



Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of
Niles

Volume 2/Issue 26

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 4 verses 1-2.

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ² but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

⁸ Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. ⁹ But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? ¹⁰ You observe days and months and seasons and years! ¹¹ I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain. ¹² Brothers, I entreat you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong. ¹³ You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, ¹⁴ and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. ¹⁶ Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth? ¹⁷ They make much of you, but for no good purpose. They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. ¹⁸ It is always good to

be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, ¹⁹ my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! ²⁰ I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

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

December 2, 2020

Grace and peace from God our Father through Jesus Christ brothers and sisters in Christ and hello friends! I do hope that you know that last week my wife Kaiti and I thanked God for you all! We are overjoyed and are hearts of full of gratitude to belong to our church family!

As we enter this Christmas season in 2020, we enter a special time of advent together. Advent simply means “coming”. It is where we look back at the first coming of Christ and also looking ahead to our Lord Jesus Christ’s second coming. In one sense we do this every Lord’s Day and ought to be shaped by this everyday! Yet the church of Christ has found this Christmas advent season a blessing of rediscovery and renewed strength and focus on our Lord’s amazing work.

Right now, we are in what theologians have called the “already/not yet” phase of redemptive history. “Already” because Christ Jesus came and ushered in His kingdom by His presence (Luke 17:21). When you think of the kingdom of God by the way, it is helpful think of the rule or the reign of God. The kingdom (aka God’s rule and reign) is already here but it is not fully here and in that sense it is “not yet” complete. But one day it will be and God is powerfully at work right now in the world.

“God’s way is perfect. All the Lord’s promises prove true.” (Psalm 18:30)

But take heart friends and consider the following:

Men and women and boys and girls who repent of their sins and look to King Jesus by faith are those who

are born from above (as John 3 tells us). The kingdom of God is breaking into the world as the gospel advances through the hearts of many. Though we may not always sense this in the U.S., I once read there are over 100,000 people coming to saving faith in Jesus Christ every day. In fact, it may be even far more! Our gracious Lord has made us glorious and eternal promises. This is God’s play to glorify Himself and eternally bless us--- underserving sinners with full forgiveness, new birth, eternal life, and the wealthiest of inheritances.

¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the worst.” (1 Timothy 1:15)

We who are in Christ are to publish the good news of the crucified and risen Lord Jesus far and wide! And though it will be met with hostility at times, remember the Holy Spirit goes before us and God will glorify himself through our faithfulness! This Christmas season who can you share the gospel of Jesus with? A loved one you have not talked to in years? A co-worker through a Christmas card message? Friend take advantage of this glorious season by creatively putting the good news of Jesus far and wide to those around you. Here are a few ideas:

- Reach out to the relative who is estranged from you with the hope of the Lord Jesus Christ and a word that you are thinking about them and praying for them. Send them a Christmas gospel tract and a small gift.
- Send some cookies and a Christmas card with the gospel and key bible verses to your

neighbors (even the ones you don’t know!)

- Send a Christmas fruit basket with the hope of the gospel to your local mayor, police, fire department or other first responders.
- Send or give a card with the hope of the gospel of Jesus to your doctor, your dentist, your mailman, your grocer, your mechanic.
- Think of the widow, widower or the person who is alone and you know that they are. Call them up, pray with them and wish them a Merry Christmas and tell them God loves them.
- Give a bible or a book with a note in it to a prison ministry or a local homeless ministry.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:9-10)

What other ideas do you have to get the gospel of Jesus out and declare his glory and goodness? What will you plan to do to make the most of this opportunity?

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. (Ephesians 5:15-16)

May we look to our Lord and draw strength from His eternally true and always faithful Word!

He came. And he will come again!

In and for Christ,



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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