

Into the

THIRD MILLENNIUM



Third Millennium Ministries Quarterly Newsletter

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MINISTRIES

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WHO IS THAT ON THE COVER?



Pictured on the cover alongside his wife of seven years and their two daughters is 26-year-old DJ Hoover from Rogers, Arkansas. DJ is a bi-vocational pastor, splitting his time between working in the construction industry and serving

as the associate pastor and worship leader at Piney Point Baptist Church. Last year, he connected with Will Savell of The Grace Institute in Costa Rica and shared how he uses Third Millennium Ministries to mentor the people in his church.

Through Piney Point Baptist, DJ leads the Hoover House – a ministry that takes in troubled teenage and adult men, gives them the tools to become self-sufficient, and leads them in Bible study. “(We give) them a safe place to grow in the Lord, teach them the Word, and provide accountability and mentorship,” DJ explains. “We also help them with finances, getting a job, and eventually becoming self-sustaining.”

While some of the men at the Hoover House have grown up in a church environment, others are new believers and are reading the Bible for the first time. In order to connect with each individual, DJ needed a study that would be deep enough and tackle important issues, but still be easy to understand. That is when he was introduced to Third Millennium Ministries. “Third Millennium is an integral part of our discipleship and mentorship process,” DJ says. “It teaches them how to study

and grow deeper in the Word.” DJ was impressed with how deep the material was and how easy it was to follow. The curriculum has allowed these men to gain a full understanding of the Bible and use it to mentor and disciple one another.

Having gone through the Third Mill curriculum and benefitting from the mentorship of DJ and the Hoover House, these men understand how critical discipleship is for the growth of the kingdom. Many have told DJ how excited they are to share the Bible with friends and family in their communities.

Because of their circumstances, these men would have never been able to afford a traditional seminary education on their own. With the free Third Mill materials, they can get that education as well as use it to mentor, disciple, and evangelize others in their community. DJ could not be more appreciative of the impact Third Mill has had on his ministry.

“Not only has it helped my growth as a pastor, but also it is affecting these men and their families where they otherwise would probably never have a chance or be able to afford anything like it! Thank you so much for the hard work and dedication of all those involved!”

We are thankful for people, like DJ, who not only use our materials for personal development, but also to minister to people in their community. We pray that his ministry is fruitful.

Will filmed a short interview with DJ in Costa Rica where he shares a little more about the Hoover House and how Third Mill has helped both him and his ministry. You can watch the video at thirdmill.org/djhoover.

GRACE TO CITY

In March, Third Millennium's Director of International Languages and Chinese Projects, Rev. Biao Chen, travelled to China for the China Partnership's Grace to City Convention. The China Partnership seeks to serve Chinese people globally and locally. For this to happen, one must always be a learner of Chinese culture and people, as well as be intentional in serving them. More than 2,000 Chinese pastors and church leaders from 120 different cities gathered to listen to the teachings of well-respected pastors, discuss the future of the church in China, and join in fellowship. "It was a celebration of what God has been doing these past two years in China... This Convention is to be a catalyst for the future," said Jeff Kyle of the China Partnership. Among the speakers were Rev. Tim Keller of Redeemer City to City and our very own Biao Chen.

When he was not speaking, Biao answered questions about andragogy (the process of engaging adult learners), operated the Third Mill booth, and distributed Third Mill's curriculum. As you can tell from the pictures, the booth was swarmed with people eager to get a copy of the Chinese curriculum. By the end of the conference, 500 32 GB flash drives containing the entire Chinese curriculum and 1,500 books printed by the China Partnership of the manuscripts and study guides of *The Apostles' Creed* and *The Book of Revelation* were given to the attendees.

Despite seemingly overwhelming obstacles, the underground church in China is growing at a tremendous pace and more Chinese people are learning about Christ. Now, more than ever, the need for biblically trained leadership in the Chinese church is crucial. If you would like to partner with us to produce and distribute our Chinese curriculum, please visit thirdmill.org/donate.



NEW SERIES RELEASED!

Our production and language departments have been working tirelessly to add much needed lessons and series to our seminary curriculum. Because of their hard work and dedication, we are pleased to announce that we have three new series available: *Kingdom and Covenant in the New Testament* in English, *Building Biblical Theology* in Spanish, and *The Book of Revelation* in Russian.

Our newest series, *Kingdom and Covenant in the New Testament*, explores two of the most fundamental themes found in the New Testament – the new covenant in Christ and the kingdom of God. As a seminal series in our master's curriculum, *Kingdom and Covenant in the New Testament* will orient students with the overarching message of the New Testament and provide the foundation for future and more targeting series.

Due to the generosity of our donors, our Spanish team has received the funding to complete the remaining series in the curriculum for a Certificate in Christian Ministry. *Building Biblical Theology* is the second series they have completed this year – the first being *The Book of Acts*. *Building Biblical Theology* explains the history, justification, methods, and usage of biblical theology.

Splitting their time between the United States and Ukraine, our Russian team has been hard at work interviewing professors who would contextualize the lessons to ensure the content is relevant to the Russian culture. *The Book of Revelation* summarizes the background and primary message of Revelation for viewers, while exploring modern application for one of the most confusing and exciting books of the Bible. This is also the second Russian series completed this year – the first being our paramount series, *We Believe in Jesus*.

You can watch all three of these lessons at thirdmill.org, espanol.thirdmill.org, and ru.thirdmill.org respectively.



FROM THE FIELD

I am from Kyrgyzstan and I am a pastor of a Presbyterian church. When the pastors from Kyrgyzstan came across a video of Richard Pratt, we were impressed by how comprehensible — and at the same time academic — the teaching was. This curriculum has given me a deeper understanding of the covenants. I have seen how interested other pastors are in these materials. I was glad to learn that there are ready-made study guides provided. These materials are very convenient and beneficial for understanding the Bible message.

- [Name omitted for security], Kyrgyzstan



JOIN US TODAY!

Your generosity today will provide pastoral training for years to come. Will you prayerfully consider supporting our work by returning your donation in the enclosed envelope? If you prefer the convenience of online giving, visit thirdmill.org and click the "Donate" button.

THANK YOU!

DISTRIBUTION UPDATE

Partnerships are a key piece of our strategy to distribute our seminary curriculum and train Christians worldwide. Below are some of our most recent updates from our distribution partners.

- Birmingham Theology Seminary reports that there are now more than 1,000 students studying theology through BTS online.
- Over 1,500 students are enrolled in a Cuban seminary that exclusively uses our materials.
- Nine students from South Sudan completed all the Third Mill coursework necessary to graduate with a Certificate in Christian Ministry.
- The Senior Chaplain at Blackwater River Correctional Facility tells us that 38 inmates are enrolled in the prison's theological education program where they study (among other things) the Third Mill curriculum.

