

# Savior's Seasonings



April 2000  
Vol. 6 Issue 4

... A resource publication of Christian Impact Ministries for families throughout His Land  
**Jesus Christ Blesses Our Family**  
**With A Baby Girl After 7 Years of Prayers**

*CIM was founded on  
January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1996*

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Rev. David W. Haltom  
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Mrs. Traci K. Haltom  
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Mr. William Barnhardt, III  
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God's Holy Word declares...**"Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the LORD and He will give you the desires**

**of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him ... Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him..." (Psalms 37:3-7, excerpted)** After seven years of fervent prayers and waiting upon God's perfect timing, our loving Lord and Savior Jesus Christ graciously worked in a divine, miraculous way to bless our family with a healthy baby girl through the heavenly gift of adoption. And only God could have used three Christian ministries which mean so much to both Traci and me—the *Cabarrus Crisis Pregnancy Center, The Link Adoption* and *Christian Impact Ministries*. Please allow me this opportunity to share the blissful events which led to our little bundle of joy and hope...

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, we were contacted by Amy Miller from *The Link*. The conversation began, "Hey Traci, this is Amy. Have you been practicing your lullabies?...Would you be ready to sing them by May?" Amy shared with Traci about an incredible adoption opportunity that had arisen through the *Cabarrus Crisis Pregnancy Center*. Mary Hillenburg, Executive Director for the Center, had contacted her earlier that day with an opportunity that had arisen at the center. As with many of you and our family, Mary had been praying for Traci and me for an adoption opportunity to arise, one she shared with us that, if the Lord so willed, would use her and/or the Crisis Pregnancy Center in some divine way. On Sunday night she had been led of the Lord to pray fervently for us in a very special way. The very next morning this birthmother walked into the center and shared that she desired to place her unborn baby for adoption. Mary shared, "I just knew that was God's answer to my specific prayer the night before for your family." After sharing with her about Traci and me and our prayer for a child(ren), the birthmother was very interested in learning more about us. So following time spent in counseling/ministering with her, Mary sent her and her mother to meet with Amy at *The Link*. There Amy provided our family profile which included pictures of our home and family, our "Dear Birthmother" letter and background information

(even Traci's past with "Hodgkin's Disease" and her blessed remission/healing testimony). The birthmother and her mom shared that they were very impressed and desired to meet with us. Amy called Traci, and Traci spoke directly with the birthmother's mother to set up a lunch meeting at a restaurant in Concord on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The meeting went great and was anointed of the Lord with a kindred spirit of loving affirmation that this was God's divine plan for the birthmother, our family and the baby. On Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, Traci and I met the birthmother at a local OB/GYN clinic for her "first" visit. There had been no prenatal care visits at all, but the birthmother had taken good care of herself and the baby throughout the pregnancy. That afternoon changed our entire lives forever! Our birthmother wanted Traci and me to be in the room for the initial ultrasound. Amazing—to "see life" in a new and most incredible way and to ponder the awesome words of God found in **Jeremiah 1:5**, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart..." From the readings, the baby's sex could not be determined, but the baby appeared to be healthy and was actually 36-37 weeks old vs. a projected May 5<sup>th</sup> due date. There was little fluid in the womb which generated severe concern. Based on the doctor's review, the decision was made to induce labor the next day so that the baby could be safely delivered; to wait would have been a risk both to the baby's health and possibly its life and the health of the birthmother. So after a nearly sleepless night, Traci and I met the birthmother and her mother in a labor/delivery room at nearby *NorthEast Medical Center*.  
(continued on pg. 4)



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## "Believe It or Not"

### News Bytes From Planet Earth...



"New" research in Israel now suggests that Goliath may not have been an almost-indestructible 10 ft warrior as the bible describes, but he likely was a shambling figure suffering from terrible "eye trouble." He might not have even seen tiny David approaching due to **acromegaly**—a tumor of the pituitary gland which releases extra growth hormones, causing the skeleton and other tissues to grow to abnormal size. This condition likely "would have disrupted Goliath's eyesight thereby preventing him to see David from time to time and making him vulnerable in battle." (Read/study **Romans 1:21, 1 Corinthians 1:27 and 2 Timothy 2:23**)  
- Independent News, 2/17/2000



### Supreme Court Rules Against Christian College Students

Students can't escape paying fees to groups they don't like, such as gay-rights organizations, at public colleges that charge mandatory fees, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on March 22, 2000. The case involved several Christian students from the University of Wisconsin who sued the school in 1996, complaining about having to pay fees that fund campus extracurricular groups, including the *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Center* and the *International Socialist Organization*. The high court ruled that mandatory fees at public colleges and universities do not violate any student's free-speech rights, but instead promote the university's goal to "facilitate a wide range of speech." The ruling does not affect private schools.



-Crosswalk.com's ReligionToday News, 3/23/2000  
Read **Deuteronomy 1:16-17 & Zephaniah 3:3**

### Christian Impact Ministries Hits The Newsstands ...

We are very thankful and extend our most sincere appreciation for the opportunity presented to us by Warren Smith of *The Charlotte World* for the article which they prepared on CIM and included in the February 25, 2000 edition of their Christian newspaper. You can read the article on either *The Charlotte World's* website (<http://www.charlottechristiannews.com/>) or CIM's new website address at <http://www.impactforchrist.org>.



### Prayer

#### Power Points...

◆ Please continue your prayers for our family over the next few months for the adoption finalization process for our precious **Bethany Hope**. Thank you all so very much for your prayer, love & support!  
◆ Pray for a "spiritual harvest of righteousness" through the daily ministry work of CIM (**2 Corinthians 9:10, James 3:18, John 4:35, Hebrews 12:11 and Galatians 6:9**).  
◆ Pray for both individual and national revival in the body of Christ (i.e. His Church) both in America and around the world (Study **2 Chronicles 7:14, Jeremiah 4:1-2, Hosea 14:1, and Joel 2:12-19**).



## "News Shorts" From Across His Land ...

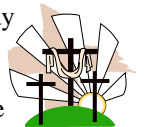
• **Florida** - A preacher recently raised a furor at Florida's state legislature by offending abortion-rights advocates and non-Christian members of the House with his prayer. The preacher led the session's opening prayer, asking God to give legislators the desire to "protect the unborn," and closed the prayer by invoking the name of "Jesus Christ." One representative said, "I was offended as a woman who believes in reproductive rights and a member of another faith that does not pray to Jesus Christ, and it was inappropriate for that prayer to be in this chamber." The pastor said that he did not to read the guidelines that recommend avoiding political issues and "religious sectarianism" because "when I speak to the Lord I want to speak unfettered. I think the thought police need to give up and recognize that this is the United States of America. When we talk to the Lord, we should be allowed to do it as freely as our forefathers did 200 years ago." <sup>1</sup> ☺ (📖 John 15:18&17:14-23, Daniel 6:7-13, Romans 12:12, 1 Corinthians 7:5 and 1 Timothy 2:8.)



• **Georgia** - A death-row inmate may be spared because prosecutors quoted the Bible during his trial. The Georgia Supreme Court upheld Anthony Carruthers' conviction in the 1995 murder of Jeanette Williams but said a new jury must decide his punishment because the Assistant District Attorney argued that the Bible mandates the death penalty for murder. The Assistant District Attorney quoted from the books of Romans, Genesis, and Matthew, telling jurors that "all they who take the sword shall die by the sword." The biblical references injected "the often irrelevant and inflammatory issue of religious beliefs of jurors" into the decision on whether Carruthers should live or die, Justice Norman Fletcher said. <sup>2</sup> ☹ (📖 Zephaniah 3:3, Exodus 18:21-22, Leviticus 19:15, and John 7:24)



• **United States** - The Supreme Court rejected a challenge on March 6, 2000 to Indiana's designation of Good Friday as a state holiday, thereby allowing the state to continue giving its employees that day off—a practice begun in 1941. The holiday had been challenged on the infamous grounds of "separation of church and state." Thirteen states currently designate Good Friday as a legal holiday but only Maryland, Illinois and North Dakota require schools to close. <sup>3</sup> ☺ (📖 Deuteronomy 6:6-9, 17-19 and 11:27-28, Joshua 22:5, Psalms 19:8 & 112:1, John 14:21 & 1 John 5:2)



• **North Carolina** - A proposed 24-hour interfaith chapel at the *Raleigh-Durham International Airport* was rejected last fall because airport officials said that it would have been "too Christian-oriented for public property" and would have raised serious "religious" separation concerns. <sup>4</sup> ☹ (📖 John 12:32 & 14:6, Philippians 2:6-11, Jeremiah 15:6-7, Deuteronomy 8:11)

#### Referenced Sources for above News Shorts:

- <sup>1</sup> Crosswalk.com's ReligionToday News, 3/17/2000
- <sup>2</sup> Crosswalk.com's ReligionToday News, 3/10/2000
- <sup>3</sup> FRC's Washington Update, 3/6/2000
- <sup>4</sup> The Charlotte World, 11/5/1999

"understanding the times...and knowing what to do" (paraphrased)

1 Chronicles 12:32





# Quotable Quotes...

"America [is] a nation under the judgment of God which will have to answer for its moral choices."



- **Presidential Candidate Alan Keyes** in a March 10, 2000 speech at the University of Oklahoma; reprinted from *The Charlotte World*, 3/17/2000, pp. 15.

"I have always considered sexual orientation in the same way that I consider the fact that, while most people are right-handed, some people are left-handed."



- **Peggy Campolo**, wife of evangelical preacher and author Tony Campolo; reprinted from *Impact* newsletter, 3/2000.



"Have you no wish for others to be saved? Then you are not saved yourself. Be sure of that!"

- **Charles H. Spurgeon**; reprinted from *Decision* magazine, 3/2000.

"You know what Hope is — Hope is postponed disappointment!"



- **Dr. Laura Schlessinger**; a popular Jewish radio host of the *Dr. Laura* show aired weekdays; comment shared with a caller during her radio show broadcast on March 1, 2000.

"God is our highest call, but that is not an excuse to neglect our families. If pastors [all ministers]...don't develop and model [Christian family] relationships, we will see devastation in the homes."

- **Sammy Tippit**; evangelist and Christian author, reprinted from *Pastor's Family* magazine, 10-11/1998.

"Faith will beget us 3 things: Vision, Venture & Victory!"

- **George W. Ridout**; reprinted from *New Every Morning* devotional, 1996, 2/29 devotional.

# Californians Stand Firm For Traditional Marriages



California voters recently sent a strong pro-marriage message to their state and to our nation with the overwhelming passage of Proposition 22, passing in 53 of its 58 its counties. The initiative, which states "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid and recognized in California," closes a legal loophole in the California family code that would have had to recognize same-sex marriages that occurred in other states. Despite earlier polls indicating a close vote, Proposition 22 passed 61% to 39%. The message was clear—"When the people speak on marriage, the message is that marriage is a sacred cornerstone of society and [it] must be left intact." (Note for North Carolina residents: The N.C. General Assembly passed a bill in 1996, with 15 of the 170 legislators in the N.C. House and Senate voting against it, that reaffirmed the state's law that defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman. This bill, which remains in effect today, maintains that North Carolina will not recognize same-sex marriages even if they are considered valid in another state.) We must remember that marriage brings the two sexes together in a unique legal, social, economic, and spiritual union. It has had special protection within the law and the culture because it is indispensable to civilized life. No other relationship provides society what marriage does. No other relationship transforms young men and women into more productive, less selfish and more mature husbands and wives, and fathers and mothers, than marriage. No other relationship affords children the best economic, emotional and psychological environment. Only as we have drifted from the defense of marriage have we experienced soaring social problems, such as divorce, illegitimacy, sexually-transmitted diseases, and crime. Giving same-sex relationships or out-of-wedlock heterosexual couples the same special status and benefits as the marital bond would not be the expansion of a right but the destruction of God's plan for marriage.

- *Family Policy Fax*, 3/10/2000 & *FRC Press Release* (3/8/2000)  
Read/Study Genesis 2:18-25, Ephesians 5:22-33, Matthew 12:25!  
*Pray that families choose God's timeless principles of marriage!*



## Christian Impact Ministries

"Impacting Families for the Cause of Jesus Christ"

## IMPACT CARD

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Request/Praise/Testimony: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I will pray for the ministry work of CIM in 2000

I would like to add my name / friend to the

CIM monthly ministry newsletter mailing list

I would like to be added to the CIM E-mail Alert

Ministry Network (e-mail address): \_\_\_\_\_

I would like additional information about having a personal love relationship with Jesus Christ

Our family would like to prayerfully support

CIM's ministry and operating budget in 2000

(2 Corinthians 9:10, Ephesians 3:20-21)

CIM has made an impact in my life/family...

# Heart to Heart

Continued from pg. 1

Following ~7 hours of labor and about 15 minutes of pushing, baby **Bethany Hope**

**Haltom** was born on March 7, 2000 at 2:18p.m., weighing 6 lbs. 15 oz. and 20 ½ inches long! Traci and I stood in awe looking at the **gift of life and love** which God presented to us—**our newborn daughter**. Following a two-day stay in maternity, we brought her home on Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. What a blessing she already has been to our family and to those of you who faithfully have been praying with us for so long! Bethany Hope got a great check-up at her 2-week wellness visit, and we are so very thankful and honored that God has placed her into our lives/home for us to serve as her Christian parents and to raise her “*in the nurture and admonition of the Lord*” (Ephesians 6:4).

Lest I forget, here is the background on our daughter’s name—“**Bethany**” comes from the base name “Beth” which means “house of God.” “**Hope**” comes from our family’s life verse which

God gave to us in 1995 at the dawn of my calling to vocational ministry and our family’s step of faith in founding **Christian Impact Ministries**...“*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you **Hope** and a future.*” God is so good—all the time !!!

### A Call To Loving Action...

As a witness to our wonderful Lord, Traci and I would like to ask your family to prayerfully consider giving a special gift to either/both of these anointed Christian mission works that are engaged in the “*frontline defense of the Sanctity of Life.*” We would be deeply blessed, if the Lord leads, if you designate your gift as an honorarium to our precious Bethany Hope. You may send them to us (and we will forward them) or directly to either/both of these

ministries which are listed below.  
✦ **The Link Adoption**, Attn: Amy Miller, P.O. Box 103, Concord, N.C. 28026; for information and adoptive parents call 1.704.792.BABY(2229); birthmothers call 1.888.272.2229; Website—<http://www.linkadoption.com>  
✦ **Cabarrus Crisis Pregnancy Center**, Attn: Mary Hillenburg (Ex. Dir.) 51 Means Avenue S.E., Concord, N.C. 28025-3563, or call 1.704.782.2221.

**May God bless the sharing of this blessed testimony for His glory!**

### CIM’s Monthly Operating Budget

**\$ 2,169.17**

*Donations received in  
March 2000 (as of 3/28/2000)*

**\$ 1,470.00**

## Ministry of the Month...

**Epic Adventures, Inc.** is a Christian organization incorporated in the Fall of 1999. **Epic Adventures** seeks to make the world different by engaging students and adults in life-altering servanthood evangelism adventures through week-long mission trips to selected U.S. cities. Servanthood evangelism is a way of sharing God’s love through performing selfless acts of service. For more information, call 1.800.264.5129 or write to them at 8215C University City Blvd., PMB 131, Charlotte, N. C. 28213.



<http://www.epicnow.org/>



**Christian Impact Ministries** is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit ministry which seeks to engage today’s culture with the timeless truth of God’s Word. CIM provides Christians with a biblical awareness and genuine understanding of the moral and ethical issues facing society today, and seeks to equip them with scripture and biblically-based resources so that we each may obediently “*be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*” (James 1:22) Rev. David W. Haltom, an ordained minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, is available for guest/supply/revival preaching, speaking and teaching engagements. Please prayerfully consider inviting him to your church or organization. Rev. Haltom’s ministry resume/references/testimonials, along with additional information on this ministry, are available upon request at the address provided in this newsletter. As a faith-based ministry, your faithful, generous support of this mission work through both prayer and financial donations is used to minister to the lives of many families each month. Without your partnership in the Gospel, our mission work would simply not be possible. May God bless us as we each obediently follow His Will His Way!



“Put on the  
Armor of Light”  
(Romans 13:12)

### **Christian Impact Ministries**

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Concord, North Carolina 28025-0005

<http://www.impactforchrist.org> (Our New Web Address)

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“...Speaking the Truth in Love”

**Ephesians 4:15**