

Volume 31, No. 1  
Spring 2024



CALVARY  
CONNECTION



# Coram Deo '24

Galatians 6.9

Think Missionally | Share Intentionally | Live Obediently

## EASTER

Sunday Services

8.00am	Early Service
8.45am	Church-Wide Breakfast
9.30am	Life Groups
10.45am	Easter Worship Service

# Focus on things of the Kingdom

## ...commit your actions to follow!



Paul Beam  
Senior Pastor

Typically, my philosophical approach to fitness has always been: "Fitness, yes, I'm into fitness. Fittin' 'niss whole donut in my mouth!" Exercise has always been my "Achille's heel", (see what I did there?) Don't get my wrong, it's not that I hate to exercise, it's just that I never seem to have time for it. Everything else seems to be so pressing that exercise is the last thing that's on my mind. I know I need to make time for it because I need to live healthier. I want to exercise, but I've discovered that I must be missing the genetic DNA that calls my feet to action. I've also discovered that the older I get, the harder it is to get motivated! It's so much easier to just think about exercising than it is to actually go and do it (but at least I thought about it, right?).

I have come to the place where I have accepted that exercise will never just spontaneously happen in my life. I must set aside the time and commit myself to it. While I sit here and try to summon the strength and will to get on the treadmill, let me give you something to think about: Training our bodies to be as healthy as possible is a good thing, but, as followers of Christ, we also need to train our minds to "think" spiritually healthy. All day long, we are bombard with the desires of the world and the urgencies of the moment. Every email, text message, phone call, and commercial seeks to steal away our minds. We become so consumed with the world around us that we forget and fail to put our attention on the things of the Kingdom. Like physical exercise, we must make the commitment to think and focus on the mission that Christ calls us to. Paul told the church at Colossae to, "*Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.*" **Colossians 3:2 (ESV)**

This setting of our minds on the things of God's Kingdom is not a natural thing to do. In our sinful state, we are not naturally drawn to God. Our natural state is that of rebellion and selfishness. In Romans, Paul reminds us that sin has separated us from God and that we must purposely seek to transform our minds to focus on the

mission at hand. He writes, "*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...*" **Romans 12:2 (ESV)** If we are going to be obedient to Christ in our mission of making disciples, we must transform our thinking by setting our minds on the things of God.

Let me ask you a couple of questions: How often to think about the mission of making disciples? Do you ever prepare yourself mentally to think about the mission before you?

In the 1950's, a professor from the University of Chicago conducted a survey where he took a group of 90 students, who had no basketball experience, and divided them into three groups and tested each group on how many free throws they could make. For 30 days, each group practiced and the professor recorded their results. The first group physically practiced shooting free throws every day for an hour, the second group simply visualized themselves making free throws, and the third group did nothing.

After 30 days, he tested them and had them do this again for another 30 days. The results showed that the first group improved by 24%, the third group showed no improvement, but the second group improved by 23% without ever touching a basketball, except for the test! Our minds have so much to do with our outcomes!

The things that we focus our minds on affect how we choose to live! If we are constantly focusing on the world around us, on entertainment, hobbies, and knowledge, we will reap a lifestyle that puts God's Kingdom, at best, second. We will always be drawn away by the newest craze, the next big adventure, or by our exhaustion from keeping up the culture.

Instead, if we want to be obedient to Christ's mission, we must start by daily transforming our minds and committing our actions to follow.

It's time for the church to not only produce missional literature and quote Matthew 28:18-20, but to really begin to constantly "think missionally" on how and where we fit into Christ's call to, "go and make disciples."



# We live in a lost & broken world. Share the Hope Found Only in Jesus!



Steven Bridges  
Worship Pastor

*"Oh sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!" Psalm 96:1-3*

I often think about this passage of scripture, and the encouragement it gives to be on mission everyday for the gospel. This past weekend I attended an evangelism conference in Irving, TX. During this conference my wife and I attended a worship leader dinner. This time is so refreshing as we are able to connect with other worship pastors around Texas, and talk through ministry. A worship leader in the room asked me this question: "What do you think about being a worship pastor?" I would like to elaborate on this question because it really got me thinking missionally.

The responsibility I have as a believer in Christ to proclaim the gospel is of most importance. Psalm 24:3-4 says, *"Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what*

*is false and does not swear deceitfully."*

There are so many distractions around us constantly. The world seems to go 100 mph all the time. Everything seems to always be changing.

Hebrews 13:8 says this though, *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever."*

We live in a lost and broken world around us. Hope is only found in Jesus Christ.

When I was asked that question during that dinner, it got me thinking. I have such an important task daily to proclaim the gospel every time I lead worship. Do people see Jesus being lived out in my life? I encourage each of you to ask this same question. Let's live on mission together this year and boldly declare the name of Jesus to everyone around us. I believe we will see lives changed for the kingdom if we think missionally.

Jarred Etheredge will be back in the U.S. briefly this spring. He will be speaking during the morning worship service at Calvary on April 28. Don't miss this opportunity to hear how God is using this ministry in South Africa, India, and beyond.



Seder Meal

Sign up  
by  
March  
24th

March 28th  
6.30pm

**MAUNDY**  
THURSDAY

*TENEBRAE*  
*Service of Shadows*  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**MARCH 29TH | 6.30PM**



## Who is Annie?

The woman whose passion for missions inspired the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Every year Calvary Pampa, along with Southern Baptist churches throughout North America, participates in the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, but few know the story of the mission advocate for whom the offering was named in 1934. In fact, there is only one surviving photo of Armstrong.

"Annie was born in Baltimore at a time when there was little opportunity for women. Yet, her devotion to Christ led her to a life of service and leadership. She organized women to pray, to give and to meet the needs around them. She challenged pastors and churches to action and rallied vital support for missionaries. Ultimately, Annie was recognized as a national Southern Baptist trailblazer for her visionary leadership that still inspires millions today." ([anniearmstrong.com/who-is-annie](http://anniearmstrong.com/who-is-annie))

*"What a glorious thing it is to be a co-worker with God in winning the world for Christ."*

—Annie Armstrong  
(1850–1938)



### Annie's Contributions:

- Started Bay View Mission for Baltimore's poor and addicted
- Served as the first executive of Woman's Missionary Union
- Led the formation of missions' organizations for children
- Raised support for missionaries to Italian and Jewish immigrants
- Refused a salary because she would never give to the Lord "that which costs me nothing."
- Initiated fund-raising "brick cards" to build churches in Cuba
- Gained support for the first black, female missionaries
- Secured funds to relieve China missionary, Lottie Moon, who had served for 11 years without a furlough
- Advocated for Native Americans and impoverished mountain people
- Honored in 1934 when The Home Missions Offering was re-named for her to encourage more to follow her sacrificial example

([anniearmstrong.com/who-is-annie](http://anniearmstrong.com/who-is-annie))

Your gift to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering helps fund the North American Mission Board (NAMB), 50% of whose budget comes from the annual offering. NAMB supports thousands of missionaries throughout the United States and Canada. To learn more visit [anniearmstrong.com/the-mission](http://anniearmstrong.com/the-mission).





# Don't just *"Think Missionally."* BE Missional! Make it who you are, not what you do.



Rick Pearson  
Associate Pastor

"Think Missionally." It's a good saying, but what does it mean? Is it just a churchy thing we say or is it something a little bit more? We are told in Matthew 5:14-16 <sup>14</sup> *"You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden."* <sup>15</sup> *No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house."* <sup>16</sup> *In the same way, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*

We see here that we are expected to carry that light into the world and shine before men so the world will see Jesus in us and glorify God. If we choose not to shine, the outcome is every day the world grows a little bit darker. When we look at a light, it does not have to try to be a light because that is what it is. It was made to shine. As believers and followers of Christ, when we are made new by Jesus, this happens: 2 Corinthians 5:17 <sup>17</sup> *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come.*

Those new things are us being faithful to Jesus by not just "Thinking Missionally" but becoming "Missional" in all we do. We should get to the point in our walk with the Lord that this is who we are, not what we do. Each day we meet people not by accident, but by divine appointment. What are we doing with those appointments? When we realize every encounter we have with individuals has eternal ramifications it changes our perspective of life. We become mission-motivated. What good is it to know all about Jesus and be doctrinally and theologically sound yet not share the hope we have in Jesus? We are like a closed book, a dark room, a folded map. This week open up, share the light, and give directions to the hope you have to someone who does not have that hope. Don't just "Think Missionally", **"BE MISSIONAL"** !!!!

**LIVE JESUS LOUD TODAY!!!!!!!!!!** Someone needs to hear what you are living.

Love You Guys, Rick Pearson

## Upcoming Events & Ministry Opportunities

**Quarterly Member Meeting, April 10th 8:15pm:** Meeting will be held in the Connection Classroom after regular Wednesday activities.

**TCE Missions International Guest Speaker, April 28th:** Jarred Etheredge will be speaking during morning service.

**Calvary Community Day, May 4th 10-2pm:** This will be a day for us to interact with area first responders & the community. There will be food trucks & activities for kids. Watch for more details as well as opportunities to serve!

**Men's Pistol Shoot:** The date for this event will be announced soon. Contact Rick Pearson for details.

**Vacation Bible School, June 2-7:** There will be a volunteer meeting on April 28th following worship for those who are interested in serving during VBS.

# Grow closer to the Lord...

## Your care for others will grow as well!



Jeremy Martinez  
Interim Student Pastor

As we seek to live our lives Coram Deo, in the presence of God, we look to grow closer to God. One thing that may get unintentionally overlooked is to be outwardly focused. This is what "Think missionally" is about. To be outwardly focused on those around us and not just ourselves! Personally, I tend to only be able to focus on one thing at a time, which means I cannot multitask very well... at all! The problem is that I try to do a hundred different things at once!

*"Through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of His name among all the nations" Romans 1:5*

I think we struggle with this in our faith too. Finding a balance of growing closer to the Lord, while still being missionally minded. How do we decide when to spend time growing, and how do we decide when to spend time being missional? We probably all need guidance in answering this. Thankfully, Scripture answers this for us. The answer is this: The more we grow closer to God, the more we are going to desire to be missional. The more we grow in knowing Christ, the more we are going to want others to know Christ.

One of my favorite passages is Romans 1 where Paul is talking about becoming obedient to our faith for the sake of Jesus' name among all the nations. He is saying that the more we grow in our faith, the more it will be for Jesus' name among all the nations. Here's what's so great about that: Your family is part of all the nations. Your neighbors are part of all the nations. Those in Asia are part of all the nations. Need a little encouragement in being more missionally minded? Be constantly growing closer to the Lord, and your cares for others will constantly be growing too!





# We're all Called to be Missionaries!

## Love Him. Love others. Spread the Good News.



Michelle Luster  
Preschool Director

We are so excited that Spring is in the air! We enjoy getting that outside time so much. We also enjoy your little ones. They bring so much joy and goodness to our hearts. They are growing in the word and understanding more and more the older they get. Thank you for letting us love them and help teach them that Jesus loves them even more! You may think of Lil Calvary as just the nursery or preschool, but we are a ministry that is providing a strong foundation of truth here at Calvary. We would love for you to be part of this amazing ministry. If you feel led, or want more information, let's talk over coffee or lunch! We would love to serve with you. We have volunteer and paid opportunities available.

**Little CALVARY**

Our 2024 theme this year Coram Deo ("core-um day-oh") is a Latin phrase meaning "in the presence of God." As a Bible-believing, Bible preaching church, and as followers of Christ, we live our lives Coram Deo: in the presence of God, under the authority of God, for the glory of God. This is our focus. Let's think missionally! Google defines the word mission with 2 meanings:

- **an important assignment** carried out for political, religious, or commercial purposes, typically involving travel.
- the vocation or **calling** of a religious organization, especially a Christian one, to go out into the world and spread its faith. "the Christian mission"

The first definition typically involves travel. When you think of missions you automatically think of missionaries that travel. We have several missionaries in our church that travel such as to India, and have even moved their family to South Africa to spread the word! There are many different kinds of missions though. Some include travel to different parts of the world. Some are our local ministries, the church, bible studies, different organizations, etc. It says at the beginning of the first definition "**an important assignment**". That is The Great Commission.

*Then he said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Mark 16:15*

*Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of age. Matthew 28:18-20*

That leads into the second definition. **Calling**, to go out into the world and spread its faith! Not only is it a calling, it is a command from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our mission is to tell people about Jesus. In that mission we have to live our lives Coram Deo. In his presence, under his authority, and for his glory in all aspects of our lives. We are missionaries carrying out his mission for his glory! So, we have to remember, we have a mission everyday and to live our lives Coram Deo. Also, remember our mission is Matthew 22:37-39: **Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command.. The second is like it: love your neighbor as yourself.** We can do this right here in our church and community. Be faithful, obedient, in his presence and glorify him in all things you do. Think missionally! This is my encouragement to you. Don't forget to LOVE HIM AND ONE ANOTHER.



Sunday

Prayer Time - 8:30 am  
Life Groups (all ages) - 9:30 am  
Morning Worship - 10:45 am

Stream Morning Worship Live:  
[facebook.com/calvarypampa](https://facebook.com/calvarypampa)  
[youtube.com/calvarypampa](https://youtube.com/calvarypampa)  
[calvarypampa.com/media](https://calvarypampa.com/media)

Wednesday

Prayer Service- Noon- 1pm  
Fellowship Meal (by reservation)- 5:30 pm  
Classes & Ministries for all ages- 6:30 pm

Saturday

Prayer Time- 7 pm

*Small group Bible studies meet throughout the week.  
Call the church office for times.*

Church Phone: 665-0842  
Fax Number: 665-8070

Calvary Pampa exists to make disciples that make disciples by:

connecting people to Christ

connecting people with His truth

connecting people with His church

connecting people with His mission

