



# SBAOC Weekly Update

## NEWS & PRAYER REQUESTS

*If you have any news, prayer requests, or events that you would like to have included in this update, please email the information to [spurgeonassociation@gmail.com](mailto:spurgeonassociation@gmail.com) or call us at 785-456-8513.*

## REFORMATION WEEKEND

Trinity Baptist Church had the privilege of hosting the annual meeting for the 28 congregations of the Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches (SBAOC) on Reformation Weekend (Oct. 26-28). Our speakers for the weekend were Pastor Gabriel Hughes of First Southern Baptist Church in Junction City, KS; Pastor Kyle Stachewicz of First Baptist Church in St. Francis, KS; Pastor Josh Eaton of Cross Point Baptist Church in Caney, KS; Rev. Stephen Atkinson of Christian Witness to Israel USA (CWI); and Pastor Lyn Hansen of North Park Church in Columbus, NE. All of the messages dealt with some aspect of evangelism. On Reformation Sunday Pastor Hansen spoke on 1 Corinthians 2:1-14, *The Reformation, the Word of God, and My Church*. All of the messages are available to listen to from the SBAOC website: [www.sbaoc.org](http://www.sbaoc.org).

## DISCIPLES KEEP CHRIST'S COMMANDMENTS

By Greg Gilbert

When Jesus first called Simon Peter and his brother Andrew into His service, His command to them was, "Follow me." In time, those who came behind or followed Jesus became known as His "disciples," "students," or "followers." Throughout His ministry, Jesus made it clear to His listeners that being His disciples was not simply about receiving an education or even adhering to a set of ethical principles or stipulations. To be a disciple of Jesus meant to recognize Him for who He really was—the incarnate Son of God, the long-awaited Messiah—and

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### PURPOSE STATEMENT:

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

*"If there is no church... should you not commence one?" C. H. Spurgeon*

## COMMENTS ON OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

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*“It’s really not that complicated. All that you have to do is follow the Scriptures. If you want to know what’s important in the Scriptures, you go to the Scriptures. You go to the Scriptures and it will take you right to Jesus Christ. Jesus told the Pharisees, He said, “You search the Scriptures because you think that in them, you have eternal life. But it is these that point to Me that testify of Me.”*

*Paul Washer*

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therefore to reorient one’s life so that it conformed to the standards of His heavenly kingdom.

In John 14:15, Jesus put this truth plainly to His disciples like this: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” That may seem like a simple, even simplistic, statement, but if we look at it closely, we realize that it teaches us much about what it means to be a true disciple of Jesus. The first thing to notice is that the motivation for Christian obedience is and must be love, not fear. As Christians, we want to obey Jesus not because we are afraid that judgment will result if we do not, but rather because we recognize who Jesus is and what He has done for us, and that in turn gives birth in our souls to a deep desire to honor Him with our lives. As John says in his first epistle, “We love because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19), and it is that fountain of love that overflows in a desire to obey.

Second, notice that in John 14:21, Jesus puts this truth in the opposite direction: “Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me.” In other words, our obedience to Jesus is one of the characteristics that marks us out as those who truly love Him. As Jesus says in another place, “The tree is known by its fruit” (Matt. 12:33).

Third, notice that this obedience we render to Jesus is not accomplished through our own power. In the very next verse, Jesus tells us that He will ask the Father to send us another Helper, the Holy Spirit (John 14:16), and Paul later tells us that it is He who gives us the power to put to death the deeds of the flesh and who stands with us in the struggle, crying out that we are children of God (Rom. 8:13–17).

All this makes it clear that any charge against Christianity as being antinomian—that is, “against law”—is false and unfounded. Paul himself asked: “What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?” And he answered, quite rightly, “By no means!” (6:1–2). Our salvation is based, fully and completely, on the righteousness of Christ, both in His life and His death, imputed to us. That righteousness alone is the basis of justification. But there is evident spiritual fruit in those who have been justified—an acknowledgment of Jesus as the King, and a gratitude-filled love for Him that issues in a Spirit-filled desire to follow Him and obey His commandments.

Dr. Greg D. Gilbert is senior pastor of Third Avenue Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky. He is author of *What Is the Gospel?* and the book *Who is Jesus?*

<https://tabletalkmagazine.com/article/2018/06/disciples-keep-christs-commandments/>

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## PRAYER MEETINGS FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AND REVIVAL

- Fellowship Baptist Church in Onaga, Kansas—5:00 pm on Sundays
- Trinity Baptist Church in Wamego, Kansas—8:00 pm on Saturdays

*The Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches is an association of Southern Baptist Churches that are united to manifest the glory of God above all. We set out to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. As an association of churches we are bound in mutual covenant to strengthen and support one another - motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture - by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.*

*We are a non-geographic association seeking to include any like-minded body of believers so that together we might better fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our intent is to lean on His instruction and not our imaginations so that He is honored in all that we do. We welcome churches who adhere to the confessions of faith accepted by Southern Baptists throughout their history, including, but not limited to, the Second London Confession (1689) and the Baptist Faith and Message.*



Baptist Association of Churches