First Baptist Church, Brady, Texas



Our Mission: FBC Brady is a family that exists to Give—by meeting real needs in our community Grow—by equipping people to become authentic Christ followers Go—by taking the gospel message to Brady and bevond September 2022 newsletter

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Message from the Pastor: Dangerous prayers

I have a bold question for you, my friends, and I want you to take some time to think about it. The question is, "Do you dare to pray in a way that you have never prayed before?"

With all your heart, soul, mind, and with the full extent of all you are? What would happen in your life (physically and spiritually) and the lives of those around you if you started praying dangerous prayers?

Do you dare to find out the answer?

In the life of David there was a time when King Saul accused him of treason and sent all of his forces after David in many attempts to take him out. David, who was not a perfect man, wanted to please God with all his heart. David fought against his anger in order to protect and show honor to the king. The amazing thing is that David knew his motives were not always perfect, and he would say a prayer where he surrendered his heart before God. This prayer would be one of the most vulnerable, transparent, and dangerous prayers that David would ever pray.

Wanting to honor God in every part of his life, David prayed, "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way" (Psalm 139:23-24 CSB).

It is easy to read these two verses and just go on to the next chapter, but if you slow down and reflect on them you realize that not only is this prayer difficult to pray, but it is also very challenging to apply and live out. My brother and sister in Christ, if you have the courage to pray it, then you will need to be ready to exercise the courage to live what God shows you in reply. In other words, my friends, if you do not mean it or take it seriously, then do not pray it.

I want to be up front and honest with you: this prayer has the potential to convict, correct, and redirect your life. Going all in on this prayer will also change the way you see yourself and change how others see you.

Even after reading this so far, just maybe you are thinking this is no big deal. Maybe you are wondering why you should ask God to search your heart when He already knows everything that is inside you. You know what is in there and He knows what is in there, so why ask something so obvious?

This is where it is getting tricky. On the surface, it seems like we would know our own hearts. You might be thinking, "I know my own motives. I know what is most important to me. I know why I do what I do." You might even be telling yourself, "I've got a good heart. I am not trying to hurt those around me. I want to do what is right. I really do have a good heart."

God's Word reveals the exact opposite. It is always a shock when you hear it for the first time, but the prophet Jeremiah gives us some straight-up, honest truth. During the reign of King Josiah, God raised up this young prophet to take God's Word to Israel and the nations. Jeremiah tells you – along with me and everybody else – you do not have a good heart. In fact, not only is your heart not good, but your heart is wicked and sinful in every way. Jeremiah says, *"The heart is more deceitful than anything else, and incurable – who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9 CSB).*

The truth is that without Christ, your heart is deceitful. You see, my friends, the closer we get to Jesus, the more we have to face our shortcomings like pride, selfishness, lust, addiction, a critical spirit, etc..

Praying this dangerous prayer can open a channel of communication to God. Instead of simply asking God to do something for you, ask him to reveal something in you. This moment of truth with God may not change you instantly, but it will help you to recognize your spiritual need and redirect your life. In 1982, Eddie Espinosa said it best when he wrote these words:

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true; Change my heart, O God, May I be like you. You are the Potter, I am the clay; Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.

That's why this prayer of David's is so very dangerous, and I triple-dog double-dare you to pray it.

"Search me, God, and know my heart."

Pastor Jeff

Children's Ministry: All in Music Team Report for Jesus

by Marsha Gainer Children's Ministry Team Lead The Children's Team is beginning the fall BAM program on September 7th from 5:30 to 6:50.



sions around the world. teachers will be Ashley Poe for pre-k, Becky Martin and Oralia Barrera for 1-2 grades, Marsha Gainer for 3-4-5 grades. The mission field will be presented by RaNon Caraway and Rusty Capps.

get involved. We need helpers in for the first practice. I can't wait each class. The church has gra- to share with you all. ciously provided the meals for us every year. Betty Smith has a sign-up sheet in the hall, and she can provide any instructions Mission Team Report needed.

We ask that the church pray for this ministry to be successful right along. in proclaiming Jesus as Savior comes to a close, needs of our and teaching Brady children how Jesus is being shared around the world.

We are also in the planning stages for a Fall Fellowship. We want to include the whole church and provide an oppor- your donations. tunity to fellowship with the community.

Thank you for your prayers. goes for state missions. We are "All in for Jesus!"

From the Youth Dept.

pray for our youth as a new school year begins. It will be a busy and challenging time for everyone. FBC is helping with the Fifth Quarter events after the four home games. If you would like to volunteer in some way, we can use your

our youth group continues to grow.



Christmas music!

Karen Behrens. Music Team Lead



Can you believe that we are in We will serve a light meal the month of September? I am and then break into classes fo- already looking at Christmas with our ongoing projects of colcusing on Bible stories and mis- music and have it narrowed lecting for the Haven, work of The down to a few things. I hope to the Food Pantry, Parenting Classee everyone in practice come ses, sending \$1,000 monthly to October when we start practic- the Resource Center, and sending. Life is so busy but it is nev- ing cards and making phone er too busy to serve. I hope you calls to our shut-ins. all will feel led to help bring this year's Christmas musical. Last year was a blast and I was . blessed to be a part of it. Be on There will be opportunities to the lookout for a date and time

In Christ,

Karen

Betty Smith, Missions Team Lead Missions at FBC are moving As our summer community continue to arise. A request has come from The Haven for hygiene items and snacks for a kit to be distributed to the homeless. A collection box is placed in the foyer for

We are now collecting the Mary Hill Davis Offering. This

Our Block Party at the Trails • of Brady Apartments was a success thanks to so many of you (info from Greg Torres): Please who made significant contributions. The large collection of school supplies looked like an aisle at Walmart! And we had so many delicious cookies that the leftovers will help feed our Wednesday night BAM kids for help! Thanks for your support as several weeks. The extra school supplies were taken to Brady Elementary and were graciously received. Of course the water slide was loved by the kids. Our thanks goes to the apartment

manager Gina Everett who with the help of her husband Chad cooked the hotdogs. It was all a team effort and we are grateful to everyone who helped.

Wall hangers from a VBS craft were delivered to our shut-ins by Marsha Gainer and Becky Martin. Other hangers were sent in the mail to those who are away from Brady.

We will continue to carry on

FYI from FBC

- The new floors are down in Fellowship Hall, the office, and the hallways. Thanks to everyone who made this possible. They are beautiful!
- Plumbing repairs in FLC: one pump has been installed and another is on the way. There are now working restrooms in the building.
- A work day is tentative for the end of the month. There is interest in clearing out storage spaces in both buildings and possibly having a garage sale or finding some other way to get rid of the excess. Karen is inventorying old and no-longer-used items in the music room. (There are organs that need a new home. Anyone interested?)
- Greg is looking into possibilities for a church photo of our congregation, possibly this fall. Watch for updates.
- A plan is in the works for a sidewalk between the driveway and the pavilion. Access has become a little treacher-0115
- Nominations for teams and committees for 22-23 along with the proposed budget for the new church year will be presented at the Sept. business meeting.
- Our services are now on YouTube!

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- Bro. Jeff Quattlebaum, Misty, Regan, and Sam
- our church staff and preschool
- Texas Baptist Men on mission
- McKenna Brandenberger on mission (going to Uganda this month)
- our members in care facilities and our homebound members
- the lost and unchurched in our community
- Brady children & youth
- Brady Clergy Association

Now to Him Who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations for ever and ever! Amen
Ephesians3:2-21Wyatt & Francisca AndersonTerry LangeIn military: See note below.

Wyatt & Francisca Anderson Marshall Armstrong Holden Bedwell Allie Bradshaw Amelia Britteon Bill and Wanda Burns Sherry Cox Carolyn Crawford Sue Crow Carlos (Charlie) Cruz Linda Flint Charlie & Maria Garcia Holly Groves Ronnie, Kay, & Cathy Holloway Trey Holtzclaw Curtis and Genna Jennings Mabel Jones Sallv Lafuente Bobby and Colleen Laman

Fay Lawler Janie Lowery James Mallow Anita McBride Louise Morrow Lois Patton Charles & Carole Ramsey Anna Richards Donald & Margie Richardson James and Norma Ridout **Richard Smith** Tommy & Kathy Stanley Edith Slaughter Pam Speer Jack and Susan Turk Becky Weber Addie Jo Webster Bobby and Bobbie Williams Angie Willis

In military: See note below. Jon Bradshaw Jennifer McAnally Brandon Pfannenstiel Christian Pittman Jonathan Torres Ricky Williams, Jr.

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We pray for comfort and guidance for the families of Michelle Ramsey, Ernie Johnstone, and Bozy Hagler.

From Becky: I have shortened the prayer list of active military. I realized our list was out of date. If you have a family member or friend who is currently serving, please let me know.

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First Baptist Church Brady, Texas

The newsletter is available on the church website: <u>fbcbrady.org</u>. If you would like a reminder of when it is posted each month, send your email address to Becky Martin: <u>becky@scottmartin.net</u>. Print copies are available at the church and can be mailed on request.

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Memory Verse for September 2022:

O LORD you are my refuge and my shield; I put my hope in your word. Psalm 119:114 (CSB)

September at Godly Impressions Preschool

This month brings a brand new school year and hopefully the start of some fall weather! We recently held our "Meet the Teacher" night on the 24th of August, which went very well. The entire staff is excited to welcome new faces and see familiar ones returning for the fall. Our first day of school is Thursday, Sept 1st. The theme this month, along with the Bible lesson, is a way for the kids to not only share things about themselves but learn about their classmates and teachers.

Theme: All About Me! (Family, Community, Feelings)Bible Lesson: God gives each of us special talents.Bible Verse: "We are God's creation." Ephesians 2:10Shape: SquareColor: YellowNumbers: 1, 2

Blessings, Meredith Navarette Godly impressions Preschool and Child Care



Thank you, First Baptist Church family, for Your prayers and delicious food while I'm recovering from knee replacement. I appreciate all prayers before and after surgery! God is so good!!

In Christian love, Velma Hendley





