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BETZER SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

A message from Rev. Dan Betzer

Dear friend of AGTS,

I have recently learned that AGTS still has a mortgage debt in the amount of \$458,000.

I thought we had long since liquidated this debt. However, when the AGTS building was constructed and our Fellowship sent in good offerings for its completion, we fell just short of the need. As a result, it costs AGTS \$63,000 annually to service the mortgage repayment. Can AGTS handle this? Yes...but!

If the seminary did not have this debt, it could release that \$63,000 into scholarship funds!

This year, the Executive Presbytery placed the repayment schedule on hold, resulting in a savings to AGTS of \$63,331.80. This amount was used for scholarships, which ultimately assisted 15 additional students! Most of these 15 students could not have come to AGTS without these funds. With front-line workers desperately needed in God's work today, doesn't it make more sense to you that, rather than bowing to debt service of \$63,000, we give that amount each year in scholarships?

For every dollar given to retire debt, AGTS is able to release one dollar to scholarships! That means that in the next seven years, instead of paying for bricks and mortar, nearly a half million dollars would be released to assist students who are preparing for God's call to areas such as missions or church planting ministries!

How can you help?

Would you prayerfully consider two things today?

1. Will you join my wife and me in personally giving \$1,000 or more for this grand purpose? (You should know that some of the AG Executive Presbytery and Board of Administration have already made this commitment.)
2. Will you share this great need with at least five other people in your network of pastors, friends and business associates?

I believe this is an eternal matter—an investment of gold, silver and precious stones of 1 Corinthians 3! Would you please contact AGTS right now (417-268-1012)? Together, by the grace of God, you and I can help win this incredible victory for the Kingdom! Let's do it for Jesus' sake!

Your friend,



Dan Betzer
Senior Pastor
First Assembly of God, Ft. Myers, Fla.

Scholarships Make the Difference

Higher education costs play a major role in a student's decision to pursue graduate theological education.

Students are finding it increasingly difficult to enter full-time ministry upon graduation due to the burden of repaying school loans.

- Graduate students borrow, on average, \$31,700, according to the National Loan Survey.
- Average percentage of monthly income that goes toward student loan payments has increased 72% since 1997.
- The average monthly loan payment for graduate school is \$273.

Unfortunately, significant education debt can inhibit a graduate's ability to follow God's call into missions, church planting or inner-city ministries.

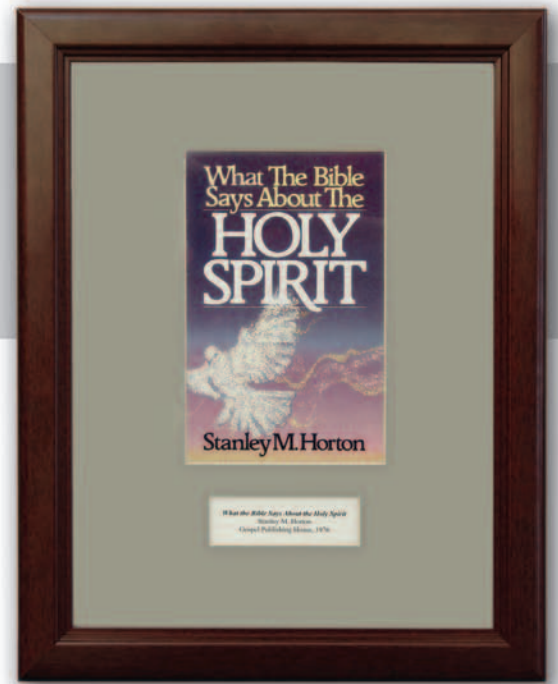
With your help, we can remove these barriers to ministry!

Knowledge on Fire

Book Project

AGTS is honoring the writings of current and previous faculty members by displaying a framed book covers to be displayed at AGTS. You can sponsor a book for a minimum donation of \$500. All proceeds go directly to the AGTS Pentecostal Leaders Fund, allowing the seminary to provide scholarship resources for students. Sponsors will be acknowledged with a plaque displayed on the frame. You may also designate a person whose memory you would like to honor with the sponsorship.

Reserve yours **TODAY** by calling 417-268-1012 or emailing partners@agts.edu. Available on a first-come, first-served basis.



Benny C. Aker and Gary B. McGee, eds., *Signs & Wonders in Ministry Today*

Billie Davis, *Teaching to Meet Crisis Need*

Deborah M. Gill and Barbara Cavaness, *God's Women: Then and Now*

James D. Hernando, *Dictionary of Hermeneutics*

Melvin L. Hodges, *Build My Church*

Melvin L. Hodges, *Edificaré Mi Iglesia*

Melvin L. Hodges, *The Indigenous Church*

Melvin L. Hodges, *The Indigenous Church and the Missionary*

Melvin L. Hodges, *Spiritual Gifts*

Melvin L. Hodges, *A Theology of the Church and Its Mission: A Pentecostal Perspective*

Stanley M. Horton, *I & II Corinthians*

Stanley M. Horton, *Acts*

Stanley M. Horton, *Isaiah*

Stanley M. Horton, *Our Destiny: Biblical Teachings on the Last Things*

Stanley M. Horton, *The Promise of His Coming*

Stanley M. Horton, ed., *Systematic Theology*

Stanley M. Horton, *The Ultimate Victory: An Exposition of the Book of Revelation*

Stanley M. Horton, *What the Bible Says About the Holy Spirit*

Murray A. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus and Douglas Petersen, *Called & Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective*

Murray W. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus and Douglas Peterson, eds., *The Globalization of Pentecostalism: A Religion Made to Travel*

Edgar R. Lee, ed., *He Gave Apostles: Apostolic Ministry in the 21st Century*

David Lim, *Spiritual Gifts: A Fresh Look*

Stanley M. Burgess and Gary B. McGee, eds., *Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements*

Gary B. McGee, *This Gospel Shall Be Preached: A History and Theology of Assemblies of God Foreign Missions, vols. 1 & 2*

Gary B. McGee, ed., *Initial Evidence: Historical and Biblical Perspectives on the Pentecostal Doctrine of Spirit Baptism*

A. Scott Moreau, Gary R. Corwin and Gary B. McGee, *Introducing World Missions: A Biblical, Historical, and Practical Survey*

Gary B. McGee, *People of the Spirit*

William W. Menzies, *Understanding the Time of Christ*

William W. Menzies and Stanley M. Horton, *Bible Doctrines: A Pentecostal Perspective*

William W. Menzies and Robert P. Menzies, *Spirit and Power: Foundations of Pentecostal Experience*

Anthony D. Palma, *The Holy Spirit: A Pentecostal Perspective*

Anthony D. Palma, *The Spirit of God in Action*

Anthony D. Palma, *Truth: Antidote for Error*

Del Tarr, *Double Image: Biblical Insights from African Parables*

Morris O. Williams, *Partnership in Mission: A Study of Theology and Method in Mission*

John V. York, *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*



Dr. Ben and Barbara Aker

Free Will Preparation

AGTS is partnering with AG Financial Services Group who provides free preparation of last will and testaments for those who leave a gift of at least 10% of their final estates to ministries of their choice. Please call AGTS at 417-268-1022 to secure a "free will packet" or email dfegler@agts.edu.

ESTATE PLANNING

Interview with Dr. Benny C. Aker

Dorothea Lotter, director of Institutional and Alumni Relations, recently interviewed retiring professor Dr. Benny C. Aker, about the inclusion of AGTS in his and wife Barbara's estate plan.

Lotter: *Why did you include AGTS in your estate plan?*

Aker: After working at AGTS for 16 years, we wanted give back to something that has given so much to us. It just makes spiritual common sense.

Education has always been our passion. Raising support for education is so crucial for the church and ministry. Without it, the mission will suffer greatly. We want to give AGTS a gift that keeps on giving long after we are gone.

Lotter: *Why is estate planning important?*

Aker: While Barb and I were caring for our aging parents, we quickly realized the importance of having an estate plan. It's just smart business. It helps you preserve more of your estate for your heirs and God's work and will save your family the difficulties that come with dividing an estate after your death.

Lotter: *At what point in your life did you prepare your will?*

Aker: Preparing a will was part of our estate planning years ago when we were young. If you have children, it is vital. I would really encourage people, regardless of age or financial worth, to put their house in order and plan their estates carefully.

Lotter: *Is there anything else you want to share with AGTS friends and alumni?*

Aker: Simply, as working people, we feel that estate planning is important. Practicing good financial principles has helped us live a disciplined life and get our priorities straight.

A gift of not less than a tithe should be at the heart of an estate plan. Consider AGTS because its mission is eternal. It will train people who will extend God's kingdom through time and around the world. I don't know of a more effective place to leave your gift.

About Estate Planning: Wills and Bequests

Why is a will important?

The majority of Americans die without a last will and testament. Bereaved family members are thrown into a whirlwind of decisions regarding health care, guardianship, funeral arrangements and the estate. They may struggle due to inadequate resources while legal issues are pending. The opportunity to leave an appropriate legacy with families and valued ministries is often lost.

What is a will?

A will is a legal document that directs how your money and property are to be distributed after your death. You can:

- Create a road map for loved ones
- Retain ownership of assets
- Protect your spouse and children
- Minimize legal delays and probate costs
- Leave a legacy of your core values

What is a bequest?

A bequest is a transfer through a will of property such as cash, stocks or securities, insurance, annuities or tangible assets. Bequests are the most popular form of planned giving and do not reduce your current income. They enable you to leave a legacy with ministries you value.

Some examples of bequests are:

- *Specific Gift:* Designate an amount, percentage of your estate or a

particular piece of real or personal property to benefit AGTS.

- *Residual Gift:* Designate the remainder of your estate, after your loved ones are provided for.
- *Contingent Gift:* Designate AGTS as a beneficiary if your primary heirs predecease you.
- *Memorial Bequest:* Make a bequest in your name or in memory of a loved one as an enduring tribute to those who value AGTS.
- *Life Insurance Policy:* Cite AGTS as the beneficiary.

Consider a Bequest to AGTS

As a non-profit institution, AGTS depends upon the generosity of friends and alumni. Your investment in the future of AGTS will sustain a quality education for Pentecostal leaders, meet student financial needs and keep tuition and student loan debt to a minimum.

Let AGTS Know Your Intent

We understand that your intentions are a private matter, but if you are comfortable letting AGTS know, it would be helpful for our long-term planning. We can also provide the appropriate legal language for including AGTS in a will.

Contact Dorothea Lotter, director of institutional and alumni relations at 417-268-1022 or dlotter@agts.edu.



Alumni Relations and Fund-Raising Efforts Expanded

Dorothea Lotter was named director of the new Institutional and Alumni Relations Office. Her focus will be to implement a planned giving program, increase the seminary's grant seeking efforts, oversee the alumni organization and its activities and direct special projects for the president.

Ways to Include AGTS in Your Estate Plan

- Wills and Bequests
- Stewardship Trusts
- Lifestyle Trusts
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Donor Advised Funds
- Endowment
- Real Estate