Bishops

.307-4232
.685-4454
. 870-8042
. 575-4782
.307-2608

Evangelists

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



Vol. LXIII

April 7, 2024

No. 14

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 Hayes214-	533-5065
Bob Higbee303-	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	
Fax	
Website	www.pblcoc.org
E-mail	office@pblcoc.org
Ivan Villard	
Cindy Nelson	
June Pack	





Williams, Samuel

Baptized March 10

Group 3

Baptized March 25





"Just As Long As You Are Sincere..."

We live in a day where so many have decided that all that matters in being right with God is to fervently serve Him. They feel that the way you serve Him is different for every person and it matters little how that devotion is shown. This widespread belief is the underlying basis as to why there

are thousands and thousands of denominations in our land. What does God reveal about this spiritual concept?

Think about how religious the Jews were when Jesus came to the earth. The apostle Paul said, that zeal without lowed his conscience (Acts 23:1). He said, "I myself "I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God" (Rom. 10:2). They were by far the one nation that worshiped God. The first century world was divided into pagan "denominations," and in the midst of paganism, the Jews assembled every Sabbath day to read and study the Bible and pray fervently to God.

The New Testament describes the devotion of the Jews. They prayed long prayers and were not ashamed to do it publicly (Matt. 6:5; 23:14). They gave great attention to making sure that God received ten percent (a tithe) of everything they had. In fact, they even counted the number of leaves on their mint bushes and gave Him a tenth of them (Matt. 23:23). Many of them fasted twice each week (Matt. 6:16; Luke 18:12).

Jesus described how zealously evangelistic they were

when he told how they would travel across both land and sea (perhaps indicating the Mediterranean Sea) just to convert one Gentile to God (Matt. 23:15). Were they right with God because of what they were doing? Jesus came to seek and save those who were lost, and He came to this nation who fervently served God in their own way. They were lost!

Many of the Jews' religious leaders in that day were hypocritical in their devotion, but look at one example that

shows even those who were honestly serving God still had not found Him. The apostle Paul always folalways strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and man" (Acts 24:16). The Hebrews were the most devout nation, and Paul was the most devout Hebrew (Phil. 3:5). What was his relation with God? He was chief of sinners (1 Tim. 1:15)!

They were lost because zeal without knowledge does not save. Paul says, "They being ignorant of God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own righteousness have not submitted to the righteousness of God" (Rom. 10:3). Consider these words carefully from Jesus, especially if you think that it makes little difference. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will My Father in heaven" (Matt. 7:21). No one is saved without zeal, but zeal without obedience cannot bring salvation.



Ashamed?

Shame is an interesting emotion. Sometimes shame and embarrassment are terms that are used synonymously. What causes this emotion? Perhaps if I've done something that I should not have done. Or perhaps when others make fun of me. Or perhaps when I feel self-conscious about

something from my past or an uneasiness about a current situation. There are, obviously, myriads of things that can lead us to feel ashamed.

That makes Paul's affirmation in Romans answer we offer 1:16 all the more intriguing. Here was the one "who formerly persecuted" Christians now preaching "the faith which he once tried to destroy" (Gal. 1:23). He wrote in Romans 1 that he was both "a debtor" to get the saving message to the lost and he was

"ready" to do so (1:14-15). Then, in the familiar text of Romans 1:16, Paul gave the reason that he was a ready debtor to preach the gospel.

Beginning verse 16 with the word of explanation, Paul wrote, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." Paul was ashamed of his past, but he was not ashamed of his present. Paul was ashamed of what he had done to the saved, but he was not ashamed of what he was doing to the lost. Paul loved the gospel and loved preaching it to others. Paul embraced the gospel, believed the gospel, proclaimed the gospel, defended the gospel and ultimately died for the gospel. He was not embarrassed by it or by what it called him to do. He was not embarrassed to tell it to others.

Are we ever ashamed to preach the gospel? I think the answer to that is that we are (at least occasionally). Why? Are we ashamed of God and His power? Are we ashamed of Jesus and His salvation? What is it that causes us to be embar-

rassed to open up and say something?

"Well, it's not popular. It's not what people want to hear. People may have unpleasant thoughts toward me. People may have adverse reactions toward me. People may ask, say or do things that make me uncomfortable." Whatever answer that we can come up with will never be a satisfactory answer. And...we know it.

Brethren, please let me encourage all of us to follow in the footsteps of Paul and to not be ashamed of the gospel, to not be ashamed of sharing it with others, to not be ashamed of whatever may happen when we do share it with others. We have the greatest blessing on earth-salvation. We have the greatest message on earth-salvation. We have the greatest gift to offer on earth-salvation. Why are we ashamed of that? Mark 8:38 is a verse that comes to mind as we close, but I'll let you consider that one on your own.

Whatever will never be a satisfactory answer!

The Bible shows

obedience has

never brought

about salvation



God Sees You...As He Made You

For the last several years, the President of the United States has made proclamations observing the "Transgender Day of Visibility" on March 31. This has largely gone unnoticed by many until this year when it fell on Easter. Given that Easter is a longstanding tradition for believers in Christ to

By Robert Lupo

recognize the miracle the Resurrection, this caused many to criticize the White House's decision as insensitive.

However, Christians are not really concerned about what holiday this "Day of Visibility" falls on. What we are concerned with is the lie of progressive Gender Ideology. In the White House's proclamation, the President writes, "Today, we send a message to all transgender Americans: You are loved. You are heard. You are understood..." None of

this is true. Is it loving to affirm someone's confusion about the body they were born in? Are we really hearing the cries for help from those suffering from the pain of gender dysphoria by offering experimental drugs and surgeries to children? Can a man, even as powerful as the President, understand who another person really is in spite of their biological characteristics?

There is only One who knows who we are deep inside. He is the God who made us in His image. Throughout the Bible we are told of the personal involvement God has in the making of each individual boy and girl.

God takes a personal role in our physical development. In Psalm 139, David famously spoke of how by the God of heaven we are fearfully and wonderfully made (v. 14). He says, "For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb" (v. 13). Each human life is an amazing miracle that the Lord intricately wove together, and every part of your body was designed by Him to be there.

> God also takes a personal role in knowing who we are. People can be very difficult to understand. We spend much of our lives trying to figure ourselves out, let alone others. But, nothing about us is hidden from God. Psalm 139 says, "You have searched me and known me..." (v. 1), "...You understand my thoughts afar off" (v. 2), "You...are acquainted with all my ways" (v. 3). If God knows us so

well, then how could we possibly believe someone could be born in the wrong body? Is God such an amateur that He would make such an obvious mistake? David says, "My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth" (v. 15) God is the master Creator and made you exactly as He intended.

If we want to hold a day of visibility, then let's love, hear, and understand others as God sees them. We are not spiritual accidents. We are the miraculous creations of God.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Walking in sunlight

Winter days up north can be kind of dreary, when you don't see the sun for days and days. In many parts of the country, some storm clouds can be so dark that it can make the middle of the day feel like it's nighttime. Where's the SUN?

We face similar affects in our hearts and our own personal lives. Some days can be rather dreary. Some storms that we face can bring a thick darkness over us. We may wonder, where's the SON?

125 years ago, Henry J. Zelley penned some words that still intrigue and enliven the soul today. "Walking in sunlight all of my journey."

Are you walking in sunlight all of the time? Of course, Zelley was writing about "heavenly sunlight." Some days can be dreary or hard or dark. But in the midst of all of that, we can be "walking in sunlight"! How? By remembering, "Jesus has said, 'I'll never forsake thee,' which is a "promise divine that never can fail"! At that thought, may our hearts burst forth, "Hallelujah! I am rejoicing, singing His praises, Jesus is mine." – DS

Who is that from?

As a quick and fun exercise, take a moment and turn in your Bible and read Romans 1:7, 1 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:3, Ephesians 1:2, Philippians 1:2, Colossians 1:2, 1 Thessalonians 1:1, 2 Thessalonians 1:2, 1 Timothy 1:2, 2 Timothy 1:2, Titus 1:4 and Philemon 3. Essentially what you will find in each of these Pauline letters is that common

> greeting that you might sometimes skip over, "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Paul writes these same words at the beginning of every letter.

> But read it carefully. Look for what I think is a key word in these greetings. Did you see it?

You might overlook this word because it may seem insignificant, but it is not. Circle the word "from."

Paul is not sending a greeting FROM PAUL to these Christians! Paul, writing by the inspiration of God, is sending a greeting to these Christians FROM GOD AND JESUS Themselves! It's as if, every time you read these letters, God is saying, "Hello! My grace and peace are for you! I love you!" And He is saying that today to YOU! -DS



God is the mas-

ter creator and

made you exact-

ly as He intend-

ed.

Keep in Your Prayers

Pray for These PBL Members

Anthioda Charles	having knee replacement surgery on April 10
Zula Garrett	recovering from broken bones in her back
Charles Hayes	struggling with several health issues
Grace Judge	having treatments for her neck and back pain
Dick Kelley	recovering at home from surgery
Robert Mariano	having hernia surgery on April 11
Juliette Mauvais	still dealing with a lot of pain
Isolyn Sinclair	dealing with severe hip pain
Samuel Williams	medical tests on April 9 for stomach problems
Evetta Wilson	dealing with several health issues
Trina Wright	dealing with back pain

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
Corinne Gardner	Dave Holaday's daughter, swollen lymph nodes
Clara Medina	Carolina Medina's sister, struggling with health issues
Delores Sims	Jimmie Banks' mother, cancer spread to both lungs



Church Family **Calendar of Events**

Monday, April 8

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

Tuesday, April 9

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

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.

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. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert.

Saturday, April 20

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

Saturday, April 27

• EDP & Office Cookout at 6:00 p.m. See David Sproule to RSVP and for details.

Saturday, May 4

- Elders' Workshop with Andy Robison at 9:00 a.m.
- Power Up! A Recharge for Christian Men from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. This year's theme is "Strong Men in Christ." Please RSVP to office@pblcoc.org.

Sunday, May 5

 Friends & Family Day with Andy Robison. Jr. High, Sr. High & adults will meet in the Auditorium during class. 9:00 a.m. A Crucified Savior 10:00 a.m. A Resurrected Lord

Monday, May 6

• Men's Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited.

Young Adults

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.

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. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert.

Saturday, May 4

• Power Up! A Recharge for Christian Men from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. This year's theme is *"Strong Men in Christ."* Please RSVP to office@pblcoc.org.

Monday, May 6

 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.



<u>Sunday, April 7</u>

• No His Kids Class. Class will resume on April 14.

Saturday, April 13

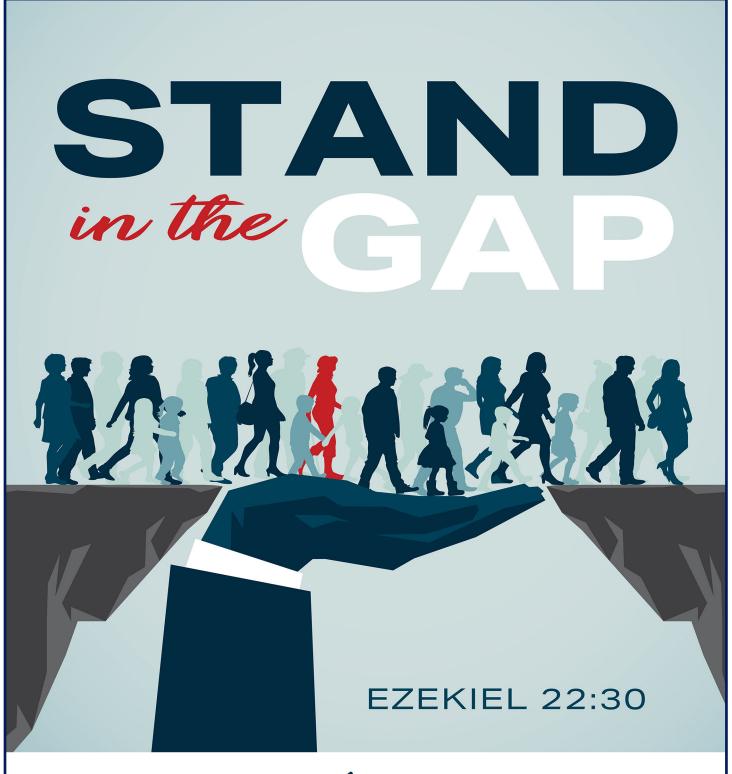
Sr. High Spring Formal from 6:00-10:00 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person. Dinner will be at Texas de Brazil followed by the evening activity. Please pay by Wednesday, April 10. See Robert or Reanna Lupo for more details.

Sunday, April 14

- **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.
- Youth & Family Singing after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

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. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert.



April

TO REACH PEOPLE I KNOW WITH THE GOSPEL

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

Members Traveling WILL BE BACK Soon

It's Boy!

Congratulations to Sincere & Emily McCall upon the birth of their son, Adonis McCall, on Wednesday, March 27 weighing 7 lbs. 14 oz. Proud grandmother is Manoella Mendietta.



<u>Sunday, April 7th</u> Krystian Dubuisson

<u>Monday, April 8th</u> Micky Affron Jean Archer Zula Garrett Nadia King Wednesday, April 10th (cont.) Anthioda Charles Jennifer Higbee Rose Martens

<u>Friday, April 12th</u> Kaylani Carmona Mendy Crews

Wednesday, April 10th Ed & Jeannie Buonadonna (Ann.) <u>Saturday, April 13th</u> Henry & Bereather Williams (Ann.) Marcia Clough-Moss



Sunday, March 31

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Terrence Breaux; Mr. Israel Cuevas; Mrs. Carolyn Deem; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Young DiNetta; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Mr. Don McClintock; Mr. Morris McDaniel; Mr. Tyrome McDuffie; Mr. & Mrs. Michael Menendez & Astrid Arevalo; Miss Victoria Michwanazi; Mr. & Mrs. Jean & Germaine Noukelak; Ms. Liz Otero; Mr. & Mrs. John & Andrea Phillip; Miss Carolena Ramos; and Miss Maleena Rodriguez.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mr. Abraham Bassie, Miami, FL; Ms. Elsie Burdeo, Butuan City, Philippines; Mr. & Mrs. Jerry & Mary Jo Cole, Okeechobee, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Grant & Megan Cole, Bear Lakes, MI; Ms. Carolyn Cramer, Marietta, GA; Mr. & Mrs. Terry & Regina Crews, St. Albans, MO; Ms. Pearline El, Jacksonville, FL; Mrs. Kathryn Fuller, Plantation, FL; Mr. Andrew Jenkins, Melbourne, FL; Mr. & Mrs. David & Sheri Jenkins, Lilburn, GA; Mr. & Mrs. Skylar & Abby Mitchell, GA.

Those to Serve

If you are <u>unable to serve</u>, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269. If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday morning</u>, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at <u>9:50 a.m.</u> If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday evening</u>, please meet at the front of the auditorium at <u>5:50 p.m.</u>

Sunday Morning, April 7

Opening Prayer Tim	Cox
Singing Robert Lu	Jpo
Contribution Phil Por	ter
Scripture ReadingRobert Maria	ano
Singing	
Sermon	
Singing	
Lord's Supper	
Singing	
Closing Prayer Stephen Beli	ech
Serve at Table:	
Troy Alberga Steward Lynch	
Douglas Alvarenga Tim Mahlbacher	
Ryan Hankins Taylor Reeves	

Trevin Roman

Tyler Williams

Sunday	Evening,	April 7

Singing	Ivan Villard
Opening Prayer	Willie Smith
Scripture Reading	Richard Watson
Singing	
Lord's Supper	Victor Colage
Contribution	
Singing	
Sermon	
Singing	
Closing Prayer	Tim Fry
Serve at Table:	
	John Patrick
Silas Balloul	
Audio this week: Ricky Sr	mith
Computer this week: Buz	

<u>Computer</u> this week: Buzz Nelson <u>Video</u> this week: Todd Juckett Wednesday Evening, April 10

Singing	Graysen Hayes
Invitation	Darin Summerlot
Family Prayer	Dion Hayes

Our Record		
Attendance	<u>Mar. 31</u>	Feb. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	218	168
Sun. AM Worshi	p 342	264
Sun. PM Worshi	p 109	122
Wed. Bible Stud	y 138	132
Contribution	\$22,484	\$16,640
2024 Weekly Budget: \$16,452		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$16,156		

Service Coordinator: Rick Hall

Namdidie Ikon

Orlando Lolo

<u>Ushers</u> for this week: Rick Hall & Nahum Villard <u>Safety Team</u> for this week: Seth Watson



Front Cover: David & Daisy Lord

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, **even death on a cross.**

Philippians 2:8