

G O D ' S M I S S I O N A R Y
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Camp Meeting



That I May Know Him



from the

editor



Dr. Brian Black

That I May Know Him!

One of the great experiences of camp meeting is the presence of God. Other responsibilities are put-aside and the focus is on spiritual things. In Philippians 3:10 Paul cries out his heart's desire, "That I may know Him." We, too, must cry out to know God and to know Him better. Man was made to have fellowship with God. Without that relationship, man is left with a spiritual hole in his life. If one does not know God, he is spiritually disabled just as one who is crippled or one who is mentally disabled is also deficient in other aspects of life.

Adam and Eve walked with God in the cool of the day, and they had perfect fellowship. Other biblical saints such as Enoch and Abraham had personal fellowship with God. "Knowing God" is set before us as the perfect ideal of the Christian life. The goal is a love relationship between man and God where His will, pleasing Him, and having fellowship with Him becomes the single-minded focus of the Christian. This is, truly, the core of Christianity.

Tragically, sin through rebellion, selfishness, and pride has separated man and God. The holiness of God has absolutely no tolerance for sin. Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden of Eden and fellowship between heaven and earth was ruptured. We were born as part of this sinful race that was corrupted

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Know *Him,*

and twisted by an evil heart, but God, in His grace and mercy, through Christ has provided a plan of restoration for the human soul. When the conditions of repentance and faith are met, God forgives one's sin and provides reconciliation with Himself. In a further work of grace, the corruption of the heart is removed and the heart is purified. Simultaneously with the removal of the sin in the heart is the reception of the fullness of the Spirit. Spiritually, one has been restored to full fellowship with God. His Spirit now lives within and a person is now walking in full communion with God.

Yet, we still live in a fallen world. The pressures of life, discouragement, temptation, busyness, struggles with others, and even difficulties from living in a fallen human body with its limitations and damaged personality make it difficult to fully claim the communion that is available between man and God. Although truly saved and sanctified, one can become so overwhelmed by the constant pressure and duties of life that communion with God becomes shallow and just routine. This is not God's plan! We must know Him, fellowship with Him, love Him, and walk with Him in real life. We must actively plan to make and keep Him the center of our lives. Daily, one must strive to have communion with God. The Lord's Day must become a time when the routine of life is laid aside and our focus turns toward heaven. Special times of the year such as camp meeting must be planned and used intentionally to restore and renew perfect fellowship with God. Life makes it very difficult to spend extensive time daily, weekly or even at camp to maintain a proper focus upon God. This is especially true for mothers with young children; however, this salvation was not made just for the monastery, God intends communion to be maintained in the hubbub of life to give complete victory as we walk with Him through daily battles. ▣

fellowship *with Him,*

love *Him,*

and walk *with Him,*

in real life.



Youth Camp

by Matt Maloyed

The 46th God's Missionary Youth Camp (formerly Hanover Youth Camp) was another exciting, record-breaking year with 298 campers in attendance. The theme, "Settled—Case Closed," reminded everyone that because of Jesus' redemptive work, we can have our case with God settled forever.

Evangelist Rick Maloyed shared powerful messages throughout the week. His storytelling stood out and connected with the young people in a special way. Several services were marked by God's strong presence—altars were filled and many campers gave testimonies of clear spiritual victory as they experienced what it means to have their case settled through Christ.

As GMYC has grown, it now takes a large team of dedicated staff members who give their time and energy to invest in the lives of young people. We had an outstanding group this year, and their efforts made a big difference in the week's success.

While the week was full of blessings, we did face a small budget shortfall of \$3,000. If you would like to help us finish the year strong, donations can be made at gmyc.online.

We are deeply grateful for everyone who prayed, supported, and helped make GMYC 2025 possible, and we look ahead with great anticipation to what God will continue to do in the years to come. 🙏

Fellowship Camp

by John Fisher

Fellowship Camp 2005 was again a wonderful time of worship and fellowship. The presence of God was sensed in the services as Keith Bunch and Dan Durkee preached timely messages that challenged us to a deeper walk with God. Jeffery and Anna Anderson were the singers. Their Christ-like spirit was evident as Jeffrey led the congregational singing and together, they sang many songs. Good food and fellowship were enjoyed during meals prepared by our new cook Karl Kratz. Justin Steen connected well with our youth. He led them in their own time of worship weekday afternoons and during an evening time of devotions. They added much life to the grounds with activities that included Popdarts, Cornhole, Human Foosball, Elephant Ball, etc. Esther Sweitzer did a great job again with the children. Her theme this year was “Always Take Time to Pray.”

This year several enjoyed time around the campfire after the evening service at a new campfire patio. Patio block, labor, and equipment were all donated by Justin Steen, Reinford Landscapes, and Potted Luck Landscape. The fire grate was donated by Sis. Darlene Dupert. This was a very nice upgrade.

Attendance was good with many of the churches in our area lifting services and joining us throughout the camp. We were able to raise the \$23,500 that we projected for this coming year, and we even were able to go a little beyond.

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Penns Creek Camp Update

by Jacob Martin

God's presence was special from the start of camp to the end. Rev. Harry Plank was at his best with his humor. Rev. Don Raines emphasis on prayer and trusting God made a lasting impression on all of us! The practical truths helped many of God's people. Rev. Darrell Stetler along with the others preached excellent messages to help us live holy lives. Repeatedly, God's presence came when the Tim Cole family sang. The Beltz family did a great job teaching our children. Our youth evangelist, Andrew Durst, led the young people, and God used him to minister to them effectively. The young people and others went out into the community and passed out camp announcements and tracts. I had been praying for God to raise up more people to knock on doors! Throughout the camp people sought God when the altars were open and victories were won. God again supplied the financial needs for Penns Creek Camp. \$45,000 was needed and around \$46,000 came in during camp. We also had a march (Kettle) offering. More than \$18,0000 was given toward our rest room renovation project. Thank you for caring about and giving to Penns Creek Camp! 📌



Make plans to
attend

**Penns Creek
Camp 2026**

July 24 through
August 2







The Open Secret

by A.W. Tozer

When viewed from the perspective of eternity, the most critical need of this hour may well be that the church should be brought back from her long Babylonian captivity and the name of God be glorified in her again as of old. Yet we must not think of the church as an anonymous body, a mystical religious abstraction. We Christians are the church and whatever we do is what the church is doing. The matter, therefore is for each of us as a personal one. Any forward step in the church must begin with the individual.

What can we plain Christians do to bring back the departed glory? Is there some secret we may learn? Is there a formula for personal revival we can apply to the present situation, to our own situation? The answer to these questions is yes.

Yet the answer may easily disappoint some persons, for it is anything but profound. I bring no esoteric cryptogram, no mystic code to be painfully deciphered. I appeal to no hidden law of the unconscious, no occult knowledge meant only for the few. The secret is an open one which the wayfaring man may read. It is simply the old and ever-new council: acquaint thyself with God. To regain her lost power the church must see heaven opened and have a transforming vision of God.

But the God we must see is not the utilitarian God who is having such a run of popularity today, whose chief claim to men's attention is his ability to bring them success in their various undertakings and who for that reason is being cajoled and flattered by ev-

everyone who wants a favor. The God we must learn to know is the Majesty in the heavens, God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, the only wise God our Savior. He it is that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, who stretches out the heavens as a curtain and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in, who bringeth out his starry host by number and calleth them all by name through the greatness of his power, who seeth the works of man as vanity, who putteth no confidence in princes and asks no counsel of kings.

Knowledge of such a Being cannot be gained by study alone. It comes by a wisdom the natural man knows nothing of, neither can know, because it is spiritually discerned. To know God is at once the easiest and the most difficult thing in the world. It is easy because the knowledge is not one by hard mental toil, but is something freely given. As sunlight falls free on the open field, so the knowledge of the holy God is a free gift to men who are open to receive it. But this knowledge is difficult because there are conditions to be met and the obstinate nature of fallen man does not take kindly to them.

Let me present a brief summary of these conditions as taught by the Bible and repeated through the centuries by the holiest, sweetest saints the world has ever known:

Believing in Christ includes a firm purpose to obey Him in all things.

First, we must forsake our sins. The belief that a holy God cannot be known by men of confirmed evil lives is not new to the Christian religion. The Hebrew book, the Wisdom of Solomon, which antedates Christianity by many years, has the following passage: "Love righteousness, ye that be judges of the earth: think of the Lord with a good heart, and in simplicity of heart seek him. For he will be found of them that tempt him not; and sheweth himself unto such as do not distrust him. For forward thoughts separate from God: and his power, when it is tried, reproveth the unwise. For unto a malicious soul wisdom shall not enter; nor dwell

in the body that is subject to sin. For the holy Spirit of discipline will flee deceit, and remove from thoughts that are without understanding, and will not abide when unrighteousness cometh in." This same thought is found in various sayings throughout the inspired Scriptures, the best known probably being the words of Christ, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

Second, there must be an utter committal of the whole life to Christ in faith. This is what it means to "believe in Christ." It involves a volitional and emotional attachment to him accompanied by a firm purpose to obey him in all things. This requires that we keep his commandments, carry our cross, and love God and our fellow man.

Third, there must be a reckoning of ourselves to have died unto sin and to be alive unto God in Christ Jesus, followed by a throwing open of the entire personality to the inflow of the Holy Spirit. Then we must practice whatever self-discipline is required to walk in the spirit, and trample under our feet the lusts of the flesh.

Fourth, we must boldly repudiate the cheap values of the fallen world and become completely detached in spirit from everything that unbelieving men set their hearts upon, allowing ourselves only the simplest enjoyment of nature which God has bestowed alike upon the just and the unjust.

Fifth, we must practice the art of long and loving meditation upon the Majesty of God. This will take some effort, for the concept of majesty has all but disappeared from the human race. The focal point of man's interest is now himself. Humanism and its various forms have displaced theology as the key to the understanding of life. When the nineteenth-century poet Swinburne wrote, "Glory to man in the highest! For man is the master of things," he gave to the modern world its new Te Deum. All this must be reversed by a deliberate act of the will and kept so by a patient effort of the mind.

God is a person and can be known in increasing degrees of intimate acquaintance

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Mount of Blessing Camp 2025

by Brian Spangler

Wow! What a wonderful camp meeting once again! MOBC is a family oriented camp meeting, a relaxed, refreshing, and refilling kind of place. It is a beautiful, serene, country setting where people come to get away, gather together, and grow closer to the Lord! Our evangelists, Rev. Matt Ellison and Rev. Dan Stetler did a wonderful job delivering their hearts and presenting the Truth! The music and singing from the Jeff Self family were so encouraging and uplifting. Both the children's workers (Ricky and Mel Susan) and youth evangelist (Justin Ellison) did excellently! Camp was very well attended, with the rooms, cabins and RV hookups full. The financial load was met to overflowing. But most importantly the Lord Himself came and met with us. There were some great victories won, many needs supplied and multiple hearts encouraged! And that dear heart makes it worth every effort - When God comes! 📌



Travel notes with the president



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May 05-06: Loveland, Ohio for the Memorial service of Jebria Poetter, the mother of Rev. Jacob Mason, she was only 46 years old. God helped Bro. Jacob share and preach a wonderful message!

May 07-10: Studying some early church History and sermon preparation and travel notes. I went to our PVBI Benefit Auction.

May 11: Northampton, PA to preach for Mother's Day!

May 12-17: General Board meeting and a GMYC Zoom meeting. I also traveled to Easley, SC for the funeral of Rev. Jacob Miller. It was a privilege to pray in the service. Rev. Steve Miller and family did an excellent job sharing about his life of being a blessing to those in other countries and here in the states.

May 18: York, PA. I appreciated the good response to the message. Rhoda and I also enjoyed the wonderful meal and fellowship after church with the Shaffers.

May 19-24: Administrative work, General Board meeting and a GMYC Zoom meeting. I appreciate the excellent work they all do to make a great youth camp! I also attended PV kindergarten graduation. Two of our grandchildren graduated. I was then able to participate in the H.S. and College Graduation. Rev. Harry Plank preached a challenging and helpful message to the graduates. Thank you, staff and students, for the job and ministry well done!

May 26: Memorial Day, our family all came over and we also celebrated my dad's 84th birthday.

May 27-31: I preached at Camp Hill and talked about future pastor ideas. Rhoda and I flew out to Denver, CO for our Western District visits. We also had a good board meeting on Saturday.

June 01: Wauneta, NE and Colorado Springs, I enjoyed preaching at both places. Rhoda and I enjoyed the fellowship with the Hunts and Kearneys. We were excited to see new people at both churches.

June 02-07: We flew home from CO. Rhoda and I worked in the headquarters building. I was also able to help with the annual youth camp cleanup day. We got the FL Camp Announcements worked on.

June 09-14: GMYC, To God be the Glory for moving among us again another year. Young people sought and found God. Young people were encouraged to be used of God! Special thanks to Bro. Matt Maloyed and the board for a ministry well done.

June 15: Northampton, PA for Father's Day.

June 16- 21: Penns Creek Camp board meeting. I preached at Camp Hill and the Gospel Center. They serve meals on Saturday night at the Gospel Center where they could have around 45-60 show up for the service. We appreciate Pastor Donald Kiskadden and Pastor Sherman who lead the ministry at the Gospel Center.

June 22: Camp Hill, PA. I appreciate how they are working together as we are looking for a pastor.

June 23-29: General Board meeting and a Home Mission Board meeting this week. I also preached at Camp Hill again and attended three camp meetings - Camp Robinhood, Hanover and Mount of Blessings. I have appreciated how many good preachers we are blessed to hear - Rev. Bennie Durr Sr., Rev. Daniel Durkee, Rev. Keith Bunch, Rev. Daniel Stetler and Rev. Matt Ellison.



JACOB MARTIN

July 01-05: I went to Mount of Blessings and Hanover Camps again and then enjoyed a little family time with my dad on Thursday night for games. Our family was so blessed to all be together for a 4th of July meal. We also had the Wes and Janna Cressman family with us. Janna Cressman is my wife's cousin. They are missionaries to Spain with H.I.M. and are currently having deputation services.

July 06: Northampton and Ono Camp. In the afternoon service I enjoyed the Lebanon Gospel Band. In the evening, I also enjoyed the ministry of Rev. Jeremy Fuller family.

July 07-12: I met with Bro. Cancio, our world mission director. I had a combined General Board Meeting with the Missionary Crusader's Board about our Missionary Crusaders President position. I preached at Camp Hill. It was a privilege to have fellowship with Rev. Jacob Mason and to show him ministry opportunities in a nearby city. We then enjoyed a meal together. He is doing a ministerial internship at Beavertown Church. I visited Oakland Mills two different days. I also enjoyed Bro. David Fulton's preaching and the special singing by the Tim Cooley Jr. family.

July 13-19: I preached at the Northampton church in the morning and went to Beulah Camp for the evening service. Dr. Alan Brown preached a good message. I also went to Kids Camp and appreciate how God uses this wonderful ministry! It impacts children and those that attend. I filled in at Camp Hill again and went to Beulah Camp for morning service. I finished the week at Penns Creek Camp workday.

July 20- 24: I preached two times at our Camp Hill Church. There is a lot of administrative work and sermon preparation for our 90th General Conference. I preached on "Empty Nets" using the text in Luke 5:1-11. Having experience, equipment and energy are not enough for God's work. We must have the Holy Spirit empowering us!

July 25- August 03: Penns Creek Camp, God met with us in a wonderful way. A full report is in this issue of the *Standard*.

as we prepare our hearts for the wonder. It may be necessary for us to alter our former beliefs about God as the glory that guilds the sacred Scriptures dawn over our interior lives. We may also need to break quietly and graciously with a lifeless textualism that prevails among the gospel churches, and to protest the frivolous character of much that passes for Christianity among us. By this we may for the time lose friends and gain a passing reputation for being holier-than-thou; but no man who permits the expectation of unpleasant consequences to influence him in a matter like this is fit for the kingdom of God.

Sixth, as the knowledge of God becomes more wonderful, greater service to our fellow man will become for us imperative. This blessed knowledge is not given to be enjoyed selfishly. The more perfectly we know God the more we will feel the desire to translate the new found knowledge into deeds of mercy towards suffering humanity. The God who gave all to us will continue to give all through us as we come to know him better.

Thus far we have considered the individual's perfect relation to God, but like the ointment of a man's right hand, which by its fragrance "betrayeth itself," any intensified knowledge of God will soon begin to affect those around us in the Christian community. And we must seek purposely to share our increasing light with the fellow members of the household of God.

This we can best do by keeping the majesty of God in full focus in all our public services. Not only our private prayers should be filled with God, by our witnessing, our singing, our preaching, our writing should center around the person of our holy, holy Lord and extol continually the greatness of his dignity and power. There is a glorified Man on the right hand of the Majesty in heaven faithfully representing us there. We are left for a season among men; let us faithfully represent Him here. ■

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Fellowship Camp continued from page 5

On July 4 we look forward to our Independence Day Service in the afternoon. Daren and Cristina Fisher planned a nice presentation honoring our nation's history. Also, a nice display of fireworks was put on by Daniel and David Fisher. These have become anticipated events each year.

One big project we were finally able to complete this year. We drilled a new well about a year and a half ago but then we had problems with an excessive amount of iron in the water. So we had to do some repairs to the well and then ultimately, we added a new treatment system. This cost quite a bit of money, but the Lord supplied the funds for which we are very grateful.

We are continuing to do upgrades to the grounds as time and money allow. Cabins are continuing to be remodeled, the main entrance doors to the dining hall are in the plans for replacement, and there is one more section of cabins that still need an electrical upgrade. We hope to have that done this year.

We are already looking forward to Fellowship Camp 2026 with Daniel Hardy, Jr., as one of the evangelists and the Joe Carey family as our singers. We still need to confirm a second evangelist. We would love to have you join us next year June 26 – July 5, 2026. In 2027 we will celebrate 75 years of ministry June 25 – July 4. And if Jesus tarries the date in 2008 will be June 30 – July 9. Put in on your calendar and plan to be part of what God is doing at Fellowship Camp.

We are also excited to host the God's Missionary Kids Camp each year, the Christian Youth Fellowship (CYF) Youth Camp, and sometimes there is a Spanish Camp sponsored by several Hope International Missions Spanish churches. ■