First Baptist Church Metter

Weekly Witness

March 25, 2020 Volume 120 Issue 12

In accordance with recommendations from health and government officials, we have cancelled all group gatherings on the church grounds until at least the end of March. Live worship services will still be available each Sunday at 11 AM, via Facebook. (If you usually watch the service on the local Comcast channel, that will also still be available.) We will continue to update you as circumstances change and new information arrives.

A message from the pastor

In the midst of uncertainty with panic and fear for many, I encouraged you this past Sunday to trust in God. I was reminded this morning in our daily Life Journal readings, that "Not a single one of all the good promises the Lord had given to the family of Israel was left unfulfilled; everything he had spoken came true." God is in control. We can believe in God. We can trust God. So, will you depend on Him with your life?

To trust God and follow Him is a daily choice we must make. In spite of the circumstances that surround us, we are called by faith to follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Will we keep on fanning into flame the power and presence of God who is in control of all things including you? I firmly agree with Paul as we learned this past Sunday that the Holy Spirit will give us His power, boldness, love, and self-discipline. He will help us in our weakness providing all we need.

So, how's the application coming for you I encouraged you to put into practice this week? Like Paul, have you been an encouragement to anyone so far in the first few days of this week? I certainly value encouragement from you! Several have contacted me today. I can honestly say it was an encouragement to me.

I was able to offer encouragement to our bus drivers this morning. I was invited by our school system to pray with all of our bus drivers before they sent out lunch distribution throughout the county today for all of our students. I thanked them for their service in feeding our students today. I prayed for them, their families, and all of our families throughout the county.

I think each and every one of us could use some encouragement today. People do not receive nearly enough affirmation. Let's change this situation! Catch someone doing something right and compliment them. Look for someone working hard and say something. Make eye contact with someone today, and smile! You might feel uncomfortable touching them, so keep your 6 feet of distance and smile, real big.

Let me add another very special way you can touch someone. Pastor Jason had a medical procedure last night and is recovering. I know that he likes the Psalms as they bring special comfort to him, so I sent him a text as well as an email with passages from Psalms. Would you be willing to touch someone in our church with one of your special or favorite Bible verses? What about your one you are praying for and reaching out to share the love of Jesus?

I had also encouraged you to make a daily prayer list with specific names and specific needs on it. Make the list and pray. Any of these on your list would certainly be encouraged if you reached out and touched them. It is so encouraging for me personally when someone tells me they are praying for me. Will you pray for me as I pray for you? Reach out and touch someone. Bless them. We have been blessed so that we can be a blessing to others. The Bible says, "All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us."

Have faith in God. He loves you and cares for you. Depend on Him. Trust Him. God said to Moses, "Tell Aaron and his sons to bless the people of Israel with this special blessing: 'May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace.' Whenever Aaron and his sons bless the people of Israel in my name, I myself will bless them." As we allow our faith to increase, and intentionally choose in the midst of this pandemic to touch others with the encouragement we have received from Jesus, I know the best is yet to come!

Pastor Tom Osborne

Watch the morning worship service live on Facebook at 11:00 AM Sundays

www.facebook.com/metterfirst/

www.fbcmetter.org

Prayer List

- **World, national, state, and local leaders**
- **Medical personnel and first responders**
- **Scientists and researchers seeking a vaccine/ treatment**
- **Those tasked with keeping the nation's supply chains and infrastructure working (truck drivers, manufacturers, store employees, etc.)**
- **People infected, their families, and the families of those who have died**
- **Workers and families uncertain for their employment/financial future**
- **Those in quarantine or otherwise restricted or affected because of the virus**

THIS SECTION

REMOVED FOR PRIVACY

1:8 GObey
First Baptist Church Metter

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Wondering how to give during this challenging time? You can scan the code with your smartphone and give using your credit or debit card or your PayPal account. Or, go to our church website and give there (www.fbcmetter.org). Don't want to give online? That's OK; just drop a check in the mail and we'll deposit it as usual. Call us at 912-685-2208 if you have any questions.

Daily Scripture Readings

SUN 3/29	Judges 6, 7 Psalm 52 1 Corinthians 14
MON 3/30	Judges 8 Psalm 42 1 Corinthians 15
TUE 3/31	Judges 9, 10 Psalm 49 1 Corinthians 16
WED 4/1	Judges 11, 12 Psalm 50 2 Corinthians 1
THU 4/2	Judges 13-16 2 Corinthians 12
FRI 4/3	Judges 17, 18 Psalm 89 2 Corinthians 3
SAT 4/4	Judges 19-21 1 Corinthians 4

April 5 Sunday School Scripture:
Revelation 21:1-8; 22:1-5