

Sunday Morning Worship

February 22, 2026



FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

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

Order of Worship

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**February 22, 2026**

## **Welcome & Announcements**

### **Silent Prayer**

### **Call to Worship — Psalm 121:1-4**

*Song — All My Help Comes from the Lord (Psalm 121)*

*Song — The Storm Is Passing Over*

### **Scripture Reading — Isaiah 40:9-31**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

*Song — Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)*

### **Prayer of Thanks**

## **Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

### **Message — Zach Schlegel**

**“Jesus’ Astonishing Authority”**

**Luke 4:31-44**

*Song — A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

## **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 121:1-4 (ESV)

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<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

<sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.

<sup>4</sup> Behold, he who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.

## All My Help Comes from the Lord (Psalm 121)

Cleophus Robinson

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### **Chorus:**

All my help, (all my help) comes from the Lord.

All my help, (all my help) comes from the Lord, (the Lord).

All my needs that I'm possessing.

All my help, all my help, all my help comes from the Lord, (the Lord).

### **Verse 1:**

Father I stretch, (I stretch) my hands to Thee.

I know that You, (only you,) remember me.

When others forget, when others forget and leave me alone,

I know that Jesus, Jesus, Jesus will hear my groan.

### **Verse 2:**

When I am weak, (when I'm weak) He gives me strength.

When I am lonely, He comforts me.

When I am tired of the load that I am bearing,

He gives me courage, courage, courage to bear my share.

# The Storm Is Passing Over

Charles A Tindley | Donald Vails

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## **Verse 1:**

Take courage my soul  
and let us journey on  
Tho' the night is dark  
and I am far from home  
Thanks be to God  
the morning light appears

## **Chorus:**

The storm is passing over  
The storm is passing over  
The storm is passing over, Hallelu

## **Verse 2:**

The billows roll  
and thunder shakes the ground  
Tho' the lightnings flash  
and tempest all around  
Jesus walks the sea  
and calms the angry waves

## **Bridge:**

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
The storm is passing over  
The storm is passing over  
The storm is passing over, Hallelu

## **Verse 3:**

The stars are gone  
and distant lights are dim  
I am so afraid  
the seas are breaking in  
I hear God say "Be ye, not afraid"

## **Verse 4:**

Now soon we shall reach  
the distant shining shore  
Free from all the storms  
we'll rest forevermore  
Safe within the veil  
we'll furl the riven sail

## Scripture Reading — Isaiah 40:9-31 (ESV)

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<sup>9</sup> Go on up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good news;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;  
lift it up, fear not;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
"Behold your God!"

<sup>10</sup> Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;

behold, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup> He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms;  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

*(continued on next page)*

## Scripture Reading — (continued)

- <sup>12</sup> Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand  
and marked off the heavens with a span,  
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure  
and weighed the mountains in scales  
and the hills in a balance?
- <sup>13</sup> Who has measured the Spirit of the LORD,  
or what man shows him his counsel?
- <sup>14</sup> Whom did he consult,  
and who made him understand?  
Who taught him the path of justice,  
and taught him knowledge,  
and showed him the way of understanding?
- <sup>15</sup> Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket,  
and are accounted as the dust on the scales;  
behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.
- <sup>16</sup> Lebanon would not suffice for fuel,  
nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering.
- <sup>17</sup> All the nations are as nothing before him,  
they are accounted by him as less than nothing  
and emptiness.
- <sup>18</sup> To whom then will you liken God,  
or what likeness compare with him?
- <sup>19</sup> An idol! A craftsman casts it,  
and a goldsmith overlays it with gold  
and casts for it silver chains.
- <sup>20</sup> He who is too impoverished for an offering  
chooses wood that will not rot;  
he seeks out a skillful craftsman  
to set up an idol that will not move.
- <sup>21</sup> Do you not know? Do you not hear?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations  
of the earth?
- <sup>22</sup> It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
- who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;
- <sup>23</sup> who brings princes to nothing,  
and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.
- <sup>24</sup> Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows on them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- <sup>25</sup> To whom then will you compare me,  
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
- <sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
who created these?  
He who brings out their host by number,  
calling them all by name;  
by the greatness of his might  
and because he is strong in power,  
not one is missing.
- <sup>27</sup> Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,  
“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- <sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.
- <sup>29</sup> He gives power to the faint,  
and to him who has no might he increases  
strength.
- <sup>30</sup> Even youths shall faint and be weary,  
and young men shall fall exhausted;
- <sup>31</sup> but they who wait for the LORD shall renew  
their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;  
they shall run and not be weary;  
they shall walk and not faint.

## Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)

J.L Borthwick | Jason Ingram | Jean Sibelius | Kari Jobe | Kathrina von Schlegel

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### Verse 1:

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain  
Leave to thy God to order and provide  
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain  
Be still my soul, thy best thy heav'nly friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end

### Verse 2:

Be still my soul thy God doth undertake  
To guide the future as He has the past  
Thy hope thy confidence let nothing shake  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last  
Be still my soul the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below

### Chorus:

In You I rest  
in You I find my hope  
In You I trust  
You never let me go  
I place my life  
within Your hands alone  
Be still my soul

### Verse 3:

Be still my soul the hour is hastening on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord  
When disappointment grief and fear are gone  
Sorrow forgot, Love's purest joys restored  
Be still my soul when change and tears are past  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last

**Sermon Notes**

**“Jesus’ Astonishing Authority” :: Luke 4:31-44**

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# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther | Matt Boswell | Frederick Hedge

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## Verse 1:

A mighty fortress is our God  
A bulwark never failing  
Our Helper He amid the flood  
Of mortal ills prevailing  
For still our ancient foe  
Doth seek to work us woe  
His craft and pow'r are great  
And armed with cruel hate  
On earth is not His equal

## Verse 2:

Did we in our own strength confide  
Our striving would be losing  
Were not the right man on our side  
The man of God's own choosing  
Dost ask who that may be  
Christ Jesus it is He  
The Lord of Hosts, His name  
From age to age the same  
And He must win the battle

## Chorus:

A mighty fortress! A rock unfailing  
The King of Glory forever! Amen!  
For endless ages enthroned in praises  
The King of Glory forever! Amen!

## Verse 3:

And tho' this world with devils filled  
Should threaten to undo us  
We will not fear for God hath willed  
His truth to triumph through us  
The prince of darkness grim  
We tremble not for him  
His rage we can endure  
For lo his doom is sure  
One little word shall fell him

## Verse 4:

That word above all earthly pow'rs  
No thanks to them abideth  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours  
Thro' Him who with us sideth  
Let goods and kindred go  
This mortal life also  
The body they may kill  
God's truth abideth still  
His kingdom is forever

## This Week at First Baptist Church

### Sunday, February 22

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
6:00 PM Youth Night

### Monday, February 23

### Tuesday, February 24

10:30 AM Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

### Wednesday, February 25

5:45 PM King's Kids Choir  
6:30 PM Elder-led Bible Study (1 Cor)  
AWANA  
Choir / Band Rehearsal

### Thursday, February 26

### Friday, February 27

Youth Winter Retreat

### Saturday, February 28

Youth Winter Retreat

### Sunday, March 1

Youth Winter Retreat  
9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship w/ Lord's Supper

## Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church

### Friday, February 27—March 1

Youth Winter Retreat

### Wednesday, March 4

6:30pm — Church Prayer Meeting

### Sunday, March 8

Church Members Meeting — following worship service

### Sunday, March 14

8:30am — Disaster Relief Training

### Sunday, March 22

Church Potluck — following worship service

### Friday, April 3

7pm — Good Friday Worship

### Sunday, April 12

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 February 22

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### **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 Romans 12:12:

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.*

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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 good spiritual fruit to come from the Youth Winter Retreat next weekend. Continually pray that the students of our church would hear and understand the gospel and be saved. Pray for their families and other Christian adults in the church to faithfully teach and show them how to live out God's commands. (Luke 8:8)
- Praise God for the recent birth of a healthy baby boy (Jack) to Fraser and Betsy Henderson. (Psalm 127:3-5)
- Pray for those in our church family facing a season of fear and anxiety. Pray that they would be reminded of the Holy Spirit's continued presence with them. Pray for a heart of peace and a mind that will trust Christ in the midst of suffering. (2 Cor 1:5, Prov. 29:25; Ps 94:19)
- 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 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)
- 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)
- 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, Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Jim Ernster, Marjorie Griffin, James Jones Sr. (death of mother), Bonnie Trott, Belinda Vasquez (death of sister)**

(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

“Ministry Spotlight” aims to highlight active church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope these highlights help us all support each ministry in prayer, and also spark interest in your personal involvement in a particular ministry. *Please contact us to learn more about the ministries at FBCUM using the Digital Communication Card on the last page of this bulletin. We also encourage you to pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

## Disaster Relief Ministry

**Tanya Joy :: Disaster Relief Ministry Leader**



Disaster hits suddenly. The aftermath always brings urgent needs for those effected, which means there is opportunity for ministry. Disaster Relief is a Christian ministry organized through state Baptist conventions like ours (Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware) that seeks to meet those urgent needs through effective preparation, planning, and coordination of volunteers from local Southern Baptist churches.

The Disaster Relief Ministry here at FBCUM engages trained volunteers from our church to provide help, healing, and hope to those affected by disasters within our region (MD/DE), across the nation, and beyond. We work in partnership with the BCM/D and other organizations active in disaster response to do this work effectively.



*Laundry Unit*

FBCUM hosts the BCM/D “Laundry Unit.” This unit was built by members of FBCUM to provide support for volunteers and first responders working in the field during a deployment. These pictures give you a look at both the exterior and interior of the Laundry unit, which contains 3 commercial washers and dryers.



*Laundry Unit*

When volunteers go on deployment, there are space limitations so we are encouraged to minimize the amount of clothing we bring. This enables more people to be housed at the local church utilizing the space under your cot for storing your personal belongings. Therefore, having the Laundry Unit at any long term deployment is quite a blessing. After being on assignment for several days working with flood recovery, tarping roofs, chain sawing, and hauling, volunteers welcome both the shower and laundry units as vital to the operation.

# Ministry Spotlight

Our Laundry Unit has traveled to several states; Texas, Florida, North Carolina, Vermont, New York and has served many times locally. When we roll out to serve, our unit is manned by volunteers from all over. We provide a complete diagramed operational manual that shares how to equip, transport, and operate the unit. This unit has handled more than 75 loads in one week-long deployment. Also, as volunteers report to pick up their laundry, it becomes a place for fellowship and spiritual encouragement after a physically and spiritually exhausting day.

As a DR volunteer you may serve in any of these areas; Mass Feeding, Chainsaw & Flood Recovery, Laundry, Emergency Communications, Administration, Shower Units and/or the Chaplaincy.

BCM/D Training is coming to First Baptist Church of Upper Marlboro on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 9AM. Please see the announcement on the back of this bulletin. Disaster Relief ministry requires that volunteers are 18 years or older, a member of a local BCM/D church, take the Disaster Relief Training class to become certified, and submit to a background check. If you would like to know more about this ministry, please reach out to Tanya Joy.



*Mass Feeding Supplies*



*Clearing Fallen Trees*



*Mass Feeding Distribution*



*Feeding Unit Training*



*A Prayer to Prepare for a Day of Service*

# Announcements

- 1. New Connect Groups for 2026.** A new round of Connect Groups is kicking off for 2026. Take a look at the bulletin insert for group information and how to register. Feel free to contact group leaders for group-specific information or Mike Rogers (mrogers@fbcum.org) with general questions.
- 2. “Change for Life” Baby Bottles Due Today.** Baby bottles in support of the Wellspring Life Ministry are due today. Drop them off with Trish Crandell at the table in the foyer after the worship service.
- 3. Young Adults (18-34) Let’s Connect! — TODAY at 5pm.** Young Adults are invited to a relaxed night with food, games, and easy conversation at the Mooreheads (Pastor Tyrone & Sharon) TONIGHT at 5pm. Dinner is provided! Friends are always welcome. RSVP to tmoorehead@fbcum.org
- 4. New DiscipleLIFE Classes for Adults Begin March 1.** See bulletin insert for adult class and registration info. Remember, there are DiscipleLIFE classes available for all ages every Sunday at 9am.
- 5. Lord’s Supper Celebration Next Sunday, March 1.** We encourage you to prayerfully prepare your heart to receive the supper together as we remember the work of Christ on our behalf. If you know of any reconciliation that needs to happen between you and another brother or sister in Christ, we hope you’ll take the time to prayerfully do that before we gather next Sunday.
- 6. Save the Date — Church Members Meeting :: Sunday, March 8 after worship.**
- 7. Disaster Relief Training :: March 14 at 9am.** FBCUM is hosting Disaster Relief Training for the BCM/D. Training is for first-time volunteers and those needing to update credentials. The training will consist of: Introduction to DR, Feeding Unit, Laundry Unit, and Recovery Unit. Scan or click the QR code to register. Contact Tanya Joy with questions.
- 8. 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.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.

# GROUPS

## :: 2026 Connect Groups ::

Connect groups seek to connect participants with others in the church on an ongoing basis. The objectives are threefold: 1) meet together, 2) speak together, and 3) pray together. As participants meet together, leaders will guide discussion around Gospel themes/topics and lead a time of group prayer. We hope these groups will be simple, flexible, and relational. **Please contact the host for group-specific information. Registration information on reverse side.**

### Jay and Trish Crandell

**Group Information:** 3pm // 4th Sunday of each month  
**Host/Location:** Crandell's Home — Shady Side  
**Contact:** Jay: 301-466-7420; jcrandell@aresconsulting.biz  
Trish: 410-279-1610; jcrandellfam@gmail.com

### Tom and Renata Janes

**Group Information:** 1pm // Sundays (twice a month after worship)  
**Host/Location:** Janes' Home — Upper Marlboro  
**Contact:** Tom: 202-430-9381; tomwjanes@gmail.com  
Renata: 301-659-6974; janes.renata@gmail.com

### Charles and Monique Kirkland (hosted by Isaac and Rita Neal)

**Group Information:** 6pm // 2nd Friday of each month  
**Host/Location:** Home of Isaac and Rita Neal — Upper Marlboro  
**Contact:** Charles: 240-618-4236; skunkrx@aol.com  
Monique: 301-742-5414; mcdockj@aol.com

### Tyrone and Sharon Moorehead

**Group Information:** 2pm // Sunday (once a month)  
**Host/Location:** Moorehead's Home — Huntingtown  
**Contact:** Tyrone: 301-252-5579; tmoorehead@firstbaptistum.com  
Sharon: 301-335-4050; sharon.moorehead123@gmail.com

### Mike and Crystal Whittaker

**Group Information:** 6:30pm // 2nd and 4th Thursdays  
**Host/Location:** Whittaker's Home — Cheltenham  
**Contact:** Mike: 301-500-8819; mwhittaker@firstbaptistum.com  
Crystal: 301-385-8472; lareewhit@aol.com



**Your Name Goes Here!** We would love to offer additional groups. If you're a church member and are interested in leading or hosting a Connect Group, contact Mike Rogers (mrogers@fbcum.org) for more info.

**Group Information:** Day and time that works best for you

**Host/Location:** Your home or partner up with another church member to host

## :: How to Register ::

Scan (or click) the QR code below with your mobile device to register online or fill out the form below and drop it in the designated box on the Welcome Desk.

### Sign me up for a Connect Group!



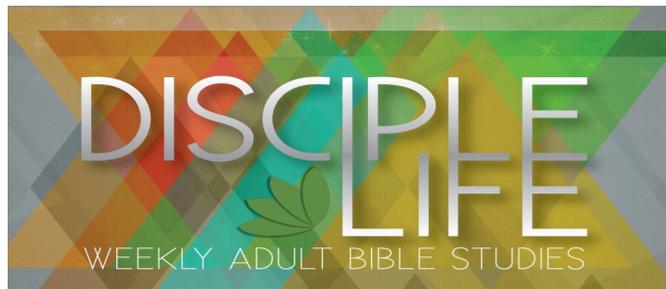
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Group: \_\_\_\_\_





## **Spring 2026 (March - May) DiscipleLIFE Classes for adults:**

**SPRING SESSION BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 1 @ 9AM**

To help us prepare, we are asking that everyone sign up for the class they wish to attend by [clicking here](#).

### **Explore the Bible – Matthew Chapters 14—28**

For Christ followers, we have no greater example than what we see in the life of Jesus. By listening to His words and watching His actions, we learn the do's and don'ts of living out our faith. As you study Matthew 14–28, you'll understand what it means to live out your faith each day—and how you can move forward to make disciples of all nations. (Books available in room 117/118 on Sunday, 2/15.)

- **Explore the Bible (Coed) — Room 117/118 Teacher :: Bill Lowry**
- **Explore the Bible (Women) — Room 115 Teacher :: Tanya Joy**

*If you are remaining in your current Explore the Bible Class, there is no need to sign up again.*

### **Elective Class — Gospel-Centered Marriage**

Most of what the Bible has to say about marriage does not come flagged up under a heading of “marriage”. It's not just the famous “marriage passages” that should shape a marriage, but the whole Bible-story of God's good creation, humanity's wicked rebellion and God's gracious redemption. To understand why marriages struggle—as they all do—we need to understand the nature of our sin. To make marriages work, we need to understand how to apply the truth about God and his salvation. This class focuses on how the gospel shapes the practical realities of everyday life. Many of the common pressure points that modern couples face, and how a proper understanding of the gospel can shape a response will be discussed. Books will be available in class on 3/1 for \$8.00.

- **Room 114 Teachers :: Tyrone Moorehead & Tim Smith**

### **Elective Class — Evangelism (Young Adults 18-35)**

"Though the gospel is good news, it can be difficult to share because of the fear of man, personal insecurity, or lacking a clear grasp on the message. Join us as dive into better understanding the message of the gospel and being equipped to share it with family, friends, and people of other faiths."

- **Room 112 Teachers :: Vaughn Lawson & Tre Fields**

**\*\* DiscipleLIFE classes for all ages meet every Sunday morning at 9am. \*\***



# The Gospel of Luke: Confidence about Jesus

[Luke 4:31 - 44](#)

"Jesus' Astonishing Authority"— February 22, 2026



## Introduction

Have there been circumstances in which you had high hopes about something only to have those hopes dashed? Have you had high expectations for a person to bring change only to be disappointed? Those hopes and expectations may be based on past successes or an impressive resume. However, it is one thing to have good credentials on paper, but quite another to see someone rise to the occasion.

There was a lot of buzz about Jesus. He had just read [Isaiah 61](#) to the people in the temple, proclaiming that the prophecy had been fulfilling to them that day. The people were astonished. Jesus seemed impressive on paper, but could He deliver? Could He really bring change? Problems are not just theoretical - they are real. Many people suffer brokenness, sickness, abuse, cruelty, corruption, injustice and grief. You want to be confident that Jesus is the One who can bring real change.

Do your stated beliefs match what is in your heart? What do you trust as savior "just in case?" Luke doesn't stop at credentials and niceties about Jesus. He wants all of us to be certain that Jesus has the power and authority to conquer evil! Jesus can set right everything that is broken and wrong so that we come to Jesus, wait on Jesus and trust Jesus alone. After Jesus had been rejected in His home town of Nazareth. He left and went to Capernaum. Luke will relate four events to show Jesus' authority to bring change for the better.

## Sermon Outline

1. Be confident in Jesus' authority to bring change. Vs. 31-41
2. Trust Jesus' tool for change - God's word. Vs. 42-44

## Read & Discuss

### 1. Read Vs. 31-41

The first event occurs in a Capernaum synagogue. Jesus was teaching, and the crowd was astonished. Why? His word possessed authority. The scribes and the Pharisees merely quoted from others. Jesus' words and teaching had the authority to bring light as One who stepped out of Heaven. ([John 3:31](#)) Jesus is THE authority on God, because He was with God from the beginning, and He is God. When you read your Bible and you listen to Jesus in the Gospels, you will get to know God. Jesus has authority as a teacher. He brings those out of darkness into the light. How can you know that His teaching is not just empty talk?

The second event occurs just after Jesus' finished teaching in the synagogue. A demon possessed man came to Him. Demons are real, but they are not the only thing that you will fight against. You are at war with the world, the flesh and the devil, so must put on the full armor of God every day. ([Ephesians 6](#)) This particular demon knew something about Jesus. He knew that Jesus came to destroy them? He knew what God promised in ([Genesis 3:15](#)) Since sin entered the world, there had been chaos. However, God promised to send a Savior who would crush the serpent. (Satan) God would make right everything that sin had made wrong, and the demon knew this. The crowd wondered what Jesus would do. He demanded that the demon come out. This miracle as well as all of Jesus' miracles had a purpose. They are evidence of His identity as THE Christ.

Sanctification is a "full-contact" sport. You can feel like you are in a boxing match. When you fall in love with the sin that destroys you, repentance and separating yourself from the sin can feel like a knock-down-drag-out fight. You have to put sin to death. ([Romans 8](#)) Repentance can feel scary. Separating yourself from the sin you've come to love can be painful. Jesus will not let harm come to His children. ([Vs. 35](#))

The third event is in [vs. 38](#). The scene shifts from the synagogue to Peter's house where his mother-in-law was seriously ill. What did they do about that? They appealed to Jesus. What about you? What is your knee jerk reaction when you have a need? Is your first response to pray? Do you think that you can only take the "big" things to God? Do you come to Him with little things too? With all the brokenness around you and in you, it's easy to open the door to cynicism. James tells you that you do not have because you do not ask. ([James 4:2](#)) You can come to God through Jesus. Ask boldly, no matter how big your need. Ask expectantly and persistently. Jesus rebuked the fever. Remember, Luke is a medical doctor; he understood that a fever wasn't a "being." When Jesus rebuked the fever, it obeyed. She rose and began to serve. When you are liberated from something that has enslaved you, you are not set free to be selfish but to serve.

The fourth event showcasing Jesus' authority is in [Vs. 40](#). One of the reasons that we know that Jesus is not a fraud

is the range of disease, illness or injury of all who are healed, and they came to Him. We don't know what the diseases were, but Jesus healed every one of them. He didn't do it to entertain, but to show that He is the Messiah with the power and authority. Notice how He healed them - He touched them. He didn't have to do that, but these people may have been quarantined or isolated because of their illness. They may have been considered unclean. When Jesus touched them, He showed them, and us, His compassion. He cares! His touch was the loving reminder that they matter to God. God cares; He is not indifferent. Don't listen to cynicism. Let the truth of God call you back to the prayer closet to make your requests and needs known. What are some of the needs you should pray about today?

We don't know how long all of these people suffered, but that night, Jesus' authority changed each and every one of them. You don't have to be possessed by a demon or on your death bed to know something about the harassment of evil in your life. Tragedies are a reality of living in a sin-sick world. You may have been a victim of these tragedies. Do you wonder if things in this life can ever be repaired? Jesus is NOT an empty suit with empty promises. Do you need hope? Look to Jesus. He isn't a crutch; He is real! You can be confident that Jesus has the authority and the power to change any circumstance you are in. If you are waiting for answers, you are not waiting in vain. There is hope for any situation no matter how dark. Turn from your sin and come to Jesus. He will help you and give you rest. ([Matthew 11:28-30](#)) Have you made your the appeal but find yourself still sick or waiting for justice? What are you supposed to do? Do you ask why your circumstances are not changed?

## **2. Read Vs. 42-44**

From sunset until the next day, Jesus performed miracle after miracle, then He departed. The people sought Him wanting Him to stay, but Jesus told them, "No." He MUST preach the good news to other people in other towns. Jesus cares about real-life suffering, yet Jesus prioritized preaching. That is why He was sent. How can we trust God who is able to and has the authority to heal but Who says, "Wait." ? The demons knew that Jesus was the Christ. Why does Jesus silence them? Do you think Satan's intentions here were to start revival? Those demons were proclaiming the truth about Jesus, loudly and in a public place? Satan was offering a shortcut, trying to stop Jesus from going to the cross. If the demons could stir up a frenzy of excitement about Jesus, the crowd could have very well made Him King then and there. Jesus said, "No." He was committed to the path to the cross.

The healing that Jesus performed provided temporary relief, but if He does not go to the cross, there will be no permanent solution to sin. We need the heart of Jesus as we live in the pain and suffering of this creation. Do you find it hard to wait? What sinful shortcuts have you been tempted to take? Hatred, indifference, or unconcern did not cause Jesus to leave. He cares about your affliction, but He has something eternally better in mind. He committed to deal with the problem of sin and crush Satan! It was the greatest act of love in human history. This is for our good and for the glory of God.

Pain, suffering, and injustice should never be made light of. When those suffering asked, "WHY?", the best thing you can say is, "I don't know." What we do know is that God is good and trustworthy. Look to the cross. Jesus willingly laid down His life for the sin of the world as a substitute so that we could be forgiven, given and seat at the table and accepted as God's son or daughter. In the fog of pain, it is hard to see that. You must confidently declare that yes, you have to wait, but God is good. He gave His Son for you. ([Romans 8:31-32](#)) What more do you want to prove God's heart toward you?

Is Jesus your King? How can you come into the kingdom? Repent and believe the gospel. ([Mark 1:14](#)) Come to Jesus; trust Him and His word that gives life. Turn from your sin and self-reliance. He is faithful to forgive your sin and make you His child. If you have come to know Jesus, you are called to share the good news as well. If you are waiting on God, keep waiting. When Jesus comes, He will remove all sin, suffering, and death.

### **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 [www.fbcum.org](http://www.fbcum.org).

**Next week's sermon text:** [Luke 5:1-32](#) "A Physician for the Sick"

## Family Guide for week of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

*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](#).

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*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 – Matthew 13:36-43

Day 2 – Matthew 13:44-52

Day 3 – Matthew 13:53-58

Day 4 – Matthew 14:1-12

Day 5 – Matthew 14:13-20

\*Read Luke 5:1-32 in preparation for church on Sunday, March 1, 2026

### **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.

Ask God to forgive the ways you sinned and fell short of His glory today. Ask Him to remind you of His grace in Jesus..

### **Sing together**

“A Mighty Fortress” – Use the bulletin from Sunday.

### **Memory verses for the month**

**John 20:31** *“But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and by believing you may have life in his name.”*

**Psalms 145:8** *“The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.”*

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

**Question 32: What do justification and sanctification mean?**

**Answer:** Justification means our declared righteousness before God. Sanctification means our gradual, growing righteousness.

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