

A TRIBUTE TO EVANGELIST JOE M. BOYD

... by Evangelist Oliver Araiza



Evangelist
Oliver Araiza

It was my privilege to have traveled with Dr. Joe Boyd for several summers in his Summer Seminars of Evangelism. Once I entered the field of full time evangelism, I was able to assist him in several meetings of various sorts. Evangelist Dr. Joe M. Boyd has gone home to glory. Brother Boyd passed away June 1, 2009 at 1:14 a.m. CT in Merrillville, Indiana. After several years of struggling with the effects of a stroke he is in heaven with the Lord Jesus, his sweet wife Edith, and a whole lot of people that are there because of his bold and passionate witness for the Gospel.

His home going service was held at the First Baptist Church in Hammond, Indiana on Friday, June 12. Pastor Jack Schaap presided over the service. Pollard Mercer, Evangelist Randy Taylor, Ray Young, and Attorney David Gibbs spoke about Dr. Boyd. His body was laid to rest at Memory Lane Cemetery in Crown Point, Indiana. A memorial service was held at Mt. Salem Revival Grounds on Tuesday June 16, at 10:30 a.m. in the Joe Boyd Tabernacle. It was a sweet time for those of us who knew Brother Boyd. The memories of this great man and his precious wife are very dear to all of us at Mt. Salem Revival Grounds.

The following are my thoughts that I expressed at the memorial service held at the camp. "I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, and the judgment of their God..." (Jeremiah 5:5a)

Who was Joe Boyd?

He was an East Texas boy.
Son of a preacher and debater
An All-American Athlete
A successful business man
A bold witness of the Gospel
A compassionate Soul-winner
A dedicated student of the Scriptures
A Bible Preacher: Colorful in his style - Powerful in his delivery - Diligent in his preparation

But, one of the matchless peculiarities Bro. Boyd possessed was his love for preacher boys. Evangelist Joe Boyd loved preacher boys like no other. He was endowed with an amazing abundance of patience for young preachers training for the Gospel ministry. His astonishing ability to instruct, encourage, and inspire young preachers produced some of the most powerful and sought after Evangelists today.

The Joe Boyd Summer Seminars of Evangelism began in 1975. I was privileged to travel eight summers working as his dean of men for two summers. Mt. Salem Revival Grounds was dedicated as a training headquarters for young evangelists. Hundreds and hundreds of young men from across America, Canada, and Mexico would convene upon the summer revival trail of Joe Boyd. And believe me; every time he brought preacher boys into a meeting, he was putting it in jeopardy. But he was always willing to take the chance, because he loved preacher boys. Put Joe Boyd in a crowd of people, and his charisma and wit and charm would shine. He was made for crowds. When placed in a crowd of people it was like he was at the 1940 Sugar Bowl all over again. He was made for a crowd of people; but if you surrounded him with 15 – 25 young preacher boys and Joe Boyd was in his element. He was gifted at correction without crushing, and training without changing. He gave you what he had, mixed it with what God had given you, and expected you to do what God had called you to do.

My first encounter with Bro. Boyd was the day when he reached out his big hand to shake my hand and he asked me if I could sing. I replied with, "No, sir." His response to me was, "Then you're a preacher." That began an amazing relationship that I have benefited from immensely.

Some have asked me, "What was it like traveling with Joe Boyd?" Well, a revival meeting with Joe Boyd meant get things moving, make things happen, stir things up. It meant get the busses moving; it meant get the baptismal waters stirred; and it meant lay down three Gospel Nets. 1. Cast a Gospel Net for the children ages 6 – 12. Dr. Boyd would say, "We need busses, funny money, a country store or the Worlds Longest Banana Split." 2. The second Gospel Net was cast over Teenagers – Teen Blitz Bus every night, Friday night hotdog roast, Sunday night Pizza Blast, and preach with an appeal for full-time ministerial service. 3. Then cast a Gospel Net over the adult service with a booby-prize contest for the adults. Sometimes it meant the losers must commit "sooeyside," kiss a little sucking pig on the snout, or at other times it was The Worlds Worst Sandwich (limburger cheese/onions/horseradish between two slices of bread).

Revival with Joe Boyd meant whatever it takes to get things fired up, get things moving, do it! Bro. Boyd used to say sometimes you have to shock a church. This always meant the devil suit and a sign that read: Don't attend the Revival meeting with Joe Boyd; at the particular church we were conducting the revival meeting.

Traveling with Joe Boyd meant:

- Early Morning Prayer meetings
- Baptize them while they are hot... Baptist steam
- How to Help Your Pastor Win Souls
- So You Want To Be an Evangelist - lecture
- Break 1-9 for Good News, you got your ears on? (cb radio talk) Trucker responds "What's the good news"... "Jesus saves sinners."
- On the plan of salvation, "If you stay in the Book of Romans boys, you'll be weak on hell."
- It meant seeing Bro. Boyd read and study his Bible on his knees
- Read my manual boys, read the manual
- Great Preaching

Traveling with Joe Boyd meant having the privilege of being brought into the life of a great man, and that is exactly what Dr. Boyd did. He brought preacher boys into his life; that's Real ministry training. It meant rubbing shoulders with a great man. The label of "**Joe Boyd Preacher Boy**" meant the Lord had smiled upon you in a very gracious way, and I was very privileged, as were so many other men.

For the complete article log on to: www.wvgvradio.com or www.oliveraraiza.com



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The Armour

...and let us put on the Armour of Light - Romans 13:12

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A big thank you goes out to everyone who initially helped WVGW by contributing to the Founders' Club. Family and friends from across the country sacrificially gave. We are now entering our next huge phase, and once again I need your help. To combat the relentless onslaught the adversary has launched upon the church and the family we need Christian Radio in a desperate way.

To help raise the necessary funds for the radio equipment, after much prayer, I am launching our final campaign, **The Caleb Club**. Giants have to be slain, and a mountain has to be conquered. I am humbly asking the Lord for 100 friends that understand the historical times in which we live, to give \$500.00. By breaking down the cost into feasible amounts it allows us to see how this huge task can be accomplished; how this mountain can be conquered. Please pray about what you can do. The Lord's blessings have been upon this radio ministry project from the very beginning. If you want to get in on the blessing, please keep us in your prayers and if the Lord leads, help us financially.

Production Studio - \$3,803.86 / On Air Studio - \$5,654.33 / Transmitter Site - \$36,152.00
For a detailed itemized list of the equipment please call the office at (304) 873-1049.

***The labor cost not included in these prices.**

February of this year we submitted out antenna pattern to three different companies: Shivley, Jampiro, and ERI. Each manufacturer denied our antenna pattern because of the severe restrictions to the south and a tight loop to the northeast. Our original construction permit granted us permission for a directional antenna (primarily north and west) at 185 ft. at 4,700 watts. Martin Gibbs of Karatek Int. Kennewick, WA has partnered with me to assist us in getting WVGW 89.7 FM on the air. Brother Gibbs recommended we have a new study performed. The new study revealed that the competing stations to the south had been denied a license; this has opened up an area we would not have had the opportunity to reach. The studies can be seen at www.katekint.org click on the project link. Bro. Joey Wells of Church Planters of America, our initial engineer, had foreseen this. The new study has revealed that we will be able to go higher up on the tower to 325 ft and reduce the power to 1,300 watts with a non-directional antenna (omni-directional pattern). With an FM signal, antenna height is one of the biggest factors. These changes will drastically reduce the cost of the antenna and also significantly trim operating cost but cover more area and reach a larger potential listening audience than our initial plans. Praise the Lord. An amendment has been filed with the F.C.C. for these adjustments. Please keep us in your prayers. The equipment, the professional installers, and labor cost we are about to face are expensive but necessary. Bro. Gibbs says that we are looking at September to start bolting things to the tower.

WVGW Radio Ministry News: