### November 19, 2023



# Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

# **Announcements**

#### **Choir Practice**

Tonight at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

### Wednesday on Tuesday Night

Please note that this week, our Wednesday night activities will take place on Tuesday, **November 21!** The menu is **Chili**. Supper is at 5:30 p.m., Adventure Club is at 6:20 p.m., Youth is at 6:30 p.m. and Adult Bible Study is at 6:45 p.m. Sign up in the hall for the meal!

### **Senior Adult Bible Study Announcements**

There is no study on November 23!

### Office Closed

The church office is closed on **November 23 and 24**.

### Men's Breakfast and Book Study

Join us for a Men's Two-Part Breakfast series as we discuss the book, *The Masculine Mandate* by Richard Phillips.

Dates & Time:

- Saturday, December 9, 8:00 a.m.
- Saturday, January TBA, 8:00 a.m.

This discussion will provide an opportunity for men of all ages to explore their roles as leaders, husbands, fathers, and servants in light of God's Word. Questions are welcomed! Please bring your copy of the book which you can pick up from the church. Breakfast will be provided. All men of any age are welcome whether or not a member of our church. Books are \$14 each and in the office. For more info you can contact Steve Posner 912-704-5617. There's a signup sheet in the hall!

# Christmas Banquet Signup and Bus Service!

Our annual Christmas Banquet is Wednesday, **December 13** at 6:30 p.m. Menu will include Prime Rib, Barbecue, Ham, Vegetables and Desserts. \$7.00 per adult, \$4.00 per child over 3, and no family need pay over \$25! Sign up in the hall. We are offering bus rides to those needing or wanting them. Sign the hall bus list by **December 6** if you live relatively close by and would like to take advantage of that!

### **FABC Elders**

Bob Dimmitt Senior Pastor 912-398-4363 bob@fabchurch.com Tom Keller
Assoc. Pastor/Senior Adults
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# Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship Ephesians 6:13 Pew Bible p. 979

# Hymn #403, bulletin p. 5

"Soldiers of Christ Arise"

Prayer of General Confession **Bob Dimmitt** Titus 2:11-14 Pew Bible p. 998

# Hymn, bulletin pp. 6-7

"Facing a Task Unfinished"

Scripture Reading Psalm 106:1-23 Napoleon Martin Pew Bible p. 505

# Hymn #42, bulletin p. 8

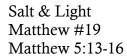
"All Hail the Power"

Message **Bob Dimmitt** Salt & Light Matthew #19 Matthew 5:13-16, Pew Bible p. 810

Hymn, p. 9

"Now unto Him"

# A.M. Notes



*lost its taste* = foolish. To make dull, not acute, to cause something to lose its taste or the purpose for which it exists

Those called to purify the earth are themselves corrupt, their witness is counterproductive. It destroys instead of transforming.

The meaning of the Greek word "katapateo" is not only to trample down but it also means to reject with disdain, to despise.

Some say this word was used to express the contempt the world has for the hypocrisy of those who claim to be Christians but lead corrupt lives.

The believer is to have a useful effect upon the earth, and not exist merely for the sake of personal advantage.

Never have we been so preoccupied with endeavoring to see Christianity in government. And what is the result?

2 Cor 4:5-6

Phil 2:14-16



# **Important Upcoming Dates**

Novem	ber:
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26	Cocoa, Coffee, Cookies, & Carols	6:00 p.m.
Decei	mber:	
6	Adventure Club Christmas Party	
6	Youth Christmas Party	
9	Men's Book Study, Session I	8:00 a.m.
10	Special Called Members' Meeting	5:30 p.m.
10	Christmas Cantata	6:00 p.m.
13	Christmas Banquet	6:30 p.m.
15	Young Adult Christmas Party	
16	Life Line Health Screening	
18, 20	Caroling	
19	Joy Class Christmas Party	10:00 a.m.
24	Christmas Eve Service	5:00 p.m.
31	Annual NYE Cookoff: Chili	7:00 p.m.

# Life Line Screening

Life Line is conducting their ultrasonic health screenings here in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, **December 16**. There are flyers on the podium and bulletin board with all the info, and we were gifted several vouchers for \$85 off. Let Dawn know if you would like a voucher, and contact Life Line to make an appointment.





Thank you to all who helped with the Women's Retreat. It was a wonderful day! Thank you, Richie Mills, for the wonderful food and John Earl Blanton for doing sound and lights. Thank you, Praise Team, for wonderful worship!

Amy Keller



# Facing a Task Unfinished

(We Go To All the World)

Original Words: Frank Houghton, Orginal Music: Samuel Wesley New Words and Music: Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ed Cash and Fionán de Barra



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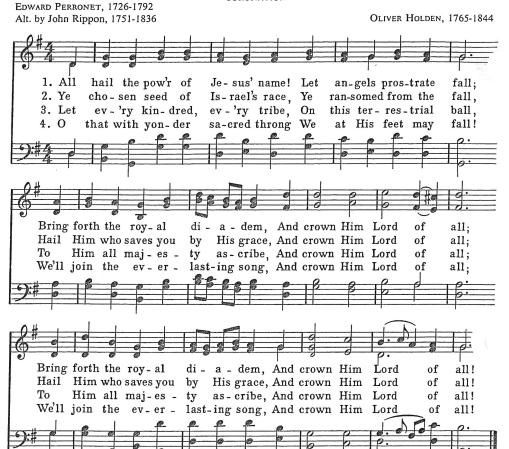
Facing a Task Unfinished (We Go To All the World)
(Hynmal: Key of C)



Facing a Task Unfinished (We Go To All the World) (Hynmal: Key of C)

## All Hail the Power

CORONATION



# Now Unto Him



# Featured Content from Right Now Media

This week, we are highlighting *How to Read and Study the Bible for Yourself,* a series of five videos by Benjamin Windle. A free study guide is available to download.

From the website: Nothing else fuels our growth like personally engaging with the Bible. Yet, many people lack the practical tools to confidently study the Bible for themselves. One can attend church for many years, and listen to a lot of teaching, and not learn how to read the Bible for yourself.

King David knew (at a very personal level) what it was to go through darkness in life. In Psalm 119, David reveals that the Word is a lamp for when the path of life turned dark. We all need a lamp for dark times.

Today, we have a culture with no lamp. Where do we turn when life turns dark? How do we know what next steps to take, or how to get direction in life?

Come on this journey with Pastor and author Benjamin Windle as your guide, as he teaches you how to use the Bible as a lamp for every question and challenge life throws at you. You will learn:

- · How to engage in your own personal devotions.
- Get practical tools and easy to use methods on personal Bible Study.
- · Discover the golden rule of how to interpret the Bible.
- · Ignite a new passion for the Bible and its power to bring about change in your life.

Filmed on location in Australia, this 5-session series is not just about giving you a meal for a day, it will teach you how to be a self-feeder for the rest of your life.

Get the skills you need (that absolutely anyone can use) to read and apply the Bible in your own life.

Log in, find our church page by clicking on Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church on the top right menu area, and click the link under our "Reading & Studying the Bible" channel. Enjoy!

rightnow MEDIA.

If you have not yet accessed your free subscription to Right Now Media, please consider availing yourself of this resource! Here we will share a particularly helpful video or series. Anything shared here can be found on our personal Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church page. To set up your subscription, use the link or barcode on page 15! Talk to Dawn or Shawn if you have any trouble signing up.

# Articles

# The Crushing Obligation to Keep Doing More and More

By K DeYoung

### **Doing More for God**

I understand there are lazy people out there who need to get radical for Jesus. I understand that many people are stingy with their resources and fritter their time away on inane television shows. I understand there are lots of Christians in our churches sitting around doing nothing who need to be challenged not to waste their life. I am deeply thankful for preachers and writers who challenge us to risk everything and make our lives count. I know a lot of sleepy Christians in need of a wake-up call.

But I also know people like me, people who easily feel a sense of responsibility, people who easily feel bad for not doing more. For all sorts of reasons—pride, diligence, personality—opportunities have often felt like obligations to me.

And surely I'm not the only one. Surely there are many Christians who are terribly busy because they sincerely want to be obedient to God. We hear sermons that convict us for not praying more. We read books that convince us to do more for global hunger. We talk to friends who inspire us to give more and read more and witness more. The needs seem so urgent. The workers seem so few. If we don't do something, who will? We want to be involved. We want to make a difference. We want to do what's expected of us. But there just doesn't seem to be the time.

### Calming the Crazy Man Inside

I think most Christians hear these urgent calls to do more (or feel them internally already) and learn to live with a low-level guilt that comes from not doing enough. We know we can always pray more and give more and evangelize more, so we get used to living in a state of mild disappointment with ourselves. That's not how the apostle Paul lived (1 Cor. 4:4), and it's not how God wants us to live, either (Rom. 12:1–2). Either we are guilty of sin—like greed, selfishness, idolatry—and we need to repent, be forgiven, and change. Or something else is going on. It's taken me several years, a lot of reflection, and a bunch of unnecessary busyness to understand that when it comes to good causes and good deeds, "do more or disobey" is not the best thing we can say.

Here are some of thoughts that have helped me get out from under the terror of total obligation.

I am not the Christ. The senior sermon for my graduating class at seminary was given by Gordon Hugenberger of Park Street Church in Boston. The sermon was based on John the Baptist's words, "I freely confess I am not the Christ." Hugenberger's point to a group of soon-to-be pastors was simple: "You may be part of the bridal party, but you are not the groom. You are not the Messiah, so don't try to be. Along with the Apostles' Creed and the Belgic Confession and the Westminster

Confession, make sure you confess John the Baptist's creed: I am not the Christ." I still have a copy of the sermon and listen to it whenever I can find a tape deck. Our Messianic sense of obligation would be greatly relieved if we confessed more regularly what we are not.

There is good news. I was also helped with my busyness issues in seminary by reading a little book by Tim Dearborn called Beyond Duty: A Passion for Christ, a Heart for Mission. Dearborn, the director of faith and development for World Vision, argues that for too long the church has motivated people to mission by news of natural catastrophes, complex humanitarian disasters, unreached people groups, and oppressed and exploited minorities. We've been given statistics and stories about the all-too-sad conditions of the world. The good news of Christ's death and resurrection, Dearborn maintains, has been turned into bad news about all the problems in the world and how much more we have to do to make things right. The take-home then becomes: serve more, give more, care more, do more. Dearborn reminds us that the gospel is good news of great joy, and that God is the only hope for the world.

Care is not the same as do. At the Lausanne missions gathering in 2010, John Piper made the statement that "we should care about all suffering, especially eternal suffering." He chose the word "care" quite carefully. He didn't want to say we should do something about all suffering, because we can't do something about everything. But we can care. This means when we hear about grinding poverty or legal abortion or biblical illiteracy, we are not indifferent. We think and feel that these things ought not to be so. We won't all care about every issue in the same way, but there are some issues we should all care about, some issues that should at least prick our hearts and prompt us to pray. Not giving a rip about sex slaves is not an option for the Christian. Not doing something directly to combat this particular evil is an option.

We have different gifts and different callings. Every Christian must be prepared to give an answer for the reason for the hope that we have (1 Pet. 3:15), but not everyone will do beach evangelism. Every Christian should be involved in the Great Commission, but not everyone will move overseas. Every Christian should oppose abortion, but not everyone will adopt or volunteer at a crisis pregnancy center. We need Christians who spend their lives improving inner-city schools and Christians whose dream is to get great theological books translated into Polish. And we need Christians who don't make others feel guilty (and don't feel guilty themselves) when one of us follows a different passion than another. I read and write a lot. That's what I do well. But that doesn't mean anyone should feel guilty for not reading and writing as much as I do. You have your own gifts and calling. We have to be okay with other Christians doing certain good things better and more often than we do.

Remember the church. The only work that absolutely must be done in the world is Christ's work. And Christ's work is accomplished through Christ's body. The church—gathered in worship on Sunday and scattered through its members throughout the week—is able to do exponentially more than any of us alone. I can

respond to Christ's call in one or two ways, but I am a part of an organism and organization that can respond and serve in a million ways.

**I can always pray right now.** Prayer can feel like the biggest burden of all. We can always pray more, and we can't possibly pray for every need in the world. Even if we are extremely organized and disciplined, we won't be able to consistently pray for more than a handful of people and problems. But that doesn't mean our prayers are limited to the items we can write on a  $3 \times 5$  card. If your aunt's cousin has upcoming heart surgery, pray immediately after you hear about it. When a missionary shares her requests, pray right on the spot for them. Don't let the moment pass you by. Pray a short prayer. Trust God for the results and, in many cases, move on.

**Jesus didn't do it all.** <u>Jesus didn't meet every need</u>. He left people waiting in line to be healed. He left one town to preach to another. He hid away to pray. He got tired. He never interacted with the vast majority of people on the planet. He spent thirty years in training and only three years in ministry. He did not try to do it all. And yet, he did everything God asked him to do.

**Take Time to Be Holy.** I pray that nothing in this encourages you to embrace cheap grace or easy believism. We all have a cross to carry. But it's a cross that kills our sins, smashes our idols, and teaches us the folly of self-reliance. It's a cross that says I'll do anything to follow Jesus, not a cross that says I have to do everything for Jesus.

No doubt some Christians need to be shaken out of their lethargy and to get busy for the kingdom. But many Christians are too busy already. I can take "redeem the time" as a summons to better time management when in reality it's a call to be holy more than a call to possess the seven habits of highly effective people. I can turn every "is" into an "ought." I can overlook the role that necessity and proximity play in establishing divine obligations. I can forget that my circle of influence will inevitably be smaller than my circle of concern.

Above all, I can lose sight of the good news that the universe is not upheld by the word of my power (see Heb. 1:3). That's Christ's work, and no one else can do it. Hallelujah—he doesn't even expect me to try. •

# Missionary of the Week

# Shannon & Danielle Hurley Sufficiency of Scripture Ministries - Uganda



Sufficiency of Scripture (SOS) Ministries, established by Shannon Hurley in 2002, exists to strengthen lives and communities through Christ, and they believe that the most enduring avenue for personal and collective strength comes through bringing Scripture to life in Christ's church.

From their website, sosministries.com:

The goal of Sufficiency of Scripture Ministries is to effectively, lovingly, and biblically strengthen community churches, which empowers God-fearing citizens to develop and contribute to a self-sustaining community.

We want to address the social, spiritual, educational, and physical needs of the people of Kubamitwe, pointing to God as King in every aspect of our ministry. SOS serves Uganda and East Africa through **five main ministry avenues**:

# **Legacy Christian Academy**

The heart of this ministry is to disciple our community by providing a Christ-centered, high quality kindergarten and primary education in a loving and professional environment that develops students academically, socially, morally, and spiritually to make an impact in their home, community, and nation.

### **Shepherds Training Center**

In a culture hungry for strong, sincere Christian leadership, Shepherds Training Center is how SOS Ministries feeds the East African people. Where men show a

desire to pastor, Shepherds Training Center exists to nurture and train them to lead and spread the truth of the Gospel of Christ the King.

# Community Outreach in Kubamitwe

Our outreach ministries are built upon three foundational goals:

- 1) Build a relationship with SOS's community.
- 2) Holistically empower the community.
- 3) Faithfully point the community to the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church.

#### Local Church in Kubamitwe

"The church is not a campus but a community. Pastors are not CEOs; they are shepherds."

— Dillon Burroughs

# Church Strengthening in East Africa

SOS coordinates with the Baptist denominations of East Africa (primarily the Baptist Union of Uganda and the Baptist Convention of South Sudan) to strengthen their existing organizations and the leadership in their member churches to ensure churches are spiritually maturing and are living out faith according to God's Word.

Christianity does not start with "Jesus saves you from your sins." It starts with "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

F. Schaeffer

# Nursery November 19 Babies:

Eleanor Bowden, Mary Fowler, Kay Stanford

### **Toddlers:**

Deborah Focht, Tricia Morris **Preschoolers:** 

Brittany Hall, Elinor Morris

### Nursery November 26 Babies:

Jay & Lisa Rowe
Toddlers:

Sona Bailey, Debra Denney **Preschoolers:** 

Jimmy & Tammy Kicklighter

### **Right Now Media**

If you would like a free subscription to Right Now Media use this link:

https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/fabchurchga or scan this QR code:



If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see any of the pastors after the service,

drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with a pastor, or call the church office.



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

www.fabchurch.com/sermons

### This Week at FABC

**Today** 

Coffee Fellowship9:45 a.m.Morning Worship10:30 a.m.Choir Practice5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday** 

 Supper: Chili
 5:30 p.m.

 Adventure Club
 6:20 p.m.

 Youth
 6:30 p.m.

 Bible Study
 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday

No Activities

**Thursday** 

Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed

Friday

Office Closed



Hearing assistance devices for services in the sanctuary are available on request at the sound booth.

Lockup Deacons for November

Howard Ernst, Ron Fowler

# **Sunday School Classes and Descriptions**

#### Adult

"Systematic Theology" Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt
"Young Marrieds" Gym Overhang: Tom Keller
"How Do We View the Lord's Day?" Youth House: Steve Posner
"Rahab" Organ Overflow: Tamera Smith

#### **Children and Students**

Babies	Room 3:	Kay Stanford, Saundra Bridges
Toddlers	Room 24:	Susan Su, Deborah Focht
Pre-K	Room 25:	Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter
K, 1st and 2nd Grade	Room 28:	John and Pam Humphrey
3rd-6th Grade Boys	Room 202:	Ric Zittrouer, Richie Mills
3rd-6th Grade Girls	Room 204:	Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton
Youth Guys	Room 206:	Bobby DeLoach, Shawn Champion
Youth Girls	Room 206:	Jessica Dimmitt, Avalon DeLoach