



# Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of  
Niles

Volume 2/Issue 27

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 21-31.

Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. 23 But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. 24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her

children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband."

28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. 30 But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman." 31 So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

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

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

December 9, 2020

Grace and peace from God our Father through Jesus Christ our Savior and King brothers and sister and a very warm hello and Merry Christmas to all friends of First Baptist Church of Niles!

My wife Kaiti and I are getting ready very soon (in the next couple weeks!) to welcome Haddon Ray Myers—our next son! Please be praying for Kaiti and him and for our other children (Eva, Audrey and Patrick) as well!

As I get to know you all better and seek to pastor as faithfully as I can according to God's Word and to God's glory, could you please take a few minutes and fill out this survey for me:

<https://thestateoftheology.com/groups/8D6kB3JnX>

I would greatly appreciate it friends!

This time of year can be very busy and very distracting for all of us. As we see lights all over homes, trees in windows and nativity or manger scenes in yards, let us be diligent to stay focused on the splendor of our Savior—both who He is and what he came to do.

In C.S. Lewis's classic book *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* we read of this wonderful description of the coming of the lion--King Aslan by Mr. Beaver to the four children:

*"Wrong will be right, when Aslan comes in sight, At the sound of his roar, sorrows will be no more, When he bares his teeth, winter meets its death, And when he shakes his mane, we shall have spring again."*

With our daughters we recently read in a Christmas book that the color green in the Bible represents nature and healthy plants, trees, bushes, leaves etc. But even in this fallen world due to sin, the beauty and colorful green associated so much with life decays and dies.

According to Scripture, God has promised to one day make all things new (Revelation 21:5)! So when you see green this time of year remember what it represents—God's promise to make all things new and bring a glorious restoration!

But also remember that for Aslan to make "wrong right" as the quote above said and far more importantly for God to make all things new, the work of Jesus is central.

Remember that child you see in those mangers you drive by—its none other the second person of the triune God. That child was the preexistent Lord and beloved Son who shared glory with the Father before the world existed (John 17:5). That baby is the Lord Jesus Christ—who awesomely took on flesh to help us as humans (Hebrews 2:14-16). That baby is Jesus conceived by the Holy Spirit and born to the virgin in the manger to purposefully bring about redemption and restoration. Many people in our culture are glad to receive Jesus as a baby in a manger. They are happy to learn that Jesus performed miracles and fed the hungry. They even like the idea of resurrection and restoration. But they often do not want to talk about another chief reason he came. What reason is that? If someone asked you, "Why did Jesus come?", how would you answer that question?

There is no need for us to guess friends—God has revealed multiple

reasons. Though our hearts cannot hardly appreciate this as fully as we should, here are a few reasons Jesus came:

1. Jesus came to do His Father's will and none who come will be cast out:

*<sup>37</sup> All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. <sup>38</sup> For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup> For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." (John 6:37-40)*

2. Jesus came to preach the good news.

*And he said to them, "Let's go on to the neighboring villages so that I may preach there too. This is why I have come. (Mark 1:38)*

3. Jesus came to suffer be crucified and rise again:

*It is necessary that the Son of Man suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, be killed, and be raised the third day." (Luke 9:22)*

4. Jesus came to fulfill Scripture—being God with us and the savior of sinner's:

*She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had*

*spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"*

(which means, God with us)  
(Matthew 1:21-23)

Those are only four but they are absolutely critical! This Christmas—remember in your heart and with your family and friends who Christ is and why He came! Now is a great time to have spiritually significant conversations with non-Christians and to seek to honor God by proclaiming the true biblical Jesus and why he came—to shed his blood. Interestingly, red is the other color associated with Christmas (along with green). So when you see red—remember Jesus shed blood—and how hopeless we would be without it. And when you see green remember God has promised to make all things new—including you and me and all of nature!

To close this week's newsletter, consider these appropriate and glorious lyrics by the author of Amazing Grace, John Newton (1725-1807 AD) in his song "Sweeter Sounds Than Music Knows":

*1. Sweeter sounds than music knows  
Charm me, in EMMANUEL'S name;  
All her hopes my spirit owes To his  
birth, and cross, and shame.*

*2. When he came the angels sang  
"Glory be to GOD on high,"  
Lord, unloose my stamm'ring*

*tongue, Who should louder sing  
than I.*

*3. Did the Lord a man become  
That he might the law fulfil,  
Bleed and suffer in my room,  
And canst thou, my tongue, be still.*

*4. No, I must my praises bring,  
Though they worthless are, and  
weak; For should I refuse to sing  
Sure the very stones would speak.*

*5. O my Savior, Shield, and Sun,  
Shepherd, Brother, Husband, Friend,  
Every precious name in one; I will  
love thee without end.*

Merry Christmas Church! Praise God for His incredible grace to adopt, justify and rescue sinners like us in Jesus! And this Christmas season, may you rest in the favor of our perfect God—he is Lord of all and the Lord who was crucified and shed his red blood. And he risen, currently reigning and promised to return and put all things right!

In and for Christ,

P.S. Please do fill out this survey to help me (Pastor Brandon) get to know you better and serve you:  
<https://thestateoftheology.com/groups/8D6kB3JnX>



## 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.**

Please pray for God's great comfort upon our sister Mylin, her husband Errol, their daughters Mikaelle and Mia as Mylin's Uncle Jun (in the Philippines) very suddenly died. He was only 61 and was head of the family. Jun was far more a father to Mylin and her family and they are all struggling. Pray to God for comfort and strength for Mylin's brother Paul and her mother Carmelita as well in this time. We are grieving with them in this time and rejoice that Jun was/is in Christ. Additionally, Mylin's brother (in the Philippines) is now in the hospital with pneumonia, (Likely Covid) and her mother, Carmelita who lives with Mylin's brother there told Mylin that she has a cough. Join us in pray for God to comfort them greatly and strengthen them.

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