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Central
Baptist
Association

Resourcing New Works, Resourcing Leaders,
Resourcing Churches to engage their Communities

July 2008

Central Connection

Central Baptist Association

newsletter@cbabq.com



Volume 16, Issue 7

“Let my people go, so that they may worship me.”

July 4, 1776
States of America

Exodus 8:1, NIV

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



On the first day I came to be,
Divinely created for you to see.

Artificial or natural, take
your pick,
Although too much of the
latter can make you sick.

What am I?

Answer next month

Church Bulletin Board

Try Jesus.
If you don't like Him,
the devil will always
take you back.



Do not throw the
arrow which will
return against you.

- Kurdish Proverb



B no... A I think!?

by Kevin Branham

Are you an individual or one of the group? Do you make decisions based on the majority or are you willing to stand out?

It is an age old question that is getting harder to answer everyday. I recently saw a Discovery Channel program entitled "Most Evil". The name caught my attention so I watched. The program was mainly about Charles Manson and his followers. I was in San Francisco with my wife earlier this year and almost everyday we had to go right by San Quentin Prison, where Manson is being held so I was intrigued. The program included interviews with 2 former cult members and the question was asked of how they could follow someone like

*...match the group answer
41% of the time...*

that. They said that the level of deceit was there, but that mostly they did not want to be left out of the group. The program showed a psychologist conduct-

ing a test (Asch Conformity Experiment) by placing a test subject in a group of actors and asked some simple questions. They were shown a picture with 3 bars of varying length and then a picture with 1 bar that would match one of the bars in the other picture. The correct match was clearly obvious, but all of the actors were instructed to answer wrong.



Asch Test

The test subject at first made the correct answer, but as the test went on they would match the group answer 41% of the time, why? All of the test subjects said that they wanted to be part of the group and their being a part of the group was more important than being right.

This is what researchers believed happened with the Manson Family. Unbelievably even today the "family" is growing with more and more people joining. Manson has received more

Continued on page 10

Just Thinking



My wife calls him Gus. He has been around for the last three years, devouring the seeds spilled from the birdfeeder by the rambunctious dove. Three years worth of this seed has made Gus a very fat rodent.

Gus has found his place in the family. We often watch him from the breakfast nook window and laugh at his fidgety antics. He has been the focus of much conversation, most of it centered on trying to identify his species. Initially we decided he was an escaped gerbil but he got way too big and fat for that to be true. We know he is not a common rat, ears are too big and his tail is too hairy. We thought perhaps a chinchilla but chinchilla pictures showed a bushy tail unlike



Neotoma macrotis

Gus's. We were about to decide he was some kind of exotic escaped pet or the product of some nuclear experiment. Our daughter, armed with a World Book Encyclopedia, solved the riddle. He is a pack rat. Why a pack rat found its way into our yard I will

never know, but he is a plain old pack rat.

Honestly, I found it a little embarrassing to discover Gus is a pack rat. I have been hanging around New Mexico for most of my life. I have spent a lot of that time climbing over the outdoors of our state. I have seen dozens of pack rat nests. I have even robbed a few of pinions (before health officials warned about the potential for diseases.) A few times, I have seen the flash of a scurrying rat. You would think that with all of this exposure I would be able to identify a crazy pack rat.

Just Thinking *cont...*

Truth is, Gus is probably the first pack rat I have been able to see enough to really study. I have been for years surrounded with all of the signs but I have never seen the real deal. I am a little worried that the same thing could be said of my spirituality. I was recently in a meeting in which Bill Hybels of Willow Creek described the Christ-centered person. This is the person, mature in faith, who lives life with the passion of Christ. This one is the real deal, nothing ostentatious, no brag, just fact. This person does not choose a church because it meets a personal need but because it is a place to use his/her gifts and calling. This person is not caught up in the petty side of church life because he/she understands the big picture of the purpose of the church.



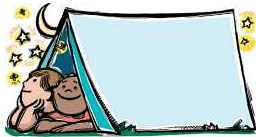
In case you misunderstand me, I am not talking about spiritual giants, those who can move mountains with their prayers. I am talking about those who have a calm but firm assurance of their faith, those who are resilient in the face of opposition or trials. These folks, not the squeaky wheels, are the real backbone of the church.

I am afraid I vacillate between the Christ-centered person and the religious person. I keep all the signs around so that others may not see but I know the truth. Yet, my desire is to be a Christ-centered person, the real deal, like Gus.

Ken Goode



July 7-11
Youth MusiCamp



Jul 14 - 18
Boys Camp



July 21 -25
Children's
MusiCamp



July 4th

July 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	31		



July 14th
CLM Workshop



July 15th
Executive Board



July 9th
Administrative
Committee



July 7th
Church
Development



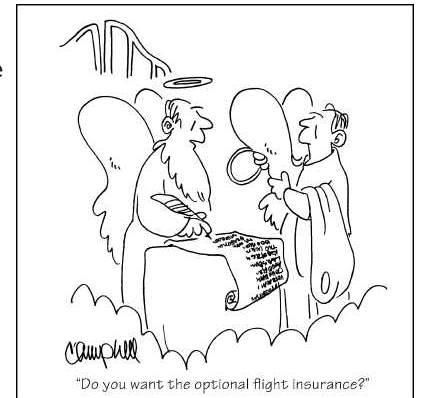
July 27-30
NAMBL Leadership
Meeting



July 23-25
Spanish Convention



July 19th



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

JOEY HANCOCK

Outdoor TV Personality, Professional Guide And Outdoor Writer

CLIFTON JANSKY

Recognized As One Of The Country's Leading Singers/Songwriters

Order your tickets on-line

(www.bcnm.com/ministries/evangelism/index.html)

- or -

For more information, contact

Garland 505.292.2713 or BCNM 505.924.2314

Classification & Cataloging Workshop

There will be a CLM Classification & Cataloging Workshop on July 14th, from 9:00am—3:00pm at Eastern Hills Baptist Church. The workshop will guide in using the Dewey Decimal Classification System and Sears Subject Heading List to organize the library resources. It is essential for beginning librarians and a good refresher for experienced librarians.

Cna yuo raed tihs? Olny 55 plepoe out of 100 can.

i cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr the ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is taht the frsit and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it whotuit a pboerlm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!

B no... A

mail than any other inmate in his-
tory, why?

A December 2007 Men's Health
survey, of 1913 men, showed that
40% of those surveyed stated that
they were neither more or less
"religious" as they aged. When
asked how they described their
religious beliefs, 35% (number 1
answer) explained they were spiri-
tual, but not religious. One young
man was quoted when asked
would religion grow, diminish or
stay the same in the next century.
His answer, "It will diminish as
people become more educated".

What does this all mean? What I
think it shows is simple. As



proven by the
earlier Asch
Test, people are
more or less
willing to go
along with the

crowd and majority, regardless of
their beliefs. Since most people are
not "religious" in their thoughts,
then we as Christians are not act-
ing like or becoming the "in-
crowd". We are slowly falling in
with what is around us, because
we are afraid to stand out.

cont. from page 2

I will never forget as a
young person and newer Chris-
tian, I was in a car load of kids
my age and one person started
cussing. Since I was the new
kid, someone asked about me
and said "are you religious or
something"? Not wanting to be
left out, I said "no, no". I have
never been able to get that day
out of my head. The power of
the group is hard to break away
from.

God knows our struggles will
be hard, but he has told us to use
our actions as examples. *"Let us
love, not in word or speech, but
in truth and action."* (1 John
3:18). Years later, I had people
come in my military office start
to cuss and then stop and apolo-
gize, without me saying a word.
I am proud that now my actions
speak louder than words. What
about you? Do you set an exam-
ple or do you go along with the
crowd and blend? Is it still A,
when it is really B? Stand up
and stand out, it will reveal the
power of God and His "in
crowd".

Kids Korner

Biblical Treasure

The following are clues to a bible verse. Solve the clues to find the verse:

Written first hand, 4th of a new series,

In all our system of 8, only one with life,

After crucifixion, the originals plus 5.

This is an easy one to start.

Hint for above: This is based on how
Benjamin Gates (National
Treasure) solves clues: and yes,
answer next month.

June Riddle
Answer:

He waits until night
time and then goes
through the first
door.