



Madison Baptist Association

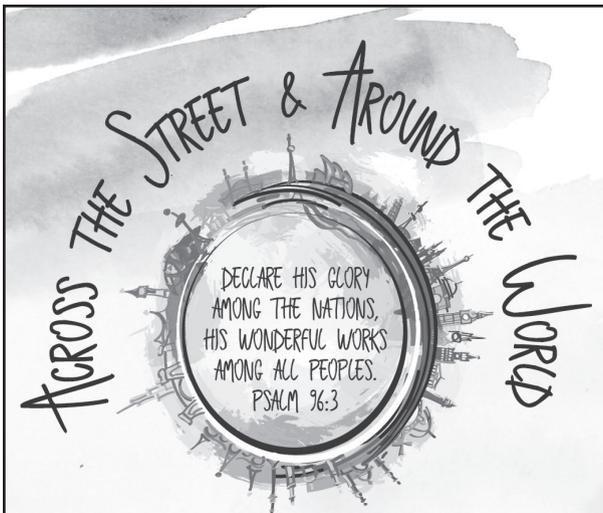
“Assisting churches in fulfilling their mission, and providing them opportunities for fellowship and to work together in advancing the kingdom of God”

THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY
01,
2018

On one occasion Israel was about to do battle with the Philistines. The Bible says, “When Saul saw the camp of the Philistines, he was afraid and his heart trembled greatly.” (I Samuel 28:5) King Saul was fearful because he had disobeyed the Lord in a previous battle with the Amalekites. God had instructed him to utterly destroy the Amalekites and all their possessions, but Saul failed to do so. Thus, Samuel confronted Saul on this matter of his disobedience and informed him that the Lord had torn the kingdom of Israel out of his hand. Now Saul was about to engage in another battle and he was afraid. He was in trouble with the enemy because he was in trouble with God. The Bible says, “When Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him...” (I Samuel 28:6) How should we believers respond today when we inquire of the Lord and He is silent? What should we do when we seek the Lord in prayer and there is no answer? Well, two things come to mind when faced with such a situation. First, we should examine ourselves to see if there is any unconfessed sin in our lives (as was the case with Saul). If so, we need to confess that sin to the Lord, repent of it, and be cleansed by the Lord of all unrighteousness. Second, we should patiently wait for God’s answer, realizing that His timing is perfect and He is never late in His response to our concerns. But then there is a third possibility as to why God is silent when we pray to Him. Henry Blackaby has told the story about when he went through a lengthy time when God was silent. He had prayed for many days and even went over a “sin checklist” but still no word from the Lord. Finally he was reading one day the story about the death of Lazarus, and how Mary and Martha had sent a messenger to Jesus to inform Him that their brother Lazarus was sick. Jesus purposely delayed two days before travelling to Bethany, and when He got there Lazarus was already dead. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.” (John 11:21) But, as Blackaby points out, Martha and others received a greater revelation from the Lord that day as Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead and people came to know Him as “the resurrection and the life.” (John 11:25-27, 42, 45). So God’s silence can be the period before a greater revelation/truth from God, or about God is received. When King Saul received no answer from God, he found a substitute in the witch of Endor and inquired of her. As we seek the Lord today, may we not revert to cheap substitutes for His presence and His

instruction. There are no shortcuts to Christian growth/maturity, so stay the course.

Your Director of Missions,
Charlie



GLOBAL IMPACT CELEBRATION

WITH DR. PAIGE PATTERSON

GET TO KNOW THE GIC GUESTS THAT WE PARTNER WITH AROUND THE GLOBE!

Friday, February 9
Evening Fellowships with GIC Guests

Saturday, February 10
GIC Banquet 6:00 - 8:00 pm
South Campus Fellowship Dining Room
Tickets \$6 at the door

Sunday, February 11
GIC Displays and
Guest Speaker Dr. Paige Patterson

 **WHITESBURG**
BAPTIST CHURCH
6806 WHITESBURG DRIVE, HUNTSVILLE, AL

WhitesburgBaptist.org

Feb 6.....	Minister’s Conference
Feb 9-10	Bivocational Minister/Spouse Retreat Shocco Springs
Feb 13.....	Minister’s Conference
Feb 14.....	Valentine’s Day ♥
Feb 19.....	President’s Day MBA Office Closed
Feb 20.....	Minister’s Conference
Feb 27.....	Minister’s Conference
.....	VBS Directors’ Meeting (MBA, 6:30PM)

Minister’s Conference Schedule of Speakers

*Unless otherwise specified, the Minister’s Conference will be held at the Madison Baptist Association Office and the fellowship time will begin at 10:00 AM, with the meeting beginning at 10:30 AM.

Feb 6.....	Rev. Timothy Payne, Wears Chapel Baptist
Feb 13*.....	Eileen Mitchell, State Missionary <i>Reaching Adults Aged 55+</i>
Feb 20.....	Rev. Gary Gates, Cave Springs
Feb 27.....	Russell Medley
Mar 6.....	Rev. Al Phillips, Bethlehem Baptist, LS

*The meeting featuring Eileen Mitchell is open to anyone.

only \$150 per student!  space limited register soon!

changing one house and one life at a time!

June 17—22, 2018
Visit www.rocketcitymissions.org for more information and to download registration forms.

NIGHT to Shine

SPONSORED BY THE **TIM TEBOW FOUNDATION™**

will be hosted by Huntsville First Baptist Church on February 9, 2018, from 6-9 p.m. This is a prom night experience for people with special needs, ages 14 and older.

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED!
For more information or to register as a volunteer, visit: www.fbchsv.org/events/nts/ or call 256-428-9062.

Madison Baptist Association, Inc.
Dr. Charlie Howell, Executive Director of Missions
Rev. Ron Lynch, Church Ministry Director
Regina Berry, Financial/Administrative Assistant
Denise Panter, Receptionist/Publicist/Clerk
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Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday Closed on Fridays