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THE NEWSLETTER

October–December 2022

“The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it” (Psalm 68:11).



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Victory Baptist Press is a ministry of Victory Baptist Church of Milton, Florida. Founder: Dr. Thomas F. Woodward (1935–1994). Pastor: Tim Fellure. Editor & VBP Director: Jim Fellure. *The Newsletter* is the official publication of Victory Baptist Press and is sent free of charge to those who request it. The main purpose of *The Newsletter* is to promote missions, with an emphasis on the printing and distribution of the Word of God. While we may not agree with every statement printed from outside sources, we make every effort to keep the paper as free from error as possible. 501(c)(3) All gifts to Victory Baptist Press are tax deductible. For legal purposes: All designated offerings are non-binding suggestions only. To receive *The Newsletter*, send your mailing address to P.O. Box 766, Milton, FL 32572-0766. Phone: 850-623-0086 • Fax: 850-623-3502 • e-mail: news@victorybaptistpress.com

Editor's Notes

**Jim & Mary Fellure**

Greetings friends,

As of August 29, I am now beyond the expected life span of fourscore years, and it seems that with that came an awakening to the reality that each day might be the last day that I have on this earth to serve our wonderful Lord. With the thought that this could be (maybe not, but it could be) the last time I will write my personal notes for this *Newsletter*, I take this opportunity to give a brief, but accurate sketch of

my part in the history and current status of Victory Baptist Press.

Brother Tom Woodward started Victory Baptist Church in 1976. In 1984 he responded to a God-given burden for Scripture printing and put Words of Life Press into action, which in turn became Victory International Printers of Scriptures about a year later. In the summer of 1991, at the request of Brother Woodward, I came on board to be a field rep and try my hand at raising funds to support the ministry. In 1992, Tim also became a field rep.

Two years later on Sunday, May 8 of 1994, after a battle with prostate cancer, Brother Woodward, from his death bed, requested that (after his death) Tim come off the road and pastor the church. That very night the church honored Brother Woodward's request and called Tim to be the next pastor. Only four days later (May 11, 1994) Brother Woodward passed away, and Tim, at the young age of twenty-five, became the next pastor of Victory Baptist Church.

At that time it was obvious that he needed help with the printing ministry, so I was appointed as the general director. We then changed the name to Victory Baptist Press, but the original purpose and policy of printing and distributing Scriptures without charge has never changed. Brother Woodward also recommended we start a newsletter and that I be the editor, so for the last thirty-one years my life has been (under the leadership of the pastor) dedicated to this local church ministry for the printing and distribution of the Scriptures without charge to those who receive them.

That was the burden that Brother Woodward carried, and to this day VBP has followed the direction he set for us, and the results have been phenomenal.

It is a fact that I fill the position of director, but without someone to faithfully run the presses and bindery equipment there would be nothing to direct. But the Lord already had the man in place when I came on the scene. Al Berg had graduated from Tennessee Temple University in 1982, and within three years he was in Florida working a secular job four days per week and one day per week in the print shop (without pay) learning how to run a printing press. He continued that schedule for six years before enough funds were available for him to be full time in the shop.

He has now worked faithfully for thirty-seven years, running and maintaining all the equipment necessary to print and ship Scriptures in at least twenty languages to approximately fifty foreign countries and every state in the US. I know of no other single man that has had his fingerprints on as many Scriptures that have been shipped around the world for the cause of Christ.

We now have six full-time workers in the shop: Sarah Berg, MacKenzie Seely, and Grace Kendrick provide most of the brain power and office work while Brother Berg, Daniel Kendrick, and Joe Bertram work out in the shop doing all the actual printing, leaving me with very little to do. About the only reason for me to even go to the print shop is to get a cup of the best coffee this side of Columbia, South America. So the appreciation for an effective and smooth operation does not go to me; it all goes to the most dedicated staff that one could imagine.

Without some inside information one could never imagine how expensive it is to operate a printing ministry that has printed and shipped millions of Bibles and Bible portions without some source of income, but as always, the Lord is taking care of that too. Brother Bill Richburg serves as field director, and he and Mrs Vickie, along with Tony and Dee Smith, Shawn and Emma Dunn, Herb and Evelyn Moore, and Buddy and Crissy Maynard present the VBP ministry as a missions work to different churches all over the country. Because of their faithful presentations, the good churches that believe in what VBP is doing faithfully give the financial support necessary to keep the presses rolling. All I do is pick up the mail each day so Mary can receipt the financial gifts and do her job as the finance director.

The reader can surely see by now that the VBP ministry is not about me. Occasionally someone, maybe even a friend, or pastor that I am preaching for will try to make me look good and refer to me as Dr. Fellure. Each time that happens I am embarrassed because he doesn't know that, even though I do have an honorary doctor's degree, more than fifty years ago, as a young, stupid preacher, I paid \$250 to a Baptist diploma mill in order to be called "Dr. Fellure." At another time I was taking some classes at a little night school, and the president of the school made me an offer that I couldn't resist. He took all my life's experiences as a minister and converted them into semester hours and gave me a Master of Ministry degree (another useless piece of paper).

While I am not at all against preacher boys going away to a good Bible college if they are in a church with a pastor with lazy study habits, my recommendation is, if the pulpit of their home church is red hot and has good, sound Bible exposition on a regular basis, they should stay where they are.

That being said, one could never know how glad I am that formal education is not where my strength lies. It could have been that if I had been a model student attending a highly recognized, so called

Print Shop News



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,
 Jeremiah 8:22—"Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?"

Recently in my private devotions I was reading through the book of Jeremiah. There are a lot of judgments announced throughout the book of Jeremiah, and even though most of them apply to the nation of Israel for their rejection of God in spite of all His

love and care for them, one cannot but be reminded of how gracious God has been to this country in its origins, and how we have turned our back on Him as well. If Israel, God's chosen people, suffered these judgments, who are we to think that we will get off scot-free?

To be honest, as I was reading Jeremiah 8, I was getting a little depressed. Not that God is unjust in His judgments; I just prayed and asked God, "Is there no hope?" Then I read verse 22. There is a balm and a physician for the sin-sick soul. It is not God's fault people do not partake of the opportunity. No doubt many reject

any help from God outright, but how many do not know there is a remedy for their soul? That is the reason we print the Word of God and give it away freely as the Lord provides. It has the answers to the crime problems, addictions, marriage and family problems, perversions, and many ills in our society. Jesus died for our sins so we might be born again and made a new person in Christ Jesus and some day have not just a home in Heaven with Him, but a new and glorious body in which sin will affect us no more.

Currently we are working on collating and binding English Bibles with a military theme cover. They are in great demand, and we are working to get them out as soon as possible. Normally we would have put a black vinyl cover on them, as we have on all our other Bibles, but due to all the supply chain issues that was hard to get, so we opted to put paperback covers on these and dedicate them to our military. I trust they will be a source of hope and new life to many who receive them.

Please pray that as we help provide the balm of Gilead, people will make use of it to heal their sin-sick souls.

May God bless you,
 Bro. Albert Berg

Those who support Victory Baptist Press prayerfully and financially are helping send the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ, in its purest form, around the world.

(Editor's notes continued)

"Bible school" of the day, I might have taken courses in Greek and Hebrew and used what some professor taught me to correct the King James Version of the Bible.

I have often read or heard a preacher, who obviously has a little doubt about the purity of the KJV, try to shed more light on some verse or word by referring to the Greek or Hebrew and then claim that he used Theodore Beza's Greek text, commonly known as the Textus Receptus, or received text. What these men usually don't tell us is which edition of Beza's text they are using. There are several—which one is best? The same holds true for what many refer to as the Masoretic Text for the Old Testament. There is more than one edition of that as well—which one is best?

For many years I used a *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, but I never knew which Greek or Hebrew text he used to produce his work. So I asked Dr. Peter Ruckman how reliable the Strong's concordance was. His reply was that it was okay except in one or two places. I then decided to never rely on what Strong's, or any other source says about Greek or Hebrew because I have an English Bible that is 100% pure, perfect, preserved, inspired and anything else good that one can think of to say about it. There is

not even one or two places where it might be wrong or could even be made better.

In conclusion, if I have any strong points, they are that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Saviour, and the King James Bible, with absolutely no modifications, is my marching orders. The ministry is not about me, so my recommendation for all of us is to "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." See this world in need of the Saviour, then turn your eyes upon Him that is able to do exceeding, abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
 Look full in His wonderful face.

.....
 His word shall not fail you, He promised;
 Believe Him and all will be well;
 Then go to a world that is dying,
 His perfect salvation to tell!

Please pray for Victory Baptist Press,
 Jim Fellure

Memorials

Each contributor listed below, through their individual contribution, has helped provide 1,255 Bibles for the mission field.

FROM	IN MEMORY OF
Bill and Vicki Richburg	Bro. Rudy Ordoñez
Kathryn and Angela Cowden	John Cowden
Dana and Esther Williams	Brenda Fergusen
.....	and Bertha Trivett
LaRhonda Webb	Joshua Ryan Brann
Harvest Hill Baptist Church, San Antonio, TX	Henry Cordero
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.....	Sis. Debbie Hall
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Jonathan and Sara Doss	Bro. Tim MacDonald
Campbellsville Baptist Temple, Campbellsville, KY	
.....	Margie Stigall
Bible Baptist Church, Bartlesville, OK	Harley Bates

FROM	IN RECOGNITION OF
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.....	Mrs. Flora Ovela Derine Dibble
.....	Sis. Sherry Montgomery
.....	and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Shaw
Jonathan and Sara Doss	Bro. Frank Gouchnour
Dana & Esther Williams	Titus Crouch

FROM	THINKING OF
Kelly Barnes	Mary Rice
Bruce and Cindy King	Michael Guernsey

FROM	IN HONOR OF THE SERVICE OF
Kelly Barnes	Pastor TJ Willingham
Dr. Mark and Theresa Smith	Harrison Obenchain

VBP Field Reps



Bill and Vicki Richburg

P.O. Box 508

Six Mile, SC 29682

Ph: 864.506.2380

Email: billrichburg@victorybaptistpress.com



Shawn and Emma Dunn

6 Hollowtree Court

Hamilton, OH 45013

Ph: 765.580.2196

Email: preacherswdunn@gmail.com



Buddy and Chrissy Maynard

4015 Maynard Dr.

Panama City, FL 32404

Ph: 850.774.0300

Email: buddymaynard1611@gmail.com



Herbert and Evelyn Moore

610 Trail Rd.

Belton, SC 29627

Ph: 864.940.5756

Email: pastorherbmoore@gmail.com



Tony and Dee Smith

P.O. Box 4534

Milton, FL 32572

Ph: 850.714.1262

Email: smithkjb@gmail.com

Benefits & Blessings



Mrs. Pam Leake

Treasured Words on a Napkin

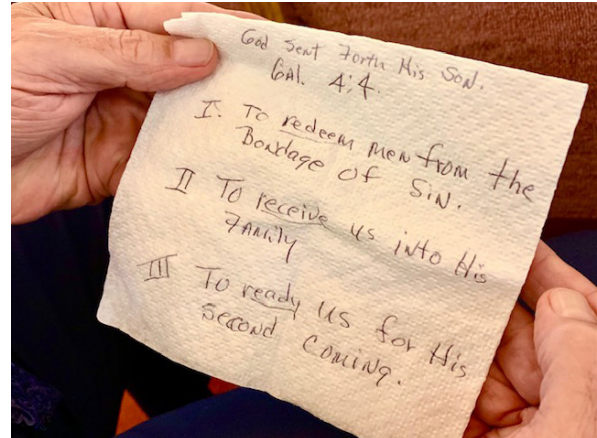
In August, once again the time rolled around for us to attend a Camp Meeting in North Carolina, one that we have been attending since the mid-1990s. I can't remember a time it wasn't a blessing to go there and meet with ministry friends we have gotten to know over the years, to enjoy great preaching, singing, and especially the sweet fellowship that has sustained us over the often

difficult years of our ministry. The host pastor and church family always go above and beyond to extend hospitality to all who attend. We truly treasure this yearly opportunity.

One of the benefits of this three-day meeting is the chance to catch up with old friends and make some new acquaintances. For preachers and preachers' wives it provides bits of time to share burdens, rejoice in victories, and praise the Lord together for how He's worked in our lives. How very rich and encouraging it is!

Typical of the best times for a preacher (and wife) is the fellowship around a meal, where the physical food is delicious and sustaining, but also where the conversation is just as nourishing and filling for the soul! So it was again this year as we enjoyed breaking bread and conversing at the two meals each day that were provided for us. I like to scan the crowd in the fellowship hall—eating and chatting (which one the more I'm not sure) breaking out in laughter, or tears, as they reconnect. At our table one day, we shared the meal with a long-time friend and his wife, and as usual, we women talked about family and events in our lives, while the two men discussed some theological topic or goings on in their ministries. I watched as our evangelist friend, with a chicken leg in one hand and an ink pen in the other, began to write on a napkin, not having another piece of paper handy. I've observed this occurrence just about every year,

whenever we have the opportunity to sit together, as he jots down some words on a napkin and hands it to my husband. It always contains a three- or four-point outline worthy of preaching in a message, but much more than that, it contains treasured words: words that proclaim something good about the Savior, words that direct your attention to the most Worthy Subject of discussion, words that bring encouragement to a fellow laborer.



Words that exhort and encourage, whether written on a napkin, shared in person, in a phone call, in an email message, or otherwise, are treasured words. Just as food is vital to our physical health, so a good word is vital to our emotional and spiritual health. Given the times we are living in and the trials that so many of God's people are experiencing, how necessary it is that we share words that are a treasure to the ears of those who receive them!

Proverbs 12:18—“*There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.*”

Proverbs 16:24—“*Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.*”

Note: Pam Leake served alongside her husband, Ed Leake, in the pastoral ministry for over thirty-four years. They continue to serve the Lord as He opens doors of opportunity. Pam's email address is leakepm@gmail.com.



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There is no cost involved in acquiring or maintaining the rack. Any time you need additional cards, simply contact Victory Baptist Press. We look forward to hearing from you.

Miscellaneous Quotes by Billy Sunday to Fan Your Fire

“When is a revival needed? When carelessness and unconcern keep the people asleep.”

“Whenever a day comes when I can stand and preach God’s Word without an agony of anxiety lest the people will not accept Christ; whenever a day comes when I can see men and women coming down the aisles without joy in my heart, I’ll quit preaching.”

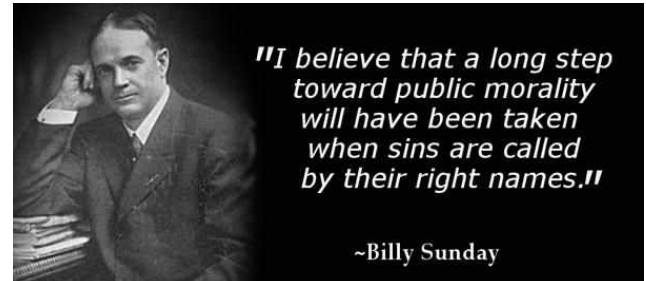
“The church is not a dormitory for sleepers, it is an institution for workers; it is not a rest camp, it is a front line trench.”

“One reason sin flourishes is that it is treated like a cream puff instead of a rattlesnake.

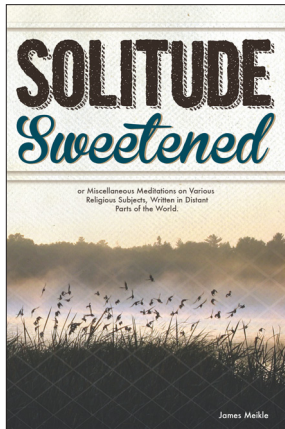
“Let’s quit fiddling with religion and do something to bring the world to Christ.”

“The backslider likes the preaching that wouldn’t hit the side of a house, while the real disciple is delighted when the truth brings him to his knees.”

“The Bible will always be full of things you cannot understand, as long as you will not live according to those you can understand.”



Victory Baptist Press Bookstore



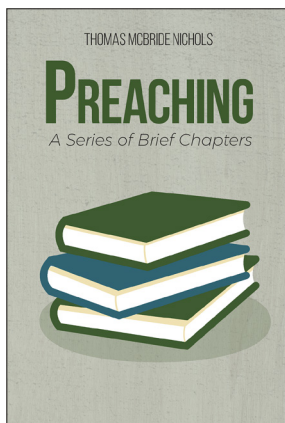
Solitude Sweetened

by James Meikle

\$14.95

Some books become of little interest when their theme has little or no practical application for the reader. For the Christian, especially the ones who are “in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:” *Solitude Sweetened* will, with anticipation of reading the next page, draw your attention from this present evil world and fix your gaze on “a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

An evangelist in Florida said, “*Solitude Sweetened* is no doubt the greatest devotional book I have ever read.”

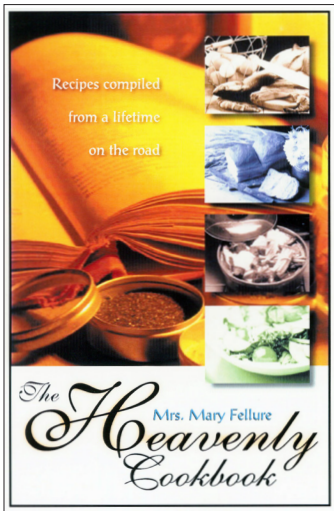


Preaching by Thomas McBride Nichols **\$8.95**

“The author of these chapters has written out of the experience of his own successful ministry. What he has to say about preaching he has learned in the actual work of preaching. The book does not profess to be an exhaustive treatise, or a course of Theological Seminary lectures on preaching, but treats only certain practical phases of the great subject. No preacher can read these earnest words thoughtfully without being freshly impressed with the sacredness and importance of his calling, and also encouraged and stimulated to the better doing of the work of his ministry.”—J. R. Miller

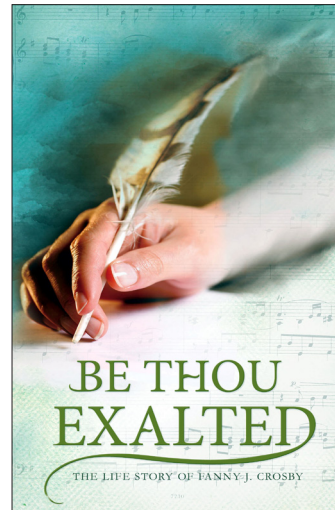
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The Heavenly Cookbook
by Mary Fellure
\$14.95

This cookbook will be a great asset to your kitchen or a gift for a friend. It contains 469 recipes that Mrs. Mary has gathered from many pastors' wives during her travels with her husband all across America. Over two-hundred pages of delicious recipes and helps. Good Christmas gift idea!



Be Thou Exalted
by Fanny Crosby
\$12.95

A refreshing and often humorous account of Fanny's journey through life. This autobiography, written by her at age eighty-three, shows the milestones and blessings encountered by her along the way. The most amazing aspect of her life was that she considered her blindness her greatest asset, for it allowed her to "see" things in ways that a seeing person never could, and thus, it drew her close to her Lord.

For your convenience you may also place your order online at
www.victorybaptistpress.com

Victory Baptist Press Bookstore is a ministry of Victory Baptist Press. Any profit made from the sale of our conservatively priced books goes toward the printing of more Bibles and Scripture portions. This is just one more way we get the word of God to a lost world.

Victory Baptist Press Bookstore

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Pastor's Page

THANK GOD FOR PASTORS

1 Peter 5:1–4



Pastor Tim Fellure

There are three titles given to the office of the pastor: elder, bishop, and pastor. These three words are not three separate offices, but are three functions of one office. The New Testament describes the pastor as a shepherd. *Shepherd* is not a title, but a description of his ministry (see Acts 20:17, 28; Eph. 4:11; Tit. 1:5–7; 1 Pet. 2:25; 5:1–3).

I love pastors. My dad was my pastor for most of my life, and there are other pastors who are men of God, whom I have great respect for, and who have had an impact on my life. Because I have had a front-row seat to some of the pressures of the pastorate, I have a heart for pastors. I am grateful God called me to be a pastor, but also that he let me pastor the church I do. If you are in a church with a faithful man of God, I encourage you to know him, to pray for him, to support him. We do not put them on a pedestal and worship men, but thank God for the men He has placed in your life that have had an influence on you.

1) A Pastor Must Be Mindful of His Message

When Peter says he was a witness of the sufferings of Christ, he truly was. He was there when Christ was arrested and put to death on the cross. But Peter also was given a glimpse into the glory that shall be revealed when he saw the transfigured Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration. So when Peter preached at Pentecost and throughout Acts of the sufferings and glory of Christ, he was giving testimony to something he had personally witnessed.

The theme of the preacher is Jesus Christ. We give witness to what we have seen by the eye of faith and preach what we know by experience. And though we do not have the advantage Peter had in being an eyewitness of the Lord, Peter himself tells us it is no disadvantage at all, because we have “a more sure word of prophecy” (2 Pet. 1:19). What an excellent message we have to preach.

2) A Pastor Must Be Mindful of His Mandate

Both Paul and Peter use the imagery of a shepherd in describing the ministry of the pastor (Acts 20:28). Sheep have no sense of direction. Sheep have no survival instinct. Sheep are dirty animals because their wool is oily, and dirt sticks so easily to them. Sheep are defenseless animals. So when the Bible describes us as sheep, it is not a very flattering comparison. The pastor is a shepherd of God's flock, and Peter charges him with three duties.

“Feed the flock of God which is among you.” The first responsibility of the shepherd is to lead the sheep to green pastures and still waters. The pastor is called to proclaim divine truth, to feed

the church with the doctrine of Scripture, to nourish souls with the Word of God. Preaching is the most serious business in the world.

“Taking the oversight *thereof*.” The pastor is charged with overseeing the affairs of the church. The first mention of overseer in the Bible is in Genesis 39:4 where Joseph was made overseer of his master's house. He didn't own the house; he was just overseeing for the one who did. And in the same verse he is called the servant of the house. A pastor must always keep in mind it is not his church; he is just overseeing the Lord's church. And if he doesn't see himself as the servant of the church, then he will eventually fall to pride.

“Being ensamples to the flock.” He sets the example of living by his own life. He does not preach on giving without giving himself. He does not exhort the church to evangelize without evangelizing himself. An ensample is a piece of the real thing. So the preacher should be a sample of what true Christianity looks like.

3) The Pastor Must Be Mindful of His Motivation

“Not by constraint, but willingly.” Pastoring a church can be difficult, stressful, and even thankless. Sometimes you feel appreciated and sometimes you feel neglected. Sometimes the church follows you, and sometimes it fights you. So you better know this is the calling of God for your life, and then gladly take up the office and responsibilities to fulfill them as God enables you.

“Not for filthy lucre.” There are plenty of stories of greedy and crooked men who have used the ministry for personal gain, but a true shepherd will not be motivated by money. There are many Scriptures that encourage a preacher to make his living by his calling, but if the preacher's heart is not right about money he will be tempted to become a crook in the pulpit.

“Neither as being lords over God's heritage.” Power is as big a drug for some men as sex or money. I strongly believe in pastoral authority, but I believe it is a gentle authority. I am blessed at our church to have no strings or restraints on me as the pastor, but that does not give me the right to impose my will on my people's personal lives. I am not driving the church with a whip; I am trying to lead them gently

4) The Pastor Must Be Mindful of His Master

Christ is the Shepherd over all other shepherds. It is not my church: it is the Lord's church. Some pastors get on an ego trip and act like they're the fourth person of the Godhead, but all we are is under-shepherds being accountable to the Chief Shepherd. And when I have run my race and finished my course, I hope to receive a special crown reserved for God's shepherds, which I will then lay at the feet of Christ. I know if there is anything of eternal value that comes from my ministry, it will be because Christ was here, not me. My church would do just fine if I was taken out of it—but they will not survive if Christ is not in the midst.