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*The Coffee Baptist Vision*  
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Rev. Leon Fortune  
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Steve Tipton  
Vineyard Manager

**March 09, 2023**

## A MOMENT WITH THE MODERATOR

I believe that missions and ministry go hand in hand. Everything that we do in ministry ought to be mission minded to the extent that our every goal should be that someone receives Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. I have had many Christians, and even pastors, to tell me that God had not called or equipped them for certain duties inside and outside of the church. What this usually means is they have been asked or led to do something that put them outside of their comfort zone. I have been outside my comfort zone as well, but I always found that when I learned to lean on our Lord that He gave strength, comfort, and encouragement that I needed to fulfill the task that He intended for me to do.

Has God called you to work outside your comfort zones? Well, if He has, you need to praise God that He is willing to use you in His service, and take comfort and joy that it is the Lord that gives us strength. There are several people in the Bible that were outside of their comfort zones, and I want to explore a couple of them, and how they responded and set examples for us.

There is a ministry of a little girl in II Kings chapter 5 who was taken captive out of Israel and made into a servant girl. She was in a strange land living with complete strangers, away from her family and friends and her own people. Her captor had the dreaded disease of leprosy, and even though she had been horribly wronged she voluntarily, through God, offered him a solution.

So when you are called to missions or ministry outside of your comfort zone, remember this little girl and how she responded because of her dedication and faithfulness to God. First, I want us to realize that sometimes God uses unlikely instruments. Think of young David going to war against Goliath. Who would have thought of a young shepherd lad becoming the hero to save Israel? Think of the Apostle Paul before his conversion, and what a great servant of the Lord he became. This little girl did what she could, and God used her and we need to learn that we should not despise youth. We also learn that she did not harbor a grudge.

I also realize that her parents must have fulfilled their responsibility well, for how else would she have known about the prophet? As Christian parents, how well do we share Jesus with our own children? I also notice that she had tender compassion for her captor, instead of being glad that he was dying and suffering. I notice she had great courage while outside her comfort zone. Surely she had been made fun of for her belief in God just as many of us have been made fun of, but this did not deter her.

Finally, notice her great faith in God. When all about you is crumbling, when all of your plans and schemes go awry, and all your friends forsake you, have faith in God for God never changes, and He will never leave you nor forsake you. When we trust Jesus in all we do, He will equip us, even if we feel we are outside our comfort zone.

Trusting Jesus,  
Rev. Leon Fortune



Call our  
office with  
your  
VBS dates.

Visit our website at  
ccbacenter.com to see  
VBS dates.

### Disaster Relief Training

March 10-11, 2023

Trinity Church

2694 State Highway 52, Geneva, AL 36340

Areas of training will include Administration,  
Chainsaw, Clean-up, Recovery and Mudout,  
Mass Feeding, Shower/Laundry.

Please go to alsbom-gm.org and register.

## Calendar of Events

### March

14 - Executive Committee Meeting - 7:00 pm

### April

3 - Widow's Ministry Meeting - 6:00 pm

6 - Vineyard Work Day - 8:00 am

6 - Vineyard Committee Meeting - 2:00 pm

13 - WMU Banquet - 6:30 pm

25 - Senior Adult Luncheon - 11:00 am

29 - Boys Adventure Camp at the Vineyard

### May

9 - Executive Committee Meeting - 7:00 pm

## Scholarships

The Baptist Foundation of Alabama  
Applications due March 31, 2023.

Applications must be  
completed online at  
tbfa.org/scholarships.

A.L. Strozier applications can be  
picked up at our office..

## WMU Banquet

April 13 at 6:30 pm

Ino Baptist Church

## Boys Adventure Camp at the Vineyard

April 29, 2023

Call our office to register or  
for more information.

## GA Camp at the Vineyard

May 12-13, 2023

## IncrediCamp

Build Your Life  
Hebrews 3:4

July 17-19

\$120 per child if registered by  
June 15. \$135 after June 15, 2023.

Find us on Facebook at:  
Incredicamp@Vineyard Christian Retreat

Call the Vineyard at 334-762-2256  
for more info.