



ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017

It is time to look back with great joy and give thanks to our God for all of His rich blessings upon us in 2017. This year we began our fourth decade of ministry as THE BIBLE Baptist Church. Since our founding in February of 1987 the Lord has enabled us to make a little dent for the cause of Christ in a lost and dying world.

This year was one of sweet harmony. Almost everyone who began the year with us was still in fellowship as the year came to a close. Almost all of those who are with us are not only happy to be part of our little church but are busy serving Jesus in some way or another.

We have known the joys of seeing souls saved and believers baptized, mingled with the sorrows of funerals, accidents, and personal struggles. We have rejoiced to celebrate weddings and births and wept with one another through sore trials and afflictions. Through it all we sing, we pray, we witness, we learn, and we praise our God.

Locally we are doing what we can to reach the unsaved. We have three nursing home services and three public ministry outreaches every week, along with two radio programs every day, regular house to house evangelism, and tract distribution at almost every area event. We are so thankful to the Lord for providing us with so many men, women, and youth who want others to know the Savior. Our annual Youth Rally and VBS were both richly blessed of the Lord.

Reaching farther out, a few years ago we started the ambitious Operation Samaria. It was our goal to hold a street preaching, sign-holding, public ministry outreach in every one of the 785 incorporated towns in the state of Florida. This December that task was completed. Countless hours of driving, untold dollars for motel stays, and lots of cheerful effort went into accomplishing this blessed task. We met and encouraged many Christians, witnessed to a lot of lost people, enjoyed great fellowship along the way, and best of all, brought pleasure to the Lord as the project ran its course.

This was also a big year of mission trips for us. Teams of various sizes took gospel journeys to Romania, Togo, Germany, France, Italy, Greece, Ecuador, Trinidad, and Salt

Lake City to proclaim the good news. To see people use their hard-earned money and scarce vacation time to travel with the gospel is a real blessing. To God be the glory!

Speaking of reaching the world, *The Preaching of the Cross Radio Broadcast* is still on the air and can be heard through radio or internet almost everywhere on earth. We started as a weekly program in 1981 and went to five-times a week in 1991, and in all those years we have never used one minute of air time to ask for money. We thank the Lord for using His people to meet this great expense year after year without solicitation.

We have now printed over 800,000 copies of books authored by Brother James and are very excited about a new open door. Some 500 pastors are to attend a conference next year in Zimbabwe, and we will be sending one copy of each of eight of our titles for each of these pastors. Praise God! We have three more books in various stages of readiness — commentaries on Obadiah and Romans Chapter One, as well as a book on The Fruit of the Spirit — but no completion date is yet in sight for these titles.

The past year was a good one for The Deland School of THE BIBLE. Not only are our graduates doing a fine job in pastorates and on the mission field, but our current group of students is a real joy. The correspondence school saw a goodly increase in the number of students enrolled. We are hoping to see both schools grow in the years to come, Lord willing.

The big news this year was a land purchase. After many years of prayer and rejected offers, we were able to purchase a nine-acre parcel of land adjoining our current church property. The two parcels have been combined so that we now have enough property to build a much-needed new auditorium. We thank the Lord for making this purchase possible, and we thank all of you who gave so that we could obtain the land. We have begun the slow and tedious process of seeking approval to build and of paying all the many, many fees and such that are required before we can start construction. You may stay updated via our website.

In case you have not heard, we have added a video feed to our live streaming. When the technology cooperates, you may now enjoy all of our services via audio or video. Just visit jameswknox.org for the links.

We try not to talk about money, but our church work, missionary support, school, and outreach efforts require about \$2000 per day. That does not include what we will need to build. We thank the Lord for using you as the means whereby He supplies our every need. Your help in support of these ministries is a true joy and blessing to our heart.

May God keep us faithful and true to Him until He returns!

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