

## This Week At FCC

<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship Service
	6:00 pm	Youth Group
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:00 pm	Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Practicing the Way: Prayer

### Easter Lilies

**Today is the last day to order Easter lilies** in honor or memory of those you love. Use the form inside the bulletin to do so.

### Good Friday Service— April 3rd

Join us for a Good Friday Service on April 3rd at 6:00pm as we walk through Scripture from the Last Supper to the cross, taking time to remember the depth of Christ's sacrifice.

### Easter Sunday— April 5th

On Sunday, April 5th, at 9:00 am, in lieu of Sunday School, we will have a fellowship hour with coffee and donuts. Service will be held at its usual time (10:00 am).

### Sonshiners Trip— April 11th

Adults 50+ are invited to take a trip to Oak Ridge, TN for a tour of the American Museum of Science and Energy. The cost is \$10.00 for your ticket plus the cost of your own lunch at Aubrey's. Transportation plans are TBA. Make sure to sign up at the Information Table by Sunday, April 5th.

### Secret Church- Friday, April 17, 2026 - 6pm to 12am

**High school students and young adults**, Secret Church is a unique, one-night event by Radical. Encouraged by our persecuted brothers' and sisters' example, we meet for close to 6 hours for intense study of God's Word and passionate prayer for the persecuted. This year, we will study the book of Elijah because his story calls us to stand firm in a world of compromise, to live for what matters forever, and to give our all each day for the glory of the One who is holy above us, yet near to us. Participation guides, snacks, and drinks are provided.

Register for this event by writing your name and "Secret Church" on the back of a Yellow Connection Card.

March 22, 2026

## OUR VISION AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Making Disciples in Cookeville, Putnam County, and to the ends of the earth.



### Current Sermon Series:

We all have difficult people in our lives but what if God wants to use those relationships to shape something deeper in us? In this honest and practical series, we'll unpack how to deal with the overly needy, the constantly critical, the manipulative, and the hypocritical, learning how to respond in ways that reflect Christ instead of reacting in frustration.

Church Office

(931) 526-4241

[office@fcc-cookeville.org](mailto:office@fcc-cookeville.org)

Brad Windlan, Lead Minister

[brad@fcc-cookeville.org](mailto:brad@fcc-cookeville.org)

Josh Hale, Associate Minister

[josh@fcc-cookeville.org](mailto:josh@fcc-cookeville.org)

Jared Wilson, Director of Worship

[jared@fcc-cookeville.org](mailto:jared@fcc-cookeville.org)

Scott Francis, Administrative Minister

[scott@fcc-cookeville.org](mailto:scott@fcc-cookeville.org)

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US AND WHAT WE BELIEVE VISIT US AT

Social Links



Connect Card



**Message Notes 3/22/2026**  
**THOSE PEOPLE 04 - Those Critical People**  
**Brad Windlan First Christian Church**  
**Learn more: [fcc-cookeville.org](http://fcc-cookeville.org)**

**Proverbs 15:31–32 (NLT)** “If you listen to constructive criticism, you will be at home among the wise. If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding.”

**Three Prayers To Help Us Respond Appropriately To Criticism**

**Prayer #1** - “God, help me know \_\_\_\_\_ to respond to criticism.”

**Judges 8:2–3 (NLT)** “‘What have I accomplished compared to you? Aren’t even the leftover grapes of Ephraim’s harvest better than the entire crop of my little clan of Abiezer? God gave you victory over Oreb and Zeeb, the commanders of the Midianite army. What have I accomplished compared to that?’ When the men of Ephraim heard Gideon’s answer, their anger subsided.”

**Proverbs 15:1 (NIV)** “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

**Prayer #2** - “God, help me know when to \_\_\_\_\_ criticism.”

**1 Peter 2:23 (NIV)** “When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.”

**Nehemiah 6:3a (NIV)** “I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down.”

**Prayer #3** - “God, help me overcome \_\_\_\_\_ critical spirit.”

**Proverbs 12:18 (NIV)** “The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”

**Matthew 7:3–5 (NIV)** “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

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**TALK IT OVER**

1. When someone criticizes you, what is your typical first reaction—and how could a “gentle answer” change that response?
2. How can you tell the difference between criticism you should learn from and criticism you should release to God?
3. Jesus warned about noticing the “speck” in others while ignoring the “plank” in ourselves. What helps you guard against developing a critical spirit?