



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
15,
2018

Christians are not immune from problems during their lifetime. In fact, difficulties can arise as we live for Christ and the truth of God’s Word in the midst of a morally depraved world. The apostle Paul was a genuine, shining light for Christ and he faced numerous difficulties. But he also knew that such issues served a purpose in his Christian walk. Thus, he wrote, “Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.” (II Cor. 12:10) The lesson of contentment cannot be learned too well, and the trials Paul endured produced patient endurance and a measure of contentment in his life. In this same chapter Paul speaks of being given “a thorn in the flesh” (most likely a physical issue/illness) which he prayed repeatedly to the Lord that it might be removed. But while enduring the thorn Paul learned that God’s grace is sufficient in all situations. Sometimes we envision God’s grace just as something we were shown when we came to know Jesus as Savior and Lord. And it is true that we were saved by the grace of God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible clearly says, “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.” (Eph. 2:8-9) But God’s grace doesn’t stop there. Paul writes, “...those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.” (Rom. 5:17) The emphasis is that we continually receive God’s grace (not just at conversion) that we might reign in life through Christ! In other words God’s grace, mercy, kindness, gracious care is available to us on a daily basis that we might “reign in life” instead of our difficulties reigning over us and controlling our lives. In Romans, chapter 8, Paul talked about issues believers can face (tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, poverty, martyrdom) and then he exclaimed, “in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.” (Rom. 8:37) So when facing difficulties we can be the conquerors, instead of the conquered, as we receive God’s grace, His gracious help in time of need. This is wonderful news! We don’t have to live defeated, discouraged Christian lives. Our problems don’t have to dominate us. As the persecuted apostle Paul proclaimed, “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” (Phil. 4:13) Shine for Jesus, for a dark world needs to hear the truth of God’s Word and see that somebody cares.

Your Director of Missions,
Charlie

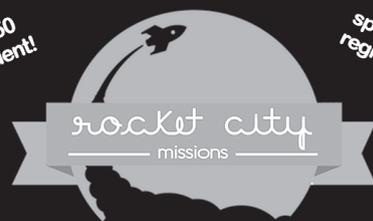
Annual RA Racers
FBC Huntsville (600 Governors Dr) 
Sunday, March 4th Registration: 1PM; Races: 2 PM
If you’d like to find out more details about Royal Ambassadors and the RA Racers or the RA race please call **Dwight Sisk** at 256-714-2401.

This will be Dwight’s final year to manage the RA Racers Event. To honor his faithful, long time service (22 years!), there will be a special **ALUMNI RACE!**
All past RA Racer participants (including adults) are encouraged to dust off their old Racers and come race!

Feb 19..... President’s Day
MBA Office Closed
Feb 20..... Minister’s Conference
Feb 27..... Minister’s Conference
..... VBS Directors’ Meeting (MBA, 6:30PM)
Mar 3..... WMU Children’s Event
(University Baptist, 10AM)
Mar 4..... RA Racers Event
(FBC Hsv, Register @ 1PM; Race @ 2PM)
Mar 6..... Minister’s Conference
Mar 11..... Daylight Savings Time Begins

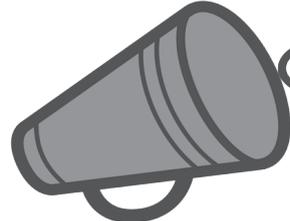
Minister’s Conference Schedule of Speakers

*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 20..... Rev. Gary Gates, Cave Springs
Feb 27..... Russell Medley
Mar 6..... Rev. Al Phillips, Bethlehem Baptist, LS

only \$150 per student!  space limited register soon!
rocket city missions
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.

ROMANIA 
APRIL 26 - MAY 7, 2018
Join us as we continue to minister through our partnership with the Sibiu Baptist Association in Romania. Opportunities to minister in churches, Youth events, and to children and adults.
Approx. cost \$2400.
There’s still time to join us in Romania! Call the MBA for more info!

Calling all
Athletic (VBS) Directors!!

VBS Director’s Meeting
Where: Madison Baptist Association
When: Tuesday, February 27th, 2018
Time: 6:30—8:30 PM
Door Prizes! A Lifeway rep will be available! Fun!

Grab your passport . . .
we’re going on a Mission Expedition!!!

 **MBA Children’s Event!**
For all children 1st through 6th Grades
featuring speakers from Russia, Japan & Africa
Saturday, March 3, 2018 — 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
University Baptist Church
lunch will be included, but you must register by February 26
call, text, or email Pam Helton at 256-655-8601 or bjvngcd@aol.com

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
2318 Whitesburg Drive S, Huntsville, AL 35801
Web Site: www.madisonassociation.org
Phone: 256-536-0015 ~ Fax: 256-536-0017
Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday Closed on Fridays