

The Sentinel

DISTRIBUTED BY EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH



WE
STAND
WATCH

October, 2023
VOL 7 • NO 9

Light of the World

By Pastor Troy Bassham
Senior Pastor



Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119:105 (NKJV)

Were you ever afraid of the dark when you were a child?

The darkness can be scary to a small kid. Maybe you needed a nightlight in your bedroom to see that there were no monsters hiding in the dark corners.

Light & Dark

The Bible uses the imagery of light and darkness often.

Scripture tells us that this world is in darkness because of the curse of sin. Not only is creation broken and in bondage, but human beings are separated from God. As such, we walk in darkness.

Thankfully, God has not abandoned us to separation and judgment. In the Bible we read, ***"... Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life'"*** John 8:12 (NKJV).

THE Light of the World!

John 12:46 says, ***"I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness."*** (NKJV)

We rejoice that Jesus has come as our Savior to reconcile us to God—to redeem us from the darkness and

→ Please see "Light" on page 2.



know. grow. go.

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Deadline for November ISSUE is:

**Monday, October 30,
@ 5:00 pm**



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into His glorious light. This is a beautiful truth. We have salvation in Jesus and our eternal destination has been changed by what He has accomplished.

The Cost of Separation

Additionally, this also explains why the world is so broken and confused. Separated from God, the world is left to grope about in the darkness.

While a nightlight can ease a child's fear, it can also serve another purpose; it can provide illumination. It is possible to take a middle of the night trip to the bathroom without stepping on a toy or crashing into a piece of furniture. If there is not light to show the path—to point us in a



correct direction—we can wander hopelessly in all kinds of wrong directions. We can draw all sorts of wrong conclusions.

Caring for the Animals!

In **Laura Ingalls Wilder's** classic *"Little House in the Big Woods,"* Ma walked to the barn in the dark. In the absence of light, she began petting a large animal that she believed to be the family cow. Only as her eyes adjusted to the darkness did she realize that she was actually petting a bear!

So it is that the world, already lost in sin, becomes even more lost and confused.

But we've already looked at what God has done. He has given revelation of who He is through Scripture, calling people back to Him. More so, He Himself has come into this dark world bringing light for He is the light. Those who have turned to Him have found not only light, but new life in Him.

Moving in the Wrong Direction

Sadly, many run deeper into the darkness. In **John 3:19**, Jesus spoke to Nicodemus saying, ***"And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil"*** (NKJV).

I hope each of you have found the light, life, and truth of Jesus Christ. I hope we will serve as His witnesses. As the Apostle Paul stated, ***"(I was sent) to open their eyes, in order to turn***

them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in (Christ)" **Acts 26:18** (NKJV).

Our Goal!

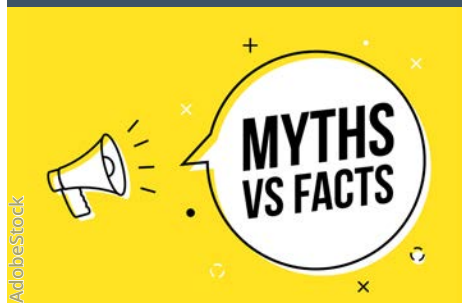
Let us live as beacons, shining into the darkness.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 (NKJV) †



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Mythbusters #5

By Administrative Pastor Mike Fast
mikefast@ebcdallas.org

This month's myth presents a lot to think about, whether you are young or old, married or single. **This is the myth that declares everyone needs to find their soulmate.**

Old Roots

The origin of this myth is very old, and we continue to see it rear its ugly head over and over. You can see it repeatedly in movies, reality shows, and everyday conversations. So many things out there are trying to convince us that there is only one perfect fit for you, and when you find the right soulmate, then everything will go perfectly and well. But if you end up with the wrong person it's going to be a problem you will have to cut and run from. This is a dangerous teaching, and it's not Biblical.

Causes for the Great Push

Before we get into the problems with the myth itself, we need to spend a little time trying to determine what

has caused this great push to find the perfect soulmate. And the word **"soulmate"** is not one I'm making up. It's a term that I recently saw defined in a psychology journal as *"that special person you instantly click with whom you can have a special bond and affinity with that you cannot find with anyone else."*

Two Factors

Two contributing factors to this push to find a soulmate are:

1. Broken relationships.

Broken relationships are all around us. In fact, the number of married people over 50 who are calling it quits has risen dramatically. Yet, somehow, we reason, and are told, that if we perhaps find our soulmate then we will have no problems.

2. Bad teaching. This even refers to bad teaching in the church. Unmarried men and women in the church are often told that being single is not where they should be. Some people in the church wrongly take it upon themselves to be the matchmakers, even when they are asked not to. I know of several individuals in the church, who, because they were not married by 30, were questioned about their sexuality *and* faith. I know of others who were not allowed to teach in the church because they were not married. And sadly, as soon as those individuals get married, they are

then interrogated about when they will have children.

Some in the church beat down singles with a misinterpretation of **Genesis 2:18** where God said, **"It's not good for the man to be alone..."** This was before Eve was created, so it's not a soulmate issue. There was one human and a bunch of plants and animals. There was not another human to even visit with.

Unmarried men and women in the church are often told that being single is not where they should be.

Spend Time in THE Book!

I would encourage us to read what the apostle Paul wrote in **1 Corinthians 7:8-9, 26-28, 32-35**. Paul was not the only one to live as a single man. Jesus was never married. Paul presented the view that the single person can have greater focus and discipline, especially in the areas of ministry.

Marriage is the norm for most people, but it's not for everyone. When you marry, you have new responsibilities and concerns. A



→ Please see "MYTH" on page 4.



← (Continued from page 3.)

single person can focus in greater ways on the work of the kingdom, with less distractions. The push toward this myth comes from life in a broken world, and teaching that is *missing the heart and truth of God's Word*.

Four Problems with This Myth

Let's identify four problems with this myth.

1. It puts God's plan in a box. Our finite minds love to bring things down to our ability to understand, which even applies to the will of God.

God does *not* always reveal His sovereign or hidden will. We leave that area to Him. But God's moral will pertains to us and what God wants us to know. His moral will includes the revealed commands in the Bible that teach how men ought to believe and live.

In God's moral will, it's often not one choice, and certainly not one bullseye we are aiming for, but we often have numerous options we can choose from that all fall within His moral guidelines for us. God, in His grace and mercy, often gives us numerous choices to pick from. He may give us several colleges to choose from, or several jobs to choose from.

There is not just one option, one bullseye choice in His will that makes everything warm and fuzzy, but several options. And yes, even with who we meet and date and

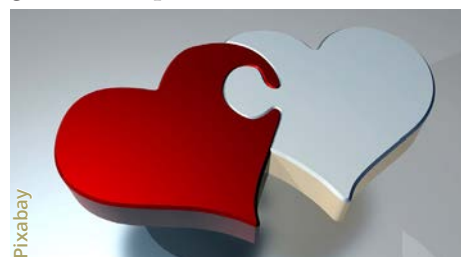
marry, there is more than one good spousal option.

2. It puts God's process in a box.

In **Ephesians 5:26** God is talking about His process of sanctifying the church. Sanctification has to do with our character and conduct. It is what God does in us, and it exhibits fruit of that relationship. It relates to our growth and spiritual maturity. It's what Paul refers to in **2 Corinthians 3:18**, where he says that we are being transformed into the image of Christ, and what Peter says in **2 Peter 3:18**, that we are to be growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In **Ephesians 5**, Paul is saying that marriage is an institution reflecting the same principles, that of growing and maturing. When we meet someone, and we decide to commit our lives together in marriage, we will grow and mature together, as is the design. Our work is not over when we get married. We have not married a perfect and fully sanctified person. The design is not that we find a perfect soulmate and move instantly into a perfect relationship that needs no work or effort. It doesn't work like that. God's process is there for a reason.

Jesus Christ saved the church so she could be sanctified. I tell you what; if we have one soulmate, it's Jesus Christ. Our soul longs to be knit to Jesus, the only perfect soul. Anything else is not with a perfect person, but with someone whose growth is a process.



3. It places our selfish desires first. Many of the myths originate because humans feel entitled to prosperity, happiness, and comfort.

Conflicting Articles

I recently saw an article entitled, *"Ten signs you've met your soulmate."* But then a bit later I saw an article titled, *"11 signs you're not with your soulmate."* Sadly, that article discussed how to end your relationship, married or single.

I have heard married people discuss how they fell out of love with their spouse. I'm glad God doesn't do that. *Thank God, that in spite of my failures, He doesn't say, "Hey, Mike, I thought you were the one, but I'm done with you now."*

Part of our selfishness includes a desire for easy and instant, and this plays into the last point, the fourth problem with this myth...

4. It passes over the ideas of work, commitment and growth.

Secular studies have been done with *"soulmate searchers,"* and the research has found that their relationship is great until the first set of inevitable troubles, and then they don't cope well and will leave the relationship instead of working through it. They give up easily and look elsewhere for their "true" match. They have numerous short relationships.

We like to describe love with words like *"joy, love, and ease."* But the truth is, we would better describe it with words like *"work, sacrifice, and commitment."*

Thank God for the plans He has for each of us, personally.



Missionary Christmas Boxes

By Kay Whitney
Missionary Box Coordinator

Starting Sunday, **October 15**, boxes will be available to pick up in the foyer.

You can put bills, coins, or checks made out to EBC. These funds are for the annual Christmas gift from our congregation to the missionaries EBC supports.

There will be a box in the foyer for boxes with donations or the boxes can be taken to the church office. Please note that these donations are **NOT tax deductible**.

The last Sunday to donate is Sunday, December 10. †



From the EBC Office!

Office News and Notes

By Alison Johnson

I feel like we blinked and September was about gone. October is here and with it comes the rain. September brought back so many of the regular ministry events like Mom to Mom, Bible Studies, Awana, and more. The parking lot frequently has cars again and the phone is always ringing.



That means it is time to start thinking about the end of the year and into next year. Committees should be planning their budgets and submitting them in October to the Budget Committee and Elder Board.

It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like ... CHRISTMAS!?!

As we look to the end of the year we (*by we I mean I*) get excited for Christmas. The rain started so it might as well be snowing and we should get a tree tomorrow....I am mostly kidding. I do start thinking ahead though because the holiday season gets very busy for everyone so to plan ahead is key.

Vacation Plans

I will be on vacation **December 16–27** this year and back in time to close the books for the year.

Want to Help Decorate?

Anyone that is interested in helping to decorate the church for the holidays is more than welcome to help, just let me know. The hope is to get a good team of people together and make a plan of action before the holidays are upon us and everyone is super busy.

As always, feel free to call or email the office with any questions. Also, if you need to use the church for your small group or other activity, please complete the **Facility Use Request** form between two weeks and 30 days before an event so that you can have a chance to get on the calendar. †

Change of Plans!

By Patty Van Well
EBC Missions Committee

The Missions Committee is sorry to announce that **Steve and Mikki Schmidt** will not be able to come to share with us in October. They had to return to Africa, but hope to come to EBC when they are back in the States. †

YOUR Board of Elders



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Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

Acts 20:28 (NIV) †



Elders' Epistle

By Nat Thomas
Chairman, Board of Elders

Peace.

This is the greeting that Romanian Christians greet each other with. We all want peace, to have a sense that everything is going well, that conflict is gone, a sense of contented quietness. **Philippians**

4:6-7 tells us to ***"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus"*** (NKJV). But there is a difference between *false peace* and *true peace*.

What is "False Peace"?

False peace is one that **depends on outward circumstances**. People seek peace from their troubles through alcohol or drugs to numb their minds, thinking that this is a peace that satisfies. They end up with addictions that create bigger problems and still no peace.



Others look to false religions to find peace. Or they might embrace materialism to distract themselves from anxiety and depression. The Bible says that there is no peace for the wicked (**Isaiah 48:22**).



What the Bible Says...

The Bible reveals the true secrets of peace. It is only through accepting that we are sinners in need of a Savior that we can have true peace—peace with God through submitting our lives to Jesus for justification and reconciliation with God.

The Holy Spirit can begin the work of transforming us to be more like our Savior. We need to cooperate with this transforming work by replacing our old habits with the new ways of thinking and behaving that the Bible teaches us. In this way we can have peace with each other in our church and families as we yield to the principles God has laid out in the Bible. Of course, it takes commitment on our part to regularly read the Word. *No effort means no benefit*, very similar to wanting results of a fit body without doing any exercise or physical training.

What is "True Peace"?

True peace from God **has no substitute**. Let the Holy Spirit transform your habit of criticism to one of encouraging others instead; to turn anger into patience; judgmentalism into compassion;

... peace with God through submitting our lives to Jesus for justification and reconciliation with God.

selfishness into good works and self-sacrifice.

We must follow the teaching in **Proverbs 3:5-6** to trust God with all our heart and to not lean on our own understanding. We can have peace when we accept the fact that He is in charge of us, His children, and that day by day we can trust His sovereign, loving control over our lives.



It Takes Practice

It takes practice to daily pick up this peace that He gives us and to walk with confidence that our worrisome ***"what ifs"*** are covered by grateful acknowledgement that our Father walks with us. **Peace. True peace is ours.** †



Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches

News from FEBC!

By Kevin Stone
President, FEBC



October 2, 2023

As I expressed in my last letter, we have been in the process of closing our International Office. I would say my predominant feeling going into last month was trepidation, if not anxiety. So much to sort through, so many drawers and bookcases to empty. So much unknown.

As you would expect, God has provided, and overall things have gone quite smoothly. I am grateful that we have successfully closed this chapter in our history.

But something else happened along the way. I wrote to you not so long ago about a time that a task that seemed like a menial chore turned into a personal time of worship, and it happened again. I was combing through drawer after drawer of historical files, trying to determine which things should be saved, which things could be scanned and then discarded, and which things could simply be carted off to a recycling center. Sounds super exciting, right? It really isn't.

But as I glanced at the titles of folders, and the headings of documents, or the introductions of letters, I could see the history of our Fellowship unfolding before me. Decades of church leaders discussing problems or seeking advice, communication with missionaries, loans provided to churches in need, welcomes sent to new churches and new pastors, records of sacrificial gifts received, glimpses of church milestones, and so much more. What a testimony to the hand of God at work through local churches who value mutual encouragement and accountability!

Amid this flood of personal gratitude for God's faithfulness, our great friend **Paul Boeker** went to his true home in the presence of Christ. That man had his fingerprints all over our Fellowship, and I will sorely miss his advice and encouragement. Less than a week after singing at Paul's memorial, I was privileged to speak at another memorial—the 75th anniversary of Christian Fellowship Chapel in Winnipeg, Manitoba. These two powerful events drove home the message.



I am truly moved by so many years of God's overwhelming, never-failing faithfulness to this Fellowship, and I am so grateful for your prayer and support. The difference that has been made over all these years is immeasurable. May we press on in faith.
Thank you.

Serving Him together, ✝

Office: 402.965.3860 📞 Cell: 402.541.6099
www.fellowshipforward.org 📧 president@febcministries.org

Come Hear From Dr. Debbie Eisenhut!



Debbie Eisenhut practiced general surgery in Salem, Oregon, for almost 21 years.

She left her practice in 2007 and went to the mission field serving in Pakistan, Liberia, and Cameroon. She now serves as surgical faculty with the Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) at Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon helping to train young African doctors to become Christian surgeons.

US-Based

Because her mother is 93 and needs her nearby, she is US-based now working with SIM and PAACS doing recruitment, mission conferences, speaking, trying to maintain her French, writing curriculum, etc.

Sharing Soon with EBC!

This year she has returned to Africa for four short-term trips. She will be sharing her ministry with SIM, PAACS and Mbingo Baptist Hospital with EBC. ✝

SIM

(Shoebbox Ministry of Samaritan's Purse)

Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

By Kay Whitney
OCC Coordinator of EBC



Thank you to those of you who have donated items and picked up boxes to fill for this ministry to children who may never receive another Christmas gift.

Many OCC leaders have stated that most children are excited to get a stuffed animal; no matter the ages of the children and girls and boys alike.

Still Needed...

Items still needed for the shoeboxes include the following:

✝ **Toiletry items:** Bar soap (*left in original packaging*), washcloths, toothbrushes with holder, combs, brushes. (*Hair ribbons, barrettes for girls.*) Please, NO toothpaste or deodorant!

✝ **School supplies:** Erasers, pencil sharpeners, spiral notebooks, pencils, pens, markers, pencil cases, index cards, solar powered calculators, blunt scissors, small rulers

✝ **Miscellaneous:** Balls, coloring books, cars, dolls, Playdoh®, yoyos, small frisbees, kaleidoscopes, marbles, flip flops, hats, gloves, socks, sunglasses

Another Option

If you would prefer to pay **\$10 each** for the cost of collecting, processing and shipping the gift-filled OCC shoeboxes, please make your check out to **Samaritan's Purse** and put it in the shoebox or in the box on the Welcome Center (*check or cash clearly marked for OCC shipping*).

In addition to hearing the Gospel before they receive their shoebox gift, children also receive ***The Greatest Gift***, a storybook that shares the message of salvation. With the Apostle John as the narrator, the booklet shares 11 Scripture stories and invites children to follow Christ. The booklet goes home with the children to share with their families.



Thank you for your contribution to this ministry that blesses so many children. ✝

Awana Reaching Local Youth!

By Matt and Lena Calef
Awana Ministry Co-Directors

September has brought in over 100 youth participants; 30% of those youth have no church listed on the “home church” line. Dallas and the surrounding area is excited to have Awana for their children.

In just the first couple of nights that we have had, the feedback and excitement from parents for having the option of Awana is clear. One parent told us because of a visitation schedule with the other parent,



Awana allows their children to have a consistent Biblical foundation. Many others have voiced how much they love hearing their children excited to attend and learn verses.

Building and Sharing

Our goal this year is to be intentional with not just focusing on verse memorization, but building relationships with these youth along with sharing the Gospel. We have made many changes to the Awana program this year to reflect being intentional.



Changes are not always easy and we are thankful for all of our volunteer's grace and patience with these changes. We hope that we can encourage all our volunteers that sharing the gospel to these children is the work of the Lord. And the work of the Lord is never in vain.

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NIV)

Awana Needs & Events

By Matt and Lena Calef
Awana Ministry Co-Directors

Prayer:

- ☒ Leaders: wisdom for difficult children.
- ☒ Everyone's health.
- ☒ Open hearts for the Lord to work on Leaders and Youth.

Needs:

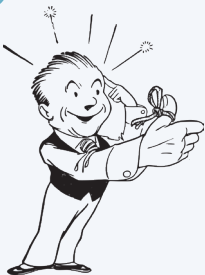
- ☒ 1 Leader for Kindergarten Sparks.
- ☒ 1 Leader for 1st Grade Sparks.
- ☒ T&T Director to help organize and plan meeting nights.
- ☒ Fast Track verse listeners.
- ☒ Someone to help oversee and organize Fast Track.

Upcoming Events:

- ☒ **10/11:** Crazy Sock Night.
- ☒ **10/25:** Bible Character Night.
- ☒ **11/1:** Hand out Turkey Coloring Sheets.
- ☒ **11/8:** Military Night (*red, white, and blue!*).
- ☒ **11/15:** Return Turkey Coloring Sheets (*Food drive ends*).
- ☒ **11/22:** NO CLUB (*Thanksgiving*). ✚

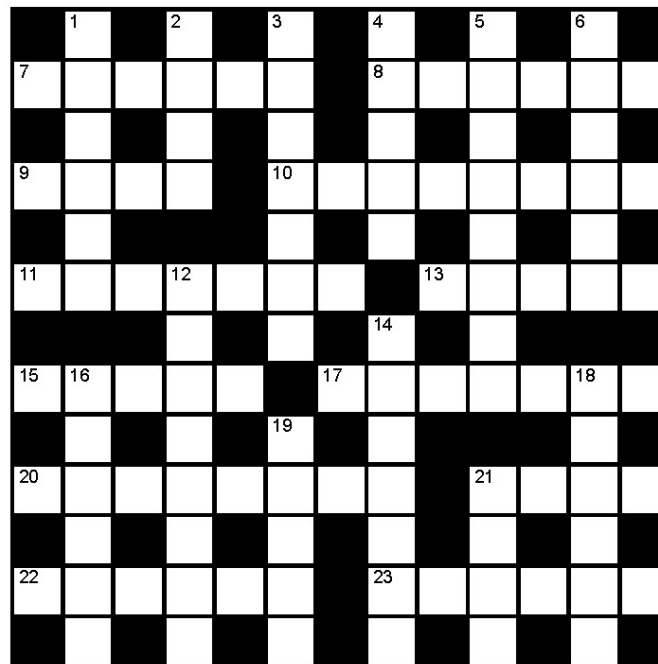
Don't Forget!

**Awana Leader meeting
Sunday, October 15,
at 1pm ✚**



1 Peter

Answer Key
on page 15!
(No
peeking!)



Across

- 7 Peter encourages servants to be subject to not only the good and _____ masters, but also the forward. 1 Peter 2:18 (6)
- 8 The Hebrew name for God. (6)
- 9 “For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of _____ souls.” 1 Peter 2:25 (4)
- 10 Your faith is more _____ than gold. 1 Peter 1:7 (8)
- 11 Peter urges us to be sober and vigilant because the devil is like a lion, _____ whom he may devour. 1 Peter 5:8 (7)
- 13 Christ “was manifest in these last _____ for you.” 1 Peter 1:20 (5)
- 15 Christ suffered for our sins so that He might _____ us to God. 1 Peter 3:18 (5)
- 17 “Likewise, ye _____, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.” 1 Peter 5:5 (7)
- 20 Peter was one of these. There were 12 total. (8)

- 21 The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, but His _____ is against those who do evil. 1 Peter 3:12 (4)
- 22 “But the word of the Lord _____th for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.” 1 Peter 1:25 (6)
- 23 Peter says to be ready to give this to anyone who asks for a reason for the hope that is in you. 1 Peter 3:15 (6)

Down

- 1 Christ was “foreordained _____ the foundation of the world.” 1 Peter 1:20 (6)
- 2 This appeared in the sky at Christ’s birth. (4)
- 3 This creature beguiled Eve and was cursed to crawl on its belly. (7)
- 4 Also called Cephas and means “rock.” (5)

- 5 “To him be glory and _____ for ever and ever. Amen.” 1 Peter 5:11 (8)
- 6 The phrase “The like _____ whereunto” is used to compare the saving of Noah and his family from the flood with the baptism of believers. 1 Peter 3:21 (6)
- 12 Two words. This Old Testament character pursued David and sought to kill him. (4,4)
- 14 Two words. These are the rules that the Lord gave to the Hebrews through Moses. (4,3)
- 16 1 Peter 2:11 urges believers to “abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.” The bible teaches to do this if you do sin. (6)
- 18 This word means to abstain or keep away from. 1 Peter 3:11 (6)
- 19 Peter exhorts these people to be examples and feed the flock of God. 1 Peter 5:1 (5)
- 21 Along with prayer, this spiritual discipline was practiced by many members of the early church. (4)



EBC Women's Ministry

Ladies, please lend **YOUR** voice and **YOUR** energy to help EBC's Women's Ministries flourish. We have a lot of exciting programs and activities planned for the year and we will **ALL** benefit from your help and enthusiasm to make them all happen.

Contact **Alison Johnson**, Chairwoman, to discuss how **YOU** can lend your support to this important ministry.

Alison: office@ebcdallas.org
503.623.2331 ☕

Breakfast & Bunco: Saturday, October 14 at 9 am

Secret Sister Reveal: Sunday, November 5 at 4 pm

Candlelight Dessert & Boutique:

Friday, December 1 at 6:30 pm

Boutique: Saturday, December 2 from 9 am - 2 pm



All EBC women are encouraged to participate in these events by inviting their friends, attending, and/or helping with the event. Contact the church office with any questions you may have. (503) 623-2331



If you have questions about how to become a part of EBC Women's Ministries, please contact **Alison Johnson** at 503.623.2331! ☕

2023 Women's Ministry Leadership Team

We want you to know our team! Feel free to contact us with questions or comments.

Position	Name	Phone	Email
Chairwomen	Alison Johnson Lori Bassham	503.623.2331	office@ebcdallas.org
Recording Secretary	YOUR name here!		
Treasurer	Linda Baton		
Retreat Coordinator	Lori Bassham		
Bible Study Coordinator	Sylvia Thomas		
Hospitality (weddings, receptions, & showers)	Ruth Quiring		
Prayer Coordinator	Lizette Chaffee		
Events	Allison Brown, Colleen Shinn, Cassie Kroeker		



Breakfast & Bunco

October 14th

9:00 a.m.

eBC
WOMEN

For more information contact: EBC Office: 503.623.2331
E-mail: office@EBCDallas.org

Ladies,
Get and/or stay
involved in Women's
Ministry! ✝

THANK YOU, Alison Johnson and Sue Dunham,
for providing the artwork on this page!



Fall Bible Studies

The new Bible Studies will give you great opportunities to deepen your faith and knowledge of the Bible.

Wednesday & Thursday mornings at 9:30 am & Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm

Study: Luke: Good News of Great Joy™ by Lydia Brownback
Cost: \$15
* Thursday - 9:30 a.m., Location: Ambassador Room with Carrie Cruickshank
Thursday - 6:30 p.m., Location: Conference Room with Christine Schneider

Study: New Testament
Facilitator: Alice Morris
* Thursday - 9:30 a.m., Location: Youth Center Classroom

Precepts Study: Zechariah
Facilitators: Rose Knowles, Kay Whitney, Donna Schmidt & Tally Saum
* Thursday - 9:30 a.m., Location: Builders Classroom
Thursday - 6:30 p.m., Location: Ambassador Classroom

**Childcare Available*

eBC
WOMEN

For more information contact:
EBC Office: 503.623.2331
E-mail: office@EBCDallas.org

When God Seems Far Away ...

Building Trust

By Gwen Griffiths

We moved to Kansas when our children were 7, 6, and 3. That summer, thunderstorms rolled in almost every night at dusk; lightning would crack the sky and thunder would boom out. Without fail, at least one kid would find their way to us, too afraid to get back to sleep. We would spend a few minutes cuddling them, then lead them back to bed and sit with them a few minutes, reminding them of a simple truth: God is always with you.

We often prayed with them, sometimes sang a song or talked a little longer, but that simple sentence was a constant.

Lyrics from **Lauren Daigle's** "Trust in You"

**When You don't move
the mountains
I'm needing You to move**

**When You don't part the
waters
I wish I could walk
through**

**When You don't give the
answers
As I cry out to You**

**I will trust, I will trust
I will trust in You**

The Truth Follows

While it might sound like a platitude, there's more to it. Each time we said it, we were embedding truth in their hearts. Today, as they foray into new situations, this truth goes with them. And when we find ourselves in a spiritual wilderness, feeling far away from God, we need to remind ourselves of truths such as these.

Ideally, we'd be able to create a collection of truth and store it in our spiritual toolbox, all stocked and ready to go. But sometimes life throws a curveball, and we find ourselves frantically searching for something to offer hope. Here are a few of the Scriptures that have reminded me of God's faithful plan and presence in my life:

✠ **Psalms 27, 46 and 62** remind me that God is with me and will shelter me even when it seems like the world is crashing down around me. He is still God (*and always will be*), and He is in control.

✠ **Habakkuk 3:18-19** reminds me to rejoice in God's strength and victory.

✠ **2 Thessalonians 3:3** promises that God is faithful and will defend me against Satan's attacks.

✠ **Lamentations 3:22-23** (*and the song that sets these words to music*) helps me remember that nothing will quench God's love for me.

Commit to Memory

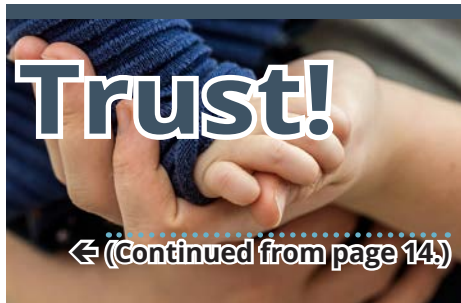
There are countless other verses, and different passages will speak to each of us in different situations. If you're not already working to memorize a selection of Scripture, taking time to store one of these in your memory will help to stock that spiritual toolbox so it's ready when needed.

You can also write helpful verses out and place them where you will see them often. *Such as ...*

✠ taped to the bottom of your computer monitor or to the dashboard of your car.

➔ Please see "Trust!" on page 15.





← (Continued from page 14.)

✠ written in dry-erase marker on the mirror or the fridge, or

✠ a wallpaper on your phone.

Creating a Tapestry...

Once we have a good collection of truths, we must find ways to weave them into our lives.

Music can be an especially effective way to do this. I've found it helpful to build a Spotify playlist for hard times. The songs in this list point my focus back towards God and His unchanging presence in my life. Sometimes I sing to **Lauren Daigle's** "Trust in You" as I drive; other times the lyrics to songs like "He Will Hold Me Fast" form the soundtrack for dinner prep.

If you are more of a reader, bookmark a blog article that has been helpful in calling out truth, or highlight paragraphs to come back to. Podcasts and sermons can be downloaded so they are available even when you don't have service on your phone.

To Form Habits!

Then, take those truths, those tools you've stored in your spiritual toolbox, and get used to using them. Make it a habit to work on that memory verse or play a song or two as you work. Begin to embed these truths into your heart and mind. When you find yourself in a spiritual wilderness, you'll be more likely to remember to use them, to lean upon (and into) God's truth.

Practices That WORK!

The things I've mentioned in this article are largely internal—practices that take place within your own mind and spirit. Next month, as we conclude the series, I want to talk about some external practices that will help us when it seems like God is far away.

Until then, I'd love to hear ways that you remind yourself of truth:

✠ *What verses speak of God's faithful presence in your life?*

✠ *What practices help you focus on God and the life He brings, rather than the spiritual drought you now experience?*

✠ *How are you embedding those truths in your heart and mind? ✝*



1 Peter Answer Key!

← (Continued from page 11.)

	B	S	S		P	D	F			
G	E	N	T	L	E		E	L	O	H
	F		A		R		T		M	G
Y	O	U	R		P	R	E	C	I	O
	R				E		R		N	R
S	E	E	K	I	N	G		T	I	M
			I		T		G		O	
B	R	I	N	G			Y	O	U	N
	E		G		E		D			S
A	P	O	S	T	L	E	S		F	A
	E		A		D		L		A	H
E	N	D	U	R	E		A	N	S	W
	T		L		R		W		T	W

Missionaries & Ministries EBC Supports!

The focus of the Mission Committee is to follow the mandate Jesus gave to go into the world for the advancement of evangelism, discipleship and Christian education in a manner effective for the culture being reached. The committee exists to be a supportive and evaluative conduit between EBC and the work on the mission field that the congregation supports, maintaining an attitude of advocacy for missionaries and corresponding projects.

Note: EBC is committed to supporting missionaries. Some information and/or supported missionaries are purposefully omitted from this page to protect their safety in hostile political or social climates.



Tim and Mallory Brooks

Missionary Aviation Fellowship

tbrooks@maf.org

- ✠ Serving in Winema, Indonesia
- ✠ Tim is a mechanic for MAF planes on the base
- ✠ Both Tim and Mallory are studying to gain proficiency in the language
- ✠ Support for team members on the MAF base



Joshue and Diana Bulande

SIM

dianaafrica@gmail.com

- ✠ Serving in Lichinga, Mozambique
- ✠ Church planting, discipleship training
- ✠ Women's Bible training
- ✠ Children's ministry and tutoring



Ethnos 360 (formerly New Tribes Missions)

dan_burke@ntm.org

✠ Serve in Bolivia in Cochabamba and San Borja

- ✠ Development of a discipleship center in northwestern Bolivia
- ✠ Work with the Chimane people group
- ✠ Write and produce books and commentaries in Chimane for the tribal people
- ✠ Teaching, construction, leadership development

Kevin and Jennifer Domes



IN FAITH

kjdomes.ministry@yahoo.com

✠ Work at Bethel Bible Camp in Wellfleet, Nebraska

- ✠ Involved in youth ministry, maintaining the camp facility
- ✠ Teach in the Awana program, lead a high school youth ministry



Dan and Judy Burke

→ Please see "EBC Supports" on page 17.

EBC Supports

← (Continued from page 16.)

✠ Adminstrate retreats

✠ Jennifer also works in food preparation for the summer camps

Ivan and Mary Goossen



Avant Ministries

ivary@avmi.org

✠ Serve in Mucambo, Brazil

✠ Involved in evangelism and discipleship

✠ Adminstrate programs such as a coffee shop outreach

✠ Long time involvement with a Christian radio ministry

Eric and Judith Hedeon



Ethnos 360

eric_hedeon@ntm.org

✠ Serve in Papua, New Guinea

✠ Mentoring new missionaries to the field

✠ Translation work

✠ Judith works in the medical clinic and member care

✠ Leadership development among the indigenous people

Steve and Mikki Schmidt



SIM Missionaries

steve.schmidt@sim.org

mikki.schmidt@sim.org

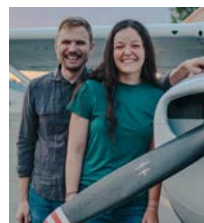
✠ Steve is the SIM regional Director for West Africa

✠ Supervises country directors in 11 countries

✠ Both Steve and Mikki work in SIM's Global Leader Development Program

✠ Mikki does educational consulting work, and also works in the Paths to School Improvement program which trains Christian school leaders throughout Africa

Andrew and Jerusha (Dressel) Yount



Proclaim Aviation Ministries

andyandjerusha@gmail.com

✠ On staff with Moody Bible Institute's Mission Aviation School

✠ Learning Avionics in preparation for future Missionary pilot position ✝

Please **Pray**
DAILY for
our
missionaries!

Other Outreach Ministries We Support:

◆ Awana
◆ CEF

◆ Crisis Pregnancy
◆ River of Life

◆ Prison Ministry
◆ SAT-7 (Dennis & Cindy Wiens)

◆ Village Missions
◆ Weekday School of the Bible

◆ Mission Connexion
◆ The Gate

Mom to Mom

Growing in Service

By Lena Calef
Mom to Mom Coordinator

Mom to Mom held our first two meetings in September; we currently have about 50 moms signed up, with many new to Mom to Mom this year. Meeting attendance has been at 30 moms, plus 5 Titus 2 Moms.



First Meeting of the Year!

Our first meeting, on September 13, was a get-to-know-you meeting. Our steering team put together a fun Pancake Bar with lots of topping options. And we spent time introducing our Steering Team and our program. This year we are using the Mom to Mom curriculum, *Heart Talk*.



Wonder Woman ... OR ...

On September 26th **Deb Hanson** tackled the topic of "*Wonder Woman or Woman of Worth?*"

Deb focused on how we, as moms, can only put our worth as a woman and mom in how God sees us as a people:

A. He Loved you enough to create us.

1. In His own image; very good (**Genesis 1:27, 31**)
2. As an individual called by name (**Isaiah 43:1, 7**)
3. For His glory (**Isaiah 43:7**)

B. He loved us enough to redeem you at great cost.

1. While you were still a sinner, He sent His Son to die for you (**Romans 5:8**).
2. If you believe in Christ and receive this redemption, you are His child. (**John 1:12**).
3. This is a gift of His grace, which you can accept by faith (**Ephesians 2:8-9**)

C. "I love you enough to keep on growing you into all you were meant to be in Christ."

1. If you are "in Christ," you are a new creation (**2 Corinthians 5:17**).

2. He who has begun a good work in you will complete it (**Philippians 1:6**).

And who we are as Moms

A. Purpose

1. High calling (**Romans 8:28b; Ephesians 6:4**)

B. Privilege

1. A gift (**Psalms 127:3**)
2. A loan (Hannah; Abraham)
3. Our only "indispensable role"

C. Passing it on

1. We are to implant . . . God's Word in our hearts. Impress . . . God's Word on our children (**Deuteronomy 6**).
2. We are to pass on "*the wonders of the Lord*" **Psalms 22:30 (TLB)**.

Can't Wait!

We are looking forward to this year and being able to support moms in God's truth along with sharing the Gospel with those who come that may not know Him. ✝

Stories from the FIELDS

Editor's Note: Stories from the FIELDS is produced monthly by Village Missions. They contain inspirational accounts from many of those supported by Village Missions who are currently working in the mission field.

If you would like to receive your copy directly from Village Missions or desire more information on this organization, please contact Tim Griffiths at:

tgriffiths@villagemissions.org.

Outreach By Tractor

One of our church members repairs and collects John Deere tractors. He and his four sons have 100 antique tractors. Each year, they invite the community far and wide to a festival that includes an antique and modern tractor parade. I was invited to pray publicly for the event, and we held an outdoor church service. People liked our church's life-sized John Deere tractor photo booth with real tires and a steering wheel. Becke painted five tractor scenes, which we raffled off. We handed out invitations to our church service and kid's gift bags that a ministry partner had filled with a Gospel tract, a magazine, candy, and toys. We talked to many people about Jesus and Cherry Valley Community Church. Please pray for fruit from this significant outreach event.

Daniel & Becke Haas
Cherry Valley, NY ✝

Long Term Commitment

God is doing amazing things in Tekoa. One of the biggest blessings is that more young families are coming to our church. We are thrilled to need a nursery now; some Sundays, we have four kids under the age of 3 and up to 12 children in Children's Church. Some of these families have come because of the VBS we held. Others have come after we met them at community events. People are starting to believe that we are here for the long term, so they feel more confident in the stability of this church.

Levi & Sidney Hatch
Tekoa, WA ✝

Camp Ministry

I spoke at two teen camps over two weeks. The first week was at Pine Lodge Bible Camp in Alberta. I had some great conversations with staff, counselors, and campers. Five teens made first-time decisions to follow Christ. The second week, I was at Manitou Lake Bible Camp in Saskatchewan. I heard of at least one camper who placed her faith in Jesus. Both weeks were terrific!

Mark & Rebecca Bueckert
Ryley, AB ✝

Sunday Worship Services:

9:00 & 10:30 am Sunday Morning
Worship Services

10:00 am Coffee Time!

Awana: (September through April)

Wednesdays 6:30 to 8:00 pm

**Please check the Sunday Bulletin and
the EBC website for updated calendar
items as they are announced.**

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encouraged. Please use one of the following:

Text: 503.931.8239

Email: bob.disher@charter.net

The opinions expressed herein are
those of the author of the articles and
are not necessarily endorsed by the
leadership of EBC.

**Thank
you!** ✝



THANK YOU, Alison Johnson, for providing the calendar graphic.

**6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due
time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.**

1 Peter 5:6-7 (NIV)