



Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of
Niles

Volume 2/Issue 25

WHAT WE ARE DOING? AND WHAT WE SHOULD DO?

IN THIS ISSUE

WELCOME

Welcome to Volume 2 of the FBCN Newsletter or the “current new normal” editions.

The text of Pastor Myers sermon this week will be from the book of Galatians, Chapter 3 verses 10-29.

For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.”¹¹ Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.”¹² But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.”¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.¹⁵ To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one

annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified.¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ.¹⁷ This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void.¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.¹⁹ Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary.²⁰ Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.²¹ Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.²² But the scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be

given to those who believe.²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian,²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

We invite you to Join us for a virtual prayer meeting on Wednesdays at 7:00pm.

Wednesday Bible Study ([Click Here](#))

Meeting ID: 899 2251 1230

Password: 409807

One tap mobile

+13126266799

Meeting ID: 899 2251 1230

Password: 409807

November 25, 2020

Grace and peace from God our Father through Jesus Christ brothers and sisters in Christ and a Happy Thanksgiving to you and every friend of First Baptist Church of Niles!

As Claude described Harvest Supper I was so bummed we had to cancel it this year because it sounded like such a rich time of fellowship and feasting! Though I know 2020 has been very difficult on all of us (some more than others) as Christians we still have so much to be thankful for. We know the source of every good gift and every perfect gift: the Lord himself. Consider God's Word in James 1:17-18

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. ¹

Every gift. Not some. Not most. Every single one is from God's hand. From the meal you enjoy, today, the encouragement you receive, the health you have, friendships, family, church, your job your skills all of it—from God's hand! And this God is unchangeably good and undivided in his intentions. God is eager to give when asked (James 1:5) and unlike we who often doubt and are double-minded, and are unstable in our ways (James 1:6-8) God has not only given us gifts but works in our

very lives to change us and mightily work through His Word in us.

Verse 18 of the book of James tells us, "Through the Word of truth—the gospel of Christ revealed in Scripture God has brought us forth!" Matthew Henry helpfully summarizes it this way: *"As every good gift is from God, so particularly the renovation of our natures, our regeneration, and all the holy happy consequences of it, must be ascribed to him"*²

What are you most thankful for in 2020? Pause and take time to really thank God friends!

Consider what a few of our brothers and sisters in Christ shared with me this week:

Betty Matson:

"I am thankful for my family especially this Thanksgiving (my 9 children-7 daughters, 2 sons; 26 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren). I also thank God every day for everything he blesses me with that I've got and He gave me!"

Claude and Brenda Covington:

"We are thankful to God for our health. We are also thankful to God for being alive! And we are very thankful to God that we now have a pastor at our church!"

Al Nuzikowski:

"I am grateful for what the Lord has given us. He has given us many commandments which we fall short of—all of them, and I praise God

that he has saved us by His grace. You can't say I am a pretty good person. We are pretty bad people. We don't realize how bad we are. People might look at the 10 commandments or even the two main commandments in the New Testament and think they are doing pretty good but then you come to a verse like "Be holy as I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16) and then if we are honest we all know we all. But God has provided for us and promised so much in Christ. I look forward to the day when I see my wife Jenny again. But without the Lord's forgiveness, there is no hope. I am also grateful that we can always talk to God. He wants us to talk to him every day. Consider this: when we try to get a hold of politicians they hardly respond to us. Once I got through to Chuck Percy a senator from Illinois. But that is rare! But God the King of kings always. I also thank God that one day when we are in heaven I won't be out of tune anymore!"

Gloria-Lynn Fernandez

"I thank God for the gospel and for His precious Word that tells us about our Lord and savior Jesus Christ! He is so good and I want all my family who do not know God and have peace with God through Christ to know and experience the joy of the Lord that we have as believers! We truly have so much to be thankful for!"

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jas 1:17-18.

² Matthew Henry, *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete*

and Unabridged in One Volume (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 2410.

Brandon and Kaiti Myers

“We thank God for you all at The Country Church/First Baptist Church of Niles! You have warmly welcomed our family and received us with love as part of your church family. Our daughters Eva and Audrey are starting to sense more and more like this is their home church and for that we praise God and are very grateful for His leading! We also praise God for His Word and truth and the assurance that God is sovereign and totally in control over all things! In a chaotic world where deception seems everywhere, we praise God that His Word is totally true and will endure forever. We also praise God for the joy of gathering to sing, pray, read, preach and receive the Word. May God be glorified and may we lift up our hearts together this week for all he has done for us!

This Thanksgiving, what are you most thankful for? Have you taken time to pause and pray and thank God personally for these things?

Here is a practical idea: consider calling up a church member or friend and telling them you thanked God for them today. And why not call them to pray prayers of thanksgiving! God is greatly honored by times when his people acknowledge his gracious hand together!

Lord willing, we will have all church prayer meeting soon. We will likely do a combination of phone calls, zoom and in person with precautionary measures taken but look for details for this in the near future!

And let the peace of Christ, to which you were also called in one body, rule your hearts. *And be thankful.* (Colossians 3:15)

In and for Christ with gratitude,

Brandon Myers



PRAYER LIST

- ✓ Continuing Prayers for loss: **All the families that have lost loved ones this past year.**
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for physical needs: Rita McManus, Maria Hatfield, Gloria-Lynn Fernandez, Betty Matson, Alex Figueroa, Kurt Pazdra II
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for our Ministry Needs: Pastor Brandon Kaiti, Eva, Audrey and Patrick Myers, Our Deacons, Continued Financial support
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for our Sister Ministries: BIEM Ministries, Orchard Church, Pastors Davis, Billow, Eddy, Vitel, Ebi and Esther Perinbaraj, Gaetano and Krista Paolino
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for Spiritual Needs: Leonard Hatfield, Carol Pelfrey's family, Daniel Ruehlman, George Bizadellis
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for: The spread of the Gospel, Our Government, Our Nation, Our Community, Our Neighbors, Our Families, Pray for our members that have lost employment and for those who still have jobs and need to interact with others on a daily basis. Pray for those still working that God will protect. Pray for safety for those who are attending schools during the Pandemic especially 'Mikey' Lardizabal. Lift up all our health professionals and their families who are on the front line of this pandemic especially Mylin and Errol Lardizabal and Liza Mitchell. Erwin Lickmann pray for wisdom regarding future living arrangements for Elizabeth and himself. George Sargis. The (Dewain) Karnes family as they grieve the loss of a relative to Covid 19. Pastor and Sue Vitel as they fight the effects of Covid 19.

FUTURE EVENT: All church "Prayer Meeting" Information coming.

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