

August September
2024

The Trumpet

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



Volume 17 Issue 4

The Leadership Journal

When it comes to being a Christian, there are certain expectations for how one should behave. Christian conduct refers to the moral and ethical standards that Christians are called to uphold in their daily lives. But what does it mean to conduct oneself as a Christian?

Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved- and that by God. Phil 1:27-28

Here Paul addresses four areas that Christians should tend to as they live in this world:

Their conduct – acting worthy of the kingdom of heaven to which they rightfully belong as citizens of God’s household.

Their consistency – standing firm in their integrity and their testimony in spite of persecution and trial.

Their cooperation – striving together, like athletes against a common foe.

Their courage – facing persecution and being willing to suffer for the sake of Jesus

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Christ.

CONDUCT translates the Greek word *politeuesthe*, which means citizenship. In Greek society before conquest by Rome, the *polis* (city) was the largest political unit, and citizens belonged to a city in the same way that people today belong to their country. Christians are to live, not by distancing themselves from the culture in which they have been placed, but by serving as ambassadors of their true citizenship.

So we ask ourselves; are we conducting ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, are we standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the gospel? That is what Christ expects of us, His followers.

Your brother in Christ Jesus,

Patrick Holt

Greetings

I would like to introduce myself as the new Women's Ministry leader and also Grace Ferch as my co-leader. For those of you who do not know us personally we hope to meet you soon. Sarah Gregory (your recent and wonderful women's leader) approached me in January about becoming her replacement. It has been a great help to me to have had those several months of her mentorship as there is much to learn. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the Lord and my church family in this ministry.

In my women's ministry notebook there is a definition of the purpose and mission of the women's ministry. It reads, "To encourage fellowship, discipleship and fill the needs of the women of First Southern Baptist Church through Bible study, social events and supporting other ministries of the church." In keeping with this mission we will continue to use the schedules and guidelines with which Sarah and her assistant Violet Solis have been so successful. As Grace and I will be trying to keep this transition as smooth as possible I would like to thank the gracious women who spend so much time and effort in the service of the women's ministry outreach groups. You are wonderful! My goal as your leader is to be an encourager for you to first have a close and intimate relationship with your Savior, second to share that love of the Savior as often and easily as you breathe and third to always increase in our love, service, prayer and support for one another, our sisters in Christ. I welcome your feedback, suggestions and prayers for Grace and myself; for it is in His service and for His glory that we live and breathe.

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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 August please bring in school supplies. & for September bring in reuseable plastic containers - cups, bowls, water bottles.



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Baptism in the Early Church

Today we are able to communicate information across great distances with ease. Whether we use a telephone, letter, email or something else we can contact people without difficulty. This was not true on the day of Pentecost or at any time until very recently. One thing that is common to both the early church and today is that the bias of the individual affects what is communicated. When Pilate sent a report to Rome about what happened with a man name Jesus we can be sure that it was not totally objective. We do not have a single copy of secular documents written around that time for five to nine hundred years after they were penned. By contrast we have portions of the New Testament within one hundred years of their original writing. Many secular writings are referenced but they have completely disappeared – there are no existing copies. Tombstones because they last a long time are good places to find inscriptions but by their very nature they are brief.

When we say that we have very early copies of the New Testament that is true. But remember that all early Christians only had a portion of what we possess. You might have a copy of one of the gospels and a couple of Paul's letters but not Colossians or I John and so you would not have the New Testament warnings against Gnosticism, the great enemy of the faith in the first few centuries after Christ. Your theology could be negatively impacted by simple ignorance.

Keeping those things in mind let's look at some of the earliest references to Christian baptism outside of the New Testament. The Didache also called the teaching of the twelve apostles dates to somewhere between 65 and 200 AD. Then there is the Epistle of Clement written from the church at Rome to the church at Corinth around anywhere from 70 to 120 AD. There are some books written that were in a portion of the church considered as scripture (though never in the whole church). The Shepherd of Hermes and the Epistle of Barnabas fit in that category. The most important document of that time period though is the Epistles of Ignatius. There are seven genuine epistles written in either 107 or 108 as Ignatius was on his way to Rome to be martyred (and a number of fakes). They are a tremendous source of information about the church including, for example, the differences between the eastern and western church. Nevertheless we do not have everything he wrote which means we do not have a complete understanding of his theology. Trying to get a complete understanding of the theology of the writer of this article from seven of his Trumpet articles would be a comparable task.

Relevant to the question we are considering, baptism in the early church, is the fact that some will say that there were beliefs held and practices engaged in dur-

ing the earliest decades of the church that are not found in any extant literature. That is an argument from silence. It would be similar to saying that we should hold a doctrine that is not found in the Bible. Having said that, there is no evidence anywhere of an instance of infant baptism until the middle of the second century. It does start appearing then but as far as is known there was no one who held John Calvin's understanding in church history until John Calvin.

At this point let's look at the brief section of the Didache on baptism. "Concerning baptism, baptize in this way. Having first rehearsed all these things, baptize in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, in living water. But if you have not living water, baptize into other water; and if thou canst not in cold, in warm. If you have neither pour water thrice on the head in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Before the baptism let the baptizer and the baptized fast, and others if they can. And order the baptized to fast one or two days..."

Consider what was said in this section. The part about 'having rehearsed' references what has come before in the Didache, the moral and ethical teaching on the Christian life. Notice carefully that the Didache says to pour water if you have none of the previous two kinds, living or other. That means if you had enough water baptism was by immersion. This is the immersion of individuals who understand and agree with the teachings of the Christian faith. Notice also the reference to baptism in the triune name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. United Pentecostal churches deny the three persons in the godhead. (Those churches do not like the Didache at all). Of course baptism in running or other water makes sense when we remember there were no church buildings at this time (Christianity was an illegal religion) and so there were no baptistries. Another point to notice is the command to fast before the baptism for a day or two. This as all mothers know cannot be infants who are just a few days old. The need and demand to be fed by infants is universal. And infants cannot understand the teaching that is given in the Didache. By the way, the portion of the Didache on baptism is section seven, thus much material had come before this was written. If we move to the middle of the second century the apologist Justin Martyr recites the formula for those who are being baptized (around 155 to 157 AD). He writes of the knowledge of and commitment to living the Christian life, baptism in the triune name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and of fasting before being baptized. Therefore in the earliest period of the Christian church baptism is for professing believers, not for infants. This was the practice of the early Christian church and should be for all Christian churches today.

(The source of much of the material in this article is a series of sermons by Dr. James White an extremely knowledgeable professor of church history. - Living water is running water.)

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

August

- 3 Youth Event**
- 4 Potluck Fellowship (12:45 p.m.)**
- 10 Women's Ministry Event (10:00 a.m.)**
- 12 School Starts**
- 13 Ladies' Ministry Team Meeting (6:30 p.m.)**
- 13 Deacons' Meeting (7:00 p.m.)**
- 21 Awana Open House (Open House)**
- 25 Business Meeting (5:30 p.m.)**
- 27 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)**
- 28 Awana Starts (6:00 p.m.)**

September

- 1 Pot Luck Fellowship (12:45 p.m.)**
- 2 Labor Day - Offices Closed**
- 3 Youth trip to Wahooz (9:30 a.m.)**
- 4 Awana (6:00 p.m.)**
- 7 Air Force Appreciation Day**
- 10 Deacons' Meeting (7:00 p.m.)**
- 24 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)**
- 29 Benevolence Sunday**

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Our next women's event will be August 10th. Look for its announcement and for the dates and topic of our fall Bible study. Thank you and may God bless you all in His service.

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Church Council

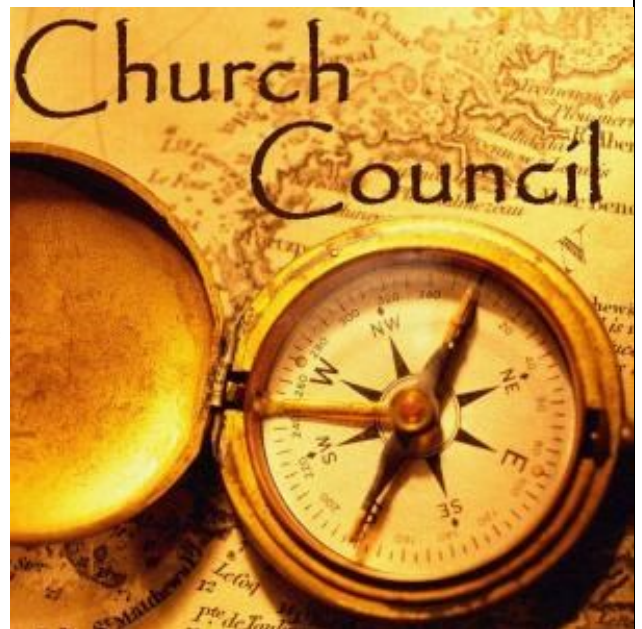
Continuing Steadfastly – Acts 2:42, 46-47

On the day of Pentecost, about 3,000 souls were added to the church in a single day. It was a watershed moment in church history because that day not only birthed the church but the apostles and disciples of Jesus experienced the power the Lord Jesus had promised them and bore witness to the way the church would remain connected to the risen Savior. As Christ took His place at the Father's right hand to ever make intercession for us, the Father sent the Holy Spirit to indwell each believer – to lead and guide us into all truth.

The text above tells us, “And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers...So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.”

This is our task as a local church. We are part of the universal body of Christ and His bride. Just as the apostles were forced to transition from the earthly ministry of Jesus to His heavenly place at the Father's right hand, we are also called to continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship established by the apostles and transmitted to us here in Mountain Home through all the pastors God called to our church from its inception in 1957 through today. With each successive transition of leadership, God has superintended our fellowship and called someone to shepherd His flock.

And we must remain steadfast not only in Biblical doctrine and fellowship with one another, we must remain steadfast in the operations of our church, its many ministries, and in the preaching and teaching of Scripture. This is the task of your church council. We are committed to providing a steadfast (steady) hand in ensuring that our fellowship remains vibrant, rooted in God's Word, and a relevant witness to the resurrection of our Lord and Savior.



Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. What did the grape say when it got crushed. Nothing, it just let out a little whine.
2. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
3. Geology rocks, but geography is where it's at.
4. Did you hear about the restaurant on the moon? The food is great but it has no atmosphere.
5. Can February March? No, but April May.
6. Yesterday I accidentally swallowed some food coloring. The doctor says I'm okay but I feel like I've dyed a little inside.

August Birthdays

5 Jon Juris
5 Aaron Weaver
13 Gerry Finley
14 Blythe Thompson
19 Norma Harper
23 Bill Goodnough



Happy Birthday

23 Sarah Sanchez
23 Amanda Weaver
25 Mary Grohs
26 Becky McCall
27 Mark Collier
29 James Postelnick

September Birthdays

2 David Heath III
3 John Harper
4 Allen Keillor
6 Migel Soto
8 Donald Hampton
9 Bob Neubauer
13 Katie Dreier
16 Quantum Farnham

19 Bailey Yadon
22 Carol Ellis
24 Keith Sisson
28 Mark Williams
28 Sophie Thompson
10/2 Jim Clark
10/4 Jane Jacome

Anniversaries

3 Clifford & Rose Hare
3 Daryl & Cookie Lyerla
4 Don & Flo Scheffler
6 Amos & Kathleen Payton
6 Aaron & Molly Weaver
9/2 Jonathan & Sarah Sanchez



11 Fernando & Violet Solis
19 John & Michele Ring
24 Patrick & Tina Holt
29 Lyle & Grace Ferch
31 Jim & Nicole Clark
9/4 Blake & Lindsey Rosenbaum