



Kids Ask the Best Questions

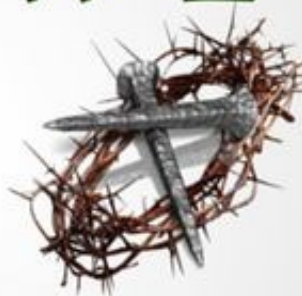
Kids ask the best questions. Cathie Williams teaches our 1-2nd grade bible study on Sunday mornings and she (in addition to all our children, youth, and adult teachers) is such a gift. We were discussing Palm Sunday and Holy Week when one of the kids asked this question: Why did Jesus have to die on the cross? Couldn't God have saved us without Jesus having to go through all that? Great question, right?! Cathie and I looked at each other in amazement of the little ones in our midst. We talked about how the cross was God's rescue plan to save the world. There was no other way,

plan, or option. Another kiddo wondered why God could not just send down an army of angels and defeat the Roman oppressors and show the religious authorities that Jesus really was the Messiah. We talked about how God WAS capable of doing whatever He wanted. But Jesus came not to coerce people into following Him by military force or coercion. He came to overcome evil, death, and sin by way of love displayed on the cross.

I keep thinking about John 9 and the blind man as it relates to Jesus' own story. In John 9, the disciples encounter a blind man, and they ask Jesus a question: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" **And Jesus' response is the key here. Jesus responds by saying, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him."** This is the essence of why Jesus had to endure the cross. So that through His death and resurrection, the power of God would be revealed for all the world to see.

As you enter Holy Week, maybe a helpful question to ask yourself is this: what circumstance or difficult situation are you going through right now that God may use to reveal His power and glory? This is not because God is starved for attention and needs us to suffer so He can spread his fame. It is so that as we pray THROUGH these sufferings, God has the opportunity to transform us into who we are created to be. I do not know about you, but this is the truth that gives me the strength to put one foot in front of the other on the days life is too much. May you encounter the presence of Jesus on this most sacred week.

HOLY WEEK



FBC OKC

Journey to the Cross

A Guided Worship Experience

Thursday, March 28

4:00-8:00pm
(Come & Go)

FBC OKC

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

March 29 - 6:00pm

EASTER

BREAKFAST | 9:00 AM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
EASTER WORSHIP | 10:30 AM IN THE SANCTUARY

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

Journey to the Cross – Thursday, March 28 from 4-8pm

Join us for a guided worship experience where you'll be invited to meditate on the journey Jesus walked to the cross. This interactive event is come-and-go from 4:00-8:00pm in the Sanctuary of FBCOKC. We encourage you to join us on this journey as we prepare our hearts for Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Good Friday Service March 29 at 6:00pm

Join us as we fix our eyes on the Cross of Jesus and how his love is magnified through His death. The service will be in the Sanctuary at 6:00pm.

Easter Sunday – March 31

Join us for a delicious breakfast at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall and then our special worship experience begins at 10:30am in the Sanctuary. All bible study groups (including kids, youth, and adults) will be cancelled.

****Volunteer Opportunity****

CareforOKC will need volunteers to help unload on Tuesday, April 2nd at 9am. Please consider coming to help out.

FIRST FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Why don't you just go take a hike?

WITH THE FBC MEN
IN THE WICHITAS

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

DEPART OKC - 8AM
RETURN - EARLY EVENING

Men's Ministry – Day Hike in Wichita Mountains

Calling gentlemen of all ages! Join us for a day hike in the Wichita Mountains on Saturday, April 6. We will leave early morning and return in the evening. We will hike the Bison Trail which is around 6 miles roundtrip and mostly flat. More information coming soon, but go ahead and save the date! Email bradstewart@fbcoke.org if you have any questions or want to sign up! If you want more information about the trail, check out the link below.

<https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/oklahoma/bison-trail>

FIRST FAMILY YOUTH & KIDS



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World Mission pportunities

Would you like to travel to Uganda? Would you like to help others with limited healthcare be able to see again? Our church is considering a trip led by Jay and Jill Gregston in conjunction with Africa Renewal Ministries. During the trip, the team will conduct several eye clinics in rural villages. You don't need any medical background to go. We need people willing to help with specific tasks and to engage villagers with friendly smiles and the love of God. Soon, we will hold an exploratory information meeting to share all the details. If you are interested, please contact Joey Clifton (joeyjclifton@gmail.com, 405-517-7078) or Jay Gregston (jgregston@gmail.com, 580-467-1872).



New Ministry Opportunity

NEIGHBOR BAGS

*The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'
There is no commandment greater than these.
[Mark 12:31]*

Rarely have cash when you see someone with a sign on the street corner?
Wish you had something you could give them, other than a smile?

We are beginning a new ministry called Neighbor Bags!
(Could they be called Blessing Bags? Yes, it's the same idea!)

For the month of March, we will collect basic items identified as most needed by the Homeless Alliance. Once assembled, these bags will be available in The Commons for you to take and keep in your car. So, the next time you see someone in need, you can hand them this reusable drawstring backpack filled with items they can use.

Items to donate:

- Lip balm
- Deodorant
- Socks
- Protein bars
- Tuna to-go kits / packets (no cans, please)
- Rehydration powder packets (e.g., Gatorade, Pedialyte)
- Band-aids / first aid kits
- Reusable water bottles
- Feminine hygiene products



Example items can be found on
our Amazon Wish List:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/CFRU4LOZZGKJ?ref=wl_share



Note: Right now, we are only collecting these items. No monetary donations at this time, please.

