

Feb 26, 1996  
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THE INTERNAL NEWS PROVIDER FOR FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION

February 26, 1996 . Excellence Through Loving  
God With Our Minds . Faculty Out and About .  
Events for the Week . March Birthdays**Excellence Through  
Loving God With Our  
Minds**

Our Lord Jesus taught that the greatest commandment and obligation of humans is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matt. 22:37). In pointing out that it is the duty of humans to love God with all their capacities, he included loving God with one's mind. What does this mean? I offer four suggestions.

First, loving God with our minds would seem to mean that we are to have our intellects wholly engaged as we relate to God Himself. The term "mind" refers to the understanding or intelligence, suggesting that God wants to possess us fully, including our intellectual faculties. As we relate to Him, our minds are not to be bypassed but fully engaged. There is no room for anti-intellectualism in genuine Christian faith.

Second, loving God with our minds means that we are to use our minds to the utmost as we pursue our

daily work as a means of glorifying God. If all honorable work can be done to the glory of God when pursued by Christians who devote their work to Him, then it follows that whatever mental activity that work involves becomes a part of the means by which we love and glorify God Himself. The pursuit of excellence allows no room for a slack attitude here, whether we are performing a menial task or engaging in the highest intellectual endeavors.

Third, loving God with our minds means that we consciously submit our thinking to God's Word embodied in the revelation given in Scripture. The mind devoted to God will seek to operate not independently of Him but in submission to the teaching of the Bible. This attitude of submission requires the adoption of a Biblical Christian World View as providing the only adequate foundation for our work, including our labor in our respective academic disciplines, as well as a willingness at times to revise our understanding of Scripture as we gain further light. This leaves no room for arrogance and presump-

tuous independence.

Fourth, loving God with our minds means that we refuse to conform to the thought patterns, beliefs, and values of the present world or age. As our minds are transformed (Rom. 12:1-2), we will not approach our field of labor or our academic disciplines uncritically, but will recognize that the assumptions and attitudes of fallen humanity dominate the thinking of this world, including the academic world. We should be alert to this fact and be willing to challenge those assumptions and attitudes when necessary. There is no room for blind conformity to the world's thought patterns in an institution which seeks to be thoroughly Christian.

As we labor together at a Christian institution of higher learning, we can do no less than to love God with our minds. In so doing, I believe we will attain a standard of excellence which God Himself will commend.

Terry Chrisope  
Associate Professor of  
History and Bible

## FACULTY AND STAFF OUR AND ABOUT

Dr. J. B. Boren spoke at the Harvester Baptist Church on February 14th on the topic "Evolutionism and Creationism: What Does Science Say?"

Dr. Boren has also agreed to be consultant for the FBC Harvester on their Building Committee on recreational facilities which are included in the new building program. He will meet with SBC personnel and church staff to access the needs.

Mr. Andy Stevens supplied the pulpit for the Living Waters Community Church on January 28th.

Dr. Roberta Ross-Fisher has been nominated by one of her students, Dawn R. Graham, for inclusion in the fourth edition of *Who's Who Among American's Teachers, 1966*.

Dr. Jo Ann Miller, Dr. David Miller, and Ms. Renee Bain have been nominated for to be included in the 1996 edition of *Who's Who Among American Education*.

The MBC Chorale, directed by Pat Lacey, sang for the morning worship service at Southwest Baptist Church in St. Louis. Trustee Rudy Pulido is pastor.

Kathleen McCaffrey, Heidi Hubbard, and Joan Gaines attended a seminar on Academic Scheduling and Management Software Programming sponsored by the MHEC Academic Software Committee.

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*Carefully avoid in yourself those things which disturb you in others.*

- J. Kempis

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Second Leadership Forum featuring Dick Cheney, former Secretary of Defense and architect of Desert Storm at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on March 23, 1996. You should make your reservations, including checks in the appropriate amount immediately to Office FLD 334. Reserved seating only.

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*Faith is a gift -  
but you can ask for it.*

- J. Owsler

## EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Thursday - Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday 3:00 p.m.  
Faculty/Staff Follow Up Meeting of Board Meeting in Room 326.

Saturday 10:00-2:00 - Music Scholarship Auditions

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## BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

4	Glenna Sumner
9	Jason Claggett
10	Donald Coles
11	Mary Bagley
13	Rosalind Denson
13	Patricia Bagwill
15	Diana Biby
19	Nitsa Hindeleh
25	Arlen Dykstra
28	Amy Kausler

The March Birthday Party will be March 25th in the Cafeteria.

*If you have a March Birthday and are not listed above, please let Joan Gaines know so you can be included.*