



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

May 2022

From Your Director of Missions (D.O.M.):

There is a lot of excitement in the air this month. Graduation Day is taking place throughout our schools. Kindergarteners are looking forward to the First Grade, High School graduates are looking forward to their next step in life and College Graduates are excited about following their dreams in their chosen profession. I want to wish all of them CONGRATULATIONS!

Summer will soon be here along with Vacation Bible School. VBS was always one of my favorite events of the church year. Children would attend from within the community, many of which did not attend church anywhere, and we would be blessed to love them and tell them about Jesus. Each of you that will be hosting VBS this month or the months to come have that same opportunity. Know that my prayers and thanksgiving for you will be lifted to our Lord daily. If you will send me the dates of your VBS, we will be glad to inform all of our churches of the dates and we will encourage them to support you in attendance and prayer.

On Thursday May 19, 2022 we will have an Encampment Reorganization Meeting at Eastside in Rayville at 6PM. Each Church is requested to send an appointed representative to assist in this effort. Only one representative will be able to attend and vote on issues that will be discussed. I encourage each pastor to make an effort to attend the meeting. We look forward to getting our encampment fully operational and ready to once again glorify our Lord in souls being added to His Kingdom through camps and activities conducted there.

On Sunday May 22, 2022 we will request that you receive a special offering for our Richland Baptist Chainsaw Ministry. We depend on you for our funding that will allow us to carry out the Great Commission as we witness to those that we assist.

You are my greatest treasure. I thank God for each of you.

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the Month of May

May	01:	Senior Adult Sunday
May	02:	Disaster Relief Training @ Fairpark Baptist West Monroe
May	05:	National Day of Prayer
May	07:	M-Jam, Tall Timbers
May	08:	Mother's Day
May	12:	Pastor's Conference 11AM @ Big John's
May	15:	SBC Seminaries Sunday
May	19:	Encampment Reorganization Meeting @ Eastside 6PM
May	22:	Children's Ministry Sunday Chainsaw Ministry Offering
May	30:	Memorial Day

Upcoming Events for the Month of June

June	05:	Cooperative Program Sunday
June	07:	Pastor's Conference 11AM @ Big John's
June	14:	Southern Baptist Convention
June	19:	Father's Day
June	26:	Mission Dignity Sunday

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Pastor:	Calvary Baptist Church First Baptist Archibald Newton Baptist Church
Youth Minister:	First Baptist Archibald First Baptist Delhi
Pianist (Volunteer):	Zebedee Baptist Church

**If you have a need in your church, please let us know and we will post it in the Monthly Newsletter.*

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Something to Think About...

Picture something with me for a moment:

You order a bible study, resources, or Sunday School materials for your church...

You have two choices:

- *Filling out a paper catalog form, mailing it in, and waiting for your order to be processed, shipped and delivered in 4-6 weeks*
- *Selecting your items via a computer/smartphone/tablet, and receiving your items in the next 2-7 days (depending on holidays/weekends)*

Now let me muddy the waters a little...

- What if the only way you would be “guaranteed” to get your order exactly right the first time was to go by the slower **method** of delivery? Would that change your decision?
- What if the faster method might only make a mistake the first time and would immediately correct it, still finishing in half the time of the slower method (1-2 weeks)?

What I am getting at is that we are talking about two different things that are working together in tandem for a certain period of time: a **method** of ordering/processing/delivery and a **message** delivered in a package. While the method and the message are related for a brief moment in time, they are in reality not exclusively tied to one another permanently. Academics would say something akin to this: “Correlation does not prove causation.” Unfortunately, we have more ingrained the idiom of “guilt by association” or “Lie down with dogs, wake up with fleas”. But in the earlier example it would be just as possible for the slower method to deliver a false or incorrect message as it would be for the faster method to deliver a true or correct message. The delivery vehicle (**method**) does not dictate the truth or falsehood of the **message** delivered.

In Matthew 16:6, Jesus says, “Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.”

*This is a warning about false teachings being mixed into the **message** of the Bread of Life!*

Paul later gives us a great passage concerning **method** in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (ESV)

19 For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Why do we insist on being “*married to a method*” when our methods are just “*traveling companions*” for the message?

Richland Baptist Association

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