

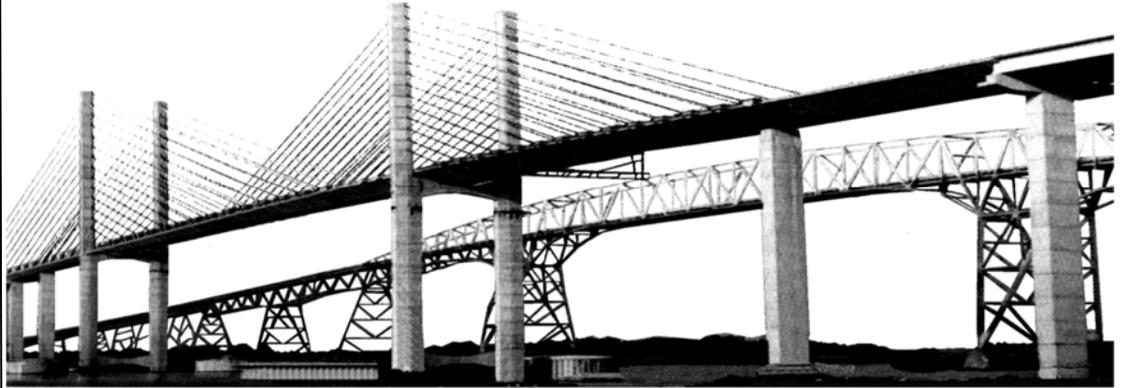
First Baptist Church

Volume LII

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

February 27, 2018

No. 09



The Bridge Builder

225/300

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

Calling it darkness was a misnomer. The pervasive blackness had engulfed everything to the point where there was nothing but the absence of all light. The darkness moved and slithered about every object as if it had life. It consumed anything which offered hope. The eyes were wide open but could not process an image as the blackness covered it all. Sight was useless, but reaching out could stabilize and orient the young man. He endured the weight crushing the air from his lungs as he grasped for breath. His strength pulsed out of his body with each quiver under the strain. No longer able to stand, he collapsed being driven in the ground moistened by the spring night air. He knew it was over; he had fought for as long as he could. The presence which embodied the crushing weight was calling. He could no longer resist. The truth of his sin, the darkness, the blackness, which had pervaded his very essence, could not be denied now. God's presence was obliterating him with the weight of His glory. The Spirit was whispering the truth of the cross. Jesus bearing his sin was vivid in his mind. There was hope. He screamed out, "God, help me!"

That was me when I was seventeen and experiencing the grace, mercy, and love of God. This Sunday we start a new sermon series, "Tell Me a Story", which will consist of a variety of Jesus' parables. Stories are powerful modes of communication. It is still the primary means of people sharing information, truth, insight, etc. though we do it a variety of forms. We all have a story and we all enjoy listening to a story. Jesus knew this when he used them to convey deep truths which were challenging to accept, but done in a story it made the truth sensible. Stories resonate and the truths become embedded because the story anchors it in our heart and is in a form we now can share. If you have surrendered your life and submitted to Christ, you have a Gospel story. Do you tell the story? Not sure how? We will be learning together throughout this series of how to tell our Gospel story. When we tell **The Story** in conjunction with our story God uses it to change lives. Let's start sharing today. FBCBC is where the "impossible" is a living reality everyday and we are about connecting Christ and people. Invite someone to be a part of what God is doing at FBCBC.

For His Glory,

Douglas Shows
John 3:16

YOUTH NEWS

Every leader faces power struggles—from those who follow the leader and from those the leader follows. If there isn't some sort of struggle, the leader probably isn't doing his or her job well. It's simple: those who make everyone happy probably aren't pushing people to be better and pushing will, at times, frustrate both the leaders and the followers. Moses regularly experienced leadership struggles. In Numbers 16, Korah, accompanied by 250 men who were leaders in Israel, calls Moses and Aaron's leadership into question, saying, "You take too much upon yourselves! All of the community is holy, every one of them, and Yahweh is in their midst, so why do you raise yourselves over the assembly of Yahweh?". They're using Moses' words, spoken on behalf of Yahweh, against him here: "you will belong to me as a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Ex. 19:6). But they made one faulty assumption in doing so. Yahweh had prefaced these words by saying, "if you will carefully listen to my voice and keep my covenant, you will be a treasured possession for me out of all the peoples, for all the earth is mine, but ..." and then He continued with the line Korah quoted. Surely Moses knows this, and he is aware of their folly. But rather than answering the fool according to his folly, he responds by prostrating himself, an act of worship toward God and humility toward those he serves: the people of Israel. He then says, "Tomorrow morning Yahweh will make known who is his and who is holy, and he will bring him near to him, whomever he chooses he will bring near to him". It appears that in that moment of prostration, Moses prayed and was immediately given an answer. He insists on bringing the matter before God Himself. Moses could have defended himself by insisting upon the special nature by which God had revealed Himself to him. Or he could have noted to Korah that he is only out of Egypt, and thus able to call Moses into question, because Moses was obedient to God. He even could have noted that Korah was only in leadership at all because Moses listened to God and appointed him. But instead, he insisted on bringing it before God. He did, though, follow up by telling Korah that he had plenty of authority and shouldn't be so greedy. How do you respond when people question what God has asked you to do? How can your response in the future be more like Moses'?

Be Intentional,

Aaron

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

We have finished up our "Messy" unit in Sunday School, and I must say, it was a lot of fun. We have made some awesome messes this month with shaving cream, pancake syrup, bubble gum, chocolate syrup, icing and much more! As much fun as we had making those messes, however, the time always came to clean up. Sunday, we learned that Jesus is the cleaner of all messes... if only we ask. I pray that the kids learned a lot from this fun series, and I encourage you to ask them and find out about their growing knowledge and friendship with Jesus!

Easter is right around the corner, and egg and candy collection has begun! Please bring your candy and egg donations to the bins located in the welcome center, church office, or in the foyer of the Sanctuary! Thank you for your donations, and for helping to make this year's Easter activities a success for the children! In conjunction with the Easter Egg hunt, I am planning a fun event for the whole family on Sunday, March 25th! Stay tuned for more information about this fun resurrection celebration event!

We are finishing up our 8 week Sunday Night Bible study on "Incredible Faith" on March 4th. We will take a few weeks off, then resume evening classes on Sunday, April 4th at 5:30 p.m. We will be spending 5 weeks learning about "Hands on Faith". We will be using fun science experiments to teach about what faith means. It's gonna be a blast!

Finally, the 2nd-5th graders will be performing a special song on Sunday, March 25th. Please be sure that your children attend as many Wednesday night practices, as they are doing something special during the song, and we will be learning a new portion each Wednesday. Remind them to invite friends, so that we can have a big group of kids sharing God's love in song!

We are still looking for help in the children's ministry, both on Sunday nights and during Children's Church. If you would like to be a part of any of these ministry opportunities, or upcoming events, please feel free to give me a call!

That the next generation may know!

Chris



WORSHIP DIRECTOR

King of My Heart.....

We worshiped the Lord on Sunday with the beautiful praise song, King of My Heart. It was a wonderful day in the house of the Lord with voices raised in song and a powerful sermon from our Pastor. If you weren't here, you missed a special time of gathering with the saints.

Our Easter choir practice is going well and we will continue this next Sunday. We will meet in the sanctuary at 4:45 p.m. That is a different time than we have been meeting and a different place, so please mark your calendars so we can have everyone there. As always, we have a wonderful fellowship and time of singing so come join us.

Please mark your calendars for Friday, July 20, 2018 for our concert featuring The Hoppers. We are very excited about this wonderful family of singers coming to minister to us in song. There will be more information coming about this group in the near future. Also, please be praying about helping with the preparations for this concert, as we will need all the help we can get. I will schedule a meeting soon to let everyone know the needs.

I am so excited to see the Holy Spirit moving in our church. I believe we are seeing the beginnings of a great revival and I know that it begins in our hearts. So, lets all be in prayer for our church as we strive to get the message of Jesus out to those who don't know Him.

Psalm 66:1 - 2 Shout joyful praises to God, all the earth! Sing about the glory of His name! Tell the world how glorious He is.

For His Glory,
Debbie Anderson

Spiritual Gifts Class

Sunday evenings
at 5:30 pm.
in Adult 6

Link for online assessment:
<https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/>



NURSERY WORKERS March 4, 2018

Sunday School **Brittany Ernst**
 Connie Claus

Worship Service **Thelma Wheelis**

Volunteers always needed. Please call
Brittany Ernst at 409.313.1215.

LOOK AT THE RECORDS

February 25, 2018

Average Weekly Needs	\$ 10,520.73
Sunday Receipts	\$ 9,099.06
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$10,627.41
Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$8,355.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School Goal	225
Sunday School	142

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Worship Service Goal	300
Worship	165
Nursery	8
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	173

First Baptist Church

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Website: www.fbcbc.org

Doug Shows Pastor
 Aaron Little Minister to Students
 Minister to Senior Adults
 Chris Bailey Director of Children's Ministry
 Debbie Anderson Worship Director

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
8:00 — 4:30
MONDAY — FRIDAY

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, March 4, 2018

9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship Service
 Children's Church
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
 4:30 Easter Choir Rehearsal
 5:30 Adult Classes
 Youth Activities
 Children's Activities

Monday, March 5, 2018

11:00 Golden Harvest Monthly Meeting
 Special Entertainment: Gene Bourgeois

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

10:00 Ladies Prayer Meeting
 7:00 Men's Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

6:30 Mid-week Worship Service
 Children's Activities
 Youth Activities



MEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

at 9:15 a.m.
 in the East Wing

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