

THE PLUMBLINE, DECEMBER 2018

a publishing ministry of the
Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptists

Dr. D. Bruce Barnes, Promotional Director



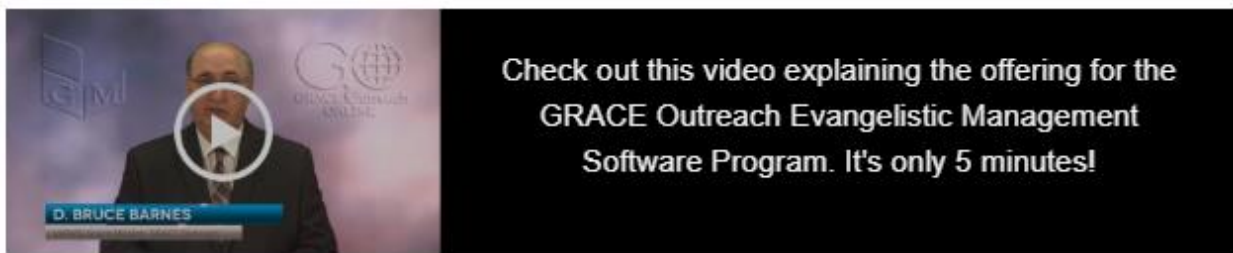
IN THIS ISSUE

A Birthday Offering for Christ
Are You the Nine or the One?
Each One Plant One Offering
Upcoming Events
Pastor Jay Baines Speaks
about Being "Sold on GRACE
Outreach"
Thanks to Our Partners
Prayer Requests

BIRTHDAY OFFERING FOR CHRIST

We're raising funds for the GRACE Outreach Evangelism Management Program that will run on the cloud, and we could use your help in this Phase 2 of our development of Grace Mission. Our desire is to have all the funds raised by the end of this year so we can begin the software development in January. This project is nearly 65% funded, and your help with a Birthday Offering for Christ with this as your mission's project would be so beneficial. Thank you!

Check out this video explaining the offering for the GRACE Outreach Evangelistic Management Software Program. It's only 5 minutes!





Lu 17:11 ¶ And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.

12 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:

13 And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.

14 And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?

18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

Here we see only one of the lepers returning to give thanks for what Christ has done. The first nine were certainly being obedient to Christ's words in showing themselves to the priests as clean; even so, Jesus' instruction by no means implied that an expression of gratitude was out of line or a waste of time. Were the nine grateful for what had taken place? I can't help but believe that they were beside themselves with joy. Imagine how you would have felt! The difference is that they became so consumed with the present situation that they failed to reflect on what got them to this point of unimaginable joy.

Is this not our greatest problem too as it concerns our expressions of gratitude? I believe that we as Christians are truly thankful for the present state in which we find ourselves. But the reality is that all of us can rejoice quickly for our blessings without returning to consider the One Who has provided the reason for our rejoicing.

But consider Christ's statement to the one, "Thy faith hath made thee whole." Is he the only one who remained healed? Did the others discover their leprosy returning as they walked closer to the priests? It would appear not for such is certainly not the point of the passage. Additionally, Jesus declares that ten were cleansed, and there is no indication otherwise.

However, this one man who returned to thank Christ has completed his relationship with Christ and his healing. This man's faith has made him whole in the sense that his healing is more than just in body. The others received their healings; yet, they still missed the fullness of joy found in a personal knowledge and relationship with the One Who brought the healing. The nine saw Jesus as a good means to the desired end where the grateful one gave honor and worship to the One Who brought about the desired end.

What a difference between the two! Are we among the nine or will we be the one? The answer to that is whether we see Jesus as a means to our desires or whether we see Him as One to be desired.

EACH ONE PLANT ONE OFFERING

January 27, 2019

Each year on the last Sunday of January, we take up a statewide offering to help support the mission efforts in Virginia. This fund provides the VAFWB Mission Board with funding for their efforts in helping our state missionaries with special needs.

We ask for each FWB family in Virginia to give this once-a-year offering of \$12. If everyone participated, we could raise about \$16,000.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- NOVEMBER 2-3: Clinch Valley, Buchanan County Conference, Gent's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Honaker, VA, 10:00 AM
- NOVEMBER 3: Northern Virginia Conference, Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Rochelle, VA, 10:00 AM
- NOVEMBER 3: Harmony Quarterly, Starnes Bend Free Will Baptist Church, Ft. Blackmore, VA, 10:00 AM
- NOVEMBER 4-7: Dr. Barnes preaching a GRACE Outreach Revival, Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, NC (Services Sunday 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM, Monday-Wednesday 7:00 PM; Rev. Leonard Bowers is the pastor.)
- NOVEMBER 11: Dr. Barnes preaching three messages on encouragement, Woodland Heights Free Will Baptist Church, Martinsville, VA (Preaching services at 10:00 AM, 11:00 AM, and 6:00 PM; Rev. Stanley Waddell is the pastor.)
- NOVEMBER 22: Thanksgiving Day



**A SPECIAL
THANKS TO ALL
SUPPORTING
PARTNERS OF
THE VAFWB
PROMOTIONAL
OFFICE AND ITS
MINISTRIES!**

THINGS TO PRAY FOR

GRACE Outreach Software Fundraiser

Bro. Barnes as he ministers in areas of edification, encouragement and evangelism

Each One Plant One offering in January

Copyright © 2018 VAFWB, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

VAFWB

4846 Kempsville Greens Pkwy., #303

Virginia Beach, VA 23462