

Pastors

Johnny Davis 307-4232
Dan Fuller 685-4454
Paul Metzkes 870-8042
Phil Porter 575-4782
*Richard Watson 307-2608

*Chairman for the Month of March

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins 379-2325
David Sproule 301-2230
Robert Lupo 315-1411

Deacons

David Brown 972-7608
Victor Colage 719-1490
Lance Collier 985-4407
Kirk Crews 339-9283
Mike Erickson 310-9916
Tim Fry 373-9121
Jeff Goodale 261-1188
Rick Hall 622-5131
Dion Hayes 214-533-5065
Bob Higbee 303-386-6405
Gary Jenkins 889-3585
Jeff Leslie 744-3444
David Lord 346-2228
Buzz Nelson 385-1588
Lawrence Williams 662-3419

Church Office

Phone 561-848-1111
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Ivan Villard 667-8675
Cindy Nelson 801-9457
June Pack 627-5363



Vol. LXIII

March 17, 2024

No. 11

New Bible Classes (MAR. 24-MAY 29)

SUNDAY MORNINGS at 9:00 A.M.

The Book of Judges

Dan Jenkins (Auditorium)

Christian Husbands

David Sproule (Adult 3)

Christian Wives

Traci Sproule (Adult 1)

Fundamentals of the Faith

Dan Fuller (Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS at 7:00 P.M.

Making Evangelism Personal Again

David Sproule (Auditorium)

NEW BIBLE CLASSES FOR JR. HIGH & SR. HIGH

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Old Testament Prophets
(Robert Lupo)

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

How to, Christianity
(Robert Lupo)



By Dan Jenkins

God Will Help Even Small Churches Do His Work

This past week has truly been a delight to me because of the gospel meeting I was part of with the Arlington congregation in McMinnville, Tennessee. I believe you will be thrilled to see what a congregation with less than a hundred members can do in preparation for the meeting. Perhaps their example will encourage the church in every place as they serve the Lord and endeavor to get the gospel to the lost.

This congregation is in Warren County, which has a population of about 40,000, and in this one county, there are 45 congregations of the Lord's church. The way these congregations support each other is so remarkable. Years ago, when there were these evangelistic efforts, brethren came to support others, but sadly this rarely happens today. Warren County is the exception. They still do this.

Before the meeting at Arlington, this congregation had mailed an invitation to every home in the county. It was not just a card, but it was a four-page brochure giving details about the meeting and containing two articles I had written. This meant that every one of the 41,700 people in that county knew about the Lord's church. It reminded me of how Paul described the church in Thessalonica when he said, "For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth" (1 Thess. 1:8).

Details of what a church with less than a hundred members did for our Lord

Obviously, no one expected every person to come, but in a sense it was 100% effective, for every person in that county was given an opportunity to read about the church. Remember that the great commission does not tell us to go baptize every creature but to teach them.

They also sent information to one hundred and ten congregations located within a seventy-five mile radius of the building. I love how the congregations in Warren County support each other. Brethren from twenty of these congregations came to the meeting. Brethren from other places also came and that number reflected that support came from fifty congregations, sixteen Tennessee counties, and four states.

Paul said that the church in Thessalonica "...became examples in Macedonia and Achaia who believe" (1 Thess. 1:7). My purpose in telling about this is not to exalt the Arlington congregation above any other congregation, but to encourage brethren everywhere to see what a smaller congregation can do. It is to encourage us to support each other like we did in days past.

The services were streamed live. Christians shared that stream with others and one broadcast had over a thousand individuals who viewed at least part of the program. Thank God for the elders at Arlington and for Justin Reed, their preacher. God help us all to do more for Him!



By David Sproule

What to Do During a Boring Sermon

Have you ever sat through a boring sermon? Ha! "Nearly everyone I've heard borders on boring," someone might say. What makes a sermon "boring"?

Is it the preacher? Some speakers are rather boring in themselves, right? Some speakers are easier to listen to than others, aren't they?

Is it the subject? Some topics are more enthralling than others, right? Of course, some speakers can take an enthralling topic and make it boring, can't they?

Is it the listener? Could "boring" be subjective? Could one listener find a sermon "boring," while another listener finds the very same sermon intriguing? (That happens nearly every Sunday, by the way.) So, can I ask a question that we honestly consider? I would concede that a preacher himself could be boring and that a preacher could make a certain subject boring, but is it possible that the charge made about a sermon being "boring" could actually be a reflection on the listener rather than the preacher? Is a "boring" sermon always "the preacher's fault"?

Ok, that may have been uncomfortable and disagreeable to read, but I think it is worth consideration. But, if you're still reading, let's get to the title of the article. I'm sitting in the

pew and I'm as bored as can be while this guy keeps going on and on. What do I do?

First, here is what I suggest and try to consider myself. In at least two New Testament passages (Matt. 26:29; Heb. 2:12), Jesus indicates that He is not only present with us in our worship assemblies, but He is also participating. So, if a sermon is "boring," imagine that Jesus is sitting next to you. What do you envision Jesus doing while the Word of God is being preached, but perhaps is a bit "boring"?

Peak out of the corner of your eye over at Jesus sitting next to you. Is He sleeping while the Bible is preached? Is He playing a game on His phone? Is He scrolling social media? Is He working on His To-Do List for the week? Is He texting His buddies? You can't envision Jesus doing any of those.

So, with the motivation of Jesus sitting right next to me and the motivation of Jesus knowing not only what I'm doing but also what I'm thinking, what can I do? I would urge you to take notes. Don't just write down what the preacher says, but write down verses and truths that you find while he's preaching. Listen and study at the same time. Be careful not to let your felt boredom impact or distract anyone around you. Find nuggets in the sermon that you can mine and study on your own later. Examine yourself carefully. Let your love for the Bible dominate and motivate you.

Peak out of the corner of your eye over at Jesus sitting next to you.



By Robert Lupo

Heart Checkup

"It's time for your annual checkup!" This sentence may cause a sudden sense of dread in many of us. But as much as we might hate going to the doctor, visiting once a year can help you stay healthy and uncover potential health risks. One of the things the doctor will do is get out his stethoscope, listen to the rhythm of your heart, and let you know if there are any abnormalities.

In our lives, we need more than just physical checkups. We need spiritual checkups as well—hopefully more than once a year. This kind of check-up may come in the form of a personal Bible study, a sermon that really hits home, a sudden life change, or a fellow Christian exposing the truth about your behavior. Any of these may give us pause and move us to examine our relationship with God.

In Acts 8, we read of a man that needed a heart checkup. Simon, the sorcerer, was a new convert to the church of Christ living in Samaria. Like many others in his country, he was convicted by the truth and power of the gospel. In verse 13, we see that Simon believed the gospel and was baptized in the name of Jesus and added to the church. It turned out that Simon had some ulterior motives.

Soon after Simon and the Samaritans became Chris-

tians, the apostles in Jerusalem learned that they had not yet received the Holy Spirit (v. 14-15). Only the apostles had the gift to lay hands on people and give them spiritual gifts. So, Peter and John went to them and laid hands on them.

When Simon saw the power of the laying on of hands, he sought to have the power for himself. So, "...he offered them money, saying, 'Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit'" (v. 18b-19).

Immediately, Peter called out his blasphemy and accused him of trying to purchase the gift of God with money. How could a Christian make such a mistake? In verse 21, Peter told Simon plainly, "...for your heart is not right in the sight of God." Though he was a Christian, Simon's heart was still "...poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity" (v. 23).

Many Christians seem to have the love of Christ, yet their heart betrays them. They may go to every function, put plenty of cash in the collection tray, but they only do it for clout. They will seem like a good person, be admired by their friends or will feel superior to others. Brethren, our motivations matter.

Simon's heart disqualified him from the spiritual gifts given to the Samaritans (v. 21). This needs to be a wakeup call for us. If we fail to check our hearts, we too may receive "...neither part nor portion..." of the gifts promised to us.

Many Christians seem to have the love of Christ, yet their heart betrays them.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Your pet issue

Do you have a "pet issue"? Probably most folks do. It's that thing that you feel particularly strong about and will mention in conversations with certain folks quite often.

For example, if you talk to some church members about the worship service, it probably won't be long before they talk about their "pet issue"—the choice of songs, the choice of men to lead in worship, the attire of those men, the length of the sermon, the thermostat, the time taken for the Lord's Supper (too long or too short), the service times, etc. The same kind of thing happens when church members start talking about the church in general or the decisions of the elders.

I'd like to encourage some of us to go to the pet shop and get a new "pet issue." Let's focus more on seeing lost souls, on helping church members in need, on craving opportunities to worship God, rather than, well, focusing on personal preferences (Phil. 2:3). When I get focused on me "doing" (Gal. 6:10; Luke 6:31; 10:37; Matt. 7:21), I have less time to focus on what others are "doing" or "not doing." — DS



Even Jesus made it about the Father

We get pretty enamored with ourselves sometimes and our ideas and our wishes, to the point that we often lose sight of others and even lose sight of our true focus on our Father in heaven. As you read through the life of Jesus, it's interesting how often He diverted the focus from Himself to the Father in heaven. "Whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me" (Mark 9:37). "He who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me" (Luke 10:16). "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me" (John 4:34). "I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me" (John 5:30). "He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me" (John 12:44-45).

Why am I here? One simple answer: to bring "glory" to my God (Isa. 43:7; 1 Cor. 10:31)! This life is not about me. We see that even in the life of Jesus. He came, first of all, to do the will of the Father. He came, second of all, to save us. It wasn't about Him! Is my focus on me or on Him? — DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Pete Brown	home from the hospital
Zula Garrett	recovering at home from renal cyst and spine fracture
Charles Hayes	struggling with several health issues
Grace Judge	having treatments for her neck and back pain
Sylvester Jackson	Boca Raton Regional (room 219), respiratory problems
Dick Kelley	likely facing surgery soon, seeing several specialists
Amy West	undergoing tests



Islay Rodriguez, upon the passing of his brother, **Eddy Rodriguez**.

Daniel Wagner, upon the passing of his father, **Kevin Wagner**.

Ongoing Health Issues

Robin Landen	multiple health issues
John Loftis	back pain, weakness
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments
Sherri Richmond	multiple health issues
Henry Williams	dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Inell Ingram
Lillian Bankston	Daniel Johnson
Judy Carmack	Kasandra Jones
Josie Dawson	Betty Matter
Zula Garrett	Joyce Parker
Dick Haines	Leigh Puckett
Margie Hardin	Maurine Reed
Loretta Holaday	Ricky Smedley
Joan Holloway	

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Carmen Dussard	Isolyn Sinclair's sister, dealing with kidney problems
Thelma Findley	Maria Hackshaw's mother, very weak
Ann Freseman	Nicole Freseman's mother, in LaPosada Rehab
Jim McCoy	Maxine McCoy's brother, still weak but improving
Rena March	Verdell March's stepdaughter, breast cancer
Clara Medina	Carolina Medina's sister, struggling with health issues
Delores Sims	Jimmie Banks' mother, tumors, facing possible surgery
Samuel Williams	Adelene Honore's brother, home from hospital, weak





Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 17

- ♦ **EDP Bible Study & Fellowship** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room.

Monday, March 18

- ♦ **Monday Night Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

Tuesday, March 19

- ♦ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room.

Saturday, March 23

- ♦ **PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting** at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Room. See Maria Hackshaw for details.

Sunday, March 24

- ♦ **New Bible Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for Stepping into the Bible Classes.
- ♦ **Josh Blackmer Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults will meet in the Auditorium.

Monday, April 1

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Friday, April 5

- ♦ **Family Group 4 Meeting** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jimmie & Cherylann Banks. Please bring a potluck dish. This is for all PBL members and families who live south of Southern Blvd.

Sunday, April 14

- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Thursday, April 18

- ♦ **Ladies' Day with Kristi Burleson** at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by the lesson at 7:30 p.m. This year's theme is "A Heart of Humility." Please RSVP by April 8.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ **Young Adults**

Sunday, March 17

- ♦ **Luncheon for Young Adults, Young Families, Youth & Parents** after morning worship in the Family Room. Cost is \$5 (main meal provided). Please RSVP to Ivan Villard, and bring drinks and desserts. This is an exciting lunch to put together invitation packets for Vacation Bible School.

Monday, April 1

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Saturday, April 6

- ♦ **Young Adult Connect Day.** See Ivan Villard for more details.

Friday, April 19

- ♦ **Ladies & Lattes** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jennifer Higbee. All PBL women in Grades 9 and up are invited.



Palm Beach Lakes **Youth**

Sunday, March 17

- ♦ **Luncheon for Young Adults, Young Families, Youth & Parents** after morning worship in the Family Room. Cost is \$5 (main meal provided). Please RSVP to Ivan Villard, and bring drinks and desserts. This is an exciting lunch to put together invitation packets for Vacation Bible School.
- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

Sunday, March 24

- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

Sunday, March 30

- ♦ **Egg Hunt for Grades 5 & Under hosted by the Jr. & Sr. High Youth** at 10:00 a.m. There will be games and activities following the hunt. Jr. High & Sr. High should arrive at 9:15 a.m. and bring 3 dozen filled plastic eggs (no chocolate in eggs; it will melt). See Robert Lupo or Ivan Villard for more details.

Equipping & Edifying Families

Parents, Who Wins?

by Adam Faughn



For almost 10 years, I was a youth minister. I have also been blessed wherever I have preached to be at congregations that wanted me to have an active part in the youth ministry. And, of course, I am a parent, so I have a vested interest in the health of young people.

For all those years, there has been something that I have never understood about many Christian parents, and it has to do with their children's attendance at worship, Bible classes, and youth activities.

When their kids miss things, parents often give an excuse, but, if they would just think through what they are saying, their speech could be turned around totally on them in a way they would not like very much.

- "We hated him to miss the tournament. He's worked so hard for this." *In other words: we feel no real obligation to have him work on his faith.*
- "She's part of the team, and we can't let the team down." *In other words: God's team doesn't need my child's input at all.*
- "We didn't like that they moved the game to Sunday, but we couldn't do anything about it." *In other words: we don't want to put our foot down and make a sacrifice.*

And on and on it goes.

But, parents, there is another way to look at this that I often come back to, and it is one that we have to think about seriously. It comes down to this simple question: "who wins?"

Here's what I mean: when there is a conflict between the Lord and His people vs. an activity or homework or something else, who wins?

When we constantly make excuses to allow our children to go to the school activity or the outing or whatever it is, what we are teaching our children is that the world is worthy of more of our time and sacrifice than the Lord is. We are teaching them that the world wins and God loses.

We would never frame it that way, but that's because we have built up the excuse in our mind already. But the fact is, that is what we are teaching.

And, parents, we need to ask ourselves: if we will make excuses for "this," what will your children make excuses for when it comes to your grandchildren?

The more we allow our children to go along with the schedules and demands of the world, what we are teaching them is that Christianity is not really about sacrifice. We are teaching them that it is okay to do whatever you want to do and then God will be just fine with the leftovers. It's not about sacrifice. It's not about devotion. It's not about our "all."

Parents, let's teach our children to put God first. But that begins with *us* putting God first. Stop the excuses. Step up. Be parents.

And show them that God must win...because God will ultimately win.

"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)

Members Traveling
this week



 **Thank You**
for worshiping with us

Sunday,
March 10



We rejoice with **Bobby Shelton** who was baptized on Sunday, March 10 after evening services.

Birthdays & Anniversaries *This Week*

Tuesday, March 19th

Dion Hayes
Jermaine Smith
Ricky Smith

Thursday, March 21st (cont.)

Yolanda Stewart
David Whipple

Thursday, March 21st

Max Fonrose
Jack Holoman

Friday, March 22nd

Christopher & Yolanda Stewart (Ann.)
Lizzie Rozier

 **Thank You** notes

Thank you so much to my PBL family for all the prayers, calls, gifts and encouragement during this difficult time. I am feeling so blessed. Thank you!

Isolyn Sinclair

Those to Serve

If you are unable to serve, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269.

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday morning, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at **9:50 a.m.***

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday evening, please meet at the front of the auditorium at **5:50 p.m.***

Sunday Morning, March 17

Singing Gary Friedly
Opening Prayer Taylor Reeves
Scripture Reading Tim Fry
Singing
Lord's Supper Douglas Alvarenga
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Orlando Lolo

Serve at Table:

Tim Cox	Steward Lynch
Ryan Hankins	Tim Mahlbacher
Namdidie Ikon	Robert Mariano
Todd Juckett	John Patrick
Dick Kelley	Nahum Villard

Sunday Evening, March 17

Singing Ivan Villard
Opening Prayer Joe Maloney
Scripture Reading Victor Colage
Singing
Lord's Supper Stephen Beliech
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Willie Smith

Serve at Table:

Troy Alberga Trevin Roman

Audio this week: James Green

Computer this week: Bob Higbee

Video this week: Edward Gager

Wednesday Evening, March 20

Singing Graysen Hayes
Invitation Jeff Goodale
Family Prayer Paul Metzkes

Our Record

Attendance	Mar. 10	Feb. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	165	168
Sun. AM Worship	253	264
Sun. PM Worship	132	122
Wed. Bible Study	131	132
Contribution	\$16,211	\$16,640

2024 Weekly Budget: \$16,452

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$11,418

Service Coordinator:
Mike Damron

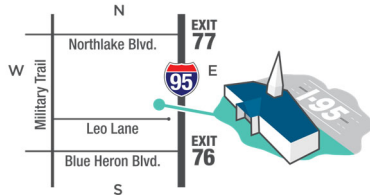
Ushers for this week: Rick Hall & Ricky Smith
Safety Team for this week: Seth Watson



Palm Beach Lakes CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

*Speaking where the **Bible** speaks, Silent where the **Bible** is silent.*



Service Schedule

Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

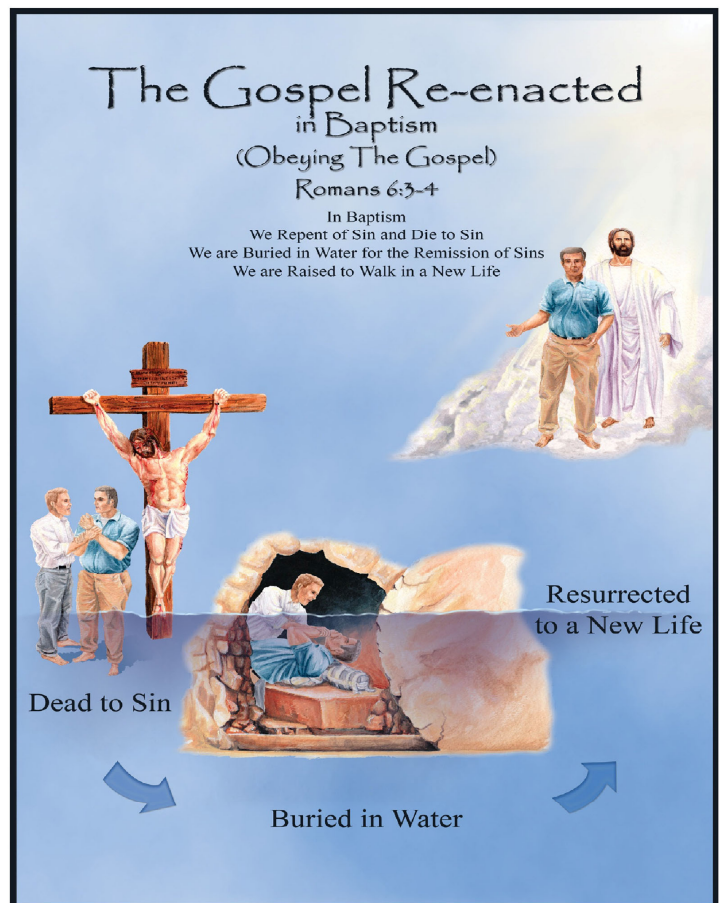
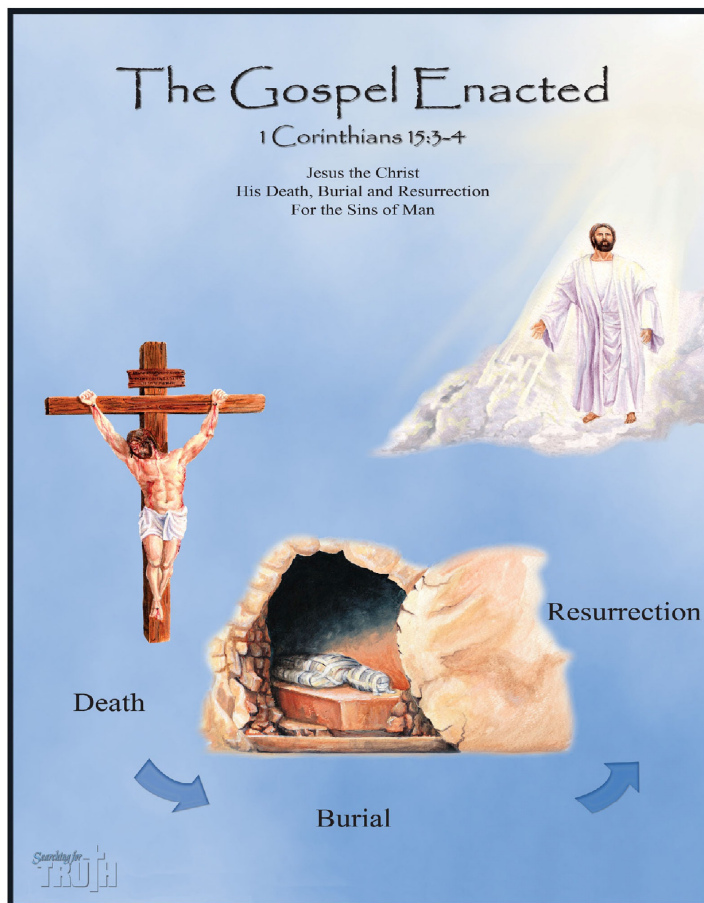
Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible classes 7:00 p.m.



Front Cover: **Dan Jenkins & David Sproule**



(Chart from World Video Bible School, wvbs.org)