

May 2021

The Trumpet

“The trumpet shall sound...and we shall be changed”
(I Corinthians 15:52)



Volume 15 Issue 5

Pastor's Pen

It is always entertaining when a bird or some animal interrupts a sporting event or some other public gathering. Normally the national broadcasting companies will not show a fan running onto the field of play, but they will an animal. I remember once preparing to watch a college football game. The pre-game show was underway when a young dog ran onto the field. Thousands of fans in the stands began to shout, scream, and whistle their approval. Watching the dog run around in circles, not knowing which way to go, was an unexpected, pre-game show. As the cameras tracked with the puppy running in circles, it soon laid down in the center of the field. Shivering and looking around, it became abundantly clear the puppy was scared. With the cameras focused on the fearful dog, something interesting happened. Amidst all the shouts and whistles of thousands trying to lure the dog to them, the dog's ears perked up. One camera panned out and showed a little boy standing in the end zone. The little guy put his finger to his mouth and whistled. The dog, recognizing the whistle, jumped up and ran to the boy.

Every time I reflect on this scene, I am reminded that the world around us is making a lot of noise. The shouts, screams, cheers, and whistles are Satan's attempt to draw us in. Every direction you turn in the mid-

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dle of it all seems to have a luring crowd saying, “come this way”. All of them are fraught with danger and destruction. Nevertheless, on many levels appealing. Like that little dog, we lay down in the middle of it all, scared and shivering. And then, in the midst of all the chaos, we hear a sound, a whistle, a voice that is familiar. It is Jesus, our shepherd. Our ears perk up, our

our fears are eliminated, our heart is overjoyed. Jesus is standing in the end zone, bidding us to come his way...

*“My sheep **hear my voice**, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”*

John 10:27-28

In Christian Love,

Pastor Jim

Women’s Ministry

Women’s Ministry at FSBC is also known as Women-in-Touch. We want the powerful touch from God to be our motivation as we reach inwardly to encourage and equip our sisters in Christ, and the courage to start personal conversations and friendships that promote the gospel in our community.

Having just experienced revival and renewal in our church and in our personal lives, we want to follow the convictions into active growth and outreach. **We will have a special meeting May 6th at 7 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall to brainstorm together how God has spoken to us and what specific calling God has given each of us. During this meeting, we will form smaller groups of similar convictions with accountability and prayer, as we stoke the fire the Holy Spirit has already begun.

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Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a ministry formed by Franklin Graham that takes Christmas gifts and the Gospel to underprivileged children all over the world. We are collecting items to fill shoeboxes in November. Each month we will highlight a different item to bring in. But, please remember we will take all types of donations at any time! For May please bring in tee shirts, shorts, tank tops or socks.



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

How Then Shall We Live?

In light of the drastically changed environment in which we are living what should Christians be doing; how should we live to honor our Lord? II Corinthians 10:3-4 reads, *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.* We are not to react to any situation including the current one in the way that the world does. It may seem to those outside the faith that we are not working against their efforts but when we follow the instructions we find in scripture just the opposite is true.

We live in a culture dominated by secularism. This is where most Americans are, this is how they function. Some are committed to secularism while others are that way simply by practice and custom. Whether on the left, the right or the muddled middle most people are part of a generation characterized by fear. But since we serve the one and only living God Christians we are not to follow the path of secularism. Sure we have things in common like breathing air and eating food but unlike non-believers our trust is in the Lord. In times of great difficulty and turmoil men turn to their gods, whether they are the one true God or false gods. There is great uncertainty in the general culture, not knowing who or what to trust. In that atmosphere we can and should offer a true word, the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

But in addition to the proclamation of the gospel what else must we be doing? First, we must think rightly about our situation. We must not equate our system of government with the kingdom of God. While at the founding of our nation the Christian faith was what most adhered to, while most of our leaders were Christians and while even those who were not believers still held our system of values and world view the representative democracy of the United States (though it was a good system of government) was not something to be worshiped. Often it has been said that our nation is the greatest nation in the world and in all of history. Even if that is true the people of God have our first and true allegiance to the one and only true God and not to any civil government. Jesus said our first commitment must be to Him and not to father and mother or anything else. In the crisis in which we find ourselves unbelievers stock up on the things they believe will help them, whether it be guns, food supplies or anything else. We too as believers should stock up, if we may use that phrase, on the things that will help us.

The first thing on our list is worship. Hebrews 10:25, *not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.* Staying home in isolation is not the command of God, rather we are to worship Him in an acceptable manner, like Abel not Cain, and

we are to do so whenever we can. For surely the day of Christ's return is nearer than when the author of Hebrews penned those words.

The Second thing is to be honest with God about sin. Whether it is our thoughts or our deeds we need to confess our sin to God and repent of it. If we do not we will hardly be in a place to deal with all that is coming against us.

Number three, for all those who are married love and respect each other. Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church, which means giving themselves for her. And wives are to love and respect their husbands. When a man and a woman marry they become one flesh. That relationship is more important than any relationship with any other human being. Marriage takes work, takes effort to succeed and if that happens the result is a united front against the onslaughts of Satan and his minions. A husband is a servant leader and the way he serves is by leading. Wives are to respect their husbands and love them while they are not to try to assume the God given responsibilities of their husband.

Fourth, music is important. In addition to the great hymns of the faith we should sing the songs that God gave us, that is the Psalms. The Psalms cover every aspect of life and are the musical accompaniment for our spiritual warfare. Remember that the Lord inhabits the praises of His people (Psalm 22:3). He loves it when what we sing are the words He has given us.

Fifth is hospitality and community. Romans 12:12-13 tells us that even in times of tribulation like the ones in which we find ourselves, we are still to practice hospitality. We are not to hole up in our homes with a bunker mentality but are instead to reach out to other believers. There is strength in numbers of like-minded people.

Sixth, Christian education is commanded in scripture. Fathers provoke not your children to wrath but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Our failure to do this is one of the key components in the deterioration of our culture.

Next, minimize the handles other people can use to try to control you by doing whatever you can to eliminate or at least minimize your debt. All of us have at one time or another bought things we wanted but did not need. Keeping those kind of purchases to a minimum will help your finances and keep you free from outside influences.

The joy of the Lord is your strength. Because we are His, our lives should be filled with joy. Nehemiah was in more difficult circumstances than we are, but it was he who encouraged the people when he said, "Eat the fat, drink the sweet and rejoice."

And lastly study. First and above all we need to study our Bibles. Regular reading and study of scripture will build you up in the faith. But also stay informed by reading other books. In summery honor God with everything you do and in every way you can knowing that He will be with you to strengthen you and help you because He cares for you.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 5 Awana
- 6 Women's Ministry (7:00 p.m.)
- 6 National Day of Prayer
- 9 Mother's Day
- 10 Deacons' Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 12 Awana Awards (6:00 p.m.)
- 20 Last Day of MDO
- 24 Church Council (6:30 p.m.)
- 25 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:00 p.m.)
- 31 Memorial Day - Offices Closed

The Difficulty of Forgiving

The scripture commands us to forgive one another just as Christ has forgiven us. This is not an easy command to obey. Because we are fallen creatures our focus is on ourselves. Though we are redeemed we still sin and must wait for eternity before we are entirely free of wrong actions, thoughts and feelings. Nevertheless, we are still accountable for how we treat our fellow believers and those outside the faith as well. We can of course treat others rightly regardless of how we feel. And if we will remember how much God has forgiven us then we can at least in measure learn over time to forgive others from the heart.



Maintenance Report

The maintenance at church is in good shape. We are finishing the hanging of monitors in the classrooms. Also, we have put up signs advertising the revival at 3rd & 15th Streets.

At our next meeting we will be discussing and planning our spring projects which consist mostly of landscaping and yard work. Please contact John Ring if you are willing to help with cutting the grass.

Thomas Wescott, Chairman



Early Childhood Ministry

I would like to say thank you to all of our volunteers that not only give of their time during service so that parents can attend while their children are being ministered to, but also served during our recent revival. They serve without complaint and provide the families in the church with a safe haven for their children on a weekly basis. “Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me, but my Father who sent me.” Mark 9:37

Shannon Crowe, Director



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We will put our Elijah study on hold until July or August to allow us to join Jesus Christ in the yoke of work for the Kingdom. It's still a yoke and a burden but with His guidance and control we can be efficient and effective to God's Glory.

For Michele Ring and Debbie Blackstock as we co-lead,

Sarah Gregory



Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. Q: What do you get if you cross a parrot with a shark?
A: A bird that will talk your ear off.
2. Q: What do you get if you cross a frog with a rabbit?
A: A bunny ribbit.
3. Q: What do you get when you cross a tiger and a blizzard?
A: Frostbite!
4. Q: What do you get when you cross a cow with a trampoline
A: A milkshake!
5. Q: What do you get when you cross a caterpillar and a parrot?
A: A walkie talkie!

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

2 Korralyn Simler
4 Zarek Bellantoni
11 Dan Kephart III
12 Phebe Imel
13 Kathleen Keillor
14 Eric Nagel
15 Kathy Boothe
15 Clifford Hare
17 Raedena Brooks



19 John Crowe
20 Tina Holt
21 Dave Ellis
22 Daryl Lyerla
22 Jason Hare
23 Sarah Kephart
23 Flo Scheffler
24 Aline Bates
25 Priscilla Sisson

2 Jason & Amber Blair
18 Wayne & Patti Clark
28 Don & Janet Nesbitt



29 Dave & Carol Ellis
6/2 Harold & Sue Southwick

Early June Birthdays

6/4 Steve Noland
6/5 Rae Ann Stoecker

6/6 Sai Crouse