



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.

The Sacrificial Lamb

When Jesus is called the Lamb of God in John 1:29 and John 1:36, it is referring to Him as the perfect and ultimate sacrifice for sin. In order to understand who Christ was and what He did, we must begin with the Old Testament, which contains prophecies concerning the coming of Christ as a "guilt offering" (Isaiah 53:10). In fact, the whole sacrificial system established by God in the Old Testament set the stage for the coming of Jesus Christ, who is the perfect sacrifice God would provide as atonement for the sins of His people (Romans 8:3; Hebrews 10).

The sacrifice of lambs played a very important role in the Jewish religious life and sacrificial system. When John the Baptist referred to Jesus as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29), the Jews who heard him might have immediately thought of any one of several important sacrifices. With the time of the Passover feast being very near, the first thought might be the sacrifice of the Passover lamb. The Passover feast was one of the main Jewish holidays and a celebration in remembrance of God's deliverance of the Israelites from bondage in Egypt. In fact, the slaying of the Passover lamb and the applying of the blood to doorposts of the houses (Exodus 12:11-13) is a beautiful picture of Christ's atoning work on the cross. Those for whom He died are covered by His blood, protecting us from the angel of (spiritual) death.

Another important sacrifice involving lambs was the daily sacrifice at the temple in Jerusalem. Every morning and evening, a lamb was sacrificed in the temple for the sins of the people (Exodus 29:38-42). These daily sacrifices, like all others, were simply to point people towards the perfect sacrifice of Christ on the cross. In fact, the time of Jesus' death on the cross corresponds to the time the evening sacrifice was being made in the temple. The Jews at that time would have also been familiar with the Old Testament prophets Jeremiah and Isaiah, who foretold the coming of One who would be brought "like a lamb led to the slaughter" (Jeremiah 11:19; Isaiah 53:7) and whose sufferings and sacrifice would provide redemption for Israel. Of course, that person was none other than Jesus Christ, "the Lamb of God."

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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

Church Family,

This month we will set aside time to celebrate and remember the resurrection of Christ. Some Christians may quibble over whether or not Christians must celebrate Easter, but I will never turn down a chance to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. To help us think about the resurrection, we will take a short break from our series in Revelation. Don't worry, we will resume our study of Revelation after Easter.

I am calling this series the Power of Resurrection because I want us to spend some time thinking about the power that the resurrection brings to our lives. As Christians, we typically think of the resurrection as bringing us eternal salvation so that after we die, we will get to be with God forever in heaven. This is true, but the resurrection is not just good news for tomorrow. It is not just powerful for our eternal state, but it also is good news and great power for us still today.

Boredom with the Gospel and the resurrection of Jesus is something many who have been Christians for a long time can struggle with. We hear the story of the gospel so often and sit through so many Easter services that it begins to feel routine and have less meaning. The danger comes when we believe the gospel and the resurrection are something the unsaved need and then those of us who are mature can move on to greater things. But there is nothing greater and deeper than the gospel and the work of Christ.

The resurrection of Jesus actually can change our lives here and now today. The resurrection still has power that is available to us. The gospel is good news for us still today. It is not just something that gets us saved and then we move on. The resurrection is not just good news for after we die. It is good news for us for the entirety of our walk with Christ.

My hope as we go through this series is that we will think deeply about the resurrection. That we will gain a greater understanding of the blessings Christ has made available to us. They are not just blessings for us one day after we die, but they can be felt here and now. And that we will continue to be changed and conform more to the image of Jesus through the power of His resurrection.

In Christ,
Pastor David Shields

While the idea of a sacrificial system might seem strange to us today, the concept of payment or restitution is still one we can easily understand. We know that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23) and that our sin separates us from God. We also know the Bible teaches we are all sinners and none of us is righteous before God (Romans 3:23). Because of our sin, we are separated from God, and we stand guilty before Him. Therefore, the only hope we can have is if He provides a way for us to be reconciled to Himself, and that is what He did in sending His Son Jesus Christ to die on the cross. Christ died to make atonement for sin and to pay the penalty of the sins of all who believe in Him.

It is through His death on the cross as God's perfect sacrifice for sin and His resurrection three days later that we can now have eternal life if we believe in Him. The fact that God Himself has provided the offering that atones for our sin is part of the glorious good news of the gospel that is so clearly declared in 1 Peter 1:18-21: "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through Him you believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and glorified Him, and so your faith and hope are in God."

What'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.
- DISCIPLESHIP CLASS - April 6th and 27th
- MEN'S BIBLE STUDY -
- WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Every Other Thursday 9:30 AM and 6 PM
- PARENTING CLASS -
- TBF YOUTH - Meets Sunday Nights at 5 PM (Jam Session) and 6 PM (Study)
- AWANA CLUBS - Meets Wednesdays at 6:30 PM Ages 2 yr. old - 5th Grade
- COMMUNION - April 20th
- KINDRED COMMUNITY - April 8th

Opportunities to Serve

Awana Volunteers Needed.

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. Please see Pastor Rob Girvin for details.

Let's give our moms a break....

Volunteers needed in the nursery and pre-school areas on Sunday mornings. Sign-up Sheet in the Foyer. Please see Pastor Rob Girvin.

Kindred Community

TBF will be hosting Kindred Community on May 8th. Please pray how you may volunteer and serve.

TBF Men's Ministries

JONAH

THE DEPTH OF MERCY

A WordGo Study
TBF Youth Room 6:30-7:30 PM
Led by Wolfgang Deeg

- **Session 1 (Mar. 31):** Dive into this classic tale of Jonah's reluctance to obey God's call to preach to the evil city of Nineveh. Watch God patiently pursue his prophet into the depths of the sea. Experience for yourself Jonah's dramatic transformation from rebellious wanderer to humble servant in the belly of the big fish.
- **Session 2 (Apr. 14):** Witness Jonah's anger flare against God once again as the Ninevites repent of their evil ways and avoid disaster. God's powerful yet tender rebuke reveals His abounding compassion and desire to save all people from sin.

We often feel safe within the boundaries of prejudice or self-righteousness we establish for ourselves, but problems arise when we fail to remember we are all sinners in need of a merciful Savior.

In this two-week course, Jonah: Depths of Mercy, discover God's barrier-breaking impartiality in His mercy and judgments. Unpack the life of Jonah, a prophet from Israel sent to speak outside Israel. Jonah's hard-heartedness against the city of Nineveh and resentment towards God's mercy led him to run from God's call. However, the central message of this book is not Jonah's resistance or Nineveh's peril, but God's heart for the people He created.

Discipleship Class

The Real Heaven

by Chip Ingram

Meets April 6th and April 27th
TBF Youth Room, Immediately following the morning service.
Discipleship class led by Mike Palovik

What comes to mind when you think of heaven? Clouds? Harps? Angels? Singing? Now, honestly, does that really sound like a great way to spend eternity? The good news is, that is NOT what heaven is like. And when you discover what really awaits you there, it will radically change your view of your future and of heaven. In this 3-part series from Living on the Edge, Chip Ingram digs into scripture to reveal what our heavenly home will be like, what we'll do there, what we'll experience, and how we're to prepare for eternity today. If you've secretly thought that heaven sounded kind of boring, well, think again. In this series, you will discover the amazing truth of what awaits you there.

TBF *Women's Ministries*

Ladies' Bible study

When You Pray by Lifeway Women

See Bulletin for Details.

Final Bible study for the spring will take place on Tuesday April 8th at 9:30 am and Thursday April 10th at 6 pm.

“FEAST” with Kristi McLelland

We are considering attending the Kristi McLelland event "Feast" as a group in Fort Worth, Texas on August 15th and 16th. This will be a Friday evening/Saturday morning event.

Jesus often taught through stories, and many times He taught as people gathered around a table or meal. Imagine sitting around that ancient table filled with a feast, hearing stories come to life.

While we can't go back to sit at that table, there is a table we are invited to. Join Kristi McLelland at Feast—an event where we gather to feast upon God's Word. This is a journey that's more than an event—it's an experience to taste and see the goodness of God that has nourished souls for generations.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the foyer. If you are at all interested in attending, please sign up. A generous, anonymous donor has offered to help defray the cost of the event. No commitment at this point if you sign up. We are wanting to gauge the level of interest and once we know how many women would like to join us, we can give more info on the cost to attend. We hope all TBF Ladies will consider attending and make this an event to spark new fellowship and life into the women's ministry. It will be a memory maker!

Kindred Community

Tuesday, April 8th 6-8 PM

Hosted by Connection Church

3085 US 81, Duncan, OK

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- Beautiful Day 580.786.6009

TBF Family Ministries

Happy April, Church Family!

Currently, the youth group is going through James. James is an excellent book, not only for the youngest among us but for all. James, the half-brother of Jesus, who became the leader of the church in Jerusalem addresses a multitude of aspects of the Christian faith and walk. This month, I want us to look at the first half of chapter one.

James begins his epistle by telling his readers to count it all joy when we meet trials. He calls his readers the twelve tribes in the dispersion, reminding them of the long history that we have been grafted into. The history of Scripture is riddled with trials. Abraham and Sarah struggled to conceive Issac, the Israelites were slaves in Egypt, and in the land of Israel, the people struggled to hold onto the land. During the era of the kings, who were evil and weak, the people of God were dispersed and removed from the land. But God was with the people through these trials. Through these trials, God's name was shown as holy, and He worked these out for good, eventually leading to Jesus' birth. In our lives, we are called to count trials as joy, not because we like trials, but because testing produces steadfastness and through steadfastness, we are sanctified (v. 2-4).

There is such an interesting correlation between trials and wisdom. People do not typically learn from lectures, rather, they usually learn from doing the thing. If anyone lacks wisdom, let them ask God. Much like Solomon, who as a young man asked for wisdom from God, was blessed with wisdom. This wisdom was a gift from God. We are also warned to not doubt but to keep the faith which is tested through trials. If we blame God for our trials or navel gaze at our problems, then we should not suppose that we will gain wisdom. And just as testing our faith should bring steadfastness, if we doubt God when trials come, it produces double mindedness (v. 7-8).

Verses 12-15 show both what steadfastness will give you and what doubting as a double-minded man will give you. Steadfastness will receive the crown of life, but death is the outcome of double mindedness. A double-minded man will say that God is tempting him, but this cannot be true. While God will put us in situations to test us, He will never tempt us, instead, He will put a way of escape. Nor will the test be beyond what we can bear (1Cor 10:13). We are tempted when we are enticed by our desire, when we give in to the desire it gives birth to sin, which leads to death. But God is faithful and steadfast and will help us. Because of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection, we can be sons and daughters of the true King. When we submit our lives to Jesus, the Holy Spirit, through the trials that we are going to endure, convicts us of our sins and sanctifies us to be more like Christ. When we are in the thick of it, and we do not see any light, we can remember the good times when we felt close to God. God does not change. If He loves us and takes care of us at one point, then He is currently doing so and will continue to in the future. God also blesses us with brothers and sisters in the faith who we are walking alongside and able to lean upon during our struggles.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Rob

Parenting Class

Tuesdays at 6 PM
Meets at TBF in classroom

****Youth Bible Study -- Sundays 6-7 PM TBF Youth Room -- Journey Through the Bible**

WINDOWS ON THE WORLD

Wednesday-April 30th

Lasagna Dinner will be served from 5:15 to 6:15 PM
Special Guests 6:30-7:30 PM

Some of you may already be familiar with our special guests, Gospel singer Dale Rochell and his wife Janell from Marlow. Janelle is a former teacher in this area and is one of the exercise instructors at the Simmons Center.

Dale is a very popular Gospel music singer and has appeared with many other well-known Gospel singers at various places like Branson and Nashville. It is an honor to have him share his talent with Tanglewood.

His resume includes three #1 singles and ten have made the top 10 nationally, a music video that was nominated for top country Gospel music of the year. Currently his music video "Home" was nominated for Country Gospel Music Video of 2024.



Be sure to invite a friend or two!

Donations appreciated.

Looking Forward....

- TBF hosting Kindred Community in May 8. Pray about how you can volunteer to help!
- Super Summer Saturdays in June, July, and August. Fun, Food, and Fellowship!
- Summer Food and Fun June 23rd – June 26th. This is the ministry of One True Light to feed the children of Duncan who are in need. We will spend the mornings that week preparing sack lunches and breakfasts for the children.

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.

Gospel-Wakefulness by Jared C. Wilson

The primary premise of the book is that the right embracing of the gospel should lead to an actual change in our affections, which he defines as gospel wakefulness. The gospel is not just something we intellectually affirm but something that we should love. A lot of this reminds me of Jonathan Edwards' "Religious Affections." I wish he would have interacted with it more as it could have provided some more meat to the book.

I can see why some feel as if he is calling for a Pentecostal-like experience of the baptism of the spirit. It seemed to me, he was simply calling for a belief in the gospel that leads to greater love for God. Although, it could be my background in the charismatic world just makes me more sympathetic to the argument.

The worst thing you can say about Jared Wilson's books is that he writes about the gospel too much. It is why I find myself continuing to return to his writings and always appreciate them as they help me see the gospel in new ways.

The Life of John Calvin by Theodore Beza

This biography was written by a disciple of Calvin who became his successor in Geneva. The primary worth of the book is that it was written by someone who knew Calvin. It is accused of being a hagiography, but I honestly wish it was more of one. It gives a great sense of what Calvin did and the various controversies he faced, but little of his personality.

The book is pretty dry. I wouldn't recommend it as someone's first introduction to Calvin. It requires a lot of knowledge of the Reformation and Calvin's life. Despite its faults, the book is an incredible resource. It should be required reading for anyone who wants to write about Calvin's life or study him more fully.

Beza's closeness to Calvin provides some valuable insight into two large events. The first is the section on the burning of Servetus. He provides context to how the decision was made and what Servetus was actually like as a person. My favorite part was the long section of Calvin's dying days. You get a long section of his last will and testament along with some of his final prayers. The book was worth reading for those sections alone.

Christian Women in the Patristic World: Their Influence, Authority, and Legacy in the Second through Fifth Centuries by Lynn H. Cohick and Amy Brown Hughes

Women are always somewhat off to the side in patristic (the early church) studies. Or if the topic of women comes up it is often about how the patristics were anti-woman. What I loved about this book is that it brings women to the forefront of the discussion. It tells the stories of how women in the patristic world also had deep influence and power.

It tells the stories of women from the first woman martyrs to Emperor Constantine's mother Helena. The picture that it paints is of all the ways women served the church and the faith. Their stories of martyrdom inspired. Some of the first and most influential pilgrimages to the Holy Land were by women who wrote about their experiences. What was most surprising to me was how most of the great theologians we know of today were supported by women. They were only able to write so many books or have the influence they did because of Christian women who financially supported them and made it possible.

The book does not try to dismiss the fathers as misogynistic, nor does it try to exonerate them. It simply does good historical work in trying to explain who these women were and their place in the world. I loved hearing their stories.

This is the kind of work patristic studies should strive to be. Anyone who wants to engage in patristic studies should read this one. It is still fairly academic and might be a tough read for some, but it is invaluable to hear the perspective of women.

Soli Deo Gloria