



August 20, 2017

# Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

*Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting*

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If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see the Pastor after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with the Pastor, or call the church office.

## Announcements

### Ice Cream Social

Tonight, **August 20**, following the Evening Worship service, we will have an ice cream social. There will be home made ice cream available. Ladies, bring cake and other dessert related accompaniments! The Youth Department will set up and clean up!

### Awana Begins

We are so excited to begin Awana again on Wednesday, **August 23**. We have programs in place for kids aged 2 through 6th grade. We have a load of wonderful volunteer helpers in many capacities. If you are interested to serve, see Commander Janice Donaldson to see where you can fit in. You must be a member (for at least 6 months) and must have taken the Reducing the Risk class to help.

### Promotion Sunday

Kids in our Sunday School program will move up **August 27**.

### Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday, **August 31**, 7:00 p.m., at the Sheffields'.

### Service Time Change

Beginning Sunday, **September 3**, our Evening Worship service time moves back up to 6:00 p.m.

**More announcements on p. 5**

### This Week at FABC

#### Today

Coffee Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Adult Choir Practice	none
Evening Worship	7:00 p.m.
Ice Cream Social	8:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Youth & Awana	6:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

### FABC Deacons

Shawn Champion	433-0098
Bobby Deloach (CH)	667-8867
Mickey Fell	920-4557
Ron Fowler	901-409-8628
Jimmy Kicklighter	355-5616
Jack Moore	547-5000
Billy Morris, Sr.	398-1038
Joe Morris	398-0125
Steve Posner	704-5617
Kelly Stanford	441-2151
Michael Walker	655-2497
Ric Zittrouer	210-0344

# August 20, 2017

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10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

\* Opening Chorus & Greeting  
“Because He Lives”

*Words are on the back of the bulletin*

\* Call to Worship

Psalm 113:1-3

\* Hymn #73

“May Jesus Christ Be Praised”

Scripture Reading & Prayer

Steve Posner

Acts 1:12-26

Special Music

Receiving of Tithes And  
Offerings

\* Hymn #268

“How Firm a Foundation”

Message

Bob Dimmitt

*Solomon's Life's Journey, Part 2*

*Proverbs 30:5-9, Ecclesiastes #3*

\* Hymn, to right

“Doxology”

7:00 p.m.

Welcome and Announcements

\* Hymn #393

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Prayer

Receiving of Tithes And  
Offerings

Hymn #70

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Hymn #228

“My Faith Has Found a  
Resting Place”

Message

Bob Dimmitt

*“The Mime”*

*Ephesians 5:1-2, Ephesians #89*

\* Hymn, bulletin p. 6

“Doxology”

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings  
flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

\* All those who are able, please stand.

# A.M. Notes

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## Solomon's Life's Journey, Part 2

Ecclesiastes #3

Proverbs 30:5-9

5 points concerning Solomon's journey in corruption as he erodes spiritually, emotionally and in other aspects of his personhood:

1. Solomon's fall, his demise and the corrupting process could not and did not take place all at once.
2. Solomon's conscience, nor his wisdom was entirely drowned out.
3. Koheleth dives into these things as one who approaches life apart from God, as if there is no God, as if all knowledge and understanding comes from oneself. But he does so willingly, it's borne out of a bit of resentment towards God.
4. By degrees he lost all fear of God and love of God.
5. It seems that from the last chapter that Koheleth re-awakens and repents.

### **Ecclesiastes 1:1-3**

The first 11 verses is Solomon's introduction to the whole book, verses 7-11 are an explanation of verses 2 and 3.

What lasting happiness do I gain as I pursue true happiness through all my projects and labor of love?

**1 Peter 2:11; Heb 11:13; 1 Peter 1:17**

Perhaps we should be asking ourselves; what can I do that will promote the glory of God? Promote the wellbeing of my soul? Or, the well being of my neighbor?

## P.M. Notes

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“The Mime”

Ephesians #89

Ephesians 5:1-2

God’s commandments always include His enablements!

“If you’re too satisfied with yourself, you can’t improve.”

### 1 Thessalonians 1:6-10

We must resist the temptation to be satisfied with our present imitation of Jesus.

**Walk-Peripateo-** came to mean to make one’s way, to make progress, to make due use of one’s opportunities and finally (as used by Paul in Ephesians), to live, to regulate one’s life, to conduct one’s life. Most of the NT uses of *peripateo* refer to daily conduct.

If you try to obey this command in your own strength, you will place yourself under legalism and you will fail! Instead of self-reliance we need Spirit-dependence.

True love-agape/agapao - is not sentimental or emotional but obedient and reflective of the act of one’s will with the ultimate desire being for another’s highest good. Since it is unconditional, this love is still given if it’s not received and/or returned!

## Flocknote

Our Church is now subscribed to Flocknote, a text and email service that will allow us to more efficiently communicate with you. We will be setting up groups for each ministry of the church so you will only receive messages for those ministries that you are personally involved in. Signing up is easy and should take only a couple of minutes, but please make sure to complete the sign-up in its entirety. To do so, please follow these simple steps.

1. Text "FABC" to 84576 (It does not matter if it is capitalized).
2. You will receive a response with a link, click the link to follow it.
3. Enter your name and email. **This is important**, otherwise we will not know who has signed up for the service.
4. Select the groups you would like to receive notifications for. Everyone should select "Congregation" but you may also select any other pertinent groups, such as "Choir", "Youth", or "AWANA Workers".
5. When you receive an email from Flocknote, click the link to verify that they have the correct email address.

You're all set! Again, this will be an invaluable tool for communication, please register at your earliest convenience. If you would like assistance, Tim would be happy to walk you through the process personally.

Something to consider: We are, no doubt, all familiar with the statement, "Your actions speak so loud that I can't hear a word you are saying." There is a LOT of truth in this statement. Yet, how often do we consider that the opposite is often more applicable: "The way in which you speak makes it impossible to hear your words or appreciate your actions."

Our "speaking" is very often more damaging to us than we fathom. Yet, we excuse ourselves with statements such as, "I tell it like it is," or, "I believe that I should say what I think." In all truth, people aren't able to hear what we are saying because they pick up on our "spirit" when we open our mouths. What's more, they avoid conversing with us because they don't want to be around divisive conversation any more than they want to be around divisive actions.

## Weekly Catechism Question

### Question #15:

What are God's works of providence?

### Answer:

God's works of providence are the holy, wise, and powerful acts by which he *preserves* and *governs* all his creatures, and all their actions.

### Scripture:

Nehemiah 9:6; Colossians 1:17;  
Hebrews 1:3; Psalm 103:19;  
Matthew 10:29-30.

*Comment:* It would be helpful to discuss this with your child in relation to the common concept of "luck." Is there such a thing as luck in a world ruled by the providence of God? "The lot is cast into the lap, but the decision is wholly from the Lord" (16:33). You will also need to stress that many of God's acts of providence may not look "holy and wise" (like storms that kill thousands of people). But then stress that God has his secret purposes (Deut. 29:29) that we are never great enough to see, and the Judge of all the earth always does right (Genesis 18:25).



For filling  
our food  
pantry!

# Music

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise Him, all

crea - tures here be - low. Praise Him a - bove, ye

heav - en - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Thomas Ken

Music: Jimmy Owens; arr. Mark Rice

Music © 1972 Bud John Songs (ASCAP) (adm. at CapitolCMGPublishing.com). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**I**n Christ we find a whole new identity—His identity becomes ours. As we drink this living water, we discover that our human relationships are losing the power to define us, and the illusion that they can fulfill us is beginning to evaporate...it's not the love of a man or woman that we've needed—it's being set free from thinking it was. It's not having our past bad choices erased from view; it's having them forgiven. It's not the removal of all our sin's consequences; it's God's grace redeeming those consequences for our good and for others to whom He will send us.

# Articles

## 5 Reasons Our Culture Is Obsessed with Sex

By Sean McDowell, Ph.D.

Western culture is obsessed with sex. Sex dominates our movies, music, television, advertising, conversations, social media and more. But the question many people fail to ask is: *why?*

There are myriads of reasons for this. Some reasons are certainly more germane than others. And they undoubtedly overlap. Nevertheless, here are 5 reasons for western culture's obsession with sex:

**Reason 1: *Our culture has lost belief in God.*** Over a century ago Nietzsche proclaimed that God was dead and that we had killed him. He didn't mean that humans actually killed God, of course, but that western civilization had abandoned the *idea* of God. Even though many people claim to believe in God today, our culture has become functionally secular, as Nietzsche predicted. And without God, life has no objective meaning. It has no purpose. As Bertrand Russell observed, we must build our lives upon "the firm foundation of unyielding despair." Since transcendence can no longer be found in God or religion, many people turn to sex for momentary pleasure and meaning.

**Reason #2: *Our culture has lost belief in immortality.*** If there is no life after death, then the present becomes all-important. If death is imminent, and there's no continuing life, then why not seize pleasure while you can? The Apostle Paul said that if there is no resurrection, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die" (1 Cor. 15:32). In the 1980s, the music band Depeche Mode released a song called, Fly on the Windscreen. The verses of the song are about how human beings are waiting to die, like flies on a windscreen of a car, or lambs being lead to the slaughter. Death is imminent, the song proclaims. So what should we do? The chorus begins with (and repeats): "Come hear, touch me, kiss me, touch me now."

**Reason #3: *Our culture has lost belief in the sacredness of sex.*** Despite the common mantra, Christianity is pro-sex. The Bible is not against the proper *use* of sex, but is against its abuse. God designed sex, after all, and made it pleasurable for a reason (e.g. Proverbs 5). Scripture holds up sex as a beautiful gift from God that involves a sacred union between two people of the opposite sex, and as a way people can bring glory to God (1 Cor. 10:31). In contrast, the mantra of the sexual revolution is that sex is not a big deal. In fact, according to this narrative, sex is merely a physical activity (void of any spiritual dimension) that many people engage in purely for fun. If this is the case, then why limit a fun activity? Ironically, it is the biblical worldview that counteracts the extremes of sex-obsession or sex-denigration. Christianity offers sex as a beautiful gift from God that is meant to be experienced within certain boundaries.

Continued from p. 7

**Reason #4: Our culture has lost belief that humans are made in the image of God.**

Naturalistic evolution is the idea that humans have come about through a purely blind, material, and purposeless process. The same unguided process that resulted in animals resulted in us. Thus, human beings are only different from animals merely in terms of degree, not of kind. If this is so, then why shouldn't humans act like the rest of the animal kingdom? Why should we act differently from animals if we are essentially the same? According to Nancy Pearcey, in her book *Saving Leonardo*, Scarlett Johansson was asked about rumors that she is sexually promiscuous. She replied, "I do think on some basic level we are animals and by instinct we kind of breed accordingly." She's right. If we are merely evolved complex animals, then why not act like them?

**Reason #5: Our culture is bored.** Generation Z has been raised in a culture where they can have *whatever* they want, *wherever* they want it, *whenever* they want it, and *however* they want it. There are endless television channels, streaming music services, video games, and social media platforms that offer constant connection and entertainment. Yet the reality is that people are lonelier than ever. Rather than living meaningful lives, we live vicariously through stars. For a culture full of people who lack meaningful relationships, and a deeper purpose of life, sex naturally becomes an obsession.

Ironically, it's not Christians who are obsessed about sex. Rather, it is a culture that has lost its Christian roots.

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## Have the Gospels Been Altered?

By J. Warner Wallace

Imagine if someone made the following claim: "I can't believe what the Gospels say because they were altered over the years." How would you respond to such an objection? Here is a conversational example of how I recently replied:

"I understand the objection, because that was one of my first doubts as a skeptic. I held two suspicions as a committed atheist. **First**, I didn't think the Gospels were written early in history, because they contained so many *miraculous* stories. I was a committed philosophical *naturalist* and I rejected miracles. So, I figured the Gospels must have been written *late* in history, after all the people who knew the truth about Jesus were already dead and gone. **Secondly**, even if the Gospels *were* written early, I suspected the *supernatural* elements were inserted later. I believed the earliest versions of the Gospel accounts were probably much *less* supernatural. Maybe, in the first versions of the story, Jesus was a simple guy who was a good teacher, but not a miracle worker. He didn't walk on water and didn't rise from the dead; all those elements, in my opinion, were inserted later.

**But there's a process we employ in criminal investigations that we can use here to investigate the possibility of tampering in the Gospels.** In my criminal cases, we must demonstrate to the jury that the evidence we're presenting at trial

wasn't altered after we collected it from the crime scene. **We must assemble what is known as the 'Chain of Custody.'** Example: Let's say we present a bullet casing to the jury during a homicide trial and highlight the existence of an extractor pin mark on the casing. We tell the jury this pin mark identifies the casing as having come from the defendant's handgun. But how can the jury be sure the pin mark was on the casing when officers originally recovered it at the crime scene? Isn't it possible that an unsavory officer altered the casing after the fact by secretly etching the mark on the casing to fool the jury? The 'Chain of Custody' will help us determine if the casing was altered.

We begin by asking a few simple questions: Did someone take a photograph of (or write a detailed report describing) the casing at the crime scene? Who collected it? To whom did the officer give the casing? Who was the next officer (or criminalist) in the 'Chain of Custody'? Who booked it into the Property Room? Who handled it while it was there? Who collected the casing from the Property Room and delivered it to the Crime Lab? Who picked it up from the Crime Lab and brought it to the courtroom? Did these involved parties document the existence of the pin mark along the way? If we have repeated images or reports describing the casing, we'll be able to determine if it was altered over time.

We can do something similar when we examine the Gospels. Let's look at the Gospel of John. How do we know that the Gospel accepted by the Council of Laodicea in 363 AD wasn't altered dramatically in the 300 years between its original authorship and this historic council? Lucky for us, we can assemble a 'Chain of Custody' for the Gospel of John. John was the 'officer at the scene,' documenting what he saw at the time. He then gave his account to the next 'officers' in the 'Chain of Custody'; John had three personal students named Papius, Ignatius, and Polycarp. After John died, these men became leaders in the Church and wrote their own letters to local congregations. These letters aren't in our Bible, but they have survived as ancient documents. We can read these letters to see if their description of Jesus was different than John's. Two of these men, Ignatius and Polycarp, had a student named Irenaeus, the next 'link' in the 'Chain of Custody'. Irenaeus also wrote about what he learned from his teachers. He then had a student of his own named Hippolytus. This latter 'link' also wrote about what he learned from *his* teacher.

These ancient men form a Gospel of John 'Chain of Custody'. We can examine each 'link' in this 'chain' to see if their description of Jesus is evolving or changing over time. We can examine all the 'links' in the 'chain' to see if the story of Jesus was altered. As it turns out, the story of Jesus *never* changed. The description of Jesus *wasn't* altered. From the first 'link' to the last, Jesus was born of a virgin, worked miracles, preached sermons, died on a cross, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and seated at the right hand of the Father. *Nothing* about the Jesus story has been altered. You may not believe it's true, but we can demonstrate with certainty that the content of the Gospels and the story of Jesus has *not* been altered."

Christianity does not start with "Jesus saves you from your sins." It starts with "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

**F. Schaeffer**

# Missionary of the Week

## Coastal Jail Ministries of Georgia Savannah

The Coastal Jail Ministries of Georgia employs three chaplains who minister to prisoners here in Chatham County and coordinate the efforts of volunteers who reach out to these men and women. The Life Learning Program gives opportunities for prisoners to join a structured environment and study the Scriptures.



### *Please pray for:*

1. Chaplains Matt Coleman, Myra Mitchell, and Shaun Marksbury, and Transitional Program Coordinator Lorie Irish.
2. Former inmates to seek follow-up counsel from chaplains after release.
3. The ability for inmates to understand that God can forgive them and give them another chance.
4. Wisdom for the chaplains who are ministering to unique individuals in unique circumstances. Pray they would be truly led by the Holy Spirit.
5. Spiritual strength, health and growth for the chaplains.
6. The volunteers who take the time to minister, that their needs would be met and that they would be diligent to continue sharing the Word of God.
7. The financial needs of the ministry would continue to be met.
8. That the inmates in the Chaplains' program would be diligent to do their Bible studies, and that God's word will do its work in their lives. Pray also for enough graders to get all the tests corrected and for them to have wisdom in the notes they give to the inmates.

### **Why Hell?**

The commands of the Bible to love God and obey Him can only be taken seriously in light of the warnings of consequences for rejection and disobedience. Without Hell, much in God's universe makes no sense...without anticipating a future judgment, people would do whatever they were allowed to do, or whatever they thought they could get away with. The more you remove consequence, the more you undermine accountability and the more you unleash moral inhibitions.

**Dr. Clint Archer**

# Sunday School Classes & Descriptions

## Adult

- “Revelation” - Organ Side Overflow Room: Matt Coleman
- “Chronological Survey of the Bible” - Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt
- “The Gospel of Luke” - Youth House: Steve Posner

## Students & Children

- Babies - Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra Bridges
- 1s & 2s - Room 24: Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter/Danny & Kamee Roberson
- 3s & 4s - Room 25: Emily Wise, Susan Su, Donna Martin
- Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade - Room 200: Jimmy & Angie Creech
- 3rd-6th Grade Boys - Room 202: Ric Zittrouer & Richie Mills
- 3rd-6th Grade Girls - Room 204: Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton
- Youth Guys - Room 206: Tim Wade, Bobby Deloach, & Nick Herring
- Youth Girls - Room 207: Sona Bailey, Jessica Dimmitt, & Lauren Wade

## Levels of punishment in Hell:

*Acts 1:25:*

Judas is said to be in “his own place.”

*Matt 23:15:*

Pharisee’s converts were said to be “twice the sons of Hell” as their mentors.

*Matt 11:23-24:*

Some will suffer more than those from Sodom.

*Luke 12:42-48:*

Some receive few blows while some will suffer many.

**Note that the degree of punishment is not based on how much or what kind of sin you committed, but the appraisal is based on how much truth had been revealed to you.**

# Bible Reading Schedule

August 2017

	1	1 Corinthians 2-5
	2	1 Corinthians 6-9
	3	1 Corinthians 10-12
	4	1 Corinthians 13-15
	5	1 Corin. 16 & 2 Corin. 1-3
	6	2 Corinthians 4-7
	7	2 Corinthians 8-10
	8	2 Corinthians 11-13
	9	Ecclesiastes 1 & Romans 1
	10	Ecclesiastes 2 & Romans 2
	11	Ecclesiastes 3 & Romans 3
	12	Ecclesiastes 4 & Romans 4
	13	Ecclesiastes 5 & Romans 5-6
	14	Ecclesiastes 6 & Romans 7
	15	Ecclesiastes 7 & Romans 8
	16	Ecclesiastes 8 & Romans 9
	17	Ecclesiastes 9 & Romans 10
	18	Eccles. 10 & Romans 11
	19	Eccles. 11 & Romans 12
	20	Eccles. 12 & Romans 13-14
	21	Eccles. 1 & Romans 15-16
	22	Ecclesiastes 2 & Romans 1
	23	Ecclesiastes 3 & Romans 2
	24	Ecclesiastes 4 & Romans 3
	25	Ecclesiastes 5 & Romans 4
	26	Ecclesiastes 6 & Romans 5
	27	Ecclesiastes 7 & Romans 6
	28	Ecclesiastes 8 & Romans 7
	29	Ecclesiastes 9 & Romans 8
	30	Ecclesiastes 10 & Romans 9
	31	Eccles. 11 & Romans 10



## Because He Lives

Because He lives  
I can face tomorrow.  
Because He lives  
All fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the  
future,  
And life is worth the living  
Just because He lives.

If there is no God and we live in a strictly material, evolving universe, violence and suffering are just a part of the natural world with no inherent morality attached to them. In this case violence would not be evil; it would simply be a part of the evolutionary process. Without God compassion for others is nothing but chemical changes in the brain. Suffering is meaningless, violence is meaningless. There is no such thing as good or evil.

*Bob Dimmitt*

God uses chronic pain and weakness, along with other afflictions, as His chisel for sculpting our lives. Felt weakness deepens dependence on Christ for strength each day. The weaker we feel, the harder we lean.

*J.I. Packer*

Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from  
[www.fabchurch.com/sermons](http://www.fabchurch.com/sermons)

### For Hearing Impaired

If you have difficulties hearing, we have listening aid devices available. Ask any of the ushers, or the technician in the sound booth, if you are in need of one of these devices.

### Nursery August 20

10:30 A.M.

#### Babies:

Mary Fowler, Donna Martin

#### Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Jimmy & Tammy Kicklighter/

Mike & Elinor Morris

7:00 P.M.

Janice Donaldson, Ceci Sheffield/  
Sharon Boan, Kathylyne Creech

### Nursery August 27

10:30 A.M.

#### Babies:

Shelma Lewis, Jeanie Groover

#### Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Lance & Julie Ficek/

Eleanor Bowden, Jan Deloach

7:00 P.M.

Jim & Heather Schraeder/  
Trisha Sumner, Bethany Humphrey

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### Ushers August 20

10:30 A.M.

Johnny Bridges, Reggie Brown,

Bucky Lanier, Jack Moore

7:00 P.M.

Ron Fowler, Dean McCraw

### Ushers August 27

10:30 A.M.

Mike Morris, Danny Roberson,

John Sumner, Michael Walker

7:00 P.M.

Cole Morris, Joe Morris

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### Sunday Greeters - August 20

Becky Hendricks, Ceci Sheffield

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### August Lock-Up Deacons

Steve Posner, Kelly Stanford