

First Edition

First Baptist Church

On Mission in Salt Lake City—A Report from Pastor Matt Keller

We want to thank all those who gave and prayed for our trip to Salt Lake City. We are praying that we were a help to Bryan Catherman and Redeeming Life Church. There was a lot to learn and process in the first three days. We realized that we needed to be very intentional in the language we used when we talked about Jesus. We use the same words, but are using different dictionaries to define those words. There were many nice people that we met, but we clearly disagreed about who Jesus is and how someone is made right with the Lord.

We believe that the Lord is at work in the gospel conversations that we had. Would you be willing to continue to pray that the Lord works in the lives of those we spoke to? There are three larger take-aways from the trip that we hope will bring some lasting change to our lives.

- Prayer is so important. We were able to walk and drive through neighborhoods praying that the Lord would bless workplaces and homes. We continually prayed that these would be places where the good news about Jesus would be proclaimed (Luke 18:1-8). When is the last time you have done this in Floresville, Poth, LaVernia, Stockdale, or San Antonio. The Lord showed us the need for committed prayer both in Salt Lake and in our context. We need to know what we believe. This is not only for the sake of having gospel conversations with others, but to articulate and apply the gospel to ourselves. Our world is full of distortions of the gospel. Are we prepared to clearly share the gospel with people who have unbiblical definitions of grace, faith, atonement, or Jesus? Are we equipping each other as followers of Jesus to explain and apply the gospel?
- Are we concerned for those who don't know Jesus in Wilson County, San Antonio, and even to the ends of the earth? The lack of Christian churches and evangelical Christians in Salt Lake is honestly shocking. We too often work under the assumption that in the U.S. the gospel is everywhere. There is a need for new churches and the gospel in many places in the U.S.; Salt Lake City is one of those places. We should also be concerned with the unreached, unengaged places all over the world. This is why the prayer resources from the IMB and Operation World are helpful. This is why the Cooperative Program works so beautifully as a method whereby thousands of churches can pool their resources to support church planters like Bryan through the North American Mission Board. So, this trip challenges us to pray for the nations, give to support works like Redeeming Life Church, and ask the Lord what He is calling us to do to take the gospel to the nations. What is the Lord calling you to do to see His glory spread to every nation, tribe, and tongue?

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On Mission in Japan—A Report from the Fleming Family

Back on Easter Sunday, the regular pastor who leads the small church that meets in our living room came down sick just before the service. I was handed a flash drive containing his notes and was asked to step in and do my best! A translator helped me preach to a small group of believers in our home. I remember thinking, "What a nice surprise! I miss getting to teach people about the Bible." Since then, the original pastor has moved on to another ministry opportunity and our supervisor is on stateside assignment until January, leaving this small group of believers without a clear leader. To my surprise, I was asked to step into the leadership role of this congregation. After a lot of prayer, meetings with other church planters, and a strong sense of the Lord's leading, I agreed to take on this pastoral role and I've been preaching there with the help of a translator ever since. Because of this, we will be throwing ourselves completely into this new ministry. Our family has had to say "goodbye" to a wonderful church that we have called home for the past year and a half, which has brought back a lot of memories from when we had to say similar goodbyes at First Baptist Church in Willis, Texas. It has been a challenge, but a blessing on many levels.

My first impression is that it's great to be back in a teaching ministry role after a year and a half long hiatus. I've been blessed to see several "light bulb" moments as Japanese believers begin to understand a Scripture passage or an aspect of their own calling for the first time. With all the barriers that exist, it's a BIG miracle for the life-changing truth of Scripture to be communicated. I know it's not my doing, so I want to thank you for praying for God to move in such mighty ways! I also want to encourage you to pray for us and the Japanese people NOW more than ever!



Trey Fleming serves with his wife Adria and their 3 daughters as International Mission Board (IMB) missionaries in Osaka, Japan. FBC's contributions to the Cooperative Program and gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering make it possible for Trey and his family to push back lostness in East Asia.

What Did Jesus Teach About Money?

By Paul David Tripp

Tale of Two Kingdoms

When it comes to kingdoms, there are really only two choices. With every choice, decision, or action, you live out of a deep heart allegiance to the kingdom of self or the kingdom of God. I'm not saying that you are always conscious of this or that your decisions are intentionally kingdom driven. What I am saying is that with everything you do, you are either serving the purposes of God or the desires of self. This conflict of kingdoms is brilliantly laid out for us by Christ in Matthew 6:19-33, where Jesus argues that if you live for the right-here, right-now pleasures of the kingdom of self, you will tend to invest your time, energy, and money in the physical treasure of this present world. You will attempt to satisfy the longings of your heart with earthbound treasures, that is, with people, places, and possessions. The core lie of the kingdom of self is that by satisfying your self-oriented desires, you will find life. And the corollary lie is that physical things will be the delivery system. *With everything you do, you are either serving the purposes of God or the desires of self.*

LIVING FOR OURSELVES: This whole delusional system is driven by the reality that as sinners we tend to live for ourselves, to make life all about us. We tend to be obsessed about what we want, why we want it, how we want it, when we want it, and who we want to deliver it. We invest so much of our time and energy acquiring things for the sole purpose of our comfort and pleasure. We keep telling ourselves that the next thing will be what satisfies us, but it never does, so we go out and buy something else.

The car that we told ourselves we'd always wanted doesn't satisfy us for long. Soon we have our sights on another that we think we'd like better. The house we bought, vowing that it was the last house we'd ever live in, now no longer seems so special, and we begin to notice other houses in other neighborhoods. We rent storage rooms and fill them with the discarded delivery systems of promises that never delivered. Sadly, so much of our money is spent looking for life in all the wrong places.

This is why Jesus's words in the Lord's Prayer, "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven," are so important to hear, to pray, and to live. Embedded in these words is a plea that God, in grace, would cause our hearts to love his kingdom more than we love our own, and embedded in that plea is the hope for financial sanity and practical-spending wisdom.

LOVING GOD'S KINGDOM: How would your finances change if you loved God's kingdom so much that it is where you wanted to invest your time, energy, and money? How specifically would a God's-kingdom focus serve as your defense against frivolous and selfish spending? Are you ready to pray, "Your will be done right here, right now, in my finances as it is in heaven"? If you would budget with God's kingdom in view, how would your budget change?

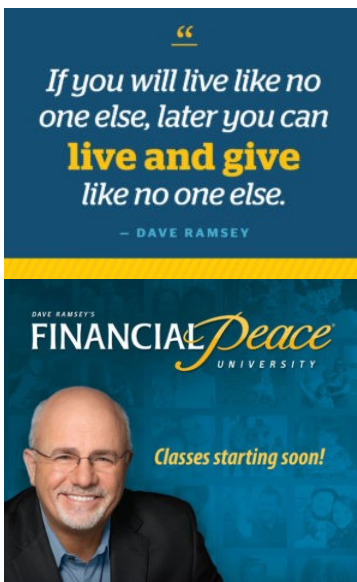
If you would give with God's kingdom in view, how much more would you be giving? Are the large purchases you make driven by God's kingdom? Are your incidental purchases made in allegiance to what God says is important and of eternal value? Is your car payment too big or your mortgage too heavy? Where is this issue of kingdom allegiance laying out for you an agenda of financial change? True, God-honoring financial sanity is only ever found when you surrender the kingdom of self to the greater purposes and the eternal vision of the kingdom of God.

This article is adapted from Redeeming Money: How God Reveals and Reorients Our Hearts by Paul David Tripp. <https://www.crossway.org/articles/what-did-jesus-teach-about-money/>

Dave Ramsey's "Financial Peace University" Seminar to be Offered

Learn how to take control of your money this fall by attending Dave Ramsey's "Financial Peace University" seminar. First Baptist Church will offer this 13-week course where participants will learn to pay off debt, budget, save money, and give generously. Dr. Jim Browning will facilitate the class on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm beginning September 18, 2019. There is a cost of \$90 per family for the materials. The church has purchased 17 sets of the materials, so the class size is limited. Included with your participation is a one-year Financial Peace membership—an online one-stop resource center that helps you apply all the knowledge the plan teaches you. See Penny Smith in the office for more information and find the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

"True, God-honoring financial sanity is only ever found when you surrender the kingdom of self to the greater purposes and the eternal vision of the kingdom of God."



Wednesdays this fall at 6:30pm.
Beginning September 18, 2019.
Cost is \$90 for all materials.

Women’s Ministry News

Greetings, Ladies! I pray that everyone has enjoyed their vacation (or stay-cation). This is usually the time of year that we start the “back-to-school” frenzy! The children are excited about a new school year and we have been praying for a great year for them. This past month we enjoyed a women’s fellowship where we watched another video from the 2018 Women of Joy Conference and shared a meal together. We had a great turnout! We will be scheduling a Plan and Pray Fellowship some time at the end of September or in early October. If anyone has ideas for these fellowship opportunities, please let me or Sally Gaertner know. We always love new ideas!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- September 6-8, 2019—Women of Joy LIVE DEEPLY ROOTED Tour at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio. The list of guest speakers is posted on the bulletin board near the Coffee Corner. For more information, visit womenofjoy.org. FBC’s group tickets have all been sold, but contact Bonnie Dickerson at 713-446-7661 about how to purchase an individual ticket.
- Women’s Fellowship, Plan and Pray—will be held in the Fellowship Hall in late September or early October. The specific date is to be announced.

Please share this information with other women. We love to have visitors, neighbors, aunts, sisters, and friends! If you have any questions or activity ideas, please contact Sally Gaertner at 361-290-1068 or me, Donna Arispe, at 210-560-9642.



Operation Christmas Child

Back-to-school season is a great time to stock up on supplies to fill your Operation Christmas Child shoebox in November. Take advantage of seasonal sales and pick up a few extra of the following suggested items.



- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Pens, pencils, erasers, sharpeners | Solar calculators |
| Crayons and markers | Scissors, glue sticks |
| Small notebooks and paper | Socks and flip flops |
| New, unopened toothbrushes (NO toothpaste) | Coloring and picture books |
| Hair clips, sunglasses, hats | Ruler, protractor |

For questions, contact Sally Gaertner at 361-290-1068.

Wednesday Night Supper Clean-Up Teams

The fall semester’s Wednesday Night Suppers will kick off next month on September 18, 2019. As the classes and supper program gear up for the fall semester, there is a weekly need for a clean-up crew after the meal is prepared. Typically the cooking team is there for many hours preparing the meal, and it would be very helpful for them to avoid staying another hour to clean up everything. If anyone is willing to serve in this way, please contact Penny in the office. Even if you can only help occasionally, that would be useful also.



Every child has a chance—it’s YOU!

Your voice can be a child’s only chance.

VOLUNTEER:

Are you ready to speak up for a child who needs you?

GET INVOLVED:

Share the CASA of South Texas message with friends or in your business via newsletter, posters or brochures. Invite CASA of South Texas staff to give a presentation to your community, civic, or faith-based group. Serve on our board or advisory council.

DONATE:

A donation to CASA of South Texas is a proven investment in the power of the CASA community and the future of our local children. With your gift, you can help provide the best volunteer advocacy for children removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect.

CONTACT:

Karnes and Wilson Counties
830-321-9978
www.casasouthtx.org

Children's Department News

Because you gave, a group of 3rd-6th graders spent 4 days last month away from home at Preteen Camp at Highland Lakes Camp and Conference Center. Thank you for your generosity and for your prayers. The children had a great time while deepening their relationship with the Lord. Please continue to pray that what began in their tender hearts will keep on growing. Special thanks to the chaperones who attended: Lyndi Keller, Pastor Terry Smith, Destiny Rodgers, Tim Davis, and Brook Lynne McKeen.

Mother's Day Out (MDO) kicks off on Monday, August 12, 2019, from 9:00 am—2:00 pm. The day before, Sunday, August 11, 2019, we'll have a Meet-the-Teacher event at 4:00 pm. See Darlene McKeen for more information about registering a child for this beneficial program.

Mark your calendars for the First Annual FBC Fall Festival, hosted by FBC KidMin, on Thursday, October 31, 2019, at 6:00 pm. The purpose of this event is to be a blessing to our community. There will be opportunities for everyone in the church to participate! We have begun looking for teams of people to build games and host them that night. Please contact Darlene McKeen at 210-639-5781 for more information.



Darlene McKeen
Children's Director

Why We Should All Work in the Church Nursery

By Melissa Edgington

I remember when Emerald was tiny, and I was completely overwhelmed with my life. I had a first grader, a preschooler and a new baby, and I couldn't wait for those glorious two hours on Sunday when I could drop all of them off in their various classes and go have some adult conversation, without any tiny hands grasping for my dress, my hands, my hair or any other body part. For two hours, I was my own, at least physically. I thanked God for those blessed men and women who volunteered to take a needy baby out of the worn out hands of her ragged mother, those saints who were willing to handle the crying, the spitting up, the diaper changes and the bottles. It was a magnificent ministry to exhausted, overwrought mothers like me.

It's a Touchy Subject. Yet, the nursery always seems to be a touchy subject in churches. Everyone has their own ideas about how it should function and who should work in there. Some churches have more resources than others, some have more small children than others, some have an easier time finding volunteers than others. Just a few days ago I ran across an online discussion about church nurseries, and tired young mothers were declaring that they shouldn't have to volunteer there, that other people should step up and take care of the babies and small children so that these exhausted moms can enjoy their time at church, one of the few respites that they get in their long week. I understand why they feel this way. I have felt that way myself at different stages of life. But, there's an important reason why mamas should continue to volunteer, even if it means that once or twice a quarter they will be rocking babies or playing with preschoolers during the church service. And that reason has nothing to do with the fact that churches need that young mama demographic to help out (although they do). The reason mothers should work in the church nursery is because it gives us a chance to serve one another.

Moms Need You. Who can better sympathize with an overwhelmed, somewhat depressed, sleep-deprived, dark-circles-sporting mother than one who is there herself? Who will be most sensitive to a mother's needs and concerns? Other young mamas, of course. Who sees most clearly how frightening it can be to drop off a baby for the first time? Who can most sincerely take a young mother's hand and say, *I'm with you, sister. I am just as tired as you are, and there is solidarity in the two of us caring for each other's children in the name of Christ.* Now, these young mothers can't carry this task of serving one another all alone. We often hear older mothers saying that they've already worked in the church nursery. We hear men claim that the nursery is a woman's territory. We hear young married couples say that they aren't equipped to handle small children. But young mothers need help. They need our ministry and our assistance and our encouragement. They need us to say, *Just get here, sweet girl, and we will take care of the rest.* It really matters. And it sets up a pattern in that family's life—one of regular church attendance, of reliance on the church, of children who love to come to God's house.

It's an Act of Worship. Sometimes we tend to think that when we are in the church nursery we're cut off from worship. We feel like we missed church. Even those precious young mothers may claim that they simply can't worship if they are sequestered to the nursery. But, if any of us feel that way or try to use that as an excuse not to volunteer, then we are forgetting an important element of worship: service. Coming to church isn't just about us getting our "Jesus fix." It isn't about seeing what we can get out of it or waiting around to be served. One of the functions of the church is to serve each other. We should be trying to out-do each other with love and help and servanthood instead of keeping score to see if enough is being done for us. And, yes, dear church. These truths apply to the church nursery.

So, all of us—young moms, college students, grandmothers, dads and all—should view the church nursery as an opportunity to serve the families of the church, which is a true act of worship. And, young mamas, don't miss out on your chance to sympathize with and help out other women who feel just as overwhelmed as you do. They need your arms, your understanding heart, your gracious overlooking of the disheveled state of their hair. They need to know that you are all in this together, and what better way to show love to your fellow mamas than to love on their babies on Sunday morning a few times a year? I don't think it's too much to ask of any of us, no matter our phase of life.

August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 —PreTeen Camp—	2 SA Missions Baseball Game 	3
4 Youth Ctee Noon PROMOTION SUNDAY *John Long	5 Worship at FV Nursing Home 3pm	6	7	8  Fun Bunch Movie Night 6pm	9	10 Central TX Youth Leaders Training in Austin
11 Mom's Day Out Meet the Teacher 4pm *Shaun Murray	12 MDO begins FBC feeding the FHS Band 5pm	13 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am	14	15 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am	16	17
18 *Greg Parker	19 FISD 1st day of school	20	21 Business Meeting 6:30pm	22	23	24
25 *Danny Fenner	26	27	28  Kids' Movie Night 5:30-7:30	29	30	31 

Schedule of Events

Sunday

- 8:00—Worship Service (except Lord's Supper & 5th Sundays)
- 9:15—Bible Study
- 10:30—Worship Service
- 3:00—Veterans Home (except 2nd Sunday)

Wednesday

- 5:30—FLC open for students
- 5:30—Kids Movie Night LAST Wed of month
- 6:30—Life Groups / Prayer Meeting / Youth Bible Study
- 7:30—Choir Rehearsal

Weekly Activities

- Creative Hands—Quilting Mondays at 10:00 am
- Ladies Bible Study Wednesdays at 10:30 am
- Sr. Adult Game Day Thursdays from 1-4 pm
- Line Exercise Classes Mon, Tue, & Thu from 9:30-10:30 am
- Mother's Day Out Mon & Wed from 9am-2pm

* Deacon of the Week

The student Audio Tech of the month is Austin Welfel.

August Birthdays

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Diedre Whatley | 14 Tommie Cox | 22 Kylee Copeland |
| 3 Denise Smart | 14 Kelly Evans | 23 Rebekah Canady |
| 5 Donna Arispe | 14 Sandra Garcia | 23 Joseph Myers |
| 5 David Mahula | 14 Shynelle Taggs | 23 Judith Smith |
| 6 Taylor Remling | 17 Allie Bowers | 24 Sandra Detamore |
| 6 Conner Addington | 18 Brenton Huber | 24 Kaylianna Huber |
| 8 R.E. Schiefelbein | 18 Carolyn Hierholzer | 25 Blake Brieden |
| 8 Abby Sellers | 19 Glenda Whitley | 25 Allison Clements |
| 9 Adysen Pelech | 19 Tiffany Ward | 25 Ariel Howard |
| 10 Priscilla Kincaid | 20 Chrystal Eckel | 27 Mary Grace Klespies |
| 10 James Kotzur | 20 Lisa Barnes | 28 Gina Evans |
| 13 Brenda Fenner | 21 Ginger Lowak | 28 Jim Dippary |
| | | 29 Jan Johnson |

JOIN US

FOR LUNCH

Age 60+, Disabled Veterans, Disabled Individuals

Meals Served Each Weekday

Wilson County Expo/Show Barn
435 State Hwy 97E, Floresville

11am-1pm

Contact Shannon Lackey at 281-222-8401 for more information. Volunteers Needed!

First Baptist Church

1115 B Street
 Floresville, TX 78114
 Phone: 830-216-4946
 Fax: 830-393-3613
 E-mail: office@fbcf.org



Mike Clements, D.Min, Pastor
 830-391-2016
Terry Smith, Worship Pastor
 830-391-3362
Matt Keller, Student Pastor
 409-656-3089
 Darlene McKeen, Children's Director
 Penny Smith, Office Manager
 Christie Davis, Office Assistant
 Rosa Beltran, Church Custodian

www.fbcf.org



Because He First Loved Us.

Our deep sympathy is offered to the family of Carl Wesley, brother-in-law of Sharron Wesley, who passed away on July 24, 2019.

Love
 never fails
 1 Corinthians 13:8

Justin and Jeanette Kunath would like to announce the marriage of their daughter, Kami, to Mr. Jonas Satterfield of Pickton, Texas, on June 7, 2019, in Bryan, Texas.



Congratulations to
Kimberly & Landon O'Neal
 and grandparents
 Tim & Ivy Lanier,
 on the arrival of a baby girl,
Everly Reina
 born July 1, 2019,
 7 lbs. 6 oz.

Congratulations to
 Matt & Michelle Thomas,
 grandparents
 Carter & Jan Thomas,
 and great grandmother
 Ruby Joyce Tennyson-Ream,
 on the arrival of a baby boy,

George Elliott
 born July 24, 2019,
 8 lbs. 1 oz.



New Members

By Letter
Bill & Vici Anderson
 136 Oak Fields
 Floresville, TX 78114
 915-526-3057

By Letter
Bill & Midge Perry
 639 Sunshine Meadow
 Adkins, TX 78114
 614-309-1940

By Baptism
Jerry Kotzur
 P.O. Box 788
 Poth, TX 78147
 830-299-0468

New Members

Floresville Food Pantry

Suggested Donations for the summer months

Summer Foods for Kids

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Macaroni & Cheese | Cereal | Pop Tarts |
| Cereal/Granola Bars | Crackers, Cookies, Chips | Peanut Butter & Jelly |
| Ramen Noodles | Vienna Sausage | Canned Spaghetti/Ravioli |
| Canned Chili | Hot Dogs | Lunchables |

The Food Pantry is located on the corner of 4th and A Street and is open each Tuesday and Thursday from 10am—2pm.

Volunteers are appreciated. First Baptist Church typically provides volunteers one week per month, but the Pantry could use help any time. Contact Bonnie Dickerson for more information about this great program.



BUILDING HISTORY

Original Loan Amount:
 \$ 525,000.00
 July Loan Payment:
 \$ 5,000.00
 Current Loan Balance:
 \$ 191,543.94

"Take from among you an offering to the Lord. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offering to the Lord."
 ~Exodus 35:5a (NKJV)

online GIVING
 easy. fast. effective.

Online giving is an easy, convenient, and secure alternative to writing a check. Go to the church's web page, www.fbcf.org, or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCE	Actual Giving Receipts	Required to Meet Budget
June 2019	\$ 63,604.07	\$ 56,493.17
YTD thru June	\$ 324,947.94	\$ 338,959.02