

The OKLAHOMA BAPTIST

Serving Churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Oklahoma

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Number 10

“Qualifications of a Good Leader”

Chris Gonthier

BMAO Moral Action

1 Timothy 3:2-5 “A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)”

We see these qualifications for a bishop, a spiritual leader, are mandatory. God gives very specific requirements for who is qualified as a spiritual leader, and who is not.

Notice that you must be the husband of one wife, not engaging in polygamy. Also note that if you have had multiple wives with divorces does this shows you may rule your house very well? These are wise principles that must be considered as candidates for a pastor is considered.

I will not address whether there are biblical exceptions to these requirements because I am not looking to discuss qualifications of the pastor, but rather, the qualifications of a president. Notice these qualifications are specifically directed toward the office of pastor. There are similar qualifications for those who are to become deacons.

What about governmental leaders? Let us look at David, one of Israel's most beloved and effective kings. David, at times, was not honorable.

Why was he home when his army was at war? He was very prone to lust as is evident by his viewing of Bathsheba. He

was willing to commit adultery and lie to cover it up. When he was unable to hide his sin, because Uriah was more honorable than David, he planned Uriah's murder. Then he took Bathsheba as his own.

He abused his power and was reluctant to repent. Yet David was considered by many to be a good king, as well as one who penned a portion of the scriptures. Though he was not perfect, God still used him.

What about King Solomon? He had many wives, of the heathen variety, and they turned him from God. He even engaged in the worship of false gods. He accumulated much wealth and did not follow God as he should. He trusted in his own power and not in the Lord.

The wisdom of Solomon did not prohibit him from making stupid decisions.

Returning back to the discussion regarding David Who chose him to be king? He was God's chosen One to be the king. People with baggage can be used by God for great things. Ideally, we would prefer someone who has never failed; however, we see that would impossibly limit our choices.

We have two primary contenders to choose from to be elected president of the United States. I will say that I personally do not like everything about either choice. There is a true track record to analyze with both candidates.

Be careful not to let lies and prejudiced media influence your

decision due to misinformation, but rather check legitimate sources.

I know where I was four years ago, and I know where I am now. I know where the country was four years ago, and I know where we are now.

I believe that Christians should look at party platforms and determine if they align with Christianity.

We have one party who believes in pushing the “alternate lifestyle” choice as acceptable when God calls it a sin.

The same party also calls for the right to kill the unborn, calling it reproductive rights. The truth is that according to scripture abortion is murder.

When a party makes these ideals a part of their platform it means they are glorifying sin and turning their backs on God. As a Christian I cannot, and will not, align myself with such a party that glorifies sin and rejects biblical teaching.

The one candidate openly called for reducing population and taking away of our rights. Of course the media says she meant to say something else. One wonders if allowing the taking of the lives of the unborn and changing gender identity would effectively reduce population.

Christians must get out and vote this November if we want to maintain our rights. I urge you to prayerfully consider who you will vote for.

Below are two sections straight from the Democrat Party platform. ***The italicized portions were added by me.***

“Democrats are committed to making this nation a place where LGBTQIA+ people can live openly, proudly, and freely. With the Respect for Marriage Act, President Biden signed historic bipartisan legislation protecting marriage for same-sex and interracial couples in federal law.”

“Democrats will always fight to protect LGBTQIA+ rights in the face of unprecedented violence and discrimination. (*Proud to engage in sin.*)

(“Good Leader,” cont on pg 6)

"From the Pastor's Pen"

By Wearthly Shank

"...Keep My Commandments"

Proverbs 7:1

My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee.

Proverbs 3:1

My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:

John 14:15

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 15:10

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

In my online Bible search, it says the phrase, "keep my commandments" appears 92 times.

I often ask, "how many times must God say something to get our attention?" Obviously, it needs only be said once, but for some reason, we don't seem to pay attention the first time.

(Kinda like our kids' response when we

give them a task or chore).

Our society is full of religion, but many lack a real spiritual relationship with Jesus. I have experienced many folk who talk of their love of Jesus, but fail to keep even one of His commands.

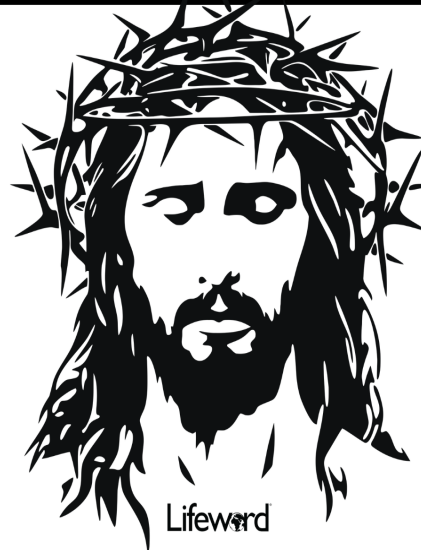
Many are not even aware of their responsibility to obey the commands of God. They seem to not even

understand or are able to identify a command from God and Jesus.

I believe we, as born-again Christians, have a grave responsibility to convey our message of God to the world by our testimony of Jesus Christ as our Savior.

I also believe we are in need of a great revival of our commitment to "Living for Jesus" which includes our keeping His commandments. We are to let our light shine! Not hide it under a bushel.

The ten most powerful two letter words:
If it is to be, it is up to me!
Think about it!!



WE TELL THE STORY

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ten dollars a month, or one hundred twenty
dollars a year, to receive a digital copy of the
paper emailed to one email address
in your church.

Lifeword Sunday will take place on October 20th, 2024. This is the one time of year that we ask the churches of the BMA to pray for Lifeword, celebrate what God is doing through the ministry of Lifeword, and take a special offering to help Lifeword increase her gospel footprint around the world.

Lifeword exists to help make disciples through the creative proclamation, production and promotion of biblically-sound media that communicates in the heart language of every tongue, tribe, and nation.

"I Was Just Thinkin'"

By Narita Roady

"Surprise! Surprise! Surprise"

*I was shocked, confused, bewildered,
As I entered Heaven's door.
Not by the beauty of it all,
Nor the lights or its decor.*

*But it was the folks in Heaven,
Who made me sputter and gasp...
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,
The alcoholics, the trash.*

*There stood the kid from seventh grade,
Who swiped my lunch money twice.
Next to him was my old neighbor,
Who never said anything nice.*

*Herb, who I always thought,
Was rotting away in hell.
Was sitting pretty,
On cloud nine, looking incredibly well.*

*I nudged Jesus, "What's the deal?
I would love to hear your take.
How'd all these sinners get up here?
God must've made a mistake.*

*"And why's everyone so quiet,
So somber? Give me a clue."*

*"Hush, child," said He,
"they're all in shock.*

No one thought they'd be seeing you."

Author Unknown

This poem gives us all a chuckle but I would venture to say it could be very true. At one time or another we all fall into the trap of putting people in spiritual categories: *Saved, lost, might get saved, never get saved, not a chance!*

Not only do we fail to see our own sins, but we also label people according our feelings and preferences. A very flawed method as you can see, and a very sinful one too.

What are some things we need to be mindful of to keep us from falling into this "Pharisee mode"?

Realize the sin of pride is behind such thinking.

It takes a lot of audacity to believe that we have the ability and authority to discern and even decide what another person's choices and heart condition will be for the rest of their life!!

If that isn't arrogant pride then I don't know what is!!

We haven't an inkling how God might work in someone's life to bring them to tears of repentance before Him.

God has made it very clear how He hates the sin of pride. We need to keep David's wisdom before us in Psalms 131:1; "LORD, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me."

To even consider such things denies the existence of God's mercy toward all sinners

Mercy is not getting what we deserve or want someone else thinks we deserve (thank the Lord!). As saved individuals, God has abundantly showered us with His compassion.

Forty-one times in scripture God tells us that "His mercy endureth forever"; isn't that enough?

To make sure it sticks, He repeats it 26 times in a row in Psalms 136! Without His forgiveness we would forever be locked in our past and all its failures.

God didn't chain you to yours, then why would He bind someone else to theirs?

We show a lack of faith in God and His Almighty Power

If someone is so bad that you believe God can never reach them, then you



are in essence saying that Satan is stronger than God. That isn't just weak faith, that is just plain sinful!

Andrew Murray once said, "We have a God who delights in impossibilities." In fact, the impossible is God's specialty, and saving lost sinners in particular! Just look at Mark 10:27.

"And Jesus looking upon them saith, "With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible."

No sin or sins have ever been committed that the blood of Jesus is not able to cleanse. A blatantly simple statement but one we either do not understand or have forgotten if we brand another soul "unsaveable".

A self-righteous spirit is at the heart of condemning others.

Isaiah 64:6a tells us what our righteousness amounts to. "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags;"

So if our own uprightness is so vile and useless, then whose are we proceeding to base ours on? There's only one left and that is the righteousness obtained from Christ through our salvation.

What nerve we have to use His righteousness as our basis to declare another person hopeless!

Scripture is filled with individuals that I am sure those around them counted for loss.

Paul the hater and murder of Christians, the woman who had five husbands, adulteress woman, Rahab was a harlot, and these are just a few. God didn't give up on them or count them as worthless, and He didn't us either.

It's time for us to leave the saving of souls up to God and do the part intended for us; witnessing, loving, praying, and being a testimony that glorifies Him.

Central Baptist College Set for Preview Days

Fall Stampede Day

The first opportunity for prospective students to experience Central Baptist College is here! Register now for our first fall 2024 Stampede Preview on Wednesday, October 2.

Central Baptist College's Stampede Preview Days allow prospective students to see campus life alongside others.

On Preview days, you will have a guided campus tour and lunch in the dining hall. You will also get the opportunity to attend a chapel service and observe a class.

Professors and other faculty members will be available to meet you and answer questions, and you will have the chance (by appointment) to meet with an Athletic Department representative or audition for our Music Department.

At the end of the day, you may also be one of the participants to win a CBC door prize!

The Stampede Preview dates for 2024-2025 are Wednesday, October 2; Wednesday, November 13; and Wednesday, March 5. If you are not able to join us on October 2, we hope you will consider one of the other dates.

Visit cbc.edu/visit to register for an upcoming Preview Day, and if you have

any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the Admissions Office by email at:

admissions@cbc.edu
or by phone at
501.329.6873.

Schedule a Personal Campus Visit

In addition to Preview Days for prospective students, individual tours are available through CBC's Office of Admissions.

There is no better way for a student to become more acquainted with CBC than to come onto campus, take a tour,

sit in on a class, visit the residence halls, eat in the Dining Hall, and interact with administration, faculty, staff, and current students.

We hope and pray that parents, pastors, and youth ministers will encourage their students to visit Central Baptist College before making a college choice.

God will use a campus visit to speak to you relative to your college decision. We truly believe that and have witnessed it many times.

To register online, visit
www.cbc.edu/visit.

You will then have a choice to click either Stampede Preview Days or Schedule Your Visit.

For questions, additional information, or to schedule a visit by phone, contact the Admissions office at 501.329.6873. We hope to see you soon!

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oakland Baptist Church in Vicksburg, MS is seeking a full-time pastor.

Inquiries should be made to Joshua Webb of the church's pulpit committee. He can be reached by phone at:
(479)-747-9132

or by email at:
Josh.webb15@gmail.com



The banner features the Central Baptist College logo at the top left. The main text is in large, bold, white letters: "STAMPEDE PREVIEW DAY". To the right of "DAY", the dates are listed in orange: "October 2nd", "November 13th", and "March 5th". At the bottom, a grey bar contains the text "VISIT CBC.EDU/VISIT TO REGISTER" in white.

VISIT CBC.EDU/VISIT TO REGISTER

Central Baptist Latest News

CBC Fine Arts

As we continue forward in the 2024-25 academic year, we are looking forward to a great year of performances from our CBC Fine Arts Department.

The CBC Band will perform in their fall concert on October 3 at 6:30pm.

Our Director of Instrumental Music, Donna Bradley, works hard alongside the CBC Band to provide music and support for many CBC activities and events, so we are happy to have this opportunity to support them and hear this performance.

After this, Associate Professor of Music Dr. Earl Johnson and the Worship Choir will have their 13th annual hymn service on October 10 in Toland at 1:40pm and 7:00pm. The theme for this year's hymn service is 19th Century British Hymn Writers Part 1.

On October 24 at 6:30pm, the women's chorus will have a concert premiere of their commissioned piece. This will be the first performance ever of this arrangement titled "All Things New."

To end the semester, we will have our annual Fine Arts Christmas Concert in Burgess Auditorium on December 5 at 6:30pm.

This concert is a great opportunity to hear from every Fine Arts group and program in one concert, and we always enjoy hearing what the department has prepared.

We are also excited to recognize this year's CBC singers. Choir Director and Assistant Professor of Music Jim Turner works alongside our CBC Singers every year representing the college to churches in Conway and surrounding areas.

This year's singers are Caleb Claiborne, Avery Crocker, Mary Grace Hall, Masen Pinkerton, Natalie Smith, Drew Tiner, and Abby Wilson.

Finally, we want to invite everyone to

the upcoming CBC Musical coming on March 14 and 15, 2025.

This year, students will be performing *Fiddler on the Roof*, and it will be directed by CBC alumna Lauren Hager. Assistant Professor of Music Suzanne Banister will be the music director for the musical, and Donna Bradley will be the orchestra director.

Fiddler on the Roof is a Broadway musical that first opened in 1964. Considered one of the best Broadway musicals of all time, we are very excited to see our students perform in March, and we are confident that they will work hard to make the show great.

Stay tuned for details on how to purchase tickets to the show.

We are very excited for all the upcoming Fine Arts performances, and we are proud of the work that our faculty and students are putting towards each of these events. We hope to see you there!

CBC Increases Freshman Enrollment for Fall 2024

Central Baptist College experienced a significant increase in first-time freshmen and a record number of international students as fall 2024 enrollment data was announced this week.

The numbers also show the College's first fall-to-fall increase in traditional enrollment since 2016.

CBC's fall enrollment is highlighted by the traditional first-time freshman class that has increased seven percent from the 2023 class.

"The Admissions and Registration



teams did an outstanding job of bringing in the 2024 class. This increase in entering freshmen is the highest we have had since 2016," says Steve Elder, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management.

In addition to the increase in freshman, CBC saw an increase in international students and in students from outside the contiguous United States (OCONUS).

The college currently has 51 international and OCONUS students representing 20 different countries and territories, making this the highest number of enrolled international students in the history of CBC.

Central Baptist College Executive Vice President Dr. Jeremy Langley added, "This is an exciting time to be a Mustang! We are very thankful for our students and look forward to seeing what God does with this incoming class. The future looks very bright."

Central Baptist College reports that total fall census date enrollment is 547 students. Of these students, the PACE (Professional Adult College Education) program contributed with a 10 percent increase, making that the largest increase since 2013.

For more information on CBC or our programs or to enroll in the upcoming semester, visit our website at cbc.edu or contact us via phone at (501) 329-7872.

About Central Baptist College: Central Baptist College (CBC), a four-year, private, liberal arts college owned and operated by the Baptist Missionary Association of Arkansas, is dedicated to transforming lives through education that integrates Christian faith and academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment.

Offering approximately 40 baccalaureate degree programs, CBC also boasts 16 athletic teams competing in the AMC conference of the NAIA and supports 6 fine arts performance groups.

For more information about CBC, visit cbc.edu.

"That Reminds Me"

By Jesse Spurlock

"Duty in the Dark"



One night when our electricity went off in the middle of the night, the clock radio lost the proper time and began flashing "12:00."

I reset it, but the power went off again and it did the same thing. So I realized the battery in it was dead. It was to maintain the time during a power outage.

I didn't want to oversleep so I decided to install a new battery. Rather than wake my wife I decided to do it without turning the lights on.

It had been awhile since I had changed it so I was a little unfamiliar with how it came out and went in.

However, by feel, I succeeded in getting the old one out and the new one in properly. My wife was amazed I did that in the dark.

Of course, that wasn't the first time I've

disassembled and reassembled something in the dark. When I was in the Marines they blindfolded us and we had to take our M-1 rifle apart and put it back together. That may sound complicated, but we only had to take it apart the way we did for cleaning. That was to take the trigger housing out, removed the tension spring, and separate the barrel from the stock.

There were only four or five parts. If you didn't lose one of the parts it wasn't that big of a deal to reassemble.

We had another project in the same vein but more complicated. The DI threw the parts of the rifle in the deep end of the swimming pool.

We had to dive into the pool, locate all

the parts on the bottom of the pool, and put the rifle back together while about eight feet under water. That was quite a challenge.

If you took too much time the matter of breathing became pretty important.

That reminded me of the young blind piano tuner who was working on a piano at

a youth meeting. He had parts scattered all over the floor when they announced they were going to turn out the lights and give a slide presentation.

I caught myself right before yelling out that they couldn't turn out the lights because the piano tuner was still working on the piano. Just before I said anything and embarrassed myself, I realized since the young man was blind he didn't need any light to complete his work.

Eyesight is very important to me. Although I can do a few things in the dark, I would rather be able to see what I'm doing.

I have to wear glasses now and occasionally I realize I can't see very well. When I take them off and check the lenses I find dirt and smudges almost covering them.

After cleaning and replacing them I realize just how badly it really was. I've never let it reach the point where I can't see anything, but it illustrates a good spiritual truth.

When my glasses are all clean and clear I see almost everything as it really is. However, the smudges and dirt will again collect on the lenses. These hinder and even block much of my view of things I really need to see.

But it takes place over a period of time and I become used to the view. This can cause me to begin to getting a headache, but I rarely make the connection between the headache and my restricted vision.

So it is with sin. It doesn't come upon us suddenly, but usually over a period of time. Our spiritual vision begins to dim and we get a bad spiritual headache, but fail to make the connection.

"Good Leader," cont from pg 1

Reproductive Rights

"Democrats want to codify Roe v. Wade into law to protect women's freedom to make their own health care decisions, while extreme MAGA Republicans are working to ban abortion nationwide." (*I did not see this in the Republican Party Platform*)

"Democrats believe that reproductive health care decisions should be made by women with their doctors, not politicians. After Donald Trump overturned Roe v. Wade and ripped away nearly 50 years of women's rights, Democrats took action to protect and strengthen reproductive health care access amid ongoing MAGA Republican attacks. This includes signing three executive orders to strengthen reproductive health care access, fighting for a woman's right to emergency medical care, defending and expanding access to medication abortion, and strengthening access to birth control."

"Democrats are fighting to restore the protections of Roe—and they will never allow a national abortion ban to become law." (*The Supreme court overturned Roe V. Wade, not Donald Trump*) "Donald Trump "proudly" overturned Roe and brags about unleashing extreme abortion bans across the country that are putting women's lives at risk and threatening doctors with jail time. He has called these state abortion bans "a beautiful thing to watch" and said that women who have an abortion should be punished."

"If elected, Trump will ban abortion nationwide, and he refuses to support nationwide protection for IVF. His close allies' Project 2025 proposal includes plans to attack reproductive health care in all 50 states without the help of Congress—including banning abortion, restricting access to birth control, and prosecuting and jailing women and doctors for sending or receiving abortion medication in the mail."

The Master's Builders at Ramsey Heights

September 9, The Master's Builders began work at Ramsey Heights Baptist Church, in Batesville/Southside, AR. The Builders were there to help remodel a 2700 square-foot space in the lower level of their original church building, which was built in the late 1970's.

The original building was used exclusively until their current new sanctuary and gym was completed in 2005. The original building has been used mostly for storage since about 2010.

As their church family has grown, they have had children's church and some adult classes meet in the gym behind room dividers which has proven to be less than ideal for all.

This project would allow for adult classroom space and a designated children's church area. This would also allow the beloved older building to be utilized again for new purposes.

Prior to the Master's Builders arrival, the men and women of Ramsey Heights worked to demolish the old, deteriorating classroom walls and the out of date and unused kitchen that was formally in the space.

The space would now house two adult classrooms, a large room for children's church, a closet, a storage area, and two bathrooms.

The Master's Builders built new walls, ran the electrical wiring, build stairs, and put up the sheetrock. Also, they built some stairs and a landing on the backside of the newer sanctuary to access a storage room and provide a fire escape in case of emergency.

There were eight RVs set up in the parking lot and one tent set up on a grassy area nearby. Master's Builder Bobby Samuels of Hope, AR, has survived plenty of storms in his trusty tent, and this trip he endured five straight days of rain! He loves to "camp out" and enjoys being outdoors!

What a blessing he is to The Master's

Builders.

There were seven women and nine men on this job. It was job #191 for the Master's Builders group.

The Builders had several men from the church work alongside them each day. As always, this was such a blessing to the group!

Each morning, the men met for a time of devotion and prayer before starting work. All enjoyed the common goal of completing this project and the fellowship with other brothers in Christ!

The group was also blessed to have Scott, Myrtie, and Sharon Small (Scott's mom), of StoneRidge Baptist Camp in Smithville, AR, drive over for several days to work and fellowship.

The Builders have had several opportunities to work at their camp over the past few years. The last time was in March of this year, and it was so good to be together again.

The Master's Builders ladies, along with Myrtie and Sharon, were able to pack and deliver 50 Everlasting Smile shoe boxes to the BMA Global sorting center in Conway during this job. So thankful to participate in the wonderful ministry.

A big "thank you" to Ramsey Heights Church for taking such good care of The Master's Builders while they worked!

Pastor Brian Coats, wife Jessica, and daughter Oaklea were such a blessing to the group. Bro. Brian was right in there each day working with the men, running for supplies, doing whatever he could to be of help to the group.

Church members, Danny and Denise Watson, took the lead in arranging and organizing the meals and what a fantastic job they did. So many people from the church family took a part in making sure that no one in the group was ever hungry. Thank you so much to all!

Lots of time in sweet fellowship was spent together in the evenings after supper. Ramsey Heights church family has a very special place in the hearts of The Master's Builders. There are so many to thank for this blessing!

As the time to leave the job drew near, The Builders learned that a former pastor of Ramsey Heights Baptist Church, Roy Tilley, and his wife Audrey, were there when this church was started and the original church building was built.

It was Pastor Tilly's second church pastorate. Roy and Audrey were also one of the original five couples who organized The Master's Builders, back in 1991! This is just a small example of how far out the Lord is planning each of our days.

Roy passed away in 2010, but his wife Audrey was so excited to hear that The Master's Builders were working on one of their former churches. There was a wonderful article written about this special couple in The Trumpet a few months ago.

Please pray for Ramsey Heights Baptist Church as they grow and fill these new rooms! Pray for Bro. Brian as he leads this church. Also, please pray for the Lord to send workers to The Master's Builders group. These men and women love the Lord and want to serve in this ministry, but their bodies are just giving out. They need more workers if The Master's Builders are to continue serving God in this ministry. There is much work to be done...

Follow The Master's Builders on Facebook! You will enjoy keeping up with the group and praying for them while they work. So many folks comment on how happy they are to see where The Builders are working and what they are building. Look for the "arbor" logo on FB and "The Master's Builders" to "like" the page. If your church has building needs or if you have questions about

The Master's Builders ministry, please contact: Mike Green-972-935-3877, David Axe-903-918-0729, or Eddie Sikes-479-462-1675

Nelda Malone Reporter

“A Bright Future”

It has been a pleasure to welcome Dr. Jeremy Langley to Central Baptist College as our new executive vice president. This is an exciting time at CBC, and we are confident that Dr. Langley will be a great blessing to the college moving forward.

Dr. Langley grew up attending Daniel Springs Baptist Camp with his grandfather, and it was there that he trusted Christ as his Savior at the age of ten. It was also at this camp years later that he felt God's calling on his life.

“I surrendered to that call” he said, “And made my decision public the following Sunday. I have never once doubted God's call, and looking back, I am convinced he has used every ministry experience to prepare me for this new role [at CBC].”

In the years since, he has earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science and mass communications from Ouachita Baptist University, a Master of Public Administration from Southern Arkansas University, a Master of Arts in pastoral theology from BMA Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry in ministry leadership from Liberty University.

It was towards the end of his time at Ouachita that Dr. Langley first began working in Higher Education.

As he recalled, “I came across a job listing at Southern Arkansas University that piqued my interest. I am thankful that then-president Dr. David Rankin took a chance on me and hired me to be assistant to the president,” he said, “After leaving SAU for a year, I returned as assistant director of development for two years before departing for full-time ministry.”

During his time at SAU, Dr. Langley met his wife Mary who earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees in education there. They have been married now for 12 years and have one son, Truitt.

In his free time, Dr. Langley enjoys doing yard work, reading, and spending time with his family. Recently, he and his family made it their goal to visit every Arkansas State Park.

“We have been to 35 of the 52, and we

hope to finish up over the next year,” he said.

Dr. Langley has been in the ministry now for many years most recently serving as Associate Pastor at Brister Baptist Church in Emerson, Arkansas. “I have been blessed to serve alongside an outstanding congregation at Brister Baptist Church for nearly 12 years (full-time for the last eight years),” he said.

“They have encouraged me, invested in me, and put up with me more than I could have ever expected. They are some of the hardest-working and deeply loving people I have ever met. I am who I am today, in large part, because of Brister Baptist Church.”

CBC is a special place for Langley's family, and he grew up being very familiar with the college. “My grandfather, Horace Dunn, was an enthusiastic supporter of CBC and served on the Board of Trustees a few decades ago,” he said.

Through his grandfather, Dr. Langley is also related to former CBC president Charles Attebery and recently discovered he is distantly related to CBC's second president, A.R. Reddin.

Looking toward his future at CBC, Dr. Langley hopes to strengthen CBC's relationship with BMA Churches and work closely alongside faculty, staff, the Board of Trustees, alumni, and others in charting a path for CBC's future.

“My greatest goal for my time at CBC is to ensure that the institution remains grounded in and faithful to the Word of God,” he said.

“In a time of intense social pressure, we cannot bend, and we must not bow to the world's demands. I am thankful for the leadership of President Kimbrow and those who came before him. These men have set a high bar regarding doctrinal fidelity, and we must maintain it.”

Dr. Langley has high hopes for the future and looks forward to seeing what God does in and through CBC.

“One thing is certain,” he said, “God has accomplished mighty things through CBC since its founding in 1952, and He is not finished doing big things with His college.”

