

Sunday Morning Worship

March 16, 2025



**FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO**

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

301-952-0117 :: www.fbcum.org :: fbcum@firstbaptistum.com

Order of Worship

March 16, 2025

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship — 1 Peter 4:7-11

Song — You Have Called Us

Scripture Reading — Ezekiel 34:11-16

Song — The Lord Is (Psalm 23)

Pastoral Prayer

Song — It Is Well with My Soul

Prayer of Thanks

Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — Zach Schlegel

“The Role of Elders and Deacons”

1 Timothy 3:1-13

Song — How Great Is Your Faithfulness

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — 1 Peter 4:7-11 (ESV)

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<sup>7</sup> The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. <sup>8</sup> Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup> Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup> As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: <sup>11</sup> whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

## You Have Called Us

Mike Rogers

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Verse 1:

Our broken hearts we bring
With humble words we sing
Of how You took our place
Sin's debt forever paid
You set us free
Your praises we will sing

Chorus:

You have called us, Lord
Saved us by Your grace
As we honor You
The angels watch and praise
You will sustain us, Lord
And guide us in Your ways
Until You bring us home
To see You face to face

Verse 2:

Reveal now as we sing
Those things to which we cling
Remind us of the cross
Your blood has washed us clean
You set us free
Your praises we will sing

Bridge:

Because of You we sing
We sing in unity
We lift our praise to you
We sing of grace so sweet

Scripture Reading — Ezekiel 34:11-16 (ESV)

¹¹ “For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

The Lord Is

Bob Kauflin | Pat Sczebel

Verse 1:

The depths of Your grace who can measure
You fully supply all I need
You restore my weary soul again and again
And lead me in Your righteousness and peace

Verse 2:

You're with me through every dark valley
There's nothing that I have to fear
You are there to comfort me again and again
Protecting me assuring me You're near

Chorus:

The Lord is
The Lord is my Shepherd
The Lord is
The Lord is my Shepherd
I shall not want

Verse 3:

You gave Your own life for my ransom
So I could rejoice at Your side
You have shown Your faithfulness again and again
There's nothing good that You will not provide

Bridge:

I will dwell in Your house
All the days of my life
I will dwell in Your house
All the days of my life

It Is Well with My Soul

Horatio Spafford | Philip Bliss

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## **Verse 1**

When peace like a river  
attendeth my way  
When sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot,  
Thou hast taught me to say  
It is well, it is well with my soul

## **Chorus:**

It is well (*it is well*)  
With my soul (*with my soul*)  
It is well,  
It is well with my soul

## **Verse 2:**

Tho' Satan should buffet,  
Tho' trials should come  
Let this blest assurance control  
That Christ hath regarded  
my helpless estate  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul

## **Verse 3:**

My sin, O the bliss  
of this glorious tho't  
My sin, not in part but the whole  
Is nailed to the cross  
and I bear it no more  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

## **Verse 4:**

And Lord haste the day  
when the faith shall be sight  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll  
The trump shall resound  
and the Lord shall descend  
Even so, it is well with my soul

## **Sermon Notes**

### **“The Role of Elders and Deacons” :: 1 Timothy 3:1-13**

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How Great Is Your Faithfulness

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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## **Verse 1:**

Now unto the King who reigns over all  
And never changes or turns  
Unfailing justice unfading grace  
Whose promises remain  
Yes Your promises remain

## **Chorus:**

The heavens ring  
The saints all sing  
Great is Your faithfulness  
From age to age we will proclaim  
Great is Your faithfulness  
How great is Your faithfulness

## **Verse 2:**

Ev'rything changes but You stay the same  
Your Word and kingdom endure  
We lean on the promise of all that You are  
And trust forevermore  
We will trust forevermore

## **Bridge:**

From generation to generation  
You never failed us O God  
Yesterday and today and tomorrow  
Until the day You return

## **This Week at First Baptist Church**

### **Sunday, March 16**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
12:00 PM Members' Meeting  
6:00 PM Youth Night

### **Monday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day)**

### **Tuesday, March 18**

10:30 AM Tuesday Ladies Bible Study  
6:30 PM Elders Meeting

### **Wednesday, March 19**

5:45 PM King's Kids Choir  
6:30 PM AWANA  
Elder-led Bible Study  
Choir/Band Rehearsal

### **Thursday, March 20 (First Day of Spring)**

### **Friday, March 21**

### **Saturday, March 22**

6:30 AM Bible Boot Camp  
8:30 AM Titus 2 Ladies Study Group

### **Sunday, March 23**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
12:00 PM Constitution Review Meeting  
6:00 PM Youth Night

## **Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church**

### **TODAY, March 16**

Members Meeting — following worship service

### **Sunday, March 23**

Constitution Review Meeting — meet for one hour following worship service

### **Saturday, March 29**

9am — Disciple-Making Parent Conference

### **Sunday, March 30**

Starting Point Seminar — immediately following worship service  
(Seminar for those interested in church membership. Contact the church office to register  
or use the Digital Communication Card on the back of this bulletin.)



# Praying with First Baptist Church

## A Prayer Guide for the week of March 16

### **Prayer of the week:**

It's often helpful to pray the Scripture as a springboard and inspiration for our own prayer life. As you pray for yourself and others this week, we encourage you to consider the brief prayer of the Apostle Paul in 2 Thessalonians 3:5:

*"May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God  
and to the steadfastness of Christ."*

We recognize our need for God's help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

### **Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God's word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God's glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

### **Prayer items outside our church:**

- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)

- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we have direct partnerships with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison and Susanna Schriever (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray that God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)

**Particular prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Pray for federal workers who have lost their job or are living with that possibility. Pray that they would trust God to provide for their needs. Pray that God would help them to bear good spiritual fruit even in the midst of difficult circumstances. (John 16:33; Ps. 23:1)
- Pray God would grant our congregation wisdom as we pray and make important decisions in our upcoming Members' Meeting (March 16). (Acts 14:23; 1 Peter 5:1-5; Heb 13:17)
- Pray for good spiritual fruit in the lives of our young adults from the recent event focusing on the Bible's teaching about singleness and marriage. Pray our young singles would be encouraged and strengthened in faith. Pray that godly friendships would flourish. (Heb. 10:23-24)
- Pray that God would strengthen and encourage our Deacons and Ministry Team leaders as they work to meet the practical needs of our church family and those in our community (1 Samuel 12:24; Deut. 31:6). See "Ministry Spotlight" pages for highlights and prayer requests.
- Pray that God would help our church family to radically love others in the way the Bible teaches us to love. Pray that our love would reflect the sacrificial love that God has shown us through Jesus Christ. (Mt 5:43-48; John 13:35)
- Pray for those in our church family facing a season of fear and anxiety. Pray for peace. Pray for a keen awareness of God's presence and a desire to draw near to him. Pray for experiences of joy in Christ and in fellowship with church family. (Is. 26:3-4, Ps. 34:18, Ps. 30:1-5)
- Pray that God would renew our strength when we're weary and use our weakness to display His power. (2 Cor. 12:9)
- Pray that a culture of discipleship, joyful hospitality, and care grows in us as a church family (1 Pt 4:9; Col. 3:16)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

**Margaret Austin, Shawn Colson (death of brother), Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Lucie Lowe, Rob Messing (death of mother), Bonnie Trott, Janet Tull (death of sister), Amanda Tindell (death of father), Glenn Walker**

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

# Ministry Spotlight: Audio/Visual

## Ministry Spotlight

We would like to bring to your attention active church ministries and programs at First Baptist Church of Upper Marlboro. We hope that each month you will pray for all those serving and consider how you may support their efforts. *You may notify us if you would like to learn more about the ministries at FBCUM by using the new Digital Communication Card (see QR code on the back of this bulletin).*

## Audio/Visual Ministry

**Mosi Winder, Deacon of the A/V Ministry**



The Audio/Visual Ministry Team helps facilitate the sharing of the gospel, the gathering of the saints and fellowship with one another, all for the glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ by providing A/V support to the church.

Over these last couple of weeks, we have been looking into the Audio/Visual Ministry. We have had the pleasure of getting to know Mosi Winder the Deacon of the Audio/Visual Ministry Team. We have also discovered their areas of responsibilities and some details about the equipment they use. The team does all of this with a heart to serve the Lord and ensuring that the gospel is heard. “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” (Rom.: 10:17) This is a ministry team that is in the very act of ensuring that the gospel goes forth, whether in the sanctuary, comfort rooms, or for those that are physically unable to attend through the livestream. A true blessing.

If you have questions or are interested in the Audio/Visual Ministry, you are encouraged to reach out to Mosi Winder.

When asked one thing you want others to know about leading this team, Mosi shared: **“It is an honor and privilege to be able to serve and share so much of what is going on with our brothers and sisters in Christ. You will get to see a different view of the church and be able to see so much more of His goodness and works in all of our lives. It truly is a blessing to be able to serve.”**

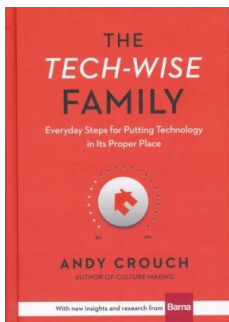
# Ministry Spotlight: Book Stall

The purpose of the **Book Stall Ministry** is to serve as a discipleship tool to support spiritual growth and biblical studies. All books are approved by the pastors before they are recommended, to ensure that the congregation has access to sound and doctrinally faithful resources.

## What might you find at the bookstall?

Books, of course! But these are not just any books.

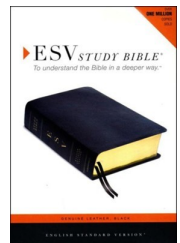
**Children's Books:** Great care has been taken to acquire a variety of books like these that will help children deal with their daily challenges through a delightful animated series of books that teach biblical principles as they learn about forgiving and praying for one another.



**Youth Books:** We hear so much about the impact social media, has on impressionable youth. 'The Tech-Wise Family' is a book that may provide answers. Reclaim real life in a world of technology. Making good choices about technology in our families is more than using internet filters and determining screen-time limits for children. It's about building character, wisdom, and courage.

Alongside in-depth research from Barna Group that shows how families are wrestling with technology's new realities, Andy Crouch takes parents beyond the typical questions of what, where, and when to show us that in a world full of devices, there's a way to choose a better life than we've imagined.

**Bible Scholars:** There are a multitude of reference books available, Study Bibles & Bible Dictionaries. These are great tools if you are seeking to learn more about the culture surrounding the time during the OT or the NT.



**Insightful Books:** Spiritual growth books are also available. If you are struggling in a particular area of your life, these resources can help you pursue a path that will bring you closer to the Lord and help you navigate through the trial that you are currently facing. What is so helpful about our Book Stall is that you will receive biblical resources approved by our pastors that will direct you to biblical truth.

## How can I find out what books are available at the Book Stall?

This is a great question! We have all of the books listed and available for you through review on the FBCUM.org website under the Resources tab. Books are listed in alphabetical order with a complete description about the book.

***Next week we will learn more about the Book Stall and the Deacon of the Book Stall, Isaac Neal.***

# Announcements

**1. Church Members Meeting :: TODAY After Worship.** We plan to have our regularly scheduled Members' Meeting immediately following the worship service today. We will vote on memberships, pray for the ministry of the church, and hear ministry reports. Minutes from our previous Members' Meeting are available in the church office.

**2. Constitution Review Meeting :: Sunday, March 23.** Church members interested in continuing to walk through the drafting process of the proposed revision to the Church Constitution and By-laws are invited to join us for one hour after the worship service on March 23.

**3. Register Now for "The Disciple-Making Parent Conference" :: March 29 :: 9am—2:30pm.** Author of "The Disciple-Making Parent", Chap Bettis, will build on insights from his book to provide practical parenting strategies for Christian families and help foster community among like-minded parents. See the bulletin insert for more details and registration information.

**4. Interested in Church Membership? Attend Starting Point :: March 30 after worship.** Starting Point is a seminar-style meeting following the worship service open to anyone interested in joining our church family or simply learning more about who we are and what we believe. Approximately 12-2:30pm. A light lunch will be served. Register by contacting the church office or using the digital communication card below.

**5. Giving.** We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:

- online: click the link or scan the QR code,
- in-person: designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service
- by mail: send to the church office.



If you're giving in person or by mail, please help us accurately identify your gift by legibly printing your first and last name on your giving envelope. Church members with a benevolence request, please contact the church office.

## Digital Communication Card



Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You're always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.





# THE DISCIPLE-MAKING PARENT CONFERENCE

RAISING YOUR CHILDREN TO LOVE AND FOLLOW JESUS CHRIST



**JOIN CHAP BETTIS**

AUTHOR OF THE  
DISCIPLE-MAKING PARENT

## YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT:

- ✓ The North Star of Parenting
- ✓ 2nd Gen Christians
- ✓ Why Kids Walk Away
- ✓ Passing on the gospel
- ✓ Teen Temptations
- ✓ Practical advice

**WHEN:** March 29, 2025  
9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

**WHERE:** First Baptist Church  
Upper Marlboro  
7415 Crain Highway  
Upper Marlboro MD 20772

**REGISTER:** \$15 per person if registered by 3/21 | \$20 per person after 3/21  
(Scholarships available)

Breakfast – Lunch - Childcare Available (Limited Spots, First Come, First Served)



# 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy: Church as Pillar and Foundation of Truth

[1 Timothy 3:1-13](#)

"The Role of Elders and Deacons" – March 16, 2025



## Introduction

Have you ever been walking with someone thinking that they know where they are going, but they are thinking the same thing about you? What happens? You get lost and have no idea where you are going. In the hustle and bustle of life, it's easy to lose sight of the "big picture" to know where we've come from and where we are going.

We are created in God's image and have the unique opportunity to reflect that image to the world. The kingdom is made of three things - a king, the people under His rule, and a place. In Genesis 1 - 2, we see Adam and Eve living in the garden of Eden under God's rule. God's rule is good and for our good. The trouble showed up in Genesis 3 when sin entered the world. Adam and Eve rejected God's rule. Satan's lie brought shame and broke their relationship with God.

Inside the kingdom of God, we, as His image bearers, reflect His glory. Outside the garden, we misrepresent God and drag His name through the mud. Why doesn't God scrap His plan? God, in His sovereignty will use, evil for good, redeeming the plan for His glory. As the Old Testament unfolds, we see God calling a people for Himself. As you continue to read, sin once again tears a nation in two, eventually leading them to exile. The problem is not the plan, it is our sinful hearts.

The prophets announced the hope of a future Redeemer. Jesus came and lived a perfect life and died for our ransom. On the third day, He rose again in victory. The good news is that anyone who comes to Jesus in repentance and faith will be clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Jesus is the focal point of the whole story.

[\(Mark 1:15\)](#)

Now, all who trust in Christ are called sons of Abraham. Jesus is the temple and the perfect King who expresses His perfect rule of His people, experiencing His blessing. This is good news. With this in mind, how does this happen? How will people hear the good news? It is through the church. [\(Ephesians 3:10\)](#) But how does this work? When we look at these verses in 1 Timothy, Paul was reminding Timothy of the two offices that exist in the church - the office of an overseer (elder/pastor) and the office of a deacon. Let's see how these two offices relate.

## Sermon Outline and Discussion

### 1. What is the role of the Elders?

Elders are to know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, and protect the sheep. The metaphor that scripture uses for an elder is "shepherd." The church is the sheep. This is modeled by the perfect Shepherd. [\(Psalm 23\)](#).

Shepherds **know** the sheep. Jesus knows us in a unique way. He paid for the church with His blood, but under-shepherds must know the flock - know where you are thriving to be able to rejoice with you and where you are hurting to care for you. They should know you better to help you follow Jesus better. When one of our elders contacts you, it is an attempt to better know you so that they can better care for you. [\(John 10:14-15; Acts 20:28\)](#) Is there something that the elders should know about you to better care for you?

Shepherds **feed** the sheep with God's word. Just as we need food and water to survive physically, how much more do we need a regular diet of God's word to live and survive spiritually. One way a pastor feeds the flock is by preaching. One of the qualifications of an elder is that he must be able to teach. This could happen in a one-on-one counseling session, a small group, in a home visit, etc. [\(Matthew 4:4; Psalm 23:2; 1 Timothy 3:2\)](#)

Shepherds **lead** the sheep. Elders are called to direct the affairs of the church with an open bible. God shepherds us this way, leading us to bless us and restore us for our good. He also exercises His authority in our life for His glory as well. Elders lead; they don't lord over the flock. Elders lead by example. It isn't a perfect example; pray for your elders. [\(Psalm 23:3; 1 Timothy 3:2; 1 Peter 5:2-3\)](#) Do you pray for your elders?

Shepherds are called to **protect** the sheep from theological error. They proclaim the truth of God's word and

warn about false teaching. Pastors must also protect the sheep from straying. ([Acts 20:28-29](#); [1 Timothy 1:3b](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:14](#)) Have you run away from the church for some reason? You need the church! Elders need different tools as they oversee the flock, and they must undergird everything with prayer. Is there any way that the elders can lift you up in prayer? Let them know.

## 2. What is the role of the Deacons?

We see their role in [Acts 6:1-7](#). Deacons spot and meet tangible needs, protect church unity, and serve and support the ministry of elders.

In Acts 6, there was a group of widows being overlooked. This was urgent and important. If the apostles gave time and attention to this, it would mean that they would neglect their ministry. The seven men selected took the initiative to **meet the need** to free up the apostles for their ministry of teaching and prayer. This role is crucial for the life of a church.

Deacons **protect the unity** of the church. Unity was at stake in Acts 6. Deacons help to bring resolution to problem, not wreak havoc. They must be mature and peacemaking.

Deacons serve and **support the ministry** of the elders. They free up the elders by fulfilling ongoing needs. We praise God for the deacons serving in our church. How can you be involved in one of our Deacon-led ministries?

## 3. How do Elders and Deacons relate?

Elders and Deacons are different offices. ([Philippians 1:1](#)) Elders and Deacons exercise different authorities. ([Acts 20:28](#); [1 Timothy 3:10](#)) Elders practice pastoral authority. Deacons practice administrative authority. Deacons lead in their area of responsibility under the authority of the elders in a complementary way for the benefit of the congregation. Elders serve by leading. Deacons lead by serving. Deacons support the destination set by the elders using the word of God.

Elders and Deacons work together for a common goal. ([Ephesians 4:11b-13](#)) All are involved in ministry - elders, deacons, church members to build up the body of Christ.

## 4. Why does it matter?

We want to honor God's name and bring Him glory. ([Matthew 28:18-20a](#)) In the Bible, "keys" are a metaphor of authority. Jesus gave authority to the church. In issues of membership and doctrine, elders are called to teach and lead. The final authority is the congregation. We are to proclaim the good news, bring people into the church, and teach them to obey God's word. This is all for the glory of God! Elders work together with the congregation to this end. ([Ephesians 3:8-10](#)) Is there someone with whom you can share the gospel this week?

### Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to confess? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at [fbcum.org](http://fbcum.org)

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| <b>Next week's sermon text:</b> we turn to <a href="#">1 Timothy 3:1-7</a> "Qualifications of an Elder" |
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## Family Guide for week of March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*



### Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc.)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [\*The Big Picture Story Bible\*](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [\*Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home\*](#).

# Family Guide for week of March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 *And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*



## **Bible Intake:** (Listening to God)

Day 1 – Luke 14:1-6

Day 2 – Luke 14:7-11

Day 3 – Luke 14:12-24

Day 4 – Luke 14:25-33

Day 5 – Luke 14:34-35

\*Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7 preparation for church on Sunday, March 23, 2025

## **Prayer:** (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 43 of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

*Praise God for His mercy that is new every morning. Thank Him for being always present and always ready to help you obey His commands.*

*Ask God to remind you of His forgiveness and mercy provided in Jesus. Ask Him to help you flee from sin and obey Him in the areas where you struggle.*

## **Sing together**

"You Have Called Us Lord" – Use the bulletin from Sunday

## **Memory verses for the month**

**Psalms 24:8** *"Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!"*

**Ephesians 6:10** *"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might."*

## **Catechism question for the week<sup>1</sup>**

**Question 35:** *Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through faith alone, where does this faith come from?*

**Answer:** *All the gifts we receive from Christ we receive through the Holy Spirit, including faith itself.*

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<sup>1</sup> New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)