

The Trumpet

“The trumpet shall sound...and we shall be changed”
(I Corinthians 15:52)



Pastor's Pen

Mother's Day is rapidly approaching. In just a few short weeks, Americans will put the constant chaos and uncertainty of the world on hold for a day. Whether their mother is still alive, or has passed on, they will reflect on her with fondness, love, and respect. If you are like me, you think often about your mother and constantly thank God for the blessing she is and has been throughout your life. Moms have an innate ability to meet the special needs of her family. Christian moms not only possess and exhibit the loving, maternal instincts of all moms, they also demonstrate the love of God toward their family.

In John Killinger's, *Lost in Wonder, Love, and Praise*, He writes the following:

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of the loving God, who was born of the promise to a virgin named Mary.

I believe in the love Mary gave her son, that caused her to follow him in his ministry and stand by his cross as he died.

I believe in the love of all mothers, and its importance in the lives of the children, they bear. It is stronger than steel, softer than down, and than a green sapling on the hillside. It closes wounds, melts disappointments, and enables the weakest child to stand tall and straight in the fields of adversity.

I believe that this love, even at its best, is only a shadow of the love of God, a dark reflection of all that we can expect of him, both in this life and the next.

And I believe that one of the most beautiful sights in the world is a mother who lets this greater love flow through her to her child, blessing the world with the tenderness of her touch and the tears of her joy.

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Solomon reminds us, *“Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeks wool, and flax, and works willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she brings her food from afar. She rises also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considers a field, and buys it: with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She girds her loins with strength, and strengthens her arms. She perceives that her*

merchandise is good: her candle goes not out by night. She lays her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. She stretches out her hand to the poor; yes, she reaches forth her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She makes herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land. She makes fine linen, and sells it; and delivers girdles unto the merchant. Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue, is the law of kindness. She looks well to the ways of her household, and eats not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her.” **Proverbs 31:10-28**

Thank you, God, for a Christian mother!

In Christian love,
Pastor Jim Gregory

Women’s Ministry

Our ladies’ ministry has been, and will continue to be, very busy and productive in the months leading up to another wonderful Idaho summer. Much planning by our fellow women’s groups went into the ladies retreat in Cascade. For the month of May, many exciting activities are planned. On May 6th, a Ladies Tea will be held in lieu of the traditional First Saturday Workshop, hosted by our very own Violet Solis and Jessica Nagel. At the tea, fun and fellowship will accompany a devotional. There will even be a photo booth, so bring your smile! The Women’s Ministry has learned a lot about flexibility in the months leading to May. We said goodbye to two of our ladies in leadership, thanks to one permanent change of station and one deployment. (continued on page 5)

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a ministry formed by Franklin Graham that takes Christmas gifts and the Gospel to underprivileged children all over the world. We are collecting items to fill shoeboxes in November. Each month we will highlight a different item to bring in. But, please remember we will take all types of donations at any time!

For May please bring in tee shirts, shorts, tank tops and socks.



Putting on the Full Armor of God

Apologetics - From Bob Neubauer

The Newness of the New Covenant

What was it about the Old Covenant that was insufficient? Since it was inaugurated by God why did He find it necessary to replace it? And why is the New Covenant better? The book of Hebrews answers all these questions for us.

The Old Covenant was between God and the nation of Israel and required the performance of the Jewish people for its maintenance. And most importantly it was not a salvific covenant. For while many in the covenant were saved, many were not. There is no more important difference between the two covenants than the completely salvific nature of the New Covenant. When God tells us in Jeremiah that He will make a new covenant He declares that all those in this covenant will know Him. Jeremiah 31:31-34, *“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”* In Hebrews chapter eight the writer quotes this passage emphasizing the saving nature of the New Covenant. In Hebrews 9:12 we read that Christ *entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption*. So, for whom did Christ obtain redemption? – for all those who are in the covenant.

This is one of the reasons we don’t baptize infants. Those who do admit that many baptized infants will not grow up to be Christians. They, of course, believe that the New Covenant contains unbelievers. But the New Covenant is the covenant in Christ’s blood. How could that covenant be anything but salvific? Consider Hebrews 8:6, *But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises*. So, what does Jesus mediate to those who will spend eternity in Hell? Does He mediate wrath? Hardly. Now those who practice infant baptism will say, “But you also baptize people who in the end will turn out not to be Christians. While that is true, we do not baptize those who we know are not believers when they are baptized.

A second difference between the covenants is that the New Covenant is for the whole world, not just the Jewish people. God was not required to extend His grace to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles. Mercy can never be demanded, it is always free. God would have been just if He had punished everyone - if He had saved no one. But, the extension of His grace is much broader in the New Covenant since it is not restricted to one ethnic people. Yet grace given to even one person is beyond all expectation. We can expect a holy God to punish sinners. What is past comprehension is that He would save those who are His enemies.

When God makes covenant He gives us a sign of His covenant. We all recognize the rainbow as the sign of the covenant with Noah. The sign of the Old Covenant is circumcision. Those who baptize infants (paedobaptists) argue that the sign of the New Covenant is baptism and so baptized infants are said to be part of the New Covenant. But, the Bible never says the New Covenant sign is baptism. And we would argue that the sign of the New Covenant is not baptism but the circumcision of the heart. For since all members of the New Covenant are believers, all will exhibit a life that reflects Jesus Christ. Many years ago, my brother told me about meeting a man he had been close friends with but had not seen in many years. As my brother began to tell me about the changes in the man's life I recognized the man had become a Christian. In fact, those who claim to be Christian but never show any change in behavior or attitude have not come to faith.

The New Covenant is better than the old. That is the often-repeated declaration of the book of Hebrews. The blood of bulls and goats merely covered the sins of the people for a time. It had to be repeated again and again. But, the sacrifice of Christ is once for all. To repeat it would profane it. When Moses struck the rock a second time in the wilderness he was symbolically crucifying Christ afresh and holding Him to an open shame (Numbers 20:11, Hebrews 6:6). The representation of Christ's sacrifice in the mass of the Roman Catholic Church is an abomination. It denies the sufficiency of the Lord's work. Yet even within Protestant churches many in effect also deny that what Jesus did was enough when they claim a true Christian can lose his or her salvation. Losing one's salvation is denied by scripture - Hebrews 10:14, For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Whether it is Rome or not, the threat of losing salvation is used to control believers. But, the Lord wants us to serve Him unencumbered by fear. And this is what the New Covenant has achieved for us. Because all our sins are paid for, because we do not have to live in fear that a misstep will bring eternal damnation we can serve the Lord boldly. When we do sin, we confess our sin and God forgives us. We do not have to, and must not do penance since that would deny the sufficiency of Christ's work. Rather we believe what scripture tells us, and we show our love and gratitude by our joyous service for Him.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 2 Ladies' Leadership Team Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- 4 National Day of Prayer – (12 Noon) at the Courthouse
- 4 Vacation Bible School Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- 6 Rally in the Valley (10:00 a.m.)
- 6 Mother's Day Tea (12 Noon)
- 7 Special Needs Offering (11:00 a.m.)
- 7 Pot Luck Fellowship (12:30 p.m.)
- 14 Mother's Day
- 14 No Evening Service
- 17 Awana Awards (6:00 p.m.)
- 18 MDO Completion Ceremony (6:00 p.m.)
- 23 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)

(continued from page 2) Nonetheless, the ladies remaining have persevered and have been extremely productive! On the horizon, there are plenty of events planned that the ladies in our church can be involved in. June 3rd's First Saturday Workshop will include recipes and a possible Freezer Meal Exchange, with Shannon Crowe's help. Ari Sparkman will be helping us make a beautiful menu board for our kitchens. She will provide all the material and instruction. Cost will be \$3 per person. On July 9th, after church, we will have a potluck/picnic under the trees and have activities and water games promoting Pure Water, Pure Love, which is a mission endeavor providing clean water to areas where there are no wells or clean water available in other countries. Jessica Nagel is planning the games and the mission emphasis. This will replace the First Saturday Workshop in July. We look forward to having you attend; we promised you will be blessed by the fellowship!

Shea Hicks

Chairperson

Nursery and Extended Care

The Early Childhood Ministry has been renamed to “Nursery and Extended Care” (the structure of our ministry has not changed). This ministry covers the basic care of children birth through 4 years of age during Sunday School and Church Service on Sunday mornings. Our numbers have dropped since last year. We average 10 children during the 9:30am session and roughly 15-25 during the 11:00 session. We had several new volunteers sign up to watch the children and we were down to all volunteers having to work the nursery or extended care only once a month. We will be losing roughly 6 volunteers this summer due to PCS moves. New volunteers will be needed. Please pray that GOD will provide new families to join our church this summer and that He will give some of them a heart to serve the children in the Nursery and Extended Care, as volunteers will be greatly needed. And as always, our vision is to ensure that your children learn the love of Christ in a caring and safe environment.



Jessica Nagel, Nursery and Extended Care Leader

Oops!

Several of our faithful ushers were accidentally omitted from last month’s usher report. Our thanks for their service also go to Rich Lundberg, Jason Hare, Osi Osgood and John Sanders.

Maintenance Committee Report

The maintenance committee had a profitable meeting Wednesday evening, April 19th, where several committee members volunteered to serve as primary and secondary POCs (points of contact) for maintenance, service and repair of various areas of church buildings, grounds and equipment including: interior and exterior lighting, plumbing, van maintenance, lawn care and heating and cooling. We also prioritized a list of maintenance tasks for the Saturday, April 22nd all-church workday. Other tasks were deferred for the future. We discussed and approved a form to hang in the photocopier office that will allow anyone to identify a needed maintenance task.

A dozen folks showed up for the all-church workday on Saturday and completed the two-dozen priority #1 tasks on our list! We weeded, weed-whacked, mowed, dusted, tightened or replaced hardware on door knobs, partitions, curtain rods, vacuums and playground equipment and cleaned out leaves and debris from flower beds and window wells. We are thankful for the child care workers who freed up parents to perform the maintenance tasks. The lawn mowing volunteer schedule and June 17th rummage sale volunteer signup list will be posted soon.

John Ring

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One goes to an Egyptian family and is named "Ahmal." The other is sent to a Spanish family and is named "Juan." Many years later Juan sends his birth mother a picture of himself. Upon receiving the picture she is grateful but tells her husband she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. He replies, what's the problem, they're twins. If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal.

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

7 Rachel Hall
10 Violet Solis
12 Adam Tenhagen
14 Eric Nagel
15 Clifford Hare
17 Raedena Brooks
19 Killian Tenhagen
19 John Crowe
19 Sabrina Puckett



20 Tina Holt
21 Zellie Hicks
21 Kristen Sheppard
21 Dave Ellis
22 Daryl Lyerla
22 Jason Hare
23 Flo Scheffler
24 Heather Tippery
29 Dayna Lewis

2 Jason & Amber Blair
8 Adam & Amanda Case
18 Wayne & Patti Clark



28 Don & Janet Nesbitt
29 Dave & Carol Ellis

If you do not see your name here and would like to: