



First Baptist Church
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*Mission Statement:
Sunday School is FBC's primary
Great Commission strategy for
reaching, teaching, and ministering
to the people of Winnsboro.*

July 26, 2026

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19-20 (CSB)

Worship Together

Throughout the Scriptures, we are told of the importance of prayer and worship of God. We are told of the many types of worship. David described that he danced in worship to God. Some lifted up their voice in praise to God, as Paul and Silas did here. Others proclaimed their love and worship of God aloud. We are also given many examples of prayer in the Bible. Jesus gave us what we refer to as the Lord's Prayer. There are many others that bowed their head in the verses we can read to pray to God. Some were in praise, others were in difficulty, but all gave us some great examples of prayer to learn from.

I have often thought about these verses in Acts where Paul and Silas found themselves in prison. They were singing and praying, and it says that the prisoners heard them. Everyone around them knew that they were Christian by their prayers and their worship. But it was more than just the fact that they were known for their worship. We read in verse 26 about how there was a great earthquake. The foundations of the prison were shaken, the shackles were broken, the doors were opened, and not one single person had fled the prison we learn a few verses later. Aside from Paul and Silas, there's a good chance these were hardened criminals. These were people that would normally have fled given a chance for freedom. It's a challenge in these verses that we find. Are the lives of prayer and worship that we lead enough for others to know that we are Christian? More than that, are the lives of prayer and worship that we live enough to help others to live differently around us? Not only should those around us know we are Christian, but we should be such an influence that they are changed simply by being around us. How are you influencing others with your prayer and worship?

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. Acts 16:25-26 (ESV)

*David Henry
Minister of Education / Youth*

A Note from Pastor Tom

The next area of focus I'd like to touch on for us to be a healthy church is **A Persistent Practice of Prayer.**

Healthy = Faithful + Fruitful

The Lord's Prayer (Matt 6:9-13) teaches us that prayer is all about dependence and desperation. We must be a people who persistently practice prayer because it expresses our utter dependence upon God (Matt 6:11-13) and our utter desperation to see God glorified, His Kingdom come, and His will be done (Matt 6:9-10). But our dependence and desperation is not to be just occasional but constant. Luke 18:1-18 teaches us to cry out to our God for justice "day and night." First Thessalonians 5:17 tells us to "pray without ceasing." (Fun fact: This is the shortest verse in the Bible in the Greek: it's just 2 words.) Romans 12:12 tells us to be "constant in prayer." Colossians 4:2 tells us to "continue steadfastly in prayer." And Luke 11:5-13 tells us to ask God our Father for good things over and over and over again to the point that we are like an annoying neighbor. :-)) So rather than knowing that God will hear us when we do pray, our heart and practice must be that we pray persistently because we know that God is expecting and even demanding that we pray to Him constantly rather than just occasionally.

Eight areas of Focus for Being a Healthy Church

1. An Enduring Esteem for Jesus Christ
2. A Discernable Spirit of Repentance and Reconciliation
3. A Relentless Devotion to the Word of God
4. A Joyful Interest in Theology and Doctrine
5. A Persistent Practice of Prayer
6. An Evident Love for God and Neighbor
7. A Regular Practice of Generous Giving
8. An Active Proclamation of the Gospel

Weekly Announcements

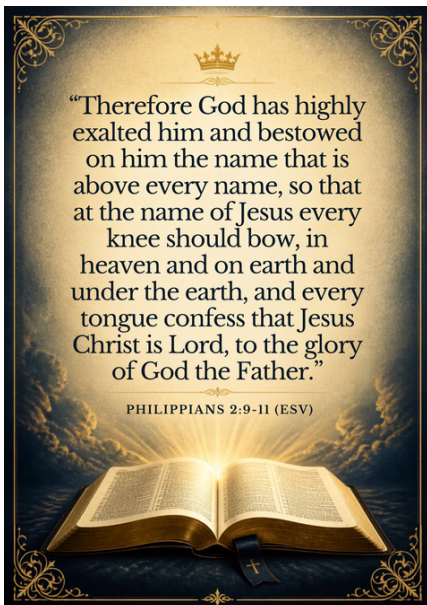


July

27 - Lisa Bass, Thatcher Taylor
28 - Leo Aleman
29 - Macy Jongsma, Kristen Klepfer, Amy McCraw
30 - Tom Bashioum, Sophie Clayton, Channing House

August

2 - Patti Goodrich, Sarah Baker



A Weekly REACH, TEACH & MINISTER schedule

9:00-9:10

Fellowship & Announcements

9:10-9:20

"REACH" Spotlight

9:20-10:00

"TEACH" People God's Word

10:00-10:15

*"MINISTER" in Care Groups/
Prayer Time*



Remember to grab some extra canned goods the next time you are at the store! We would like to continue to support the Resource Center throughout the year!



Prayer
Changes
things

Let's Pray! Join us for a time of corporate prayer for our church body. Sunday mornings, 8:00 am, in the GMRC. Let's fill up the room with prayers to the Lord!



LIFE DEVELOPMENT

Mark your calendars!

Fall is quickly approaching and a new set of Life Development classes will begin soon (Wednesday, August 12)
Details to come next week!