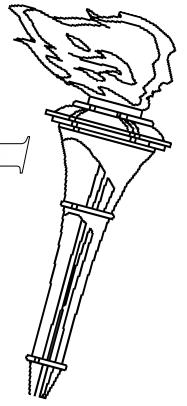


Liberty Baptist Church, Hartwell, Georgia

# THE LIBERTY LIGHT



Volume 9, Issue 5

September/October 2006

## Church Activities:

Church Phone: 376-0154

### Sunday

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Morning Worship 10:45 AM

Evening Worship 6:00 PM

### Wednesday

Awana 6:20 PM

Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM

## Upcoming Events/ Opportunities

- **Labor Day Mission Trip Sept. 1 - 4**
- **Sportsman's Banquet**
- **Fall Senior Adult Retreat** (see details on back page)
- **Associational Fall Meeting Tues., Sept. 19 4:30 pm**

"Piercing the  
darkness  
with the  
truth of  
God's  
Word"



## "Hitting the Mark"

# SPORTSMAN'S BANQUET

## Thursday, Sept. 7, 2006, 7:00PM

*featured speakers*

## Danny Chandler & Gary Purvis

Liberty Baptist Church • Hartwell, GA

Tickets: \$10.00 per person • Meal: Ribeye Steak

➤➤➤ **Free Giveaways & Door Prizes including:  
FOUR GUNS and SPORTS-RELATED GIFT CERTIFICATES**

➤➤➤ **Hunting and Fishing Displays & Exhibits**

Open at 5:30 PM

➤➤➤ **NEW! 3-D ARCHERY RANGE NEW!**

➤➤➤ **Trucks, Bass Boats and Four Wheelers on display**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Location:** Liberty Baptist Church is located between Hartwell and Royston on US 29.  
**Tickets:** Tickets may be picked up at the church office; call 706-376-0154.  
**Sponsored by:** Liberty Baptist Church, Hartwell, GA • Mike Griffin, Senior Pastor

**WELCOME!****Under Watchcare****By Baptism**

Summer Roberts  
103 Rellim Way  
Hartwell, GA 30643  
706-436-7033

Perry Sullivan  
369 Railroad Street Apt. B  
Royston, GA 30662  
706-436-8316

**New Members**

Kenneth & Cheryl Pittard  
2159 Airline Goldmine  
Canon, GA 30520  
706-371-5052

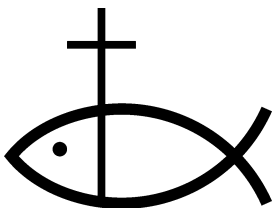
**Labor Day****Monday, Sept. 4**

The Church office will be closed in observance of Labor Day.



**We're On The Web!**

**www.libertybc.ws**

**TAKE HOLD OF THE TRUTH**

(I Timothy 1:3-7, 12-20)

**BY: MIKE GRIFFIN**

**Introduction:** After Paul's release from his imprisonment (Acts 28:30), he revisits many of the cities in which he had previously ministered. At Ephesus he decided to leave Timothy behind to deal with problems that had risen in the church.

We would do well to realize that before he established plans of outreach and growth he was going to have to deal with some important doctrinal issues.

Paul's emphasis on dealing with doctrinal issues in the church helps us see that evangelism cannot prosper at the expense of the purity of the church.

Paul "charges" Timothy that before he does anything else in the church he had better deal with the false doctrine and more importantly the false teachers and leaders who were behind its proliferation.

How was Timothy going to accomplish this task? This is precisely what this week's lesson is all about. Note the following points:

**I. Identify the false teaching & teachers (1:3-7)**

Paul had already begun this task as he alludes to having dealt with Hymenaeus and Alexander. Paul had already removed both men from the church for their heretical teaching. Now Timothy was to continue this process. The facts that are brought out in this passage about the false teaching (vv. 4-6) highlight the reality that there comes a time when not only the false teaching has to be addressed but the false teachers as well.

There comes a time in all of our churches when it is not enough to simply confront error from the pulpit. Sometimes it requires personal confrontation. This confrontation is to occur even if the false teacher is a leader! Many scholars believe that these false teachers could have been elders in the church.

We must require that those who lead our local congregations and teach in our Sunday Schools adhere to sound doctrine! It is imperative to the mission of our church and in the selection of its leaders and officers that we know what is being taught and what they believe doctrinally. It was obvious that those in teaching positions in the church were out of line. Their church was not getting closer to "godly edifying" (vv. 4-5) but rather speculation and a pooling of their ignorance!

Paul's language assures young Timothy that he must use spiritual discernment and act decisively in having these false teachings exposed for what they really are.

**II. Stand on the Gospel of grace (vv. 12-17)**

It's amazing how the Holy Spirit brings to Paul's remembrance how he, too, was once a false teacher! He was just like some of those Judaizers who were trying to make the law an end for grace, rather than a means.

More than likely the false teachers in Ephesus were teaching some version of works salvation that leads to pride, arrogance and self-righteousness. This is just the opposite of the "Gospel of grace" that leads to a pure love for God and a pure conscience toward others! Paul hits on a very important key to being able

to recognize, confront and protect congregations from false teaching. We, as leaders, must first and foremost be completely assured in our hearts that we have truly and thoroughly been converted by the gospel of grace!

The existence of these false teachers helped remind Paul that there is still hope for all sinners! He was reminded of how he

blasphemed God in his rebellion. He was reminded of how he had actively persecuted the church. He was reminded of how insolent he was before God's grace confronted him with his sin. Verse 20 reminds us that a person can be sincere and yet sincerely wrong.

This is where our confrontation with false teachers should begin. Our motive must first be redemptive! For we, too, were ignorant of the truth and blind to our personal sin. We must confront with the first motive to convert! And, we need only to look back at our conversion to find the sympathy we need for those kinds of people.

That's why when Paul gets to verse 17 he just has to shout out his praise, because if it were not for God's grace he would still be lost, too!

**III. Contend for the truth (vv. 18-20)**

Paul closes out this first chapter with a personal reminder of Timothy's calling to stand firm upon the truth. He is reminded that he is in a spiritual warfare.

**"There comes a time...when it is not enough to simply confront error from the pulpit."**

## TAKE HOLD OF THE TRUTH (CONT.)

Timothy is to be guided by the sound doctrinal teaching of the apostles and his own personal conversion experience and call to the ministry. These convictions would enable him to stand against the enemies of Christ and the gospel. Timothy is reminded of the devastating consequences to be faced by all who go the route of false teaching. They end up, as Paul puts it, "shipwrecked". There ends up being catastrophic consequences for all who hear, reject and turn away from the gospel - and this includes church leaders who act like they know the Lord, but are really not saved!

Paul then makes his point to Timothy. Look at Hymenaeus and Alexander! More than likely these were two of their elders that had been put out of the church and removed from God's protective care!

The end result was that they would be taught that "false doctrine doesn't pay". It doesn't

pay as a leader in the church and it doesn't pay in eternity when it comes to facing God.

### Conclusion:

I wonder if our churches today believe that false doctrine doesn't pay. Just look at the "shipwrecked" lives that are all around us. We must stand with integrity and honesty to confront the false doctrine that is propagating false character, false hope and at best shallow churches that are not going to stand the test of persecution, much less win our communities to Christ.

*Pastor Mike will be writing the Bible Study lessons for the Christian Index for nine weeks beginning in October. This is the first lesson that will be published. The Christian Index is the Georgia Baptist newspaper which is published bi-weekly. If you are interested in receiving the Christian Index in your home you may subscribe by visiting their website at [www.christianindex.org](http://www.christianindex.org). Liberty members may see Liza to sign up.*

## GOOD NEWS CLUB



### First Day of Club Monday, Sept. 11

Our first club meeting is just around the corner. We have already sent brochures to the school to be given out to the students. So far, we have about 35 signed up to attend.

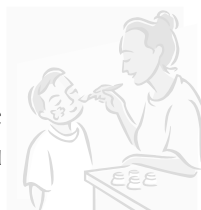
Stayed tuned for how you may be able to help. Once again we will be asking you to bring a particular item each month to help with the snacks for the children. Someone will let you know what you need to provide.

You may also become a prayer partner for this ministry interceding for the leaders and teen workers as well as for the children who will attend each week. Let Bro. Andy know if you are interested in participating in this ministry.

## FACE PAINTING

### Face Painting Training Tuesday, September 5th

This is training that will be done by the Gongre's (CEF Missionaries). If you are interested please see Bro. Andy.



Face Painting Opportunity  
Chattahoochee Mt. Fair  
Clarkesville, GA  
Friday, September 15  
6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

## LIBERTY LIGHT BROADCAST

7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday Mornings  
WKLY AM 980

Continue to pray for and support Liberty's radio program. If you are interested in sponsoring one week or several weeks let Bro. Mike know. The cost for each program is \$29.00. The program may be sponsored by a business or in memory of a loved one.

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## NEW RADIO PROGRAM

Bro. Mike has begun a new radio program during the week. It's a morning devotion that starts at 6:59 AM, Monday - Friday on WKLY. So remember to tune in!

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## OUTREACH VISITATION

Thursday, Sept. 14- 7:00pm  
Sunday, Sept. 17- 4:30pm  
Thursday, Oct. 12- 7:00 pm  
Sunday, Oct. 15 - 4:30 pm

You have four scheduled opportunities to go visiting, but you may choose to go at another time more convenient to your schedule. Get a partner, pray together, and go out and share the gospel with someone.



# AWANA NEWS!!

## Awana Leadership Conferences

Dacula, Georgia  
Saturday, September 16

Mark your calendars for the annual leadership conference! Remember if you are a leader at Liberty you must attend a conference at least once every three years! Check with Joan if you cannot remember the last time you attended.



### Pastoral Staff

**Senior Pastor**  
Mike Griffin  
376-8118

**Assistant Pastors**  
Andy Buchanan  
376-0124

Forrest Ferguson  
245-9553

**Church Office**  
376-0154

# FALL SENIOR ADULT RETREAT

**Epworth By the Sea**  
**St. Simon's Island, Georgia**  
**November 28-30, 2006**  
**Deposit Needed: \$20 per person**  
**Cost per person: \$180.00**

We are making the arrangements for the senior adult retreat in November. If you are planning on attending we need a \$20 non-refundable deposit by September 6.

Epworth By the Sea is located on the Frederica River. It is a very quiet, peaceful 83 acres of land surrounded by live oaks, beautiful gardens, and the Marshes of Glynn. We will be staying in Turner Lodge which is located on the river. All the motel rooms have either a patio or balcony overlooking the river.

Bro. Mike and Bro. Andy will be leading this retreat.

The tentative schedule will be as follows:

<b><u>Tuesday, November 28</u></b>	
9:30 a.m.	Leave for St. Simon's
Noon	Lunch on the road
3:00 p.m.	Arrive at retreat
5:30 p.m.	Supper
7:00 p.m.	Worship & 1st Session
<b><u>Wednesday, November 29</u></b>	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	2nd Session
Noon	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Shopping & Touring
5:30 p.m.	Supper
7:00 p.m.	3rd Session
<b><u>Thursday, November 30</u></b>	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Final Session
Noon	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Leave for home

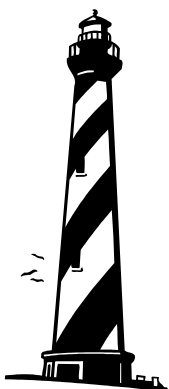
## AWANA NEWS



Our Trek Ministry in Awana has been asked by Awana Clubs International to participate in a survey of video clips that they are producing for the Trek ministry. Our group will be viewing several video clips and then discussing which styles they liked as well as which styles helped get the point across the best. All information will be sent back to the headquarters and used to make decisions about other video clips they are producing.

**In other Awana News:** Our clubs have gotten off to a great start this year! Already we are seeing many visitors and new club members join us. We have also had different churches visiting on several occasions to view a club night in action!

We continue to thank God for Dalton & Joan Johnson, who make certain our club runs smoothly each week. They continue to serve on the Ministry Team with Bro. Steve Cohoon representing our church and our Lord in a powerful way. Pray for them and for all of our directors and leaders that this will be the best year in Awana we've ever had!



**Liberty Baptist Church**  
PO Box 811  
Hartwell, GA 30643

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