



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.

Proverbs

King Solomon is the principal writer of Proverbs. Solomon’s name appears in 1:1, 10:1, and 25:1. We may also presume Solomon collected and edited proverbs other than his own, for Ecclesiastes 12:9 says, "Not only was the Teacher wise, but also he imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs." Indeed, the Hebrew title Mishle Shelomoh is translated "Proverbs of Solomon."

Solomon’s proverbs were penned around 900 B.C. During his reign as king, the nation of Israel reached its pinnacle spiritually, politically, culturally, and economically. As Israel’s reputation soared, so did King Solomon’s. Foreign dignitaries from the far reaches of the known world traveled great distances to hear the wise monarch speak (1 Kings 4:34).

Knowledge is nothing more than an accumulation of raw facts, but wisdom is the ability to see people, events, and situations as God sees them. In the Book of Proverbs, Solomon reveals the mind of God in matters high and lofty and in common, ordinary, everyday situations, too. It appears that no topic escaped King Solomon’s attention. Matters pertaining to personal conduct, sexual relations, business, wealth, charity, ambition, discipline, debt, child-rearing, character, alcohol, politics, revenge, and godliness are among the many topics covered in this rich collection of wise sayings.

Key Verses:

- Proverbs 1:5, "Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance."
- Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline."
- Proverbs 4:5, "Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them."
- Proverbs 8:13-14, "To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech. Counsel and sound judgment are mine; I have understanding and power."

Summarizing the Book of Proverbs is a bit difficult, for unlike many other books of Scripture, there is no particular plot or storyline found in its pages; likewise, there are no principal characters in the book. It is wisdom that takes center stage—a grand, divine wisdom that transcends the whole of history, peoples, and cultures. Even a perfunctory reading of this magnificent treasury reveals the pithy sayings of the wise King Solomon are as relevant today as they were some three thousand years ago. (Con’t on page 3)

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM

Adult Services AND Children’s (0-12 years) Programs
Youth (6th -12th grade) meets Sunday evenings at 6 PM

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

A Word from Pastor David Shields

Tanglewood Bible Fellowship Family,

We are starting a new series this month in the book of Proverbs. One other significant change for this series is that we will be examining single verses. Usually, we look at entire chapters or larger sections of God's Word. However, the proverbs are different and often disconnected from each other. This will be a slight change of pace that will allow us to closely examine each word. As we begin this series, I want to give you some general wisdom and guidelines to aid your own study of Proverbs.

It is important to remember the proverbs are general wisdom and principles not promises or spiritual laws. The wrong understanding of what the proverbs are can lead to confusion and disappointment if they are not understood correctly. Proverbs 22:6 does not mean every child raised as a Christian will return to the faith no matter what. It is general wisdom that raising a child in the faith will lead to them continuing in the faith. We can also see this as Proverbs will appear to give conflicting wisdom. One says to answer a fool and the next verse says not to. This is because wisdom understands how sometimes one is wise and the other is not.

Throughout the book wisdom and folly are personified as women. It is not obvious in some places. At first glance, some places will appear as if the proverbs are describing a particular woman to avoid or emulate. But a closer examination will reveal that these two women are images of wisdom and folly. Learning to recognize this distinction will help us better interpret these passages.

We cannot rightly understand the proverbs until we take them to Jesus. We would be wrong to interpret them as generic wisdom anyone, even non-Christians, can apply. Our only hope for becoming wise instead of fools is through being born again. The proverbs also show us the depth of our sin and the perfection of Jesus. Jesus perfectly lived out every proverb while we often fail. By asking ourselves what each verse has to say about Jesus, we can interpret them as Christ intended.

The proverbs are meant to be read slowly and meditated on. My father used to read us one proverb a day while we drove to school. He would encourage us to meditate and think about it throughout the day. This is a great practice I try to emulate. Daily meditating on proverbs is a simple way to keep God's Word in our hearts.

Hopefully we will put these principles into practice as we study Proverbs together.

In Christ,
Pastor David Shields



(Con't from page 1)

The theme of wisdom and its necessity in our lives finds its fulfillment in Christ. We are continually exhorted in Proverbs to seek wisdom, get wisdom, and understand wisdom. Proverbs also tells us—and repeats it—that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (1:7; 9:10). Our fear of the Lord’s wrath and justice is what drives us to Christ, who is the embodiment of God’s wisdom as expressed in His glorious plan of redemption for mankind. In Christ, “in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Colossians 2:3), we find the answer to our search for wisdom, the remedy for our fear of God, and the “righteousness, holiness and redemption” that we so desperately need (1 Corinthians 1:30). The wisdom that is found only in Christ is in contrast to the foolishness of the world which encourages us to be wise in our own eyes. But Proverbs also tells us that the world’s way is not God’s way (Proverbs 3:7) and leads only to death (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25).

There is an undeniable practicality found in this book, for sound and sensible answers to all manner of complex difficulties are found within its thirty-one chapters. Certainly, Proverbs is the greatest "how-to" book ever written, and those who have the good sense to take Solomon’s lessons to heart will quickly discover godliness, prosperity, and contentment are theirs for the asking.

The recurring principle of the Book of Proverbs is that those who choose wisdom and follow God will be blessed in numerous ways: with long life (9:11); prosperity (2:20-22); joy (3:13-18); and the goodness of God (12:21). Those who reject Him, on the other hand, suffer shame and death (3:35; 10:21). To reject God is to choose folly over wisdom and is to separate ourselves from God, His Word, His wisdom, and His blessings.

Gotquestions.org

Opportunities to Serve

Looking for fun on Wednesday nights? Have a love for God and want to plant seeds in the lives of children? Be a TBF Awana Volunteer. There’s something for everyone.



**Awana Volunteers Needed Fall 2024
See Pastor Rob Girvin for details.**

Let’s give our mom’s a break....

Volunteers needed in the nursery and pre-school areas on Sunday mornings. Sign up Sheet in the Foyer.

No Services - Wednesday, July 3rd

Wha-t's Happening at TBF

- ✚ WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER AND SHARE Every Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Join us for a time of prayer and praise followed by a lesson from Pastor David.
- ✚ 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 WORSHIP TEAM MUSIC PRACTICE. Join Us! See Dale Corbin or Lana Sleeper for details.
- ✚ TBF YOUTH - Meets Sunday Nights at 5:30 PM (Jam Session) and 6 PM (Study)
- ✚ AWANA CLUBS - Meets Wednesdays at 6:30 PM Ages 3-5
- ✚ WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:
 - ✚ SUPER SUMMER - July 13TH
 - ✚ KINDRED COMMUNITY - July 15th
 - ✚ NO SERVICE - Wednesday, July 3rd
 - ✚ YOUTH CAMP - July 22nd -26th

TBF Men's Ministries

On Summer Break

Discipleship Class

Will Resume in September! Watch your bulletins for details.

Kindred Community

“Christmas in July”

July 15th 6-8 PM

At The Palace Theater - Duncan, Oklahoma

Hosted by First Christian 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 by July 8th - Jan Palovik 580.786.6009

TBF *Women's Ministries*

“NO STUDY” SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

No Study Summer Bible Study. We are planning to meet every other week on Thursday evenings in the summer for time together at the celebration table and then reviewing a Kristi McLelland online course that is an overall look at the Old Testament. It is the study that Kristi has done prior to taking her groups to Israel. It is an amazing overview with the same insightful knowledge that we have come to expect from Kristi. It will be a no pressure, no weekly homework but a casual get-together with some great Biblical information. Join us every time we get together or whenever you are not vacationing.

Meets Every Other Thursday Evening 6 PM
July dates: 11th and 25th
Sign-up sheet in the foyer.

SUPPER SUMMER SATURDAYS



July 13th is Super Summer Starts at 9:30 AM. Hosted by Connie Norton – 909 N. Primrose Street, Duncan. Special Guest: Blanche Brittain.

August Super Summer will be hosted by Brianna Sheilds. Special Guest: Jimmie Bruner.

Watch Sunday bulletins for further details.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY ORGANIZATION MEETING

Organizational meeting on July 9th at 10:30 in the youth room. We'll be discussing fall Bible studies and events and do some preliminary discussion about our fall and Christmas outreach projects. We value everyone's input so join us if you are interested and able.

TBF Family Ministries

Happy July church family,

This month in continuing our deep dive into a Biblical worldview of emotions, I want us to continue to look at bitterness. The root of bitterness is an unforgiving heart, which if allowed to take hold, leaves a person as a husk of the person they could be and causes their hearts to become hard toward others. This month, I want us to look at three case studies from scripture to explore how bitterness takes hold in our hearts and the effects it can have on us.

The first person we will look at is Cain in Genesis 4. For reasons unbeknownst to us, God chose to accept Abel's gift but not Cain's. Though we all know how this story ends, it is very interesting to look at the steps. In verse 5, God shows no regard for Cain's offering, Cain becomes angry, his face falls, and he begins to pout. At this point, Cain's "check engine lights" are flashing, telling him there is an issue: he could repent to God and find out what made Abel's offering acceptable to God and his unacceptable. But he does not do this. He fixates on his anger and God's perceived unfairness to the point that God warns him:

"Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." Genesis 4:6-7

This warning is perfect because God says it, but it begins with a question I tend to ask my children often: why are you angry? God is asking this question rhetorically, He knows why Cain is upset, but God wants Cain to see how little of a thing this is and how petty it is to not forgive his brother over something that his brother did right, and Cain did wrong. Then, God gives Cain a warning: sin is crouching at the door when we allow bitterness to harbor in our hearts, it causes us to succumb to the temptation of sin so much easier. Cain murdered his brother and then was indifferent to this fact when God asked him where Abel was. This was all because Abel's offering was accepted, and Cain's was not the first time he offered it.

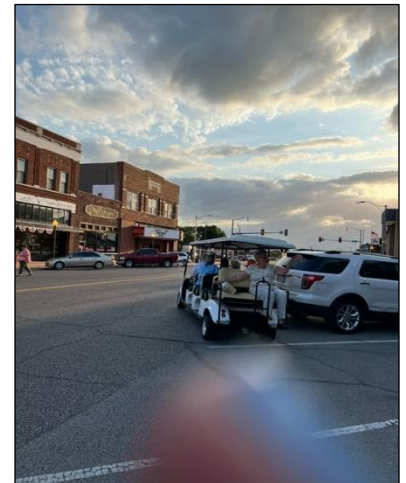
Our other two stories are intertwined with one another, and we find the crux of their stories occurring during the passion week. These two people are Judas and Jesus. We will begin with Judas, one of the disciples of Jesus, who traveled with Him for three years. Judas went out and preached about the kingdom of God, heard Jesus' words straight from His mouth, and watched Him heal people with just a touch. But Jesus was not the messiah that Judas wanted, and bitterness entered his heart, and he began to skim money off the top (John 12:6). Sin was crouching at the door, and Judas opened the door, and in order to make a little money, he betrayed the Son of Man to the Jewish officials. Rather than repenting, Judas lost all hope. Bitterness is a hopeless emotion. You can't trust that God has a perfect plan for your life and hate Him at the same time because He is not granting every wish you have. Judas, feeling hopeless, hangs himself.

Jesus, by all rights, had every reason to be bitter; His closest friends betrayed and disowned him, and the leaders of his people not only constructed a kangaroo court to find him guilty but did so in a way that betrayed their own religion. His own people chose a murderer to free rather than him; the Romans beat him within an inch of his life and then strung him up to die the most wicked death known to man while the soldiers mocked Him and traded His clothes. And even God the Father turned His back on Jesus during His dying breath. Not only was this all unfair and unjust, but Jesus could also have become bitter and unforgiving. He did not. In fact, He prayed for the forgiveness of those who persecuted Him. He not only forgave Peter, who denied even knowing Jesus, but commissioned him to be the rock of the Church.

Bitterness leads to death in a way that not very emotions are able to, it is a toxic root that destroys everything that it touches. The inverse of bitterness is forgiveness. Are you forgiving your neighbor like Jesus forgave you? While this seems like an obvious question, it is one that we need to ask. Are we jealous of those who seem to get ahead in life, are we perpetually angry at a family member or friend for something they said, or are we mad at God because of a circumstance that occurred in our lives? While we were still enemies, God forgave us, and He calls us to do likewise to everyone around us.

In the love of Jesus, Pastor Rob

Kindred Community June Pics



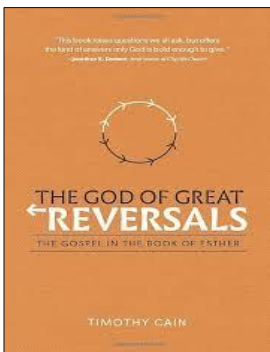
TBF knocked it out of the park in June! On behalf of the Beautiful Day Foundation, I wanted to say thank you for your generosity with the food, bingo prizes and all the love you poured out on over 200 special guests!! My heart overflowed with joy! Dale!! Your gift is "calling bingo"... thank you! And Mike, I've had reports that you are an excellent golf cart driver!! 😊 Thank you Erica and Bri for saying YES to leading this task! Erica shouldered some last minute issues that always arise and shined like a star! Thank you, friend! ALL OF YOU who were in the forefront or behind the scenes with your service will be blessed! ❤️🙌

Youth Day Camp

TBF will be hosting a youth day camp for students from 6th to 12th grades, July 22-26. It will cost \$40 to attend. Sign up in the lobby or talk to Pastor Rob!

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.

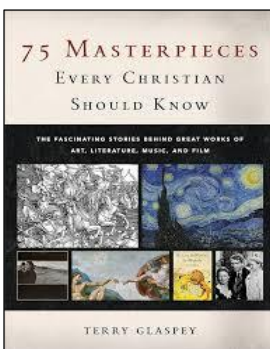
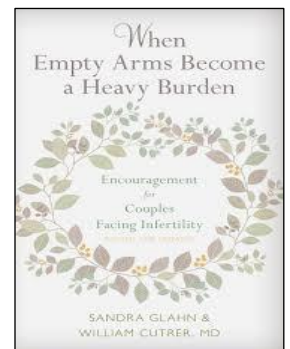


The God of Great Reversals: The Gospel in the book of Esther by Timothy Cain

This is a book I used as part of my study in the book of Esther. It is a collection of sermons through Esther from an expository preacher. What I appreciated most about his sermons is how gospel and Jesus focused they were. He approached a lot of Esther differently than I did. If you want to study Esther a little more, this would be a great place to start and will give you a different perspective.

When Empty Arms Become a Heavy Burden: Encouragement for Couples Facing Infertility by Sandra L. Glahn and William R. Cutrer

Old, but not dated book on infertility. It focuses on the real emotional struggle and difficulty those facing infertility feel. It's comforting without minimizing the real struggle. It's written by a seminary professor who has faced her own struggles with infertility and a former OBGYN now turned pastor. The dual authors work well with the subject matter. I think anyone facing infertility will be encouraged by this book. It will help you not feel alone.



75 Masterpieces Every Christian Should Know: The Fascinating Stories Behind Great Works of Art, Literature, Music, and Film by Terry W. Glaspey

Each chapter examines a different piece of art and gives you some of the history and story behind them. Whether you are familiar with some of the works or not, the stories are always fascinating. It is particularly helpful because it focuses on the Christian story behind each piece. The book can be read slowly like a devotional or all at once. I appreciated it for exposing me to some works I was unfamiliar with and for helping me see old ones in a new light.