



# Bigbee Baptist Association

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## Brother Brad's Box...

My Friends,

Over the past couple of months, I've repeated a phrase several times. "It is what it is." I've been reminded that God is in control, He knows all, and His will is certainly greater than ours.

But in using that phrase multiple times, I've begun to wonder just exactly what "it" is. What is "it?"

Maybe that sounds silly to you, but if "it" is what "it" is, I thought maybe I should have a better understanding of what "it" is. So I started doing a little research into "it."

One of my favorite old black and white television programs is the Addams Family. One member of that curious group is a hairy little creature known as Cousin Itt. Cousin Itt talks with squeaks, and he waddles when he walks. Itt is funny, odd, and entertaining. That's what Itt (it) is.

I also know of what I would call a horror movie about a clown called "IT." It hides in underground drains and peeks out to terrify all who come near. It is scary. That's what it is.

But the phrase "it is what it is" also gives way to another phrase — "deal with it." Well that, too, can be great advice. But still, what is that particular "it" with which I must deal?!

That "it" describes a frustrating or challenging situation that we believe cannot be changed. It is something that must simply be accepted.

But another thought occurs to me. The problem with "It is what it is" is that it seems to give up all responsibility for the situation or problem. It means we concede defeat. We give up. We can do nothing about "it," so we simply give up on it.

It has become unavoidable, unfixable, and perhaps even unattainable. It helps us rationalize not doing anything about it. We can't fix it. We can't change it. We can't even ignore it. We just look at it, admit defeat, and quit.

(Funny that the spelling of the words "admit" and "quit" both include "it.")

To concede "It is what it is" means that I have admitted defeat. And that is not the "it" I want to portray! Because God is too good!

It is a good day. It is a good life. It is another opportunity to show God's love. The tough "it" in my life becomes just one more item in my witness for the Lord. And look at that! The word "witness" also includes "it!"

So, "it" must be much more important than I've realized. Every "it" is a part of my witness! Ah, the light bulb has just come on! It really is what it is! It is another chance to buckle down, let God work, and show the world what He has brought me through! Now I understand! It is what it is!

Ain't it so?

Brad



## Calendar of Events

### JULY

- 11 Pastors Fellowship, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office
- 17 Executive Committee Meeting, 2:00 p.m., BBA Office

### AUGUST

- 1 Pastors Fellowship, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office
- 20 WMU Brunch, 9:00 a.m., Cuba—Speaker: Pat Ingram

### SEPTEMBER

- 12 Pastors Fellowship, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office
- 25 Praise Night, 5:30 p.m., Cuba

### OCTOBER

- 3 Pastors Fellowship, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office
- 18 171st Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Christian Valley

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

To join us at Livingston First Baptist—Family Life Center at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 28th.

Come hear God stories, enjoy a light meal, and ask your questions of our own IMB missionary, sent and supported by you!

Don't miss this chance to hear firsthand how God is working in the nations through your prayers and Support.

**WMU BRUNCH**  
**Saturday, August 20**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**Cuba**  
**Speaker: Pat Ingram**

**Love Offering will be taken to benefit Christmas Backpacks for Alabama WMU.**