First Baptist Church Gaston



2024 Preaching Plan

Written by:

Rev. Robert 'Brady' Henderson

First Baptist Church of Gaston's Senior Pastor Publicly released on December 14th, 2023

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This preaching plan was written by:

A Word from Pastor Brady about the 2024 Preaching Plan:

Dear beloved Church member of FBC Gaston,

It's hard to believe that this is already my third time planning my preaching. On February 21st of 2024, I'll celebrate my third anniversary as Pastor at the incredible First Baptist Church in Gaston, South Carolina. It won't be long until I start my fourth year as the Senior Pastor here. I truly love this Church and each of you reading this year's edition of the preaching plan. Through my first three years here as Pastor, I've planned my preaching three times. The first time I planned my preaching(2022), I took one week to plan and had a plan, but did not follow it well simply because I did not have enough time to prep, pray and prepare. Last year (2023) I released my preaching plan to the public for the first time and after spending one month on it last year, was able to follow it decently well.

For those that may not be familiar with what 'planning your preaching' is, I want you to know that it is still led by the Holy Spirit. Every preacher of God's Word is different. Some preachers plan week to week, monthly, or annually. For me, God lays on my heart books of the Bible to preach through usually a year in advance.

As you get ready to flip through the pages of the preaching plan, I want to remind you that all of this is tentative. While I believe God has laid on my heart the messages to preach, all of this is subject to change if the Lord tells me to change it. I am 100% responsible to God for my preaching. So while this is where I feel Him leading now, if He changes it, I will comply with Him

The purpose of the 2024 preaching plan is to show you that there is a game plan behind the preaching ministry of the FBCG pulpit. I do not and will not ever take the blessing of being your Pastor lightly. When I preach, I aim to preach straight from the Bible. Taking everything directly out of the text. I believe in and seek to follow the idea of Expository Preaching. Which is taking what is in the text and bringing it out for us. Looking at what it meant to the original recipients and how it applies to our lives today. I don't preach my thoughts, agenda (don't have one), or opinions. I am to go verse-by-verse, line-by-line, and preach the inerrant and infallible Word of God.

In this document you will find many things. You will find the different sermon series that we plan on having throughout the year. You will find the sermon title, sermon text, and 3-5 sentences of a sermon synopsis. The point of this synopsis is to show you where the sermon is headed. In addition to the planning of the preaching, you will find the dates and locations of revivals I will be preaching in 2024. You will also find my book recommendations per each

This preaching plan was written by:

series. For each series I will recommend resources and commentaries that you can purchase online to aid you in your study of the sermon texts before they are preached.

I do not plan my preaching just for me, I do it for you as a Church member as well as to give aid to my fellow brothers in the fraternity of the ministry. For you as a Church member, I hope you will use this resource to study before the services. You have the sermon title, text and a synopsis! It's up to you to read the text and study it on your own before coming to Church. I am praying that the Holy Spirit will use this in your life for you to get as much out of the sermon as possible. The sermon time starts before you get to Church (in your personal study time) and should continue when you leave (as you live out the sermon). You are much more likely to live out the sermons (living out the Biblical text) when you study beforehand. Don't just count on a 40 minute sermon to last you all week. You've got to study all week long. Not just the sermon texts, but also reading the Bible. That's another thing you will find in this year's printed copy of the preaching plan, is three options for daily Bible reading.

In August of 2023 I began the writing of this preaching plan. Since November, I have dedicated 4 hours (mostly in the middle of the night) daily to the writing of this preaching plan. God has laid it on my heart and life to provide you with this plan so it will cause you to know more about the God we serve. I want to thank my precious wife, Hannah Leigh, for her contributions to the plan. She contributed by sacrificing. She allowed me to stay at the Church study late into the evenings in order to get this done for our Church family. She also experienced many nights sleeping alone while I was upstairs in the home study working on this.

For fellow preachers of God's Word and fellow Churches, feel free to use anything in this plan that will give God Glory in your own ministry. My only request is that you give God all the praise, honor and glory that He deserves in your preaching EVERY time that you step into that pulpit.

After much thought and prayer, I am dedicated this edition of the preaching plan to of course, my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is who I am doing all what I do for. But for this particular edition of the plan, I've decided to dedicate it to my grandfather. The late Rev. Dr. Thomas Esse Burns. My grandad was everything to me. He faithfully served as a Pastor of Worship/Youth/Senior Adults/Administration for 50 years. Having retired from Fairview Baptist Church in Greer SC in 2017 after having served nearly 30 years as Worship Pastor/Administrator. I called my grandfather 'Nane'. Due to life circumstances my Mom, sister, and I moved to live with my 'Nane' and 'Jojo' in August of 2009. I was just 10 years old. Later that summer I was called to preach.

Since then, my Grandad made a point to nurture, mentor and care for my spiritual walk with God. He is one of the only people that I felt truly 'got me' and understood me. I am so thankful This preaching plan was written by:

that God allowed him to be my grandfather and spiritual leader. He went to Heaven to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 31st of 2022. He was just 72 years old. He had a long hard battle with dementia before the Lord decided to take Him home. So, I am dedicating the 2024 preaching plan to Nane. I love you. Thank you Lord for giving Him to me for the 23 years that you did. You are such a gracious and loving God.

Sincerely,

Rev. Robert 'Brady' Henderson FBC Gaston's Senior Pastor



Remembering Dr. Tom Burns and Wife, Joyce Lee Burns.



Pictured here is Pastor Brady, as well as Pastor Brady and First Lady Hannah.

This preaching plan was written by:

Cumulative Preaching Calendar Schedule

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January:
Wednesday, January 3rd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'Overview of 1st Samuel'
1st Samuel
Sunday, January 7th, 11 AM Worship Service
'Committ(ed)!'
Psalms 37:5
Wednesday, January 10th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'Ask and Receive!'
1st Samuel 1:1-20
Sunday, January 14th, 11 AM Worship Service.
'Committed to Serving!'
Titus 1:1-4
Wednesday, January 17th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'Desperate Dedication!'
1st Samuel 1:21-28
Sunday, January 21st, 11 AM Worship Service.
'Committed to the Proper Qualifications of Church Leadership!'
Titus 1:5-9
Wednesday, January 24th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'A Prayer of Praise!'
1st Samuel 2:1-11
Sunday, January 28th, 11 AM Worship Service.
'Committed to Confrontation!'
Titus 1:10-16
Wednesday, January 31st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'The Worthlessness of Wrong Motives in Worship!'
1st Samuel 2:12-26
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This preaching plan was written by:

February: Sunday, February 4th, 11 AM Worship Service. 'Committed to Biblical Gender Roles in the Church!' Titus 2:1-10 Wednesday, February 7th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Rejecting of the Rebels!' 1st Samuel 2:27-36 Sunday, February 11th, 11 AM Worship Service. 'Committed to the Gospel!' Titus 2:11-15 Wednesday, February 14th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Call of God!' 1st Samuel 3 Sunday, February 18th, 11 AM Worship Service. 'Committed to Spirit Led Living!' Titus 3:1-8 Wednesday, February 21st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Capture of the Ark of the Covenant!' 1st Samuel 4:1-11 Sunday, February 25th, 11 AM Worship Service. 'Committed to Church Discipline!' Titus 3:9-15 Wednesday, February 28th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service RBH out of pulpit, Associate Pastor Chris preaching. March: Sunday, March 3rd, 11 AM Worship Service 'The First Cry: Forgiveness!' Luke 23:34

Wednesday, March 6th, 7 PM Midweek Service

'The Second Cry: Salvation!'

This preaching plan was written by:

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Luke 23:42-43
Sunday, March 10th, 11 AM Worship Service
'The Third Cry: Affection!'
John 19:25-27
Wednesday, March 13th, 7 PM Midweek Service
'The Fourth Cry: Anguish!'
Matthew 27:46
Sunday, March 17th, 11 AM Worship Service
'The Fifth Cry: Thirst!'
John 19:28
Wednesday, March 20th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
RBH out, Associate Pastor Chris Preaching.
Sunday, March 24th (Palm Sunday), 11 AM Worship Service
'The Sixth Cry: Victory!'
John 19:30
Wednesday, March 27th, 7 PM Midweek Service
'The Seventh Cry: Contentment!'
Luke 23:46
Sunday, March 31st, 11 AM Worship Service
'Easter Sermon!'
April:
Wednesday, April 3rd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'Pitfalls of a Patriarchal Priest!'
1st Samuel 4:12-22
Sunday, April 7th, 11 AM Worship Service
'Overview of Mark!'
Mark
Wednesday, April 10th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'The Mistake of Messing with God!'
1st Samuel 5:1-12
This preaching plan was written by:
Rev. R. Brady Henderson between August-December of 2023 for First Baptist Gaston, SC
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Sunday, April 14th, 11 AM Worship Service
'A Cousin Clears the Way!'
Mark 1:1-8
Wednesday, April 17th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'The Ark is coming Home!'
1st Samuel 6-7:2
Sunday, April 21st, 11 AM Worship Service
'Follow the Leader!'
Mark 1:9-13
Wednesday, April 24th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'The Effect of an Ebenezer Epiphany!'
1st Samuel 7:3-17
Sunday, April 28th, 11 AM Worship Service
'Jesus Starts His Ministry!'
Mark 1:14-20
May:
Wednesday, May 1st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'The Mountain Road to Monarchy!'
1st Samuel 8:1-9
Sunday, May 5th, 11 AM Worship Service
'The Action of Authority!'
Mark 1:21-34
Wednesday, May 8th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'Do we really know what's best?'
1st Samuel 8:10-22
Sunday, May 12th, 11 AM Worship Service
'A Time to Rest and a Time to Reach!'
Mark 1:35-39
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This preaching plan was written by:

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Wednesday, May 15th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'An Introduction to Saul!'
1st Samuel 9:1-2
Sunday, May 19th, 11 AM Worship Service
'Don't take Advantage of Jesus!'
Mark 1:40-45
Wednesday, May 22nd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'The Story of Saul becoming King!'
1st Samuel 9:3-27
Sunday, May 26th, 11 AM Worship Service
'Healing for the Hurting!'
Mark 2:1-12
(Special evening service at 5 PM for Memorial weekend grave decoration)
Wednesday, May 29th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'The Private Plot!'
1st Samuel 10:1-16
June:
Sunday, June 2nd, 11 AM Worship Service
'Unconventional Thinking!'
Mark 2:13-17
Wednesday, June 5th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
'The Public Proclamation!'
1st Samuel 10:17-27
Sunday, June 9th, 11 AM Worship Service
RBH out, Associate Pastor Chris preaching.
Wednesday, June 12th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service
RBH out, Associate Pastor Chris preaching.
Sunday, June 16th, 11 AM Worship Service
'Jesus is Bigger than your Box!'
Mark 2:18-22
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This preaching plan was written by:

Wednesday, June 19th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'How to Properly Handle Praise!'

1st Samuel 11:1-15

Sunday, June 23rd, 11 AM Worship Service 'Preying on Someone to Fall!'
Mark 2:23-3:6

Wednesday, June 26th No Midweek Worship due to VBS

Sunday, June 30th, 11 AM Worship Service *RBH out, Associate Pastor Chris preaching.*

July:

Wednesday, July 3rd No Midweek Worship, enjoy the Holiday

Sunday, July 7th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Pressure Points of the Ministry!'
Mark 3:7-21

Wednesday, July 10th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Integrity is Invaluable!'

1st Samuel 12:1-5

Sunday, July 14th, 11 AM Worship Service 'The 1 Sin that Keeps you OUT of Heaven!'
Mark 3:22-30

Wednesday, July 17th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Last words of an Exceptional Leader!'

1st Samuel 12:6-25

Sunday, July 21st, 11 AM Worship Service 'Does your Family Hurt or Help your walk with Christ?'
Mark 3:31-35

This preaching plan was written by:

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Wednesday, July 24th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'When Fear leads you to a Cave!'

1st Samuel 13:1-7
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Sunday, July 28th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Do we get the Gospel?'
Mark 4:1-20

Wednesday, July 31st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Taking Matters into Our Own Hands!'
1st Samuel 13:8-23

August:

Sunday, August 4th, 11 AM Worship Service *RBH out, Associate Pastor Chris preaching.*

Wednesday, August 7th, 11 AM Worship Service *RBH out, Associate Pastor Chris preaching.*

Sunday, August 11th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Lamps, Lots of Seeds, and the Lone Mustard Seed!' Mark 4:21-34

Wednesday, August 14th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Sons, learn from Your Father's Mistakes!'
1st Samuel 14:1-23

Sunday, August 18th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Lord Over Your Storms!'

Mark 4:35-41

Wednesday, August 21st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service *Potentially a revival night*.

Sunday, August 25th, 11 AM Worship Service 200th Homecoming Anniversary, special sermon and day.

Wednesday, August 28th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Words Can Wreck Our Own Family!'

1st Samuel 14:24-35

This preaching plan was written by:

September: Sunday, September 1st, 11 AM Worship Service 'Deliverance from Demon Possession!' Mark 5:1-20 Wednesday, September 4th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service RA/GA/Mission Friends/Acteens Recognition Night Sunday, September 8th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Handling Divine Interruptions!' Mark 5:21-43 Wednesday, September 11th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Obstruction of the Oath!' 1st Samuel 14:36-46 Sunday, September 15th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Hated in His Hometown!' Mark 6:1-13 Wednesday, September 18th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Whose Kingdom are you Building?' 1st Samuel 14:47-52 Sunday, September 22nd, 11 AM Worship Service 'The Cost of Speaking Truth!' Mark 6:14-29 Wednesday, September 25th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Abusing God Given Authority!' 1st Samuel 15:1-9 Sunday, September 29th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Compassion Never Ceases!' Mark 6:30-44 October: Wednesday, October 2nd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service

Wednesday, October 2nd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Reason for Rejection!'

1st Samuel 15:10-35

This preaching plan was written by:

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Sunday, October 6th, 11 AM Worship Service 
'There's No Water that He won't Walk on, for You!' 
Mark 6:45-56
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Wednesday, October 9th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'When God sees the Extraordinary in the Ordinary!' 1st Samuel 16:1-13

Sunday, October 13th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Tangled up in Tradition!'
Mark 7:1-13

Wednesday, October 16th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Two Kings in the Same Kingdom!'

1st Samuel 16:14-23

Sunday, October 20th, 11 AM Worship Service 'When was your Last Heart Check-up?'
Mark 7:14-23

Wednesday, October 23rd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Give God a Chance!'

1st Samuel 17:1-30

Sunday, October 27th, 11 AM Worship Service Associate Pastor Chris preaching, RBH potentially there.

Wednesday, October 30th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'God's Power in the Battle!'

1st Samuel 17:31-58

November:

Sunday, November 3rd, 11 AM Worship Service 'Demon Possessed and Left for Deaf!'
Mark 7:24-37

Wednesday, November 6th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service *Associate Pastor Chris preaching, RBH potentially there.*

This preaching plan was written by:

Sunday, November 10th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Forgetting what God has Done!'
Mark 8:1-26

Wednesday, November 13th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Jonathan, Jealousy, and Jubilation!'

1st Samuel 18:1-16

Sunday, November 17th, 11 AM Worship Service 'The Most Important Question of All Time!'
Mark 8:27-33

Wednesday, November 20th, No Midweek Worship Service Happy Thanksgiving.

Sunday, November 24th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Crosstalk!'

Mark 8:34-9:1

Wednesday, November 27th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Who has your Best Interest at Heart?'

1st Samuel 18:17-30

December:

Sunday, December 1st, 11 AM Worship Service 'A Glimpse of God's Glory!'

Mark 9:2-13

Wednesday, December 4th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'While Shepherds Watched their Flocks!'
Luke 2:8

Sunday, December 8th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Silent Night! Holy Night!'
Luke 2:11

Wednesday, December 11th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service *Children's Christmas Choir Musical*

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Sunday, December 15th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!'
Luke 2:14

Wednesday, December 18th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service *Reading of the Christmas Story and Drop-in event*

Sunday, December 22nd, 11 AM Worship Service 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!'

Matthew 1:23

Wednesday, December 25th, No services or activities Merry Christmas

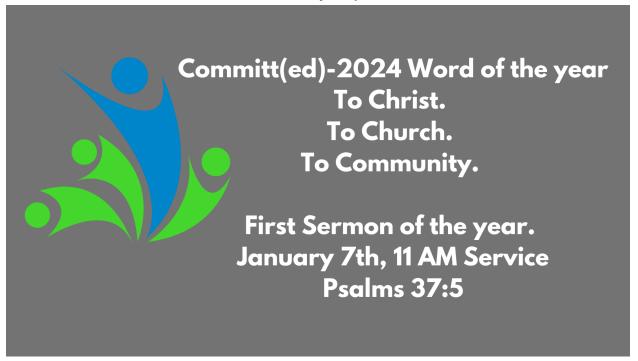
Sunday, December 29th, 11 AM Worship Service *RBH out, Associate Pastor Chris preaching.*

Preaching Statistics:

Pastor Brady will preach <u>85 sermons this year.</u>
Associate Pastor Chris Terry will preach <u>10 sermons this year.</u>
There will be approximately 95 sermons preached from the FBCG pulpit in 2024.

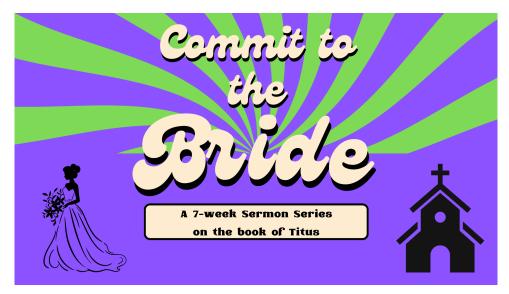
This preaching plan was written by:

2024 word of the year!



Our 2024 word of the year is 'Committed(ed)!'
We need to be committed to Christ, our Church and our Community all year long.

I'll be preaching from Psalms 37:5 on the first Sunday of the year, January 7th. You can begin purchasing our Word of the year shirts, long sleeves, and hoodies very soon!



'Commit to the Bride!'

Sermon Series

NT book of Titus

(7-week series)

Series Stats:

- 7 weeks.
- Sunday morning series lasting from January to February.
- The purpose of this sermon series is to look at how we as Christians can and should be committed to the local Church, the bride of Christ.
 - The book of Titus gives us a blueprint as to how the New Testament Church should operate and in studying that, we can find out how we can be more committed to the bride that Christ died for.

Sermon #1: Sunday, January 14th, 11 AM Worship Service.

'Committed to Serving!'

Titus 1:1-4

The purpose of this sermon is to look at Paul's opening greeting to Titus and examine Paul's commitment and philosophy to serving God by serving the local Church (the bride).

Sermon #2: Sunday, January 21st, 11 AM Worship Service.

'Committed to the Proper Qualifications of Church Leadership!'

Titus 1:5-9

Very early on in the book of Titus the apostle Paul does not shy away from the biblical qualifications for Church leaders. With Titus being Paul's 'son in the ministry', he instructs him

This preaching plan was written by:

on how the elders (Church leaders) should be ordered. This is the same for us today when seeking to call a Pastor or pastoral staff member. These qualifications do not need to be overlooked.

Sermon #3: Sunday, January 28th, 11 AM Worship Service. 'Committed to Confrontation!'
Titus 1:10-16

The majority of human beings do not like nor enjoy confrontation. Whether we realize it or not, there are times in the local Church where confrontation is necessary. This sermon looks at the different kinds of circumstances and people that need to be lovingly confronted in the Church.

Sermon #4: Sunday, February 4th, 11 AM Worship Service. 'Committed to Biblical Gender Roles in the Church!'
Titus 2:1-10

Contrary to what the culture teaches, the Bible is clear that when God made us a man or a woman, we are indeed what He made us when we were born. In the Church, there are gender roles. God has created man and women uniquely different with different gifts, talents and abilities that He wants to divinely use in the local Church.

Sermon #5: Sunday, February 11th, 11 AM Worship Service. 'Committed to the Gospel!'
Titus 2:11-15

As Paul does in all of his letters, he plainly and sincerely shares the Gospel message. Paul wants the Churches that Titus is leading to be governed well and properly, but Paul realizes that the Gospel should be the main focus of what the local Church is focused and fixated upon.

Sermon #6: Sunday, February 18th, 11 AM Worship Service. 'Committed to Spirit Led Living!'
Titus 3:1-8

When we know the Gospel and the Gospel has infiltrated our lives, it should affect how we live. This sermon focuses on how we should be committed to living a life that is led and directed by the Holy Spirit. When we are committed to living by the Spirit we will be more ready to do every good work for the Lord.

Sermon #7: Sunday, February 25th, 11 AM Worship Service. **'Committed to Church Discipline!'**

This preaching plan was written by:

Titus 3:9-15

In the American Church, it's safe to say that Church discipline has become a foreign concept to many. Very few Churches actually practice Church discipline the way it is seen in this text. But, Church discipline was not absent from New Testament Churches and neither should it be absent to us today.



'Cries from the Cross!'

Sermon Series

A look at the 7 Words Jesus Cried out while on the Cross during His Crucifixion.

(7-part Sermon Series)

Series Stats:

- Spread through 7 different services right before Easter.
- The purpose of this sermon series is to look at the words Jesus said while on the cross. In examining words through 3 different Gospel accounts, we will be able to learn why Jesus came to the Cross to die for us, and this should radically change our lives.
 - When we take the time as a Church family right before Easter, to closely examine what Jesus went through, it can help prepare our hearts to celebrate and share the resurrection of Christ.

Sermon #1: Sunday, March 3rd, 11 AM Worship Service

'The First Cry: Forgiveness!'

Luke 23:34

This preaching plan was written by:

While on the Cross, Jesus cried out 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.' These words that Jesus cry echo His desire for humankind to realize the error of their own ways (sin). In these words uttered by Jesus on the cross, we can see His forgiveness of the very own who put Him on the cross to die for you and me.

Sermon #2: Wednesday, March 6th, 7 PM Midweek Service

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'The Second Cry: Salvation!'
Luke 23:42-43
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This sermon will look at the dialogue that occurred with the other men that were hanging on different crosses on both sides of Jesus. In this text, we will unpack how one of the thieves on the cross wanted Jesus to remember Him and to be saved by Him. Jesus replies with some of the most beautiful words in all of scripture 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.' These words still ring true for those who will believe in the Lord Jesus.

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Sermon #3: Sunday, March 10th, 11 AM Worship Service 'The Third Cry: Affection!'

John 19:25-27
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Mary, the Mother of Jesus witnessed the cruel crucifixion of her Son. This sermon will look at what Jesus said to His mother while He was still on the Cross. In this sermon, we will see the emotion of Jesus' humanity while still being God in human flesh.

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Sermon #4: Wednesday, March 13th, 7 PM Midweek Service 
'The Fourth Cry: Anguish!'
Matthew 27:46
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While on the cross Jesus shouted the famous aramaic words that are translated to mean 'My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?' This phrase by Jesus shows us the true anguish He was experiencing. Not just physically, but also emotionally between He and His Father.

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Sermon #5: Sunday, March 17th, 11 AM Worship Service 
'The Fifth Cry: Thirst!'

John 19:28
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Nearing the final minutes of His time on earth, in order to fulfill Psalms 69:21, Jesus asked for a drink. He was nearing the end of His mission to come to the earth and die for you and I. Even in his final minutes, His humanity is still in plain sight.

This preaching plan was written by:

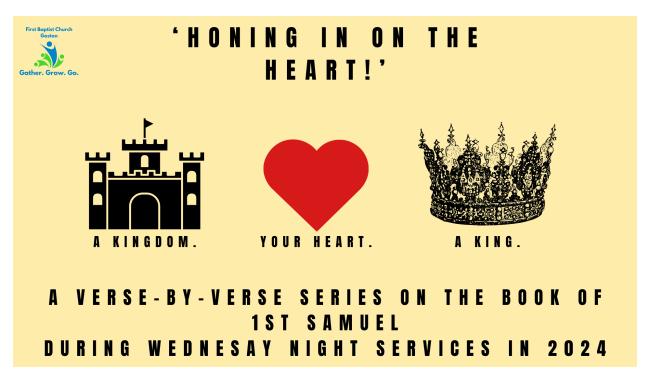
Sermon #6: Sunday, March 24th (Palm Sunday), 11 AM Worship Service 'The Sixth Cry: Victory!'

John 19:30

It is finished was His cry, as the perfect lamb of God was crucified. This Palm Sunday instead of taking the traditional approach of studying the triumphal entry of Jesus, we will look at the triumphal bodily exit of Jesus as He yielded up His spirit.

Sermon #7: Wednesday, March 27th, 7 PM Midweek Service 'The Seventh Cry: Contentment!'
Luke 23:46

Just days before Easter we will study the contentment that Jesus expressed as He completed His mission here on earth. If Jesus can have contentment in His darkest hour, then there is truly no excuse as to why you and I cannot show contentment in the Lord in our daily lives.



'Honing in on the Heart!'

Sermon Series

35 parts in 2024

(series will continue into 2025)

Series Stats:

- A verse-by-verse series that will be multi-year. As of now, my plan is to head right into 2nd Samuel after completing 1st Samuel.
 - One may ask, why spend a period of year(s) going through a book of the Bible?
 - From 2022-2023, we spent almost 2 years going verse-by-verse through the book of Hebrews on Wednesday nights. For that season in the life of our Church, we were able to make sure there were no doctrinal stones left unturned by simply going through each verse.
 - When it comes to 1st-2nd Samuel, these books contain much of the history of the nation of Israel. In order for us to begin to understand God's great redemption plan that He enacted when He sent Jesus to this earth, we need to understand how it got to that point. Specifically with the nation of Israel.
 - This series (over the next few years), will journey through each verse in these books. We will look at a King(s), a Kingdom, and how our heart is encompassed in all of this.
 - I understand it's a long series, but I'm asking for your commitment as we journey through 1st-2nd Samuel on Wednesday nights. If you stay committed to

This preaching plan was written by:

this series, I promise your knowledge of God's Word will expand and I pray that through that, your love for Him will deepen!

- This series will be during Midweek Worship services on Wednesday nights.
 - My prayer is that God will use this series in the life of our Church for generations to come. That even years from now, you will be telling your children and grandchildren of the time at FBC Gaston that you were able to hear expository Bible sermons from each passage in 1st-2nd Samuel.
 - Last year (2023), I went through 1st-2nd Samuel as a part of my daily quiet time with a group of friends that keep me accountable to God's Word through a daily group chat. 1st-2nd Samuel greatly blessed me and the Lord showed me so much in His Word through these historical books that often get overlooked in Bible reading.
 - My prayer is that as we travel through this book, that the Lord will teach all of us so much more about Him and His Word.

Sermon #1: Wednesday, January 3rd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Overview of 1st Samuel'

1st Samuel

The purpose of this sermon is to do an overview on the book of 1st Samuel. With a series of this kind of length, it's important to have a strong foundation for the sermons that will follow. In this overview sermon, we will look at who is believed to be the author, the date, the theme, purpose, literary features of the Hebrew text, and more. Don't do yourself a disservice for the entire series, make sure you are here for sermon #1 as we take a macro view of 1st Samuel before we do the weekly micro study.

Sermon #2: Wednesday, January 10th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Ask and Receive!'

1st Samuel 1:1-20

The book of 1st Samuel starts with the request of a lady yearning to become a mother. Hannah, the second wife of Elkanah (a Godly man), prays in the temple so hard that she may have a son, that the priest (Eli) mistakes her for being drunk. That's how intensely she prayed. She asked, and as we see in verse 20 Hannah will conceive and bear a son, Samuel. A prophet that God will raise up to lead Israel through times of pain, prayer, and even praise.

Sermon #3: Wednesday, January 17th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Desperate Dedication!'

1st Samuel 1:21-28

This preaching plan was written by:

Hannah was so thankful that God answered her prayers, that she is so eager and desperate to dedicate her son, Samuel, to the Lord. Now in the days of Israel, dedicating her child meant he would be raised by the priests in the temple. She would not be able to raise her own son in her own household. But yet she's desperate to dedicate her son because she realizes ultimately it's God's creation given to her, so she gives him back. How much better would our world be if we were all desperately dedicated to the Lord and wanted to give our all to Him!

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Sermon #4: Wednesday, January 24th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'A Prayer of Praise!'

1st Samuel 2:1-11
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In this sermon, we will learn of the power that comes in a prayer life that is full of praise and not just petitions, to God. In this text we find Hannah's prayer. A very well known passage in the Old Testament as well as the book of 1st Samuel. This passage has drawn many comparison's to Mary's Song of praise in the New Testament.

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Sermon #5: Wednesday, January 31st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 

'The Worthlessness of Wrong Motives in Worship!'

1st Samuel 2:12-26
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Eli was the priest at the time Samuel was dedicated to the Lord. In verse 12, the Bible describes Eli's sons as 'worthless'. Eli's sons were going through the 'motions' of worship by ministering in the temple, but they were doing it with the wrong motives and it was not glorifying God. This sermon looks at how important it is to have the right motives when serving and worshiping God.

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Sermon #6: Wednesday, February 7th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Rejecting of the Rebels!'

1st Samuel 2:27-36
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In this sermon, we will look at the reality that God does ultimately reject those who rebel without ever repenting and recognizing the Lord. We see that reality in this passage when God reveals to Eli that He is rejecting his sons.

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Sermon #7: Wednesday, February 14th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Call of God!'

1st Samuel 3
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I get chills everytime I read 1st Samuel 3. It reminds me of the night as an 11 year old boy that God called me to preach. In this passage we see that God calls Samuel as a young boy to be a prophet to the nation of Israel. Although Samuel didn't know all that was in store for him as a This preaching plan was written by:

part of God's call on his life, verse 19 tells us 'Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him'. When God calls us to do His Work, He is with us and will never leave us.

Sermon #8: Wednesday, February 21st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Capture of the Ark of the Covenant!'

1st Samuel 4:1-11

The ark of the covenant will go on quite a journey throughout 1st-2nd Samuel. In this chapter, we see the philistines defeated Israel. The Israelites were feeling down, so they had the ark of the covenant brought into the camp. The people cheered/shouted, and the Philistines overheard their shouting. So, they came in and defeated Israel for the second time, that same day.

Sermon #9: Wednesday, April 3rd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Pitfalls of a Patriarchal Priest!'

1st Samuel 4:12-22

In 1st Samuel 4:11, we learn that the two sons of Eli died in battle. In this sermon, we will look at the pitfalls that Eli made. While he focused on his ministry to the Lord and to the people he served in the temple, it's obvious that somewhere along the way he neglected his own family. Eli had been in ministry for 40 years, ministering to the people of Israel. But his family was seemingly sacrificed on the altar of ministry. A sad mistake that many pastors and ministry leaders still make today.

Sermon #10: Wednesday, April 10th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Mistake of Messing with God!'

1st Samuel 5:1-12

The ark of the covenant was gone from Israel, but the philistines took it with them. All those near the ark of the covenant that were not Israelites were struck with tumors by God. This sermon shows the power and authority of YAHWEH and the mistake of messing with God and His people.

Sermon #11: Wednesday, April 17th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Ark is coming Home!'

1st Samuel 6-7:2

The Philistines took what they saw as a 'war' trophy, and were tormented greatly by God for it. The ark returns to Israel and we see in the text that God is a God worthy of our respect and reverence. And just like the ark, it's time for some of us to return home. God is fighting for you, submit to Him, and come home.

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Sermon #12: Wednesday, April 24th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 
'The Effect of an Ebenezer Epiphany!'

1st Samuel 7:3-17
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For 20 years nothing has been heard of Samuel (the last time Samuel spoke to Israel that the scripture tells us, was in 1st Samuel 4:1). But he breaks his silence because he has a message from God. His message is one we can still learn from today. He tells the people of Israel to leave idolatry behind and the people respond to him, and we see the stone of Ebenezer raised.

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Sermon #13: Wednesday, May 1st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 
'The Mountain Road to Monarchy!'

1st Samuel 8:1-9
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Just like his mentor, Samuel's sons were not following in his ministry footsteps. The leaders of Israel gathered together and told Samuel that they want a King. They want to be like other nations. At this time in the ancient world, it was the 'cool' thing to do, and Israel didn't have one, so they asked. The Mountain Road to Monarchy has officially begun.

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Sermon #14: Wednesday, May 8th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Do we really know what's best?'

1st Samuel 8:10-22
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In this sermon we will learn that as human beings, we don't always know what's best for us. It's important for us to seek the Lord and His face when making a decision, and not just assume that we know the best path for us. Samuel explains to the people how the change to a monarchy will revolutionize the nation but also their own individual lives. Even with Samuel explaining this, the people still wanted a King, so God gave them what they wanted.

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Sermon #15: Wednesday, May 15th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'An Introduction to Saul!'

1st Samuel 9:1-2
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This sermon will only look at 2 verses, in order to take a deeper dive into who Saul is. Saul is the first king that Israel had, the one they wanted so desperately. During this sermon we will study Saul and who he is, and his role in the overall biblical narrative of 1st Samuel.

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Sermon #16: Wednesday, May 22nd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Story of Saul becoming King!'

1st Samuel 9:3-27
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This preaching plan was written by:

This sermon looks at the narrative of how Saul became the 1st King of Israel. The way that God's providence plays out in this text, shows you and I that God always has a plan for His people.

Sermon #17: Wednesday, May 29th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Private Plot!'

1st Samuel 10:1-16

Saul was hesitant and probably initially overwhelmed with the fact that he was to become king of Israel. So, there are three signs in this passage that affirm that Saul was the one to become king. Here we find that Saul was anointed privately by Samuel. Eventually, it will become public that Saul was indeed God's anointed.

Sermon #18: Wednesday, June 5th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Public Proclamation!'

1st Samuel 10:17-27

Here we see the private plot unraveled in the public spotlight. In this passage we will see that God allowed the people to have what they want, and He will later show them that they do not always know what is best. Saul is anointed and now, everyone in Israel is aware.

Sermon #19: Wednesday, June 19th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'How to Properly Handle Praise!'

1st Samuel 11:1-15

Shortly after becoming King, Saul is faced with his first military battle. He tries to make a treaty with the king of the Ammonites and Nahash (king of Ammonites) would only make a treaty if each person in Israel would gouge out their right eye. This didn't sit well with Saul as it shouldn't have and they go to war and Saul leads them to victory. After the battle, Saul is praised. The way that Saul handles praise in the beginning is very encouraging. In Verse 13 we see that he points to the Lord when people give him praise. Do we point to God when we are praised or given compliments? This sermon looks at how we can properly handle praise.

Sermon #20: Wednesday, July 10th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Integrity is Invaluable!'

1st Samuel 12:1-5

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In leadership, integrity is an asset that is invaluable. You cannot put a price tag on a strong leader with integrity. In just these 5 verses, we can see the integrity with which Samuel led the nation of Israel with. How do you lead and live with Integrity on a daily basis?

Sermon #21: Wednesday, July 17th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Last words of an Exceptional Leader!'

1st Samuel 12:6-25

While Samuel doesn't die until 1st Samuel 25:1, the meat of his farewell address to Israel is here in this passage. Now that they have a King, Samuel is no longer in charge. In this passage we find incredible words that Samuel shared with the people that he loved and led so well. How you finish your ministry is equally important to how you started.

Sermon #22: Wednesday, July 24th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'When Fear leads you to a Cave!'

1st Samuel 13:1-7

This passage reveals to us the first time that Saul faces military adversity as king. In this passage, we see that Saul's son, Jonathan was able to defeat the garrison of the Philistines at Geba. In retaliation for this, the Philistines mustered 30,000 chariots and 6,000 calvary men. Due to this, the fear of Israel led them to hide in caves, holes, rocks, grave plots, and cisterns.

Sermon #23: Wednesday, July 31st, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Taking Matters into Our Own Hands!'

1st Samuel 13:8-23

Saul was to wait for Samuel to return until he offered the sacrifice. Here we see Saul take matters into his own hands instead of waiting for Samuel as God had instructed him to do. The punishment that Saul receives is revealed in verses 13-14. Now, Saul's reign will not continue in Israel. In other words, Saul's family will not continue in his royal footsteps. When we take matters into our own hands, there are certainly consequences.

Sermon #24: Wednesday, August 14th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Sons, learn from Your Father's Mistakes!'

1st Samuel 14:1-23

Chapter 14 is sandwiched in between two chapters that deal with Saul's disobedience. Most of 1st Samuel 14 focuses on Jonathan and his heroic actions in defeating the Philistines. From what we see in this passage and what we see later on in 1st Samuel about Jonathan, is that he is different from his father, which indicates he must've learned from his father's mistakes.

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Sermon #25: Wednesday, August 28th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Words Can Wreck Our Own Family!'

1st Samuel 14:24-35

Saul continues to seemingly spiral out of control and makes an Oath that no one could eat any food. His son is not with him at this time and Jonathan ate some of the honey that we see in verse 27. Here we can see that Jonathan does not agree with the rashness of his father.

Sermon #26: Wednesday, September 11th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Obstruction of the Oath!'

1st Samuel 14:36-46

Saul's Oath that he made previously is going to come back to bite him here. This narrative continues from the previous sermon but Saul is continuing to do things his way. Saul confronts his son Jonathan on how he ate the honey and Saul tells him that he will die. What we will focus on in this sermon, is how the people use the same oath that Saul used in verse 39 to save Johnathan's life and ransom him.

Sermon #27: Wednesday, September 18th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Whose Kingdom are you Building?'

1st Samuel 14:47-52

We wrap our sermons on 1st Samuel 14 with essentially the summary of Saul's Kingship in Israel. We are given a summary about his family, victories and his constant battle against the Philistines. But, we can't skip out on verse 52 and what is revealed concerning Saul. If you look at the fine print in the Biblical text it states 'And when Saul saw any strong man, or any valiant man, he attached him to himself.' This may just seem that he's a good army recruiter. But look closer. Saul attached people to HIS kingdom and not necessarily God's Kingdom. There's a big, big difference. Whose kingdom are you building?

Sermon #28: Wednesday, September 25th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Abusing God Given Authority!'

1st Samuel 15:1-9

What we see in 1st Samuel 15:1-9 is what we often see on the news headlines. Such as, 'Pastor falls due to sexual sin', or 'Pastor fired from Church for embezzling Money' or 'Pastor fired for abusing his own family'. Private thoughts become public treats when we don't take every thought captive to Christ. What we will study in this sermon, is that Saul abuses the authority God gave him as king by disobeying God. Saul disobeyed God, by keeping king Agag alive.

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Sermon #29: Wednesday, October 2nd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'The Reason for Rejection!'

1st Samuel 15:10-35

God takes Himself seriously even when we do not take Him seriously like we should. Saul often disobeyed God because he viewed God's words as suggestions instead of commands. We too, often find ourselves in the same boat in regards to our own disobedience against God. In this sermon we will study why Saul was rejected for what he did and even see Saul's remorse. We will learn the true importance of obeying everything that God tells us to do, and not just the parts we 'want' to obey.

Sermon #30: Wednesday, October 9th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'When God sees the Extraordinary in the Ordinary!'

1st Samuel 16:1-13

With Saul being rejected as king, the Lord tells Samuel that it's time for a new king. Saul will technically reign until he dies, but a new king has to be chosen. In this sermon, we will look at how God does not see how man sees. God looks at the heart. We will look at how God chooses an ordinary and lowly shepherd boy to be the King of Israel who would one day be known as 'A Man after God's Own Heart!'. And, is the man with whom God's Son would one day come through. Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Sermon #31: Wednesday, October 16th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Two Kings in the Same Kingdom!'

1st Samuel 16:14-23

The Spirit of God leaves Saul and he (saul) is now being tormented because of his actions. Saul requests for someone to play the Lyre and David is widely known for his musical abilities and gentle spirit. Little does Saul know, but when he invites David to become his armor bearer, he is inviting his successor to live in the kingdom with him. Wow!

Sermon #32: Wednesday, October 23rd, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Give God a Chance!'

1st Samuel 17:1-30

The small, young, insignificant and runt of Israel wanted a chance at the battle. In this text, we get a good look at the enemy Israel was facing but we will also look at David's willingness to fight in the battle. When we give God a chance, He does what only He can do! He takes our mess and makes a masterpiece and that is what He is fixing to do here.

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Sermon #33: Wednesday, October 30th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'God's Power in the Battle!'

1st Samuel 17:31-58

We've finally arrived at one of the most well known passages in the Bible. Since many of us were children, we have heard the story of how David killed Goliath. But as we study this passage, we are going to look at God's strength in the battle and how it was God who gave David the ability and opportunity to kill Goliath. In fact, it was God working through David that allowed the Israelites to win the battle that day. To face your battles, you need God's power!

Sermon #34: Wednesday, November 13th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Jonathan, Jealousy, and Jubilation!'

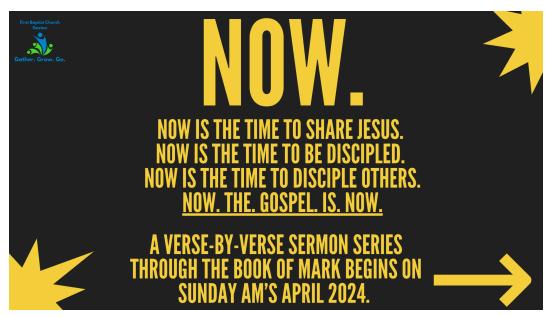
1st Samuel 18:1-16

In this text we find that David becomes close friends with Saul's son, Jonathan. In this sermon we will look at the Jubilation that occurs with David's victory over Goliath and the philistines, but then how the jealousy quickly follows after a jubilant occasion.

Sermon #35: Wednesday, November 27th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'Who has your Best Interest at Heart?'

1st Samuel 18:17-30

Early on in this text we see that David is exuberant over the potential of being the son-in-law to the king. After all, just a few months before this he was just in the fields taking care of the sheep (a lowly occupation). But Saul really doesn't have David's best interest at heart and we will see this begin to unfold in this sermon. We will look at how important it is to truly have the best interest of others at the forefront of our minds, and not to seek to devour them.



'Now!'

Sermon Series

30 parts in 2024

(series will continue into 2025 and conclude on Easter Sunday of 2025)

Series Stats:

- This is a verse-by-verse sermon series through the Gospel of Mark.
 - This is the first Gospel that I have preached through here at FBCG, all the way through.
- The Lord laid on my heart early in 2023, that He wanted me to lead us through a Gospel.
 - At first, I told the Lord I didn't know how the congregation would respond due to the length of a series through one of the Gospels.
 - But time and time again in my preparation of this preaching plan, the Lord continued to affirm the fact that I needed to preach through a Gospel.
 - So, with that being said, the Lord has led me to the Gospel of Mark.
- This series will begin this April, after Easter.
 - My plan is to begin this series in April of 2024, and close this series out on Easter Sunday of 2025.
 - So, we will be in the Gospel of Mark for a year.
 - I am aware that in order to preach through Mark in a year and give each passage the justice and due time it deserves, I am having to implement an aggressive strategy.
 - So for this year, for Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, and other holidays (other than Christmas), we will be preaching straight through Mark. I will not be pausing to preach special

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sermons on holidays this year simply so that we can get through Mark in the time I believe the Lord wants us too.

- So, I'm asking you to stay <u>committed</u> as we walk through the book of Mark, verse-by-verse.
 - I truly believe that God is going to use this series in the life of our Church for such a time as this.
- I've entitled this verse-by-verse series, 'Now!'.
 - The reason I have entitled it with this three letter word is because the book of *Mark* focuses on the life of Jesus, the urgency of the Gospel, and on discipleship.
 - Now is the time for us to share the story of Jesus that Mark walks us through. Not tomorrow, next hour, or next month, right now is the time. So, who are you sharing Jesus with now?
 - *Now* is the time to have urgency in our lives to live for the Lord and to see others live for Him.
 - Now is the time to be discipled and for us to seek to disciple others. As I mentioned last year during our 'Joy in the Journey' sermon series through Philippians, every Paul needs a Timothy and every Timothy needs a Paul. The time for discipleship is now and the book of Mark shows us how to do this!
 - Now, let me share with you the sermons that we will have in Mark this year and a short synopsis on them.

Sermon #1: Sunday, April 7th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Overview of Mark!'

Mark

The purpose of this sermon is to give a thorough and precise overview of the book of Mark. In this sermon we will look at who the author is believed to be, approximate date, location of the writing, theme, and purpose of the book of Mark. If at all possible, I encourage you to be here on purpose for the preaching of this sermon. The overview sermon gives a solid foundation for the rest of the series.

Sermon #2: Sunday, April 14th, 11 AM Worship Service 'A Cousin Clears the Way!'

Mark 1:1-8

(Matthew 3:1-12 and Luke 3:3-18 parallel this passage)

In this passage, we see that John the Baptist (the cousin/relative of Jesus), prepares the way for the first coming of Jesus. Mark points out how John the Baptist is the one who Isaiah and Malachi both predicted would be the forerunner for Jesus. In this sermon, we will look at how

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this cousin cleared the way for Jesus to come and what this means to our lives. As verse 8 points out, John baptized with water, but Jesus baptized us with the Holy Spirit!

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Sermon #3: Sunday, April 21st, 11 AM Worship Service 'Follow the Leader!'
Mark 1:9-13
(Matthew 3:12-17, Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 3:21-23a and Luke 4:1-13 parallel this passage)
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The classic game we probably remember playing when we were little was called 'Follow the Leader!'. The object of the game is wherever the leader went, everyone else followed. In the Christian life our object should be to follow our leader, which is Jesus Christ. In this sermon, we will see the need to follow Jesus in His example of baptism by immersion, and His example in how to fight temptation. Follow the Leader, follow Jesus!

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Sermon #4: Sunday, April 28th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Jesus Starts His Ministry!'
Mark 1:14-20
(Matthew 4:17, Luke 4:14b-15, and Matthew 4:18-22 parallel this passage)
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In this passage we see that Jesus starts His ministry. We will find in this passage that Jesus will use ordinary people to do extraordinary things that we will see later in Mark's Gospel. But for now, we see the right formula for how we are to start our ministry from how Jesus started His.

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Sermon #5: Sunday, May 5th, 11 AM Worship Service 'The Action of Authority!'
Mark 1:21-34
(Luke 4:31b-47, Matthew 8:14-17 and Luke 4:38-41 parallel this passage)
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In this sermon we will see the first time in Mark's Gospel that the Gospel is a NOW Gospel due to the authority that Jesus possesses. In this passage, the actions that Jesus is responsible for are only possible by one who has authority from almighty God. While Jesus' authority makes other uncomfortable, how much authority do you have Him to have in your life?

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Sermon #6: Sunday, May 12th, 11 AM Worship Service 'A Time to Rest and a Time to Reach!'
Mark 1:35-39
(Matthew 4:23-24 and Luke 4:42-44 parallel this passage)
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In this passage we see the humanity of Jesus by the fact that He rises early in the morning, and spends time with His Father in prayer. But when Simon comes searching for Him, Jesus gets up This preaching plan was written by:

and continues to do ministry. He continues to reach others with the Gospel. We should have times where we rest and recharge spiritually, but are ready when God gives us an opportunity to reach others.

Sermon #7: Sunday, May 19th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Don't take Advantage of Jesus!'

Mark 1:40-45

(Matthew 8:2-4 and Luke 5:12-16 parallel this passage)

Leper's were condemned by society and cut off from everyone. Here, we see that Jesus is willing to cleanse the worst of messes. But, what sticks out to me in this passage is the disobedience of the one who was cleansed and changed by Jesus. Verse 45 shows us that the leper did exactly what Jesus asked him not to do. How often does Jesus do something amazing for us and we turn around and disobey Him by the way we live our lives? Shame on us!

Sermon #8: Sunday, May 26th, 11 AM Worship Service *'Healing for the Hurting!' Mark 2:1-12*(Matthew 9:1-8 and Luke 5:17-26 parallel this passage)

Grab a corner, and let's take a hurting person home so that they can be healed. That's essentially what we see in Mark 2:1-12. A Group of men grab corners of a bed and put the paralytic man through the roof so that he could have an encounter with Jesus. Then we see Jesus heal and forgive. How are we bringing people that are hurting, home, for a healing from God?

Sermon #9: Sunday, June 2nd, 11 AM Worship Service *'Unconventional Thinking!' Mark 2:13-17*(Matthew 9:9-13 and Luke 5:27-32 parallel this passage)

Jesus calls a notorious person to be one of his 12 disciples. He calls a tax collector. One who probably cheated people for money as his vocation. Jesus saw the potential in him when He (Jesus) got ahold of His life. We also see how this passage occurs in the home setting. Jesus was not afraid to open His heart and go into the homes. Are we willing to do the same? When was the last time you opened your home up to discuss the things of God instead of talking about other people in the Church? To be a believer that makes a difference, you need to possess unconventional thinking.

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Sermon #10: Sunday, June 16th, 11 AM Worship Service *'Jesus is Bigger than your Box!' Mark 2:18-22*(Matthew 9:14-17 and Luke 5:33-39 parallel this passage)

Sadly, we as Christians often put Jesus into our own little box. We want Him to stay in the box unless we need Him, or unless it's during the 1 hour worship service on Sunday or Midweek Worship on Wednesday. In Mark 2:18-22, we see that Jesus is much bigger and greater than the box that the Pharisees and scribes wanted to put Him in. For Jesus to do all that He wants in and through your life, YOU have to stop putting Him in a box. He's so much bigger than that.

Sermon #11: Sunday, June 23rd, 11 AM Worship Service *'Preying on Someone to Fall!' Mark 2:23-3:6*(Matthew 12:1-14 and Luke 6:1-11 parallel this passage)

Mark 2:23-3:6 reveals to us that Jesus Christ IS Lord of the Sabbath. As this sermon will unravel, this was a big deal to the Pharisees. A common thing that I see in this passage, is that they (Pharisees) were constantly preying on Jesus. Waiting for Him to mess up so that they could pounce on Him. Sadly, we all know people that are constantly waiting for someone to fall, waiting for the next mistake. Don't be that person. Instead, do the right thing, simply because it's the right thing to do. Sadly, some people listen to a sermon just to hear the preacher say something incorrectly. Don't prey on others, pray for others.

Sermon #12: Sunday, July 7th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Pressure Points of the Ministry!'

Mark 3:7-21

(Matthew 12:15, Matthew 4:25 and Luke 6:12-16 parallel this passage)

By this point in Mark's Gospel, it's evident that Jesus is very well known. Because of this, people are coming from all over just to see, hear, and touch Him. Anyone who serves in any kind of ministry, knows that pressure is a part of serving the Lord. Jesus realizes this and gives His disciples a job description to help alleviate a lot of the pressure that was mounting up. In this sermon we will learn from Jesus how we need to delegate in ministry and now allow our own 'pressure points' to over take us.

Sermon #13: Sunday, July 14th, 11 AM Worship Service 'The 1 Sin that Keeps you OUT of Heaven!'
Mark 3:22-30
(Matthew 12:22-37 parallel's this passage)

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We've all heard the phrase 'unpardonable sin'. This phrase usually strikes fear and worry into the ears and minds of those who hear it. But, did you know this phrase does not actually occur in the Bible? What we find in Mark 3:22-30 though, is that Jesus shows us which sin is an eternal sin. Meaning once it's committed, will never be forgiven. Dr. Daniel Aiken describes it as 'If someone speaks against the Holy Spirit verbally and continually, with willful and malicious intent that reveals a hardened heart beyond the possibility of repentance, there is no forgiveness, and they are 'guilty of an eternal sin'. We will dive deeper into this on July 14th.

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Sermon #14: Sunday, July 21st, 11 AM Worship Service 

'Does your Family Hurt or Help your walk with Christ?'
Mark 3:31-35
(Matthew 12:46-50 and Luke 8:19-21 parallel this passage)
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Let's face it. We all have a family. And as you know, we cannot pick our family members. God gave them to us. As the ministry of Jesus increased and became more widespread, Jesus' earthly family began to attempt to hinder His ministry. In this passage, Jesus defines who is a part of the Family of God. The most important family there is. In this sermon, we will seek to see if our family is helping us or hindering our walk with Christ.

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Sermon #15: Sunday, July 28th, 11 AM Worship Service 

'Do we get the Gospel?'

Mark 4:1-20

(Matthew 13:1-23 and Luke 8:4-18 parallel this passage)
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Do we truly understand and get the truth of the Gospel message? If we truly do, we will be sharing it more and more everyday to anyone who will listen. In Mark 4:1-20, Jesus tells the well known parable of the sower. Some will never get the Gospel and accept it. But still, for those of us who get the Gospel, we are to share the Gospel.

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Sermon #16: Sunday, August 11th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Lamps, Lots of Seeds, and the Lone Mustard Seed!'

Mark 4:21-34

(Matthew 13:31-35 parallel this passage)
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Jesus continues to share with His disciples parables in order to teach them and us, important lessons. What we find in these parables, as that the Gospel has no limits. God's power has absolutely no limits. In this sermon, we will learn how a Lamp, Lots of seeds, and the Lone seed can teach us so much about continuing to be a part of Kingdom growth.

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Sermon #17: Sunday, August 18th, 11 AM Worship Service

'Lord Over Your Storms!'

Mark 4:35-41

(Matthew 13:53, Matthew 8:18, Matthew 8:23-27 and Luke 8:22-25 parallel this passage)

No matter who you are, you have storms present in your life. They may be big right now or they may be small. Either way, we all have personal problems that we are dealing with. Storms that seem to consume us. In this sermon we will study how Jesus is Lord over every storm that we will ever face. And we need to truly trust in Him to take care of us during the storms of life!

Sermon #18: Sunday, September 1st, 11 AM Worship Service

'Deliverance from Demon Possession!'

Mark 5:1-20

(Matthew 8:28-34 and Luke 8:26-39 parallel this passage)

Demons are real because satan is real. In this sermon, we will see how Jesus has authority and power over demons and heals a man from demon possession. Jesus is the only one who can deliver someone from demon possession.

Sermon #19: Sunday, September 8th, 11 AM Worship Service

'Handling Divine Interruptions!'

Mark 5:21-43

(Matthew 9:18-26 and Luke 8:40-56 parallel this passage)

While Jesus was healing someone with a life and death situation, He was made aware of another problem that someone had. And like only Jesus can, He was able to handle and heal both situations. Jesus shows us how we should handle interruptions. Not by getting upset that they may inconvenience us, but by realizing that God can and often does use interruptions to be used for His Glory.

Sermon #20: Sunday, September 15th, 11 AM Worship Service

'Hated in His Hometown!'

Mark 6:1-13

(Matthew 13:54-58, Matthew 10:1-42 and Luke 9:1-5 parallel this passage)

For my entire life I've heard the phrase 'the Prophet will be hated in His hometown'. That well known phrase comes from this passage. Jesus returns to Nazareth and instead of receiving honor, he receives hate. Whether it's in your hometown or not, in this sermon we will see how we need to respond when we are met with hate when simply trying to share the Gospel.

This preaching plan was written by:

Sermon #21: Sunday, September 22nd, 11 AM Worship Service 'The Cost of Speaking Truth!'
Mark 6:14-29

(Matthew 14:1-12 and Luke 9:7-9 parallel this passage)

In this sermon, we will find in Mark 6:14-29, that John the Baptist was killed brutally for speaking the truth of the Gospel. His head was literally served on a platter. As we read this passage, we see that the culture temperature rises on the early Christians, including Jesus's ministry. We need to be aware that when we stand up for Christ, the culture will not like it and may even seek to have our head.

Sermon #22: Sunday, September 29th, 11 AM Worship Service *'Compassion Never Ceases!' Mark 6:30-44*(Matthew 14:13-21, Luke 9:10-17 and John 6:1-13 parallel this passage)

Coming off of hearing the news about the death of His cousin and beloved friend, Jesus still does ministry. As you've heard before, Ministry is 24/7 not 9-5. In this well known passage we see Jesus feed the 5,000, which of course is a miracle that only God can do. All 4 of the Gospel writers include this story into their writings. It's important for us to see that Jesus is capable of the impossible! Jesus shows us here that our compassion for the needs of others should never cease. When it comes to being a follower of Christ, there are no days off!

We will observe the Lord's Supper this Service

Sermon #23: Sunday, October 6th, 11 AM Worship Service *'There's No Water that He won't Walk on, for You!' Mark 6:45-56* (Matthew 14:22-36 and John 6:14-21 parallel this passage)

Jesus loves you. Odds are you, you've heard that many times before. But no, seriously, Jesus really loves you. In this sermon we will see Jesus walk on water and in seeing that we will see that nothing stops Jesus from helping us in our greatest time of need. Jesus helps calm the disciples down and heals someone on the shore. Jesus wants to help you today!

Sermon #24: Sunday, October 13th, 11 AM Worship Service *'Tangled up in Tradition!' Mark 7:1-13*(Matthew 15:1-20 parallels this passage)

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The Pharisees are still on the warpath and will be until they see Jesus hanging on the tree of calvary. They are still trying to corner Jesus concerning His disciples and they are throwing the tradition of the Old Covenant law in His face. May we be careful not to get tangled up in traditions that we miss out on what God can and wants to do when we lay our traditions down.

Sermon #25: Sunday, October 20th, 11 AM Worship Service 'When was your Last Heart Check-up?'
Mark 7:14-23
(Matthew 15:1-20 parallels this passage)

In December of 2023 I spoke to our Spiritual Warriors (Senior Adult) group from Matthew 15:10-20. During that devotion I spoke to them about the well being of their spiritual heart. In this sermon I think it's important that we look at our heart. It's important that we see that legality is not what defines the condition of our heart anymore, but love for the Lord and love for others is what defines our heart condition.

Sermon #26: Sunday, November 3rd, 11 AM Worship Service 'Demon Possessed and Left for Deaf!'

Mark 7:24-37

(Matthew 15:21-31 parallels this passage)

Outcasts existed in Jesus day with those who may have been demon possessed, deaf, leprosy, or other diseases. Sadly, outcasts still exist today. Just go look in the lunchroom at Sandhills Middle and you'll find 'outcasts'. Even in our Churches, you can find 'outcasts', which truly grieves my heart. Jesus shows us all a lesson when He goes after the Demon possessed and those left for deaf. If Jesus cares about those that society has casted out, then shouldn't we?

Sermon #27: Sunday, November 10th, 11 AM Worship Service *'Forgetting what God has Done!' Mark 8:1-26*(Matthew 15:32-16:12 parallels this passage)

Just like the disciples of the NT and the Israelites of the OT, as believers so often we forget what God has done in the past to trust Him with whatever our current situation is. In this sermon we will cover a large section of Mark as we look at what Jesus continues to do in His ministry and how His disciples quickly forget what God has done in the past. Oh, how similar we are to the disciples!

This preaching plan was written by:

Sermon #28: Sunday, November 17th, 11 AM Worship Service *'The Most Important Question of All Time!' Mark 8:27-33*(Matthew 16:13-20 and Luke 9:18-21 parallels this passage)

While on the way to the villages of Caesarea Philippi Jesus asked His disciples the most important question in the history of the universe. A question that each of us have to answer in this life. 'But who do you say that I am?'. How we answer this should be reflected in the life that we live. Before you leave the sanctuary on November 17th, I want you to be able to answer this question and believe the answer biblically.

Sermon #29: Sunday, November 24th, 11 AM Worship Service *'Crosstalk!' Mark 8:34-9:1*(Matthew 16:21-28 and Luke 9:22-27 parallels this passage)

The Cross talks! When I was growing up at Fairview Baptist Church in Greer SC my grandfather (Dr. Tom Burns) was the Worship Pastor. But my Uncle (Ryan Burns) led the contemporary service. He led a praise band called 'Crosstalk!'. Their banner cry echoes this passage. They wanted to lead worship in such a way to where everyone was more motivated to take up their cross and follow Jesus during and after the Worship Service. In this sermon, we will look at how the cross we are carrying talks based on HOW we carry and what it says about the Jesus we serve!

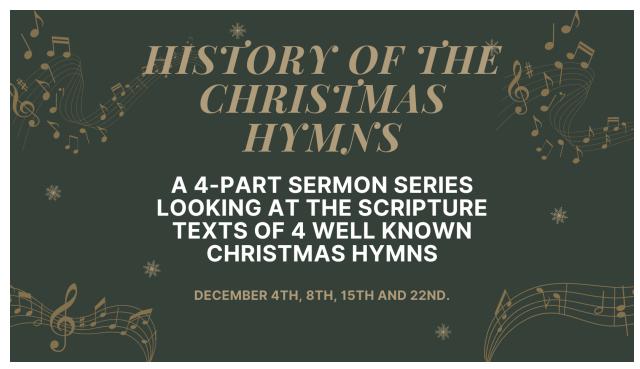
Sermon #30: Sunday, December 1st, 11 AM Worship Service 'A Glimpse of God's Glory!'

Mark 9:2-13

(Matthew 17:1-13 and Luke 9:28-36 parallels this passage)

Mark 9:2-13 is one of the most powerful passages that we find in Mark's Gospel. In this passage, Jesus allows the disciples to see a small glimpse of God's own glory by seeing the true identity and deity of Jesus Christ. You can't have an encounter with Jesus, and stay the same! This first Sunday of December we will see God's glory on display at the Transfiguration of Jesus.

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'History of the Christmas Hymns!'
Sermon Series

A 4-part Sermon Series

Series Stats:

- This is a special Christmas themed sermon series.
 - While I love contemporary Christian songs, I also love the hymns! I believe BOTH can be used in Worship and should be used in corporate worship services.
 - This Christmas I want to invite you to journey with me through the History of 4 Christmas hymns that you are very familiar with.
 - Each sermon will look at why they were written, the situation they were written in, and which scripture text the writer was looking at as he wrote the lyrics of each of these hymns.
 - I believe this will be an interesting yet exciting way to look at the Christmas story!
 - This series will take place during 1 Wednesday Midweek Service and during 3 Sunday morning Worship Services all in December.

Sermon #1: Wednesday, December 4th, 7 PM Midweek Worship Service 'While Shepherds Watched their Flocks!'
Luke 2:8

The first sermon of this series looks at the hymn 'While Shepherds Watched their Flocks!' written by Nahum Tate and composed by George F. Handel. We will look at Luke 2:8 and focus This preaching plan was written by:

on the scripture text that this very old hymn comes from. During this sermon we will focus on the Glory that Christmas brings.

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Sermon #2: Sunday, December 8th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Silent Night! Holy Night!'
Luke 2:11
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In this sermon we will sing and study one of the most well known hymns of the Christmas season, 'Silent Night! Holy Night!'. During this sermon, we will look at the night that Jesus was born, but will also look at and study the Holiness that entered the world that very night. This hymn was written by Joseph Mohr and composed by Franz Gruber.

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Sermon #3: Sunday, December 15th, 11 AM Worship Service 'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!'
Luke 2:14
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This well known Christmas hymn was written by the infamous Charles Wesley and composed by Felix Mendelssohn. Based on Luke 2:14 this hymn is known by many but understood by few. In this sermon we will study Luke 2:14 and focus on the proclamation that the angels shared that night.

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Sermon #4: Sunday, December 22nd, 11 AM Worship Service 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!'

Matthew 1:23
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Personally one of my favorite hymns (not just Christmas), that describes the story of our God, emmanuel. And does so straight from the scriptures. This hymn was originally written in latin (so beautiful) and translated into english but was written by John M. Neal was composed back in the 13th century from a plainsong chant. In this sermon we will study Matthew 1:23 and discuss how special the first coming of Emmanuel was, to look forward to the second coming.

We will observe the Lord's Supper during this service

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Books, Resources, Commentary Recommendations:

Titus Sermon Series:

- Christ-Centered Exposition 'Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus' by David Platt, Daniel Aiken and Tony Merida.
- The Pillar New Testament Commentary 'The Letters to Timothy and Titus' by Robert W. Yarbrough.
- The MacArthur New Testament Commentary 'Titus' by John MacArthur.
- The New American Commentary 'Titus' by Thomas D. Lea and Hayne P. Griffin, Jr.
- Warren Wiersbe Commentary on Titus.
- ESV Expository Commentary Series Set
- J. Vernon McGee Commentary on Titus.

1st Samuel Sermon Series:

- Christ-Centered Exposition 'Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Samuel' by Heath Thomas and J.D. Greear.
- 1 Samuel 'Looking on the Heart' by Dale Ralph Davis.
- ESV Expository Commentary Series Set.
- 1 Samuel 'Looking for a Leader' by John Woodhouse.
- Warren Wiersbe Commentary on 1-2 Samuel.
- J. Vernon McGee Commentary on 1-2 Samuel.
- A Synoptic Harmony of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles: With Related Passages from Psalms, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezra. By James D. Newsome, Jr.

Mark Sermon Series:

- Warren Wiersbe Commentary on Mark.
- ESV Expository Commentary Series Set
- J. Vernon McGee Commentary on Mark.
- Christ-Centered Exposition 'Exalting Jesus in Mark' by Daniel L. Aiken.
- A Harmony of the Gospels by Robert L. Thomas and Stanley N. Gundry
- The New American Commentary on Mark.
- The Pillar New Testament Commentary on Mark.
- The John MacArthur Commentary on Mark.

History of the Christmas Hymns:

- 101 Hymn Stories by Kenneth W. Osbeck
- 101 More Hymn Stories by Kenneth W. Osbeck.

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Associate Pastor Preaching Dates:

- In May of 2023, we added Pastor Chris Terry to our staff as full-time Associate Pastor/Minister of Families.
 - In this role, Pastor Chris fills the pulpit for myself when I'm absent or need a break, visits hospitals, homebound, and others, as well as overseeing our family ministries.
 - Pastor Chris has been married to his bride, Sonia, for over 30 years. She serves as a paralegal for the state of South Carolina.
 - In January of this year, we plan on ordaining Pastor Chris to the Gospel ministry.
 Pastor Chris was licensed to preach in 2017 by Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Monroe, North Carolina.
- I am so thankful to serve with someone like Chris Terry. He does an excellent job leading and overseeing our family ministries/volunteers as well as assisting me in Pastoral duties.
 - Below you will find a list of dates that he will be filling the pulpit. Either due to
 my absence or because I want to give him more opportunities to grow in his
 preaching ministry and so that the Lord will speak to us through him!
 - One of the reasons we called Pastor Chris here as our Associate Pastor is so that he can assist me in the preaching of God's Word! I can't wait to see what God has to say through him during the following services:

This preaching plan was written by:

Wednesday, February 28th, during the 7 PM Midweek Worship Service

• I, Pastor Brady, will be away with my wife at the NAMB Pastor/wife retreat in Greensboro, Georgia. So, Pastor Chris will preach during this service.

Wednesday, March 20th, during the 7 PM Midweek Worship Service

• I will be preaching a week long revival at the Friendship Baptist Church in Lyman, SC during this week. So, Pastor Chris will preach during this service.

Sunday, June 9th, during the 11 AM Worship Service

• Hannah and I will be away this Sunday at the annual Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis representing our Church at the national level. So, Pastor Chris will preach during this service.

Wednesday, June 12th, during the 7 PM Midweek Worship Service

• Hannah and I will still be away at the Southern Baptist Convention. So, Pastor Chris will preach during this service.

Sunday, June 30th, during the 11 AM Worship Service

• Hannah and I plan on being away for a family vacation during this date. So, Pastor Chris will preach during the service.

Sunday, August 4th, during the 11 AM Worship Service

• Hannah and I will possibly be on a vacation this week. So, Pastor Chris will preach during the service.

Wednesday, August 7th, during the 7 PM Midweek Worship Service

• If Hannah and I are on vacation this week, then Pastor Chris will preach during the service.

Sunday, October 27th, during the 11 AM Worship Service

• I may take a vacation Sunday this day, I may not, but either way Pastor Chris will be preaching this Sunday to give me a break.

Wednesday, November 6th, during the 7 PM Midweek Worship Service

• I plan on being present this Wednesday, just giving Pastor Chris the opportunity to preach and to give me a little bit of time this week to work on the 2025 preaching plan.

Sunday, December 29th, during the 11 AM Worship Service

• I will be on vacation with my family this Sunday, so Pastor Chris will be preaching. This preaching plan was written by:

2024 Revival Dates and Locations for Rev. R. Brady Henderson (so far, scheduled as of December of 2023).

Sunday Evening of March 10th at 6 PM at Mt. Olive Baptist Church (Cowpens, SC) Preaching a 1 night revival for Senior Pastor Johnathan Childers.



Sunday Evening of March 17th at 6 PM and March 18th-20th at 7 PM at Friendship Baptist Church (Lyman, SC).

Preaching a week long revival for Senior Pastor Alan Bagwell.



Tuesday Evening of April 23rd at 6:30 PM at Joanna First Baptist Church (Joanna, SC). Preaching one night of the week-long revival for Pastor Austin Williams.



I am open to preaching more revivals if God opens the door.

This preaching plan was written by:

First Baptist Church
Gaston



Bible Reading Plans

Our word of the year this year is 'commit(ed)'. We've got shirts in the process of being made that will have this word on it and I will preach on this word on the first Sunday of the year. During the first Sunday morning sermon of the year we will look at how we need to be committed to Christ, our Church, and Community. Another aspect we will look at is being committed to the Word of God.

All throughout this document I've shared with you what I'll be sharing from the pulpit in 2024. But, let me remind you, that you will only get out what you are willing to put in. As you know, I share with you in advance what will be preached from the pulpit so you can study beforehand. And now, that you have this binder you can simply take notes and add them to your own binder.

In addition to this, I felt led by the Lord to create Bible reading plans for our Church. It's important to read God's Word, daily. In addition to reading daily, it's important to read God's Word consistently. As the Apostle Paul wrote to the Church at Ephesus in Ephesians 4:11-13, my job is to equip you to do the work of the ministry. I felt convicted by God to do a better job of giving you the resources needed to assist you in your daily quiet time with God. Below, you will find three different Bible reading plans. I encourage you to pick just one. Each plan is for a different level. At a Church our size, we have young believers, intermediate believers, and more advanced believers. No matter where we are in our spiritual walk, it's important for every believer to spend time in God's Word daily. I've created this Bible reading plan so that you can strategically read God's Word throughout the year.

All three of these Bible Reading plans are attached to the preaching plan, but they will also be available in the welcome center. Also in the welcome center you will find bands. I've designed and ordered silicone bands to represent each plan. Each plan is represented by a color band. On the band you will find the words 'I'm reading the Bible in 2024, FBC Gaston'. These bands have several purposes. The idea is that whichever plan you choose, is that you will wear the band that

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represents that plan. We are hoping that you will be able to connect with fellow believers in the Church. For example, you will find people that are reading through the same plan as you and those who are reading different plans. Either way, you'll be able to keep one another accountable and talk to one another about what you are reading in God's Word based on which plan you choose. The purpose of these bands is that when you are out and about in your daily life people will see them. They will ask you questions like 'what does your band mean?', 'what are you reading in the Bible?', or even 'why should I read the Bible?'. This will give you the opportunity as a believer to share God's Word with them right then and there. My vision for you as your Pastor is for you to be getting God's Word in you and for God's Word to be coming out of you when with other believers at Church and in the community!

Let me explain here each plan that is being offered:

New Testament + Daily Psalm Reading Plan: (Green Band)

- This plan will guide you through every chapter of the New Testament as well as a daily Psalm. Repeating Psalms 1-71 twice, with the rest at least once.
- This plan is for those that are starting to read the Bible. If you've never consistently read through the Bible, I encourage you to start out with this plan.
 - You'll get a chapter a day of the NT and a chapter of the Psalms.
- This plan is 5 days a week with some weeks only 4 days a week.
 - For those that have a busy schedule and aren't used to reading the Word consistently, I do encourage you to start out with this plan. You can use the days where there isn't any reading for a break or as catch up days if need be.
 - This plan is what we consider our **Beginner** plan that we are offering.
 - I recommend it for young believers or believers who have never consistently read the Word or had a daily quiet time.

Old Testament Reading Plan: (Blue Band)

- This plan is a full read of every book in the Old Testament.
- If you have never fully read through the Old Testament, I recommend that you take this plan. Or, if you are hoping to have a better historical grasp on the Bible, I recommend this plan!
- This plan will still take great dedication. It is estimated that there will be 2-4 chapters to read per day. With the weekends off (Saturday and Sunday).
 - You can choose to take Saturdays and Sundays off or use them as catch up days to keep up with your reading.
- This is the *Intermediate* plan that we are offering.
 - If you want to get in the habit of reading the Bible everyday but don't want to read it in its entirety, I recommend this plan.

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- I also recommend this plan if you haven't ever fully read through the Old Testament.
- o I'm a firm believer that the New Testament won't make complete sense to you unless you've read the Old Testament.

Chronological Plan: (Black Band)

- This plan is a full read of every verse, book, and chapter of the Bible.
- It's possible to read the Bible from cover to cover (Genesis-Revelation) in a full year. But, I am offering this plan because I think it's easier to read the full Bible in a year by reading it chronologically. This simply means that you would be reading the Bible fully in a year in the order that the events occurred.
- This is the most *difficult* plan that we are offering. It is a 6-day a week plan, with an estimated 3-5 chapters of reading per day.
 - o If you have never consistently read the Bible, this is not the plan to start out on. But, if you've read the Bible thoroughly before or have read the Bible just not as consistently as you'd like, then this plan may be the one for you.
 - Just keep in mind that it will be a challenge, and it will be difficult.
 - As a part of this plan you will have Sundays 'off'. You can either take that day to pray and rest or you can use it as a catch up day if need be.



This preaching plan was written by:

Feel free to contact First Baptist Church of Gaston!

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