



The Second Sixty

by Evangelist Bill Rice III

The Bill Rice Ranch is a revival ministry that exists to win people to Christ and to help them grow in grace. This ministry was founded in 1953 and will realize its 60th birthday in 2013.

Nothing was more important to this ministry in 1953 than its birth. And nothing will be more important to this revival work in the year 2013 than its faithfully continuing in light of the way it began.

It was no easy task for Bill and Cathy Rice to carve out a new ministry in the rocky, brush-covered hills of Middle Tennessee; but the challenge to keep and maintain the ministry begun so many years ago is as great as, and perhaps even greater than, the challenges which faced its beginning.

This revival ministry wouldn't exist without the founding. Please don't laugh. I know that statement is obvious, but it is worth hearing. The principles for which the Bill Rice Ranch stands were brought to light in the founding. The need of reaching people with the gospel and helping them to grow in grace was realized when Bill and Cathy Rice had their first twelve deaf campers come to spend a week on the Ranch.



However, there is a sense in which all of that could be for naught if the Bill Rice Ranch does not keep at it. True, the Ranch wouldn't exist if it had not been founded, but it is also true that it will not exist if it does not continue! True Bible principles were brought into focus by its founding, but these Bible principles need to stay in focus as the Ranch continues. It is true that Bill and Cathy Rice saw a need that was met in 1953. But that need – the need to reach people and grow people – continues today.

Starting is exciting! Continuing? Perhaps it is not so exciting, but which is more important? Some might say, "Well, you can't continue if you never started!" Good point. Here

is another one. Basic to the concept of starting something is the dream or idea that it will have value that is lasting.

In August of this year, we began calling the anniversary year the "Second Sixty"—a reference to continuing. And that it is doing. I thank God for the founding of the Bill Rice Ranch. I certainly thank God for the founders. But everything about the founding points to "keeping at it." As one small cog in the ministries here, I want to help in that goal. I hope that is your desire as well.

Needs at the Ranch

- Pneumatic rock drill
- 3-point sprayer with 200-gallon tank for spraying pastures
- 6 foot T-posts (new or used, up to 150)
- 3-point landscape rake, 7' maximum width (for cinder road upkeep at West Branch)
- Digital SLR camera & external flash

If you have a lead on any of these items or you would like to make a donation of one of these items to the Ranch, please contact Dale Stover, 615-893-2767, ext. 105 or dstover@billriceranch.org

West Branch by Evangelist Troy Carlson

Mission Trips at West Branch

Technically, the Carlson family traveled farther to work on the new campsite than either of the two groups that recently came. You see, my family and I spent the summer in Tennessee helping with summer camp and then quickly traveled back home to Northern Arizona to meet these two mission teams from western churches. Our sixteen-hundred-mile journey topped their combined one thousand miles of travel. But their work was sure worth both trips—theirs and ours!

One day after we arrived home, several folks from Open Door Baptist Church in Catalina, Arizona, and a gentleman from Peoria, Arizona, arrived to work on the interior of our first aid building. That particular building was the fourteenth building constructed on the West Branch site. The group painted, hung doors, and treated cabin porch pillars, among other things. More work will be done this fall



at our home church, Northland Baptist in Flagstaff. It was great to have so much work done in such a short amount of time.

It certainly was a full-time job to keep both groups informed and supplied for their projects—they all worked hard! What a blessing to have this work being done on site! (Most of

the progress we have made lately has been on the engineer's computer.) It was also a blessing that both of these groups provided a financial gift to purchase materials for their work. Lord willing, these types of groups will only be increasing in the days ahead.

What about you? Would you consider a trip to Arizona to help with our building projects? If you are from the East, we would love to tentatively schedule a group of men from your church to come help us when we are ready to put up buildings like the dining hall and auditorium. If you happen to live a little closer to our neck of the woods—perhaps within a half-day's drive—we probably have some jobs you could help with this fall or spring.

So give it some thought, and let us know if you are interested. We'd love to have you join our mission work right here in Northern Arizona!

BACK AT THE RANCH...

Over **3,800 campers attended** the Ranch during the eight weeks of camp. Church groups came from over twenty different states including Pennsylvania, Maryland, Florida, Ohio, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arizona. We also hosted two separate groups from The Bahamas and a group from the Republic of Korea. **We thank the Lord for 229 campers who trusted Christ** for salvation while they were here and for the thousands of important spiritual decisions that were made.



One special week that saw significant growth for the third consecutive summer was our evangelistic **Day Camp**. Each day, 156 boys and girls from the local area enjoyed swimming, horse riding, Cowboy Town, and helpful Bible lessons presenting the gospel very clearly. How thrilled we were to have **68 of our Day Campers put their trust in Christ that week!** We pray that this important outlet to our community will continue to grow and bear fruit in the years to come.



The largest area of growth this summer was in our junior camps. **Over 1,020 boys and girls, ages 8-12, attended Junior Camp this year!** This exciting program is set in a western theme and includes swimming, exciting games, a lively rodeo, Cowboy Town, and much more. Even more beneficial, though, are the numerous times each day when Bible truths are taught on their level in an engaging way. We are so thankful for the many life-changing decisions made by these boys and girls this summer!



Now that the summer is over, **Bill Rice Christian Academy is in full swing with its largest enrollment ever!** Our school, which is open to the public and teaches kindergarten through sixth grade, has seventy-five energetic students this year. Increasingly, the school has become yet another avenue of ministry to local young people and also to their families. The school year is off to a great start, and we anticipate a wonderful year.

What a wonderful summer the Lord gave us!

Do You Know Any Future Ranchers?

Each fall, the Ranch begins looking for godly young people who can fill much-needed positions on summer staff. Maybe you know a young person in your church that would be interested in investing a summer at the Bill Rice Ranch. Here are the possible areas of ministry:

CORE The CORE program provides **Challenging Opportunities** to help young men (ages 15-19) develop a strong work ethic and allows the **Rewarding Experience** of seeing young people's lives changed! This is a four-week program.

Operational Staff Our operational staff work alongside the permanent Bill Rice Ranch staff to provide an excellent camping experience for all. This includes positions with

food service, grounds, the Linen Room, the office, horses, maintenance, and concessions.

Counselors Christian young people who have completed two semesters in a fundamental Christian college may be able to serve as counselors next summer. Counselors have the opportunity to work in one of our three distinct camp programs: Youth Camp (ages 12-19), Junior Camp (ages 8-12), or Deaf Camp (ages 9-19).

For details, visit our website: www.billriceranch.org. For questions, contact Dale Stover at 1-800-253-RICE, ext. 105 or recruitment@billriceranch.org.

Reserve your week of camp for **2013** for special perks over \$465. Deadline November 30.
www.billriceranch.org/FASTTRACK
FAST TRACK RESERVATIONS

Twenty were registered in the 2012 program!

Ministry INTERNSHIP Two-week
Preparing for the future while investing in others!

Session I: July 7-19, 2013
Session II: July 14-26, 2013
Cost: \$120

For high school graduates ages 17-20

First Week: classroom instruction, daily observation, nightly services
Second Week: hands-on involvement in Youth (ages 12-19), Junior (ages 8-12), or Deaf (ages 9-19) Camp programs

For a brochure or application packet, email your name and address to internship@billriceranch.org or call **800.253.RICE, ext.105.**

Calendar OF EVENTS

SEASONAL RETREATS

- Ladies' Retreat **Oct. 11-13**
- Men's Challenge **Nov. 2-3**
- Conference on Marriage & the Home **Nov. 29-Dec. 1**

REGIONAL EVENTS

- Conference on Marriage & the Home Gallup, NM **October 5-6**
- Men on the Move Fort Collins, CO **October 26-27**
- Youth Conference Santa Maria, CA **November 10**



Bill Rice Ranch, Inc.
627 Bill Rice Ranch Road
Murfreesboro, TN 37128-4555

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Singing Solo

A collection of solo arrangements featuring eight Christ-honoring songs. Songs everyone can sing, available in low, medium, and high voice. Songs include: *You Are Faithful*, *Everything to Him I Owe*, *Show Me, Lord*; and others. **\$8.00 each**

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From the President

Still Good News

by Evangelist Wil Rice IV

John the Baptist was discouraged. He had passionately pursued God's calling for him; he had

boldly paved the way for Jesus Christ; and now he sat forgotten and awaiting his fate in Herod's prison. Jesus said of him that there was no greater man ever born up to that time. But John was human, after all.

It is comforting to read that a man as strong as John the Baptist had his days of doubt. And it is instructive to note what John did with his doubt: he laid it at Jesus' feet.

When John's disciples delivered his question to Christ, "Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?", Jesus replied, "Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them."

Jesus did not scold John's uncertainty; He quieted it. He responded to John's weakness with a reminder of His own strength. Only God's Messiah could do what Jesus of Nazareth had done! When John doubted, he knew Whom to ask. When John asked, Jesus knew how to answer; and His answer was more than sufficient for John.

Sixty years ago, Bill and Cathy Rice had their own prison cell of despair. Their precious toddler had become so violently ill that she nearly died. She survived but was left completely

without her hearing. Like John, they had passionately pursued God's call on their lives, taking the gospel message across the country. Now, their own daughter would never hear the message they had given their lives to share. Like John, they felt forgotten.

But they were not forgotten! This had not happened because God had quit paying attention to them; this happened as part of His plan. The same Jesus Who made the blind to see, the deaf to hear, and the poor to have the gospel preached unto them was about to use this tragedy as a catapult for the Good News. The same Jesus Who answered John had given the Rices the moment that has led to sixty years of fruitful ministry.

In 1950, Bill and Cathy Rice began work on what would become the Bill Rice Ranch. They had their first week of camp for deaf young people in 1953 and quickly began weeks for hearing teens, juniors, and families as well. God blessed, and the Ranch grew.

For many years, a large banner hung on the back wall of the John R. Rice Auditorium. What did it say? It was Jesus' reply to John's calamity, a reassurance of Who He is: "...the deaf hear... and the poor have the gospel preached to them." Matthew 11:5

The summer of 2013 will mark our sixtieth anniversary! Jesus still gives blind eyes sight. The gospel is still good news; and, sixty years later, the Deaf still "hear" it every week of the summer here on the Bill Rice Ranch.

www.billriceranch.org



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Visit **billriceranch.org** for photos, videos, registration forms, and exciting opportunities!



scan this code with your smartphone!

LADIES' RETREAT

God's PROMISES to a Woman's Heart



GUEST SPEAKER: **Gail Walls**
Pastor's Wife

October 11-13 Cost: \$85

HOST SPEAKERS:
Mary Rice, Wil & Sena Rice

- ♥ Helpful Bible Teaching
- ♥ Encouraging Fellowship
- ♥ Delicious Meals
- ♥ Country Craft Fair



MEN'S CHALLENGE

NOVEMBER 2-3 COST: \$45

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Billy Ingram, Evangelist

Evangelists Wil Rice IV & Bill Rice III

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Nov. 29–Dec. 1

Relax and recharge with a two-night getaway for married couples!




Cost: \$195 per couple (includes meals and lodging)

Outstanding preaching services and enjoyable activities.



Conference Speakers:
Evangelist Wil Rice IV
Evangelist Bill Rice III



1953 2013

still GOOD NEWS!

MATTHEW 11:5

Make your plans now—register today!

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