

"Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

November 2023
Nacogdoches & Livingston

GODTEL Report



Faith, or, Feeling

I daresay that most of the people in this world are living their lives by their feelings/emotions/bodily-fleshly desires. Even many who call themselves "Christians" are not living by faith. Those may not read the Bible until they "feel" like it. They don't attend church if they don't "feel" like it on Sunday morning. After all, it **feels** so-o very good to just lie there in bed and spend a leisurely morning sipping coffee or tea and reading the newspaper.

In Romans 1:17, Paul quotes a passage from Habakkuk 2, "The just (righteous/saved/ spiritually re-born) shall live by faith. That means believing, trusting, and obeying God. And, I might add, it has nothing to do with how we feel.

An example of a Christian living by faith was told to me this past month. A couple with a 6-year-old daughter checked into our Livingston mission. When I asked the usual questions, like, "where are you from?" and "how did you find out about and get to GODTEL?", I was told the following:

"We had used the last of our money to get to a shelter in Galveston. When we arrived, there was a sign on the door saying, "Closed." They spent that night on the ground in a park. The next morning, as they were trying to decide what to do, they made a call to our Livingston mission and were

told that we would accept them if they could get here. Realizing that it was too far to walk, they just sat there at a picnic table.

Before long a man came walking up to them and said, "I don't usually do this, but God told me to come talk to you." When he heard their story, he told them he lived in Conroe but was commuting to Galveston for a temporary road construction job there. He then told them that when he finished his day's work, he would come pick them up and take them to Livingston. (That would be many miles out of his way.) He was a man of his word because late that afternoon, he came back and picked them up and brought them to our door.

What a blessing to hear this story of a true modern-day "Good Samaritan." I pray that God will bless that man over and over for this good deed.

This family has been very pleasant and helpful as they work with the V.A. to find housing.

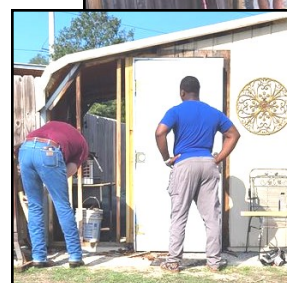
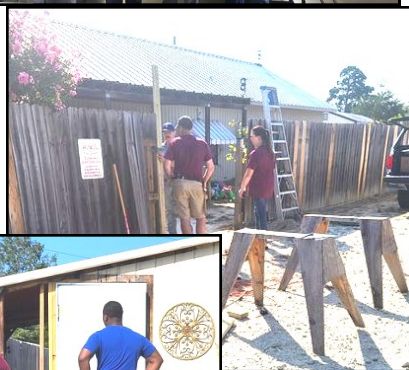
Church "Work Day"

We were delighted to receive a group of servants from First

Praise the Lord!

We rejoice to report that in the month of September, one of GODTEL's residents made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

Baptist Church Nacogdoches for a work day. They repaired fences, a rotten door frame, and they painted the walls of our Dayroom where we eat and meet for Bible studies twice daily.



A great big "Thank You" to members of FBC!

Clarification

Those of you who read last month's insert, "State of the Missions" might have misunderstood something that was said there. I was asked if we were going to shut down the mission to do renovations or rebuild. My answer was, "No, no, no." Then I re-read what Martin had written. He said we had three options: repair, rebuild,

GODTEL Ministries, Inc.

Sharing Practical Christianity Since 1975

Nacogdoches Stats — September, 2023

September Residents:	104
Nights' Lodging Provided:	1,854
Meals Served:	5,618
Christian Help Ctr. Clients:	448

Livingston Stats — September, 2023

September Residents:	24
Nights' Lodging Provided:	358
Meals Served:	1,101
Christian Help Ctr. Clients:	335

Lufkin Stats — September, 2023

September Residents:	35
Nights' Lodging Provided:	521
Meals Served:	1,693



Martin Baker
Executive Director

Martin was a founder of and, since 1975 has been affiliated with, God's Open Door To Eternal Life d.b.a. GODTEL Ministries, a 501 (c)(3) organization.

Following the death of

Bro. June Gentry in September of 2021, GODTEL's Board of Directors unanimously voted to promote Martin from Vice President to President of the Board and Executive Director of GODTEL.

GODTEL is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas but we do not seek nor accept government funding of any kind. GODTEL operates three homeless shelters in East TX, located in Nacogdoches, Lufkin, and Livingston where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is presented daily in word (twice daily Bible classes & Christian counseling) and deed (shelter, food, clothing, and other necessities).

In Nacogdoches and Livingston GODTEL operates "Christian Help Centers" which freely provide clothing, furniture, and household items to the poor.

**"The poor have the Gospel preached to them."
Matthew 11:5**

On the Web: www.godtel.org

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or shut down. Five lines later, he said, "Shutting the Livingston mission down is really not an option (*unless the buildings rot away, so to speak*)

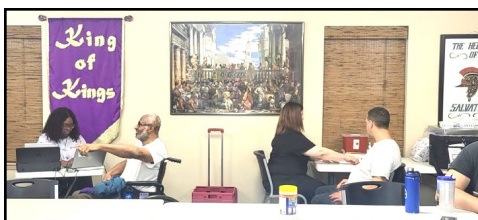
One man came the last week of October to look at some serious erosion possibly putting the foundation of our main building in jeopardy. He gave us some good advice which will save us a lot of money and concern. We need gutters along the side of the roof. (We failed to replace the original gutters when we re-roofed the building many, many years ago. It was not a wise choice.)

The first week of November a contractor is coming to see what other repairs need to be made and give us an estimate of the cost of those repairs. More on that later.

COVID Strikes Again

At this writing, all our shelters are free of COVID. Last month, I reported 14 cases in Nacogdoches. They got cleared up but then it infected another four of our residents. We continue to use preventative measures, but would appreciate your prayers that our staff and residents would maintain good health.

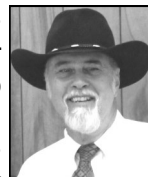
Speaking of health, the Texas State Dept. of Health recently came to the Nacogdoches mission and gave flu shots to our residents and clients of our CHC (clothing closet).



Blessings to you all. — Nancy Gentry

For Your Information

Bro. June's sermons, music, and memorial service are available for viewing and listening to on YouTube. Just search for "June Gentry preaching" and you can hear the sermons he has preached at the missions.



His music CDs and helpful Christian literature, including the series on Faith by Manley Beasley are also available directly from GODTEL (Contact information is at the bottom of this page). Call, email, or write us.

Donate Your Scrap Metal

GODTEL accepts scrap metal donations, including old cars, lawn mowers, and appliances at each of our three locations.

(We will pick up vehicles when possible.)

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