



NEWSLETTER

Tanglewood Bible Fellowship

EIC: Wendy Powers

The Mission of TBF is to glorify God (Psalm 86:11-13; 115:1 and 1 Peter 2:12; 4:16) by actively participating in the ongoing fulfillment of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) as a body of believers (1 Cor 12:13; 1 John 5:1-5) who collectively/individually (Phil 1:27) serve our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (Rom 12:1-2) and one another (Phil 2:3-4) functioning as a spiritual Greenhouse (Eph 4:11-16) such that by our interactions together we are catalyzed to grow (Acts 2:42) and to reproduce (Acts 2:47) spiritually

First Fruits

In rapid succession, following the Passover and the Feasts of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of First Fruits (Yom-Bikkurim) begins. The Feast of First Fruits took place during the week-long Passover Feast on the first day after the Sabaoth (Leviticus 23) and lasted only one day.

As its name indicates, the Feast of First fruits marked thanksgiving to God for the first fruits of the harvest — in this case, the grain and cereal harvested during the spring in ancient Palestine. The very first Yom Bikkurim was not celebrated exactly the same way as it was the second time, and thereafter. In fact, it was not a celebration at all, for it was a part of the Pesach (Passover)—the night God Passed Over the houses which had lamb's blood on their door posts and lintels. Those first fruits, the firstborn of each family, were spared because they reminded God of His Covenant with them (by the blood). By contrast, the firstborn of Pharaoh's households was not spared but died when God sent His Destroyer over Egypt.

The Sunday following Passover was the first day of the week and a workday for the Hebrews -- a workday to commence the barley harvest. Yom Bikkur was a national celebration by Israel of the First fruits of the barley harvest. At this festival, the Israelites offered the very first sheaf of the harvest and were not allowed to eat anything from the crop until they gave its initial portion to the Lord (vv. 9–14). A sheaf of barley was not only a thanksgiving offering to Yahweh but represented the entire barley harvest and served as a pledge of faith in God that He will bring the rest of the harvest. They had to trust in God's providence for the fullness of grain that was yet to come; a harvest which was uncertain given the crop's utter dependence on the right amount of rainfall and so forth to give the best crop. So, the agricultural significance of First fruits was this first reaping of the barley harvest in the springtime month of Abib.

Somewhere around AD 30, the first fruits of an even greater harvest issued forth; for it was on the first day after the Sabbath that occurred in the midst of the Passover celebration that Jesus rose from the dead (Matt. 28:1–10). Lest there be any doubt that His resurrection fulfilled the Feast of First Fruits, Paul tells us explicitly that Christ is the First Fruit of those who will be raised from the dead (1 Cor. 15:20–23). Just as the first fruits offered to God under the old covenant anticipated the fuller harvest to come, the resurrection of Jesus anticipates the bodily resurrection of His people first promised under the old covenant (Job 19:25–27).

In magnificent harmony and detailed imagery, Yeshua completed and perfected the prophetic picture of the Spring Feasts which foreshadowed His work of Redemption: death (Pesach or Passover), burial (Matsot or Feast of Unleavened Bread) and Resurrection (Yom Bikkurim or Feast of First Fruits). What an awesome God we serve!

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM PRAYING THE PSALMS

Adult Services AND Children's (0-12 years) Programs – No Youth (teens) Program at this time.

Wednesday P.M. Service: 7:00-8:00 PM SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Communion: Sunday, June 27th

A Word from Pastor David Shields

Every Christian has no problem admitting that they could be better at prayer. If we are more honest, we may even admit that we do not pray as much as we could. We all know that we should be better at prayer, but we struggle at how to get there. That is why this June we are going to start a new sermon series in the Psalms called Praying the Psalms. Don't worry we are not going to going through all 150 Psalms because that would take several years! Instead, we are going to look at a few different psalms and look at how they teach us to pray.

The church Father Athanasius wrote that the Psalms "have a unique place in the Bible because most of the Scripture speaks to us, while the Psalms speak for us." Plainly speaking he means that the Psalms do not just teach us how to pray, but that they actually pray on our behalf.

The Psalms were often called the prayerbook of the Bible. The people of Israel would actually sing and pray most of the Psalms. The early church would only sing on the Psalms on Sunday for many decades. For much of church history the Psalms would even be prayed by the congregation during the week. With such a great heritage it is clear that the Psalms have much to teach us about how to pray.

I want us to look at different Psalms and see how other saints prayed. We can use the Psalms not just as a model of how to pray, but to teach us exactly the right words to say. We will ask questions about how should we pray when we doubt God? How should we pray when we are desperate and have no words? How should we pray when we need to confess our sin? And finally, how should we pray when we are joyful? The Psalms is our answer.

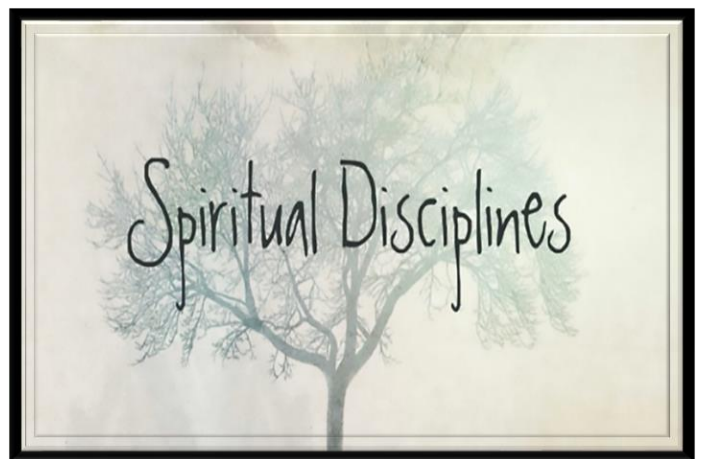
I look forward to tackling this sermon series with you. My prayer is that we will all get better at prayer. That seems like not just a good goal, but a good prayer as well.

Prayerfully,
Pastor David Shields

New Studies for June



Sunday Mornings



Wednesday Evenings

WHAT IS THE LOCAL CHURCH?

The word "church" in the NT never refers to a building or a place. It always refers to a people: either the total number of believers who have ever lived or a local group of those believers.

The local church is a group of professing believers in Jesus Christ who meet in some particular location on a regular basis. A local church is normally defined as a local assembly of all who profess faith and allegiance to Christ. Most often, the Greek word *ekklesia* is used in reference to the local assembly. It literally means "assembly," "congregation," or "meeting." (1 Thessalonians 1:1; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 2 Corinthians 11:8). There is not just one specific local church in any one area, necessarily. There are many local churches in larger cities.

The Bible tells us we need to attend church so we can worship God with other believers and be taught His Word for our spiritual growth. The early church "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer" (Acts 2:42). We should follow that example of devotion—and to the same things. Back then, they had no designated church building, but "every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts" (Acts 2:46). Wherever the meeting takes place, believers thrive on fellowship with other believers and the teaching of God's Word.

Church attendance is not just a "good suggestion"; it is God's will for believers. Hebrews 10:25 says we should "not [be] giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Even in the early church, some were falling into the bad habit of not meeting with other believers. The author of Hebrews says that is not the way to go. We need the encouragement that church attendance affords. And the approach of the end times should prompt us to be even more devoted to going to church.

Church is the place where believers can love one another (1 John 4:12), encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13), "spur" one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24), serve one another (Galatians 5:13), instruct one another (Romans 15:14), honor one another (Romans 12:10), and be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32).

When a person trusts Jesus Christ for salvation, he or she is made a member of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). For a church body to function properly, all of its "body parts" need to be present and working (1 Corinthians 12:14–20). It's not enough to just attend a church; we should be involved in some type of ministry to others, using the spiritual gifts God has given us (Ephesians 4:11–13). A believer will never reach full spiritual maturity without having that outlet for his gifts, and we all need the assistance and encouragement of other believers (1 Corinthians 12:21–26).

For these reasons and more, church attendance, participation, and fellowship should be regular aspects of a believer's life. Weekly church attendance is in no sense "required" for believers, but someone who belongs to Christ should have a desire to worship God, receive His Word, and fellowship with other believers.

Jesus is the Cornerstone of the Church (1 Peter 2:6), and we are "like living stones . . . being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5). As the building materials of God's "spiritual house," we naturally have a connection with one another, and that connection is evident every time the Church "goes to church."

gotquestions.org

Acts 2:42

And they continued STEADFASTly in the
apostles' DOCTRINE and FELLOWSHIP,
in the BREAKING OF BREAD, and in PRAYERS.



TBF Men's Ministries



Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm – TBF UTH Room June 10 and June 24

Jacob fathered the twelve tribes of Israel. But he took a circuitous, some might even say “checkered,” path into God’s promised blessing. Explore the highs and lows of this patriarch’s life for yourself, chapter-by-chapter, and discover the hope that God can use anyone, even the most unlikely of characters, to do great things for His glory in BSF’s five-week study of Jacob’s life covered in Genesis 27-33.

- June 10: Jacob: Trials with Wives and Laban
- June 24: Jacob: Meets with God and Esau

Led by Wolfgang Deeg. Participants will meet to discuss what has been learned from reading relevant chapters and answering supplied questions. Questions, Notes, and Podcasts are available for download from Bible Study Fellowship (BSF). Contact Wolfgang for details.

Kindred Community is Back!!

Tuesday, June 29th 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Ray of Hope Church
Hwy 81 Between Duncan and Comanche

Open to all TBF women with a heavenly husband



For additional information contact
Jan Palovik at 580-467-1925 or sleepersully@hotmail.com



TBF *Women's Ministries*

Super Summer Saturdays

It is with great excitement and thankful hearts that the TBF Women's Ministry Committee announce plans for summer fellowship, fun, and food.

The first of three monthly Super Summer Saturdays will be Saturday, June 12th. It will be a brunch from 10-12 in the home of Kitz Lewark. Brianna Shields will be the guest speaker.

The second Super Summer Saturday is scheduled for July 24th. It will be a brunch from 10-12, in the home of Brianna Shields. The speaker will be named soon.

The August Super Summer Saturday will be hosted by Jan Palovik. Date, time, and speaker will be announced shortly.

If you would like to bring food items to any of these special events, please contact the hostess for that month.

We are hopeful you will be able to participate in these special events. We pray you will be enriched both in the messages presented by the speakers as well as in the fellowship of Sisters-in-Christ. Please know that Super Summer Saturdays are open to TBF women and invited guests.

With much love in Christ,
Mimi, Kitz, Linda, Brianna, and Olga



Sister-to-Sister

Card Ministry

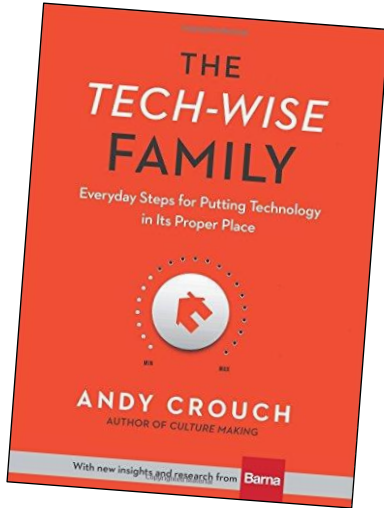
Lifting One Another Up Through Words of Encouragement

Join me in encouraging our sisters-in-Christ by sending cards of encouragement to our fellow sisters this month. For names and addresses, please send an email to powers5rus@aol.com or text 580.736.4997 with your name and the word "sisters". Further details will be provided.

Supplies provided for active TBF women or feel free to use your own

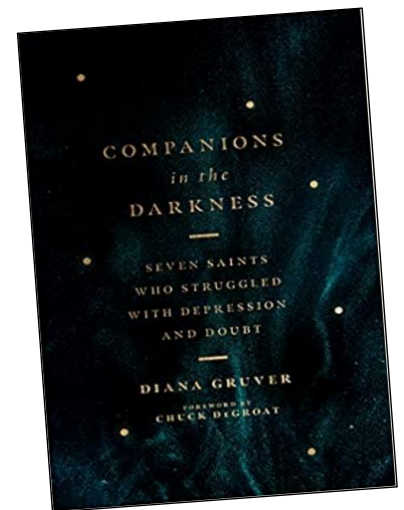
David's Book Recommendations

Like many pastors I am a big fan of books. The following books are all books you can find on my bookshelf, and I would be more than happy to lend them to anyone who would like to read them.



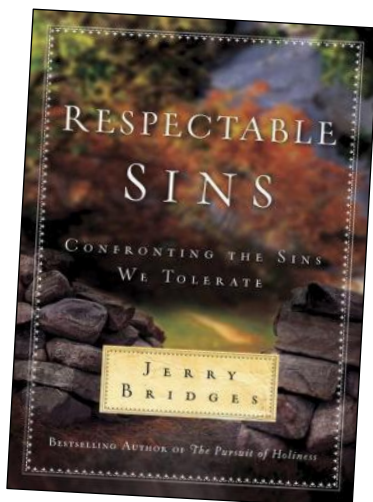
The Tech-Wise Family by Andy Crouch

One of the most significant challenges in parenting today is figuring out how to parent with technology. Parents have questions and this book actually has some good biblical answers. What I appreciate most about this book is that it gives wisdom not rules. It helps with guidance and ideas about how Christian parents and grandparents can view technology without letting it dominate the family. I have not found a better resource for parents trying to navigate these decisions, or conversations.



Companions in the Darkness by Diane Gruver

This book shares the story of seven famous believers who wrestled with depression in one form or another. This book does not give spiritual tips to defeat depression, nor is it depressing itself. I found it comforting to read about the real struggles of some of my heroes. In our age where depression and despair seem rampant this is a necessary book. If you have struggled with depression or want to be reminded that even our heroes had deep issues, then I highly recommend this to you.



Respectable Sins by Jerry Bridges

This is a classic work that is determined to convict you. As Christians we are often great at focusing on the big sins especially those of others. But this book takes care to confront the small sins in our own hearts that we love to overlook. You will find your own sin in at least one of these chapters. The most convicting one for me personally was his confrontation of competitiveness. I started the chapter angry with my arms crossed at this loser who clearly does not understand but ended it on my knees realizing how deep this sin went in my life. This book is great but should come with a warning label "Conviction of sin ahead!"



H O L Y G O L R F O R E V E R
 R F G H E C O E Y S M I L E D
 E I U A N B V D O I S R A E L
 S R I R E L E E M H Q H L H C
 U S E V R O P M B P E S A C H
 R T X E A O R P I J O Y M Q R
 R F O S T D I T K U W U B M I
 E R D T I W E I K E G Y P T S
 C U U K O E S O U W N N K K T
 T I S J N J T N R V U A K V S
 I T H A N K S G I V I N G Q A
 O F F E R I N G M D E A T H V
 N P R O V I D E N C E Q Z F I
 F B A R L E Y M A T S O T U O
 F E A S T S Y W S H E A F N R

FIRST FRUIT	CHRIST	REDEMPTION
DEATH	OFFERING	SHEAF
BARLEY	HARVEST	RESURRECTION
BLOOD	HOLY	THANKSGIVING
YOM BIKKURIM	MATSOT	PESACH
FEASTS	PROVIDENCE	PRIESTS
LAMB		

Speak to the children of Israel and say to them: “When you come into the land which I give to you and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest. He shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, to be accepted on your behalf; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.”

Leviticus 23:10-11



H	O	L	Y	G	O	L	R	F	O	R	E	V	E	R
R	F	G	H	E	C	O	E	Y	S	M	I	L	E	D
E	I	U	A	N	B	V	D	O	I	S	R	A	E	L
S	R	I	R	E	L	E	E	M	H	Q	H	L	H	C
U	S	E	V	R	O	P	M	B	P	E	S	A	C	H
R	T	X	E	A	O	R	P	I	J	O	Y	M	Q	R
R	F	O	S	T	D	I	T	K	U	W	U	B	M	I
E	R	D	T	I	W	E	I	K	E	G	Y	P	T	S
C	U	U	K	O	E	S	O	U	W	N	N	K	K	T
T	I	S	J	N	J	T	N	R	V	U	A	K	V	S
I	T	H	A	N	K	S	G	I	V	I	N	G	Q	A
O	F	F	E	R	I	N	G	M	D	E	A	T	H	V
N	P	R	O	V	I	D	E	N	C	E	Q	Z	F	I
F	B	A	R	L	E	Y	M	A	T	S	O	T	U	O
F	E	A	S	T	S	Y	W	S	H	E	A	F	N	R

FIRST FRUIT
DEATH
BARLEY
BLOOD
YOM BIKKURIM
FEASTS
LAMB

CHRIST
OFFERING
HARVEST
HOLY
MATSOT
PROVIDENCE

REDEMPTION
SHEAF
RESURRECTION
THANKSGIVING
PESACH
PRIESTS

But in fact Christ has been raised
from the dead, the firstfruits of those
who have fallen asleep.
For as by a man came death, by a man
has come also the resurrection of the
dead.

For as in Adam all die, so also in
Christ shall all be made alive.
But each in his own order:
Christ the firstfruits, then at His
coming those who belong to Christ.
1 Corinthians 15:20-23

June




2021

Tanglewood Bible Fellowship

I Corinthians 15:20-23

²⁰ But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the first fruits of those who have ^[a]fallen asleep. ²¹ For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. ²³ But each one in his own order: Christ the first fruits, afterward those *who are* Christ's at His coming.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Service 9:30 AM	7	8	9 Service 7 PM	10 Men's Bible Study: Jacob 6:30 PM	11	12 Super Saturday 10 AM -12 Noon 
13 Service 9:30 AM	14	15	16 Service 7 PM	17	18	19
20 Service 9:30 AM 	21	22	23 Service 7 PM	24 Men's Bible Study: Jacob 6:30 PM	25	26
27 Service 9:30 AM *Communion	28	29 Kindred Community 6-8 PM 	30 Service 7 PM			
>June 6 th is the National Day of Prayer for the persecuted church						