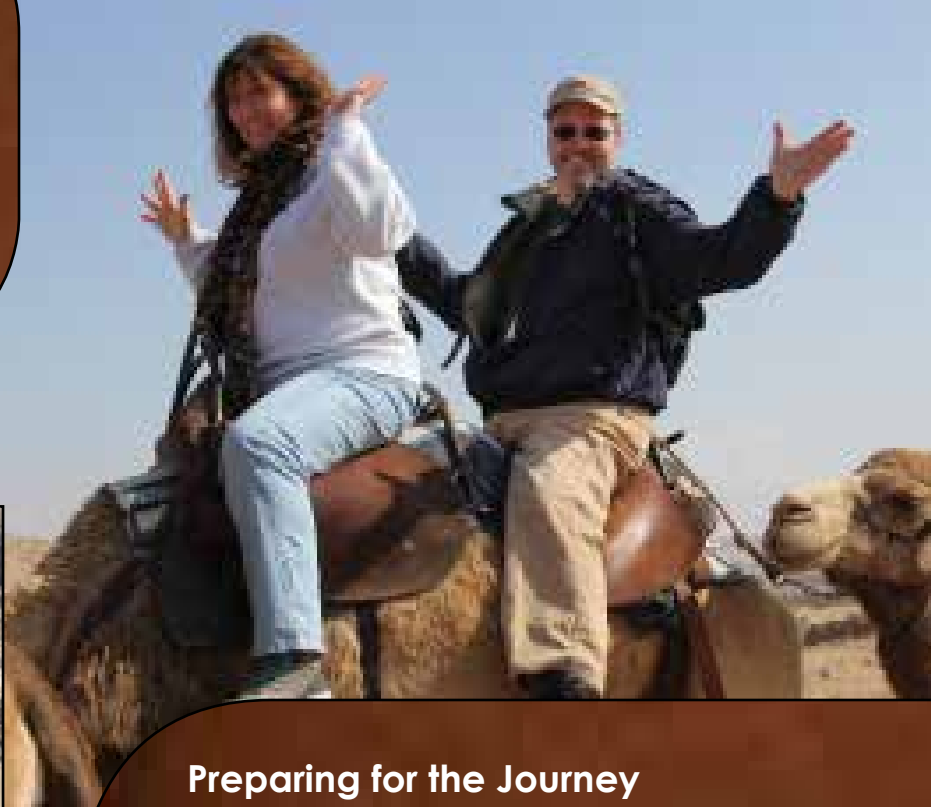


Help provide scholarships for an amazing training adventure in the Bible's homeland that will impact student's ministry for a lifetime! We are praying for approximately \$93,000 in designated "Holy Land Trip Fund" donations to help cover the seminary's cost of sending 25 students, spouses, staff, and faculty on the upcoming January 2015 trip.

Visit "Support" at TheBibleSeminary.org

ome!

s we'll go...



Preparing for the Journey

In preparation for taking TBS students, faculty, and others on Holy Land study tours, Dr. and Mrs. Lewis were able to enjoy a quick, 8-day GTI Tours preview trip with more than 50 ministry leaders from across the U.S. who traveled to Israel this past January. Although their group spent less time and moved much faster than the planned TBS trips (of 11 days and 60+ locations), they were able to visit many sites and engage in significant planning for TBS tours.

"A major impact of our trip," notes Dr. Lewis, "is how it has impacted the way I read Scripture now. The text is much more dimensional. I can see, hear, smell, feel, even taste things in places named in the passages. Also, even small and seemingly insignificant words in Scripture really do have meaning. For example, in the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark, after Jesus healed a man in the Capernaum synagogue, he went with several disciples to Simon Peter's house and healed Simon's mother-in-law from a fever. The text notes that 'immediately after they came out of the synagogue, they came into the house.' I never paid much attention to the word 'immediately', but when you go, you see that Peter's house was located barely a stone's throw away. When Mark wrote 'immediately', he actually meant immediately...."

- 4
- 3
- 1,2

#4 Mt. Arbel

Mountain in the Galilee region where Jesus likely went away to pray. Like Jesus, we too will take time away to pray while atop this peak.





#5 Model of 1st Century Jerusalem

Intricate model of the city shortly after Christ's resurrection.



6

5

7

#6 Sea of Galilee

Beautiful location of many of Jesus' activities, including walking on water and calming a storm.



#7 Valley of Elah

Location where David defeated Goliath.



Ready to see, hear, taste, touch and smell the land of the Bible for yourself?

To join a study tour, visit TheBibleSeminary.org, scroll over "Academics" and click "Study Tours."



Dr. Lewis and his son, Mark, on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee near places Jesus lived and ministered.

McCalip Honored by University of Oklahoma

TBS VP of Finance and Administration Received Regent's Alumni Award

Nine exceptional University of Oklahoma alumni and friends received Regents' Alumni Awards for their dedication and service to OU in a ceremony held on Friday, May 9, 2014 on the Norman campus.

Presented by the OU Board of Regents and OU Alumni Association, the Regents' Alumni Award honors the important roles of OU alumni and supporters to the life of the university. A committee formed by the Alumni Association selects the award recipients from nominations made by alumni, friends, and OU faculty and staff. Each year's recipients receive a plaque and their names are engraved on a permanent plaque in Oklahoma Memorial Union.

This year's recipients were:

- Katie Blum, originally of Norman and now an Emmy Award-winning producer for a major television network
- Bart Connor of Norman, who as an Olympic Gold Medal-winning gymnast served as a goodwill ambassador promoting the state of Oklahoma
- Jim Duncan of Austin, Texas, one of America's leading urban planners
- David Gavia of Spring, Texas, inventor and Petroleum engineer
- Linda Johnson of Tucson, Arizona, President of a successful business consulting service
- Rick McCalip of Katy, Texas, who served for more than 30 years as an oil and gas official
- Michael S. McConnell of Austin, Texas, president of an energy company
- Joe Sparks of Norman, entrepreneur and arts advocate
- Chuck R. Thompson of Norman, banker, arts advocate and civic leader



Retired ConocoPhillips professional McCalip graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. Originally from Midwest City, his family is steeped in Sooner crimson and cream. His son, Brandon McCalip; daughter-in-law, Kristin McCalip; and father-in-law, Bill Council, are all OU graduates. Rick has been married to Elaine Council McCalip for 37 years.

McCalip spent 34 years with ConocoPhillips, primarily in safety and environmental program management. An active supporter of his alma mater, he has served nine years as director of the OU Club of Houston, and seven years as recruitment chair, coordinating a team of recruitment volunteers as well as attending high school college fairs in the Houston area.

Described as humble and generous, McCalip enjoys introducing Houston area high school students and their families to the academic riches and beauty of his alma mater. He currently also volunteers as vice president of finance and administration for The Bible Seminary in Katy, Texas, where he led the Seminary's initial funding campaign. He has been instrumental in developing and establishing the Seminary as an institution of higher learning, now finishing its second year of Master of Divinity classes...

Original article posted at www.ou.edu/content/web/news_events/articles/news_2014/regentsawards2014.html

Bible Certificate course *returning this fall!*



Holy Land Tour Prep Class

Mondays, 6:30-8:15 p.m.
Starting September 8, 2014

Planning, hoping or dreaming about taking a trip to the Holy Land? Join us as our beloved Hebrew professor and Holy Land veteran, Dr. Linda Pattillo teaches the geography and other practical information that will orient us prior to visiting Israel, as well as give helpful context to many of the stories in the Bible.



Congratulations to the Larsen's on their belated Christmas present! Kaleb Elijah Larsen was born at approximately 12:00 noon January 5, 2014 at the Katy Birth Center in downtown Old Katy. As can be seen in the picture to the left, Kaleb already feels right at home at TBS.



Congratulations to Dane and Sara Stanley on their wedding on Saturday, December 28, 2013! A strong contingency of TBS faculty, staff and students enjoyed supporting the couple on their special day. Sara is an M. Div student, and Dane teaches 5th grade for Houston ISD in the Magnet Vanguard Program.



Two of our M. Div. students, Esmeralda Heer and Rowena Marable, serving on a medical missions team in Colombia. Esmeralda writes, "God has already worked deep in our hearts and wonderfully united the team together. We got our CDA uniform today and we are officially one team working together for a common purpose. To serve the precious people of Bogota. To let Gods love shine."



M. Div. student Israel Rivera shares some good conversation with Daniel Barr while enjoying the rays and waves at a beach in Hawaii. As part of his vocational ministry experience, Rivera served as a discipler and teacher this summer with the U-Turn for Christ program.



TBS Board Member David Muir with a great catch while wearing his TBS hat.



M. Div. Ladies Day at Carabba's Italian Grill included (L-R) Angela McClinton, Erica McLemore, Mickey Ellis, Karen Coolidge, Brenda Martin, Rowena Marable, and Esmeralda Heer.



Lighting the Way

2014
Annual Banquet

Sunday,
September 21, 2014
Omni Hotel Westside
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

RSVP online or at
info@thebibleseminary.org

TBS Family Picnic



With fellowship at the top of the priority list Saturday April 26, TBS students, faculty, staff, board members and their families enjoyed a potluck-style lunch complete with swimming and plenty of good conversation. The afternoon was hosted by the lovely Esmeralda and her family. Great location, awesome food, and fine company!



Meet our newest board member

Omar Garcia

Omar grew up in McAllen, Texas and is a graduate of Pan American University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Omar served churches in the ministry of Christian education for 27 years, has written magazine articles and adult Bible study lessons for LifeWay Christian Resources

for over a decade, and maintains BibleTeachingNotes.com, a popular website for teachers and Bible students. He has led several Sunday Schools to embrace the Great Commandment and the Great Commission and to minister beyond the boundaries of the church campus. Omar has led others in a variety of local ministry initiatives as well as numerous international ministry initiatives to Mongolia, China,

Bangladesh, India, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, as well as Ukraine and Peru. He currently serves as Missions Pastor at Kingsland Baptist Church in Katy, Texas. Omar and his wife, Cheryl, are the parents of three children, Elizabeth (Niki), Jonathan, and Gina.



Quotes from Omar's blog:

"We must learn to think and live as foreign missionaries at home... As Christ-followers, we must have one foot in America and learn to plant the other foot in the diaspora — the nations among us."



"I do not have the luxury of killing time because time is killing me."

"Freedom and hope are the twin sirens whose harmonious melodies compel desperate people to risk it all for something better."

For more of Omar's blog posts, visit gobeyondblog.com

Meet our newest Faculty Members



Terry Teykl

Adjunct Professor of Spiritual Formation and Ministry

The Prayer Pastor at Faithbridge United Methodist Church (UMC) in Spring, Texas, Dr. Teykl is an ordained elder in the Texas Conference of the UMC since 1978. He has served as pastor of several churches, including Founding Pastor of Aldersgate UMC from 1979 to 1995. Under his leadership, Aldersgate grew from 8 to 2000 in attendance and led the conference in Professions of Faith for ten years and received several awards for evangelism. He founded Renewal Ministries in 1984 to help bring spiritual renewal to the United Methodist Church. Since 1995, he has engaged in a worldwide ministry of teaching and preaching on prayer-evangelism; conducted hundreds of seminars for local churches, Districts and Conferences of the United Methodist Church; teacher in other denominations, Bible schools, and seminaries; preacher in several lectureships across the Globe. Author of numerous articles and nearly 20 books, he founded a prayer box ministry that

has distributed thousands of prayer boxes in public places to receive prayer requests from the un-churched since 2000. He is also founder of the World Methodist Prayer Team and the Virtual Prayer Room, pioneer of some of the first Internet prayer movements, and considered the father of the prayer room movement in America as a result of starting prayer rooms in churches of numerous denominations. He serves as UMC Representative on the Denominational Prayer Leaders Network, is a member of the National Prayer Committee, Board Member of Aldersgate Renewal Ministries, active in the city-wide Mission America prayer movement, Chaplain of KSBJ Christian radio in Houston, Texas, and founder of Pray Down at High Noon with a goal of raising up a million people worldwide who pray the Lord's Prayer at Noon every day. He and wife, Kathleen – a practicing psychotherapist in Houston, Texas – have been married since 1964 and have two sons, two daughters, and 8 grandchildren.

Visit Dr. Teykl's website at www.prayforrenewal.org

Dr. Teykl will teach the M. Div. class "Prayer and Worship II" this fall on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon.

Vicki Campbell

Adjunct Bible Certificate Professor

After growing up in the suburbs of Chicago, Dr. Campbell attended the University of Illinois at Urbana and then the University of Texas at Austin to complete her doctoral studies in Chemistry. Her passion for making the Gospel accessible to people, including children, led her to serve as Vacation Bible School Director for her church for seven consecutive years, ministering to over 400 children each summer. In 2011, she answered God's call to pursue seminary training and graduated with her Master of Arts in Theology from Asbury Theological Seminary. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in Apologetics at the London School of Theology, University of Middlesex. Her passion is to show how modern discoveries in science are compatible and coherent with traditional Christian teaching. She and her husband, John, have three elementary through teenage children.

Dr. Campbell will teach the Bible Certificate class "New Testament I" this fall on Thursdays from 6:30 - 8:15 p.m.



Meet Our New Provost

Dr. Steve Adamson

A seasoned corporate and academic manager with worldwide experience, Steve Adamson comes to The Bible Seminary via the mountain highlands of Westcliffe, Colorado, where he most recently served as Executive Director for the Association of Reformed Theological Seminaries (ARTS) Commission on Accreditation (2013-14). His primary responsibilities included leading ARTS through the recognition process as an accrediting agency from the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and leading the ARTS Commission on Accreditation.

Adamson worked as a professor in Colorado at 9,000 feet above sea level with Sangre de Cristo Seminary (2009-14). He served as Dean of Distance Learning for Ligonier Academy of Biblical and Theological Studies & Reformation Bible College (RBC) in Orlando, Florida (2009-13), where he helped launch a new college (RBC), a doctor of ministry program, and an online lay training program called Ligonier Connect. He has also worked as an online mathematics Professor for University of Phoenix since 2002.

Along with his wife, Von, Adamson has enjoyed opportunities to serve multiple months-long seasons as a Pulpit Supply Minister for the Free Church of Scotland (2007-13) in the Scottish Highlands and Prince Edward Island, Canada.

His 20-year corporate career included work as Manager of Network Deployment for Sprint/Nextel (2002-06) managing a staff of 12 with a \$50 million annual budget; Director of Transmission Engineering for Teleglobe International (1999-2002) overseeing the development and installation of the company's worldwide fiber optic transmission and Internet technology and managing an annual budget of \$200 million and a staff of 75; Manager of Network Design and Capacity

Engineering for Global One (1997-99) mostly living and working in Brussels, London, and Paris; Senior Consultant with Booz, Allen & Hamilton, Inc. (1991-97) mostly living and working in London, and Rome, Italy; and Member of the Technical Staff for Aerospace Corporation (1987-91) working on requirements for development, testing, and validation of satellite control software for the U. S. Air Force.



- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (1985), University of Nebraska
- Master of Science in Applied Mathematics (1987), University of Nebraska
- Ph. D. (abd) in Operations Research (1995), George Washington University
- Master of Divinity (2008), Sangre de Cristo Seminary
- Ph. D. in Theology and Apologetics (2013), Highland Theological College of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland UK. Dissertation entitled, "The Apologetics of Thomas Chalmers: The Influences, Methods, and Effects of Chalmers' Rebuttals to Objections to Christianity"



From the Board Chair

Keep Going

By Mrs. Heidi Arneson, Board Chair

Dear Friends,

I am a runner. Some days, running is easy and quitting does not enter my mind. Other days, running is hard, and it takes perseverance to keep going and finish.

Our TBS journey is similar. Some days are easy, others hard, yet perseverance helps keep us moving forward.

At this midpoint of 2014, we find ourselves rejoicing in what God has done the first half of 2014, and excited about what we expect ahead.

Recent highlights include the promotion of Dr. K. Lynn Lewis to President, the hiring of a new Provost, Dr. Mike Cuckler, prioritizing our pursuit of accreditation, surpassing 1,000 enrollees in Bible Certificate courses since we started the program in 2008, reaching a total of 20 accepted Master of Divinity students who have enrolled in classes so far, and receiving enough support to fund the mission up to this point.

Looking forward, we are thrilled about our upcoming Celebration Dinner scheduled for Sunday evening, September 21, 2014, at the Omni Houston Hotel at Westside. Please plan

to RSVP to find out more about what God is doing through TBS, where we are headed, and ways you can help.

Know that we continue to actively keep lost souls in mind every step of the way, as well as seek to maintain our 7 core values and standards of excellence in all that we do.

If you have time, we invite you to visit campus, talk with TBS leaders and students, sit in on a class (or enroll in one yourself), or invite others to study at TBS. We also hope you will join us in prayer and in rejoicing in God's work through The Bible Seminary.

Wherever you are on your journey, whether easy or hard, be encouraged to persevere. Days will come when you can look back and rejoice at God's faithfulness during the course of your life. Keep going!

Thank you for your faithful prayers and generous support – you are helping build the Lord's Kingdom.

To God be the Glory!



Painted Lines

By Dr. K. Lynn Lewis, President

During a recent long layover between flights in Salt Lake City, our family took a free shuttle downtown and visited Temple Square. While touring the Salt Lake Assembly Hall and Salt Lake Tabernacle, our two young tour guides mentioned that the original benches, as well as the columns supporting the balconies, were crafted from native spruce that the early pioneers found in the area.

However, because the Mormons wanted to “give their best to the Lord”, they hand painted grain on the benches to look like oak, and hand painted the pillars to resemble marble.

Although the facilities were beautiful and the workmanship fairly exquisite, ironically, this seemed like a parable of attempts by some to create their own religion, write their own testaments, redefine commandments, and recast denominations in their own image – all the while claiming that the authority of God, Scripture, the church, and support by influential leaders – pastors, prophets, even angels – gives them credibility.

Just like varnishing spruce and painting lines on it to look like oak, people throughout history have tried to present faux, or false, forms of godliness (II Timothy 3:5) in order to look like “the real thing”, the good stuff, the best.

Meanwhile, God claims He is wearied by those who say, “All who do evil are good in the eyes of the Lord, and he is pleased with them” (Malachi 2:17).

Isaiah specifically cautioned against calling evil good and good evil (Isaiah 5:20).

Jesus warned that “many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase in wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he

who stands firm to the end will be saved” (Matthew 24:10-12).

Paul instructed Timothy to “Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what

their itching ears want to hear. They will turn aside from the truth and turn aside to myths” (II Timothy 4:2-4).

Peter warned about false prophets and teachers who mouth empty, boastful words and entice people by appealing to the lustful desires of sinful human nature and promise freedom – while they themselves are slaves of depravity (2 Peter 2:1-19).

At The Bible Seminary the Gospel begins with “Repent!” not “Repaint!”



Close-up of intricately painted lines – some of them marred by smears – on a varnished spruce wood pew in the Salt Lake Assembly Hall located in Temple Square in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Such behavior is as rampant today as it has ever been, but it is nothing new.

What fascinates me is that those who refute authority, the Lord, Scripture, and authentic orthodox Christian denominational doctrines, need those things to legitimize themselves. But, since they don’t agree with them, they have to



Crafted spruce wood pillars painted to look like marble.

hijack or kidnap them, strip them down or replace them, keep the outward forms, and then varnish and repaint them to appear like something that they are not.

Thankfully, at The Bible Seminary, the Gospel begins with “Repent!” not “Repaint!”

We rely wholly on God’s Presence and power, not our performance and persistence.

Our questions and studies and service revolve around what the Bible actually says and what it means for life and in ministry. We accept its authority in its entirety, even if it makes us uncomfortable or we don’t fully understand it.

We truly believe the Lord and His Word are the real thing, and we invite you to join us in seeking repentance, conversion and sanctification; in building up His church, not ours; in training passionate disciples, not pious scholars; in sending out sentinels, not swindlers, truth tellers, not storytellers; and in seeking all truth and glory in Jesus Christ, not in painted lines, faux marble, or human-centered religiosity.

The Bible Seminary exists to glorify God by training Christian believers in a context of biblical community in all 66 books of the Bible so that they can serve the local church and fulfill the Great Commission by the power of God’s Spirit.



Financial Update

By Rick McCalip

VP for Finance and Administration

The Bible Seminary's past fiscal year ended May 31, 2014 with total income of \$651,584 – including \$367,631 in donations – and total expenses of \$805,356. Although we spent conservatively \$163,384 below budget, we still needed to withdraw \$153,772 from the 2010-11 capital campaign cash reserves, which currently total \$425,000.

We added 6 new Master of Divinity (MDiv) students during 2013-14, which was lower than expectations. So, we controlled expenses by reducing the impact of lower than estimated tuition and fee income and delaying the first Holy Land trip until January 2015. Enrollment in Bible Certificate classes remained strong.

We were able to grant more student scholarships than estimated due to individuals contributing to the Student Scholarship Fund. Those contributions are included in our Donor Contributions income.

Payroll expenses continue to be reduced by depending on a growing group of volunteers.

Our current 2014-15 fiscal year will represent several challenges. We plan to fully engage in the accreditation process with the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), which will include expenses for TRACS application and annual fees, additional TBS staffing, and expenses related to accreditation team visits. We are also expanding MDiv class offerings, and taking our first group Holy Land Trip.

With all of these added costs, for the first time in our history, our estimated annual budget will exceed \$1 million. Obviously, we continue to trust God to send more students and provide continuing and increasing donor support to help firmly establish and fund the mission of The Bible Seminary, including reaching 1 million souls for Christ through the ministries of TBS graduates.

TBS Finances

June - May, 2013-14

Fiscal Year June 1 - May 31	2013-14 Actual	2013-14 Budget	2014-15 Budget
Income			
Donor Contributions	\$ 367,631	\$ 485,000	\$ 702,200
Interest	\$ 2,750	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Library/Bookstore Sales	\$ 5,657	-	\$ 11,000
Tuition and Fee Income	\$ 275,546	\$ 509,040	\$ 503,940
Total Income =	\$ 651,584	\$ 995,040	\$ 1,218,140

Expenses			
Scholarships	\$ 149,160	\$ 120,000	\$ 260,410
General and Administrative	\$ 238,021	\$ 356,340	\$ 366,100
Payroll and Benefits	\$ 334,910	\$ 359,400	\$ 494,211
Adjunct Faculty and Contracts	\$ 83,265	\$ 133,000	\$ 96,700
Total Expenses=	\$ 805,356	\$ 968,740	\$ 1,217,421
Net Income (Deficit)=	(\$153,772)	\$ 26,300	\$ 719

Help Support The Bible Seminary

Donate money

(cash, check, stocks, etc.)

Visit "Support" at TheBibleSeminary.org or contact Rick McCalip, VP of Finance & Administration at:

281-646-1109 (Phone)
Rick.McCalip@TheBibleSeminary.org

The Bible Seminary
2655 S Mason Rd
Katy, TX 77450

Host a seminary student in your home or separate apartment. Contact info@TheBibleSeminary.org.

Donate library resources -

New and/or used books, periodical subscriptions, etc. are welcomed. For details, contact TBS Librarian Janice Havins-Hamric at janice.hamric@TheBibleSeminary.org.

Hire a seminary student for full-time, part-time, or occasional work.

Join a TBS team to help with Accreditation, Course development and evaluation, Event planning and support, Facilities management, Fundraising, Institutional Research, Student Recruitment, Student Support, etc. Contact Lynn Lewis at [Lynn Lewis at Lynn.Lewis@TheBibleSeminary.org](mailto:Lewis@TheBibleSeminary.org).

Fall 2014, Weekly Schedule

MDiv = Master of Divinity, BC = Bible Certificate

Mondays

6:30-8:15 pm BC Holy Land Tour Prep (Pattillo)

Tuesdays

8:00-10:45 am MDiv Hebrew I & II - Jonah, Micah, Habakkuk, Malachi (Pattillo)
8:00-9:15 am MDiv Spiritual Formation & Ministry V - Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes (Lewis)
9:30-10:45 am MDiv Discipleship I - Deuteronomy, Judges (Helbig)
11:00-12:15 pm MDiv Pastor-Leader I - Titus, 1 & 2 Kings (Cuckler)
6:30-9:30 pm MDiv Spiritual Formation & Ministry I - Exodus (Lewis)
6:30-8:15 pm BC Bible Study Methods (Helbig)
6:30-9:30 pm BC Perspectives on the World Christian Movement (at Kingsland Baptist Church)

Wednesdays

9:00-11:50 am MDiv Expository Preaching II - 1 & 2 Thessalonians (Lewis)

Thursdays

8:00-10:45 am MDiv Hebrew I & II - Jonah, Micah, Habakkuk, Malachi (Pattillo)
8:00-9:15 am MDiv Spiritual Formation & Ministry V - Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes (Lewis)
9:30-10:45 am MDiv Discipleship I - Deuteronomy, Judges (Helbig)
11:00-12:15 pm MDiv Pastor-Leader I - Titus, 1 & 2 Kings (Cuckler)
6:30-8:15 pm BC New Testament I (Campbell)
6:30-8:15 pm BC Old Testament I (Helbig)

Fridays

9:00-11:50 am MDiv Prayer & Worship II - Luke, Psalms II (Teykl)

Specific Schedule Dates

Sept 2 First day of Fall 2014 Semester M. Div. classes
Sept 21 **FALL BANQUET** (Omni Hotel Westside) 6:00-8:30 pm
Nov 24-28 **THANKSGIVING BREAK** (no classes)
Dec 12 Last Day of Fall Semester
Jan 3-16 **ISRAEL IN-DEPTH STUDY TOUR**

Visit "Academics - Academic Calendar" on TheBibleSeminary.org for more details





ad from the Book of the Law of God making it clear and giving the meaning so the people could understand what was being read." - Nehemiah 8:8

Our Core Values



Lordship – Because He is Lord (Philippians 2:11), we will continually ask Jesus Christ to sit on the throne of the seminary and on the throne of the lives of its faculty, administrators, and students for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31).



Bible – Because the Bible is the fully true Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16), we will offer and require the study of all 66 books of the Bible before graduation with a degree. We will seek to creatively integrate classical theological disciplines and ministry training by studying books of the Bible (i.e. Church History will begin with the Book of Acts and keep going; Pastoral Leadership will come through the study of the Pastoral Epistles; Systematic Theology will flow out of the study of the Pauline Epistles)



Prayer – Because apart from Him we can do nothing (John 15:5), we will continually seek to plug into the Vine Jesus Christ through yielding to Him in prayer. We will offer a unique emphasis on prayer including classes on prayer, a school of prayer, prayer faculty, and multiple prayer opportunities in the life of the seminary.



Unreached Peoples – Because the return of Christ awaits the evangelization of all people groups (Matthew 24:14), we will keep our eyes on the unreached peoples of the world and train our students to have a heart for the fulfillment of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) by seeking to reach millions of souls for Jesus Christ.



Local Church – Because the local church is God's plan (Matthew 16:18), we will be based at a local church and have a symbiotic relationship of service and training including internships, volunteerism, and prayer/worship opportunities.



Community – Because we were created for community (Genesis 1:26; Romans 12:5). We will seek to build a campus-based fellowship where the "one anothers" of Scripture are lived out, where authenticity and accountability are practiced, and where integrity is modeled and taught.



Compassion – Because God has a huge heart for the poor and overlooked (Matthew 25:31-46), we will strive to motivate, equip, and train students to minister to "the least of these" as a lifestyle.