



A Message from

Pastor Andrew



Church Family,

When people interact with you, do they get any indication that you've been with Jesus? What a challenging question! Our parents always taught us things like, "Don't judge a book by its cover," but if we're honest, you can often tell where a person has been, who they've been with, or what they have been doing based upon their appearance.

For example, when you walk into a restaurant for lunch on Sunday, there's usually one or two families that are wearing dressier clothes—this still happens, even in 2024. When you see someone, or a family wearing dressier clothes on Sunday, it's generally safe to assume they've just been at a church worship service. But, can you tell by their behavior if they've been with Jesus? What if we asked local servers; what might they say? Simply attending worship doesn't necessarily mean you've been with Jesus, and our behavior usually determines that judgment.

I was challenged recently as I was reading a familiar passage one morning with this idea. In Acts 4, Peter and John are standing before the Sanhedrin for preaching the gospel. They've just shared the gospel with their accusers and judges, and Luke records the following response: *"When they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus."* (Acts 4:13)

There are several challenging things of note here:

1. These Jewish authorities saw these 2 Jewish fisherman as **bold**. Peter and John may have stood before a group that could judge and punish them, but they didn't back down when pressured. Peter and John weren't being jerks, they were just being honest

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SERMON SCHEDULE

MARCH 3

Letters to the 7 Churches

To Laodicea: Commit

Revelation 3:14-22

MARCH 10

Stand Firm

2 Cor. 16:13

GUEST PREACHER:

Mark Maynard

MARCH 17

A Sobering Start

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

MARCH 24

The Good Life?

Ecclesiastes 1:12 - 2:26

MARCH 31



If you call FBC Tucker your faith community, we ask that you pray about giving financially to support, and grow our ministries. You can give online by visiting www.fbctucker.org



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- and sticking to their message in the face of opposition, and their accusers took notice.
2. They perceived that there was nothing special about Peter and John by worldly standards. “Uneducated and common” wasn’t an insult, it was simply an acknowledgment that these men hadn’t received official training through a rabbinical school like those on the Sanhedrin had. They were fisherman! Thus, in part they were successful and smart enough to run a business. But how could these two untrained men know **so much** about the Scriptures?
 3. They were teaching the Scriptures **like Jesus** of Nazareth did. They were teaching the Scriptures with the same authority that Jesus of Nazareth did. So much so that as the members of the Sanhedrin were sitting and scratching their heads wondering where they’d heard this before, suddenly a light bulb came on and they recognized the similarities of Jesus’s teaching. This is astonishing.

Peter and John’s demeanor and speech pointed the Sanhedrin to Jesus. Both the way they carried themselves and the way they shared Jesus verbally reminded these Jewish men of that Man from Nazareth. The members of the Sanhedrin could detect that Galilean accent. The reality we see here is that when a person has sat under the teachings of Jesus and spent time with him, the result is that they become more like him. Others can’t help but notice it. Time with Jesus and his word is transformative.

I wonder, do people notice the character of Jesus when they see us, interact with us, or hear from us? Last year, I put forward the following mission statement for our church: “Making much of Jesus from our corner to the ends of the earth.” We see this happen in the lives and words of Peter and John.

They made much of Jesus in all that they did, and people took notice. To think, others were reminded of Jesus simply by seeing them and hearing them. What a wonderful hope and desire for all of us!

In Psalm 27:4, King David expresses this deep desire:

*One thing I ask from the Lord,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.*

I encourage each of you to make this verse your prayer and pursuit. Spend time with Jesus everyday; sit in his presence, not even saying anything at times; meditate on his beauty and grace; seek after him. The results will overflow, and in many cases, people will be more pointed to Jesus than to you. Isn’t that the goal for our lives? For our church?

The more time we spend with Jesus, the better off we’ll be, both individually and corporately as a church; the more gentle we’ll be; the more gracious we’ll be; the more humble and compassionate we’ll be; the more loving we’ll be; the more holy, pure, and righteous we’ll be. I’d say that’s a good reputation that we should strive after. May it be said of each of us individually and collectively that we’ve been with Jesus!

In Christ,

Pastor Andrew



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER FOR
March 2024

Tuesday, March 5
NTO Council 1:00PM in MSFH

Sunday, March 10
Daylight Saving Time Begins

Baby Dedication During
Worship Service

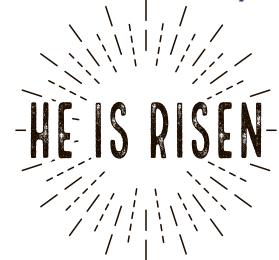
Sunday, March 17
St. Patrick's Day and

FBCT Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, March 24
Palm Sunday

Friday, March 29
Good Friday

Sunday, March 31
Easter Sunday



NETworks

A Cooperative Christian Ministry Serving the
Northlake — Embury Hills — Tucker Area

FOOD ITEM OF THE MONTH

Peanut Butter



Donation boxes are just inside the glass door at the office entrance and also in the Gathering Room.



In our recent School Board meeting, all members and attendees wholeheartedly agreed that Main Street Christian School should be known in the community as a Christ-centered institution.

We want families to know that their children will be regularly exposed to the Gospel and God's love. As our students learn and play, we endeavor to make the Lord known. This is our heart, and I invite our church members to be involved! We hold chapel on Wednesdays, from 11:30am-12:45pm (15-20 mins per class), and are looking for volunteers to participate. If you enjoy singing songs, reading stories, or helping little ones memorize scripture, please sign up for an available Wednesday time slot. Sign up sheets will be located in the Gathering Room on Sundays, but you can also email me (below).

Wishing you blessings and love this March!

Kymerly Dorsey

Main Street Preschool Director

kymerlydorseymsp@gmail.com • (470) 418-9073



IMPORTANT DATES

March 4 & 5

Pictures!



March 8

Parent/Teacher
Conferences
(No School)

March 15

Celebrating
St. Patrick's
Day!



Ladies' Bible Study

**Finishing the Study of Ecclesiastes on Wednesday,
March 6 at 10:00 am in the Community Room**

CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Becky Fortenberry 404-452-3493 or email: b2fortenberry@yahoo.com

Kathy Ray 770-605-2498 or email: Kathy.ray1955@gmail.com

You can also contact the church office at (770) 938-1688



Monthly Ladies' Bible Study

Saturday, March 16 at 10am

in the Community Room Led by Lana McNair & Jennifer Fuller



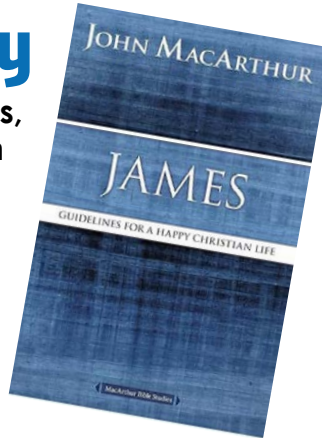
Men's Bible Study

**The Study of James on Thursdays,
March 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 10 am
in the Community Room**

CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION:

David Harris at 770-296-3200 or
email: davidharris1049@gmail.com

Darren Fletcher at 919-671-8421 or
email: dfletcher@fbctucker.org



Friday Morning Men's Fellowship (FMMF)

FMMF is a weekly time for men to gather for leadership development and mentoring.

All men are invited to join us at **7:00 a.m. Fridays at**

the Community Center as we enjoy an hour together around the greatest leader of all time, Jesus Christ. The Fellowship is designed to equip you for leadership in marriage, home and the workplace. Get complete details at leadadmin.org/tucker.

The Bible Tells Me So...So What?

By Darren Fletcher

Every night at bedtime, I sing a song with my son. It goes like this: "Jesus loves me, this I know. For the Bible tells me so." It is a cute little jingle, especially when it is children singing it. But, have you given deep thought to this song? What are you proclaiming, really?

In a recent poll by the [Gallup group](http://Gallup.com), the belief that the Bible is the "actual word of God to be taken literally" is at an all time low of 20% of polled Americans. 49% believe that the Bible is "inspired by God, but not meant to be taken literally," and a growing 29% believe that the Bible is "fables, history, moral precepts recorded by man." This poll is one among many that plot the

changing attitudes of Scripture. I wonder, if I polled the congregation, which of these three options would be the front runner?

Back to the children's song we all grew up being taught. Do you realize that this song is teaching us crucial truths, including that God has shown love to us and that this knowledge is not only obtainable, but it comes to us primarily through the written book we call the Bible? When you begin to think deeper, you realize that the source of our knowledge of God, what He is like, what salvation is, what sin is, and so much more, comes from

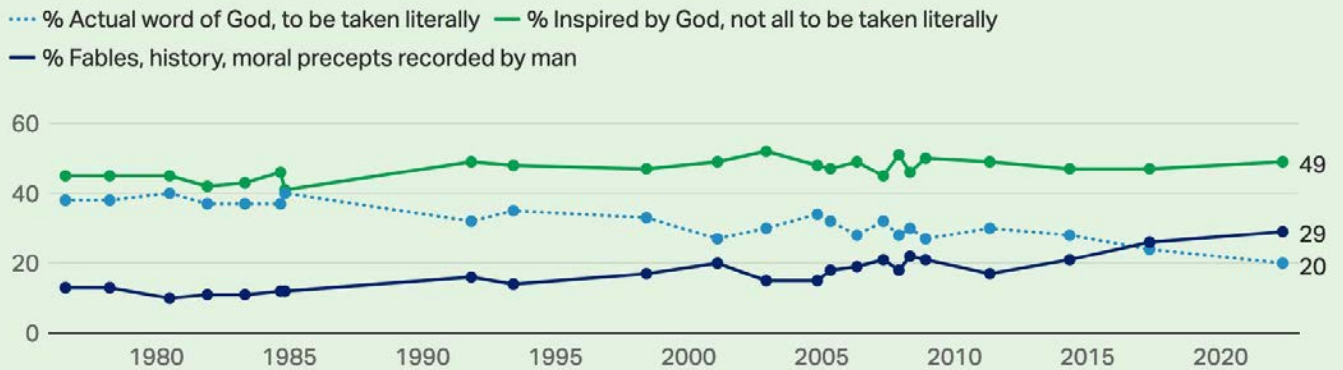
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“The Bible Tells Me So...” continued from page 4

Americans' Views of the Bible

Which of the following statements comes closest to describing your views about the Bible?



GALLUP

a book that is a collected work written by many men over the course of hundreds of years. If we are honest, this seems wildly ignorant, foolish and laughable.

Yet, the charge is there to take God at His word as revealed in Scripture. It is a growing concern of mine that even those inside the church have a severe lack of true trust and conviction in not just what the Bible is but the authority of that same Bible. Any good theologian who sets out to expose the great riches of the Christian faith must start with the nature, origin and authority of the text that lays out the deeper things of God. Failure to do so makes all future work worthless.

John Dagg, a Baptist theologian, produced his Manual of Theology in 1857. He begins his great work with an amazing chapter on the origin and authority of the Bible. He says something quite telling that I feel is worth sharing with you: “God himself is the author of the Bible. When we read its sacred pages, we should realize God speaks to us, and when we suffer it to lie neglected, we should remember we are refusing to listen to God (Manual of Theology, pg. 40). This leads me to my conclusion: Do you live your life in a manner that would reflect this truth? That the Bible truly is God’s Word meant to reveal Himself and His great salvation

to us? It trumps our opinions, our traditions and how we think things are meant to be. It teaches us how we are to live, conduct ourselves in and outside the church, and how we are to think. Why? Because it is a record of God’s heart to His people, with whom He seeks a close and meaningful relationship.

We live in an increasing age of skepticism aimed at authority. God, as the ultimate authority, gets His fair share of this. And you, if you hold to these truths, will be the victim of criticisms, anger and even hate. But you must hold tightly to the Word as it has been delivered, to live accordingly, worship accordingly, and love accordingly. Why? Because “the Bible tells me so,” and there are real consequences to this. To be bound by Scripture is not slavery or drudgery; rather, it is freeing and a great delight, as it was for those in Berea who “searched the Scriptures to test the words of the apostles” (Acts 17).

I charge each of you to take great delight in the Bible, and make it your foundation for all of life. Do this, even if it challenges your view, costs you something, or is uncomfortable at first. Because the riches and joy that await a soul whose life is bound up in Scripture far outweigh all else.





OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PLAN FOR 2024

Over the past 30 years, the Lord has used Samaritan's Purse to deliver more than 220 million shoebox gifts. Our church has been faithful to be involved in this wonderful ministry for many years. Last year we were able to pack and deliver **189 boxes!**

This year we will begin collecting shoebox items earlier than usual:

- In March & April, we will collect items for boys & girls ages 2-4.
- In May & June, we will collect items for boys & girls ages 5-9.
- In July & August, we will collect items for boys & girls ages 10-14.

There will be a collection box in the Gathering Room, along with gift suggestion sheets for you to pick up beginning in March.



SPA BAG PACKING PARTY MARCH 9TH, 10:30AM IN LFH

The Human Coalition is a compassion-filled nonprofit that rescues preborn children and their families from abortion. Most of the women who come to the clinic seeking an abortion find themselves in very stressful circumstances and need help and support. The clinic offers counsel, along with real and tangible help. It is the goal of the Human Coalition to meet each woman right where she is and to value and serve her, no matter the choice she makes, showing her unconditional love and the hope of the Gospel.

First Baptist Church Tucker has the opportunity to love on and minister to each woman through the donation of these Spa Bags which are given to clients on their first visit to the clinic. The Tucker clinic gives out about 30 bags per month, and last fall we were able to pack and donate 80 bags.

Thank you so much to everyone who recently donated toward the Spa Bag items for Human Coalition. We have received enough donations to pack 40 bags at our next **Spa Bag packing party on Saturday, March 9, in the La Vista Fellowship Hall, beginning at 10:30 a.m., followed by a pot-luck lunch.**

For more information, and to **RSVP**, please contact **Renée Maynard** at 770-530-5997.

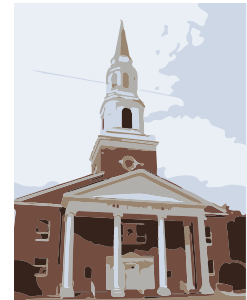


Please Be In Prayer For...

Tom Hubbard (daughter, **Kelly**, along with son, **Clarke**) who passed away peacefully on January 23.

A memorial service will be held here on March 23. More details to come.

Evelyn Thomas (husband, **Mike**, along with son, **Billy Thomas**, and daughters **Lisa Gilbert** and **Michele Lewis**), who passed away peacefully on January 29.



FBCT OFFICE HOURS

Our regular office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 AM to 3 PM. The Main Office closes from 12 PM to 1 PM for lunch each day.

770-938-1688

5073 Lavista Rd, Tucker, GA 30084

