

Santa Rosa Baptist Association

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*An electronic copy of the VIEW is on our website: www.srassociation.org

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VIEW

Director Of Missions View

Greetings! I had a wonderful experience a few weeks ago in sharing the Gospel. I was preaching for Olivet Baptist Church. On that Sunday they were going to observe the Lord's Supper. The deacons have the practice of sharing the Lord's Supper with people who are homebound. One of those deacons asked me if I would go with him to a home and assist him in the ordinance. I said, "Yes, I'd be glad too." He informed me that the man in the home was not a believer, but the woman was. He also shared that the church had been seeking to witness to him. However, the gentleman had declined to receive Jesus as His savior. It was his hope that we would be able to lead him to the Lord.

In the afternoon after the worship service, I met the deacon back at the church and we rode together to the house. Along the way he further explained that the man was from Australia. He moved to America when he was younger man. I thought to myself, that this is the first person from Australia I've ever met. So, we entered the home and sat down. It was very evident that he was not in good health. There were some serious health problems he was dealing with. We shared some pleasantries and got to the subject at hand. I mentioned that the deacon and I were here to administer the Lord's Supper observance. I asked Mr. Steele if he was a Christian? He said, "No, I am not." To which I responded, "Sir, this Memorial Supper is for those who know Jesus as their Savior." "Would you be willing to receive the Lord as your Savior?"

His response was very unusual. He said, "Sometimes I think I am and sometimes I think I'm not." I was aware that he had been to Olivet Baptist Church many times and had heard the Gospel. So, the problem was not that he didn't know how to be saved. It was a question of him getting off the fence and making a decision about the Lord Jesus. "Sometimes, I think I am (ready to trust in Jesus), and sometimes I think I'm not." Then he would say, "Sometimes I'm in and sometimes I'm out." How would I answer this?

Let me give you a little background of this man. I found out later, that Steven Steele was from Tasmania. This is an Island off the Southeast coast of Australia. It is the 26th largest Island on earth with a measurement of about 200 miles North to South and 200 miles East to West. Some 500,000 people live there. It is considered an Australian State with the capital in Hobart, which happens to be where Steven grew up.

Now I will confess the only time I ever heard the word Tasmania used was in a Looney Tunes Cartoon. They had a cartoon character called the Tasmanian Devil. He was the one who would spin like a tornado and destroy everything in his path. I always thought this was a fictional animal.

Well, I was wrong. There is such a thing as a Tasmanian Devil. In fact, it does not spin like a tornado. It looks like a cross between a dog and a small bear. Where it got its name is because it screeches like a devil when it is fighting its mates over food. If you call me up, I can give you a rendition of what it sounds like. Some people say, I'm pretty good at it.

Back to the background: I found out that on the Island of Tasmania it is reported that (37.8%) have no religion, (20.4%) are Anglican, (15.6%) are Catholic, and then other religious groups like Baptists, Grace Brethren, Dutch Calvinists make up a small percentage. The fastest growing religion in Australia is Hinduism.

So, in witnessing to Steven, how am I able to relate to him though he is from a total different place and culture? The answer is through the Holy Scriptures and the leading of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said to His Disciples in Luke 12:11, 12 - "When they bring you to the synagogue, and magistrates and authorities, do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say, For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say." Well, I wasn't standing before any authorities, but I needed guidance in how to answer.

The Scripture that came to my mind was concerning the two thieves crucified one on each side of Jesus. One of them was ready to trust in Jesus and the other was not. One was in (becoming saved) and the other was out (dying lost). I shared with Steven about these two men. And I told him your decision about Jesus Christ is what leads to you being saved or lost - in or out. Repentance and Faith in Jesus is the only way anyone can become a believer. In a little while, I asked, "Steven are you ready to receive Jesus as your personal Savior?" He said, "I am." I prayed with him, and he came to salvation through Christ that day. Amen! No more sometimes I am and sometimes I'm not. No more sometimes I'm in and sometimes I'm out. He got off the fence and made his decision for the Lord.

Just a few days after this Steven Steele passed away in the Hospital. I am so thankful the Lord gave me and Deacon Bruce Furlow the opportunity to share Christ with him and to see him come to know the Lord. They asked me to share in his funeral service. It was a joy to tell this story. God had used Olivet Baptist Church to witness to a man who from my point of view, is from "the uttermost part of the earth." And though his remains were sent back to Tasmania Australia, his soul and spirit went to be with the Lord. And now he is forever in Paradise. **Bro. Chip**

Church	3/15/21 4/15/21	2021 Total
Antioch Fellowship	0.00	0.00
Avalon	0.00	447.34
Bagdad First	137.08	569.36
Berrydale	628.35	1,396.23
Billory	214.40	1,103.73
Blackwater	122.70	633.00
Calvary	150.00	300.00
Cora	453.42	2,205.57
East Side	100.00	400.00
Ferris Hill	200.00	800.00
Floridatown	150.00	600.00
Friendship	687.39	2,905.45
GB First	0.00	0.00
Harold First	61.00	221.61

Church	3/15/21 4/15/21	2021 Total
Hic. Hammock	0.00	100.00
Immanuel	2,397.70	6,536.30
James Street	28.29	123.83
Jay First	416.67	1,666.68
Journey	0.00	500.00
Korean Hope	50.00	150.00
Live Oak	25.00	100.00
Living Truth	2,032.00	4,459.00
LT East Milton	192.00	357.00
Midway	0.00	0.00
Milton First	1,223.86	5,337.05
Mission Casa	41.66	124.98
Navarre First	**	**
New Bethel	113.90	698.89

Church	3/15/21 4/15/21	2021 Total
New Life	252.27	864.71
Olivet	335.43	1,816.11
Pine Level	682.50	1,751.96
Pine Terrace	195.20	6,318.87
Pleasant Home	0.00	926.51
Providence	0.00	250.00
S. R. Shores	209.85	694.69
Springhill	0.00	225.00
Stump Springs	0.00	0.00
The Point, SBC	164.84	315.06
Wallace	2,242.45	4,157.63
Woodbine	100.00	300.00
Total GIFTS	13,607.96	49,356.56

** Final giving reported in the Annual Book of Reports.



We appreciate all of you and your giving; as you give to your church, the church gives to the association. In this way, we all work together for the Kingdom of God, seeing people saved and lives changed!! Thank you so much!

Upcoming Events

Ministers' Peer Learning Groups, 10:30am

- ◆ Milton Peer Learning Group
May 17, 2021
- ◆ Navarre Peer Learning Group
May 15, 2021
- ◆ Pace Peer Learning Group
May 22, 2021



Disaster Relief

Training | Milton

Location: Pine Terrace Baptist Church | 6212 Pine Blossom Road, Milton FL 32570

Date: June 5, 2021 **Time:** 9:00 AM–3:30 PM

There is no Pre-Registration for this event. On-site Registration will begin at 8:30 am on June 5.

FAITH & HOPE Counseling Services now available @ Association Office. Call 850-471-3430 to schedule appt.

What's Up With VBS 2021?

All reported VBS ministry for this year is On-Site.

- New Life, Destination Dig, 6/28-7/2, 5-8:15pm
- Pine Level, Concrete & Cranes, 6/14-18, 5:30-7pm
- The Point, Needs Volunteers
- Jay FBC, Concrete & Cranes, 6/21-25, 9am til Noon
- Immanuel, Destination Dig, 6/21-25, 9am-12:15pm
- Pine Terrace, Destination Dig, 6/21-25,
- Milton FBC, Mystery Isle, 6/2, June 28-July 2
- Wallace, Knights of the North Castle, 6/21-25, 9-11:30am



May 6/2021 *70 Years of Prayer for America 1952-2021

THEME: "Lord Pour Out Your Love, Life, And Liberty"

2 Corinthians 3:17

<https://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/about>

Alyssa's on Hwy 90 will have at least one pastor, prayer counselor or prayer warrior (or more of course!) willing to pray with walk up/drive ups as well as a few sign holders per hour to deliver uplifting messages. We will start at 7:15am and go until 6pm.