

The Beacon The Beacon



Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. Psalm 119:105

September 2020

HOME COMING

1881 - 2020

Join us Sunday, Sept 20th at 10:00am as we celebrate 139 years of God's goodness.



Pastor Dave's Message for the Month

Word of God. We need to stand for or against issues based on the Word of God. We need to respond to COVID 19 with the wisdom that God has given us. In other words, we should be living with a biblical worldview.

If we don't live with a biblical worldview, it can cause harm and danger in our lives. One of the dangers is that the division we see happening in our society will spill over into the church. If we are not careful, we can become so passionate about an issue that we can cause harm to our brothers and sisters in Christ. First Peter 3:8 says, "Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tender-hearted, be courteous." God calls us to treat each other with compassion, love, tenderness, and courtesy. He also calls us to be of one mind. That means no division. If we are going to be of one mind, then we must be led by the Holy Spirit and be living by the Word of God.

Another danger of not living with a biblical worldview, is that we lose sight of what is really important. If we are not careful, the issues we are passionate about become our number one priority. Then suddenly all we are talking about are those issues. As Christians, Jesus should be our number one priority, and we should be talking about Him and sharing the Gospel. I realize that people are passionate about many things, but as Christians we need to remember that every day people are dying and going to hell. Therefore, we should be passionate about reaching this lost.

Let me encourage you to stay focused on Jesus and what is really important to Him. Please do not get sidetracked by secondary things. Also, please guard against any division in the church. I love you all, and I want God's best for all of you.

For His glory,

Pastor Dave

We live in a society that is full of division. People are divided over politics. "Vote for this person. Vote for that person. Stand up for this issue. Stand against that issue." People are also divided over how to respond to COVID 19. "I am wearing a mask. I am not wearing a mask. We need to keep everything closed. We need to open everything up. We need to stay in quarantine. We need to be functioning like normal."

Now don't get me wrong, I am not saying that we need to withdraw from what is happening politically or with COVID 19. However, what I am saying is that as Christians, we need to respond biblically. We need to vote for the candidate who best lines up with the



Building Fund Update

Our Goal	\$ 1,002,000
Collected as of August 22, 2020	\$ 596,626
Balance	\$ 405,374

Baptist Women News

- If you would like to purchase RADA Cutlery products, click this link radafundraising.com/?rfsn=4130704.b62946 or use the catalog and order form in the church foyer. These products are proudly made in the USA. We thank you for supporting our mission projects.
- If you are participating in our Secret Sister Program, there is a basket in the church foyer to place cards and gifts to your secret sister. Be sure to check the basket weekly.
- The October Women's Conference at Red Mountain has been postponed until 2021. We will keep you updated of the new date.

Being a Good Neighbor

Steven Halter

We pass by all kinds of people every day. Some may be aspiring young professionals, confident in their talents and pursuing success. Others may be middle-aged businesspeople, disillusioned with life and wondering what went wrong. Others may be teenagers hanging out on street corners, or even grandparents feeling abandoned inside of retirement homes. Rich or poor, healthy or sick, seemingly happy or obviously sad, many people have one thing in common: They haven't received God's forgiveness and accepted the leadership of Jesus Christ in their lives.

The question for us is this: Will we be a good neighbor to them? Will we show them God's love and share Jesus with them? Jesus said that the second greatest commandment is to love our neighbors as ourselves. He also showed that our neighbor is whomever we come into contact with: our co-workers, people in the restaurants we eat in, and people on the subway or in the airport.

Loving your neighbor means having a selfless concern for the complete well-being of the people around you. Many of those people are unchurched, in other words, they don't attend any local church. And many unchurched people don't know God's love and forgiveness.

Whether you're in North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia, or the Middle East, there are many people who need to know the Lord. Dr. Moore, adjunct professor at Regent University, shares that in the United States there are 195 million people who are unchurched, making it the third largest grouping of unchurched people in the world. According to Dr. Moore, polls indicate more than 60 million Americans would respond positively if someone they trusted invited them to church.

Being a Friend - The problem is, many Christians don't have any unsaved friends. But if we really care about people, then we will reach out to non-Christians and befriend them. Some disapproved of Jesus' method of ministry, saying that He was a friend of "tax collectors and sinners" (Luke 7:34). May we all be guilty of reaching out to those who need the Lord!

One key way to be a friend is to intercede for others. Pray that God will soften their hearts to His voice, and that He will draw them to Himself. Then be faithful to keep praying for them.

Giving It Time - As you develop a genuine friendship with non-Christians, there will be opportunities to bring up spiritual matters in a non-threatening and non-judgmental way. Also, you can invite them to

Christian activities, such as a concert, or even to a church service.

But keep this in mind: Conversion is usually a process that takes place over time. It may take months or years for someone to finally make the decision to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. Pastor Lee Strobel of Willow Creek Church and author of *Inside the Mind of Unchurched Harry and Mary*, writes that "many Christians and churches are only geared to treat evangelism as an event - a decision that needs to be made right now, rather than a choice that frequently comes after a period of discovery". You may be just one of several people over a period of time who helps someone else come to faith in Christ.

A Better Understanding of God - One way we can more effectively reach out to our neighbors is to develop a better understanding of God, and then to share it with others. Sometimes our doctrinal traditions get in the way of what the Bible reveals about God. God is a loving, good, holy, and compassionate God who wants all people to come to faith in Jesus Christ. He is the author of our faith but not the author of evil. He grants people genuine free will, yet wants all to follow His will for them.



Being Relevant - There are all kinds of people in this world, speaking different languages, coming from various kinds of cultures, having differing tastes in music, and differing in life experiences. We must be willing to adapt our approaches in order to effectively reach more people. As the Apostle Paul said, "I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22).



Today's Good Samaritans - One time, when a lawyer asked Jesus who his neighbor was, Jesus replied with the well-known parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). Though Samaritans were looked down upon or even despised by Israeli society, the good Samaritan was actually the hero of the story because he showed genuine concern for the well-being of another.

Like the Samaritans, in today's world Christians are often looked down upon. Communist governments see them as a threat to be eliminated, as do radical adherents of some other faiths. And the religious pluralists of western society preach tolerance while being intolerant of Christians. Yet, like the good Samaritan, we Christians can show compassion for those that are hurting. We can let the love of God flow through us to bring healing to many. May we all, like the Good Samaritan, love our neighbors as ourselves, and share the light of Christ. www1.cbn.com

National Good Neighbor Day - Sept 28th

SEPTEMBER 2020

BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS

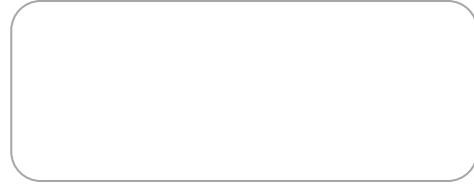
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Memory Verse “Finally, <i>all of you</i> be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, <i>be</i> tenderhearted, <i>be</i> courteous.” 1 Peter 3:8</p>		1 <i>Lee Batten</i>	2 Deacons Mtg 7p	3	4 <i>Melody Myers</i>	5
<p>6 Family Worship Service 9am & 11am</p> <p><i>Ingela Gillie</i></p>	<p>7</p>  <p>LABOR DAY</p> <p><i>Ann Johnson</i></p>	8 <i>Bobby Caddell</i>	9 Baptist Women Meeting 7p	10 <i>Logan Dunn Emma Pryor</i>	<p>11</p>  <p>REMEMBER</p> <p><i>Ricky Bowen</i></p>	12 <i>Dave Pryor</i>
<p>13 <i>Happy Grandparent's Day!</i></p> <p>Family Worship Service/Lord's Supper 9a & 11a Business Meeting 5:30p</p> <p><i>Don Stancil Faye Taylor</i></p>	14 <i>Matthew Caddell Chase Ellis M. Ann Marshall</i>	15 <i>Kaleb Chambers</i>	16 <i>Billy Ellis Mark Fuller</i>	17 <i>Randell McKinney</i>	18 <i>Brad Proctor</i>	19
<p>20 Homecoming Service 10:00am</p>	21	<p>22</p>  <p>First Day of Autumn</p> <p><i>Len Turner</i></p>	23	24	25 <i>Dustin Humphries</i>	26 <i>Mike Garrett</i>
<p>27 Family Worship Service 9am & 11am</p> <p><i>Vickie Proctor</i></p>	<p>28</p>  <p>National Good Neighbor Day</p>	29 <i>Joyce Glenn</i>	30 <i>Chris Smith Sammi Watson</i>	Oct 1	2 <i>Devin Brack Jewel Clayton Cassie Gillie Kerry McKenzie</i>	3 <i>Terry Carden Brittany MacDonalld</i>



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Rev. Dave Pryor - Pastor
Rev. Cameron Lewis - Youth Pastor
Address Correction Requested



Grandparenting Greatness

Diane Markins

"Grandparents, like heroes, are as necessary to a child's growth as vitamins." Joyce Allston

As a little girl I remember my grandma being around a lot. She and my grandpa owned a radiator business where she worked energetically keeping books, answering phones, managing collections and even making deliveries. She was a female force of nature in a man's world, and she always let me "help."

When I was a teenager life began to get more complicated, especially when my parents divorced. Grandma always listened and sympathized. I knew she understood when no one else did.

As an adult our relationship grew even closer. She praised me, complimented me and cheered me on. I always felt prettier, smarter and more capable in her presence than with anyone else. I was her favorite. Or so I thought.

In 1993 I blew out my knee in a skiing accident and back then ACL repair was a pretty difficult surgery. The day after I got out of the hospital Grandma Mamie went in to have heart surgery. It didn't enter my mind that she could ever really die. At my husband's urging I mustered my strength and went for a pre-op visit.

We prayed and held hands. She said, "No matter how this turns out it will be OK because I'll either feel better on earth or a lot better in heaven...and God will take care of both of us." She felt a lot better... with Jesus the next day. I did not. But I clung to her words, knowing that she wanted me to rely on the Lord for comfort.

I am now a grandma to three toddlers and feel richly blessed to have had my grandmothers as well as my mother and step-mom to model this role for me so beautifully.

I am a rookie so won't offer personal advice but according to some of the wisest grandmas I know (including my mother-in-law) these are the things Godly grandparents do:

- Pray for them continually to be immersed in the knowledge and love of God at an early age and even to finding mates of God's choosing.
- Perceive and reflect their worth and affirm God's calling on their lives.
- Listen to them any time they want to talk.
- Gently offer wise counsel to encourage them in their faith and character development.
- Love them unconditionally...don't be afraid that you'll "spoil" them.
- Be creative, fun and affectionate.
- Respect their parents and never undermine their authority.

Proverbs 17:6 says that, "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged..." No wise person would ever neglect their "crown" or what they value most. Being a God-honoring grandparent is a huge job and when you get it, you're the one who can do it best. It is, however, your decision.



If you are fortunate enough to have a grandparent still living, especially during the holidays, take advantage of what they have to offer. Share your heart, ask their advice, and listen to their stories filled with a wealth of experiences. Appreciate their humor, affection and wisdom. Tell them what they mean to you and how they've influenced your life.

"The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life..." says Proverbs 10:11 My grandmother spoke encouraging words of life, love and comfort. I know her secret was that she made each of her grandkids believe they were her favorite. What an auspicious legacy to carry on, possibly even with children who have no one to call Grandma or Grandpa.