



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

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is the day we celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, one week before His resurrection (Matthew 21:1-11). As Jesus entered the holy city, He neared the culmination of a long journey toward Golgotha. He had come to save the lost (Luke 19:10), and now was the time—this was the place—to secure that salvation. Palm Sunday marked the start of what is often called “Passion Week,” the final seven days of Jesus’ earthly ministry. Palm Sunday was the “beginning of the end” of Jesus’ work on earth.

Palm Sunday began with Jesus and His disciples traveling over the Mount of Olives. The Lord sent two disciples ahead into the village of Bethphage to find an animal to ride. They found the unbroken colt of a donkey, just as Jesus had said they would (Luke 19:29-30). When they untied the colt, the owners began to question them. The disciples responded with the answer Jesus had provided: “The Lord needs it” (Luke 19:31-34). Amazingly, the owners were satisfied with that answer and let the disciples go. “They brought [the donkey] to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it” (Luke 19:35).

As Jesus ascended toward Jerusalem, a large multitude gathered around Him. This crowd understood that Jesus was the Messiah; what they did not understand was that it wasn’t time to set up the kingdom yet—although Jesus had tried to tell them so (Luke 19:11-12). The crowd’s actions along the road give rise to the name “Palm Sunday”: “A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road” (Matthew 21:8). In strewing their cloaks on the road, the people were giving Jesus the royal treatment—King Jehu was given similar honor at his coronation (2 Kings 9:13). John records the detail that the branches they cut were from palm trees (John 12:13).

On that first Palm Sunday, the people also honored Jesus verbally: “The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David!’ / ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’ / ‘Hosanna in the highest heaven!’” (Matthew 21:9). In their praise of Jesus, the Jewish crowds were quoting Psalm 118:25-26, an acknowledged prophecy of the Christ. The allusion to a Messianic psalm drew resentment from the religious leaders present: “Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, rebuke your disciples!’” (Luke 19:39). However, Jesus saw no need to rebuke those who told the truth. He replied, “I tell you . . . if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out” (Luke 19:40).

(Cont. Pg. 3)

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM

Adult Services AND Children’s (0-12 years) Programs

Youth (6th -12th grade) meets Sunday evenings at 5 PM (Jam Session) and 6 PM (Lesson)

Wednesday P.M. Service: 6:30-7:30 PM

A Word from Pastor David Shields

TBF Family,

I saw a news interview with Mark Wahlberg, a practicing Catholic. He was talking about Lent and challenging people to fast for 40 days leading up to Easter. What struck me was not so much his Catholic faith, but the obliviousness of the TV program. On the bottom of the screen in big bold letters they wrote, "Mark Wahlberg's 40-day Challenge."

In case you are unaware, Hollywood actors did not invent the Christian practice of fasting before Easter, neither did the Roman Catholic Church for that matter. The practice goes back, in some form or other, to the earliest days of the church. Christians would fast, at least starting on Good Friday, in an attempt to prepare themselves for Easter.

What struck me the most from that interview was how removed our culture has come from normal Christian practices. The world does not even think of Lent as a Roman Catholic practice, but as something Mark Wahlberg is promoting. It makes me sad to see the global Christian witness has fallen so far. But Lent is not meant to be a public spectacle, a diet fad, nor a means of self-improvement. This season in the Christian calendar is meant to prepare us for Easter.

Typically, I do fast during Lent. Sometimes it is simply from Dr. Pepper, or I may fast from certain meals. This year I am not fasting from anything. I am honestly too tired and exhausted. The thought of engaging in a fast seems overwhelming at this point. But that is not going to stop me from preparing my heart for Easter.

At its core, Lent is not about a fast; it is about Jesus. It is about the Resurrection and our hope. Fasting is a good thing, but it is not the main thing. I don't know what your plan is for this Lent. Maybe, like me, you are too overwhelmed to fast, or it might seem like too strange a practice to adopt.

Regardless of what you choose to do, I want to invite you to prepare for Easter. Go ahead and put it on your calendar (April 9th). Periodically, remind yourself, even if it is only on Sundays, that Easter is coming. Our job during Lent is not to punish ourselves or overly focus on death and suffering. Instead, we are to remind ourselves that Jesus is coming to bring resurrection. He did it once before, and He will do it again. We should be ready.

Pastor David

Some 450 to 500 years prior to Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, the prophet Zechariah had prophesied the event we now call Palm Sunday: "Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! / Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! / See, your king comes to you, / righteous and victorious, / lowly and riding on a donkey, / on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9). The prophecy was fulfilled in every particular, and it was indeed a time of rejoicing, as Jerusalem welcomed their King. Unfortunately, the celebration was not to last. The crowds looked for a Messiah who would rescue them politically and free them nationally, but Jesus had come to save them spiritually. First things first, and mankind's primary need is spiritual, not political, cultural, or national salvation.

Even as the coatless multitudes waved the palm branches and shouted for joy, they missed the true reason for Jesus' presence. They could neither see nor understand the cross. That's why, "as [Jesus] approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, 'If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies . . . will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you' (Luke 19:41–47). It is a tragic thing to see the Savior but not recognize Him for who He is. The crowds who were crying out "Hosanna!" on Palm Sunday were crying out "Crucify Him!" later that week (Matthew 27:22–23).

There is coming a day when every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Philippians 2:10–11). The worship will be real then. Also, John records a scene in heaven that features the eternal celebration of the risen Lord: "There before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands" (Revelation 7:9, emphasis added). These palm-bearing saints will shout, "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb" (verse 10), and who can measure sum of their joy?

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HOSANNA

Hosanna is a word used in some songs of praise, particularly on Palm Sunday. It is of Hebrew origin and was part of the shout of the multitudes as Jesus entered Jerusalem: "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" (Matthew 21:9).

Hosanna is often thought of as a declaration of praise, similar to hallelujah, but it is actually a plea for salvation. The Hebrew root words are found in Psalm 118:25, which says, "Save us, we pray, O LORD!" (ESV). The Hebrew words *yasha* ("deliver, save") and *anna* ("beg, beseech") combine to form the word that, in English, is "hosanna." Literally, hosanna means "I beg you to save!" or "please deliver us!"

So, as Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem, the crowds were perfectly right to shout "Hosanna!" They were acknowledging Jesus as their Messiah, as shown in their address "Son of David." Theirs was a cry for salvation and a recognition that Jesus is able to save.

Later that day, Jesus was in the temple, and the children present were again shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" (Matthew 21:15). The chief priests and the teachers of the Law were displeased: "'Do you hear what these children are saying?' they asked him. 'Yes,' replied Jesus, 'have you never read, "From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise"?' (Matthew 21:16). In saying, "Hosanna!" the people were crying out for salvation, and that's exactly why Jesus had come. Within a week Jesus would be hanging on a cross.

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What's Happening at TBF

- ✚ JOIN OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEETING AT TBF. EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:30 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
- ✚ MEN'S MINISTRY- Bible Study Courageous Faith, Gentle Whispers
- ✚ WOMEN'S MINISTRY – Bible Study Trustworthy
- ✚ WOMEN OF TANGLEWOOD BIBLE FELLOWSHIP- Facebook page
- ✚ TBF YOUTH – Meets Sunday Nights at 5PM (Jam Session) and 6 PM (Study)
- ✚ COMMUNION – Sunday, March

TBF Men's Ministries

COURAGEOUS FAITH, GENTLE WHISPERS



BSF's Elijah Mini-Series
I Kings 15: 25- 21:29

Discover the boldness of Elijah, standing for the one true God of Israel, even if it meant standing alone. In this two-week study of Elijah's ministry, be inspired by Elijah's courage and stand in awe of God's power. All men are invited. Through daily Bible reading and questions, group discussion, and study notes, God's Word comes to life in new and unexpected ways. Study led by Wolfgang Deeg.

TBF Youth Room – 6:30 PM

Monday, March 13th

Monday, March 27th

**As iron sharpens iron,
so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.**

Proverbs 27:17

NEWSLETTER 4

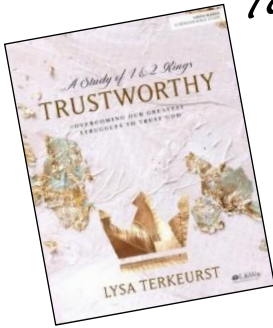


TBF Women's Ministries

Women's Bible Study

Trustworthy: Overcoming Our Greatest Struggles to Trust God, Bible Study Book

by Lysa Terkeurst



For the month of March, we are going to meet on the first and third weeks of the month.

Looking Ahead....

Spring Fling April 15th. TBF Women's ministry is tentatively planning a brunch with Kyleen Driggs and Jan Palovik as "speakers." More info to follow as the time approaches.

Resurrection Revival/Praise in the Park (Fuqua Park East) April 22nd 2-4 PM. Hear praise teams from Tanglewood Bible Fellowship, Voices for Christ, Central Baptist, and more... Come and stand united with Duncan and worship our risen Lord! Event is free and open to all. Food trucks (\$-\$\$) will be on hand for refreshments.

Super Summer Saturdays is already in the works. Dates, time, and speakers are still TBA. Our emphasis for speakers this summer will again be on local missions.

Women of Joy will be in Frisco, Texas on October 27-29. The total cost of the weekend (conference and lodging) will be about \$320-420 depending on accommodations. More details to follow but the total payment for the weekend will be due at our first Super Summer Saturday (June). This will be a great weekend of learning and fellowship with speakers and worship leaders to include Sheila Walsh, Max Lucado, Chondra Pierce, Natalie Grant, Lisa Harper and Charles Billingsley.

TBF Family Ministries

Happy March Church Family!

Last month my driver's license expired. I had to go to the DMV in Lawton to transfer my out-of-state license to an Oklahoma one. After two trips to the DMV with an average wait time of about 7 hours, I had a lot of free time to think. I noticed, in the people waiting to get what they needed, that they were all wishing the day away in hopes that their number would arrive sooner. This is understandable to some extent with the DMV. Hannah and I also began potty training our three-year-old and in the long days after cleaning up the hundredth mess, it felt like we were trapped and almost wishing these days away. The Lord has been bringing to my mind in quite a few of my conversations, Romans 8:28-30; not only because of the comforting nature that this truth of scripture has, but also because I think God has been trying to work on my heart. Romans 8:28-30 says:

28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. 29 For those God foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified.

The first part of this passage can be warped and twisted, but when it is taken in whole and read like the rest of Scripture, we get both a promise and a conviction. We serve a powerful and all-knowing God, who is love. He created the world and everything in it. He formed each of us in our mother's womb and knows our beginning, end, and every hair on our head. Every day and everything in-between. Romans shows us that not only does He know all but He plans all for our good, from being stuck in a DMV for days to potty training to things darker like losing a person we are close to or losing a job. We sometimes get so focused on the trial that we lose the ability to look at the bigger picture that God works all things for the good of those who believe in Him. This is the importance of Romans 8:29-30. God, once He saved us, He does not leave us to flounder; but instead, He begins the lifelong process of transforming us to become more like Jesus. Just like Job, we have trials and temptations that are ordained by God -- not to hurt us but instead, He formed us into images of His Son. What trials do you currently find yourself in? Do you find yourself blaming others for the situation or even God? If you believe God is truly the King of all, and is loving, and works all things out for the good of those who believe in Him, how would that change your actions and attitudes?

In The Love of Christ,
Pastor Rob

Let's talk Parenting with Rob Girvin

Something for Everyone. All are Welcome!
See Rob Girvin for Details

**Youth Fundraiser (February 19th, 2023) – A Success!
Great Food, Fun, Awesome Youth.
Thank you, God, for Your blessing in this event.**



Kindred Community



Stephens County Fairgrounds in Duncan
Hosted by Open Range Cowboy Church
Tuesday, March 21st 6:00 – 8:00 PM

All Widows Welcome!



TBF church family...if you are interested in volunteering for KC events, please go to www.beautifuldayfoundation.net and fill out the application! It's quick and easy! We have fun together! ~Jan P.

TBF Memorial Bricks

Paved the way of TBF History -- A Path of Remembrance



Dr. Robert Paul Lightener – – Dr. Robert Paul Lightener was the interim pastor at Tanglewood Bible Fellowship (1987-1988) serving between Pastor Mike Kempainen (1977-1986) and Pastor Brad McCoy (1989-2019). Dr. Lightner and wife Pearl reared three daughters – Nancy (Shotts), Nadine (Bracy), and Natalie (Steitz).

‘Bullet bob’ was a great Christian man. Deeply devoted to the lord. He helped TBF transition through a trying time. A Dallas theological seminary professor. He was a God-send to TBF for the two years between Mike and Brad. He recommended Brad as a pastor candidate. He traveled to TBF from Dallas every Sunday.

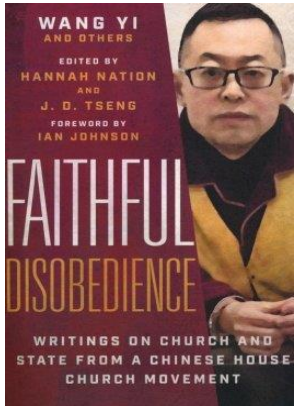
Dr. Lightener received a Th.B. degree in 1955 from Baptist Bible College (BBC), Johnson City, NY. He later earned his Th.M. degree at Dallas Theological Seminary (DTS) in 1959, then taught Systematic Theology at BBC 2 years before returning to DTS for his Th.D. degree in 1964. In 1968 he joined the faculty of DTS where he taught Systematic Theology for 47 years.

In addition to teaching, Bob served as interim pastor 33 times in Pennsylvania, New York, Texas and surrounding states. One of his special gifts was helping struggling churches through controversy, needing a pastor, or going through doctrinal battles. He spoke at Bible conferences and taught modules in colleges, other seminaries and DTS extensions. Another ministry throughout his life was writing 25 books, which he continued during his failing health, publishing his last book in 2017. God had his protecting hand on Dr. Lightner through the years. Just 6 weeks after beginning his teaching career at DTS he was involved in a small plane crash while on a weekend preaching opportunity in Borger, TX. After 5 surgeries for multiple head and face injuries he was able to return to teaching the following semester. God preserved him also in 2015 when diagnosed with congestive heart failure. His family gathered to say their good-byes, but God "turned the switch" and his internal organs began functioning again. His main enjoyment was spending time with his 15 grandchildren. He and Pearl created a chart to pray for their grandchildren throughout the month, each one exclusively on two days each month. The chart remains on the kitchen table. Among his hobbies were farming at the Forney farm with Pearl's Dad's 1940 Case tractor brought to Texas from Pennsylvania in 1979. Through the years he collected numerous autographed books from prominent authors, politicians, theologians, and colleagues.

Dr. Paul Lightener (d. 2018) is buried at Restland Memorial Park (Dallas, Texas).

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.

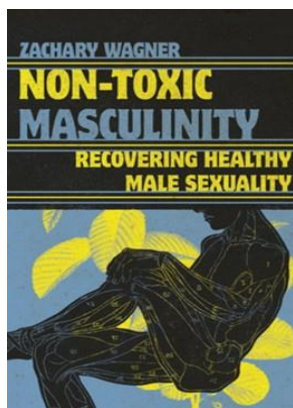
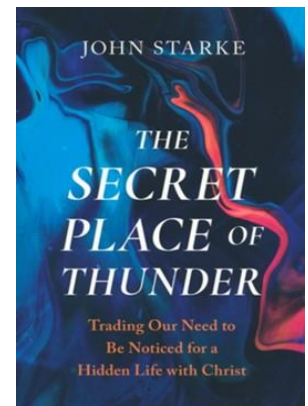


Faithful Disobedience: Writings on Church and State from a Chinese House Church Movement by Wang Yi and Others

This is one of the most important books I have read in the last few years. It is a collection of essays, sermons, blog posts, and articles from key House Church leaders in China. The primary author, Wang Yi is currently serving a 9-year prison sentence. Most of the book is about how the Chinese church should interact with the communist government. The American church has much to learn from the posture and attitude of these Christians. The chapters written by pastors before they were arrested by the government reminded me of the early apostolic fathers. They are so rich and often moved me to tears. I think every Christian across the globe should read this book.

The Secret Place of Thunder: Trading Our Need to Be Noticed for a Hidden Life with Christ by John Starke

Starke is quickly becoming one of my favorite authors. His newest book is about how we need to embrace living a hidden life in Christ. Our current world is obsessed with being seen and noticed. That pressure seeps into our spiritual lives, whether we notice it or not. This book points out the number of times that Jesus calls us to live quiet, hidden lives. What I particularly love about Starke's writing is his gentle pastoral tone. This book will not fill you with shame but will make you want to try harder and will lead you to love Jesus more.



Non-Toxic Masculinity by Zachary Wagner

Criticizing false visions of masculinity is easy, but building a theologically rich alternative vision is hard. This book attempts to do just that. There are plenty of critiques of "purity culture," popular culture, and wrong theology in the church, but the book is far more than that. Over and over I found myself drawn to this book because he gives a positive vision of what male sexuality is. The book clearly holds to a traditional sexual ethic, but it does so gently. This is one of the best books on male sexuality I have ever read. It is a joyous gift and I hope that men who have endured the heavy burdens of legalism and dehumanizing books will read this one and be free.