

The Witness

Volume XXIII, Issue X

Newsletter

October 2025

How Could You Forget Him?

Do you remember? How could we forget? That person or persons that God used to reveal Himself to us. That lived in a way that we could see that Christ can have an impact on a life. That He is real. That person who loved us so much, that he had to tell us about the One who cared so deeply for us - that He died for us and wanted to have a relationship with us. They told us about the one who could give us hope. The One who could forgive our sin. The One who would be with us to comfort us / to encourage us / to give us guidance in our chaos. The person who risked his relationship with us so that we could find a relationship that lasts forever. How could we forget him?

Do you remember? I can. My Sunday School teacher, that years before had faithfully taught Biblical truth to kids that could care less. Kids that would fidget. Kids that would try to get things off topic. Kids that acted like they had no interest, because they really didn't. The teacher that provided the information about Jesus and the gospel that the Spirit of God could resurface and use to bring me to Christ years later. How could I forget him?

Do you remember? I can. My faithful friend. As close as a brother. That wrote me weekly when I moved away. That saw my deep depression and hopelessness. That told me of how Jesus had changed his life and others that I knew. That prayed for me often. That told me how Jesus could change my life as well. That joined with me in discipleship when I trusted Christ. How could I forget

him?

Who was the person(s) in your life? The one who was brave enough to share. The one who cared enough to share. The one who was used to give you hope / to give you life / to bring you to the God you were created for. The one who was ready to speak the gospel. The one who intentionally spoke in spite of the potential cost. How could you forget him?

What if that person hadn't spoken up? What if that person wasn't brave enough to speak? What if they took the easy way out and said nothing? What if that person didn't love you enough to share? He would just be another person in your life. But He did speak. How could you forget him?

What about you? Could you be an unforgettable person in someone else's life? Who do you know that desperately needs Christ? Let's think of evangelism not as a mere duty, but as an opportunity. You could become someone unforgettable. The conduit of truth / hope / life. Someone that will be remembered forever (literally). If you shared, how could they forget you? You were the means for them to find life.

Even Paul was concerned about his focus on reaching others for Christ. He asks the Colossians to pray for him. "At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak." (Colossians 4:3-4) He desperately desired to speak the gospel. At any cost. Because of the results.

So he engaged others to pray for him. That not only God would open doors, but that God would enable him to speak / to speak clearly / to speak as he ought to speak. Giving others the gospel that can change them forever. And if they did receive it, they would never forget Him.

Pastor Danny

October Outreach

Are you busy enough? It's just starting. Time to engage. Great Times!

October begins with a very special Sunday, "You Can Share It!" with Larry Moyer on October 5. For the first time in years, we will combine all the Sunday School classes in the sanctuary for a special time of teaching. Larry will share a practical lesson titled, "What's so Scary about Evangelism and How do You Overcome those Fears." Each person will come away from this time with a clear understanding of how to easily present the gospel to friends and neighbors. This time will be followed by Larry preaching in the morning service, "Three Essentials in your Relationships with Unbelievers." Following the service, he will meet and eat with staff and deacons (and spouses) to help them consider how to encourage evangelism as part of the church culture. This could be a very valuable day in the life of our church. Please plan to attend both the Sunday School time and church service.

The next Sunday, October 12, will be the last Sunday that Steve Couch will be leading our worship. Because

of health issues, Steve will officially resign from that role effective that Sunday. Note: Steve will continue in the church and in the role of senior minister. A special recognition of Steve Couch will be held after the service including a potluck dinner. Join us in this special time.

The semiannual Senior Rally at Lakewview Camp will be on Thursday, October 9. Please signup outside Steve Couch's office. We leave from the church together at 7:30 AM. Return early afternoon. Lots of food, fun, food, music, food, speaking. Ages 55 and up.

The quarterly cooking video will be held on October 16 at 11:00. This is always a fun time. And we will have a chance to sample all the recipes at the end of the video.

Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 25, 3-5 PM. We need lots of help. An appeal for candy will occur shortly. This is a great time to impact families and kids outside our church. Truly, a community ministry event. Dennis Wagner will have the lead on the event.

The RBA annual meeting will be held Sunday evening, October 26, with registration beginning at 4:00. The time will include a meal, business meeting, and an evening service.

Early November activity will include a special speaker (Gary Coleman, Danny Parker's previous pastor) on November 2, AM and PM. And Men's breakfast on November 8.

Note: The previously scheduled Pie and Praise will be moved to November 9.

Pastor Danny

At-A-Glance:

August's Gifts: \$19,332.⁹³
2025 Gifts : \$172,216.⁴⁰
2025 Budget: \$286,384.⁰⁰

Authentic Youth September Recap

This fall has been an exciting season in our youth ministry! Each week we've seen numerical growth, not only in students but also in the number of adult leaders stepping in to serve. Even more encouraging, several of our students are beginning to step into leadership roles, taking ownership of the ministry and setting the tone for their peers.

A highlight of the month was See You at the Pole. This year, our students stepped up in a big way—completely leading the event themselves with boldness and faith.

In our gatherings, we've spent time learning that Jesus is greater than anything else. We emphasized prayer by walking through prayer stations, and now we're shifting our focus toward sharing our faith with others.

Please pray that God would continue to open doors for the Gospel, develop student leadership, and raise up a student to begin a Bible study or club at the school.

- Dennis and Sam Wagner

Thank You...

I would like to express my appreciation to First Baptist Church for all the flexibility, help, and love that you've given me over my five years as Financial Secretary here. You became like a second church family to me as you prayed for me, invited me to events, and chatted with me in my office. I will never forget the warmth of your friendship! Thank you for everything. I wish you all the best and will be praying for you all as your ministry in this community continues!

Love,
Elizabeth Smith

Your Church Staff...

Pastor: **Bro. Danny Parker**
Cell: 620-397-1753
Email: fbcyantispastor@peoplescom.net

Youth Pastor: **Bro. Dennis Wagner**
Cell: 757-235-3766
Email: fbcy.youth@peoplescom.net

Music and Senior Adult Pastor:
Bro. Steve Couch
Cell: 903-456-4220
Email: stevecouchmusic@gmail.com

Secretary: **Mrs. Elizabeth Smith**
In the office Mon. - Thurs.,
8:30am - 2:30pm

Church Phone: 903-383-2393
Church Fax: 903-383-2384

Church Email:
fbcyantist@peoplescom.net

Church Website:
www.fbcyantist.com

Special Announcement

It is with both joy and sadness that I wish to announce that our church secretary Elizabeth Smith is moving to West Memphis, Arkansas as her husband Jacob has accepted a pastoral position in that town. Joy because this is a major ministry opportunity for the Smiths. A great opportunity to impact a new community for Christ. Sadness because we will miss Elizabeth as a coworker and a friend. Elizabeth has done a marvelous job as financial and office secretary. Her technical and office skills have been so valuable to this ministry. And her relational connections have made her part of our family. Her last day in the office will be October 7. Join me in praying for the Smith's as they take on this new challenge. Stop by the office and give Elizabeth a personal goodbye if you can.