



The members of the gospel group, 4Calvary: (left to right) baritone Tom Rantz, lead singer Paul Baum, tenor Brandon Plaster, and bass Dave Taylor.

4Calvary Gospel Group Sings ‘for Calvary’

Fourteen years ago, in 2007, Tom Rantz and Paul Baum were coworkers and discovered that they had something beyond their workplace in common; both were worship service leaders at their respective churches. One thing led to another and soon they had joined with two other southern gospel enthusiasts to form the gospel quartet, 4Calvary.

Tom is the senior member of the group and sings baritone. “The first year or so, we sang at maybe 8-10 local churches. Since then we’ve had some changes in our line up and, while we haven’t played any arena type concerts, we’ve done several really large churches and played on cruises. We have also performed Silver Dollar City’s Southern Gospel Picnic for the last several years.

Paul Baum, the lead singer, has music in his DNA. Both of his parents were music teachers and he has a degree in music from Central Methodist University in Fayette, Mo. When he’s not singing, Paul works in finance for a

local car dealership. He and his family love to spend any spare time at Disney Resorts.

Band member Dave Taylor is a familiar name to many in the Springfield area. He is general manager for two nationally recognized gospel stations that air in Southwest Missouri, KWFC and KWND. He is the drive time disc jockey on KWFC. Dave, who sings bass, is an ordained minister through Baptists Bible fellowship and pastored a church in Arizona for nine years before moving into music ministry.

Tom, who sings baritone, raises Angus cattle on a farm between Branson and Springfield. He has previously owned a riding stable and a leather-working shop in Branson. He and his wife, Vicky, have hosted outdoor concerts at the ranch and, during the covid scare, the ranch served as backdrop for live Facebook performances.

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4Calvary Gospel Singers

Tenor singer Brandon, who is Tom's stepson, owns a boarding stable and works full-time for the Postal Service. He and his wife have four sons, and adopted three-year-old boy and, currently, are fostering two little girls, ages four and seven. Brandon has written some of the group's songs.

Tom is adamant that 4Calvary is not just a hobby or a career for any of the members; it's a calling. The group's goal isn't to become gospel superstars; it just to follow the Lord's leading and go wherever He sends them.

They have had some amazing help along the way. As have many gospel performers, they were influenced by

Bill and Gloria Gather, but they have also received guidance and encouragement from Jim Pearson of the Diplomats, a group they met and became friends with performing on the same stage. Also, Jim Garstang, who had played for the Cathedrals and later for country singer Mel Tillis, offered to help them with their instrumentals and even had Mel's band record for them.

"We enjoy what we do," says Tom. "The best part is when we get to see that our singing has helped someone make a decision for the Lord."

If you would like to contact 4Calvary to schedule a performance, text or call Tom at 417-861-4456.

Being More Than a Counselor

By Donna Moller, Licensed Counselor

A few months ago, I shared the believer's identity in Christ. Since then, I have wanted to share how we battle against the enemy. To review, you are the righteousness in Christ, holy, blameless, and without fault. Reread Romans 6-8. Your old self has died and your new self is alive in Christ. The challenge then is to walk in this new life, i.e., to be transformed. How to do this? How do I get to be more than a conqueror? This is what the article is about this month: being more than a conqueror over the "dead man."

When you read the Bible, synonyms for the enemy are nations, flesh, wicked, etc. We are never to identify with these. We need to be aware we can do nothing apart from the Lord and He uses His word to transform us.

Make a list of the "dead man" attitudes/actions/thoughts you want to be transformed. I had a list of ten or more. Ah yes, no condemnation!

Battle Plan Against the Enemy:

Step 1. While reading the Bible, expect the Lord to highlight a scripture that is appropriate for your battle against the enemy. A scripture God gave me was Psalms 7:6, "Lift thy hand against the fury of my enemies!" My enemy at that time was anger.

Step 2. Meditate upon the scripture given to you. Put your name in it! Ask Him for all the meaning in the verse. Psalm 3:8 was huge for me. "Deliverance belongs to the Lord." I had always read "salvation" not deliverance. Suddenly I un-

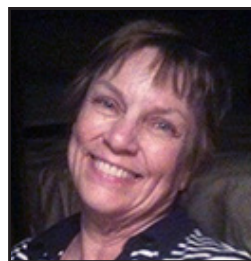
derstood, "*deliverance* belongs to the Lord!" He showed me I had been trying to deliver me. He refused to let me have any of His glory. I would have to do it His way.

Step 3. Memorize your verse. When you forget, go back to it. Do not give up. There is power in His word.

Step 4. Use the verse. Hurl it against the enemy! Just like Jesus did in Matthew 4. Another example of mine; I had been practicing this for several months. Then my boys were home on Christmas break. And wouldn't you know? They were being boys! Having a ball playing loudly together. I was so angry. Immediately the Lord calmed me with His word I had been memorizing. It was a miracle! And I did not lose my temper for the whole time! Glory to God!

You probably will find yourself giving into the enemy at first. I know I did. Do not condemn yourself. Just hurl the word against the enemy and be free with Jesus. You are more than a conqueror already. You now want to see this truth while you are on this earth.

Donna Moller, Licensed Counselor



Donna Moller
Licensed Professional
Counselor

'Merry Christmas 2021' from Jim and Pam Wining

By Dr. James R. Wining

Listening and seeing God's love of us through friends, neighbors and acquaintances is such a joy of Christmas. The compassion and care shown for the sick, the injured, the poor and the lonely is a remarkable component of the meaning of Christmas. This joyous time in celebration of Jesus' birth should remind us to rely on things of God and not of man.

Pam and I are so happy and fulfilled with our family, our friends, our animals and Acts Ministry. This year through all the conflict and revengeful rhetoric we rejoiced in our Lord and the directions we received from The Holy Spirit. After losing our beloved friend and pastor Bruce Pearson, Founder of The Veterans Church, we received a new pastor Kevin Kilmurray and his wife, Donna to head up The Veterans Church. Their combination of message and music is reaching our veterans around the world in their homes, in care facilities and at our headquarters. Next after an absence in serving the "autism community," our dear pastor Billy Burris reminded us of our experience, contacts and community needs for persons and families effected by autism during ActsFest 2021. We stepped into this calling with three series of programs on Acts Media Group and have reached thousands of those affected and those previously unaware. More, programs on different issues involving autism are planned for 2022.

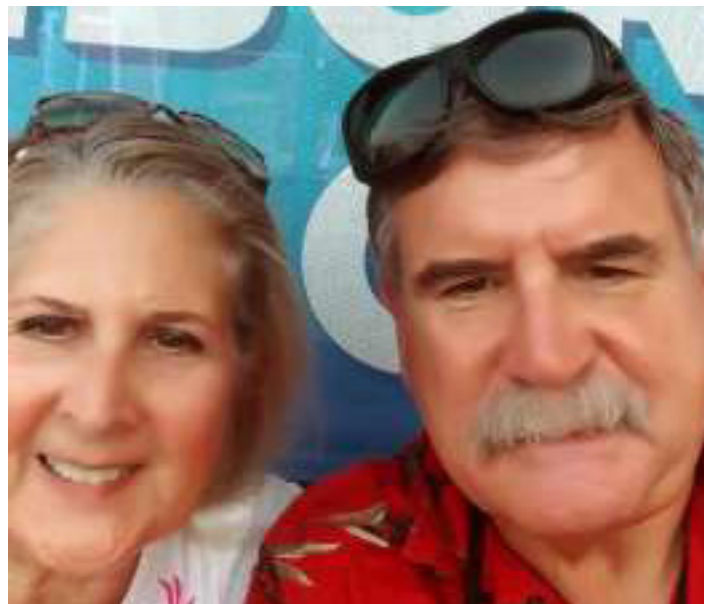
We visited one day with a guest on "Changing Times," and "The Happy Hour," AMG programs, Dee Wampler, Esquire, about his book, "The Trial of Christ." Unfortunately, he passed this year. He was, by profession, one of the truly great attorney's in this country. However, our earlier discussions with him about his book becoming a 21st Century adaptation play did not end with his passing. I am pleased, to confirm his family agreed to proceed and, like us, is looking for-

ward to its production in 2022.

Finally, Acts Ministry has been blessed with a leader who crosses political and religious lines with ease and politeness. Lynn Morris together with his energetic co-host Dawn Blackard, started the program "Changing Times," with weekly guests one after another with information and insight into the world we live in. This is exactly the reason why Acts Ministry created Acts Media Group. This program is a bridge between eliminating misunderstanding and creating agreement. This is one significant part of our vision, "Unity, in Christ, through The Holy Spirit."

It is amazing how trials of man create answers from God, when we listen.

*Merry Christmas,
Pam & Jim Wining*



Acts Media Group Programs may now be seen on:

Dailymotion ATN

www.dailymotion.com/ActsTelevisionNetwork

OR...

Rumble AMG Broadcasting

rumble.com/c/c-1132153

Acts Television Network

SIMULCAST ON ACTS RADIO

Archives are Available on actsmediagroup.com

Click on ACTS TV tab along the top of the page or check out our YouTube channel

Wednesdays

• SILVER LININGS •

8 am with Steve McAllister

• CHANGING TIMES •

10 am with Lynn Morris & Dawn Blackard

• TRIALS AND TRIUMPS •

11 am with Ladena Bough

Every Second Sunday

• THE VETERANS CHURCH •

2 pm Host: Pastor Kevin Kilmurray

Every First & Third Sunday

• FIRST ACTS CHURCH •

2-4 pm Host: Dr. Paul Collins

On Demand

• PAINTING OUTSIDE THE LINES •

New Discoveries in Autism

With author Joyce Jones and her husband, Tom

Education and Autism

With Elizabeth Obrey, vice-president of STARS for Autism

Living the Life with Autism

With Keith Allyman, Branson performer with personal experience with autism

The Little Boy That Could

With author Joyce Jones and her husband, Tom