



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

King of the Jews

Jesus is referred to as the King of the Jews two times in His earthly life: at His birth by the wise men (Matthew 2:2) and at His trial and subsequent crucifixion (Mark 15:2). All four gospels record the words “King of the Jews” as part of Pilate’s instructions to the angry mob (Matthew 27:37; Mark 15:9; Luke 23:38; John 19:3) and Pilate’s direct address to Jesus (Matthew 27:11; Mark 15:2; Luke 23:3; John 18:33). It is interesting that only non-Jews used this specific title to describe Jesus, underscoring the truth of John 1:11, which says, “He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.”

The title King of the Jews had both messianic and political implications. Kings in Israel were anointed with oil as a sign of God’s choosing (see 1 Kings 1:39), and the meaning of Messiah is “Anointed One.” As the Son of David, the Messiah was chosen by God to fulfill the Davidic Covenant and rule on the throne in Jerusalem. When the magi came to Jerusalem seeking the King of the Jews, they most likely had in mind a future political leader, much to King Herod’s chagrin. But the Jews in Jerusalem, hearing the magi’s question, would have thought of the long-awaited Messiah.

In Mark 15:32 some mockingly call Jesus the “King of Israel” and associate the title with “Christ” (“Messiah”). What they meant as jeering scorn—what kind of king would be hanging on a cross?—was, ironically, the exact truth. Jesus was the King of Israel, and He was on the cross to save them from their sins.

The sign that Pilate posted over Jesus on the cross identified the “criminal” in three languages: “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews” (John 19:19). The Jewish leaders objected to the application of a Messianic title to Jesus: “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews” (verse 21). For reasons he kept to himself, Pilate refused to alter the sign (verse 22), which was another ironic statement of truth.

During the trial of Jesus, Pilate had asked Him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” (Mark 15:2). Jesus answered, “It is as you say” (NASB). Later, Jesus expanded on the idea of His being a king: “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place” (John 18:36). The King of the Jews was rejected by Israel, but there is a broader spiritual kingdom that He still ruled.

Continued on pg.3

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM MEETING AT TANGLEWOOD

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

Masks are encouraged.

Wednesday P.M. Service: 7:00-8:00 PM MEETING AT TANGLEWOOD

A Word from Pastor David Shields

TBF Family,

It might still feel like 2020, but like it or not it's 2022. If you are like me, then you might start making all sorts of plans for the new year. I typically try to make elaborate goals and plans, but the last few years have taught me to hold my plans loosely. Part of my planning for the last few weeks has been praying through what we will study in 2022 on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday nights. One of our core values as a church is expository preaching. We value teaching the Bible. We gather, in part, to hear what God's Word has to say to us each week. One of my core convictions about expository preaching is that it is best accomplished in preaching through books of the Bible. My current plan, written in pencil and always subject to the Holy Spirit's guidance, is for us to walk completely walk through 5 books of the Bible in 2022.

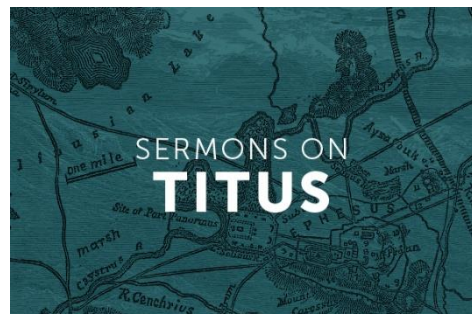
We will begin in January studying the book of Titus in a short series called Gospel Basics. Titus is a great foundational book of the Bible. Paul writes instructing Titus with some clear guidelines on three big themes: leaders, doctrine, and good works. We will spend each week digging into these ideas and seeing what the gospel has to say about them. I think it's helpful to spend the first part of the year reminding ourselves of some of the fundamentals of our faith. Titus gives us a great opportunity to do that.

On Wednesday nights we are going to try something a little different. We are going to start going deeper on Wednesday nights the same text we covered on Sunday. Often there is so much in God's Word that we simply don't have time to dig into. There are interesting questions, tangents, or rabbit trails in each passage that I try to ignore on Sunday morning. I want to try spending Wednesday nights studying deeper in the passage since we will have the main idea unpacked on Sunday. So, on Sunday I'll preach on Titus 1. That following Wednesday we will go back over Titus 1 in greater depth.

I want to try it while we study Titus and see how it goes. After Titus we are going to go through Daniel on Sundays. Daniel is a book filled with all sorts of apocalyptic and eschatological content. I want to experiment studying Titus more first to see if it might help us get more out of our study of Daniel. It will just be a trial run. If it ends up feeling too repetitive, or unhelpful then don't worry I have backup plans upon backup plans.

I am looking forward to our new year together. I have been amazed at how God has blessed our church over this last year. We continue to grow and become healthier as a church. I cannot wait to see how God blesses, uses, and challenges us in the year to come.

In Christ,
Pastor David



After the conversation about Jesus' kingship, Pilate turns to the crowd and asks, "Do you want me to release 'the king of the Jews'?" (John 18:39). In no uncertain terms, the crowd shouts their answer: "No, not him! Give us Barabbas!" (Verse 40). Pilate then allows the soldiers to give Jesus a beating, during which they clothe Jesus as a king, mock Him with cries of "Hail, king of the Jews!" and repeatedly slap Him in the face (John 19:3). After the mockery, Pilate again presents Jesus to the crowd as the King of the Jews: "Here is your king," he says (verse 14). In response they shout, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered" (verse 15). Their choice had been made, and Jesus, their true king, was led away to be crucified (verse 16).

Some people during Jesus' ministry recognized Jesus as the King of the Jews. As Jesus neared Jerusalem the final time, the crowd with Him "thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once" (Luke 19:11). In other words, they believed Jesus was the King of the Jews, and they were ready to help Him set up the earthly kingdom. Jesus told a parable indicating that the kingdom would be delayed (verses 12–27), but the crowd's enthusiasm did not wane. As He entered Jerusalem, Jesus was greeted with shouts of welcome for the King of the Jews: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" (Verse 38).

God's people had been expecting a deliverer since God first promised one in Genesis 3:15. God Himself unified the Hebrews under Moses and told them that, as long as they followed and obeyed Him, He would bless and guide them (Deuteronomy 11:8–9; 27:9–10). But the children of Israel rejected the Lord as their leader and demanded an earthly king (1 Samuel 8:7, 19). God gave them what they wanted and appointed Saul as the first king over Israel (1 Samuel 9:17). When Saul disobeyed the Lord, he was then rejected by God, and his sons were not allowed to succeed him on the throne (1 Samuel 15:9–11, 23, 28). Instead, God chose David to be the next king of the Jews (1 Samuel 16:1). God promised David that his name would be forever associated with the throne of Israel (2 Samuel 7:12–16). Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, David penned the prophetic Psalm 22, which gave Israel hints about what their future Messiah and Deliverer would endure. But, in their desperation for an earthly king and an earthly kingdom, most of the Jews disregarded those prophetic words as well as the ones in Isaiah 53. When Jesus came, He fulfilled those prophecies. Importantly, He was from the royal line of David (Matthew 1:1; John 7:42) and could rightly take the title King of the Jews, but because Jesus was not what they wanted, "his own people did not receive him" (John 1:11, ESV).

A king is a supreme ruler. When the Jews clamored for a king in Samuel's day, they were rejecting God as their Supreme Ruler (1 Samuel 8:7). Because of their hard hearts, He allowed them temporary kings. But this led to bondage and their destruction as a nation, highlighting the reality that what they wanted was not what they needed. The kingdom was divided after King Solomon's rule, and both parts of the divided kingdom eventually fell to foreign enemies. Jerusalem was destroyed at least twice, once by the Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar (2 Kings 25:8–10) and again by the Romans under Titus in AD 70. The Jews who rejected their true King were scattered among the nations for centuries until 1948.

Isaiah 11 announced that one day a "shoot from the stem of Jesse" (verse 1) would come and set the world to rights. The Jews have long interpreted such prophecies as foretelling an earthly king for Israel. We understand Jesus to be that King; however, God had bigger plans than just an earthly kingdom. He never resigned Himself to Israel's rejection of His kingship, but rather used their rejection of Him as an opportunity to demonstrate His love for the whole world (John 3:16). The Son of God took on human flesh, came in the form of a servant, and showed His people what a real Deliverer was like (Philippians 2:5–11; Mark 10:44).

Because this King of the Jews did not fit the ideas they had cherished for thousands of years, the Jews again rejected the One they needed. Many Jews are still waiting for the wrong kind of king. Revelation 19:16 describes the day when Jesus will return to rule over the earth. At that time, the ancient prophecies of an earthly kingdom of God will be fulfilled, and no one will doubt that Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Every nation, tribe, and tongue will bow to the King of the Jews (1 Timothy 6:14–16; Romans 14:11; Philippians 2:10; Revelation 5:9).

TBF Family Ministries

Hello TBF family!

Last month we focused on the main theme of TBF Family Ministries to be a Greenhouse of Spiritual Growth. This month I want us to focus on our parents, nurturing them to be Godly Gardeners. Far too long, parents have dropped their children at church and relied solely on events and Sunday lessons to teach them about God. I do not know where this concept developed but it is not found in Scripture. In fact, Scripture teaches us the opposite:

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. (Deut. 6:4-9)

In scripture God is addressing the parents as the ones who are responsible for their children's walk with the Lord. You do not have to figure it out on your own, but you are responsible to God for the raising of your children in the righteousness of the Lord. This thought should fill you with a sense of urgent responsibility that has serious consequences if you don't obey and teach your children regardless their age. This may seem scary but, remember you are not alone. First and foremost, God does not leave you to fend for yourself! Second, you also have a church family who loves you and will walk alongside you. And third, you have a new resource in the church, a Family Pastor whose door is always open if you need someone to talk to.

I want to give you permission to take on this God-ordained responsibility again. God has given you a wonderful opportunity of being with your child 24/7 or at least a lot more often than I or any of our church teachers have with them. If you are a Grandparent, you are still not off the hook! You need to be encouraging your children and your grandchildren with the Word of the Lord! The best way to do this is by and teaching the Gospel and modeling Christ by living out the Gospel.

So how will we as a Church walk alongside our parents to create an area to nurture Godly Gardeners? Here are some Ideas that we are hoping to roll out in this new year. The first is a parent community group, a time for parents to come together and talk, fellowship, and study the Word together. Also, we hope to place an emphasis on "family worship" and give out resources to help parents raise their children up in the path that they should go. The final major method is by creating a resource wall that will have books and materials that are available for our families. If you have any ideas that would help build a Culture of Growth don't hesitate to grab me and share your ideas!

With Love,
Pastor Rob



TBF Men's Ministries



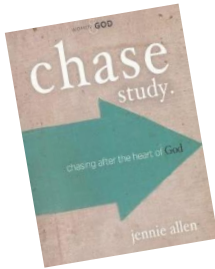
Meets every 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm
TBF Youth room starting Jan. 13, 2022
(Jan 13, 27, Feb 10, 24, Mar 10)

What did Jesus say about the poor and persecuted? Explore one of Jesus' most famous teachings through an in-depth 4-week study. This will be a 4-session study of Matthew 5-7, Jesus' Sermon on the Mount based on material supplied by Bible Study Fellowship and led by Wolfgang Deeg.

What's Happening at TBF

- ✚ JOIN OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEETING AT TBF. EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 7 PM. Hear a lesson from Pastor David and join us for a time of prayer and praise.
- ✚ TBF WORSHIP TEAM MUSIC PRACTICE. JOIN US! See Dale Corbin or Lana Sleeper for details.
- ✚ DAILY DEVOS WITH PASTOR DAVID – TBF Facebook Page
- ✚ MISS A SUNDAY? Check out the sermons on the TBF Facebook page or tbfduncan.org
- ✚ WOMEN OF TANGLEWOOD BIBLE FELLOWSHIP – Facebook page

TBF *Women's Ministries*



CHASE

By Jennie Allen



We are excited to announce a Bible Study Kick Off event that will be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, from 5:30-7:30pm, at TBF. This special event is free of charge to all TBF women and guests. It will include a dinner of Polynesian chicken, rice, and salad prepared by Jonny's, numerous door prizes, and a special introductory viewing of our new Bible study, 'Chase', by Jennie Allen. (If you choose to participate in this study, you will be given a study guide that evening.) Whether or not you are able to participate in the Bible study, we hope you will be able to attend the dinner. This is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship with other women of our precious church.

'Chase' by Jennie Allen is an 8 session DVD Bible study. It "explores the events that defined David's life and the Psalms that flowed out of those experiences. Through David's example we'll discover what God really wants from us. The lessons in this study are simple yet deep and very interactive, offering Bible study, stories, and projects to dig into Scripture and deeply engage the minds and hearts of participants."

The first video (Session 1) will be shown at the Kick Off event. The remaining 7 sessions will be offered in 2 venues as our previous study. Each participant will have the option of attending Tuesday evenings, 6:30-8pm, in the home of Jean Crow or on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11, at TBF. All sessions are scheduled on the second and fourth Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the months in January, February, March, and will conclude in April.

It is our privilege to offer the Kick Off event as an evening of fun, food, and fellowship to the women of Tanglewood and guests. It is truly a blessing to offer another great Bible study, 'Chase', as an opportunity of spiritual growth, while providing love and support to one another.

We hope and pray you will join us for both the dinner and the study. We look forward to CHASING JESUS TOGETHER!

Mimi, Kitte, Linda, Brianna, Jean (Crow), and Olga

CHASE

IDENTITY

BELIEF

OBEEDIENCE

COURAGE

SURRENDER

REPENTANCE

CHASED DOWN

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 each month.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

WEDNESDAY, January 19, 2022

5:45 PM, immediately prior to our regular Wednesday service



Main Course: Jean Crow's delicious and well-known **Enchiladas**
additional side dishes will be provided.

Watch for the Sign-up Sheet in the foyer, and please let us know if you are coming.
Cost will be \$4 for adults and \$2 for children.

If you have any questions or want to volunteer to help, contact Debra Welch.

Kindred Community

Stephens County Fairgrounds in Duncan
Tuesday, January 18th 6:00 – 8:00 PM
sponsored by Open Range Cowboy Church

If you are a TBF woman with a heavenly husband or know of a woman you would like to invite to this event, please RSVP on the official RSVP invitation!

FREE

The Wanzors have a good Panasonic upright commercial vacuum from Kynn's Mom's house. It comes with attachments. They would love to bless someone in their TBF family who is in need of a sweeper.

First phone call or text to Carol at (580) 467-8133
gets the FREE sweeper!



Michael and Amanda Burch

Mission Trip to the US Mexico Border 2021

Hello TBF Family,

On December 9th, Michael and I took a trip to the US Mexico border with Missionary Alma Ruth from Practice Mercy Foundation and a team from her commissioning church, Hope Community Austin. It was my first time to Mexico and my first mission-related trip.

This trip was unlike any mission trip I've ever heard of. We weren't going to evangelize people who had never heard the gospel. We were going to be the hands and feet of Jesus to Christians who have begun to feel utterly hopeless and forgotten.

Practice Mercy Foundation's mission is to renew hope and practice mercy along the Mexico borderlands through holistic service, relational advocacy and empowering collaborations which dignify women, children, and especially indigenous sojourners.

Michael and I got to witness firsthand this holistic service and relational advocacy. We parked our car at the International Bridge and walked over with our team wearing

backpacks filled with much-needed supplies and carrying white trash bags containing a single air mattress and blanket. Once across the bridge, we were met by the brilliant smile of a young Guatemalan girl. Her eyes sparkled as she helped her mother sell hand-made trinkets while her baby brother toddled around. Hours later into the night, we saw this same mother and her children on the bridge, still selling their wares as we crossed back into the safety of the US.



Michael, Axel, Mavis, and Amanda Burch





Next, we stopped to talk to a family sitting on the sidewalk who had just been brought back to Mexico after seeking asylum in the US. They hung their heads and cried as we prayed for them. After this, we made our way past the refugee camp through the winding streets to a nondescript restaurant-Alma's preferred meeting point with the women she ministers to. The restaurant provides more than physical nourishment. It is a small haven of safety where stories can be told, prayers can

be lifted up and donations can be distributed-all away from the ever-watchful eye of the cartel.

Alma has been serving four Christian women, Angie, Maria, Angelina, and Pedrona and their children for several months now. They are currently living in the migrant camp in Reynosa. Alma has been bringing them basic necessities, coaching them on legal immigration, and training them to identify other women in need throughout the camp.

Witnessing the ministry of presence and the difference it makes when simply showing up to say, 'I see you, I hear you, I love you', is the single biggest impact of this trip on my life. Those of us who have experienced trauma and abuse in our lives know how difficult it is to tell our stories. When, by the grace of God, we break free from the bondage of shame and fear that traps us in silence, it is so empowering. This empowerment is exactly what Alma has been able to bring through her friendship with Angie, Maria, Angelina, and Pedrona. She has reminded them that they are valuable children of God and given them a voice to tell their stories. Without being able to effectively communicate their need for asylum, they are without hope. This is her vision, that every woman, child, and indigenous sojourner would experience renewed hope and find mercy at our border.

Over lunch, laughter, hugs, songs, prayers, and many tears, we heard the stories of these 4 women. They bravely shared the everyday horrors they faced before making the arduous journey to seek asylum at the border. Each woman is an Indian Mayan from Guatemala. All 4 speak different languages. (There are over 35 total languages spoken in Guatemala) Each woman struggled to learn Spanish as a common way to communicate.

Many of these women left child-bride situations. The husband marries them while they are very young and then leaves them once they get pregnant. Once the community finds out that they are alone, it is no longer safe for them. They lived under the constant threats of food scarcity, violence, and rape.



At the camp, they are bullied and vulnerable. They are looked down upon because of their ethnicity. The Mexican government turned off the electricity to the camp, so it is very dark. This also creates an unsafe environment where violence and rape are common.

“We need prayer. We need to wait on God, but we cannot afford to be patient. There is much suffering here.”

“No one sees us or cares for us or protects us.” Our team through tears and hugs reminded these women that our God,

El Roi is The God Who Sees. How I long for the day when there is no more suffering and I am sitting at the banquet table of Jesus with my Guatemalan sisters, worshipping the Mighty King!

There was a small glimmer of hope in the stories as we neared the end of our time at the restaurant. The women shared how before Alma came, they were eating once a day, giving the majority of what they were able to buy to their boys. Practice Mercy Foundation provides each woman a small grocery allowance to provide for them and their children. “We are learning to be leaders and speak up and to find other indigenous women to care for.” I am so encouraged that through a little bit of support, love and friendship, these women are now empowered to speak up and give back. Amen!

After lunch, we handed out the last of our donations. It was such a blessing to see each carefully packed backpack go to the exact person who needed it. God is so good and faithful to provide. Once the donations were handed out, we headed into the camp. There were dozens and dozens of tents setup side by side to house over 2500 people—mostly women and children. There was very little room to walk in between, and a maze of clotheslines overhead. I’m afraid my words could never do justice to the scene of utter desperation before us. We were led to the tents of our new friends and were invited inside to sit and pray. This time without an interpreter, we relied on the Holy Spirit to bring understanding. Praise God that He hears prayer from every tribe, nation and tongue.

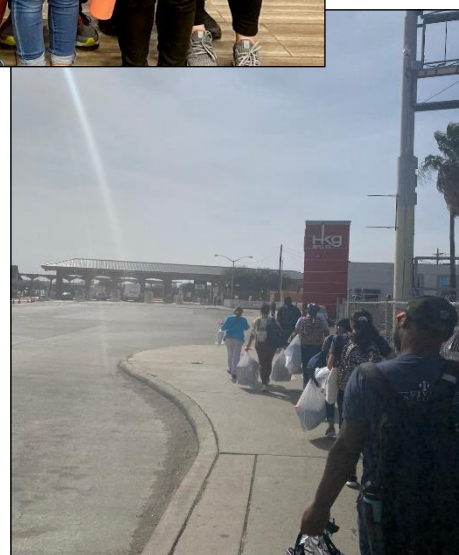
Before we left, the only thing our friends asked of us is prayer. “Thank you for coming to see us and understand the urgent need we have for prayer because only God can help us.”



This is what I humbly ask of you brothers and sisters. Please pray for Maria, Angelina, Angie, and Pedrona. Please pray for their children, Jeremiah, Edwin, Sebastian, and Pasqual. Please pray for the border crisis and our brothers and sisters in Christ who are most severely affected. Pray also for Practice Mercy Foundation and Alma Ruth—that the Lord would bring more workers to help.

Thank you all so much for your donations, encouragement, and prayers. Hope Community Church in Austin is planning to bring more teams down after the first of the year. If anyone desires to answer the call to come and see, please get in touch with me!

Love,
Amanda Burch



More Information about Practice Mercy Foundation and the difficulties faced by those seeking asylum in the United States can be found here:

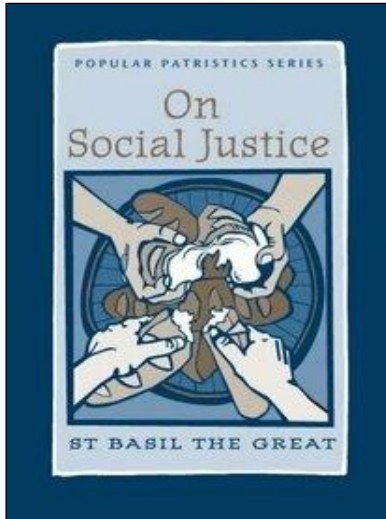
<https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2021/june/remain-in-mexico-ends-biden-trump-asylum-christian-help.html>

Nonprofit shows 'dignity' to Indigenous asylum-seekers who are 'bullied' south of the border

<https://practicemercy.org>

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

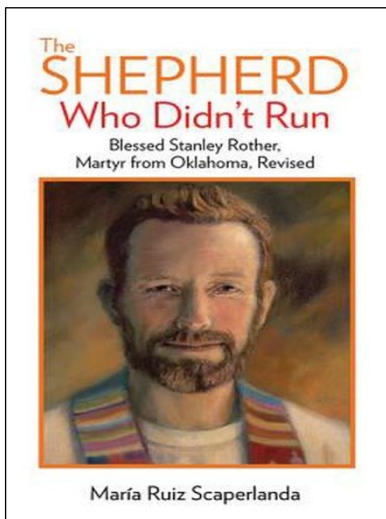
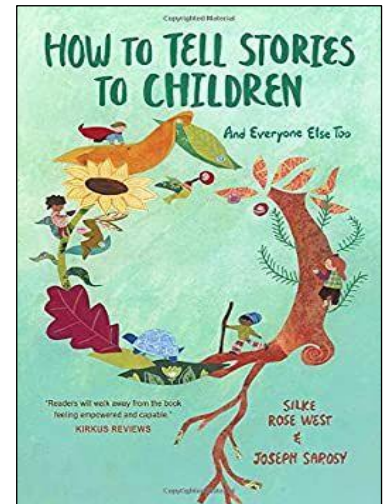


On Social Justice by St. Basil the Great

The book is a collection of four sermons Basil gave primarily about poverty and wealth. The title may scare some off, but these sermons were given 1500 years ago in a radically different climate. The sermons are primarily focused on our responsibility to give to the poor and then dismantles every single excuse you offer up. I recommend skipping the introduction and get right to the sermons. They could have been preached yesterday because they are timeless. Basil has this radical idea that we should take the commands of the Bible seriously. The church fathers vary in their accessibility, but these sermons are easy to understand and hard to apply.

How to Tell Stories to Children by Silke Rose West and Joseph Sarosy

This is the first book about storytelling that actually made me think I could do it. I don't think of myself as particularly imaginative. Even for my children, I don't feel creative enough to create a new story for scratch. But this book helped give the right perspective. Telling stories is just about spending time together. The book gives some tips and help but focuses on the main theme. The value of the story is not in its quality, but in the time spend together. If you struggle and want to tell your kids or grandkids stories this is a great short read.



The Shepherd who didn't Run: Fr. Stanley Rother, Martyr from Oklahoma by Maria Ruiz Scaperlands

Great biography of an ordinary catholic priest who died as a martyr because he loved his people. I think even Protestants, like me, can find much encouragement in this story. I was especially drawn to his story since he was from Okarche, OK. Stanley was an ordinary farm boy who failed out of seminary and barely became a priest. He eventually ended up in a remote village in Guatemala. His unacademic ordinary nature was exactly what prepared him to be a good priest. I was sucked into story because it's just about an ordinary priest who loved his people. If you want a story about an extraordinary saint doing amazing things, then you'll want to look elsewhere too. But I was drawn to this humble man just doing his best to follow Jesus.