



NEWSLETTER

Tanglewood Bible FellowshipEIC: 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

Love is of God

In 1 John 4:7-8, the apostle John returns to one of his favorite subjects—love: “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love” (NKJV).

With these words, John launches an extended teaching on the importance of showing love (1 John 4:7-21). He starts by clarifying that the believer’s ability to love comes from knowing God: “Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God” (1 John 4:8, NLT).

The idea that “love is of God” (NKJV) can also be expressed as “love is from God” (ESV, NASB, CSB) and “love comes from God” (NIV, NLT). John explains that the source of all love is the divine nature of God. Love has its origin in God because God is love by His very essence.

John’s teaching reveals why love is essential in the believer’s life. Love is the litmus test of an authentic relationship with God. If we are indeed children of God through faith in Jesus Christ, we share in His nature (2 Peter 1:4). God’s nature is love; therefore, we will exhibit love. Demonstrating Christian love confirms the reality of our spiritual life.

“No one has ever seen God,” states John, “but if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us” (1 John 4:12, NLT). One Bible commentator defines the word love in this passage as “a consuming passion for the well-being of others, and this love has its wellspring in God” (F. F. Bruce, *The Epistles of John*, Eerdmans Pub., 1983). If we want to be like God, we will care deeply about the well-being of others because God is love. Love is not only who God is but what He does: “God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him” (1 John 4:9, NLT).

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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,

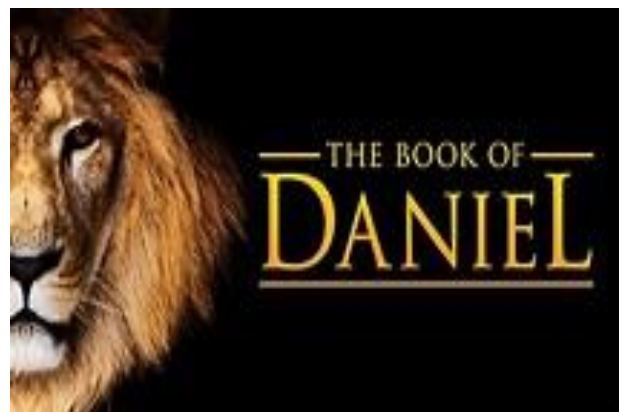
We are getting deeper into our series in the book of Daniel. One of the things I love about preaching is that it forces to study the passage deeper. Daniel is filled with well-known stories. In fact, you may have heard sermons on these very passages more times than you can count. This presents a challenge to us. How do we approach familiar passages in the Bible? There are two traps that we can fall into on either extreme.

The first trap is when we are always hunting for something “new.” This desire is good, but it becomes sinful when our good desire to learn something new from God’s Word is warped. It is warped because our desire turns into something that is merely entertained by the Word of God. We start coming to the Bible seeking to have our ears tickled. We end up only enjoying or finding our Bible reading time fruitful if we gained something “new.” Now there is undoubtedly new things to find in the Bible. None of us have mastered the book, or every story. But when we only search for the new, we miss the old truths that have not yet sunk deep enough. Our desire for “new” can reveal a lack of mastering the “old.” A healthy desire to learn from God’s Word turns into a distraction from obeying it. Instead of looking for something new we should meditate on the older truths we have heard before.

The other trap is that we can assume we have nothing more to learn from the story. I have fallen into this trap when it comes to books I’ve studied, or even preached through already. We can start to think that we have heard the passage and story a million times. We think that nothing more could possibly be gained! But the reality is that we are all still sinful. None of us have mastered any part of the Christian life, or our sin nature. So each the lesson of each story is still applicable. Instead of falling into this trap our response should be to ask ourselves, “What is the lesson I am still not applying in my life?”

The final approach we should have towards not just well-known stories in the Bible, but all of them, is one of prayer. We should approach each interaction with God’s Word praying ahead of time that the Holy Spirit will help us understand it. That He would show us what we have missed. That He would convict us where we are lacking. That He would help us understand what is confusing. Without the help of the Holy Spirit, we will always fail to rightly understand God’s Word. So as we continue to study Daniel I hope you will pray alongside me. Pray that God opens our hearts to receive that He wants to teach us.

Pastor David



Only those born of God's Spirit can love in the fullness of its expression, which is sacrifice: "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters" (1 John 3:16).

By nature, human love is selfish and conditional. We love those who love us. We love people who are kind to us and who offer some benefit to us. But Jesus taught, "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. . . . Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that" (Luke 6:27-33).

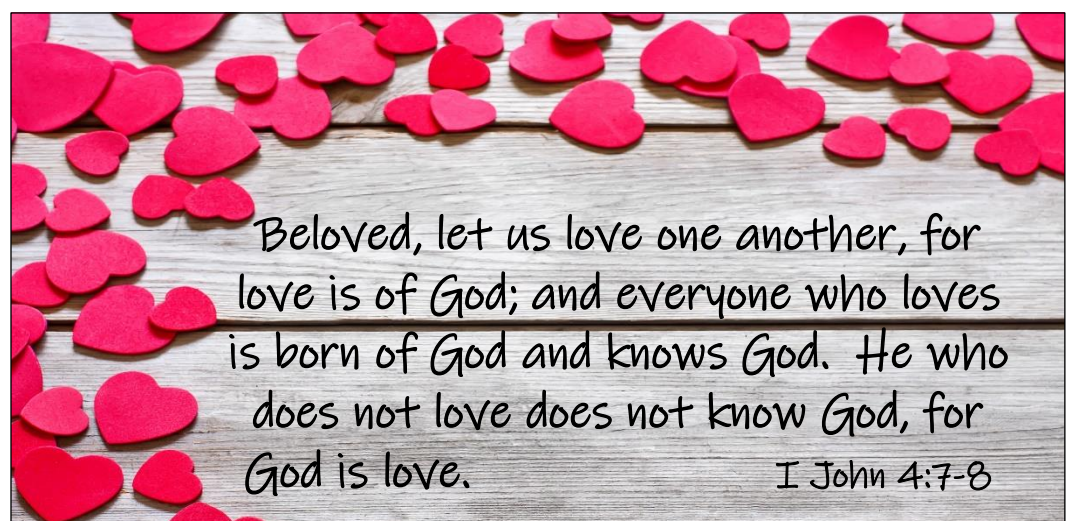
God's love is agape—self-sacrificing and unconditional. Agape loves those who don't deserve our love, those who disappoint us, mistreat us, reject us, and even hate us. And agape is only possible when it is born of God in our hearts. Agape love is of God, initiated by God: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

John wants us to love one another with agape because this is how God loves. Jesus instructed, "Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:12-13). God illustrated what real love looks like by giving, serving, loving, and dying for us. He set the bar high for how we are to love others, especially our brothers and sisters in Christ.

God chose to reveal His love to the world through the way we love others. "Love each other," commanded Jesus. "Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples" (John 13:34-35, NLT). God's love is made evident as we love one another. The world sees the love of God expressed through the way we live our lives and love others.

"Love is of God" means that the love we show to others emanates from Him, the source. Believers can love with God's heart "because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us" (Romans 5:5). God is the generator, the fountain, and the wellspring of our love for others. The love we show mirrors God's love for us because it flows from His heart into ours and out to others.

Gotquestions.org



TBF Family Ministries

Hello Church Family!

This month, we will finish our deep dive into the vision of TBF family ministries. By focusing on the young people. Here at TBF, we want to plant the seeds of faith in kids and fertilize and prune students to become strong disciples. Again, to repeat the theme of last month, it is the responsibility of the parents to raise their children up in the fear of the Lord (Deut. 6:4-9). But we as a church, function not as a social club to gather, but as a greenhouse for spiritual growth. This Journey does not start when a person turns 18, nor does it begin when someone can tithe. If we have the ear of even those in our nursery, we need to proclaim the Gospel! If we believe that the Gospel saves lives, then we should be telling anyone and everyone who will listen from the oldest to the youngest about the good news of Jesus and our need for a savior. (I will momentarily get off my soapbox)

Practically how are we going to plant the seeds of faith in our kids? At the beginning of January, we started a new curriculum that begins in Genesis and goes all the way to Revelation in three years, after the three years is over, we will begin back in Genesis and it all over again. So that by the time a child gets to Youth they will have studied the Whole bible at least twice through.

Our Youth will follow a similar trajectory going through scripture book by book. They will be focused on apologetics and why we believe what we believe. Our Youth group begins meeting again this month so please keep us in your prayers. We are stripping away a lot of the “fun stuff” to focus on the important things. I love pizza and video games, but they will not save anyone, only the Gospel will. I read a statistic recently that over half of our youth walk away from Christianity after graduating high school, which should cause us to lose sleep. I think that part of it is there has been a focus on drawing teens to a fun activity rather than building disciples who love Jesus.

It takes a village to raise a child. Currently, we have four fantastic Sunday school teachers: Mike, Jeff, Janet, and Connie. But we need help, I am not necessarily asking from you a massive time commitment, but would you be willing to sit back with the kids and help the teachers or do you feel called to teach the truths of Jesus to our children? I know that the Lord has blessed us here at TBF with some very strong believers, why wouldn't you want to help disciple the next generation?

With Love,
Pastor Rob





TBF Men's Ministries



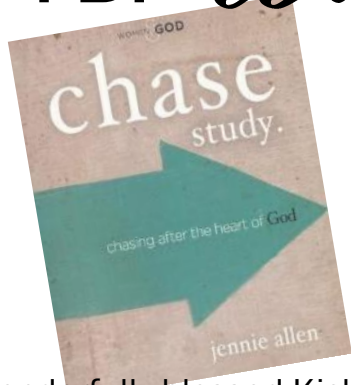
Meets every 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm
TBF Youth room
(Feb 10, 24, Mar 10)

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

What a wonderfully blessed Kick Off dinner event we had on January 11th! It was a great evening filled with much fun, great food and special fellowship. We heard the awesome personal testimonies of Kitte Lewark and Jean Crow who spoke of how the previous Jennie Allen study, 'Get Out of Your Head', impacted their lives.

'CHASE' is our new spring Bible study, also by Jennie Allen. It is a DVD Bible study which "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."

Though we have handed out study guides and have also viewed 'Getting Started', the first video of our new study, please know it is not too late to sign up. Just contact one of the facilitators as soon as possible to receive your guide.

As a reminder, the study is offered in two venues, Tuesday evenings, 6:30-8, in the home of Jean Crow and Wednesday mornings, 9:30-11, at TBF. (Childcare is provided on Wednesdays.). All sessions will take place on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the months of February, March, and April.

We pray you will choose to join us as we **'CHASE' JESUS** TOGETHER!

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

CHASE **IDENTITY** **BELIEF** **OBEEDIENCE**
COURAGE **SURRENDER**
REPENTANCE **CHASED DOWN**

Kick Off Event

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

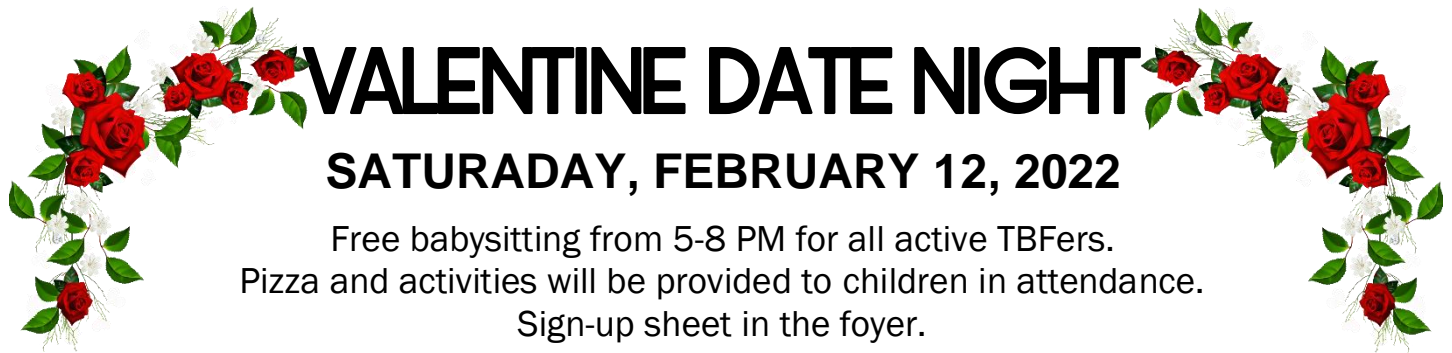


Our Hostesses



Door Prizes





VALENTINE DATE NIGHT

SATURADAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2022

Free babysitting from 5-8 PM for all active TBfers.
Pizza and activities will be provided to children in attendance.
Sign-up sheet in the foyer.

Don't have kids? Volunteer! Do you remember how difficult it was to find a babysitter or even to try to pay for a babysitter and a decent dinner? If you would want to help bless our church family, would you consider volunteering to serve?

If you have any questions or want to volunteer to help, contact Rob Girvin.

Youth Bible Study

Starts Sunday, February 6th

Rob Girvin leading

6-7 PM - Meets weekly!

TBF Youth Room

Open to 6th -12th graders



Kindred Community

First Baptist Church in Duncan

Tuesday, February 15th 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Pictures of your "Sweetheart" welcome!



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!

Sister-to-Sister

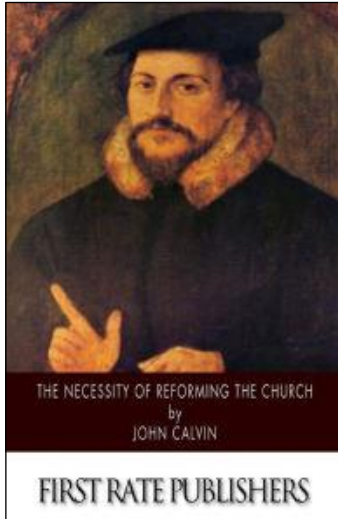
Card Ministry

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.

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

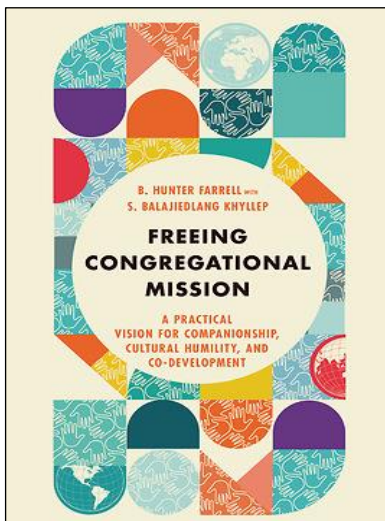
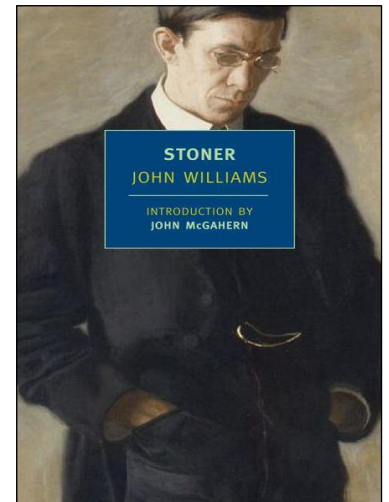


The Necessity of Reforming the Church by John Calvin

Calvin is most often associated with his Institutes, or with his particular view of sovereignty and salvation. But this book is two letters written by John Calvin defending need for the reformation. The reformers were risking everything in their split from the Roman Catholic church and were often criticized privately and publicly. Calvin wrote in order to defend the reformers and reveal the reasons that the church needed to be reformed. The first letter is longer and is filled with a detailed rundown of all of the problems in the Roman Catholic church. The second letter is a response to a Catholic Bishop who was trying to lure a Protestant city back to the Roman Catholic church with intellectual arguments. The book is short, easily accessible, and well worth your time. It is especially helpful to see another side to Calvin that gets overlooked.

Stoner by John Williams

This is a profoundly beautiful book. The book's strength comes not from the plot, but from the wonderful character of Stoner. He is a simple ordinary flawed man who becomes an English professor. He has an ordinary story and lives an ordinary life, but there is something strangely compelling about it. The book is melancholy and draws you in. This is not normally my kind of book, but I couldn't put it down after the halfway mark. I fell in love with Stoner and found myself wishing he understood how much his unseen actions mattered. By the end it reminded me of the beauty and wonder of all of our own ordinary stories.



Freeing Congregational Mission: A Practical Vision for Companionship, Cultural Humility & Co-Development by Hunter Farrell and Balajiedlang Khylllep

I was lucky to get an advanced copy of this book and it is prophetic. It ruthlessly confronts our current cultural baggage around missions all the while calling us back to Jesus and showing better ways to engage. I've heard some criticism around these issues, but the answer usually devolves into some version of "all missions bad." Instead, this book reveals our sinful and misguided approaches (short term mission trips, orphanages, child sponsorships, and more) while practically giving another way forward. The book is less "here are all the terrible things with the church" and more "look at what we could be instead." If you care about missions, then this book is well worth your time.