

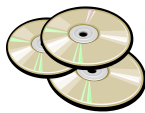
It is time to train more of God's "steeplejacks" (preachers) to keep the old rugged cross clearly in view for a world mired in sin to see. Only God knows the impact that one trained gospel preacher will have. We cannot know how many souls will be saved by the work of that one gospel preacher. Nor can we know how many will be impacted by those that he teaches. Time and eternity will reveal these things to us. Right now we all need to work together to raise men as soul winners not steeples, preachers who will be "steeplejacks" to spread the gospel. Write to Scott Richards, India Missions, Westside church of Christ, 230 O'Dell Road, Griffin, GA 30224, Phone: 78-602-6260. e-mail: richardsscott@bellsouth.net.

“A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO BIBLE STUDY”

Jon Gary Williams has produced another book which he has provided to be distributed freely. It is an easy-to-use guide to help the average person study and understand the scriptures, designed for junior high, high school and adult. It is thus ideal for classroom use and is free to individuals and congregations in any quantity, but not to be sold. Two other books by Williams available through us at no charge are; *The Other Side of Evolution* and *The Book of Mormon A Book of Error and Fraud*. The first of these is a powerful tool in face of the fact that even some among us are denying that our God created all things in six days, like those of the common laborer as the eternal word says, Ex. 20:9-11. For either of these write to: Waldron Mission Fund. P.O. Box 123, Dunlap, TN 37327, and tell us your needs.

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BULLETIN BRIEFS

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GREAT NEWS IN TENNESSEE



Nashville, TN, June 18, 2009, Pro-life Tennesseans ended the state Legislative session with an impressive win on a long sought priority: removal of preferential treatment for Planned Parenthood, the state's largest promoter and provider of abortion services.

By strong majorities of 25-7 in the state Senate and 69-22 in the state House, pro-life legislators in both parties took action to remove language first placed into Tennessee law during the early 1970's which specifically named abortion provider Planned Parenthood as an officially recognized adjunct to state family planning services.

In addition to removing the clause, pro-life legislators enacted language which mandates that the Tennessee Department of Health give priority and preference to local public health departments in the awarding of family planning funds rather than private, non-profit organizations.

Tennessee Right to Life expresses profound gratitude to members of the General Assembly who supported the efforts to protect Tennessee tax payers, abortion vulnerable women and unborn children with passage of SB 470 and HB 1756.

"This has been a pro-life priority for many years and Right to Life is grateful for the determined legislative leadership in both houses which removed preferential treatment for

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this organization profiting from the practice and promotion of abortion," said Brian Harris, the organization's president. "Giving first priority to local health departments strengthens the provision of services to vulnerable populations without favoring an entity which has a significant financial interest in the success or failure of those services," Harris said.

The Legislature's action ends a session marked by Right to Life gains including first House passage of SJR 127, a long sought proposed constitutional amendment which would allow Tennessee legislators to restore the state's court-stricken protections such as informed consent for women considering abortion, a 48 hour waiting period and the regulation of abortion facilities in Tennessee. The resolution was sponsored by Senator Diane Black and Reprehensive Dedra Maggart, Hendersonville with strong support from Representatives Charles Curtiss, Curt Cobb, and Bill Dunn. It easily passed the Senate in March, 24-8 and the House during May, 77-21.

"Tennessee is a strongly pro-life state and with new legislative leadership, the General Assembly's actions are finally beginning to mirror the majority's life-affirming views," said Harris. Ed Albin, ealbin@tnrtl.org



BAD NEWS FOR THE NATION AND HER CHILDREN

By Adam Brickley

(CNSNews.com, June 18, 2009) – Obama appoints pro-gay activist (who promotes pro-gay clubs in public schools) to be “Safe Schools Czar.” Kevin Jennings, appointed by President Obama to be assistant deputy secretary of education in charge of the Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools, is founder of an organization dedicated to promoting pro-homosexual clubs and curricula in public schools. Jennings founded the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), an organization that is a prime force behind the creation of “gay-straight alliance” clubs in high schools, and some Jr. highs, around the country.

The organization says that its mission since 1994 has been to “assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression.” “We welcome as members any and all

individuals, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity/ expression or occupation, who are committed to seeing this philosophy realized in K-12 schools,” the organization’s Web site says.

Gay-straight alliances are student organizations designed to promote the idea that some children are homosexual and to advocate for LGBT (lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgendered) rights on school campuses. The organizations seek to normalize homosexual behavior--and teach students that opposition to homosexuality or to “transgenderism” is a form of “oppression.”

Creating ‘Gay-Straight Alliances’ in Public Schools
GLSEN publishes a manual called “[*The Jump Start Guide*](#)” to instruct teen and pre-teen students in how to form the alliances. The guide, which is found on the GLSEN Web site, specifically instructs students in the tactics of homosexual activism.

“Some groups have used tactics that include circulating petitions requesting that their school board revise anti-harassment and anti-discrimination school policies; working with teachers to develop lesson plans on LGBT history; organizing a coalition of allies in the school community; holding fundraisers to purchase LGBT library materials; and holding weekly meetings where students can find support, voice their concerns, and/or plan educational events and social gatherings,” the organization tells students in Part 1 of the guide. But the “activities” that GLSEN recommends go far beyond basic advocacy. (Read this article in full go to: www.cnsnews.com/public/content/article/.aspx?RsrcID=49741.)

STEEPLEJACKS VS. STEEPLES

Scott Richards

Note: Jesus ordered us to preach the gospel to every creature; there are just outside our door 6.8 billion souls and to even begin to start reaching them we must put less emphasis on material buildings and more on supporting sound gospel preachers. The author of this article is such a preacher. J.W.

Most everyone knows what a steeple is. It is an architectural feature, an ornamental emblem used to designate a place of worship for those who claim to be Christians, followers of Christ. Steeples can soar fifty feet or perhaps even more above the top of a church building. They are usually topped

with a perfectly symmetrical cross to symbolize the sacrifice of Christ. A well maintained steeple can be a thing of beauty.

On the other hand many people may not know what a steeplejack is. The job of a steeplejack is to fix, paint or in any other way maintain those towering structures on the tops of church buildings. The end result is that denominational churches, and many congregations of the Lord’s church, spend tens of thousands of dollars to place and maintain steeples on top of their places of worship. While esthetically pleasing it is not by these ornate features that men are drawn to Christ.

Jesus said, “And I, if I be lifted up I will draw all men unto me” (John 12:32). Jesus did not say to lift up a beautiful architectural symbol, an ornate object. Instead He said that He was to be lifted up. Jesus was first lifted up on a cruel Roman cross nearly 2000 years ago. The *message of that* cross must continue to be lifted up in order for men to be drawn to Christ today. However, He is not lifted up by a steeple, instead that is accomplished by God’s “steeplejacks,” through preaching the gospel in order that souls may be drawn to Christ. Church steeples are going to be burned when Jesus comes, but men trained to be gospel steeplejacks will gather sheaves unto eternal life (II Tim. 2:2).

The whole purpose of the church is to lift up Jesus. By the church the mystery of God’s reconciliation of both Jew and Gentile to Himself in Jesus is to be made known (Eph. 3:1-12). The church must uphold the truth of the gospel for the whole world to see (I Tim. 3:15). We may have forgotten that the gospel is “quick (living) and powerful” (Heb. 4:12), that it is the “power of God unto salvation” (Rom. 1:16). Perhaps we have also forgotten that it is “by the foolishness of preaching” (I Cor. 1:21) that Christ is lifted up. Preachers are told to preach the word (II Tim. 4:1-5), and that word is not to be tampered with in any way by anyone (Gal. 1:6-9).

Perhaps our affluence has distorted our view of what our mission as the church really is? Maybe we have chosen social acceptance over evangelism, and often practiced traditions about what our purpose is over what God’s word tells us it is? Now may be the best time for all Christians to re-examine our purpose and efforts, and for elders, preachers and Bible teachers to rededicate themselves to upholding Christ crucified in order that men may be drawn to Him.