



## 20/20 Vision

This past week we celebrated the second annual Christian Leadership Institute (CLI#2) at Blue Mountain College. Thirty-nine teenagers from across the state gathered on the Hill on Monday afternoon. They departed on Friday afternoon, ready to lead.

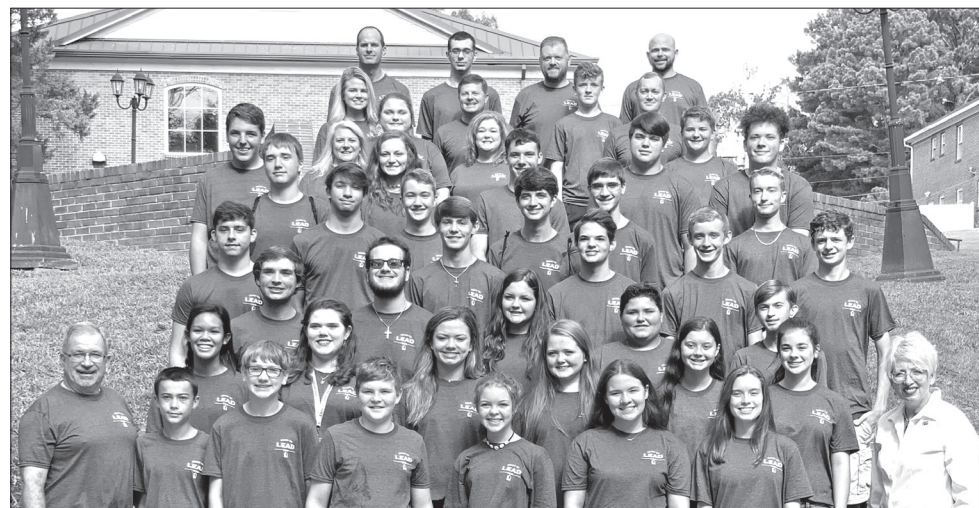
Each of them was assigned to a coach (five men and two women) for supervision, accountability, counsel, and discipleship during the week. My wife Becky and I had the privilege of leading CLI#2.

The kick-off event was a banquet on Monday night for over 120 guests. Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB), challenged us with C.A.V.U. (Ceiling and Visibility Unlimited) — an aviator's dream come true. I have told our own boys, and I told these young leaders, "The road in front of the house leads anywhere."

We had practical breakout sessions each morning: dating, apologetics, public speaking, work ethic, journaling, etc. We had eight keynote speakers (elected officials, military officers, lobbyist, ministers) who provided inspiration and information. Q&A with these men and women proved very helpful. Many great quotes got into our notebooks — "A leader takes the stairs, not the elevator," for example.

TURN DOWN is a game not for the faint of heart, but it is fun. Can you name the seven days of creation in order? Do you know the nine U.S. Supreme Court Justices? How many of the 82 Mississippi counties can you name? Who are the 13 judges in the Bible? Fun, fun, fun. You would have to be there.

We had knock-down team competitions in the afternoon. It was hot,



**READY TO LEAD** — Thirty-nine teenagers from across Mississippi participated in the second annual Christian Leadership Institute at Blue Mountain College. Pictured with the participants are Kenny Digby (bottom, row left) and Barbara McMillin, president of Blue Mountain College (bottom row, right). (Photo courtesy Becky Digby)

but life is hard. We played softball, but life is hardball. Jason Middleton's team dethroned David Haynes' team from last year. You don't like competition? Life will be tough. Being upstream Christians in a downstream world is difficult.

Thursday night was Awards Night, the highlight of the week. Everyone got something, but some really got SOMETHING. They earned it the old fashioned way. Four teenagers were awarded scholarships to the school of their choice, totaling \$3,250. Five hundred dollars was given in memory

of our son, Austin, by his big brother Kaleb, a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army who spoke to these teenagers Tuesday morning and then left for Ranger School at Ft. Benning, Ga. A \$250 scholarship came from the interest on the Austin Lee Digby Endowment, set up at the Mississippi Baptist Foundation by the Christian Action Commission.

A \$1,500 scholarship was awarded from the CLI account provided by the Christian Action Commission. A \$1,000 scholarship was given by Becky and me in memory of Austin.

Our symbol all week, at the front of the room, was a boat anchor. We need leaders who are "anchored" in the Word of God. We need leaders with C.A.V.U., but we also need leaders with B.W.V. — a Biblical World View. Not only these teenagers but all of us will face some storms in life, but even a gentle breeze can move a ship. We must be "anchored" in the Word of God. Hebrews 6:19 (KJV), "Which hope we have as an ANCHOR of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil..."

Please put July 6-10, 2020, on your calendar: CLI#3. Our theme will be "20/20 Vision." Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) was one of the favorite verses of my father, Eugene Digby: "Where there is no vision, the people perish." He had C.A.V.U. in his ministry, Christ for the Crisis, a radio-television ministry that lasted nearly 60 years and continues as an endowed scholarship at Blue Mountain College in memory of Daddy, Momma, and Austin.

I want to thank the board members of the Christian Action Commission. I want to thank Jim Futral for the MBCB's moral and financial support that makes possible the CLI. I want to thank Rita McCollum, the Christian Action Commission's ministry assistant; the seven coaches; and Becky, my wife.

Will your child, grandchild, or one of your youth group be among the 72 teenagers at CLI#3? Contact us for more information. 20/20 Vision — I can see it even now!

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### Truth is not relative.

Find it in the One who is the way, truth, and life.

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life.

From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

*"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)*

If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Southern Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

### BIBL i O C I P H E R

XQ X YNKV FJCZ RJM VNHFYCR FYXI-

AE, NIZ RV WVCXVKV IJF, YJL EYNCC

RV WVCXVKV, XQ X FVCC RJM JQ

YVNKVICR FYXIAE?

GJYI FYHVV: FLVCKV

Clue: I = N

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: John 4:24

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