

Preparing Souls To Serve The Lord

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In Memory of B.C. Carr November 9, 1918–January 13, 2001

In this issue of the *Harvesters* we honor the founder and past director of the Florida School of Preacher, B. C. Carr who departed this life, January 13, 2001.

In 1999 the school celebrated its 30th Anniversary. The Board of Directors chose to honor the Carrs by dedicating the Annual Lectureship Book to them. On that occasion we made the following observations about the contribution that brother and



B.C. Carr, Sybil Carr And Gordon Methvin
Gordon Methvin is the current Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Black did the major service.

We pray God's blessings and comfort on sister Carr and the family. –Jackie



Gordon Methvin, Chairman of the Board of Directors, writes the following:

“Florida School of Preaching and B. C.

sister Carr made to the school. (1) He saw the need to train preachers. (2) Brother and sister Carr made the sacrifices necessary to accomplish that goal. (3) They persevered in their quest, and (4) brother Carr had a faithful companion to encourage him every step of the way.

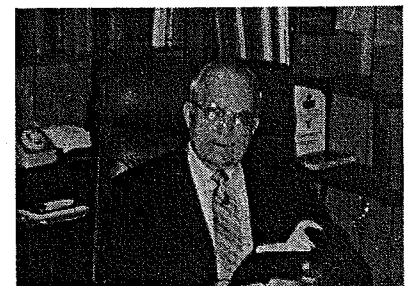
It was fitting that these points be made then, and they were made at his funeral services.

Brother Maurice Davis, a teacher, Board member and a long time friend of brother and sister Carr, and I had a part in the funeral services. Brother Ira Rice spoke, and long time friend, V. P.

Carr's name since 1969 are almost one in the same. Brother Carr was both Director and Chairman of Board of Directors until 1992 when he retired. His association at every level contributed to the success of the school. He was teacher, fundraiser, recruiter, chairman of the board etc. He was the source of



B.C. Carr and Jackie Marshall
Sister Marshall made a sizeable memorial contribution to the school in memory of her late husband, Clyde C. Marshall



B. C. Carr
In His Office at School

information for the board members and kept them aware of brotherhood successes and problems.

“The board will miss his wisdom and judgment. Our sympathy goes to Sybil, Butch, and Linda and their families at their loss.

“Gordon Methvin
“Chairman of the Board of Directors”



The elders from South Florida Avenue write the following:

“Brother B.C. Carr was a member of the South Florida Avenue church of Christ for well over thirty (30) years. Brother Carr was a staunch supporter and teacher of the gospel.

“Brother Carr preached for the South Florida Avenue congregation for a number of years, and in 1969, he along with the help and support of the elders here, established the Florida School of Preaching. Brother Carr was named the Director of the School.

“He promoted the school, raised the financial support for the school and encouraged students to attend the school. It was through brother Carr’s efforts that the school is a strong and successful school of preaching.

“He was a loyal member and supported the South Florida Avenue congregation until his retirement from the school and he and his wife, Sybil, moved back to Belmont, Mississippi.

“He was dearly loved and respected as a faithful Christian,

preacher and teacher of God’s word. He will be sorely missed by all who have known and loved him all these years.

“The Elders,
“South Florida Avenue church of Christ”



**My Friend
B. C. Carr**

By
Maurice Davis



Maurice Davis
Former student,
part time faculty
member and
member of the
Board of
Directors

“The year 1970, I moved to Lakeland, Florida to begin working with the Sixth Street church of Christ. Shortly after arriving in Lakeland, I enrolled in the Florida School of Preaching. It was then when I became acquainted with brother B. C. Carr. He was the director of the school at that time, as well as one of the four instructors. Brother Carr taught Bible and practical lessons. He was noted for his mannerism in the classroom and his great wisdom in his instructions. I was a student in his class, and was the first Afro-American to enroll in the school. I was welcomed by all of the instructors, but brother Carr seemed to have taken a special interest in me and went out of his way to let me know that I was welcome to attend the school. During that semester another Afro-American enrolled in the

school and brother Carr welcomed him as well. B. C. Carr was a man of great courage and strong convictions. He did not mind if you knew it. If he thinks a thing is right, he will support it, but if he thinks a thing is wrong, he will stand against it. Those school years were years when segregation was more noticeable among the races, but brother B. C. Carr did not tolerate such behavior among the students. Oh yes! We, the students would sometimes joke among us about “burning a cross” on the lawn, to which in response, I would raise my hand with “a clinched fist,” but that was as far as it would go. We, the students knew that brother Carr would not tolerate anything beyond that.

“The school’s second graduating class was in 1972. I graduated with that class. Just as I was the first Black to enroll in the school, brother Carr made sure that I was the first Black to be given a diploma from the school. That was not incidental but planned by B. C. Carr. On the night of graduation he

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TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

approached me before the ceremony began, and told me he wanted me to be first to get my diploma. After I graduated, two years later, he asked me to serve on the advisory board of the school, and also to teach a class. I consented, and began serving. I do not know when I began serving on the board of directors for the school but you can rest for sure, that brother Carr had something to do with it. Since then until now, I have had the great pleasure and privilege of working with brother B. C. Carr. Upon his returning to his home state of Mississippi where he died, he donated most of his books to the Sixth Street church of Christ where I labor as minister. He has been a brother and friend to me, and I love and appreciate him very much. **FOR YOU MY BROTHER AND FRIEND,** I thank God always.”



Brother Carr: A Teacher To Remember

By
Brian R. Kenyon



Brian Kenyon
Former student
and full time
faculty member

“All who are associated with the Florida School of Preaching are indebted to brother B.C. Carr for our relationship with one another and the school. The Lord has blessed us through the efforts of this influential man of faith.

Although pages could be filled quickly with the positive memories we have of his life, attention here will be focused upon the qualities that I will always remember about brother Carr as a student of his.

“First, brother Carr had a classroom personality that was extremely conducive to learning the Lord’s will for preachers and preaching. Most notable of his personality traits, once a person was acquainted with him, was his sense humor. I am confident that every student who took a class under brother Carr can recall at least one occasion when one of his jokes or stories turned a bad day into a good day, turned discouragement into encouragement, and/or turned a fear of failure as a preacher into a determination to succeed no matter what the obstacle. Brother Carr had a rare ability to balance solemn truth and humor so that the lives of all who really knew him were made better.

“Second, brother Carr was very practical in applying Scriptural truths. The ability to teach is not dependent upon “scholarly discourses.” Yes, brother Carr knew the Bible very well, but even more importantly, he was able to effectively communicate those sacred truths to all who would listen, no matter their educational level. I cannot recall him ever speaking in terms that were “above people’s heads.” Brother Carr was not only practical in his verbal presentation of truth, he also exemplified the Scriptures in his life as a preacher. His willingness to do physical labor

resulted in many people being converted to Christ, especially in the rural settings of his early preaching career. Even as director of the school, when denominational men would apply for enrollment, he would take the time to pull them aside and teach them the word of God, which also resulted in conversions to Christ.

“Third, brother Carr was persistent in his stand for truth. The very existence and present success and stability of the Florida School of Preaching is a testimony to this quality in him. Though he had a sense of humor and was very practical in his teaching, he did not tolerate even the hint of error in the classroom. Students who still disagreed with the Bible after being taught the truth quickly learned that error would not survive around brother Carr. My observation of his persistence in standing for truth was reinforced greatly about four years ago when I rode with him to a preachers’ retreat at Weeki Wachee Christian Camp, which is about an hour and a half from Lakeland. During this time, brother Carr talked candidly about many of the challenges he faced as a preacher and as the director of the school. Brother Carr was not afraid of laying his job on the line when it came to standing for truth. Whether it was dealing with the Masonic Lodge controversy, confronting anti-Biblical expediency brethren, or withstanding the Boston/Crossroads Movement, brother Carr stood firm on the apostles’ doctrine.

“Like all men, brother

Carr was not perfect, but unlike most men who have walked this way, his legacy not only is alive and well here, but also extends to the very shores of eternity. Only the Lord is able to accurately count the souls he influenced and prepared for a home in heaven, a home which will be inhabited by many more souls than would otherwise be, thanks to the influence of brother B. C. Carr.”



B. C. Carr

By

J. H. Blackman, Jr.

“What greater tribute can be said in regards to B. C. Carr than ‘he was a man dedicated to the Word of God.’ I have had the privilege of knowing and working with him for over thirty-five years.



J. H. Blackman, Jr. Secretary of the Board, part time faculty member, has been a part of the school from its beginning

as well as others, have benefitted greatly by his soundness.

“One of the great highlights of our association together was the beginning of the Florida School of Preaching. B.C. saw a great need for a school devoted to training men to preach that would have a sound foundation of Biblical truth. This became a reality in 1969, as a work of the South Florida Avenue Church

His stand for the truth and opposing false teaching has always manifested his faithful obedience to the Word of God. We have stood together against the inroads of false teaching and digression, and I,

of Christ in Lakeland. I deemed it an honor and privilege to be involved with him from the beginning, in the development and teaching in the Florida School of Preaching. Working with him in the realization of the School and in training men to stand firm in following God’s Word, will be a continuing reminder of his convictions; and in the need of preparing men to take the Word of God and its saving power to the people of the world.

“As has been said before, I can truthfully say, ‘A great soldier of the cross of Christ has passed from our midst, but not forgotten.’”



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