



temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

“Applying the Bible to Everyday Life.” That was my assignment at First West, this past Saturday. Well, I was asked to explain that subject to a small group of men at the church’s conference. Talk about a general topic! Yet, how necessary for all of us to consider and grasp for the Scripture is to be lived out.

Paul reminded his young protege: “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17). The Bible is God’s Word to us. As such, it is trustworthy and reliable. God speaks no error. If He did spout falsehoods, He would not be God! The Lord is always true in His declarations, and you can trust Him. Moreover, the Scripture is authoritative. His Word is the authority for our faith and practice. It guides us and instructs our daily activities. That means the Bible is both profitable and relevant. It tells us what is right (“doctrine”), what is not right (“reproof”), how to get right (“correction”), and how to stay right (“Instruction”). Indeed, it equips us as we grow in maturity.

We only experience the Bible’s import though as it is integrated into our walk. Applying the Bible to everyday life isn’t some mystical experience; it is not even “rocket science.” Instead, it entails a simple approach: read, study, and do! If you are to apply it, you must start by reading it. You need to know what it says. But don’t stop there. Study it as well. Ask yourself what the author of the text meant when he penned the passage. Today, there are so many (good) resources that are available to us that we are without excuse for our lack of study. Only laziness and/or neglect keep us from digging into His Word. As someone remarked, “Reading brings breadth while study brings depth.”

In the process of reading and studying, commit yourself to carrying out its message. Don’t be just a hearer of the Word; be a doer (James 1:22). What do I always remind you of God’s goal for you as a believer? Yes, His ultimate aim is for you to look like Jesus, think like Jesus, talk like Jesus, and act like Jesus. Transformation is the key! God hasn’t given you the Bible so that you could score 100 on a biblical knowledge test. No! He hasn’t provided you such a treasure so that the knowledge would be applied to your life that you might mirror the Lord Jesus Christ. You don’t read the Bible simply to get through the Scripture; you read it so that His Word gets through you.

So, as you apply the Bible to everyday life, let me encourage you: 1) Choose obedience over sacrifice; 2) Choose facts over feelings; 3) Choose “training” over “trying”; and 4) Choose His strength (The Spirit) over your strength. What does this mean? Well, make sure you desire to obey His Word more than you do going through the motions of ritual and worship. Additionally, follow the truth of the Bible instead of your personal feelings. (I recall one guy tried to convince me once that God wanted him to leave his wife because the Lord had provided a more godly lady for him. Ridiculous and wrong! Don’t trust your feelings over the clear-cut teaching of Scripture.) Train yourself for obedience. Don’t just try, or you will be frustrated. And finally, depend on the Spirit Himself to give you the strength you desperately need to apply the Word. If you attempt to “obey” in your own strength, you will fail, and eventually, retreat.

I often mention how blessed I am to serve at Temple, and you better bet I am! One of the many reasons is because you take the Scripture seriously and you are seeking to apply it. May He continue to find us faithful in this effort, and may we continually look different through His strength! See you Sunday!

From The Minister of Pastoral Care

Dale Oden

Sunday evening, February 1, was an unbelievable night for Sadel and me. We are so grateful for everything that took place before and after the celebration in honor of my 50 years of ministry here at Temple Baptist Church! What a crowd! Thank you for the cards, the texts, the phone calls and the gift cards. We are so appreciative for the outpouring of love shown to us.

And what a meal! Special thanks to Chef Mike Brister and his crew for the meal, especially the 40+ounce steak served on my plate. I thought that it was for everyone at the head table to share! And the three-gallon tub of Blue Bell Moo-llenium Crunch has been enjoyed over the past several days and will continue to be enjoyed over the next several days. The table decorations were outstanding.

The comments from some of the search committee (Robert Hearn, Jerome Vasocu, and Joe Mitcham) brought back memories from our first meeting with them in 1975. The trivia questions from John Nugent were entertaining. Then the staff members who took turns sharing and “roasting” had me worried for a few minutes. I always was under the impression that what takes place at staff meetings, staff retreats, conventions, etc. were always to be kept confidential. Wrong! But I am so grateful to be serving in ministry with this group of dedicated ministers who are a blessing to my life each day.

Dr. Reggie and Jason, along with many others, made the evening something that will be remembered for years to come. My children and grandchildren, my nieces and nephews, Sadel’s brother and his wife all had high praises for Temple Baptist Church and the friendliness of our congregation. You are the best!

We are looking forward to planning and taking the trip to Ireland and Scotland soon. What a very generous gift! We are also thankful for everything done to honor us for these 50 years here at Temple. I’ve said it before and will continue to say it; Temple Baptist Church is the BEST! You are a loving, serving, and going congregation. We have loved serving along with you for these fifty years.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!

Our **February Senior Adult Luncheon** is scheduled for next **Tuesday, February 17, at 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**. Our program will feature one of our high school students, Kennedy Hall, who went on one of Temple’s International Mission Trips last fall. She is the daughter of Lance and Katie Hall and the granddaughter of Jean and Jan Hall.



WEEkday Early Education
MOTHER'S DAY OUT & PRESCHOOL

REGISTER NOW!

ACCEPTING 2065-27 REGISTRATION (SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS AUGUST 25)
FROM CHURCH MEMBERS FEBRUARY 2-19.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MARSHA HAMMONS, WEEKDAY DIRECTOR, AT
MARSHA@TEMPLE.LIFE OR 255-9506.



SOUTH LOUISIANA
GO TEAM
INTEREST MEETING

Wednesday, February 25 | 5 P.M. | RM 82

Come learn about our trip planned for Friday, April 10 - Sunday, April 12.

Learn more at missions.temple.life



the family of **Joe Gaido**,
 husband of Joyce
 and father of Kelly (Barry) Gilliland.

the family of **Lisa Magee**,
 mother of Walker (Meredith) Magee
 and grandmother of Georgia Grace.

the family of **Lemuel Reams Morgan**,
 grandfather of Alec Williams.

VBS NEEDS

Large cardboard boxes are being collected as we begin creating decor for VBS. If you or your workplace have boxes, please bring them to *The Journey Place*. If anyone has access to large cardboard sheets, those would be appreciated, as well. If you would like to help us with decorations, please let Sally or Sarah know.

Congratulations to:

Drew and Molly Skains on the birth of their daughter, **Ruby Taylor**. Proud sister is Rivers.
 Grandparents are Mike and Karen Skains.
 Edward and Becky McConnico on the birth of their grandson, **Austin James McConnico**.
 Proud great-grandmother is Marilyn Gullatt.



Charlotte Mabry Women on Mission

Monday, February 16 | 5:30 p.m.
 Hostess: Bridget Jones
 Mission Project: Boston Church Plant

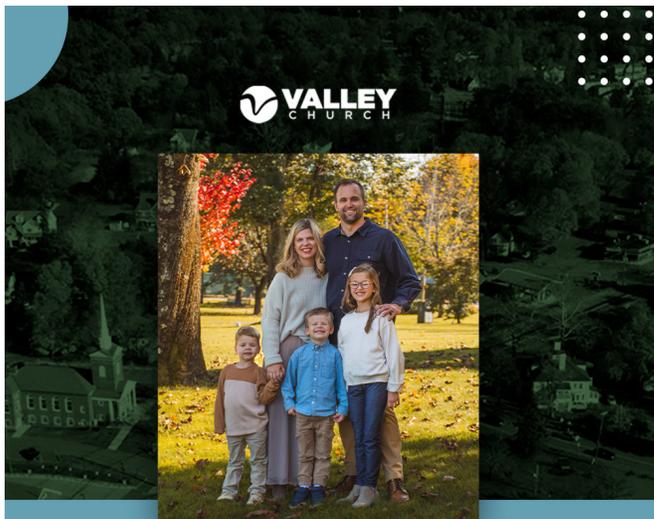


Youth Ministry
John Nugent

CELEBRATING BAPTISMS: We're looking forward to Sunday, February 22! We will baptize at least six students and hope to have a few more students added to that number for baptism on the 22nd! It's amazing to see how God is at work! Some of these have stories of how God has used their families to show them how much God loves them and wants relationship with them. Other students have stories of how God has used their friends in our Youth Ministry to share the gospel with them. And still others have stories of how God has saved them despite friends and even family that don't love and follow Him. These students' stories are all reminders that God is seeking to save the lost no matter who they are or what their circumstances may be. I'm looking forward to celebrating their baptisms!

Family calendars are filling up fast, so here are some summer dates to put on your calendar:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Senior Mystery Trip | May 24-28 |
| High School Mission Trip | June 13-19 |
| Junior High Mission Trip | July 5-10 |



VALLEY CHURCH

**BOSTON CHURCH PLANT
PRAYER FOCUS**

More information can be found at
valleychurch.life

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Week-at-a-Glance

January 24-February 28 - Upward Games (FLC)

Sunday, February 15

9 a.m. - Blended Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life;
Contemporary Worship (GS); Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship | Parent/Child Dedication (Sanctuary);
livestream at live.temple.life; Sunday School for all ages
4 p.m. - Bible Drill (JPMR)
5:30 p.m. - The Chapel (Chapel)
5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (The Springs)

Tuesday, February 17

11:45 a.m. - Senior Adult Luncheon (FH)

Wednesday, February 18

5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8,
\$15 max/family; Menu: Soup Bar); Montana GO Team Interest Meeting
(Rm 82)
5:15 p.m. - Boston Advocacy Prayer Time (Rm 76)
5:45 p.m. - Men's Bible Study (Rm 264); Women's Bible Study - When You
Pray (Rm 275); Children's M3 (JP); Junior High Worship (Youth Rm)
6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); Coed Bible Study - Judges
(FLC Glass Classroom)
6:30 p.m. - Temple College Freshman Bible Study (Rm 216)
6:45 p.m. - Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7 p.m. - High School Worship (Youth Rm); Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
(Choir Rm)



**SENIOR ADULT
LUNCHEON**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 | 11:45 A.M. - 1 P.M.
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Senior Adults (50+), join us for lunch, followed by a program.

LEARN MORE AT EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE



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GO TEAM
INTEREST MEETING

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July 25 - Friday, July 31.

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Broadcast Hours: Sundays: 9 a.m. Channel 11 (KAQY); 9 and 10:30 a.m. livestream (live.temple.life)
Family Life Center Hours: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
The Journey Place Playscape Hours: Monday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday 2:30-4 p.m.