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JEFFERSON CITY, MO - **JACOB DILLON BANKS** of Bolivar, MO has been named as the 2019 recipient of the Southwest Baptist University Scholarship awarded by the Missouri Baptist Foundation (MBF).

More than 50 students applied for just seven scholarships being offered for the first time by the MBF.  The MBF board of trustees has a desire to help students with an interest in a Christian higher education knowing that it can make an eternal difference in advancing the gospel.

Banks says, “I am currently majoring in Christian Ministry with a concentration in Discipleship in hopes to graduate and become a full-time missionary with a non-profit called GenerationNext in Kenya, Africa. Therefore, the specific education that I am getting here at Southwest Baptist University will, I believe, help me to be well equipped, to not only share the gospel with people I would encounter but, also equip them to go out and share the gospel themselves.”

Over the next few weeks, seven recipients will be awarded $2000 toward their upcoming fall semester's enrollment in college.  Each applying student prepared a 750 word essay on the reasons they would value the opportunity at a Christian college and how it could affect their future.  MBF President, Dr. Neil Franks, remarked, “We believe in Christian higher education, and we want to make it slightly more affordable to at least a few worthy Missouri Baptist students. We are very happy for Jacob, and delighted we can encourage him in his journey."

To benefit a student yourself and help others have the gift of a Christian higher education, you can reach the MBF at 800-776-0747 or email, mbfoundation@mbfn.org.