The Power to Shape our Culture: Communication
The President's Perspective

Communicating truth in today's world

The fastest-growing major at Bryan College for the past several years has been Communication Studies. As a result of this growth, we hired Dr. Randy Hollingsworth for our faculty last fall. I know you will enjoy reading his lead article for this issue of Bryan Life. In addition to his teaching and writing, Dr. Hollingsworth serves as faculty coach for Bryan's Mock Trial team that has performed so well in intercollegiate competition.

Consistent with our mission, communication is at the heart of the gospel as Bryan educates students to effectively engage our culture for Christ's kingdom. Unfortunately our culture fails to manifest kingdom values as characterized by the vulgar half-time entertainment of the recent Super Bowl and NBA all-star games. And as we have observed recently in Massachusetts and California, when a society shuns its biblical foundations, its most fundamental institution, the family, comes under attack by those who equate sin with an "alternate lifestyle" and seek to achieve legal status for a nonbiblical definition of marriage and family.

The prophet Isaiah paints a vivid picture of such a society when he proclaims, You are in for trouble! The lies you tell are like ropes by which you drag along sin and evil (5:18 see also vs. 8-13 and 18-23). This verse paints a picture of a cart loaded with symbols of a culture which has turned its back on biblical truth, drawn with cords of lies. The great deceiver, Satan, has craftily spun lies to our "enlightened" society proclaiming that we need not heed the teaching of God's Word; rather we need only to listen to our own passion and our own reason in determining our values—all those items in our "culture cart."

Our "culture cart" is loaded with that which promises the good life, true satisfaction and fulfillment, by focusing on:
- self-interest and self-gratification as opposed to kingdom work,
- flesh as opposed to the spirit,
- happenings and vanity as opposed to the disciplining of the mind,
- banality as opposed to enduring truths, and
- image as opposed to substance.

But this cart is drawn with cords of lies and vanity. That which is paraded about today as reality, comprising a life worth living, is being marketed with cords of lies.

Bryan College exists to prepare men and women who will effectively communicate the truths of Scripture applied to all aspects of life and culture. The gospel of Jesus Christ is a redeeming gospel, bringing the symbols and substance of our culture under His lordship. As Dr. Hollingsworth points out, all of us communicate through the written word, the spoken word, and the living word. As a college, if we are to live up to our motto and our graduates are to truly make a difference in today's world, we must:
- understand today's culture,
- be prepared to discern values consistent with God's Word, and
- effectively communicate the claims of Jesus Christ on our world through speech, the written word, and how we live our lives.

I trust that God will bless and enable each of you as you seek to engage our culture for His glory.

Dr. Steven D. Livesay
There’s a reason why *U.S. News & World Report* calls us one of America’s Best Colleges.

For starters, more than half of our students graduated in the top of their class. On campus, our average class is just 12. And there’s one professor for every 14 Bryan students. That means you’re guaranteed individual attention from professors that know and care about you.

And, with more than 30 academic programs to choose from, you’ll be enlightened both spiritually and academically. But don’t take our word for it—come see Bryan College for yourself.

We’ll light the way.
The Power To Shape Our Culture: COMMUNICATION

by Randy Hollingsworth
Chair, Communication Studies Department

“Engage the culture.”
“Biblical worldview.”
“...To make a difference in today’s world.”

Three phrases, from the college mission statement; an underlying challenge for students in every discipline to engage, rather than withdraw, from the world around them; and a description of the effort to understand life through the lens of Scripture, permeate the Bryan experience. Each presumes the ability to communicate.
Communication has power to shape culture, and understanding the art of communication can give individuals important insights as they engage that culture.

So why does Bryan College have a communication program? From a biblical worldview, communication theorists may point to at least three events that underscore the importance of various forms of communication. First, in the Old Testament, the creation narration repeatedly emphasizes the power of the spoken word: "...and God said, 'Let there be light.' The emphasis is on the principle that God spoke creation into existence.

Second, the importance of the written word is evident in the transaction between God and Moses on Mt. Sinai as the invisible spoken word was translated into the visible written word, not unlike a transcript of a speech: "And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. Now the tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God engraved on the tablets" (Ex. 32:15-16).

Finally, the power of the living word is epitomized through the incarnation of Christ: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory" (John 1: 14a). This event has greater theological implications beyond simple communication principles, yet it offers evidence that communication is more than just speaking and writing; it is a message dynamically animated and lived out. This concept entails more than just the nonverbal aspects of communication or even the importance of a communicator's credibility, but rather it is the understanding

"Musicians arrange words and sounds to stir emotions"

that our unseen beliefs, attitudes, and values are encoded into visible messages through our behavior. Each of us becomes living words -- words that, when brought together through collaboration, are part of a redemptive narrative bigger than ourselves.

The infrastructure of any discipline is communication, the creation and employment of symbols, both verbal and nonverbal, to identify, define, explain, support, challenge, change, even discover the basic foundations of any given discipline. Some disciplines, like English and linguistics, have an obvious affiliation with communication in that they all focus on symbols, syntax, and interpretation of meaning of words. However, it requires little analysis to see the importance of communication to other disciplines. Mathematicians use numbers and symbols, historians tell stories, doctors write prescriptions, lawyers argue over meanings of words, musicians arrange words and sounds to stir emotions, dancers become symbols as they translate ideas and feelings into motion. Cicero, the Roman orator and rhetorician, posited that good citizens should be skilled communicators, trained in effective speech writing and physical delivery, and they should have a general knowledge of all disciplines. Thus, in a sense, communication is paramount for all disciplines, and a general knowledge of all disciplines is helpful for communicators to be effective.

At Bryan, our department's recent name change from "Communication Arts" to
“Communication Studies” is indicative of labor pains as we experience the phenomenal growth that reflects a culture saturated with various forms of communication. As technology develops, we have seen an exponential increase in message platforms: XM radio (satellite) allows for hundreds of new stations, multiplex cinemas hungrily await for the next film release, the battle between cable and satellite television has generated a plethora of new channels and program slots, and the Internet has allowed any entrepreneur with a computer and a modem to create websites replete with movies, virtual tours, animation, downloadable music, and eye-grabbing graphics.

With all these rapidly packaged messages, in most cases, style trumps substance. Ancient Greek and Roman rhetoricians acknowledged that an audience (society) is as deep or shallow as the orators of that age. Peggy Noonan, in her classic editorial “The Culture of Death” written a few days after the Columbine shootings, describes this phenomenon as she compares this generation’s youth to fish swimming in an ocean of violent images.

I assert that a similar culture, “A Culture of Flesh,” has exploded over the past decade, thanks to two recent phenomena, the television rating system and the growth of the Internet. First, network television, though heavily regulated over the years, entered a new era on Jan. 1, 1997, when it implemented a television rating system. Network officials feared the ratings would hurt their viewership. However, the new rating system had a possibly unexpected affect – it allowed networks to broadcast even more explicit sexual content, more violence, and more profanity. If anyone objected, the networks could argue, “The rating is right there, you can change the channel.” The problem is, there are fewer and fewer channels that haven’t bought into the “Culture of Death” or the “Culture of Flesh.” The recent Super Bowl halftime show was a reminder of that as Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake had their “accidental wardrobe malfunction” in front of millions of unsuspecting viewers on primetime network television.

A second recent phenomenon that has fed this “Culture of Flesh” is the Internet. Although it has been around since 1968, the Internet has become a dominant influence in the average household over the past decade. Although the Internet provides many helpful resources, unfortunately it funnels in a deluge of graphic images accessible by even the youngest family member who can move and click a mouse. In 2003, a study by the Pew Trust Organization found that 75 percent of Internet users are between the ages of 12 and 17.

Maybe this power of communication to shape culture explains why C. S. Lewis argued that we need fewer Christian writers and more writers who are Christian. In other words, we need to train students to adapt the redemption story into the vernacular of the secular marketplace, not just the Christian marketplace. Bob Briner, author of “Roaring Lambs,” seconds Lewis’s motion by challenging Christians to move out of the Christian subculture in which the word “Christian” is used as an adjective (Christian music, Christian television,
Christian film) and into the mainstream as professional communicators who happen to be Christian.

Two important elements of the traditional communication model are sender and receiver. In the media marketplace, these translate to “producers” and “consumers.” Bryan should be commended for its worldview program which systematically trains students to become critical consumers of culture, carefully analyzing and evaluating media messages in light of the various worldview perspectives underlying those messages. However, if we only train students as “consumers” but neglect the training of “producers,” we have only participated in half of the communication process. Producers create messages, package them, and deliver them for others to consume.

We in the Department of Communication Studies desire to not only collaborate with other departments to train students to become critical consumers, but to develop a program that trains students to become effective producers of messages of truth and hope as well. Our ultimate goal is to train students to critically discern messages and audiences; to create messages of hope and redemption that are meaningful, coherent, and relevant with an appealing style; and to deliver biblically based messages using available methods.

Without a doubt, a curious student interested in a communication degree will be a little unsure as to whether or not to say “communication” with or without the “s.” Traditionally, the discipline of communication is usually divided into two major fields: face to face communication (interpersonal, small group, public speaking) and mass-mediated communication (newspaper, radio, television, film, and now, the Internet). The former is usually referred to as the singular “communication,” focusing on analyses of the message, the speaker, and the audience, while the latter is the plural “communications,” focusing on the channel or medium carrying the message.

From a more practical perspective, when a new student asks me about a communication major, usually my first question is “Do you enjoy working more with people or with things?” If the answer is “people,” I suggest a major that concentrates on “communication.” The student usually indicates they enjoy conversations with others, planning with and speaking to small groups, giving presentations, and consulting. On the other hand, if the answer is “things,” I recommend a concentration on “communications.” This student usually enjoys working alone on a project, likes “hands-on” assignments, is fascinated with technology, and prefers a task that will result in a tangible product, such as mixing sound for a radio program, editing a video, or designing a newspaper layout.

Although this two-fold perspective of communication is helpful, it is oversimplified. The discipline of communication is very broad and complex, as are the careers that grow out of this field. The core classes required for all communication majors are intentionally broad in scope, allowing new majors to sample various communication fields. This breadth
became the rationale for developing our new options for the majors: Corporate Communication, Political Communication, Theatre, Digital Technology and Film, and Journalism. Each of these options branches off in a different direction and allows the student training in a more narrowly defined field.

As the faculty, staff, and students work to develop the communication department into what we believe God is calling it to be, we must keep in mind several guiding principles. First, our faculty will need to continue challenging each other to pursue excellence in all things “as to the Lord.” Second, we need to continue cultivating personalized relationships with our students, mentoring them academically, spiritually, socially, and vocationally. Third, we need to study our competition. When students – prospective or current – say “no” to Bryan, they usually say “yes” to someone else. Why? What are other programs doing and how can we learn from their experiences? Finally, we need to articulate our vision, not only to ourselves, but to others who want to be a part of something bigger than themselves.

As Bryan College approaches its 75th anniversary next year, I thank God that He has led me and my family to this place at this time. Bryan has a rich heritage and those of us who know it enjoy telling and re-telling that phenomenal story of how this college came about through an argument about a monkey and a Bible. What is already written is beautiful, but what is yet to be written is an exciting mystery. The next page is blank and we’ve been given the pen. Whatever we may write, to God be the glory.

"the Internet has become a dominant influence in the average household over the past decade."

Dr. Randall Hollingsworth, chairman of the Communications Studies Department, came to Bryan in 2003 from Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach, Fla. He earned his B.S. degree in Communication at Florida State University, an M.Div./C.E. degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. degree in Speech Communication from FSU. Prior to teaching, Dr. Hollingsworth served as youth minister in churches in Florida and Kentucky. He specializes in interpersonal communication, small group communication, and public speaking.
Becky Eastling:
Helping Missionaries Communicate Christ

“Communication” took a different turn for Becky Eastling, ’93, but maybe that is to be expected for a pioneer.

Thoughts of a career in journalism or print media turned into a career in creating prayer cards for missionaries from more than 350 agencies around the world. “This may not be the traditional communications job, but I love having a job that is ministry oriented. I have the opportunity to help missionaries get to the mission field so that others can hear the gospel,” she said.

It was the influence of the professors that made her change her major from English to the then-new Communication Arts program. “I took one of Dr. Dann Brown’s classes and enjoyed it so much that I switched majors. It really fell more in line with what I wanted to do,” she said.

In May of 1993, when she graduated, she walked off the platform with the first degree awarded by the Communication Arts program. This year, Communications Arts has been renamed Communication Studies.

And while the coursework was important, the practical experience of working on The Commoner and The Triangle helped prepare her for her career. “The biggest thing as far as preparation for my job was working for the yearbook,” Becky explained. “I started my sophomore year, and by my senior year I was the editor. I also worked on The Triangle, helping with advertising. Plus, my internships with the Dayton Chamber of Commerce and the Herald-News (Dayton’s newspaper), were helpful.”

When she graduated, Becky returned to her home in Waxhaw, N.C., and began her job search.

Her pastor recommended her to the business owner of Creative Plus, “and I’ve been here 10 years now.”

At Creative Plus, Becky designs and produces prayer cards for her company’s clients. “We receive the information by mail or over the Internet,” she explained. “I do a lot of composite pictures so the missionaries don’t have to keep shooting a lot of pictures to make sure everybody’s smiling or they all have their eyes open.”

Becky said she came to Bryan “because God kept throwing it in front of me. People kept saying, ‘It’s a great college.’ I had a whole box of material from colleges all over the United States, but I felt like Bryan was where God wanted me to go.

“My high school counselor asked where I was applying, and I said, ‘Bryan.’ She asked me where else, and I said the Bryan was the only school. I said that if that’s where God wants me, He will make it possible. She said, ‘That’s nice, but it’s not wise.’

Through her years at Bryan, the idea that “God is faithful” was reinforced again and again. “I learned in a practical way that if you go where God wants you, He will make it possible.”

She didn’t keep her nose buried in books and publications, but also was involved with Student Senate, the Bible Education Ministry, Gimpers (then the puppet ministry of Practical Christian Involvement), and worked in the library and as an assistant to Dr. Dann Brown.

And now she is using the education and skills honed at Bryan College to help others take the message of Christ around the world.
Two Bryan College students spent the first few days of the spring semester in Washington, D.C., getting a close-up look at the 2004 presidential election process, compliments of scholarships coordinated through the Appalachian College Association.

Olivia Fessler of New Carlisle, Ohio, a junior, and Bonnie-Marie Yager of Rockwood, Tenn., a freshman, received two of 20 scholarships, valued at $9,000 each, for the program. According to the ACA, there are tentative plans to include a trip to Washington in January 2005 for the presidential inauguration, which would be included in the grant to the two students.

The Washington Center’s “Inside Washington ’04” seminar on current political and media issues also will include a week at either the Democratic party national convention in Boston in July or the Republican party’s national convention in New York in August. Both have opted for the GOP convention.

For both women, politics is a family affair. Bonnie-Marie’s father is Roane County mayor, and Olivia’s mother is a state representative in Ohio.

“Politics and communications just runs in my blood,” Olivia said. “This is a unique blend of politics and media relations. To find something that pulls them together just screams ‘Olivia Fessler.’ I think this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.”

Bonnie-Marie agreed. “I don’t think I’ll ever get to do something like this again,” she said. “I’m enthralled with the behind-the-scenes part of politics.”

The January 2004 seminar in Washington featured two week-long classes, “In Pursuit of the Presidency” and “Politics and the Media.” The first session dealt with issues and the process of the presidential campaign. The second considered the relationship of Congress and the presidency, ethics, and First Amendment issues.
Bryan Adopts Quality Enhancement Plan

The face of classroom education at Bryan College will change dramatically in the coming years as the college implements a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) designed to take a good program and make it better.

Academic Vice President Cal White said the QEP came out of an in-depth evaluation of the instructional program by faculty and administrators as the college works toward reaccreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

Part of the reaccreditation process, according to Dean of Instruction Dr. Ken Froemke, is to develop a plan to strengthen the educational program.

Bryan’s QEP will focus on two goals, Dr. Froemke said. The first will see students collaborating in class and outside of class “more than they do now. The goal is to see students working together on projects, presentations, and studying together in class and after class.

“ar some degree, faculty generally present 45 to 50 minutes of classroom lecture,” he said. “The goal is to see the students interacting with information the professor has presented, such as small group discussions or other activities.”

The second goal is to increase the amount of practical off-campus experiences for students in their major field.

“We are going to offer faculty ways and means to get students involved in their discipline off campus through practica and internships much like student teachers are doing now,” he said.

Dr. White pointed out that one of Bryan’s longstanding institutional goals is to teach students to work cooperatively. The QEP, titled “Going Beyond: New Ventures in Field Experience and Collaborative Learning,” focuses on this goal and outlines areas of particular steps the college will take over the next six years.

“We have a strong educational program, but we want to help the faculty get information to students in different ways, to address different learning styles from the traditional lecture format,” he said.

Administrators began the process of implementing the QEP during a presentation to the faculty in a workshop that began the 2004 spring semester in January. In February, the plan was presented to students during a chapel period. “We’re excited to be able to take this step to encourage enhancing learning in new ways,” he said.

Bryan’s Quality Enhancement Plan is one of the early plans reviewed by the Southern Association, and Dr. Froemke was asked to present a report on the college’s experience to the SACS convention in Nashville, Tenn. this past fall.

Dr. Froemke and Dr. Betty Powell, assistant vice president for academic affairs at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, N.C., spoke and answered questions on “The QEP and the private college.”

The two discussed establishing timelines, coordinating the QEP team, conducting data gathering and analysis and writing the quality enhancement plan.

Dr. Froemke’s presentation was the first by a Bryan administrator to a SACS convention.
NEW BASEBALL COACH SEES PROGRESS, POTENTIAL

Bryan's second modern-era baseball season features a new coach, a small team, and big dreams this spring.

Joel Johnson was named coach in December 2003, after five years at Toccoa Falls College. He was named NCCAA South Region Coach of the Year at the Georgia school in 2003.

Coach Johnson is a graduate of Southeastern College in Lakeland, Fla., where he played baseball and soccer. Before Toccoa Falls, he coached two years at Crown College in Minnesota.

The 2004 schedule was a lot tougher than we would have liked at the start of the season,” Coach Johnson said. “We've played two of the top 20 teams in the country, and some other quality teams as well. We're making a lot of progress, but the opening games were tough.”

“Progress” is coming on defense, an area the coach said needs improvements.

“We're making a lot of errors, but I'm seeing improvements. The guys are keeping a good attitude. It excites me to realize that when push comes to shove, they realize they can be good. They're young guys; you'd like to groom them a little, but when they are sophomores and juniors, nothing will scare them because they will have seen it all.”

He thinks the second game against University of Rio Grande in mid-February may have been a true demonstration of the team's potential. After losing the first game, “we played a much better second game,” he said. “They came out hitting, good defense, and pitching. It was exciting to see them put the first game behind them and maybe turn a corner.”

Adding to the challenge is the fact that the team has only 18 players. “It’s good, because they all get to play. But it’s especially rough for the pitchers, because they have to worry about playing another position if injuries hit, we’re in a world of hurt.”

Even though pitchers play two positions, Coach Johnson sees pitching as a strength.

“Our pitchers are doing a good job, giving us a chance to win. And defense can be one of our strengths. We have the talent. The players can do it when they get the confidence. They need to improve defensively a little, but that will come with playing more.”

Although on the job for less than three months, he is encouraged with recruiting efforts already. “I think we can have 25 players next year, and the administration has given me a goal of 30. I'm working on getting pitchers, outfielders, and another catcher. If we get two guys at every position we'll have somebody we can put in if one gets hurt or isn't playing well.”

“The future looks so bright,” he said. “This season will have ups and downs due to the fact that we don't have a ton of players, but I really think the athletes are great and are going to get better and better.”
LADY LIONS EARN BERTH IN NAIA NATIONALS

The Lady Lions basketball team took their 28-4 record to the NAIA national tournament in March, a dream come true for Coach Matt Bollant and the team.

Talent, depth, and hard work combined to produce the third national tournament appearance in as many years, as the team had played in the NCCAA nationals the previous two years.

“We had never qualified for the NAIA tournament, so it has been our No. 1 goal since I came to Bryan,” Coach Bollant said, “We enjoyed the NCCAA tournaments, but look at the NAIA as the big show for us.”

The Lady Lions dropped a 68-69 last-second decision to Southwestern College of Kansas in the opening round of the national tournament.

During the season, the Lady Lions were ranked as high as 13th in the NAIA national poll, and battled for the AAC title. Losses to Brevard and Tennessee Wesleyan during the regular season, and a semifinal tournament loss to King dashed those hopes, but their second-place conference finish turned out to be the ticket to the national tournament.

One of the highlights for the team was its victory over Tennessee Wesleyan in February. After a two-point loss at home in December, the Lady Lions roared back with a 12-point victory at Wesleyan, snapping the Lady Bulldogs’ nation-leading 25 game winning streak.

Other highlights included victories over Lee and Cumberland University, NAIA Division I teams, “so I know we’re capable of playing high-level basketball,” the coach said.

Going into the national tournament, Coach Bollant said for the team to succeed the girls must play well. “Our players know we can go there and win, but it’s up to us to play to the best of our ability. We’ve been a little bit of a one half team this year. We know we have to play to our potential.”

That potential is bolstered by the fact that three of the Lady Lions were among the top 15 players in the conference. Liz Bass repeated as conference Player of the Year. She was joined on the All-Conference first team by her sister, Sarah, and freshman Brittany Swanson was runner-up for conference Freshman of the Year.

“Our seniors over the past two years have a 57-13 record going into the nationals. They have left a spiritual legacy as well. I hope to have seniors who can do this year after year, put God first and made a difference in their worlds,” Coach Bollant said.

While five seniors graduate this spring, the coach is excited at the prospects for new players next year. He has signed one of the top 30 prospects in Tennessee, and is working with several other players who are interested in Bryan. “I think with our returning players and the quality of girls we’re recruiting, we should be even stronger as a team next season,” he said.

YOUNG LIONS MAKE A STRONG TOURNAMENT RUN

The Lions basketball team reached the AAC tournament semifinals before falling to preseason conference favorite King and ending a strong second-half run.

Coach Morris Michalski praised the effort of his young club, which recorded two regular-season wins over King, as well as victories over Tennessee Wesleyan and Union. “There were signs of promise early on, and more signs late,” the coach said. “Our worst loss in the last month was by 10 points. We beat Covenant by 20, and lost to Union by three in double overtime.”

“The whole season we saw growing pains of a young team getting better. We did grow up. Arguably, we should have been at the bottom of the conference. We had only four returning players and 10 new players, but we finished with a 13-21 record and reached the tournament semifinals with the three best teams in the league.”

The tournament was a highlight as “we hit the upper echelon of conference play. We had hoped to be in a position to win, and we were on the doorstep.”

Coach Michalski said, “Our weakest spots were point guard and power forward, where guys I was counting on transferred out at the last minute because of family health problems.” He praised Dillon McElroy, Jonathan Little, Michael Stone, and Chris Travis, his returning players, for their efforts, and Jim Hanson and Gabe Johnson who stepped in to bolster the squad.

He said he is looking “for five or six guys who can step in right away and help us. We need to expand our point guard depth.”

Ryan Perkins goes in for a lay-up during the Lions’ game with Montreat late in the season.

Lions Baseball Schedule

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*Conference Game
AAC Tournament May 3-8 TBA
(DH) – Double header
Bold denotes home game
Bryan College’s Athletic Training Education Program has been recommended for accreditation by the national accrediting body at its April meeting, college officials have been notified.

Mike Weller, athletic training program director, said the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Athletic Training notified him the committee will forward its recommendation to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). Approval is considered a formality.

“This is the culmination of four years of work from curriculum design, implementation of a major, a self-study and site visit by JRC-AT to reach this point,” Mr. Weller said. “Only four schools in Tennessee have accredited undergraduate athletic training programs, and Bryan would be the fifth. Only the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga has a graduate program.” In addition, Bryan would be one of 18 schools among the 107 members of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities with an accredited athletic training program.

Effective this past January, students may qualify to take a certification examination to become a certified athletic trainer only by studying at a CAAHEP-accredited institution. In the Bryan College program, students must complete a minimum of 800 hours of clinical experience, in addition to their classroom studies, to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in athletic training.

Information about the Bryan College athletic training program is available on the college web site, click on “Academics,” then click on “Division of Social Science” and follow the links to Exercise and Health Science.
I remember when I was a student at Bryan that I really got excited about one particular chapel. The famous Christian philosopher and author Francis Schaeffer was coming to speak, and I could hardly contain myself.

I got to chapel early, slid into my assigned seat, and prepared my notebook and pen to take copious notes from this man from L’Abri, Switzerland. In walked this little gray-haired man, decked out in his knickers and suspenders straight out the Shirley Temple movie Heidi.

I was so anxious for him to begin speaking; I didn’t even open my hymnal for the opening song and hoped that Ray Locy would not lead us in singing all five verses, which he did anyway.

Dr. Schaffer finally mounted the stage and I was ready. Wow! He started out using the word “proclivity,” and I didn’t have the foggiest notion of its meaning. The rest of his message drifted over my head like London fog in the dead of winter. I was so disappointed about not understanding what he was talking about that I really began to believe what most of my professors at Bryan had been telling me—I was intellectually challenged.

But I did write down the word “proclivity” and after chapel raced to the library to look up its meaning. Dr. Schaffer had said that evangelical Christians have a proclivity for God’s Word. The dictionary gives us this definition of proclivity: a natural inclination.

In traveling across the country and visiting with Bryan alums, it’s interesting to note what most remember and appreciate most about their Bryan College education. Time after time I hear this resounding phrase: “Christ above all.” Yes, Bryan alumni have a proclivity, a natural inclination, for our motto.

I want to encourage you in the area of your proclivity for God’s Word. An essay by Dr. John Piper, who spoke in chapel last year, has meant a lot to me as I have been reading his book, A Godward Life. The essay, entitled “Prayfully Ransack the Bible: Pondering the Both-And of Prayer and Study,” challenges us to:

Pray and Read – Read the Word. God willed that the greatest mysteries of life be revealed through reading.

Pray and Study – Read II Timothy 2:15. “Be diligent to ... accurately handle the word of truth.” That means work at the Word if you want the most from it.

Pray and Ransack – Our approach to the Bible should be like a miser in the gold rush or a fiancée who has lost her engagement ring. God ordains that He will give to those who seek with all their heart (Jeremiah 29:11).

Pray and Think – In II Timothy 2:7, Paul tells Timothy how to read his letter: “Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.”

As for prayer, I quote the famous Scottish preacher Robert Louis McChayenne who said, “A man is what he is when he is on his knees, and nothing more.”

May God continue to bless you as you exercise your proclivity for His Word, prayer, and your college motto: Christ above all.
If Christians are to be salt and light, we must understand God’s working in our lives and His way of using believers in society. Bryan’s Christian Life Conference speaker said as the semester began in January.

Dr. Jay Kesler, former president of Youth for Christ and of Taylor University, said the Christian life begins with God. “We come to God when the Holy Spirit prompts us.” Our response to that calling, and our understanding of God’s way of reaching a lost humanity, determines our effectiveness as servants of God.

He suggested that the deeper message of 1 John 4 goes beyond the obvious understanding that, as believers, we are children of God. “The implicit message is that I must be worth loving. Somehow, God has decided I am worth His effort. We receive imparted worth.”

If we are worth loving, we should understand that “I am a unique creation of a Holy God, made for His purposes.” That fact should not make us proud, he said, because “the Gospel is not opposed to the ego, but to egotism; it is not opposed to self, it is opposed to selfishness.”

Then, as creatures loved by God, “we are free to love others. We are to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. If we are full of self-loathing and hate ourselves, we can’t love other people.”

But as we accept our worth in God’s eyes and love each other, “we begin to experience community, family, and wholeness. We are called to community so the watching world can say, ‘behold how they love each other.’”

While believers are called to community, we also are called to be light and salt in the world. “We are a citizenship within a citizenship,” Dr. Kesler said. “We live in America, go to the same fast-food restaurants, cheer for the same teams, but our souls have a piece of different knowledge, that Jesus shall reign where ‘er the sun does its successive journeys run.”

God doesn’t use this dual citizenship in the same way U.S. citizenship works. “Some people think the Bible teaches that we will elect people to office and then impose our views on everybody else,” he said. “The Bible doesn’t teach that. It teaches that a minority will transform a majority.”

Citing biblical metaphors, Dr. Kesler told students they need to be salt, light, and live as sheep among wolves to fulfill their God-given roles in the world.

“Salt is a minority element,” he said. “It doesn’t take a scoop shovel to salt a roast, but when you salt it, you can’t un-salt it. Regardless of what discipline you study at Bryan, bloom where you are planted. Salt that place with the fruit of the spirit.”

Light, he suggested, means Christians represent absolutes in a world of relativism. “Because there is a God, there is such a thing as right and wrong, true and false,” he said. “There are absolutes. ‘In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.’ Either that is true, or, if it’s not, Katie bar the door.”

Because God calls believers to be sheep among wolves, he said students “will go out into a hostile world and experience everything the hostile world has to offer.” As Christians, we are empowered to endure – and triumph – through trials and, “if you understand this principle of salt, light, and sheep, you will impact the world as Christ’s children.”
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50s

GLEN CRUMLEY, ’52, is grateful for successful heart surgery and for a knee replacement late in 2003. His wife, Marjorie, spent much of the year as a nurse for Glenn. They continue their ministry with Bible clubs and in their church, and continue to pray that God will send workers to Africa, where they served for many years.

DAVID NAFE, ’52, has published a collection of stories he heard during his more than 35 years in Africa. He has chosen versions of the stories that can be used to illustrate various applications of Scripture, and has included questions and comments for discussion.

JIM and ADRIENNE (KERR) REESE, both ’56, received The Governor General’s Caring Canadian Award in 2003 in recognition of their many years of voluntary service for founding and developing Christian Horizons ministries. Christian Horizons operates more than 160 programs across Ontario, Canada, to provide residential care for more than 1,000 developmentally challenged persons. Their ministry grew following the birth of a mentally and physically challenged son, one of their five children, in 1963. Jim is pastor emeritus of Benton Street Baptist Church in Kitchener, Ontario, where he served for 25 years as associate and senior pastor. Jim continues to minister in preaching and music ministries,

60s

RICHARD, ’60, and FAITH (ALEMM), ’70, have retired in Doctil, Ga. Faith was an elementary teacher and Richard was a principal and assistant superintendent in the Irwin County school system. They have four children: NAOMI SCOTT, ’82; CYNTHIA WALKER, ’84; Mike; and STEVEN, ’90; and nine grandchildren.

BECKY (BOLLMAN), ’63, and Paul MARCY are adjusting to semi-retirement following Paul’s retirement from Wheaton College, where he worked for 29 years.

70s

TOM, ’75, and ALICE SMITH were married March 16, 2002, in Greenville, S.C. Tom and Alice live in Taylors, S.C.

80s

PAMELA (HENRY), ’81,
the finance department for the government of Palau.

Ruth and Brenton Weng, Matt Benson, and Billy Karts.

NAOMI (WILLIAMSON), '82, SCOTT is a loan officer in Jacksonville, Fla. She and her husband, Richard, have two children, Adam, 18, and Ashley, 17.

Dwight Talbot, '83, and Ruth Ann Langham were married Dec. 20, 2003, in Fairmont, W.Va.

Dwight and Ruth Ann Talbot

Daryl W. Wiggins, '83, is CEO for Support Services of Virginia, Inc. (SSVA) which serves mentally retarded adults in four day support centers and 15 residential homes. Daryl helped establish the company with the founding president in 1994 and is celebrating his 10th year as CEO. SSVA serves 75 adults with disabilities in the day support program and has 45 adults in the residential program. Daryl is responsible for writing and implementing policy and practice, and is the company liaison with state regulatory agencies. He also serves as president of the Virginia State Chapter of the American Association on Mental Retardation, and has been chairman of the Community Association for People with Mental Retardation for nine years. Daryl can be contacted at DaryICEOSSVA@aol.com.

DON, '83, and CATHY (DOSS), '85x, live in Dallas, Texas, where Don works with an office furnishings company. They have five children: Don David, Marcia, Caitlin, Arielle, and Jon Michael.

Rolfe Henry, '83x, is an engineer for Criterion Technology in Thomson, Ga. He and his wife, Janene, live in Barnesville, Ga., with their children Natalie, Phillip, David, Joseph, Julie, and Margaret.

Jerry and Cindy (Williamson) Walker, both '84, returned home for a six-month furlough from their ministry in Papua New Guinea. One of their goals for their time in the States is for their children, Nathan, Ryan, and Leslie, to strengthen their ties with the United States, since they have spent so much of their lives overseas.

Dwight Mains, '84x, has been promoted to director of U.S. and Canadian operations for Robinson Solutions, a member of the Tyco International Group of companies. Dwight, Susan (Meadows), '84x, and their children, Megan, Doug, and Bryan live in Holt, Mich., where Susan is a homemaker.

Jeff, '84, and Angela (Howell), '84x, Nyberg report from their home in Prosper, Texas, that Jeff recently relinquished responsibilities at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Plano. They are focusing their efforts toward church planting through their Stepping Stones church planting ministry.

Steven, '84x, and Rebecca (Turner), '85x, Buchanan live in Gloucester, Va., with their children Ben, Liz, Daniel, and Esther. Steven is stationed with the Army in Korea.

Susie (Varga), '85, Tucker has been named director of compensation for the State of Tennessee. She oversees a division responsible for designing and maintaining an equitable salary plan for 40,000 state employees. Her husband, Ray, is a geographic information systems consultant for the State Department of Transportation. Susie and Ray were married in 2000, and live outside of Nashville.

Brian, '85, and Fran Geiger report from their home in Rowlett, Texas, that Brian's cancer remains stable. He has been able to work full-time, and he and Fran traveled for sales convention to Switzerland last year. Their children are Chad, 13; AJ, 9; and Nikki, 6.

Bob, '86, and Amy (Beckham), '87, Hay, with their sons, Alan and Andy, have moved to Fort Mill, S.C., to live, as Bob has been named candidate coordinator for...
for the U.S. office of SIM.

COLLEEN (FISCHER), '86, and
John MISIOLEK live in
Clementon, N.J., where Colleen
home schools their three children,
Matthew, 13; Danielle, 11; and
Andrew, 9. Colleen and John plan
to direct vacation Bible school at
their church this summer, their
14th year in that role.

BRIAN, '87x, and DONNA
(HOWELL), '87, MACKENZIE,
live in Arlington, Texas, with their
four sons, Jesse, 11; Kevin, 9; Adam,
and Seth, 4. Brian is general
manager of Howell's Aircraft
Service in Grand Prairie and
Donna is a full-time mom. They
keep busy with church, school, and
sports.

PAULA (HAMMAR), '89, and
Mark ROMANG are the parents
of twins, Matthew and Luke, born
Oct. 25, 2000. The boys were born
six weeks prematurely, and
Matthew has experienced
developmental problems. The
Romangs live in Liberty, Mo.

90s

Jim and BETH (HORNISH), '90,
ALMACK announce the birth of
their son, Daniel Bryan, on Nov. 8,
2003. Daniel weighed 9 lbs., 6 oz.,
and was 21 inches long. The family
lives in Concord, N.C.

STEVEN WILLIAMSON, '90,
lives in Carrollton, Texas, with his
wife, MELISSA (JONES), '89,
and their two children, Davis and
Cara.

JENNIFER (REYNOLDS), '91,
and Vern KINSEY are rejoicing
that they have been able to move
to a larger home, near their former
residence, in Seminole, Fla. Jennifer
works full-time as music director
at their church, and Vern teaches
at a Christian school. Their children
are McKayla, 7, and Jameson, 5.

GREG, '92, and Sharon HOLST
announce the birth of their third
son, Philip Andrew James Holst,
on Dec. 31, 2002. Philip joins older
brothers Jonathan, 6, and Nathan,
3. Greg works for Bank One's
mutual fund company, One Group
Investments, and recently received
his MBA from Capital University
in Columbus, Ohio. The Holsts live
at 7661 Degond Rd., Ostrander,
Ohio, 43061, and would love to
hear from friends and

acquaintances at that address or
by email at holst@bright.net.

for Dayton (Tenn.) City School and
Renae is a work-at-home mom.

MATT and TIFFANY (EARLE)
BRYAN, both '94, are preparing to
return home to Greenville, S.C.,
when Matt completes his residency
in dermatology in Little Rock, Ark.
this summer. Matt will join a
dermatology practice, and Tiffany
plans to continue to be a stay-at-
home mom for the family, which
includes Everett, 4; Belle, 21/2;
and Madeline, 1.

DAVID ALBAN, '95, has been
named assistant principal at
Hanover High School in Hanover,
Pa.

MATTHEW, '95, and RENAE
(SPEICHER), '97, MARCUS
announce the birth of Melanie
Jasmine on Nov. 11, 2003. Melanie
weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz., and was 21
1/2 inches long. She joins sister
McKenzie, 2. Matthew is
information technology director

BETHANY (PHINNEY), '95,
and Bryan HICKS announce the
birth of their daughter, Katie
Katie Grace joins big brothers
Aiden, 4, and Avery, 2. The Hicks
family lives in Shenandoah, Va.,
where Bethany is a full-time mom.

If you are an alum and
have information for us
to publish in Lion Tracks, send it to:
Terry Hill
Bryan College
P.O. Box 7000
Dayton, TN 37321
or email:
alumni@bryan.edu
ANNETTE SHARPE, ’96, and Matthew Cummings were married Aug. 23, 2003, in Nashville, Tenn. Bridesmaids included Bryan alumni SARAH (SHARPE), ’93, WADE; SUSANNA (SHARPE), ’99, BIEDERMAN; LYN (AMIS), ’95, TRAMMELL; KAREN (TRAMMELL), ’96, MARSALIS; and DR. JENNIFER GRUENKE, ’96. Annette and Matthew live in Philadelphia, Pa., where Matt teaches high school English and Annette works as a family nurse practitioner in a Christian clinic serving the Hispanic population of Philadelphia. MARK and WENDY (TAYLOR) DAVIDSON, both ’96, had an eventful 2002 as their second son, Ryan Taylor, was born; Mark was graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in May, and the family moved to Birmingham, Ala., where Mark has begun his internship, to be followed by a residency in anesthesia. Ryan was born Sept. 7, weighed 9 lbs., 13 oz., and was 23 inches long. He joins big brother Will, 2.

BRAD, ’97, and BARBARA, ’98, WING announce the birth of their son, Elizah Blaine, on July 19, 2003. Brad is youth pastor at Hunt Springs Baptist Church in Sanford, N.C., and Barbara is a staff accountant in the corporate office of The Pantry convenience store chain. Brad expects to complete his Master of Divinity degree at Southeastern Theological Seminary this spring.

MATT and ANDREA (KEMP) BOSTIC, both ’97, live in Frederick, Md. This past year, Matt gave up his youth pastor position at their church and became general manager and a personal trainer at the Gold’s Gym in Frederick. Andrea is a stay-at-home mom to their three daughters, Alex Marie, 5; Olivia Mae, 3; and Emelea Macey, 1.

GABE, ’97, and GAYLE (COUCH), ’98, HIMMELWRIGHT announce the birth of their twins, Reagan Katherine and Ryan Matthew, on Sept. 15, 2003. Reagan weighed 4 lbs., 3 oz., and Ryan weighed 4 lbs., 10 oz. The Himmelwrights live in Virginia Beach, Va., where Gabe owns his own hardwood flooring company and Gayle has completed course work for a Ph.D. in Communications.

ALLISON WOMBLE, ’98, and Tommy Haupert were married Feb. 19, in Rising Fawn, Ga. Allison is a publisher working at True North Custom Publishing in Chattanooga, Tenn., and occasionally teaches rhetoric and composition at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. Tommy is a physical therapist who owns his own practice in Dunlap, Tenn. They live in Soddy-Daisy, Tenn.

SUSANNA (SHARPE), ’99, and Kyle BIEDERMAN announce the birth of their first child, Jasmine Renae, on Nov. 24, 2003. Jasmine weighed 8 lbs., 8 oz. This past year, the Biedermans traveled to Hawaii for a vacation with his family and to Tennessee for the wedding of her sister, ANNETTE SHARPE, ’96, and Matthew Cummings. The
DAUGEREAU are full-time church planters in Udine, Italy, with Saints Equipped to Evangelize Bible Institute. He also serves as the on-field director of ABC English Language Institute. Joshua and Carmela may be reached by email at jdaugereau@msn.com.

She works part-time at their church.

Kyla Kalenza

DAVID EVANS, '02, and RACHEL HELD, '03, were married Oct. 25, in Dayton, Tenn. Dan and Rachel live in Chattanooga, Tenn.

ADAM VAN PELT, '03, is working as a vocational rehabilitation counselor at Aurora Case Management in Shrewsbury, Pa. He is working with individuals who have physical challenges who are being served by the worker's compensation system in Pennsylvania. Adam lives in Hellam, Pa.

TARA BOSE, '03, and Adam Smith were married Aug. 1, 2003, in Nashville, Tenn.

ANN A (DAVIS), '99, and Hinh TANG announce the birth of their first child, Sydney Nichole, on Sept. 12, 2002. Anna earned a master's degree in science education from Georgia State University and is a stay-at-home mom. Hinh is employed by Alcoa. The Tang family lives in Cumming, Ga.

ANDY BOWERS, '99, recently returned from spending six months in Iraq as a financial advisor for the Department of Defense. He helped the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) and the Iraqi Government Council issue contracts to rebuild Iraq, working at the CPA headquarters in a former presidential palace. During his time in Iraq he visited the cities of Babylon and Nineveh.

MINDY (BAKER) '00, MCKECHNIE and her husband, Peter, have been called as interim staff members at Second Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, Tenn. Mindy will serve as interim director of Christian education and programming, and Peter as interim associate pastor.

COLLEEN SHEDDAN, '00x, and Jason McCowan were married in Dayton, Tenn., Nov. 22, 2003.

STEVE and KERLYNN (LESTMAN) PULSON, both '00, announce the birth of their first child, Lucy Claire, on Dec. 10, 2003. Lucy weighed 6 lbs, 8 oz., and was 20 in. long. Steve and Keri-Lynn live in Dayton, Tenn., where Steve is heidelberg technician for the Bryan information technology department.

BEN, '01, and ELIZABETH (YOUNG) '98, CARDEN announce the birth of their daughter, Rachael Nichole, on Nov. 24, 2003. Rachael weighed 9 lbs, 2 oz., and was 22 in. long. The Carden family lives in Chattanooga, Tenn.

RUSTY, '01, and JENNIFER (FERRELL) '00, KALENZA announce the birth of their first child, Kayla Grace, on July 6, 2003. Kayla weighed 9 lbs, 3 oz. Rusty is an assistant vice president in the change management group at Bank of America, doing database and application management. Jennifer left her position at Wachovia Bank in September to spend more time with Kayla.

With The Lord


EARL W. PECK, SR., '49x, died Dec. 5, 2003, after a lengthy illness in Orlando, Fla. Survivors include his wife, LILLIAN (BOGDARD), '45, PECK; two daughters, BARBARA (PECK), '73, REMINGTON and REBECCA (PECK), '76x, RATHMANN; two sons, Earl W. Peck Jr. and Charles Ray Peck; and a sister, REBECCA (PECK), '40, HOYT. He had worked as a teacher, in sales, and as a plumber.

KENNETH N. SEWALL, '54, of Bloomfield N.J., died Feb. 4. He is survived by his wife, BARBARA (CRANDALL), '55, SEWALL, and a son. Ken was retired after 36 years as a technical writer for Bell Labs, Western Electric, and Bell Communications Research. He also served as a deacon, teacher, and Bible school superintendent at his church.

THOMAS SACHER, '56x, of Stroudsburg, Pa., died May 20, 2003. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Sacher, and three children.

DR. WARREN ALLEM, '57, of Rocky Mount, Va., died Oct. 15, 2003. He was a pastor, evangelist, and educator. He is survived by his children, John Allem; Rachel Ingalls; FAITH WILLIAMSON, '78; Grace Mahoney; Priscilla Trice; Susanna Petersen; Rebecca Sahl; three brothers; and two sisters, GERTRUDE HOLMGREN and SARAH NEWCOMER, both '43x, 29 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

WESLEY W. HATCH, '66x, died Aug. 15, 2003 in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Joshua Nichols, 13, son of Dan and MARTHA (KIRTLEY), '78x, NICHOLS, died in a hunting accident near Cordova, Alaska. He is survived by his parents, brothers, and grandparents.

CHARLES, '51, and Mary KIRKLEY.

ROBERT A. PETERSON, JR., '78, of Galloway Township, N.J., died Aug. 1, 2003. He was headmaster and teacher at the Pilgrim Academy in Egg Harbor N.J. He is survived by his wife, Susanna Allen Peterson, seven children, his mother, sister, and two brothers.

LARRY BELL, '81, of Knoxville, Tenn., died Dec. 26, 2003, after a brief illness. He was a nurse. He is survived by his wife, Lora, two children, and his sister, VALERIA (BELL) WILKINS, '82.

REBEKAH (BATCHELDER), '97, SIMS, died Dec. 17, 2003, after a long illness. She is survived by her husband, Joshua, of Clearwater, Kan.; sister; parents; and grandparents.

If you are an alum and have information for us to publish in Lion Tracks, send it to: Terry Hill
Bryan College
P.O. Box 7000
Dayton, TN 37321
or email: alumni@bryan.edu
Summit expands to serve growing interest

Growing interest and a commitment to expand the ministry of the Summit at Bryan College are the driving forces behind plans for two Summit sessions this summer.

Summit Director John Stonestreet said comments such as “Every person who considers themselves to be a Christian should be required to attend Summit! It will totally change the way you view every aspect of life,” were common from students. An adult participant in the week-long Biblical Integration Workshop said, “I thought I knew what it meant to be a light in a dark world until Summit. It has changed everything!”

“Summit alumni and people like James Dobson and Chuck Colson understand the powerful impact of a two-week concentration on biblical worldview and how it should be applied to every area of life,” Mr. Stonestreet said. “That’s what The Summit at Bryan College offers students and, in one-week sessions, adults this summer.”

In 2003, about 100 more students attended than in previous years. “All together, we had about 500 students, more than we could handle in one session,” he said. “Plus, we had about twice as many as before in the adult conference.”

Two sessions – July 4 to 16 and 18 to 30 – allows the Summit at Bryan to offer practical training in worldviews, apologetics, leadership, and vocation to some 600 high school and college students. “Our number one goal is for students to leave understanding what faith has to do with life, including their studies. We want them to leave here with a biblical view of God, the Bible, themselves, the world and their place in it,” Mr. Stonestreet said. “We are training students for ministry, not occupational, but vocational – a life service in education, politics, journalism, science – whatever vocation they go into so they can take a Christian worldview with them.”

While the Summit sessions may last just two weeks, follow-up continues throughout the year. “We send out newsletters to our graduates periodically, and have an email database to help them keep in touch with each other. We want to provide networking for Christians who understand their calling and want to help each other.”

Adults interested in Summit training have a week-long session available July 18-23. “I’m unbelievably excited about the adult program,” Mr. Stonestreet said. “We realize the best way to expand the work of summit and the Summit idea is to train trainers, teach teachers.”

He said as he visits Christian schools teachers and headmasters often ask for suggestions on how to integrate their faith with their disciplines. “If the teachers get it, their influence exponentially grows because of their input with students,” he said. “We bring in people we know are doing this best in the classroom, go through a biblical worldview foundation, the philosophical foundations of Christian education, and practical how-tos of making lesson plans. The response has been overwhelming.”

Summit is heavy on academics – college credit is available for those interested – but there also is time for recreation on the Bryan campus, whitewater rafting and paintball, as well as ministry and service projects and evangelism outreaches.

Individuals interested in attending the Summit at Bryan College are invited to visit the Summit website – www.mysummit.org, to write the Summit at Bryan College, P.O. Box 7812, Dayton, TN 37321, or email summit@bryan.edu for more information.
Holy Land Tour
Bryan College Alumni & Friends Study
Tour of Israel and Jordan

October 10-24, 2004
Hosted by Bryan College and Arbel Communications
With Bryan College Bible Faculty and Staff

Yes, this year in Jerusalem! From the shores of the Sea of Galilee to the winding, cobblestone streets of Jerusalem, explore the land of Abraham, David, and Jesus. Bryan College’s alumni office wants you to come with them to see the Holy Land. This life-changing experience will help you increase your understanding of the Word of God... and draw you closer to the God of the Word. This exceptional tour is open to all alumni and friends of Bryan College. Alumni serving in the ministry should especially consider bringing members of their congregation with them. It will change your life and theirs.

This all-inclusive tour includes all roundtrip airfare from Hartsfield International airport in Atlanta to Israel. You will stay in some of the best and most unique deluxe accommodations in Israel and Jordan. All meals will be included as well as tips, gratuities, entrance fees and visas. The price for this deluxe tour is $2,999** per person based on double occupancy. Space is limited so call or email today to reserve your place on this incredible tour.

You will visit many of the most significant biblical sites as we open the Word of God right in the places where it was written. We will also reflect on the last days and passion of our Lord. You will also see the Bible come to life from the daily teachings from our guides and devotionals from Bryan faculty and staff.

On this tour you will also have the unique opportunity to see the rose-red city of Petra, hidden for centuries and carved out of the side of the mountains of ancient Edom.

For more information or a registration form contact Arbel Communications at arbelcommunications@yahoo.com or call 423-517-8617.

**(Price is correct as of time of printing but may change due to changes in airfare rates. In that case, you will be notified in advance of the change. A deposit of $500 must accompany the registration form, of which $250 is non-refundable. This price does not include items of a personal nature, single rooms, or airfare from your home to Atlanta’s Hartsfield airport.)