

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their forefathers to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." Deuteronomy 31:6-8 (NIV)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

In the thirty-first chapter of Deuteronomy, Moses is getting ready to hand over his leadership to Joshua. The longed-for promised land was just ahead, over the Jordon River, but through some foreign lands. The obstacles seemed formidable when God's strength and faithful care of them was overlooked.

Safe passage would only come as they moved to place of enough trust in the Lord to step out in faith. Safe passage to the hoped-for Promised Land was not going to be found in their own strength, wisdom, or skill. Victory would be found each day as they walked with the Lord in absolute dependence on Him.

What was God asking of His people? Trust! Faith! Obedience! How would these be manifested? In choosing to find strength, courage, and hope in Him alone! Considered with human eyes and minds, what lie ahead of them was reason for fear and terror, but perceived through eyes of faith, God's presence was assured.

Sometimes the road we are traveling on is dim, blocked, or frighteningly unknown. When we add all the variables known to us, the future can seem impossible and without hope. These are the times when we must choose not to lean on our own understanding, but instead lean on the Lord.

Moses' advice to those looking at the obstacles between them and the Promised Land is still applicable to us. Be strong, courageous and keep on moving because the Lord your God goes with you. Is something preventing you from moving ahead? What is causing fear, anxiety, and concern as

you look ahead? Rest assured, The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. God's peace, strength and love are with you for the days ahead. He has us!



Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

In a devotion by Max Lucado, he talks of living a life stirring enough to cause a movement. We as Christ followers need to be grounded in every aspect of our lives. This does not mean we have to be perfect, because truth be told, that is impossible for humans until we are called home to be with our Lord. But what that statement does mean, is that we should be actively seeking God in EVERY SINGLE THING we do, say, and think. Sure, we will all have rough days, weeks, or even years, but we have unlimited access to the most stirring and powerful force out there. God, the Creator, the Alpha and Omega, I Am, the real life energizer bunny if you will.

If we truly live our lives to please and obey our Heavenly Father, then our entire life and existence will be a powerful stirring force that will draw people in, not to us as an individual person, but they will be drawn to the almighty God who is alive and well inside us. Think of it this way: you have a trash dumpster and it is filled with rotten nasty food from who knows how long ago. There is no lid so the stench can be smelled from a far off distance, you don't even have to get super close to the dumpster to smell the grossness that is emanating from it. A smart person is going to stay as far away from that smell and dumpster as they can because it is revolting and the foul smell is enough to make someone sick.

Ok, now imagine you get home from being out all day. The windows in the house are open because it's nice outside, and before you even get to the door, you smell your favorite meal cooking. You go into the house all excited; praying that smell really is what you think it is. You drop your stuff and seek out the smell going straight to the source of the smell, the kitchen. You and every person in the house is drawn to the kitchen by the most amazing smell. It is wonderful, comforting, relaxing, and life giving all at the same time.

These two scenarios are how our lives can be. We can either live a life that is so foul and wreaks of Godlessness that is nothing but a turn off for anyone within "smelling distance", or we can allow God to lead us, guide us, and we can surrender to Him and choose to live a life that is full of the pleasing smell of God's love and character that will draw people in to know more about Him. Let's live lives that are stirring enough to cause others to come to God, not be turned off to Him.

Philippians 2:14-16 "Do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. Hold firmly to the word of life; then, on the day of Christ's return, I will be proud that I did not run the race in vain and that my work was not useless."

For information about Fusion events, please find us on Facebook at Fusion Youth Ministry, email us at <u>fusionfbcg@gmail.com</u>, or you contact Faith or myself.

God Bless, Pastor Matt & Faith :)



Mark your Calendar!

FBC will be having a <u>Shoebox Packing Party</u> for Operation Christmas Child on <u>October 10, 2020</u>! Since we will not be packing shoeboxes at VBS, we will join together on October 10, as a church body, for a time of shoebox packing and fun.

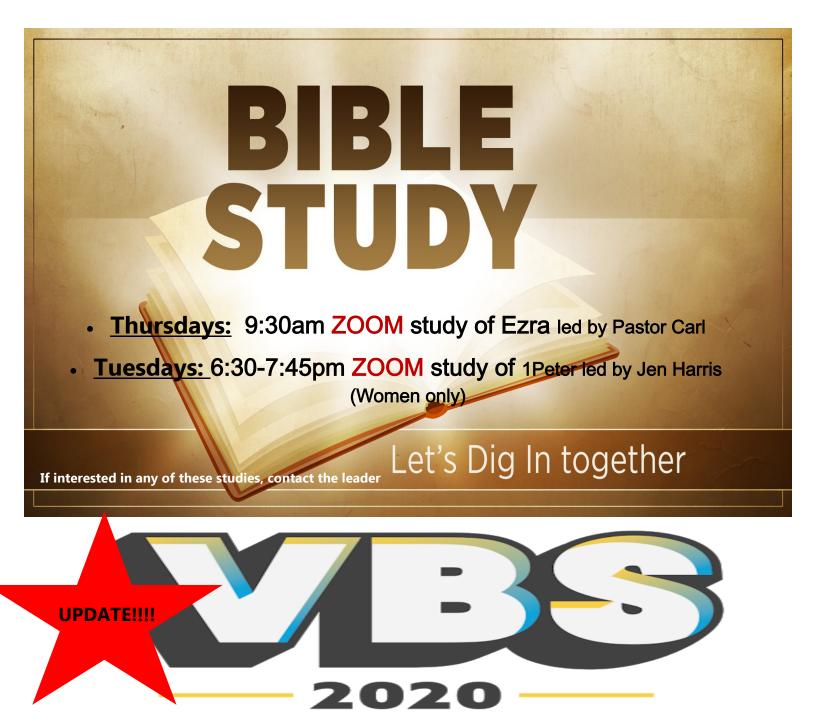
Our church family packed and sent 521 shoeboxes last year. Let's aim for 600 shoeboxes in 2020! That means 600 children and families will hear the Gospel – some for the first time. These shoeboxes are "little missionaries" – laborers you and I can send forth into the fields that are ready for harvest.

To pack these boxes we need more of <u>everything!</u> We need more bottle caps, more clothes, more toys, more fishing equipment, stuffed animals, scissors, school supplies, hammers, soccer and other balls. More notebooks, handmade items like hats or scarfs, gloves, socks, and on and on. If it fits in a shoebox, and a child could like it, we can use it. (New or like new items only. No liquids, toothpaste, candy, no war related items or camouflage.)

Place your generous donations in the box under the mailboxes in the church entry. Monetary donations go in the offering marked "Shoeboxes."

The need is great! Shipping alone for 600 shoeboxes will cost \$5,400.00. Thank you for your generosity in giving and in prayer.

The Shoebox Team Questions? Call Fran 676-0524

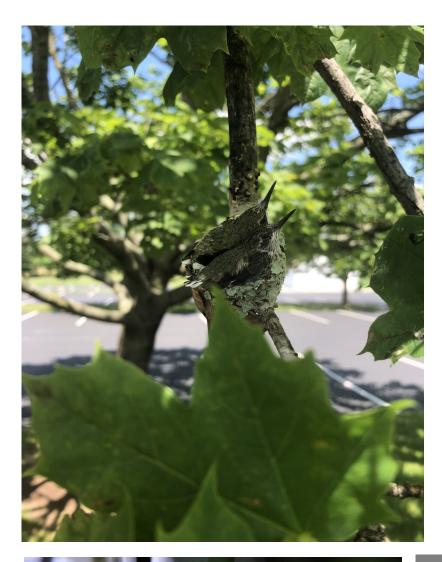


Hello FBC, Sonshine & AWANA Families,

We know how much VBS means to so many and we were excited to bring another great VBS adventure this summer. We discussed many options on how we could possibly operate VBS this summer and we received input from several of our core volunteers. In the end, after much consideration and prayer, it became clear that the changes we would need to make this year would significantly detract from the core elements that have made it so successful in the past. We made the decision to postpone our VBS until next summer.

It is disappointing to not have VBS this year, we look forward to it as much as you do! However, we plan to carry this year's "Armor of God" theme over to next summer 2021. With the extra time we have to plan, we can look forward to an amazing adventure filled with knights, a castle and some seriously cool armor God has given us. So get ready to suit up next summer 2021 and join us on a quest in search of the King's Armor!

In the mean time, stay tuned for more information on other exciting events at FBC in the future.



Here is an updated picture of the hummingbird nest. The babies are growing and look like they are almost too big for the nest. According to the internet, once they leave the nest, they never return. The mother shows them some good places to find bugs and other food and then they leave for good.

They are amazing creatures. They have the ability to fly backwards, change direction in mid flight so quickly that it's almost impossible to see, and fly upside down!

A hummingbird lives for about 3-5 years.

W2 Group

This group of Widows and Widowers meet on the last Sunday of each month after 2nd service to support and love each other. Next Meeting will be Sunday, August 30th. Under the pavilion, please bring your own lunch and drink

Can You Guess The Hymn?

Never find yourself repeating "There is nothing I can do.", While a world of men is dying. There's a work God's calls you to. Gladly take the task He gives you, Let His will your pleasure be; Answer quickly, when He calls you, "Here am I, send me, send Me."

"When the storms of life are raging, stand by me, (stand by me)."

Rev. Charles A. Tindley Hymn author, "Stand By Me" (1905)

Submitted by Whitney Myers

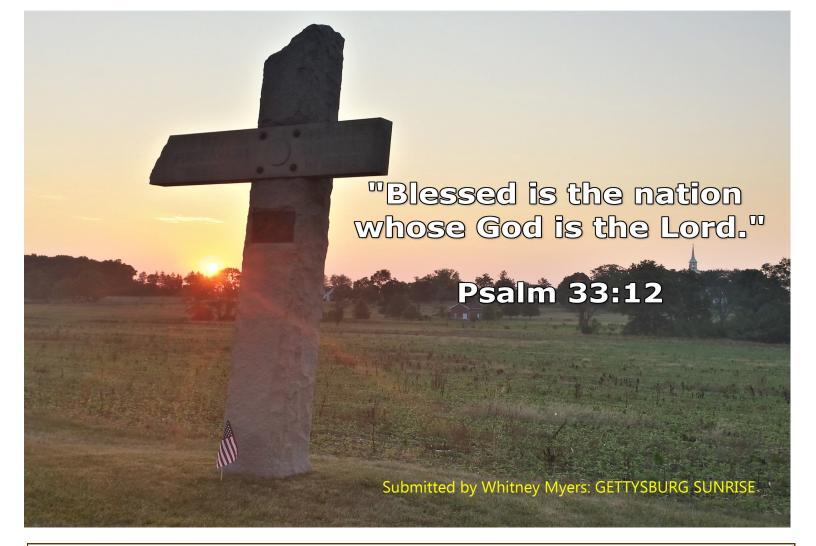
"Trust in the Lord forever, For in God the Lord, we have an everlasting Rock."

Isaiah 26:4

ScriptureWay.com

Submitted by Whitney Myers

Three Patriarchs, Zion National Park, Utah, USA



I STAND BY THE DOOR

I stand by the door. I neither go too far in, nor stay too far out, The door is the most important door in the world--It is the door through which men walk when they find God. There's no use my going way inside, and staying there, When so many are still outside and they, as much as I, Crave to know where the door is. And all that so many ever find Is only the wall where a door ought to be. They creep along the wall like blind men, with outstretched, groping hands; Feeling for a door, knowing there must be a door, yet they never find it... So, I stand by the door. _____Samuel Shoemaker

7



- 1. In what city was Jesus born?
- 2. How many books are in the New Testament?
- 3. What type of insect did John the Baptist eat in the desert?
- 4. Who were the first apostles called to follow Jesus?
- 5. How many people did Jesus feed with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish?
- 6. After Jesus was arrested, which apostle disowned him three times?
- 7. Who recognized Jesus as the Messiah when he was presented at the Temple as a baby?
- 8. Who asked for Jesus' body after the crucifixion?
- 9. Paul was shipwrecked on what island?
- 10. What is the shortest book in the New Testament?
- 11. Who is the author of the Book of Revelation?
- 12. Matthew was a _____?
- 13.To what city was Saul traveling when he encountered a great and blinding light?
- 14.Who was the first person to come upon the injured man in the parable of the Good Samaritan?
- 15.Finish this verse: "In addition to all this, take up the _____ of faith with which you can stop the fiery arrows of the evil one."
- 16. Whose example does Paul say Christians should follow in Chapter 5 of Ephesians?
- 17.After Jesus fed 5,000 plus people with 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread, how many baskets were left over?
- 18. What does Paul say may "abound more and more in knowledge and in all judgement."
- 19.What tribe is Paul from?
- 20. According to the Beatitudes, who will be filled?



Taryn He - 1 Colby Holtzople - 4 Pauline Seibel- 4 Kileigh McGlaughlin - 5 Linda Punchard - 7 Brylee Arentz - 8 Halle Henson- 9 Pat Flinn - 9 Warren Wagner – 9 Janet Coleman - 10 Shirley Sidenstricker - 10 Dave Rohrer - 12 Josh Henson- 13 Linda Potter - 13 Wanda Werner -16 Linda Kump -17 Faith Rice - 20 Tracey Thomas - 20 John Fitzgerald -21 Andy Hoffman - 23 Kaylee Baker - 24 Danise Kelly -25 Luther Guise - 27



Tony and Lori Miley - 3 Mac and Arla McBeth -7 Norris and Susan Flowers -9 Bob and Shirley Smith -18 Jim and Sue Stockman - 19 Ron and Pat Reuse - 20 Mike and Brenda Scyphers - 25 Brian and Cindy Rice - 31

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ANSWER TO HYMN: Hear the Voice of Jesus Calling

All articles for the newsletter must be submitted by the 20th of the previous month.