

Sunday Morning Worship

May 4, 2025



FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

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

Order of Worship

May 4, 2025

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship — Psalm 25:1-3

Song — ‘Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Antiphonal Scripture Reading — Psalm 37:1-9

Pastoral Prayer

Song — O Great God

Prayer of Thanks

Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — Zach Schlegel

“Train Yourself for Godliness”

1 Timothy 4:6-16

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Song — The Power of the Cross

Song — Doxology

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 — Psalm 25:1-3 (ESV)

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.

³ Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Louisa Stead

Verse 1:

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to take Him at His word
Just to rest upon His promise
And to know "Thus saith the Lord"

Chorus:

Jesus, Jesus how I trust Him
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er
Jesus, Jesus precious Jesus
O for grace to trust Him more

Verse 2:

O how sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to trust His cleansing blood
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing cleansing flood

Verse 3:

Yes 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus
Just from sin and self to cease
Just from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest and joy and peace

Verse 4:

I'm so glad I learned to trust Him
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend
And I know that He is with me
Will be with me to the end

Antiphonal Scripture Reading — Psalm 37:1-9 (ESV)

*Follow the instructions of the service leader as the congregation is divided into two sections.
One section will read aloud the regular font. The other section will read aloud the underlined font.*

¹ Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
be not envious of wrongdoers!

² For they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb.

³ Trust in the LORD, and do good;
 dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

⁴ Delight yourself in the LORD,
 and he will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.

⁶ He will bring forth your righteousness as the
light,
and your justice as the noonday.

⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for
him;
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in
his way,
over the man who carries out evil devices!

⁸ Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!
Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.

⁹ For the evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit
the land.

O Great God

Bob Kauflin

Verse 1:

O great God of highest heav'n
Occupy my lowly heart
Own it all and reign supreme
Conquer ev'ry rebel pow'r
Let no vice or sin remain
That resists Your holy war
You have loved and purchased me
Make me Yours forever more

Verse 2:

I was blinded by my sin
Had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within
Had no taste for heaven's joys

Then Your Spirit gave me life
Opened up Your word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son
Gave me endless hope and peace

Verse 3:

Help me now to live a life
That's dependent on Your grace
Keep my heart and guard my soul
From the evils that I face
You are worthy to be praised
With my ev'ry thought and deed
O great God of highest heav'n
Glorify Your Name through me

Sermon Notes

“Train Yourself for Godliness” :: 1 Timothy 4:6-16

~~~~~

## Church Covenant

~~~~~

Having, as we trust, been brought by divine grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and to give up ourselves to Him, and having been baptized upon our profession of faith, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, relying on His gracious aid, solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with each other.

We will engage in assembling ourselves together while praying for one another. We will strive for and promote the spiritual growth and advancement of the church by; sustaining worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; contributing cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

As a body of believers, we agree to maintain family and personal devotions, to educate our children in the Christian faith, and to seek the salvation of our family and acquaintances. We will seek to avoid all practices or speech which bring unwarranted harm to the body or jeopardize our own or another's faith.

We will walk together in Christian love by faithfully caring for, watching over, and admonishing one another as occasions may require. In conflict, we will seek to follow Christ's example of reconciliation without delay. We will always strive to be humble and courteous in our speech and slow to take offense. We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with a like-minded church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

The Power of the Cross

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

~~~~~

## Verse 1:

Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day  
Christ on the road to Calvary  
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then  
nailed to a cross of wood

## Chorus:

This the pow'r of the cross  
Christ became sin for us  
Took the blame, bore the wrath  
We stand forgiven at the cross

## Verse 2:

Oh to see the pain written on Your face  
Bearing the awesome weight of sin  
Every bitter thought, every evil deed  
Crowning Your bloodstained brow

## Verse 3:

Now the daylight flees  
Now the ground beneath  
Quakes as its Maker bows His head  
Curtain torn in two  
Dead are raised to life  
Finished the vict'ry cry

## Verse 4:

Oh to see my name written in the wounds  
For through Your suffering I am free  
Death is crushed to death  
Life is mine to live  
Won through Your selfless love

## Chorus 2:

This the pow'r of the cross  
Son of God slain for us  
What a love what a cost  
We stand forgiven at the cross

## Doxology

~~~~~

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Amen!

This Week at First Baptist Church

Sunday, May 4

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

Monday, May 5

Tuesday, May 6

10:30 AM Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday, May 7

6:30 PM Church Prayer Meeting

Thursday, May 8

Friday, May 9

Saturday, May 10

6:30 AM Bible Boot Camp
 8:30 AM Titus 2

Sunday, May 11 (Mother's Day)

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
 10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church

Wednesday, May 7

6:30pm — Church Prayer Meeting

Saturday, May 17

11:00am — Men's Chili Cookoff

Sunday, May 18

Church Members' Meeting — following worship service

Wednesday, May 21

Last Night of Regular Wednesday Evening Schedule

Sunday, June 1

Children's DiscipleLIFE Promotion Sunday // Parents and Pastries

June 23—27

9am—12:30pm — Vacation Bible School (*more details coming soon*)

Sunday, July 13

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 May 4

Prayer of the week:

One of the ways we learn to pray is by using the examples in Scripture as a springboard and inspiration for our own prayer life. This week, consider using the words of Psalm 119:33-40 to pray for yourself and others:

*³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes;
and I will keep it to the end.*

*³⁴ Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.*

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 teachers and students in our church family who are completing their final weeks of classes for the school year. Pray that God would help them to finish well and give them physical and spiritual strength to endure. See a list of our out-of-town college students toward the back of the church directory.
- Praise God for recent baptisms of Jay Addison and Michael King. May God continue his work of sanctification in them and help our church family to walk alongside them in faith. (Rom 6:4)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21; 1 Tim. 3:14-15)
- 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 that God would deepen our desire for prayer as a church family. May we not grow weary or apathetic in bringing our concerns to Him. May God help us to sense His presence and power as we pray. (Rom 12:12, Col 4:2)
- Pray for those in our church family who are going through a significant time of suffering—physically or mentally. 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)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

Margaret Austin, Vince Butler (death of sister), Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Emma Dunn (death of brother), Lucie Lowe, Bonnie Trott, 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: Children's Ministry

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).*

Children's Ministry

The Children's Ministry is a program of the church that encompasses several areas: ChildLIFE, DiscipleLIFE, Awana, and VBS. Each Sunday morning our Children's DiscipleLIFE classes begin at 9am for babies through sixth grade. Excited children arrive with their parents and are checked-in to join their classmates and teachers to explore the word of God.

The Children's Ministry does not stop there. During the academic year from September through May, we provide the Awana program on Wednesday nights. *But wait there's more*, we also have our VBS (Vacation Bible School) week during the summer. Each of these programs keep our children focused on the word of God and brings encouragement through memorizing scripture and working through materials that brings scripture to life. There is truly nothing more rewarding than to see how children respond when they actually gain understanding. Let's break this down so you may get a clear picture of what each one of these programs bring in discipling children.



Awana is a program that follows the academic year for children from PreK 3-Sixth grade. The children are registered to Awana clubs by age/grade: Cubbies - PreK 3-4; Sparks - K-2 Grade; Truth and Training (T&T) - 3rd –6th Grade). Each club receives an age-appropriate book to work with their parents to help them memorize, learn, and understand the context of scripture. As chil-

dren advance by demonstrating what they have learned with leaders, they receive badges for their accomplishments. Awana Clubs also gives children opportunities to develop Christian values through teamwork as they participate in games and activities. In Awana clubs, points are earned through various activities and achievements, mainly centered around scripture memorization, handbook completion, there

Ministry Spotlight: Children's Ministry

is remembering to be prepared and general participation. These points are used for individual rewards, team competitions, and to redeem items at an Awana SuperStore.

VBS is coming soon! Get ready for Magnified! Magnified is our theme for this year's VBS, and it encourages us to *see the bigness of God in the smallness of things!* VBS will encourage kids to look closely at the details of God's amazing world and magnify, or proclaim, the greatness of God. God made us, cares about us, loves us, forgives us, and is faithful to keep all His promises to us. We can praise God together! We were made to magnify God! If you total it up VBS results in 15 hours of intense discipleship, the gospel being shared daily, and 7 months of ministry in 1 week. **IT'S WORTH IT!** The team comes together in June to host VBS where children spend 3 hours each day, singing, crafting, games, Bible study and they hear the truth of the gospel.



The Children's Ministry has many moving parts and the person that oversees this magnificent program of the church has to be quite organized and have a heart to lead and serve children of the church. **Pam Jensen, Children's Ministry Leader** has been serving at this church for more than 20 years and has developed our Children's Ministry Guidelines for Care, Instruction and Protection. This is no easy feat. She is committed to her work and has encouraged leaders to grow! Our church has been blessed with her determination to bring opportunities for children to grow in Christ. The gospel is heard every week. And the success of these programs reflect the work that she does.

She acknowledges the ChildLIFE Ministry Leader, Ashley Meekins-Smith, and the Awana Commander, Ronnie Sweetman, for the work that they do along with all of the volunteers that serve in Awana, ChildLIFE, the DiscipleLIFE teachers that prepare and instruct children each Sunday morning, and Monica Kergel for leading VBS. Pam is so grateful and appreciates everyone that has participated *or will participate in the future.*

The volunteers, leaders, parents, and children make the Children's Ministry a huge success. Next week we will discuss, how you may get involved in this amazing church program. Remember, VBS is coming soon!

Announcements

1. **Constitution Review Meeting :: TODAY.** Church members interested in the drafting process of the proposed revision to the Constitution and Bylaws, join us for one hour after worship today.

2. **Church Prayer Meeting THIS Wed., May 7 at 6:30 PM.** We look forward to praying together, as well as hearing testimony and biblical encouragement as a church family.

3. **Men's Chili Cookoff :: Saturday, May 17 :: 11am—2pm.** See insert for event info. Scan the QR code to register. Questions?... contact John Almy (jalmy545@yahoo.com)



4. **Church Members' Meeting :: Sunday, May 18.** We plan to have our regularly scheduled Members' Meeting immediately following the worship service on Sunday, May 18. We will vote on memberships, pray for the ministry of the church, and hear ministry reports. Minutes from our previous Members' Meeting will be available on 5/11 in the church office.

5. **Promotion Sunday with "Parents & Pastries" :: June 1st.** DiscipleLIFE plays a major role in our on-going/year-round discipleship program for children. See the bulletin insert for a special invitation to celebrate "Parents and Pastries!" on June 1st.

6. **Glover Scholarship.** If you are a church member and a 2025 high school graduate who is attending college in the fall, you are eligible to apply for the John and Ethel Glover Scholarship. Contact Mike Rogers in the church office for an application or for more information (mrogers@firstbaptistum.com). The deadline for submissions is June 8th.

7. **Vacation Bible School — June 23-27 :: 8:45am-12:30pm — "Made to Magnify God!"** VBS is less than two months away! We have a goal of 100 kids attending, and we need some additional volunteers to help us reach that goal. See the bulletin insert for more info. Questions?... able to volunteer?... contact Monica Kergel (call/text: 518-441-2133; email: mkw3161@yahoo.com).

8. **Giving.** There are three ways you can give tithes and offerings:

- 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.



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.

Location: First Baptist of Upp
Marlboro

Time and Date: 11:00am
5/17/25

Men's Chili COOK OFF





Join us this Summer!

DiscipleLIFE for Kids

We will be hosting
"Parents and Pastries" on
Promotion Sunday
June 1st :: 8:45-9:10
In the Children's Division
for PreK 2 - 6th Grade
and their parents

Come check out what the children will
be learning this Summer and meet
their teachers.

PSALM 34:3

MAGNiFiED!

**DISCOVERING THE BIGNESS OF GOD
IN THE SMALLEST OF THINGS**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

June 23-27 :: 8:45am-12:30pm

GOAL: 100 kids!

Volunteers Needed:

- :: Nursery PreK classes — 4 volunteers**
- :: Class Leaders (K-6th grade) — 3 volunteers**
- :: Photographer/Videographer**

Contact: Monica Kergel

Call/Text: 518-441-2133

Email: mkw3161@yahoo.com

1st Timothy: Church as Pillar and Foundation of Truth

[1 Timothy 4:6-16](#)

"Train Yourself for Godliness" – May 4, 2025



Introduction

It is hard to help someone else, if you are physically hindered. We must take care of our self so that we can care for others. Paul's focus here is salvation which was Paul's aim in this letter and God's heart in this letter. On the road of salvation, we have enemies out to destroy us. Satan wants to destroy us. The world wants to distract us, and our flesh is prone to shipwreck if we are not careful.

To help us in our road of salvation, God has given us the church - the pillar and buttress of truth. The church displays and protects the gospel. Here, Paul addressed Timothy personally, but he also addressed the church. The health and soundness of the local church depends somewhat in the health and soundness of the pastors of a church.

Sermon Outline

1. Pastor: Grow in Godliness. Vs. 6-10
2. Church: Imitate Godly Examples. Vs. 11-16

Read & Discuss

1. Read Vs. 6-10

A pastor must be faithful to God's word as they proclaim it. Proclaiming God's word can be dangerous. Paul told Timothy in his second letter that he must be ready to suffer. How would Timothy, as well as future pastors, prepare? There are three essentials for every pastor.

Nourish himself with God's word. Vs. 6 Pastors must have an ongoing lifestyle of being in God's word, guarding themselves and habitually nourishing their souls. Busyness cannot become an excuse. You must make time to get into God's word. Pastors are not just salesmen of God's word. ([2 Corinthians 2:17](#))

Train himself for Godliness. Vs. 7-8 Growing in godliness doesn't come by accident. Pastors must go to the spiritual gym and train themselves for godliness. Bodily training is of some value, but we need to be realistic and acknowledge that our bodies get older and deteriorate over time. To ignore that fact is a chasing of the wind. The silly myths referred to controlling the body and staying away from certain things that were considered a defilement. This looks good on the outside. Sinful actions flow from a sinful heart. ([Mark 7:14-23](#)) A life of faith is strengthened not only by reading but obeying the Word of God.

To motivate us to get going, Paul reminds us that godliness holds promise for the present and the life to come. If you have real godliness, contentment is a by-product. ([1 Timothy 6:6](#)) If we toil to put sin to death, we see God at work. We grow in godliness, and we find satisfaction in our present circumstances. Trust God's promises in the present life, but Paul also points to the future which has the promise for eternal life. This requires an eternal perspective. Do you spend significant time in God's word each week, pouring over scripture? Do you pray scripture? Do you have an eternal perspective, remembering that your life here is temporary and this is not your home?

The world treats Sunday like every other day. You have to choose and decide what is true. Is it the world? Is it God's word? Are you running after godliness? Why not? Are you discouraged about how much time it takes to grow in godliness? We maintain the disciplines because we believe in God's promise. Keep going! We can trust God's word. ([Psalm 25:1-3](#))

Hope in the living God. Vs. 10 This is the only way to push through the discouragement, suffering, and hard work of ministry. Our hope must be set on the living God, not programs or an eloquent minister. Jesus died, but He conquered sin and death in His resurrection. He is the living God. Jesus is the Savior of all people without distinction - for all who believe.

The world might say that godliness can be defined on your own terms. There is only one way!! It is Jesus. ([1 Timothy 2:5](#) [John 14:6](#)) There aren't many roads to God. Jesus alone dealt with the problem of sin. He is the only one who can bridge the gap between those who turn from sin and believe and a holy God.

Every Christian should be doing these three things. Pastors must be an example of these things for the whole church to follow.

2. Read Vs. 11-16

Here, Paul gives Timothy command after command. He wanted Timothy to do these things so that he could teach the church. Timothy was young, so how do you overcome the generational gap? Set an example in speech, love, faith, and purity. Live out what you are teaching.

Be an example in what you say and in your behavior. Speak the truth in love. You must “walk your talk.” Be consistent. Be an example in faith and love. The more we grow in those things the more we are able to show faith and love to others. Set an example in purity with self-control.

We need examples. ([1 Corinthians 11:1](#); [Philippians 3:17](#); [1 Peter 5:3](#)) Some truths are better caught than taught. Do you want to grow as a Christian? You need good examples. You must think through how to live like a Christian in any and every area of your life – career, family, marriage, parenting, etc. Read your Bible. Find Godly examples and hang around them. Ask them questions. Then, imitate Godly examples. ([Proverbs 13:20](#))

You might think - what if I get this wrong? Well, you will. You will not be a perfect example. Your job as an example is to point people to Jesus. Don't be paralyzed by the fear of getting it wrong. We are forgiven by God, so we can take the risk of being an example.

Be an example in worship. Real change and growth doesn't come by cleaning up the externals. It comes from an internal heart transformation as you worship. We become what we worship. ([Psalm 115:4-8](#), [135:15-18](#)) If you worship the living God, you become like Him. ([2 Corinthians 3:18](#)) What do you love, trust or find your identity in? What can you not live without? Does your heart worship and behold the things of the world or God as revealed in scripture?

Be an example in service. Don't sit on the sidelines complaining that you are not gifted in the way someone else is. A spiritual gift is a manifestation of the Spirit for the common good to build up others. ([1 Corinthians 12:7](#)) Paul used the metaphor of “a body” when he talked about the church in 2 Corinthians 12. It is different parts working together making up one body. We need each other. When you don't use your gift, the whole body suffers. Are you serving the body? Have you considered where you might serve? We have many ministries in which to be involved. Leaders organize teams - they need you to serve and help. Look for a need and jump on in. Aside from that, we can serve each other by getting to know someone, finding out their needs, and serving them in practical ways. That is ministry!

Spiritual growth in a Christian is normal and should be expected. God gives us examples so that when we feel stuck and get discouraged, we can know that change is possible. Progress may seem slow, but it is progress nonetheless. Sometimes growth is holding ground. Progress in growth displays the life changing power of the gospel. How have you grown spiritual in the last year, five years, ten years? Look back at your growth. It will be used by God to confirm the living faith by those who are saved by Jesus in the church. How do you know if a tree is alive? It grows and bears fruit **over time**. The Christian life is not a sprint; it is a marathon. It calls for endurance. Keep going!! As you persist, you can look back to see God's work in your life and make your call and election sure.

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

Next week's sermon text: we turn to Isaiah 12 “Joy in the Midst of Trouble”
--

Family Guide for week of May 4th, 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 May 4th, 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 22:14-23

Day 2 – Luke 22:24-30

Day 3 – Luke 22:31-38

Day 4 – Luke 22:39-46

Day 5 – Luke 22:47-53

*Read **Isaiah 12** in preparation for church on Sunday, May 11, 2025

Prayer: (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 7 of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Praise God for the friends who love you, help you, and encourage you to follow God. Thank God for your family. Thank Him for the ways they have protected and provided for you.

Sing together

"Tis So Sweet to Trust In Jesus" – Use the bulletin from Sunday

Memory verses for the month

Isaiah 12:2a *"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid."*

James 1:2-3 *"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness."*

Catechism question for the week¹

Question 42: *How is the Word of God to be read and heard?*

Answer: *With diligence, preparation, and prayer; so that we may accept it with faith and practice it in our lives.*

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