



# Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of  
Niles

Volume 2/Issue 34

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.

Pastor Myers concludes his sermon series on Sunday “Wisdom for the way-Warnings and Blessings.”

### REMINDER:

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.

The text of the sermon this week will be from the book of Proverbs, Chapter 3, verses 1-35.

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, <sup>2</sup> for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. <sup>3</sup> Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. <sup>4</sup> So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. <sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup> In all your

ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. <sup>7</sup> Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

<sup>8</sup> It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

<sup>9</sup> Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; <sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will be bursting with wine. <sup>11</sup> My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof, <sup>12</sup> for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights. <sup>13</sup> Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, <sup>14</sup> for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. <sup>15</sup> She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

<sup>16</sup> Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor.

<sup>17</sup> Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

<sup>18</sup> She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed. <sup>19</sup> The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; <sup>20</sup> by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew.

<sup>21</sup> My son, do not lose sight of these— keep sound wisdom and

discretion, <sup>22</sup> and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck. <sup>23</sup> Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble. <sup>24</sup> If you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

<sup>25</sup> Do not be afraid of sudden terror or of the ruin of the wicked, when it comes, <sup>26</sup> for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught. <sup>27</sup> Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. <sup>28</sup> Do not say to your neighbor, “Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it”—when you have it with you. <sup>29</sup> Do not plan evil against your neighbor, who dwells trustingly beside you. <sup>30</sup> Do not contend with a man for no reason, when he has done you no harm. <sup>31</sup> Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways, <sup>32</sup> for the devious person is an abomination to the LORD, but the upright are in his confidence.

<sup>33</sup> The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the dwelling of the righteous. <sup>34</sup> Toward the scorners he is scornful, but to the humble he gives favor. <sup>35</sup> The wise will inherit honor, but fools get disgrace.

January 27, 2021 FBC Newsletter

Grace and peace from God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord brothers and sisters and hello friends of First Baptist!

As we close out our short series through a few Proverbs this Sunday, in this newsletter here are some more practical ways to apply God's wisdom and so more wisely live:

- **Pray for us as a church to fear the Lord increasingly and exclusively.** We do not fear God as much as we should. And we do not fear God alone as he alone deserves. Not by accident does God tell us in the New Testament: "Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. *Fear God.* Honor the emperor" (1 Peter 2:16-17). Only God should have our fear. Not man no matter how powerful their position. Fear is reserved for God. Fear is "inner reverent awe rooted in faith that God is God—he's in control, all-powerful, sovereign and worthy and you and I are not." Fearing God will be seen in our attitude, actions and habits. And fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge and the beginning of wisdom (Prov. 1:7,9:10).
- **Pray for our enslaved neighbors and those in government who represent us to fear the Lord.** God's Word clearly teaches apart from Christ a person is enslaved to sin (John 8:34; Romans 6:20). This applies to so many of our neighbors and representatives today. They are

enslaved to sin and are down the path of folly that will destroy them (Prov. 1:29-32,2:19). They need to hear the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ from us. They need to repent of their sins against a holy God and flee to fear of God and faith in Christ alone. The Lord alone is the safe refuge for sinners. Sinners who are enslaved and foolish and deserve righteous wrath and judgment. Realize that these elected officials will only continue down their path of destruction apart from this gospel. Convincing a person to adopt a biblical view of gender, sex, marriage, life, Scripture, etc. will not happen in a lasting and eternally significant way apart from the Holy Spirit. C.S. Lewis once wrote: "He who converts his neighbor has performed the most practical Christian political act of all."

- **Faithfully spend time with the wise, listen to wisdom and unceasingly relentlessly seek it.** A little wisdom is not enough. We need it and it will guard us and help us persevere God says (Proverbs 1:33, 2:8,20-22). Proverbs 13:20 says, "whoever walks with the wise becomes wise but a companion of fools will suffer harm." Who are your closest companions? Look at their lives and the direction of their lives. Do they fear the Lord? Are they wise?
- **Store up Scripture deep within you.** [This free guide](#) by Pastor Andy Davis has served as a very helpful guide to storing up Scripture deeply in the heart. [Read it](#) and begin to more

faithfully "treasure up the commandments of your gracious heavenly Father with you" (Prov. 2:1-2). What verses of God's Word do you have memorized right now? What verses have you always wanted to commit to memory? What is holding you back from this vital endeavor. Charles Spurgeon said of the puritan preacher John Bunyan "if you could cut him [Bunyan] open he would bleed bible." May it be so of us First Baptist! That God's precious Word is so stamped on our minds and hearts that we bleed bible!

Please join me in praying for our church to walk in God's wisdom throughout our lives and let us strive to do this together! And please pray for me as I prepare the next sermon series through the book of Philippians. Lord willing, this will take us up to Easter.

In and for Christ,



## PRAYER LIST

- ✓ Continuing Prayers for comfort for the families that have lost loved ones this past year. Including the family of Juanita Cariaga. On her recent loss couple weeks ago in particular—daughter Virginia and her daughters Rebecca and Jackie and Jackie’s son Rauol, and Wilma and Hermie Cariagal and Albert and Imelda Caraiga as well as other family.
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for physical needs: Gloria-Lynn Fernandez, Kaiti and Haddon Myers, Brenda Covington
- ✓ Pray for our shut-ins Betty Matson, Rita McManus, Maria Hatfield, Nancy Yatabe, Erwin and Elizabeth Lickmann, George Sargis.
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for our Ministry Needs: Pastor Brandon Kaiti, Eva, Audrey, Patrick and Haddon 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 that God will protect. Pray for safety for those who are attending schools during the Pandemic. Lift up all our health professionals and their families who are on the front line of this pandemic. Remember Mylin and her mother and brother as they continue to recover from the effects of COVID 19. , Nel and Brendas Daughter Nina having surgery the first week in February and for the Nels safety in travelling.

Pastor mentioned three specific areas of prayer for First Baptist Church of Niles for 2021. Remember these in prayer.

- Continue to fortify the congregation by increased community prayer, provide opportunities for growth as disciples of Christ and introduce times of fellowship with respect to current health concerns.
- Fortify the church membership by strengthening the leadership and solidifying the foundational beliefs, i.e. Statement of Faith. Pastor Myers conveyed Pastor McManus’ heart for the congregation citing I Corinthians 1:10, *“I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.”*
- Nurture a heart for evangelism by reaching the local community and our neighbors
- 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 Audio only: +13126266799 Meeting ID: 899 2251 1230

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**“We hope that you are able to join us this Sunday Jan. 31 after the service for a fellowship lunch! All are welcome but (for now) please bring your own lunch and put it down in the fridge and only share as you and others are comfortable. We will have tables setup and while we desire as many as possible to be there, we understand if due to the circumstances some are not comfortable yet. We will miss you and hope to see you at a future fellowship meal later this year!”**

**Brandon D. Myers**  
Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church of Niles