



On the Same Page

“that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist,” (Acts 17:27–28 NAS95)

Forever-Family Fellowship

We will teach and practice truth-and-love relationships with brothers-sisters in Christ that must survive/thrive in the present because we believe that these relationships will last forever

All-Week-Long Worship

As the local body of believers gathers each Sunday for worship, we will inspire a worship experience for all age groups that will travel with you all week long. What we do on Sunday will assist you in your singing, in your praying, in your devotion, and in your witness.

Conversely, it is as you worship all-week-long that you will be prepared to enter into gathered worship on Sunday.

Day-to-Day Discipleship

As followers of Christ, we are disciples every single day. Respect for and commitment to Scripture is essential. We will show you how to interact with and respond to God's Word, both as individuals, and in groups.

Moment-by-Moment Mission

God, the Architect of the world and of our lives arranges appointments and interruptions. Each of us is called to represent His Son for the glory of His Name. We will cultivate a mind-set for moment-by-moment mission, whether close to home, or far away.

The Book is Better than the Movie

A well-intentioned lady asked me about the difficulty of coming up with new material after preaching in the same place and to the same people for so long (completing 38 years this week with this Resurrection Sunday being our 39th). I told her that the Bible was a very big book. She was not convinced, and then tried to persuade me that I should give “Chat gpt” a chance. Evidently, the system knows more than I do. I suspect some people think the system knows more than God does.

Yesterday, while driving, I listened to an interview from a pastor's conference involving John MacArthur and John Piper. I thank Chris for sharing this, and it was worth hearing on many counts. The questions were about pastoring and preaching, and the subject of what to preach, of how to find material, was asked. MacArthur didn't hesitate to talk about **“the inexhaustibility of Scripture.”** Yes, it's a big book, but it is a deep book. The mysteries uncovered are worth reviewing over and over, not just in the sense of reviewing the same material, but in the sense of discovering new, buried treasure.

Then John Piper talked about the amazing thing that God, the Creator of the universe, gave us a Book. **“He gave us a Book!”**, Piper said, with the kind of passion that is typical of Piper. “Why wouldn't we want to tell people what's in the Book!” Further, he said, “God knows everything, and we know nothing. How could we not want to know what is in the Book?!”

I have a friend who read a book (little “b”) that introduced him to a method of reading the Bible where you don't take it literally. I suggest that he no longer takes it seriously - same thing. The Bible becomes a wax nose that can be shaped and re-shaped according to “the spirit of the age.” The Bible then merely reflects back one's own imaginations, which you didn't dream up yourself. You assimilated them from our ungodly, present-world milieu.

So let's think about this Book:

It is historical, and prophetic, where God lays out our beginnings and our endings. Are all of our questions answered? No. But He gives us what we need, and we are not left to concoct our own story lines. It begins in Eden. It ends in heaven or hell. Anyone interested in reading the Book?

The Bible is logical. It has a narrative, and it elucidates a problem in which we all share, and reveals a solution that is available to any who will receive. Worth reading?

The Bible is climactic, and the climax of the Bible is Jesus. If you want to know Jesus, you must read the Bible, and if you miss out on Jesus, you will have missed out on the Center-Point of the world, human history, and God's plan for humanity and for you. Are we able to step far enough away from the reigning media and read the Book?

The Bible is the deliverer of Good News so good that you can't live without it; and it is also the deliverer of bad news that if you don't pay attention, "you will surely die," as God said to Adam and Eve in the Garden. We need both, and while these two "news" may be contained in a tract or a movie, the authoritative version of the Good and bad news is in the Book, because **the Book is always better than the movie.**

The Works of John Bunyan, Complete 3 Volume Set, John Bunyan, and George Offor

...no, but He followed me still, and won upon my heart, by giving me some understanding, not only into my miserable state, which I was very sensible of, but also that there might be hopes of mercy; also taking away that love to lust, and placing in the room thereof a love to religion; and thus the Lord won over my heart to some desire after the means, to hear the Word, and to grow a stranger to my old companions, and to accompany the people of God, together with giving of me many sweet encouragements from several promises in the Scriptures.

Notes:

No **Sunday school this week due to Easter Breakfast, 10 a.m.**, but Sunday School resumes next week at 10 a.m. with classes for adults and children.

Ladies Bible study has finished their winter series, just as the snow has ended, but have elected to continue on into May. During the next couple of weeks, they will watch and discuss the "Luther" movie, Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Good Friday service, Friday, Mar 29, 6 p.m.;

Easter breakfast, Mar 31, 10 a.m. **Easter worship** is Sunday, March 31 at 11 a.m.

Weekly Worship @ 11:00 a.m.

This Sunday, Resurrection Sunday, March 31, we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and think about how "life" is redefined by the resurrection, both for Jesus, and His followers. Our Bible material will come from Romans 6:10-11 and Colossians 2-3.



Last Sunday, March 24, Bob Riddle's Palm Sunday message was "**The Wrong King**" (Luke 19:28-44). [Listen to the message here.](#) Bob's message from March 17 was "**Easter is about ... Tiny Flashlights**" (Mark 5:24-34). [Listen to the message here.](#)

On the Same Page weekly newsletters are available on our website, and there is also an email list which will deliver the newsletter to you each week. **Daily Encouragement** emails go out Monday-Saturday mornings, with a short devotional and congregational prayer requests.