



# Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of  
Niles

Volume 2 / Issue 40

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 has started a new series from the Book of Philippians. The title of this weeks sermon is, “Dogs and Death” The scripture passage will be Philippians 3:1-10.

Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. 2 Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. 3 For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— 4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor

of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

### FBC Newsletter March 10, 2021

Grace and peace from God our Father through Jesus Christ our crucified, risen, reigning and one day returning Lord Jesus friends!

“Nothing is more important than the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ and His gospel going out!”-So said Erin Coates, wife of imprisoned Canadian pastor James Coates. Indeed as we are told by our Lord in Scripture: *“we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.”* (Acts 14:22) Church, let’s continue to pray for our sister Erin Coates, her husband James and their children and grandchildren up in Canada. Pastor James remains in prison in Alberta for desiring to preach the gospel to his flock. [This interview was excellent and was with his wife Erin.](#) Amazing to see the faith in Christ that this sister and her church has but it must be very very difficult. In this newsletter we will focus on the need for biblically-faithful, serious-minded discipleship in our day.

*“Discipleship is too often forgotten although it is as needful as faith.”* - Charles Spurgeon

This quote is found in this excellent article by Aaron Day titled “Spurgeon on Discipleship”. You can

[read the whole thing by clicking here.](#)

If someone asks you if you are a Christian, most of us would probably say yes and praise God! But what does it mean to be a Christian? Going faithfully to church? Yes as our Lord commanded we gather (see Hebrews 10:19-25)! But it also involves faithfully growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18). It means refusing to isolate ourselves which encourages us to seek our own desire (Proverbs 18:1) and it means praying together, breaking bread and studying God's Holy Word (Acts 2:42). To be a Christian is to be a disciple— follower and learner of Jesus. It is not biblical at all or Christian for a person to say they believe in Jesus but do not follow his Word. If we love Jesus his words will remain in us (John 15:7) and his disciples will not be ashamed of his words (Mark 8:38).

Ray comfort very helpfully [unpacks what it is to be ashamed of Jesus more here](#). Sadly many if not most in our day do not know the Word of God well enough to realize if they are ashamed of Jesus words or not. Here is a little test. Off the top of your head try to answer from the Bible the following:

*What did the Lord Jesus say about money and greed?*

*What did the Lord Jesus say about marriage and the family?*

*What did the Lord Jesus say about sex and relationships?*

*What did the Lord Jesus say about education and culture?*

*What did the Lord Jesus say about politics and government?*

*What did the Lord Jesus say about demons and Satan?*

As Christians we are called to “honor Christ as holy in our hearts and always be ready to give a defense of the reason for the hope within us with gentleness and respect” (1 Peter 3:15). We must be prepared in our day to do so. Not a few of us. All of us brothers and sisters!

This week may we remember to store up God's Word into our hearts. May we listen to God's voice in sacred Scripture and have our hearts and lives corrected, rebuked and straightened out by God's Holy and perfect Word! It is what Christians—disciples of King Jesus have always done no matter what. And it is what we are called to do today. To be faithful in the small things. [Our brother in Christ Timon Cline has an excellent recent article with this title: “Fight Small Battles”.](#)

In it Cline quotes Dr. Carl Trueman who wisely noted in the light of explosion of the last year's focus on “race” and ethnicity:

*“Don't think that being correct on the race issue will ultimately protect you. The race issue is just the flavor of the day. There will be another flavor next week, or next month, or next year, or next decade. And unless you're prepared to go all the way with that, the revolution is going to come for you.” -Dr. Carl Trueman*

I'd urge you to read it together and pray afterwards for the Lord to grant all of us at First Baptist more faithfulness to the Lord and His Holy Word no matter the cost. Our

sovereign Lord has gone before us and has equipped us with his sufficient Word. He will make good on all he has said and he will not abandon us even to death itself. He will never leave us or forsake us and nothing can ultimately separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:38-39)

[In a final excellent article by Ray Rhodes Jr. \(click here\)](#) we see this wonderfully encouraging Spurgeon quote and I close with it:

*“God has given no pledge which he will not redeem, and encouraged no hope which he will not fulfill.” - Charles Spurgeon*

In and for Christ,

Brandon



## PRAYER LIST

- ✓ Continuing Prayers for comfort for the families that have lost loved ones this past year. Including the families of Juanita Cariaga, Brenda Covington and Carmen Pearson
- ✓ 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 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 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 recovering from surgery.

**PRAISE:** Betty Matson is back home

First Baptist Church of Niles  
"The Country Church"  
7339 Waukegan Rd.  
Niles, IL 60714

<http://firstbaptistchurchniles.org> or  
<https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistchurchofniles>

[firstbaptistchurchniles@gmail.com](mailto:firstbaptistchurchniles@gmail.com) or  
[pastor@firstbaptistchurchniles.org](mailto:pastor@firstbaptistchurchniles.org)

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

1. 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.
2. 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."*
3. Nurture a heart for evangelism by reaching the local community and our neighbors..

## SAVE THE DATES

All Men of the church are invited to call in to a Zoom Meeting with Pastor beginning on Wednesday, March 10 at 7:30pm. The topic of the meeting will be Biblical Eldership and what Scripture reveals about eldership, clearly define what Biblical Eldership is and according to the New Testament concept of eldership Elders lead the church, teach and preach the Word, protect the church from false teachers, exhort and admonish the saints in sound doctrine, visit the sick and pray. Providing a path to build Church Leadership.

### Call information:

Topic: Biblical Eldership

Time: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 @ 7:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.com>

Meeting ID: 873 1076 7885

Passcode: 269498

To join by audio: 13126266799

Meeting ID: 873 1076 7885

Passcode: 269498

All current and prospective members are encouraged to attend an in-person follow-up discussion around the topics of the current Church Constitution, By-Laws and Statement of Faith. The discussion will be held on consecutive Sundays beginning March 14, 2021 at 9:45am downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee plus will be available.

Chili Fellowship. Saturday March 20 @ 3:00pm Be sure to sign-up.

Church Spring Cleaning is scheduled for Saturday, March 27 @ 8:30am. Be prepared to put in a few hours of “enjoyable” work as we get the building ready for Easter and the upcoming wedding of Gene and Kimberly on Saturday, April 10 the church family is invited to this joyous occasion.

**Daylight Savings this Sunday. Spring ahead. You don't want to be late for the 9:45am Membership Class.**