



TAMPA BAY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

E-News

Coming Alongside **August, 2021**



Tell Your Story, so that You Can Tell *His* Story

The past few months I've been emphasizing the need for thousands of believers in our region to be trained and mobilized to show and share Jesus with those they love and know. I am continuing to also do this in

August.

When I was 16 years old, Dr. James Ponder of the Florida Baptist Convention came to preach at our church on a Sunday night. He taught us how to develop and then begin to share a 2-3 minute account of our personal salvation testimony. I went home and wrote out my testimony and have used it many times through the years to share about the life changing power of the gospel.

I personally believe that sharing our salvation testimony with people we know at work, in our neighborhoods, at school, and at play is the most effective way of transitioning conversations to the gospel (where we tell His story). Imagine the incredible impact on our communities if thousands of Christ-followers would love others and then share their story of life change through Jesus.

What is involved in sharing your story?

There are three basic parts to our salvation story:

1. My Life Before Christ
2. How I Came To Trust Christ as Lord And Savior
3. My Life After Christ » Share how He dealt with your primary issue and/or what other benefits you have experienced because of your conversion (even if it was years after conversion)

My Life Before Christ » Briefly describe yourself and your life prior to knowing Christ. Mention the primary issue that bothered you during this time. Many people can relate to feelings or experiences of loneliness, emptiness, fear, guilt, lack of purpose in life, etc. Be as specific as possible so that the person you are talking to can relate to you. [If you were saved as a young child (<10 years of age), then the primary issue may not apply to you.]

Conversion Experience » Tell the story of how you came to trust Christ as your Lord and Savior. (Did you trust in Him at a church service, due to the witness of a friend, etc.). Do not use “churchy” words, but do briefly insert the gospel message into this part.

My Life After Christ » Share some statements about God’s goodness to you (peace of mind, joy, purpose, whatever was lacking in your life in your pre-conversion experience.) Include the assurance transition, “And now I know for certain that I am going to Heaven when I die.”

Transitioning to Your Story

We should not wait for lost people to bring up spiritual topics because this will probably never happen. Instead we should prayerfully take the initiative in sharing our conversion story. Once you have memorized your salvation story (2-3 minutes), then you can use the following statement and question as a smooth transition to sharing your personal testimony with those you know. *“I believe you know that I go to church and that I have a strong faith in God. But I want you to know that I haven’t always believed in Him like I do now. As your friend, may I briefly share with you how I came to personally trust in Him? (If they give you permission then you should share your story).*

I pray that many of you will regularly share your story and then encourage lots of others to do the same.

Coming alongside,
Mike

AUGUST EVENTS



TBBA
PREACHING CONFERENCE
With Dr. Stephen Rummage

**TBBA Annual Preaching Conference
with Dr. Stephen Rummage**

We hope you will join us for this super event with our guest and friend, Dr. Stephen Rummage, pastor of Quail Springs Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, OK. Get great insights from Dr. Rummage on his sermon prep, including Bible study and exposition; his sermon writing, and sermon delivery.

Friday Night - August 20, 2021

5:30 p.m. - Dinner

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Sessions 1 and 2

Saturday Morning - August 21, 2021

7:30 a.m. - Donuts and Coffee

8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - Sessions 3 and 4

Cost: For just \$20 per person, we can offer the training, food and drinks, plus a book on preaching.

RSVP with Jan in the office (813) 935-3839 or email jjones@tbba.org

SAVE THE DATE (SEPTEMBER 24-25)



Refresh Prayer Conference

Featuring Daniel Henderson, Jim Cymbala, and the Gettys

Join us, and bring your friends for this powerful time of prayer, worship, and training featuring Daniel Henderson, Pastor Jim Cymbala, and the Gettys.

Friday Night | Saturday Morning | Saturday Night

September 24-25, 2021

Exciting Idlewild Baptist Church

18333 Exciting Idlewild Blvd, Lutz, FL 33548 [[map](#)]

Complete Schedule and Details Below

We are expecting the cost to not be more than \$10 per person

Come experience worship-based prayer and intimacy with God, times of repentance, and times of teaching during this very special conference featuring some great leaders:

- Daniel Henderson has impacted many TBBA pastors and churches through his annual prayer summits and his 6:4 ministry. He stresses the necessity of prayer and the Word being used together to bring renewal to believers and salvation to the lost.
- Pastor Jim Cymbala has pastored the Brooklyn Tabernacle in New York City since 1971. He has authored several books and is best known for leading his church to become a church that prays. Their "Tuesday Night Prayer Service" has packed the church building to capacity for decades and influenced countless churches to follow their example.
- Keith & Kristyn Getty are a northern Irish Christian duo who are best

known for writing many popular modern hymns, including "In Christ Alone". In re-inventing the traditional hymn form, they have written many songs that teach Christian doctrine that are sung the world over.

SCHEDULE

Friday Evening

- 6:30-6:50 IBC Worship Choir and Orchestra
- 6:50-7:35 Teaching and Prayer – Pastor Jim Cymbala
- 7:35-7:45 Musical Worship
- 7:45-8:30 Teaching and Prayer – Daniel Henderson

Saturday Morning

- 8:00 Continental Breakfast and Chick-fil-A
- 8:30 Morning Worship - Getty's
- 8:45 Worship Based Prayer – Daniel Henderson
- 9:20 Break outs
- 10:30 Break outs
- 11:30 Final Session
- 12:15 Chick-fil-A

Saturday Evening

- 6:30-8:00 Getty's in Concert

RSVP and Ticket Information to be announced soon

Call or [email Jan \(813\) 935-3839](mailto:Jan (813) 935-3839) for more info.

SAVE THE DATE (OCTOBER)



TAMPA BAY BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

Annual Celebration

October 17, 2021 - FBC TAMPA

Join Us for Our Annual Celebration

Save the date

Sunday, October 17, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Come at 4:00 p.m. for snack / dinner
and refreshments

Looking forward to great praise and worship led by the FBC Tampa team, and hearing from our speaker, Pastor Erik Cummings, pastor of New Life Baptist Church in Carol City, FL, and current president of the Florida Baptist Convention.



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



Go Rays!

What a great time we had on July 7, 2021 at the Trop with 33 pastors and their guests. We watched the Rays win a double-header from the Indians. We all received a Rays' ball cap, enjoyed a meal, and saw a combined no-hitter in the second game. We anticipate more pastors outings coming soon, including our annual Christmas party!

FEATURED



Did you Know?

The Maguire State Mission Offering is Earmarked 100 Percent for Church Planters

For a lot of us, we hear the word *missions*, we think IMB. We hear the word "*offering*," we think Annie and Lottie. And, that is a good thing.

Praise God, when you hear *Maguire State Missions Offering*, you *can* think Church Planting. That's right. The Florida Baptist State Convention is giving 100 percent of the funds raised through this annual offering to support church planters.



Click on the image above to see how the Florida Baptist Convention featured our own Zelivis Applin in their church planting video.

[Click here](#) or on the image (left) to go to flbaptist.org for more videos (English, Spanish, Haitian Creole) and to download promo posters, the prayer guide, and more.

COMMUNITY & MINISTRY

- Pastor Ray Sanabria is looking for a worship leader for a brand new Spanish-speaking church plant in the Odessa area. Contact Pastor Ray by [email](#) or (813) 784-1155.

Bell Shoals Baptist Church

- Bell Shoals Baptist Church has preschool curriculum to give to a church that needs it. Lifeway "Bible Studies for Life" (kindergarten age). For more information contact Marta Cortez at mcortez@bellshoals.com or call (813) 689-4229 x486.

East Chelsea Baptist Church

- East Chelsea Baptist Church is looking for a part time paid music director. Please call Pastor Raymond James at 813-621-9771 for more details.

Carrollwood Baptist Church

- Carrollwood Baptist Church is seeking a Financial Ministry Assistant. This position is responsible for Carrollwood Baptist Church's accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, and other designated financial, office and church ministry related tasks. This person works closely with CBC's ministerial and other team members as well as with persons in the church congregation and public. The normal time for this position is 40 hours per week.
- Carrollwood Baptist is also seeking a part-time nursery worker for a minimum of 5 hours per week on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. Main duties include care and playtime of infants through preschool age. Pay starts at \$12.00 per hour. Salary negotiable with relevant experience. Interested individuals may contact Rhonda Alain at salt2light85@gmail.com to apply for this position.

First Baptist Church of Lutz

- First Baptist Lutz is giving away a piano. Must have a way to transport. It is a Wurlitzer. For more information please contact Pastor Steve Biles at (813) 949-7495.

First Baptist of Wesley Chapel

- First Baptist Church of Wesley Chapel is currently accepting resumes to fill a part-time position for Director of Music. This position is a paid position requiring about 10-15 hours a week of time. Please submit resumes to fbw.wesleychapel@gmail.com or for more information please call the church office at (813) 973-7185.

Manhattan Baptist

- Manhattan Baptist Church in South Tampa is looking for an experienced

pianist. The part-time pianist will be paid \$100 per week. The applicant must be willing to work Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings for choir rehearsal. Applicants can contact their Worship Leader, Peter Jensen at the church at (813) 831-1951 for more information.

West Broad Street Baptist

- West Broad is seeking to fill a position for a Youth Leader - Working with youth in Christian studies. Send resume to Pastor Roger Bunner (wbsbctampa@gmail.com) (813) 886-4022.