

GROUND BREAKING



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Junior Bible Quiz team (Experienced level) of Askewville Assembly of God competed at the North Carolina state finals on April 14, finishing in third place overall. This earned the team a trip to Regionals in Ocala, Fl. on May 4-5. In individual scoring, Lindsey Perry placed fifth and Randi Goodwin finished thirteenth. Three of the experienced quizzers were also recognized

for earning seals, which require quizzers to meet certain standards. Randi Goodwin received her Bible Master seal. Austin Perry and Lindsey Perry received their Bible Master, Bible Quoter, and Bible Excellence seals. Pictured (front row, from left) are Austin Perry and Lindsey Perry. In the back Row are Lynsey Bazemore, Gloria Bryant (Coach) and Randi Goodwin.

# Surrender: Turning a crisis around

John 16:33 "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." How true are those words to you? Have you experienced trouble, problems, crises, and tribulations? How did you get through what you were going through? The healthy recovery process has six steps: shock, sorrow, struggle, surrender, sanctification, and service. In three messages (May 15, June 5, and June 26) we learned Jesus is the only answer for shock, sorrow, and struggle. When we first get catastrophic news we are shocked. There is a feeling of numbness and disbelief. It is a time to let others help, and to cry out to God. The crisis can be health, financial, family, death, relationships, job, and a long list of other. Our shock is followed by overwhelming sorrow and grief. The sadness and pain is unbearable. It is followed by our struggle with the issue. We want to know why. We become angry with others, ourselves, and with God. At this point we need a turning point. In 2 Samuel 12, David's loss of a child provides the example of surrender. Surrender is the turning point from shock, sorrow, and struggle. What did David do? His six steps of surrender lay a pathway to finding peace. The same six steps can determine whether a crisis will destroy you, define you, or develop you. In verses 16-24 David cried out to God to spare Bathsheba's child. On the seventh day the child died. Everyone close to King David was concerned "what will David do?"

heal and find peace. David had fasted, wept, and prayed for the child. He accepted that did not change anything. Acceptance does not mean you don't care. It does not mean it does not hurt. It does not mean the loss is good. It only means you accept it cannot be changed. Realize and recognize God's sovereignty. To heal you have to accept where you are.

2. Remember it is not the end of the story. In 2 Samuel 12 23, David says "one day I will go to him, but he cannot return to me." To heal you have to look to the future.

3. Remember to take care of yourself. In verse 20 "David got up from the ground, cleaned himself, and put on lotions and clean clothes." When you hit bottom you have to look up, get up, and get going. You have to take care of yourself to heal. It takes time. It can be like learning to live again.

4. Refocus on God through worship. God will help you do this. In verse 20 "then he went to the tabernacle and worshipped the Lord." Psalm 73:16-17 "When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply till I entered the sanctuary of God, then I understood their final destiny." There is healing with believers because of believing. The temptation is to turn away and run away from God. There is a place for those emotions. The fastest runner does not always win the

race, on this side. God will right the wrongs. Bad things happen to good folks. Hurt can eat away at you. Give it to the Lord for a redemptive purpose.

5. Do something productive. A crisis can paralyze us and get us stuck. David returned to the palace. The palace was his place of work, responsibility, and accountability. He was still grieving, still sad, still confused, and still angry. But, he returned to his routine in a changed way. Get moving. The God of the mountain top is the same God of the valley.

6. Keep loving even in your pain. The natural reaction is to pull into your shell, to build walls around yourself. You need to be building bridges to others. Redirect your love. Turn another direction to people who need you. Relationships can hurt you. Church people can hurt you. But if you want the hanging fruit, you have to climb the tree. What did David do? In verse 24 "David comforted Bathsheba and they had another son and named him Solomon." Look what God did. Solomon is the outcome of David's path from overwhelming pain to peace. Keep on loving even when you feel your love is being rejected. 1 John 3:16 "Christ gave his life for us." We know what real love is. We are recipients of God's love and God's peace.

This week, give it all to God. God can turn things around. Let God work His redemptive plan in your life.

Randall Woodard is the pastor of First Baptist Church in Robersonville. He may be reached at [randallwoodard69@yahoo.com](mailto:randallwoodard69@yahoo.com).



PASTOR RANDALL WOODARD  
*Be Still*

## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



In their streets they have girded themselves with sackcloth; on their housetops and in their squares everyone is wailing, dissolved in tears. Heshbon and Elealeh also cry out, their voice is heard all the way to Jahaz; therefore the armed men of Moab cry aloud; his soul trembles within him. ISAIAH 15:3,4

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Joppa in the Old or New Testament or neither?
  2. What businesswoman from Thyatira opened her home to Paul and saints after her conversion? *Rachel, Keturah, Lydia, Shiprah*
  3. Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there will be your ... also." *Love, Heart, Faith, Friends*
  4. From 2 Samuel 18, whose hair became tangled in a terebinth tree? *Samson, Herod, Absalom, Joab*
  5. On the outskirts of what city did Jesus meet Zacchaeus? *Smyrna, Tarsus, Jericho, Antioch*
  6. From 2 Samuel 14, what was the name of Absalom's daughter? *Ruth, Tamar, Miriam, Sarah*
- ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Lydia; 3) Heart; 4) Absalom; 5) Jericho; 6) Tamar

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# Special Events

Church announcements are published each week in the Bertie Ledger-Advance. The deadline to submit news items for this listing is 10 a.m. each Monday. Submissions may be emailed to [twwhite@ncweeklies.com](mailto:twwhite@ncweeklies.com).

### May 9-10

#### Revival Services

**AHOSKIE** – Spring Revival Services will continue May 9-10 at Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

Services begin with Praise and worship at 7 p.m. each evening.

The guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Ellis, Pastor of Piney Wood Baptist Church in Powellsville.

Musical guests include Calvary Male Chorus (Wednesday) and Piney Wood Chapel Male Chorus (Thursday).

The church is located at 600 Catherine St. in Ahoskie.

The Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jerryl V. Moody, and congregation invite the public to attend.

### May 11

#### Pre-Mother's Day Sale

**ROXBEL** – A Pre-Mother's Day Sale will be held from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Thursday, May 9 at Sandy Branch Missionary Baptist Church.

The sale will include tops, pants, two-piece suits and shoes.

The church is located at 4318 Governor's Rd. in Roxobel.

### May 12

#### A Day in the Park

**BLUE JAY** – The Relay For Life team at Indian Woods Missionary Baptist Church will sponsor "A Day in the Park" on Saturday, May 12.

The event, which begins at 9 a.m., will be held at the Blue Jay Recreation Center located at 1709 Indian Woods Road near Windsor.

The event will raise funds for cancer research, but will also provide information on the services offered by the American Cancer Society.

There will be bouncy houses, basketball, face painting and vendors with many food choices.

#### Evening Prayer

**ROXBEL** – Evening Prayer will be observed at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 12 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

Light refreshments will be served following the service.

The church is located at 206 West Church St. in Roxobel.

The Rev. Canon Sonny Browne and congregation invite the public to attend.

### May 20

#### Church Anniversary

**WINDSOR** – The 78th Church Anniversary will be observed at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 20 at St. James Church of Christ (DOC).

The morning service is planned for 11 a.m. as usual with Pastor Willie O. Speller speaking. Dinner will follow.

At 3 p.m., the anniversary service is planned with Elder Anthony George speaking. Music will be by the Speller Family of Raleigh.

The church is located at 326 U.S. 13/17 South in Windsor.

Pastor Speller and the congregation invite the public to attend.

#### Ongoing

##### Women's Ministry

**WINDSOR** – The Women's Ministry meets from 6-8 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at Cedar Landing Missionary Baptist Church.

The meetings include fun activities, free food, door prizes and lots of love.

The congregation invites the public to attend.

##### Women Praying

**WILLIAMSTON** – All women are welcome to come and pray any time between noon and 2 p.m. at Word of Truth Fellowship, 1003 Washington St., Williamston.

For more information, call 252-792-0678.

##### Food Pantry

**WILLIAMSTON** – The Food Pantry at the Bible Way Apostolic Church is open from 8-10 a.m. daily.

The church is located at Sycamore and Center streets in Williamston.

## BANKRUPTCY

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