



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.*



September 13, 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)

A Note from Pastor Tom

ENDURANCE SPRINGS FROM JOY

There are times in life where you may feel a bit like the marathon runner who just passed the 5-mile marker and then realized there's another 21.1 miles to go (or maybe more like you're running one of those "tough mudder" races and people seem to be actively putting obstacles in your way). This is where endurance is so essential in our walk with Christ.

Running the Race Set before Us

In Hebrews 12:1-2, the writer of Hebrews encourages the recipients of the letter to endure in the race set before them, the race of a life lived by faith in Christ and for Christ. The example held forth of how to live a life for Christ is how Christ lived his life because He is both the founder of our faith and the perfecter of it.

Hebrews 12:1-2

"1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." (ESV)

Take note of four things here:

1) The race we have of our life in Christ is one that has been intentionally set before us.

What is before us is neither random nor accidental. God has ordained that the specifics of our lives as the race set before us to run. So, we must understand the life and circumstances we face IS the race that God has set before us; thus, we should be committed to running it now and to the end.

2) Endurance is required to run the race.

This race is not a sprint nor a middle-distance race. In this picture, it's not even a relay race. But we don't run as individuals. We run together (notice the phrase "so great a cloud of witnesses" is used as motivation) so that we might be encouraged and carried along by one another. This is a long race, a race that requires endurance. We need to realize that there will be places in the race where we feel great and places where we feel like we just won't make it and maybe even want to quit.

3) How Christ lived and thought about his life is held forth as the model of how we are to live and think about our lives.

He understood that the cross had to be endured for something that would bring joy: His exaltation and the Father's glorification.

Notice how Paul captures this in Phil 2:8-11: "8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (ESV)

Here's the fourth and main point that I want us to see:

4) Endurance springs from joy.

The endurance that our Lord displayed did not come from a sense of obligation but from an indwelling joy that sprung from knowing that running the race set before Him accomplished the great purpose of all creation and of all lives: it would bring glory to God. We need to see that the race of our lives that God has ordained for us is for His glory and for our good. We may not see it on every mile of the race we run (though at times God surely does show it to us), but we should always keep the end in mind so that we can look beyond the (temporary) challenges and afflictions that we face to know they are to bring about something of eternal significance: they are to be used so that Christ is exalted in our lives individually and collectively as a church and by this God is glorified.

Weekly Announcements



September

- 14 - Louis Ray
- 15 - Bryan Giguere, Luke Baker, Jason Salinas
- 16 - Karen Winkle, Makenzie Lyons
- 19 - Joshua Bassett, Jamie Hoffman
- 20 - Mark Taylor, Montana Loftis

A Weekly REACH, TEACH & MINISTER schedule

9:00-9:10

Fellowship & Announcements

9:10-9:20

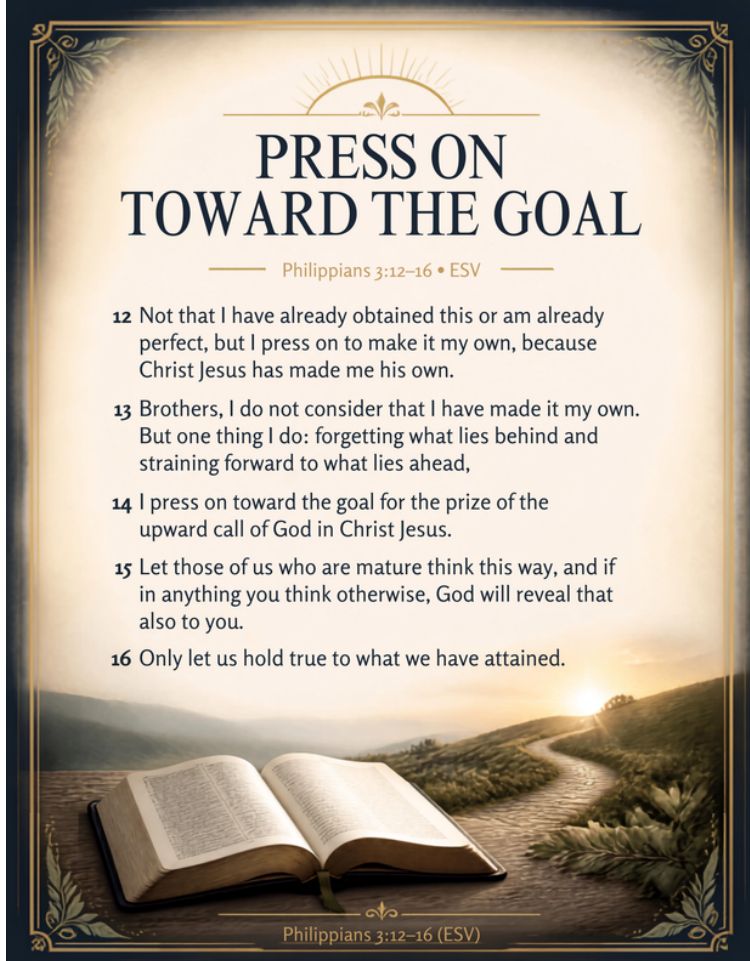
“REACH” Spotlight

9:20-10:00

“TEACH” People God’s Word

10:00-10:15

*“MINISTER” in Care Groups/
Prayer Time*



The Women's Ministry will host their monthly Bible Study tonight at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare is provided. All women are welcome!



Men's Retreat - October 2-4 - Broken Bow
Women's Retreat, October 23-24, Lakeview



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!