

From the Pastor.....

The Bible says that *"it is better to give than receive."* (Acts 20:35) This verse is often associated with finances or material resources. But it can also be about ideas. You can offer ideas to others as **bullets** or **seeds**. You can shoot them, or sow them; hit people in the head with them or plant them in their hearts. Ideas used as bullets will kill inspiration and neutralize motivation. However, used as seeds, they take root, grow, and become reality in the life in which they're planted. One thing about this approach: once it grows and becomes part of those in whom it's planted, you probably will get no credit for it. But if you're willing to do without the credit and give credit where credit is due – with God Almighty, well, you'll reap a rich harvest.

Last year the church came up with some ideas. Some of these originated, as you recall, with the "Strategic Planning Group (SPG)." We've seen some of those ideas realized with upgrades in our sanctuary and with the recent hire of a Children's Minister, Jeff Lindquist. But I want you to know, Dear Church, more ideas are percolating. Discussions are ongoing with church leadership that will address other critical areas of our church. And rest assured, they will be **seeds** and not bullets.

Here are some important dates and ministry highlights for March/April that you may find important:

Dessert Auction....Our annual dessert auction is scheduled for Saturday, March 23 at 6pm. If you would like to participate or would like more information, please contact Carolyn Lane or Jean Satterwhite or the church office.

Homecoming....Our annual Homecoming event is scheduled for Sunday, March 31. This special day will begin at 10:00am with Sunday School for all ages and then a combined service in the sanctuary at 11:00am. The Lord's Supper will be observed. Following the service at 11am, we'll all gather in the FMC for a wonderful time of fun and fellowship around a meal provided by our Homecoming Committee. I would really like to see our church use this day to invite former members, family members and friends and family. So, in order to incentivize that, I am pledging to give to each person who brings someone a \$5 gift card to the "Mix House" in downtown Bowling Green. Also, the individual who brings the most family members and the individual who brings the most non-family visitors, a special gift will be provided. For more information contact Beverly McDearmon or the church office.

Easter....Easter week begins with Palm Sunday on April 14 and ends with Easter on April 21st. Here are the highlights of that week:

- **Palm Sunday** – normal Sunday morning schedule. Joseph Pack will be bringing the message on the *Passover Seder*.
- **Easter** –
 - Sunrise Service @ 6:30am....behind the FMC/Kitchen.
 - Breakfast @ 7:15am in the FMC
 - Movie “*Risen*” @ 8:15am in the FMC
 - Sunday School @ 9:30am
 - Sanctuary Service @ 10:30am....Easter Cantata performed by the Sanctuary Choir.

I love you all....

Pastor Frank

From the Early Service,

Recently, in the early service we introduced a song called “Scars”. So often we get polarized by what is transpiring in the world around us. A difficulty for us or someone close to us steals our joy and peace continues to escape us. If we are honest with ourselves, it’s because we are looking for answers in possibly the wrong places. Knowing the heart of God is not wrapped up in some huge philosophical view to solving the world’s problems, it is knowing Him by what He cares for most. Spiritual growth is found most often in the trials we face. James 1 speaks to us about trials and how it can be the catalyst for a deeper understanding of who we are in Christ and how amazing our Heavenly Father is.

*I am thankful for the scars
Cause without them I wouldn't know your heart
And with my life I'll tell of who You are.
So forever I am thankful for the scars
--- I am They, Scars*

Sometimes, it’s hard to be thankful in the moments when you feel like all is lost, but take comfort in knowing that Jesus conquered death for you and I. His scars reveal a love that is limitless and can certainly give you Joy and Peace in a time when you are in desperate need of comfort.

In His Service,

Doug Farris

Sunday School & Bible Study News



The Reason for God Going Deeper & Courageous Sunday School Class

Pastor and author Timothy Keller meets with a group of skeptics over six sessions to debate their doubts and questions about Christianity. Using literature, philosophy, real-life experiences and constant reference to the Bible, Keller explains how the belief in a Christian God is a sound and rational one. Filmed live and unscripted as Keller interacts with the group, this curriculum models the way in which Christians can address the six most common questions from skeptics. It also provides the resources for Christians to meet with their own group. Session Titles and Descriptions

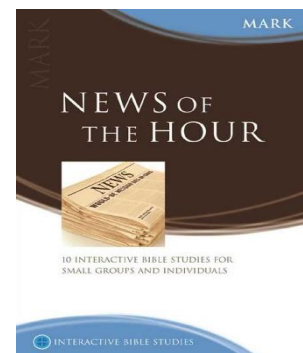
1. How can there be only one true religion?
2. Why does God allow suffering?
3. How could a loving God send people to Hell?
4. Hasn't science disproved Christianity?
5. How can you take the Bible literally?
6. What is Christianity all about?

Mark: News of the Hour Women's Bible Study

Here is the news.

According to reliable sources, the long-awaited king of Israel, the Messiah, has finally arrived. He has come wielding the authority of God himself to heal the sick and make the blind to see, to still the raging storm and to plunder Satan's house.

In a bizarre twist, however, sources also say that this Messiah speaks repeatedly of his impending death and humiliation. Could this refer to the growing opposition of the religious authorities? And if he is indeed rejected and killed, where will this leave the kingdom of God he is claiming to bring?

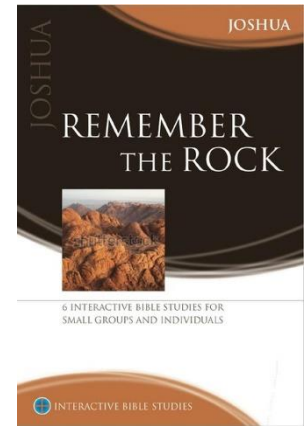


Joshua: Remember the Rock Co-Ed Bible Study

Joshua is a surprising and challenging book to read. It's surprising because God uses unexpected means to remind his people, Israel, that he always keeps his promises. It's challenging because, as readers, we are reminded that God is the Lord of heaven and earth, and His ways are not our ways.

Remember the Rock is your tour guide as Joshua leads God's people into the Promised Land to claim their inheritance. There's plenty of action and drama and it can seem as if Israel will never prevail against its enemies, but keep watch for the signs of God at work.

Although the events in Joshua happened many centuries ago, this book teaches us timeless truths about God and his loving provision for his people- truths that are just as essential and life-changing today as they were back then.



Stepping Up Men's Bible Study

Men today are in a battle. It's a battle without bullets or bombs, but a battle all the same. It's a fight for our families and our future. Facing the battles of life demands courage, and courage is the ability to do the hard thing in every circumstance, despite the cost.



Winston Churchill said, "There comes into the life of every man a task for which he and he alone is uniquely suited. What a shame if that moment finds him either unwilling or unprepared for that which would become his finest hour."

In *Stepping Up*, Dennis Rainey, cofounder of FamilyLife, calls men to courage manhood, offering a powerful vision for what it means to be a man today who truly conquers and wins at life. He defines courage throughout the five stages of manhood and commissions men to honestly evaluate where they stand. Then, he prepares men to bravely master their life purpose by developing a strategic plan and establishing a winning vision.



CROSSROADS Student Ministry

March/April Newsletter 2019

CROSSROADS has been up to a lot over the last few months. We went to go see the hilarious John Crist in concert, ate until we were sick at the Progressive Dinner, rocked in the New Year at WinterFest, and pounded tacos during the Super Bowl. On Wednesdays we've been moving through a unit called "Obsession" which is helping our students (and adults) take a hard look at the things they obsess over in life. After all, if something is our obsession, doesn't it basically become our idol?



Speaking of Wednesdays, we've been switching things up a bit, putting more attention on fun/games and also looking at different ways to get a lot of learning from the Bible through small groups, response activities, and large-group lessons. We also added a new "Truth or Dare" section to our weekly line-up and it has not disappointed (one dude ate a whole lemon... and seemed to like it).

As we move into the next few months, we'll have a major event in March (still planning after having to move our previously scheduled retreat), an Ash Wednesday observance on March 6th, a Passover Seder on April 19th (very cool if you've never come), and looking down the road we'll have a lock-in on May 10-11. In addition to these events, we'll have more "flash events" popping up, so make sure you follow up on Instagram (@BGBC_Crossroads), Facebook (@BGBCCrossroads), and that you are getting our bi-weekly newsletters for all the latest-and-greatest in CROSSROADS news!



Volunteer Roster (W = Wednesdays, SS = Sunday School):

Charles Cushing (SS), Sabrina Farris (W), Angela Fines (W), Ryan (SS) and Charlene (SS) Gray, Richard Gustard (W), Joseph (SS, W) and Meredith (W) Pack, Jonathan Snide (SS)

Contact Information:

Website: BGBCCrossroads.com – Lessons, resources, and more!

Instagram: [@BGBC_Crossroads](https://www.instagram.com/BGBC_Crossroads)

Facebook: [@BGBCCrossroads](https://www.facebook.com/BGBCCrossroads)

Contact the Director: joseph@bgbccrossroads.com or (919) 757-7122

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Check out these photos from January's Kidz Night!! Our children enjoying themselves while they learn about Jesus.



Musical Connections

"When words fail, music speaks." Hans Christian Anderson



Singing in a choir or playing an instrument in a band or orchestra is about more than just making beautiful music. Participating in music groups has all kinds of physical, cognitive and psychological benefits as well.

Surely, this was the Lord's design when the Psalmist wrote:

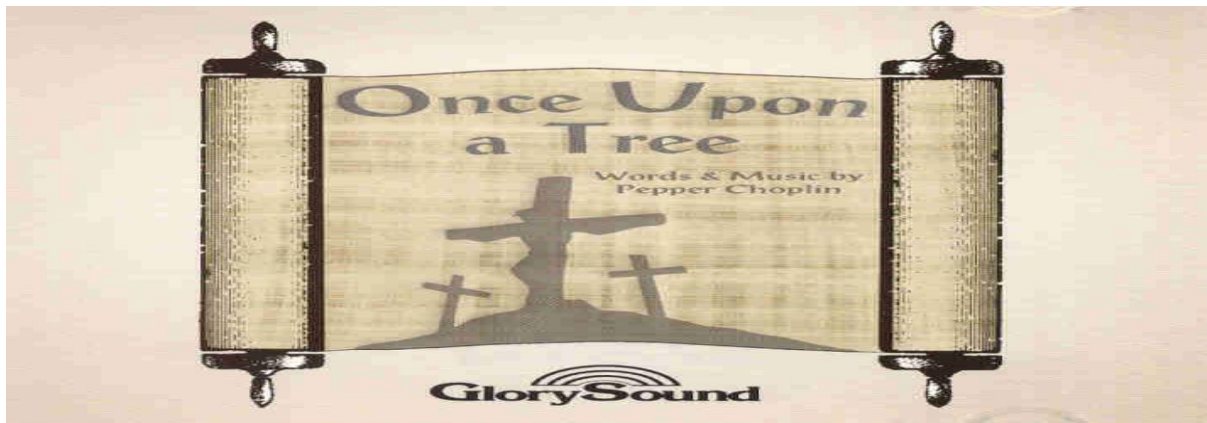
Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.

Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Psalm 100: 1-2 (KJV)

Consider getting involved in the Music Ministry of our church this Spring. Music brings richness to our lives in so many ways. Practice is now underway for the Easter musical to be presented at the 11 AM service on Sunday, April 21, 2019.

See Sandra Stevens, Director, to join in the chorus for this celebration of our Savior's sacrifice.



A Note from the Finance Committee

We are early in the calendar year and already we are behind on giving for the church budget. I can assure you as we prepare a budget that each of our church ministries presents a request for budget needs that are vital to their ministry. It is by no means a wish list or in any way inflated but based on actual cost to operate. For this year our congregation approved a budget increase that was a little over 8%. About 5% of that was to cover a part time position for a Children's Ministry Director. How exciting it is to have a Children's Ministry that has been consistently growing over the past several years and hats off to Paige and the children's team for what they have done and continue to do. This past Sunday Pastor Frank announced the hiring of an Interim Children's Ministry Director. As that chapter begins let's make sure that they and the other ministries of the church have the budget support needed.

2 Corinthians 9:7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Terry Bullock, Finance Chair

Library News



Our church library has been revamped, making it easier to locate the books you need. Categories are clearly defined. A notebook on table as you enter the library contains a listing of all books by category.

The following new books have been added to the library:

Aging:

Finding Grace in the Face of Dementia by John Dunlop, MD

Christian Life:

Standing Strong—How to Storm-proof Your Life with God's Timeless Truths by Charles F. Stanley

Faith:

Jesus by Max Lucado

Marriage:

You and Me Forever, Marriage in Light of Eternity by Francis Chan & Lisa Chan

Cherish, the One Word That Changes Everything for Your Marriage by Gary Thomas

Parenting:

Parenting, 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family by Paul David Tripp

Answering Your Kids' Toughest Questions—Helping Them Understand Loss, Sin, Tragedies, and Other Hard Topics by Elyse Fitzpatrick & Jessica Thompson

Youth:

The Manual to Manhood—How to Cook the Perfect Steak, Change a Tire, Impress a Girl and 97 Other Skills You Need to Survive by Jonathan Catherman

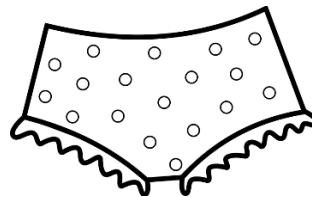
Can you Relate? How to Handle Parents, Friends, Boys, and More by Vicki Courtney

Youth Fiction:

The Prince Warriors, The Prince Warriors and the Unseen Invasion, The Prince Warriors and the Swords of Rhema, and *The Winter War (A Prince Warriors Sequel)* by Priscilla Shirer

Come visit the library and see the many Christian books we have to offer.

WMU MISSIONS PROJECT – FEBRUARY until MAY



Our WMU is collecting new socks and underwear for needy children and adults in Wise County, Southwest Virginia. The donations will be given to and distributed by the Bland County Ministry Center. Please leave your donations in the basket in the Family Ministry Center or in the baskets under the bench in the back hallway.