



the *Calvary Caller*

Volume 45

May 2022

Number 5

Is There a Bug in the House?

The Berean Sunday School Class, led by Tom Shelton, has been in the book of Jude going verse by verse and it has proven to be quite a study. As a pastor, I cannot describe how refreshing it is to see up to 15 men going deep in God's Word. We are living in a time where men are seen as toxic if they display any manliness, show any assertiveness in their God given roles, or dare to open the door for the weaker vessel. This class could actually be seen as dangerous! Women be warned, there's a bunch of men in the basement of Calvary Baptist Church and they are not effeminate! Can't you just hear Archie and Edith singing, "Girls were girls and men were men." Yes, "those were the days," but what days are we in now? Whatever your take is on COVID, 19, 20, 21, 22 and beyond, as well as the war in Eastern Europe. Just about everyone has been taken aback by the insane and immoral agenda being normalized, and of all places Disneyland. What in the world is going on? God's people should be thankful that a mouse trap has been set to keep Disneyland from infiltrating little minds any further than they have already. Did this just happen? Did this darkness from hell just spring up from nowhere, maybe from Kansas and a strong wind blew it all the way to Florida? Everyone was tossed back and forth with the COVID madness, but when a company that is known for entertaining children, has made it their agenda to convince 3-year olds about fluid sexuality, it's time for the gloves to come off. This is far more dangerous than

COVID will ever be. Let that sink into your hearts and minds. For those who have children and grandchildren, understand that this has the possibility of a pandemic of mutilation along with puberty blockers for children!

Jude, as well as Peter, have much to say about how the Church is infiltrated and taken over by dangerous and harmful ideologies. It's understandable that any institution, be it church, family, school, government or business, can be taken over if people are not diligent. So, how does it happen? Listen to what Jude says in verse 4. "For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ." I want to draw your attention to "certain men have crept in unnoticed." If you have lived in East Tennessee for at least one year, you know what a stink bug is. How in the world do they get in the house? They don't knock on the door and ask if they can come in. They creep in unnoticed, unheard and before you know it they are flying and crawling all over the house. Jude warns of false teachers silently crawling in and amongst God's people. They are like a tic on a fat dog as they get dug in and have to be forcibly removed. Robertson Word Study says, "they sink or plunge, so to slip in secretly as if by a side door." When it comes to the culture, there is no doubt that someone left the gate wide open! But Jude, as well as Peter, speak directly to



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the Church. How we have been astonished with how people crept in all the way up to be President of the SBC, and have advocated for Critical Race Theory, be a promoter of being soft on homosexuality and still keep their positions. There is a correction slowly taking place, but the bugs just keep coming. Before you get nervous and think there is no hope, keep in mind Jesus said that in the "Last Days" there would be an abundance of false teachers. We are not calling anyone to be harsh or mean, but look at it as if someone is trying to seduce your child and give them something that will harm them eternally. That should get anyone's blood boiling. Vance Havner put it like this: "The early Christians condemned false doctrine in a way that sounds almost unchristian today." That's what has happened in Southern Baptist Life, we have become more nice than God and we have paid a horrific price for it. I am praying as the men continue to meet in the basement and speak with great boldness (wives not present) that we will continue to lead the church as God has appointed! But also, as we make our way into the 2nd Epistle of Peter as a congregation; may

we be better equipped to stand more firm than we have ever stood. 2 Peter 2:1-3 says, "But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber." Let us be found standing firm on the promises of God's Word. We have our marching orders to give the Gospel to all. Giving the truth in God's love is the key to unlocking a fortress of selfishness. This is not about winning an argument, but winning a soul as the truth sets them free. Let us not be ashamed of the Gospel.

No Bugs Allowed!

Pastor David

A Word from Christain



Greetings!

It's time for another update from the student ministry.

We're still working our way through the doctrine of salva-

tion on Sunday mornings. We've talked about common grace and saving grace. We've talked about election and reprobation. We've also talked about union with Christ. Now we're studying regeneration, which you might also know as the new birth or being born again. It refers to the reception of spiritual life from God in place of the spiritual death that we are born with. While Jesus himself taught that regeneration was a mystery, there are still a number of truths the Scriptures reveal about it, and that's what we're currently studying.

We're still studying Proverbs on Sunday nights. We completed Chapter 20, and now we're working our way through Chapter 21. There are too many topics

to touch upon here, so I'll let you read it for yourselves!

We're still studying the Book of Colossians on Wednesday nights. We finished Chapters 1 and 2. Now we're working our way through Chapter 3. There are two major parts; crucial to both is the teaching that we are new creations in Christ, who have shared in Christ's death and resurrection as believers. Because of that, in the first part, there are sinful behaviors we must put off, and there are obedient behaviors that we must put on as Christians.

Now for the second part. Because of our new identities in Christ, there are expectations of Christian households: wives must submit to husbands; likewise, children must obey parents, and slaves must obey masters. Whereas, husbands must lead wives with love and without harshness, and fathers must likewise lead children without provoking them to discouragement. Here's what's important to recognize in this household code. Husbands must model

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Christ's lordship, who is a wise ruler and who is gentle as the norm (there are occasions for harshness, which Christ's life illustrated). Wives, children, and slaves must model the church's submission to Christ, which should be holistic and happy obedience. Households that disobey this code misrepresent the Christ/church relationship. And households that disobey this code dishonor Christ and invite discipline into their lives, which usually takes on the form of chaos and misery. While pop culture, both secular and sacred, likes to criticize husbands and fathers for the breakdown of the household, as a pastor, I've seen that unsubmitive wives and disobedient children are equally common.

As for this month's events, if you haven't heard, the lockdowns, school closures, and other covid reactions have wreaked havoc on children and teens. Among those problems are increased numbers of anxiety, depression, self-mutilation, and suicides. Because of that, Summit Life and Tim Tebow are putting on a conference in Johnson City to address this crisis with a message of Christian hope. We'll be attending that conference as a youth event. We'll also be having an end of school year celebration at the end of May.

Please keep the student ministry in your prayers!



A sweet smelling savor filling the room with its aroma is how to describe our Easter service. Who knew (besides God), in 2022 at Calvary Baptist Church, there would be six baptisms on Easter Sunday? Some might say God ordained this to happen or even suggest this to evidence that Calvary is on track to becoming a church with character which God can trust! Our people are moving from hearers into (poiete) doers of God's word. In spite of setbacks and personality quirks, unity and willingness to serve combined with our desire to love one another is allowing God to set an open door before us. My prayer is that Calvary con-

tinues to follow the Spirit's lead to lift Jesus high and submit to the Scriptures.

We are in the 50 days Resurrection to Pentecost time. This special time of the year is when Jesus showed himself several times in resurrected form. Pray for Jesus to show himself convincingly strong through May because June brings the Holy Spirit to convict and comfort us concerning Jesus. Know where we are on the spiritual calendar that our prayers are thoughtful and with power.

Curtis



The kids sang beautifully recently as we continue to celebrate our Risen Lord! I want to repeat the lyrics of a song they sang. In "Living Hope" the verse is as follows, "Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace? The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has spoken, I am forgiven. The king of kings calls me His own. Beautiful savior, I'm yours forever. Jesus Christ, my living hope." That is such a powerful message to us as believers because Jesus is our hope and He lives! Hallelujah!

The children's department has a lot of activities approaching just around the corner. We will be honoring our Mother's during the month of May. We will also be having a family camping event at Rock Creek Park on June 3rd, 2022. Everyone is invited. Please let me know if you plan on attending the camping event. Permission forms and medical releases for the summer program are due ASAP. Fun in the Sun camp packets are due by May 8th, 2022. Financial assistance is offered for kids wanting to go to camp. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Blessings to you all,

Alicia Smith



Happy Birthday



May

1 Olivia Looney, 2 Ellie Shelton, 5 Jim Buchanan, 8 David Rogers, Allen Williams, 9 Robert Lewis, 10 Wendell Sullivan, 11 Ford Wilson, 14 Roland Banks, Jon Hensley, Troy Podvin, 15 Sydney Williams, 17 Saige Wilson, 21 Edna Dempke, Carolyn White, Donna Rigsby, Patricia Looney, 23 Imogene Thomas, Alexis Whaley, 25 Emily Shelton, 26 Seth Jones, 27 Mari Fanning, Phyllis Breen



Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of...

Vange Bailey

by Leslie Ponder

Helen Harris

*by Winsome S.S. Class
to The Building Fund
by John & Floy Harris
to Consolidated Missions
by Tommy & Phyllis Bennett
to Consolidated Missions*

In Honor of...

Jana Crutchfield


*by the Dorcas/Homemaker Class
to Moldova Beds*



Services are broadcast on Facebook Live

Connect with us online

Website - <https://calvaryerwin.org>
Email - calvaryerwintn@gmail.com

 Calvary Baptist Church of Erwin Tn
Sun. Service is live on Facebook 10 am

 Calvary Baptist of Erwin Tn

 @CalvryErwin



Service times at
Calvary

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
6:00 p.m.

Sunday School
Morning Worship
Evening Worship
Youth Bible Study
Calvary Kids

WEDNESDAY

5:45 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

AWANA
Youth & Adult
Bible Study
Choir Practice

THE CALVARY CALLER published monthly (except July and December)

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