



April 2, 2017

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

Bob Dimmitt
Pastor
912-398-4363
bob@fabchurch.com

Tim Wade
Assoc. Pastor/
Youth
912-231-7199
tim@fabchurch.com

Church Phone:
912-355-0949
Church Fax:
912-355-4869
www.fabchurch.com

If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see the Pastor after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with the Pastor, or call the church office.

Announcements

Wednesday Nights

Dinner menu is **Salisbury Steak!** Sign up in the hall.

VBS Volunteers Needed!

Our VBS this year, **Operation Arctic**, will take place **June 19 - 23!** We are lining up the helpers we need, and we want to put you to work! A volunteer registration form is included in each bulletin today. Look at it and pray about how you can serve, then fill it out and return it to Cindy Wise. Note that if you will be working directly with children, you must have taken the Reducing the Risk class. Thanks in advance for your prayers and help!

Easter Activities

There is an egg hunt on **April 8**, at noon (sign up!). Hot Dogs will be served! The Adult Choir will present *The Day He Wore My Crown*, the evening of **April 9**, at 6:00 p.m. On Easter Sunday morning, **April 16**, come join us for a delicious full-course breakfast (sign up!) at 8:30 a.m., and then for worship at 10:00 a.m! *The Lord is risen, indeed!*

New Sunday School Classes

Matt Coleman's class on Revelation begins today, meeting in the organ side overflow room. Tamera Smith's class on Esther moves to room 27. On next Sunday, **April 9**, Steve Posner's class on per-

Announcements cont. on p. 5

This Week at FABC

Today

Fellowship Time	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Adult Choir Practice	4:00 p.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Dinner - Salisbury Steak	5:45 p.m.
Youth & Awana	6:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

FABC Deacons

Shawn Champion	433-0098
Bobby Deloach (CH)	667-8867
Mickey Fell	920-4557
Ron Fowler	901-409-8628
Jimmy Kicklighter	355-5616
Jack Moore	547-5000
Billy Morris, Sr.	398-1038
Joe Morris	398-0125
Steve Posner	704-5617
Kelly Stanford	441-2151
Michael Walker	655-2497
Ric Zittrouer	210-0344

April 2, 2017

10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

* Opening Chorus & Greeting

“Worthy Is the Lamb”

Words are on back of bulletin

* Call to Worship

Deuteronomy 7:9

*Hymn #40

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Scripture Reading & Prayer

Tim Wade

Proverbs 30:15-23

Special Music

Receiving of Tithes And

Offerings

* Hymn #318

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

Message

Bob Dimmitt

Interactive Teaching Behavior = Discipleship, Part 4

2 Thessalonians 3:5-9, Antology #53

* Hymn, to right

“Doxology”

*All those who are able, please stand.

6:00 p.m.

Welcome and Announcements

* Hymn #46

“O for a Thousand Tongues”

Prayer

Receiving of Tithes And

Offerings

Hymn #62

“Crown Him with Many
Crowns”

Hymn #512

“Saved by Grace”

Message

Bob Dimmitt

Conversion: Completing the Cycle, Part 4

Ephesians 4:25-28, Ephesians #79

* Hymn, bulletin p. 12

“Jude Doxology”

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings
flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

Video and audio recordings of the messages
are available for listening or downloading from

www.fabchurch.com/sermons

A.M. Notes

Interactive Teaching Behavior = Discipleship, Part 4 Antology #53 2 Thessalonians 3:5-9

Paul treated other believers as equals in the body of Christ.

Nowhere did Paul identify the role of “*discipler*” as a spiritual gift or as an office of the church.

Paul’s practice of discipleship was his willingness to invite people to imitate him.

If we do not set the pattern of our own life before others there is no other actual pattern we can set. To just describe how Jesus or Paul lived is just simply insufficient.

There were three levels or groupings of disciples in the ministry of Jesus.

The first

The second

The third

If nothing else we need to get rid of any and all pre-conceived ideas as to who or what makes for a successful candidate for discipleship. Dump your prejudices, Christ can change any man or woman, He has done so and will continue to do so. We cannot and should not try to engage in predictive choosing.

We should make sure they know that their relationship with the Lord is more important than their relationship with us.

Conversion: Completing the Cycle, Part 4

Ephesians #79

Ephesians 4:25-28

Stole/Steals (Klepto) means to take secretly and without permission the property of someone.

Surprisingly stealing was not wholly condemned by ancient heathen opinion. It was even allowed by those living in the region of Laconia, southern Greece.

G.G. Findlay (1800's) – “From the lowest dregs of the Greek cities, from its profligate and criminal classes — the gospel had drawn its converts. In the Ephesian Church there were converted thieves; and Christianity had to make of them honest workmen.”

Utilitarianism (An ethical philosophy in which the happiness of the greatest number of people in the society is considered the greatest good. According to this philosophy, an action is morally right if its consequences lead to happiness [absence of pain], and wrong if it ends in unhappiness [pain].)

He must labor: speaks of intense toil even to the point of utter exhaustion if necessary.

The new garment is a lifestyle, a lifestyle that all the world can see. What I say I possess is one thing, but the way I live is another thing. This is the new garment. I don't lie. My temper is under control, and now I am a giver instead of a taker.

sonal evangelism will begin study using the book, *The Gospel and Personal Evangelism*, by Mark Dever. Steve's class meets in the Youth House. A class for mothers and grandmothers will be starting soon, and details will be forthcoming.

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday, April 13, 7:00 p.m., at the Sheffields'.

Secret Church

Friday, April 21, 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. See more info on page 13, and sign up!

Congregational Meeting

Our regular quarterly meeting is Sunday afternoon, April 23. Time will be announced.

Youth Outing

The youth will go to Get Air together April 29. Details to come.



Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles that can Radically Change Your Family

by Paul David Tripp

Wheaton: Crossway, 2016, 216 pp.

Most parents exist in a fog of exhaustion, frustration, and disappointment. We move from battle to battle with our children hoping that the tomorrow will be better, or that we will finally see the breakthrough that we have been hoping for. Even in the families that appear to have everything right, where their children are well mannered, well groomed, and docile, there are moments of bewilderment at the decisions our children make and the behaviors they exhibit. I know this to be true because I have talked to you, and because, well . . . I'm one of you.

Each day that my children grow older, it appears that headway is harder to come by. The strategies that worked when your children were young, when we were able to outmaneuver, outsmart, and physically impose our will on our children seem to wane in effectiveness as our children grow up and catch on. For many of us, our children are more savvy than we give them credit for, and so we end up being made to look like fools by them when they play us like a well-practiced instrument. So how do we parent our kids, young or old, amid these realities? How can we perform this impossible task? In this book, Paul David Tripp attempts to give us the principles that should dictate those answers.

Please understand, **this is not a how-to book for parenting**. Most of us would like that, we want someone to give us the magic words to say, or the most effective discipline strategy that will cause our children's hard hearts to melt and turn to us

with affection and to the Lord in faith. Like me, many of you have probably read those books, and attempted to implement those strategies, with varying degrees of success, at least until the next blow-up occurs.

Tripp goes beyond that, **this book is a “why” book. It provides the principles that should undergird our parenting decisions and strategies and establishes a biblically based, gospel centered foundation for Christian parents to evaluate their children and themselves.** In it, Tripp emphasizes our primary role is not one of ownership over our children, but ambassadorship for the Lord. Our mission is one of rescue rather than creating well-mannered good citizens.

Most importantly, Tripp shows us convincingly that the main issues that we should be dealing with are not behavior issues, but heart issues. Too often, we spend all our time attempting to control or alter our children’s behavior. We threaten, we punish, we reward, we bargain, and we even pray so that their behavior would change, all the while our children’s hard, God-hating hearts remain full of sin that will only manifest itself in a different fashion later in life.

These principles are vitally important to understand, because **if we fail to establish the correct motives and attitudes in our own hearts and then incorporate those principles into our parenting, we run the risk of raising polite, successful, patriots that will spend eternity in hell.** The stakes are high, and we are woefully incapable of measuring up to the task in front of us. Thankfully, God in his mercy empowers us to faithfully be what he has called us to be as parents. This book, when read with healthy introspection, repentance, and prayer, will be a great tool for all families in reorienting our minds to the task at hand.

Whether your children are infants, or are about to leave home, this book will provide valuable insight that will allow you to redeem the time that you have with them for the glory of God. I urge you to read this book together with your spouse. Humbly discuss times where you have failed as parents with each other, and how you can help one another ensure that these principles guide you in your parenting.

This book will likely reveal areas in which you regularly fail as a parent, but it is not meant to beat you up, instead it will refresh you as it directs you toward our source of hope and grace, not just in salvation, but in parenting as well. Do not fear having these areas of failure exposed in your life, especially in parenting. After all, if you were to find out after framing your house that the foundation is not secure, you would not turn a blind eye and continue with the construction, you would change course immediately.

There are areas in which I must change course with my children. There are areas in which Tripp confesses that he has had to change course with his children, there will be areas where you will need to change course too. Allow this book to be an invaluable resource in the life of your family and in the most important job you will ever have so that our children might be built up together into an eternal monument to the goodness and faithfulness of God.

This \$25 book is on the platform, available for only \$15!

Your fellow bookworm,
Tim Wade

9 Reasons to Prioritize One-on-One Discipleship

By: Matt Rogers, pastor of The Church at Cherrydale in Greenville, SC

The easiest sermons to preach are sermons on discipleship, particularly the necessity of fulfilling the Great Commission. One Sunday, the general tone of agreement led me to believe those to whom I preached were particularly ready and willing to take personal ownership for the mission of disciple-making. My assumptions led me to seek out disciple-makers for young believers in our church actively—either those who came to faith through our church’s ministry or those who had only been walking with Jesus for a short time. It made sense to target those who had known Jesus for years and pair them with a younger believer so they could fulfill Jesus’ call to teach one another to do all things that Christ commands (Matt 28:18–20).

But the more I attempted to engage the church in discipleship, the more I found that far too many of the seasoned saints had no idea where to begin or what to do. They acknowledged their responsibility to make disciples and had a relationship with someone who needed investment of time and training, but the mature believers were unsure what disciple-making should look like. Though they had attended church for years, many had passively learned that disciple-making was something that the staff or structure of the church was supposed to accomplish. If someone needed to be taught the basics of the Christian life, they assumed that Sunday school, small groups, or sermons would do the trick—what those structures could not accomplish would be the work of the professional pastors or ministry leaders.

I’m convinced that a return to the practice of one-on-one, life-on-life discipleship is one of the most critical needs for today’s church.

Here’s why:

One-on-One Discipleship Allows Every Member of the Church to Carry Weight

We laughingly jest at the “80/20 rule” (20% of the people in the church do 80% of the work) and wonder why our churches lack the every-member ministry we know God desires. Many attendees, much less members, sit as bystanders to the life of the church. They show up, sing the songs, listen to the sermons, give an offering, and leave through the back door. Often those without meaningful investment in the work of the church are the first to complain when their needs are not met or the leaders do something they don’t like. So, how do we call these people out of passivity and into action? A culture of one-on-one discipleship among the members of the church would communicate that everyone has a vital role to play in the spiritual health of the body. Passive consumption and petty squabbles would likely be minimized if it was assumed that every member of a local church was going to meet with at least one other Christian on a regular basis for the sake of their spiritual growth and transformation.

One-on-One Discipleship Allows for Honest Conversation

We’d love to assume that believers are ruthlessly honest with each other at all times—be it the 5-minute conversation in the hallway of the church or sitting around in a living room during a weekly small group gathering. But we know this is not true. Nor is it reasonable. Most settings simply do not allow for the level of honesty we need to fight sin and pursue holiness. It would be unwise and unhelpful for a man to confess an ongoing battle with pornography in a mixed-gendered small group. Even if this man were bold enough to share with the men in the group, he

will likely struggle to mine the depths of his sin in this setting. The men in the group may be able to listen, pray, and encourage him with the Scriptures, but he'll need one or two men who are willing to meet with him and walk with him through what is likely to be a long process of repentance and change.

One-on-One Discipleship Allows for Personalized Application

Consider the difficulty when a college student raises her hand during the typical Sunday morning sermon or even in a Sunday school class and saying, “Yeah, I understand that, but this just doesn’t make sense to me yet,” or “That may be true, but I’m not sure how it applies to my life.” These settings aren’t designed for personalized care. Most sermons and classes operate at the 30,000-foot level—trusting that God, by his Spirit and *through his church*, can apply the truth of his word to the needs of each person in attendance. This move from broad teaching to personalized application happens best in one-on-one discipleship settings.

One-on-One Discipleship Allows for Evangelism and Discipleship to Unite

Churches with a culture of one-on-one discipleship have no question with what to do with someone who comes to faith in their church. First, the person who was most instrumental in sharing the gospel with the new believer should be the go-to source for ongoing discipleship. Following baptism, these two can continue to fan into flame the good work that God has started. If the person came to faith apart from a relationship with a church member, then the church has a farm system of ready, willing, and capable disciple-makers. Imagine the long-term fruit that could result if every church could say to new believers, “We have someone who would love to walk with you for the next year as you grow in your faith.”

One-on-One Discipleship Allows for Ongoing Accountability

Genuine change happens when someone brings sin out of the dark and into the light—both to God and to fellow brothers and sisters. Then the fight begins. Hard work must be done to put protective measures in place to aid in one’s pursuit of holiness. A man who finds his identity in his job and neglects his family needs to confess this sin to another brother and have this man hold him accountable to being home for dinner, putting his phone down at night, and playing with his children. These actions cannot change the human heart, but they are a means by which we can spur one another on to love and good deeds (Heb 10:24).

One-on-One Discipleship Allows for Burden Bearing Relationships

In an age of incessant social media chatter, we assume that every believer is surrounded by people who will pray when they hurt, and love and support them when they suffer. A simple glance at your Facebook feed will almost certainly find another person asking for prayer. Yet, in an age of constant connectivity, people are as lonely as ever. While Facebook “friends” may like your post or offer prayers of support, it is impossible to bear another’s burdens in a meaningful way via technology. We need someone to sit with us, listen to our muddled conversation, make us something to eat, and pray while we cry. We need burden-bearing relationships. Those that know us know where we hurt, know where we are weak, and are willing to drop everything to be by our side (Gal 6:1–10).

One-on-One Discipleship Allows Other Ministries to Thrive

Discipleship relationships are not an alternative to small bible study groups or Sun-

day school. In fact, they enhance the work that happens in these groups. One-on-one discipleship frees small bible study groups from the pressure of assuming that they must accomplish all the heavy lifting of disciple-making. Most groups know that they can't teach the Bible, apply the word to each group member, care for the wounded, make new guests feel welcome, live on mission to their neighborhood, promote passionate prayer, and practice biblical hospitality. The thought that all of these laudable goals must happen between 6–8 p.m. on a Tuesday night or 9–9:50 a.m. on a Sunday morning is a crushing burden. A church filled with a culture of disciple-making can trust that their groups don't have to do it all, freeing these groups to do the very things they do best.

One-on-One Discipleship Allows for Mutual Growth

One-on-one discipleship is often explained as if it is only for the benefit of the younger Christian who is being discipled. Yet, ask one of the older women in our church who has engaged in this work and she will insist that the process of discipleship was as transformative for her as for the new believer she served. Do you want to grow in your hunger for God's word? Meet with a younger Christian and have them ask you questions about the Bible. Do you want to see change in your prayer life? Meet with someone who doesn't have it all together and is looking to you for help. Do you want to see change in your personal sin struggles? Invite someone into your life and say, like Paul, "follow me as I follow Christ" (1 Cor 11:1).

One-on-One Discipleship Allows for Healthy Relationships

Biblical community is a buzzword in the church; however, like a mythical unicorn, biblical community can be easy to define, yet hard to find. Sunday services alone are unlikely to create the deep love we long to see among the people of God. But one-on-one discipleship can. Imagine what happens if, over the course of five years, a member of your church has met with five to seven people (one or two a year) for the purpose of intentional discipleship. In these relationships, they have cried and laughed, talked and prayed. They've seen God transform them both and they are better for it. Though they may no longer meet, the deep love they have for one another will be unmistakable. Now, assume that those with whom they've met are also meeting with others and doing the same thing. Multiply this process by the number of members of your church and imagine the love that would permeate your local church (Jn 13:35).

Discipleship relationships are not one of a host of options on the buffet line of spiritual formation alongside Sunday sermons, small groups, Sunday School, men's or women's ministry or a host of other good activities of the church. Certainly, people can't do everything, and expecting a person to take part in every ministry the church has to offer is unreasonable and unhealthy. Yet, one-on-one discipleship relationships are not optional extras once the other ministry obligations have been fulfilled. Like the Sunday gathering of the entire church and some form of community group (either Sunday school or small group), those seeking to participate in the life of the church in a meaningful way should regularly be engaged in one-on-one discipleship—for the good of others, the good of the church, and their own good as well.

When the Jehovah Witnesses Come Knocking

(a composite from several sources)

Most of us have had the experience of hearing a knock at the door only to discover that it's a pair of well-dressed Jehovah's Witnesses wanting to talk about the latest Watchtower publication.

You don't have to dread these encounters. Even though they have trained for hours prior to our conversation, often making us feel ill-equipped to handle a discussion with them.

Let me offer you one persuasive argument that I have found very effective while talking to Jehovah's Witnesses. It involves two straightforward passages of Scripture. For the biblical texts we will be exploring, I want to encourage you to use the Jehovah's Witness Bible—the New World Translation (NWT). Please don't misunderstand me. I believe NWT is a mistranslation, but it can be utilized by Christians to make our point. Get them to open their NWT, and have them read the passages to you. There are two reasons why this tactic is very helpful.

First, it will completely avoid a debate over whose translation is more accurate. By using the translation they trust, you sidestep these debates altogether.

Second, your argument will have a greater impact since you are using a book they believe is trustworthy. When I read a book from another religion or cult, I'm inherently skeptical. So then, why should we expect anything less from a Jehovah's Witness? When you start reading from your translation, they are going to be equally skeptical. But they trust the New World Translation. Therefore, for this particular argument, we will only be citing the NWT.

Third, Jehovah's Witnesses probably won't take and read literature that you give them. However, they will always leave your house with their NWT. Therefore, if we can show them who Jesus is from their own book, then they will take the truth with them.

So, where do we start with the Jehovah's Witness? **This is important; don't get sidetracked with all the other issues that Jehovah's Witnesses want to talk about, like soul sleep, Heaven, Hell, and the Holy Spirit.** These are all important issues, but they are not the most important issue. Make the goal of your conversation about answering one question: Who is Jesus? How you answer this question changes everything. Christianity stands or falls on its view of Jesus Christ. If it could be demonstrated that Jesus is identified as Jehovah, then the foundation of the Jehovah's Witness's belief comes crashing down.

Furthermore, the salvation of everyone, including Jehovah's Witnesses, depends on an accurate understanding and belief in God the Son. Jesus said, *"I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am He you will die in your sins"* (John 8:24).

Therefore, if you only have a few minutes to talk, it's best to zero in on Jesus.

This argument involves two rather straightforward passages of Scripture: one from the NT, and one from the OT.

Ask your visitors to take out their NWT and have them flip to Psalm 102:25-27. The psalmist writes, [25] Long ago you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. [26] They will perish, but you will remain; just like a garment they will all wear out. Just like clothing you will replace them, and they will pass away. [27] But you are the same, and your years will never end.

There are two key questions you need to ask about this passage. **First, who is this text about?** That is, who is the “*you*” being referred to? Make sure you get a straight answer. If they know their Bible, they will recognize that this text is about Jehovah. This is clear from the context of the passage. The first verse of Psalm 102 declares, “O Jehovah, hear my prayer; Let my cry for help reach you...” (Psa. 102:1). This is a short prayer directed to Jehovah that uses His name seven times.

Second, how is Jehovah described in this text? We are told that Jehovah created the heavens and the earth (Psa. 102:25). We are also told that Jehovah does not change; He is immutable (Psa. 102:26-27). Finally, we are told that Jehovah is eternal (102:27). Therefore, we have established that this text is describing the unique eternal, changeless, creator Jehovah.

Once you have agreed upon this point, it's time to flip over to the NT. Kindly ask your guests to turn in their NWT to Hebrews 1:10-12. It is very important that you take your time and establish the context of these verses. I usually start back at verse 6. The author of Hebrews writes:

[6] But when he again brings his Firstborn into the inhabited earth, he says: “And let all of God’s angels do obeisance to him.” [7] Also, he says about the angels: “He makes his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.” [8] But about the Son, he says: “God is your throne forever and ever, and the scepter of your Kingdom is the scepter of uprightness.

Clearly, these verses are speaking about the Son. At this point, I would also suggest passing over the dangling carrot in verse 8. Here the Father says to the Son, “Your throne, O God.” Of course, the NWT must reinterpret this passage to say, “God is your throne.” Also, verse 6 has the angels doing obeisance to the Son.

Every modern translation uses the term worship. The Jehovah’s Witnesses’ pre-suppositions will not allow for angels to worship Jesus, so they avoid the term. Putting these erroneous interpretations aside, you need to emphasize the beginning of verse 8, “But of the Son he says.” Now, still talking about the Son, the author of Hebrews continues:

[10] And: “At the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the works of your hands. [11] They will perish, but you will remain; and just like a garment, they will all wear out, [12] and you will wrap them up just as a cloak, as a garment, and they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never come to an end.”

Do you recognize these words? This is a quote from Psalm 102:25-27. **Remember that our new Jehovah’s Witness friend has already agreed that Psalm 102:25-27 is a description of the eternal, changeless, creator Jehovah.** The “*you*” in Psalm 102:25-27 is Jehovah! Yet, the author of Hebrews, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, clearly attributes this same identification to the Son. The “*you*” in Hebrews 1:10-12 is Jesus! **Therefore, Jesus is being identified as Jehovah.** So is Psalm 102:25-27 about Jesus, or is it about Jehovah? The answer is, yes, because Jesus is Jehovah.

The only response available to the Jehovah’s Witness is to downplay the attributes in Hebrews 1 to fit the description of a created creature. But this won’t work, because the same attributes are applied to Jehovah. Are we to believe that the God of the universe is being described in the same terms as a mere creature? Psalm 102 is not the description of a created, finite, changing creature; rather, it is a description of the eternal, unchanging Creator. The only honest way to make sense of these two passages is to affirm that Jesus is Jehovah.

Jude Doxology

Cam Huxford

Remember, Jesus brought you out of Egypt.
Remember, He has sought you as His people.
Remember, He has saved you from your sin.
Remember, remember Him.

Remember, Jesus brought you through the Red Sea.
Remember, mighty miracles that you have seen.
Remember, you were slaves and now are free.
Remember, that He is king.

To the only God, our savior, Jesus Christ.
Be glory, honor, power, and dominion.
Before all time, and now, and evermore!

Remember, Jesus reigns above the heavens.
He's coming, He is coming with his kingdom.
Do not forget, He is seated on the throne.
Remember what He has done.

To the only God, our savior, Jesus Christ.
Be glory, honor, power, and dominion.
Before all time, and now, and evermore.
Amen

The price of refusing to forgive is high. Unforgiveness produces hatred, bitterness, animosity, anger, and retribution. It not only clogs up the arteries but also the courts with thousands of vengeful lawsuits. Refusing to forgive imprisons people in their past. Unforgiving people keep their pain alive by constantly picking at the open wounds and keeping it from healing. Bitterness takes root in their hearts and defiles them (Heb. 12:15). Anger rages out of control and negative emotions run unchecked. Life is filled with turmoil and strife instead of joy and peace.

John MacArthur

Grace: We receive God's grace when we need it. God does not give us all the divine strength we need for the Christian life the day we trust Christ. Psalm 31:19; God's goodness is stored up for those who fear Him. God stores up goodness and grace for our times of adversity. We do not receive it before we need it, but we never receive it too late.

Bob, based on some thoughts by Jerry Bridges

SECRET CHURCH

KNOW HIS WORD. KNOW HIS PERSECUTED.

Secret Church will be held on Friday, **April 21**, from 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. David Platt will once again be hosting, and the topic will be *Scripture and Authority in the Age of Skepticism*. Just this week, the cover of Time magazine asked the question, “Is Truth Dead?” In this age of skepticism, no question could be more important than that of biblical authority and truth. According to the Secret Church website, the topic will center around the following discussion:

The Bible is the foundation for faith among followers of Christ in churches around the world. Yet many such Christians never think to ask why this is the case. After all . . .

- **How did we get this holy book?**
- **Who decided what would and wouldn't be included in it?**
- **How do we know it's true? Are there any errors in it?**
- **Is it necessary? Is it sufficient? Is it authoritative for my life?**
- **How can I understand it?**

Even as Christians ask and answer such pivotal questions, the culture around us asks even more pressing questions: Isn't the Bible antiquated and outdated? Isn't it chauvinistic and offensive? Isn't it downright deceptive and ultimately dangerous?

During this Secret Church, we will explore answers to critical questions about the Bible in order to discern what place it should (or should not) have in the lives of Christians and the implications those answers have for our lives, our families, and our churches in the culture around us.

Please make plans to join us for this very special study. Secret Church is always a time of blessed fellowship, gastronomic fortitude due to the preponderance of “good” food that we will be consuming, and a marathon of endurance for the 6 hour Bible study. Grab a quick nap early in the day and plan to join us for the long haul.

If you take away God and the Bible the best one can hope for is expressed by neuroscientist V.S Ramachandran: “...it never ceases to amaze me that all the richness of our mental life—all our feelings, our emotions, our thoughts, our ambitions, our love lives, our religious sentiments and even what each of us regards as his or her own intimate private self-is simply the activity of these little specks of jelly in our heads, in our brains. There is nothing else.” Believing and thinking like this will put one in the deepest, darkest pit in which there is no escape and no hope—this is true emptiness, I thank God I have been spared this view of life.

Bob Dimmitt

Missionary of the Week

Kris & Nina Brackett
GCC - Croatia

The Coastal Jail Ministries of Georgia employs three chaplains who minister to prisoners here in Chat-ham County and coordinate the ef-forts of volunteers who reach out to these men and women. The Life Learning Program gives opportuni-ties for prisoners to join a structured environment and study the Scrip-tures.



Please pray for:

1. Chaplains Matt Coleman, Myra Mitchell, and Shaun Marksbury, and Transitional Program Coordinator Lorie Irish.
2. Former inmates to seek follow-up counsel from chaplains after release.
3. The ability for inmates to understand that God can forgive them and give them another chance.
4. Wisdom for the chaplains who are ministering to unique individuals in unique circumstances. Pray they would be truly led by the Holy Spirit.
5. Spiritual strength, health and growth for the chaplains.
6. The volunteers who take the time to minister, that their needs would be met and that they would be diligent to continue sharing the Word of God.
7. The financial needs of the ministry would continue to be met.
8. That the inmates in the Chaplains' program would be diligent to do their Bible studies, and that God's word will do its work in their lives. Pray also for enough graders to get all the tests corrected and for them to have wisdom in the notes they give to the inmates.



If there is no God and we live in a strictly material, evolving universe, violence and suffering are just a part of the natural world with no inherent morality at-tached to them. In this case violence would not be evil; it would simply be a part of the evolutionary process. Without God compassion for others is nothing but chemical changes in the brain. Suffering is meaningless, violence is meaningless. There is no such thing as good or evil.

Bob Dimmitt

Sunday School Classes & Descriptions

Adult

“Revelation” - Organ Side Overflow Room: Matt Coleman
 “Chronological Survey of the Bible” - Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt
 Evangelism series - Youth House: Steve Posner
Protected by God's Providence: The Book of Esther- Room 27: Tamera Smith (Women’s Class)

Students & Children

Babies - Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra Bridges
 1s & 2s - Room 24: Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter/Danny & Kamee Roberson
 3s & 4s - Room 25: Emily Wise, Susan Su, Donna Martin
 Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade - Room 200: Jimmy & Angie Creech
 3rd-6th Grade Boys - Room 202: Ric Zittrouer & Richie Mills
 3rd-6th Grade Girls - Room 204: Kelly Zittrouer, Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton
 Youth Guys - Room 206: Tim Wade, Bobby Deloach, & Nick Herring
 Youth Girls - Room 207: Sona Bailey, Jessica Dimmitt, & Lauren Wade

In prayer we tell God nothing he does not already know. Instead, our prayers acknowledge our awareness of something he has always known and that we regularly forget--that we need him and cannot live without him.

From Trusting God, by Jerry Bridges

The tongue is literally the only part of the human body that never gets tired.

Bible Reading Schedule

April 2017

	1	Ecclesiastes 1 & Job 1-2
	2	Ecclesiastes 2 & Job 3
	3	Ecclesiastes 3 & Job 4
	4	Ecclesiastes 4 & Job 5-6
	5	Ecclesiastes 5 & Job 7-8
	6	Ecclesiastes 6 & Job 9-10
	7	Ecclesiastes 7 & Job 11-12
	8	Ecclesiastes 8 & Job 13-14
	9	Ecclesiastes 9 & Job 15
	10	Ecclesiastes 10 & Job 16-17
	11	Ecclesiastes 11 & Job 18-19
	12	Ecclesiastes 12 & Job 20
	13	Job 21-23
	14	Job 24-27
	15	Job 28-30
	16	Ecclesiastes 1 & Job 31
	17	Ecclesiastes 2 & Job 32
	18	Ecclesiastes 3 & Job 33
	19	Ecclesiastes 4 & Job 34-35
	20	Ecclesiastes 5 & Job 36
	21	Ecclesiastes 6 & Job 37-38
	22	Ecclesiastes 7 & Job 39
	23	Ecclesiastes 8 & Job 40
	24	Ecclesiastes 9 & Job 41
	25	Ecclesiastes 10 & Job 42
	26	Ecclesiastes 11 & Daniel 1-2
	27	Ecclesiastes 12 & Daniel 3-4
	28	Daniel 5-7
	29	Daniel 8-10
	30	Daniel 11-12



Worthy Is the Lamb

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain;
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain.
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain,
to receive
Power and riches and wisdom and
strength
Honor and glory and blessing!
Worthy is the Lamb,
Worthy is the Lamb,
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain.
Worthy is the Lamb!

You will never really enjoy other people, you will never have stable emotions, you will never lead a life of godly contentment, and you will never conquer jealousy and love others as you should until you thank God for making you the way He did. This is not the same as loving yourself, loving yourself only leads to being pre-occupied with yourself, leaving no room for others or true happiness.

Jerry Bridges (edited)

Through the disciplined lifestyle of prayer, Jesus admitted the weakness of his—and thus our—humanity. If the Son of God needed to pray, how much more do we need to wait upon God.

Dr. Paul Tautges

For Hearing Impaired

If you have difficulties hearing, we have listening aid devices available. Ask any of the ushers, or the technician in the sound booth, if you are in need of one of these devices.

Nursery April 2

10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Carolyn Blanton, Lauren Wade

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Lisa & Addisyn Rowe/
Mike & Elinor Morris

6:00 P.M.

Gena Russell, Haley Bull/
Napoleon & Savannah Martin

Nursery April 9

10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Shelma Lewis, Jeanie Groover

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Karrie & Lindsey Walker/
Steve & Linnea Posner

6:00 P.M.

Sona Bailey, Cindy Dimmitt/
Shawn Champion, Linda Walker

Ushers April 2

10:30 A.M.

Danny Roberson, Kelly Stanford,
John Sumner, Michael Walker

6:00 P.M.

Jimmy Donaldson, Ron Fowler

Ushers April 9

10:30 A.M.

Billy Waters, Buddy Bacon,
Johnny Bridges, Jimmy Kicklighter

6:00 P.M.

Dean McCraw, Cole Morris

Sunday Greeters - April 2

Jeanie Groover, Leasa Brown

April Lock-Up Deacons

Ric Zittrouer, Shawn Champion