

June/July 2025

The Trumpet

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



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Leadership Journal

Salvation

What does it mean to be saved? Most of the time when people ask that question they are talking about just one aspect of salvation. You may have heard one person ask another, “Are you saved?” What is being addressed in that question is whether or not a person has come to faith in Jesus Christ. When someone puts their trust in Jesus for his or her salvation then the righteousness of Christ that He achieved with His death, burial and resurrection is credited to their account and they are justified before God. Certainly that part of the salvific process is critical, for if a person never believes in Jesus he or she will spend eternity in Gehenna, the lake of fire. All of us have experienced having someone we are close to die outside of saving faith. That certainly brings great sorrow in this life. We should recognize though, that in eternity we will be able to say yeah and amen to everything that has happened.

When we say a person has put their faith in Christ and been justified we mean in Christ alone. Nothing less than Jesus is enough but nothing can be added. It has well been said that Jesus Christ supplemented is Jesus Christ supplanted. That is if you add to Him you have replaced Him. One of the most common ways this is done is requiring that a person be baptized to be justified. Another is that a person has to speak in tongues.

In addition to justification sanctification and glorification are part of being saved.

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Glorification will take place when we are home with the Lord or when Jesus Christ returns, whichever comes first. This is a wonderful thing to look forward to since we will no longer be able to sin. We will no longer have any desire for sin and at the return of the Lord Jesus we will have new bodies that will no longer have all the problems we live with now. We will never again experience pain, something it is hard to imagine since pain for many of us is part of our daily routine. There will never again be sorrow for we will be Jesus always.

It is with the third part of the salvific process that people who have come to faith are and should be concerned. Sanctification, becoming more and more like Jesus every day, is where the attention of the Christian should be focused. We don't study scripture to find out how to become a Christian, we immerse ourselves in the Word to more deeply understand what the Lord wants us to do. This should be the main concentration of the sermon on Sunday. It is the responsibility of the pastor to spend time each week delving deeply into the text and then presenting the results of his efforts to the congregation. If an appeal is made for people to commit their lives to Christ then the gospel should be presented. But members of the congregation who are already Christians, who have already been justified, don't need to be and if fact cannot be justified again. But every one of us needs to grow in the faith because sanctification is never complete in this life. The completion of sanctification is glorification.

Bob Neubauer

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is diligently working together with the Church Treasurer and Administrative Assistant to ensure funding remains balanced throughout the year. We've met recently to review the budget, but also to help provide the Pastoral Search Committee a recommendation on what the Church can offer a new Pastor in terms of income and benefits. The goal of the committee, as always, is to manage the funds wisely that God has entrusted us with and ensure proper oversight in all financial matters.



Eric Nagel, chairman

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 June please bring in . Flip Flops - For July School Supplies.



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Baptism in Corinthians

This article will concentrate on the texts in Corinthians that deal with baptism. There are not in the New Testament a huge number of passages that deal with baptism but a number of them are found in Corinthians. Of course the reason that there are not many texts is that the New Testament writers are addressing believers who have already been baptized. At various times in the early church Christians have not always been baptized immediately after their profession of faith. But during the time the apostles and other writers of scripture tell us about they were.

In Chapter one Paul addresses a division that had arisen in the church with various believers promoting the fact that Paul or Cephas or Apollos had led them to Christ, some even saying "I am of Christ." One thing is clear from what Paul says and that is they had all been baptized in the triune name of God. Another thing is that the ground of Christian unity is what Jesus did. If you have ever been used by the Lord in leading someone to Christ that was a very special thing to you. But what matters is that they came to Christ, not who led them or who baptized them.

We also need to deal with the household baptism we find in verse 16. Paul writes, *Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other.* We see a number of household baptisms in the New Testament. What we had in the early church was groups of people coming to faith at the same time. Peter's sermon produced 3000 converts, so it should not be a surprise that we find families coming to faith. The case of the Philippian jailer is particularly clear because the whole house rejoices in the jailer's conversion. Unbelievers don't rejoice in the conversion of family members.

Jumping ahead to chapter ten we encounter a text that talks about the Jewish people being baptized into Moses. This is really a reference to the supernatural acts of God in bringing His people out of Egypt, something that they all remembered. If you had been there and had seen God bring the water crashing down and killing all the Egyptians you could hardly forget such an extraordinary event. Yet of all the people that saw that event only two made it into the promised land, Joshua and Caleb. It is the Holy Spirit that changes hearts, witnessing a miracle per se will not do it.

In chapter 12 after talking about the gifts of the Spirit Paul says in verse 13 that we were all baptized into one body regardless of ethnicity or position in this world. We were all, the text says made to drink of one Spirit. The initiatory work of baptism makes us a part of God's church all over the world. If you have the opportunity to travel and meet believers in various parts of the world you will have noticed the

unity of spirit that we all possess. You may have been recognized as a Christian by someone even though the subject of the faith was not being discussed. That is because whatever the color of our skin or whatever language we speak it was the same spirit who convicted our hearts and we all have the same savior. What is the difference between baptism and the Lord's supper. Baptism is initiatory the supper is not. Baptism is the first point of obedience to anyone who has bowed his or her knee to Christ. At the end of Peter's sermon the hearts of many were convicted by the message and they cried out "*What shall we do?*" Peter said, "*Repent and be baptized.*" It was and is a onetime event never to be repeated in the life of the Christian. It is just the opposite with the supper. The supper is to be repeated again and again; it is not initiatory. The supper is given to the gathered body whereas baptism while it may be observed by many is for the individual being baptized. Historically in the Christian church as a whole a person must be baptized before they can partake of the supper. If you have not followed in obedience to the Lord by being baptized then you may not celebrate the supper with the church.

We now come to I Corinthians 15:29, a text about which believers have many questions. *Otherwise, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why then are they baptized for them?* To understand this verse we must first remember that I Corinthians 15 is the chapter about the resurrection. Except for Christians alive at Christ's return all of us will experience death and resurrection. Here is one possible understanding of this text. At the time Paul is writing becoming a Christian was a very risky thing. Believers were frequently killed leaving a hole in the church's membership. When you were baptized you would take the place of that believer who had been killed. Unlike today where baptism does not bring you into great conflict with the surrounding culture it most certainly did in the first century. If you became a Christian you would no longer be allowed in the synagogue and your very life might be at risk. What we do have to be careful about with this passage is building any doctrine on it because this is the only place in the New Testament where baptism for the dead is mentioned. The Mormons have made a very big deal over this text baptizing as many names as they could. By the way, we have just looked at every use of the word baptism in I Corinthians. So, the natural question is, what about II Corinthians. There is not even one mention of baptism in II Corinthians. Does that mean it was no longer important. Of course not. It is just that by the time Paul wrote II Corinthians he did not need to mention it.

Baptism is one of the two ordinances given to us by Jesus Christ. We should cherish having been baptized after we came to faith and we should always rejoice when anyone is baptized.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

June

- 1-6 VBS (5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)
- 10 Deacons' Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 15 Fathers Day
- 18 Pastor Search Committee (6:30 p.m.)
- 21 Women's Barbeque (12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.)
- 22- 27 TVSBA Kid's Camp
- 22 Business Meeting (5:30 p.m.)
- 24 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)
- 29 Benevolence Fund
- 29 5th Sunday Sing

July

- 1 Women's Bible Study & Coffee (9:00 a.m.)
- 3 Offices Closed
- 4 Independence Day
- 8 Deacons' Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 15 Women's Ministry Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- 29 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)
- 30 Awana Workers' Meeting (6:00 p.m.)

Trustees Report

Have you prayed for your Trustees today? What exactly does a Trustee do? One of the main responsibilities of a church Trustee is to handle the legal aspects of our church. We research and enter into legal agreements/contracts on behalf of the church. This includes simple matters such as the registration for the church van and the lease agreement for the office copier; as well as bank accounts, loans, and property insurance. We are all called to be in the world, but not of it. However, there are things that must be done in this world to make things legal, and that is where your Trustees come in. Please be praying for Dave Ellis, Dan Hazelbaker, and John Crowe as we serve the Lord as your trustees.

John Crowe, Chairman

Library Report

Just a reminder that the Church Library is available for study material, research aids, and fiction entertainment. Also, if you have need of special material let me know.

Don't forget that the summer time is a good season for personalized and relaxed reading and learning more of God's Word for your everyday life. Take advantage of the available material.

Blessings,
Betty Finley, Librarian

Trumpet Report

For the second consecutive year the Trumpet is being produced every other month. One thing that means is that each ministry has just one article a year. Of course church members can speak with the committee chairs or members at any time. The outreach of the Trumpet is first to the active membership of the church. Second, it reaches the many members who have moved away. Some of these were only with us a short time but others were here for years. Third, whenever a visitor fills out the card in the visitor's packet they receive their name is added to the list and they receive the Trumpet each month. While a family may not return they still benefit from the teaching articles in the Trumpet. All in all we reach hundreds of people with each issue of the Trumpet and that means that the outreach of First Southern may be greater than you realize.

Bob Neubauer, Trumpet editor

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner

Muldoon lived alone in the Irish countryside with only a pet cat for company. One day the cat died, and Muldoon went to the parish priest and asked, "Father, me cat is dead. Could ya' be sayin' a mass fer the poor creature?" Father Patrick replied, "I'm afraid not; we cannot have services for an animal in the church. But there is a new denomination down the lane, and there's no telling what they believe. Maybe they will do something fer the creature." Muldoon said, "I'll go right away Father. Do ya' think \$1,000 is enough to donate fer the service?" Father Patrick exclaimed, "Sweet Mary, Mother of Jesus! Why didn't ya' tell me the cat was Catholic?"



June Birthdays

2 Roman Solis
4 Steve Noland
6 Sai Crouse
12 John Ring
13 Shannon Crowe
15 Mike Crouse
17 Janet Nesbitt



18 Jenise Zachary
19 Martha Hazelbaker
20 Makayla Clark
20 Mark Barnes
20 Varian Postelnick
21 April Anders
28 Grace Postelnick

July Birthdays

3 Kim Juris
3 Victor Nostrom
5 Shilo Nagel
9 Mary Booth
10 Sharon Siebenberg
12 Tyrone Parsons
12 Rose Hare
15 Piper Phillips
17 Uriah Clark
8/5 Jon Juris

18 Wayne Clark
19 Lyle Ferch
22 Logan Postelnick
22 Linda Heath
25 Lindsey Rosenbaum
27 Don McCall
28 Sarah Hare
28 Jeannie Zarych
29 Jonni Clark

6/2 John & Mary Booth
6/12 Richard & Rita Kanady
6/25 Eric & Jessica Nagel
7/30 Steve & Diane Noland
8/3 Daryl & Cookie Lyerla
8/4 Don & Flo Scheffler



6/12 James & Sarah Gregory
6/15 Lendell & Agnes Simler
7/16 Wesley & Holly Phillips
8/3 Clifford & Rose Hare
8/3 Chad & Jenise Zachary
8/6 Amos & Kathleen Payton