

■ Recognize:

- George Curry for introduction
- Honorees:
 - Mayor Harvey Johnson
 - Coach Jackie Sherrill
 - Dr. John Perkins
 - Congressman Bennie Thompson
and Dr. Frank Pollard (both could
not attend)

- David Washington, local chairman for Bill
Glass Ministries – Champions for Life

■ Thank you for this great honor

- Judging from those receiving awards
tonight

- It's obvious that I'm in good company

- Each of us has something to offer – to our families, to our communities, to our state

- We must trust our faith
 - To show the path

- With God’s help
 - We can continue
 - to make Mississippi a better place
 - to live, work, and raise a family

- Continuing to make education and jobs top priority

- As Governor these are the priorities I have focused on

- Image of MS in 2003 far different than the image most know
 - Moving faster than anyone else into the 21st century
 - Competing and leading in the global marketplace

- Setting new standards for education and economic development

- MS has experienced significant growth over the past three years

- We are aggressive about creating good paying, quality jobs for all Mississippians

- The best thing for a child to see everyday on their way to school
 - is their parents on the way to a good job

- We're making these advances because we're getting involved, we're working together
 - We're building good schools / good jobs and good communities

- Together we're changing the image of Mississippi
 - Image of people working in highly skilled, well paying jobs
 - Image of children in classrooms equipped with the technology to bring the world to their desk
 - Image of global companies looking for a place to do business in this great state

- Mississippi has its priorities straight
 - Good schools/ good jobs
 - Better communities/ better Mississippi

- God Bless you / God Bless Mississippi / God Bless America