



Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of
Niles

Volume 2/Issue 29

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 the sermon this week will be from the book of Galatians, Chapter 5 :16 – 6:18

16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is

no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. 6 Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. 2 Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. 4 Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, 5 for each one should carry their own load. 6 Nevertheless, the one who receives instruction in the word should share all good things with their instructor. 7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper

time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. 11 See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand! 12 Those who want to impress people by means of the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. 14 May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. 16 Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God. 17 From now on, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. 18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

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

Beginning Sunday, January 3, 2021
Pastor Myers will be starting a new sermon series titled, "Wisdom for the way"

Here's a brief preview "Many millions of our neighbors will make New Years resolutions very soon to better their lives. Often this wiki be related to food, diet and exercise. And indeed there is something commendable about this goal as God tells us in 1 Timothy 4:8: "Physical training is good," however, God tells us right after: but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come."

As we seek to live more wisely under the Lordship of Christ and make the most of every opportunity with the precious time he has granted to us, we will train for godliness and learn of wisdom from God for the journey-the way we are on.

December 23, 2020

Merry Christmas First Baptist Church family and friends!

Kaiti and I hope and pray that you are deeply treasuring the Lord Jesus Christ and the unsearchable riches (Ephesians 3:8) in your hearts and with your family and friends! It looks like little Haddon will be a Christmas Eve baby as Kaiti will be induced in just a couple days!

With the recent loss of their mother Juanita Cariaga let us grieve with, pray for and reach out to our friends Virginia, Albert and his wife Imelda Cariaga, Wilma and her husband Hermie. Be praying for their siblings, grandchildren and great grandchildren as well. Praise God she was at peace with God and trusted in the risen Lord Jesus Christ in whose presence she is now in as she worships and waits her resurrection body in the new heaven and the new earth with all of us in God's presence!

As many of our neighbors and we ourselves have many burdens and so much has changed so rapidly in such a short time we can find ourselves disoriented and our lives disrupted. I am praying that no matter what, together we rest in the unchangingly good character of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. If you are currently discouraged or get discouraged soon by all you see around you; and as you weep in frustration by all the sin that still see within you; you might be tempted to doubt God's character and complete goodness. You start to doubt God's power and elevate yours. A worldly way of thinking is when you doubt what you should trust and trust what you should doubt. Paul Washer once said, "when the world tells you to listen

to your heart, tell your heart to shut up."

God God knew it all before you did. God saw it all and sees it all. God came to deal with it all. And He alone can and will deal with it all. God did not see us and turn away but saw us and drew near. We rejected him and turned from him and yet he graciously, patiently, intentionally moved towards us. Christ came for helpless sinners not people who think they are righteous and healthy (Mark 2:17; Romans 5:6). God came friends to this cursed world and for sinners like us!

In two classic Christmas hymns we have glorious truth about our God's character and condescension. In the 1847 Christmas hymn "O Holy Night" we sing:

"In all our trials born to be our Friend.

He knows our need—to our weakness is no stranger.

Behold your King, before him lowly bend!

Behold your King, before him lowly bend!"

And in the hymn "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" we sing:

"Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings,

Risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by,

Born than we no more may die;

Born to raise the sons of earth,

Born to give them second birth."

In both of these Christmas hymns—the theme of “God with us” (Emmanuel)—the God who condescended and came to us is rightly on full display. When the Lord comes He brings who He is with him! And who is the Lord? He is perfectly gracious, completely righteous and altogether good and loving. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). He always keeps his promises (Joshua 21:45, Hebrews 10:23). God is the truth (John 14:6) and He cannot lie (1 Samuel 15:29; Hebrews 6:18, Titus 1:2). So when God says He has forgiven you fully believe him! When God says he has gone to prepare a place for you, believe him! When God says I am working all things out for good for those who love me and are called according to my purpose, believe him! When God says he has bought you with the blood of Christ and he is your redeemer and king, your shepherd and friend your father and your savior, believe him!

It is true that the Lord as our Creator is holy and without sin and will judge sin. But we must never lose sight of what Scripture teaches us “Sing to the Lord, O you his saints, and praise His holy name. For his anger is only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night but rejoicing comes in the morning” (Psalm 30:4-5)

Scripture wholeheartedly affirms God is a sympathetic savior who knows who we are and can relate fully to us (Hebrews 4:14-16). Martin Luther once said “When the devil accuses us and says, ‘you are a sinner and therefore damned’, we should reply “No! For I fly to Christ, who gave himself for my sins...when you say I am a sinner, you give me armor and weapons against

yourself, so that with your own sword I may cut your throat and tread you under my feet, for Christ died for sinners...as often as you object I am a sinner, so often you remind me of the benefit of Christ my redeemer, on whose shoulders, and not mine, lie all my sins!”

Marred by the rebellious fall, we have never been fully human—not as God intends and as we will one day be in the new heaven and the earth when all is restored. If you find yourself struggling with sin, guilt, worry, doubt or fear, mediate on the unparalleled and gracious character of God that shines through in what we heard read Sunday from Psalm 103:

“The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.” (Psalm 103:6-14)

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ‘Behold the virgin will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel (which means “God with us”) (Matthew 1:21-23)

That is our God brothers and sisters! Believe him!

I look forward to seeing you in the New Year as we begin a new sermon series drawing from the Word of God’s wisdom and work through some of the Proverbs. This series is called “Wisdom for the Way” and I hope you will join me in praying that it greatly blesses our church family!

Merry Christmas and God bless brothers and sisters in Christ and friends!

For Christ and His Kingdom,

Pastor Brandon



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 Ruhlman, 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. Continue to pray for God's great comfort upon our sister Mylin, her husband Errol, their daughters Mikaelle and Mia as Mylin's for the recent loss of their Uncle Jun. Continue in prayer for Mylin's brother and her mother, Carmelita.

Prayer request: pray for God's comfort upon our sisters and brother in Christ Virginia Cariaga and Albert and Imelda Cariaga as their mother Jaunita went to be with the Lord last week (visitation 4-9 pm with service at 7:00 p.m. at the Colonial in Niles Saturday 8025 W. Golf Road, Niles, IL 60714). Pray for Virginia's daughters Jackie and Rebecca and also for God to bless, strengthen and comfort Virginia, Albert and Imelda's other brothers and sisters-Rolando, our friends Wilma (husband Hermie), Tito (wife Nela), and James (wife Nina). Pray for Juanita's 23 grandkids and 20 great-grandkids as well! Praise God Juanita was in Christ and knew and believed in the Lord and is now in his presence. She was well loved, Wilma and Virginia said always smiling and so wonderful and loving. May God bless and comfort this family with his everlasting love and perfect promises.

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