



# First Edition June 2015



First Baptist Church of San Mateo 2801 Alameda de las Pulgas San Mateo, CA 94403 650-345-1965 www.fbcsanmateo.org

## Seeking, Learning, Serving

By Pastor Marc Heinz

In the book of Acts, Luke paints a beautiful picture of the early church and how it functioned.

*They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who believed were together, and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Day by day, continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart: praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

Luke 2:42-47

When you read about the beginning of the Christian Church described in Acts 2, a number of characteristics jump out at you. For example, the early Christians were committed to growing in their knowledge of God and His Word and so they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching. It's obvious that they wanted to grow deep in God and learn as much as they possibly could. As John Stott notes, "they understood that the living church is a learning church."

The first Christians also made sharing their lives with one another a priority. There were no isolationists or rugged individualists they were committed to God and His Word and they were committed to growing together as one. And so they

spent time building healthy relationships and hanging out with each other. Simply put they were constantly together for teaching and prayer for fellowship and for meals.

Throughout the New Testament we are reminded that the church is intended to be God's new society, the living embodiment of the gospel, a sign of the kingdom of God, a demonstration of what human community looks like when it comes under God's gracious rule. And it is God's desire that the good news of Jesus Christ be set forth visually as well as verbally, or in the language of Scripture that it be made known by both word and deed.

One of the key things that we can learn from this passage is that when the church truly functions as the Body of Christ, we are able to enter into a relationship of sympathy, compassion, and empathy with one another. We grow in our knowledge of God and His Word together. We intercede in prayer for one another, care for each other, and minister to the needs of one another. That is how the Body was intended to function.

If you think about it, the demands of living for Christ in a fallen and often hostile world heighten the importance of true fellowship among the people of God. We desperately need the support of other believers who love the Lord and long for His Church to be all that it can and should be! Tremendous things can happen as we draw near to God and to one another!

And so this summer we are planning a number of events and classes that will provide us with the opportunity to make new friends, strengthen established relationships, and grow together in Christ.

Most of these events will be on Wednesday evenings and will not only allow us to fellowship together but they will help us improve our service to our Great God and King! I hope that you will take full advantage of these wonderful opportunities to grow with your brothers and sisters in Christ at FBC!

### Daily Bible Readings - June

The following Bible reading is provided by [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com)

Mon.	1	Job 34-36
Tues.	2	Job 37-39
Wed.	3	Job 40-42
Thurs.	4	Psalms 1-5
Fri.	5	Psalms 6-10
Sat.	6	Psalms 11-15
Sun.	7	Psalms 16-20
Mon.	8	Psalms 21-25
Tues.	9	Psalms 26-30
Wed.	10	Psalms 31-35
Thurs.	11	Psalms 36-40
Fri.	12	Psalms 41-45
Sat.	13	Psalms 46-50
Sun.	14	Psalms 51-55
Mon.	15	Psalms 56-60
Tues.	16	Psalms 61-65
Wed.	17	Psalms 66-70
Thurs.	18	Psalms 71-75
Fri.	19	Psalms 76-80
Sat.	20	Psalms 81-85
Sun.	21	Psalms 86-90
Mon.	22	Psalms 91-95
Tues.	23	Psalms 96-100
Wed.	24	Psalms 101-105
Thurs.	25	Psalms 106-110
Fri.	26	Psalms 111-115
Sat.	27	Psalms 116-120
Sun.	28	Psalms 121-125
Mon.	29	Psalms 126-130
Tues.	30	Psalms 131-135

The last few months in reading through the New Testament, I've been struck by each of the writers and how they refer to themselves as 'servants' or 'bond-servants' of Christ, first before describing themselves in any way. The Lord has been showing me some astounding and convicting things from His word about what it means to be His servant. I'd like to share these things with you. But before that, it is best to get a clear and true view of the Master. What the church needs most, says John Stott, "is more than moral exhortation and pious entreaty; it must see Christ. Anything else is cold comfort compared to a vision of the exalted Christ."

Take a few minutes and read the following passages to set your mind more clearly on the nature and character of our Master.

## The Master

### Jeremiah 10:6-13

*"No one is like You, O LORD; You are great, and Your name is mighty in power.*

*"Who should not revere you, O King of the nations? This is Your due. Among all the wise men of the nations and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like You.*

*"They are all senseless and foolish; they are taught by worthless wooden idols. But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God, the eternal King. When He is angry, the earth trembles; the nations cannot endure His wrath. "Tell them this: 'These gods, who did not make the heavens and the earth, will perish from the earth and from under the heavens.'" But God made the earth by His power; He founded the world by His wisdom and stretched out the heavens by His understanding. When He thunders, the waters in the heavens roar; He makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth. He sends lightning with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses."*

### Revelation 1:13-18

*"I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His*

*voice was like the sound of many waters. In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength. When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades."*

A few more to read... Psalm 77:11-15; Psalm 47; Psalm 148; 1 Chron. 16:23-36; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Colossians 1:15-20; Romans 11:33-36

## The servant

The nature of a servant is very simple. He lives to serve his Master. And in our case, there is no Master more beautiful, wonderful, magnificent, awe inspiring, admirable and lovely. He is worth all our devotion, praise, obedience, and love.

## A servant ...

### (Jeremiah 10)

◆ gives his life to the Master and does not consider it his own anymore to direct or live.

### (Romans 12)

◆ offers his whole self to the Master as a living sacrifice as his act of worship.  
◆ is transformed by renewing his mind, and doesn't conform himself to the pattern of the world around him any longer.

### (Luke 17:7-10)

◆ is completely in awe and devoted to his Master  
◆ is loyal and attentive to Him.  
◆ loves His Master first.  
◆ does not look to his own interests first, but to those of the Master.  
◆ does not awake and choose to do as he pleases, then, if he has time attends to his Master.  
◆ trusts the Master will take care of all his needs, because the Master has promised to.  
◆ does not rest at will, but seeks his Masters voice to decide in all things.  
◆ does all these things knowing his Master is good, perfect, wonderful, trustworthy, faithful, and love.

### (1 Corinthians 4)

◆ lives a life of power in the Spirit not of mere talk.

### (1 Samuel 1-5)

◆ is chosen by the Master, and is therefore faithful to be blessed and used for

the Master's glory.

◆ directs people to be reconciled to the Master.

◆ is not afraid to convict or correct, speaking the words of the Master as He directs.

### (1 Corinthians 9)

◆ fully participates in serving the Master in whatever role chosen for the harvest.

◆ may benefit from the harvest he helped produce, but he does with thoughtful intention so as not to distract or be disqualified from the glory of the Master, peoples ability to be reconciled, or to be disqualified from the prize.

◆ doesn't seek his own good, but God's Kingdom and the good of many so they may be saved.

◆ authentically follows the Master so others may see his example and themselves follow Him.

### (Mark 7)

◆ loves the cross he bears for the Master. Because through it, he knows the Master better and becomes more like Him.

### (1 Corinthians 11)

◆ remembers that Christ is the head of his home and family.

### (Philippians 1)

◆ continually prays for the Master's people.

◆ confident in the Master's message, no matter the circumstances.

### (Philippians 2)

◆ cares, nurtures, encourages, disciplines and mentors the Master's sheep.

◆ is not concerned about his own advantage, but is concerned with others.

◆ trusts the Master because he knows Jesus was a servant once too.

◆ is reverent and sensitive to the Master.

◆ represents his Master in everything He does.

### (Philippians 3)

◆ realizes that self interest and accomplishment is rubbish compared to knowing the Master deeply.

◆ wants to know the Master more than success in anything else.

◆ realizes that knowing and serving the Master brings a path of suffering like his Master.

### (Philippians 4)

◆ prays and depends on the Master to displace worry at the center, with His peace.

◆ fills his mind with things that are pure, right, lovely, just, and wholesome.

◆ has set (fixed) his mind on the Mas-

ter's Spirit, not his own ideas, ego, and success.

These are just a few of the insights that God's word brings about the nature of His servants. So how can I be transformed to become more and more His servant that lives out these characteristics? John 15:4-7 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing."

I'm learning that it is only by continually remaining connected to Jesus, my Master, I will become what He intended. Making Him my greatest joy, goal, and love is all that is needed.



Have you ever considered honoring a loved one by providing a bouquet of flowers for the sanctuary? Several dates are available. Sign up in the notebook on the counter in the narthex. We ask and appreciate a \$40 gift for each arrangement. The office staff will order your bouquet to be delivered -- so convenient, and so appreciated by your loved ones.

## *Do you have a prayer request?*

*The Prayer Box is available in the narthex.*

*Use the prayer card located in the pew rack to write your request and place it in the box.*

*The Pastoral staff will pray for you.*



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



Happy Anniversary

June 6: Michelle Hamady  
June 12: Doug Andrews  
June 21: Verta Andrews  
June 23: Ron Murray  
June 28: Maxine Yip  
June 30: Amber Shong

June 8: Mike & Gina Geitner  
June 22: Ron & Cathy Thomas  
June 24: Bruce & Hanna Jane Bagley  
June 27: Bruce & Verta Andrews  
June 27: Dave & Barbara Shelton

**F  
B  
C** **Consummate  
Man**



**ATTENTION**

**ALL MEN:**  
Men's Ministry  
Monthly Breakfast  
Saturday,  
July 4,  
8:30 a.m.  
in the Chapel.

# YOUTH SUMMER KICK-OFF

## BBQ @ BERESFORD PARK



June 11, 5:00 pm



And Other  
Park Games!!!

**Bring Your Friends!!!**

Finishing up with our  
Minute-To-Win-It Challenge!!!



### Spring Tea, Guest Speaker: Cynthia Heald

By Sandy Murray

On Saturday, May 9, around 20 women from FBC attended a Tea held at Grace Bible Church in Redwood City. We were treated to a traditional tea menu which included finger sandwiches, scones, and and mini lavender cupcakes. We participated in worship and heard best selling author, Cynthia Heald, preach on the subject of her latest Book/Bible Study, "Becoming a Woman Whose God is Enough"

Cynthia began her talk with the Bible verse;

*"He who didn't spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things."* (Romans 8:32)

Then she asked us a question, "Is God enough for you?" She further explained that God has given us everything we need and many of us are not content because we want more. She cited Eve in the garden as an example of a woman who wanted more. God had given Eve,

first of all Himself. Then He had given her a beautiful place to live with trees that produced delightful fruit. He told her there was only one tree that she must not eat from. All that God had given Eve in the end proved not enough. In addition she wanted what God had not given her and the results were disastrous.

Having given Eve as an example she brought it home to us. Are we content with our circumstances or do we want more?

Her second example from scripture was Ruth. Ruth was just the opposite of Eve. When we meet Ruth in scripture, she has almost nothing. She has no husband, no means of support. She has thrown in her lot with her mother-in-law. She gave up the comfort of a society she knew to go to an unknown society where as a Gentile, unmarried woman she would be the lowest in the social strata. Why? She wanted Naomi's God and was willing to give up everything to

have Him. She was a woman for whom God was enough.

Finally Cynthia asked us to examine our own lives. She challenged us to see if any of these barriers were keeping us from believing that our God is enough: \* perfectionism, \* being a workaholic, \* being over involved in activities in order to gain the praise of men, \* a desire to control, \* doing things in our own ability, \* and lack of faith. We seek satisfaction in these things which Cynthia called idols. They are wants not the needs that God has graciously given us. All of these things can keep us from meeting with God on a daily basis. They, rather than God, become the driving force in our lives.

She ended with the question, "What do you feel that God has withheld from you?" It is a question we should all ask ourselves on a regular basis.



**FBC  
Summer  
Kick-Off**

**Wednesday,  
June 17**

**A night of fun,  
fellowship, & food.  
Dinner at 6pm.**

# LIFE OF THE CHURCH



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
1 7pm Scouts	2 7pm Al-Anon 7pm C.A.D.	3 6:30pm Midweek Service 8pm Worship Rehearsal	4 3pm Youth Band Reh. 7pm TNT	5	6 8:30am Men's Breakfast		
7 <b>Communion</b> 12:30 Children's Ministry Lunch	8 7pm Scouts	9 7pm Al-Anon 7pm C.A.D.	10 6:30pm Midweek Service 8pm Worship Rehearsal 7pm Scout Leaders Meeting	11 5pm <b>Youth Summer Kick-Off at Beresford Park</b>	12	13	
14 12pm - Youth Leadership Meeting	15 7pm Scouts	16 7pm Al-Anon 7pm C.A.D. 7pm Al-Anon	17 <b>6:00pm FBC Summer Kick-Off, Fun, Fellowship, &amp; Food</b> 8pm Worship Rehearsal	18 3pm Youth Band Reh. 7pm TNT	19	20 2-7pm Scouts Eagle Court of Honor	
21 <b>HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!</b>	22 7pm Scouts	23 7pm Al-Anon 7pm C.A.D. First Edition Deadline	24 6:30pm Summer Schedule 8pm Worship Rehearsal	25 3pm Youth Band Reh. 7pm TNT	26	27	
28	29 7pm Scouts	30 7pm Al-Anon 7pm C.A.D. 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Women's Ministry Prayer Night	<b>SUNDAY MORNINGS:</b> 9:30am Bible Studies for Children and Adults Contemporary Style Worship 11:00am Bible Studies for Adults and All Youth Classical Style Worship				<b>All Events Are Subject to Change.</b>