

## America's Heartland **Roger Alford** RogerAlford1@GMail.Com

The story is told about the teacher who gave her students a weekend assignment to sell a product and then give a report to the class on salesmanship.

One little girl explained that she sold Girl Scout cookies and made \$30 by appealing to her customers' community pride. Another reported that she had sold magazines, explaining to customers that by reading them, they would stay up to date on current events. She had made \$97.

Then, Bubba Junior walked to the front of the classroom and dumped a box full of money onto her desk. "That's \$1,637," Little Bubba said.

## Want to sell toothbrushes? Tell people they just ate worms

selling?" the teacher asked.

"Toothbrushes," Bubba Junior answered.

you have possibly sold that many toothbrushes?"

"I went to the busiest street corner in town and set up a chips and dip stand, and I gave everyone who passed by a free sample," Bubba Junior explained. "They all said the same thing: 'This dip tastes like crushed up nightcrawlers.' "I would say, 'It is crushed up nightcrawlers. Would you like to

buy a toothbrush?" toothbrush, too. Have you ever noticed that some people are especially gifted to think outside the box in terms of salesmanship. They just have a knack for finding ways of making products appealing. Marketing teams have proven their creativity with those GEICO ads featuring a tiny lizard. Progressive has Flo, the insurance lady. Politicians fill our mailboxes with slick flyers with glowing en-

filled with advertisements that let **ford1@gmail.com**.

"What in the world were you us compare prices between local grocery stores.

Compare that to the approaches our churches take. We cer-The teacher asked, "How could tainly agree that churches offer the greatest "product" of all time, the gospel of Jesus Christ. So, how do churches market the greatest product of all time? All too often they don't do anything other than open their doors on Sunday mornings, hoping people will come.

If GEICO or Progressive did that, they'd go out of business. Churches would, too. And they are going out of business. All over this country, churches are closing by the I think I would have bought a week. You know what I think we need? We need people like Little Bubba who can think outside the box, who can move beyond our old, worn out approaches and find ways to show people they need Jesus.

Flo and that little lizard are in people's faces everyday telling them they need insurance. Surely what the church has to offer warrants that kind of initiative.

*Roger Alford is pastor of South* dorsements intended to make us Fork Baptist Church. Reach him vote for them. The newspaper is *at 502-514-6857 or <u>rogeral-</u>* 



"Here's a list of threats that we use."

## IT'S FINALLY HAPPENING!

Come on out to everyone's favorite yard sale. Aug. 7 & 8 from 8:00-3:00 at 11400 Irvine Road, Winchester, KY. (former Trapp School) Huge assortment of new and used adults and kids clothing, housewares, personal care items, hardware, linens, toys, electron-

ics, furniture . . . you name it, we've got it! Please wear a mask for everyone's safety. All proceeds benefit Lady Veterans Connect.

Clay City Superior IGA - Just off KY-82 & Mtn. Parkway at Clay City



We reserve the right to correct printing errors. None sold to dealers. Quantity rights reserved.