

MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH MESSENGER



Volume 49 August, 2020 No 8

MZBC KIDS VIRTUAL BIBLE STORIES

AVAILABLE ON CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE
AND WEBSITE
EVERY SUNDAY @ 6 PM

What happened to truth? The idea of truth, especially absolute truth is a hotly debated topic. Today, absolute truth, something that is true at all times and in all places, seems to be treated more like a myth than a reality. Our society tells us that it's narrow-minded, naive, ignorant, hateful, or whatever else negative descriptor you want to add, to believe that there is such a thing as absolute truth.

Yet scripture tells us the opposite! Jesus tells us He is the truth (John 14:6). The Holy Spirit is described as the Spirit of truth, who will in turn guide us into truth (John 16:13). And don't forget the great promise of John 8:32 which tells us that we can "know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

So where does that leave us? Should Christians really be concerned with trying to defend absolute truth? Is it worth putting a big bulls-eye on ourselves to declare that there is absolute truth and his name is Jesus Christ?

In a Focus on Family online article entitled "Absolute Truth in a Relativistic World" it helps illuminate the dire consequences of getting away from absolute truth. It reads:

If we have ultimate truth, it gives us both a way to explain the world around us and a basis for making decisions. Without it, we're alone. We're just 6 billion organisms running around, bumping into each other with nothing unifying to work for or believe in. It's every man for himself. And we're without a purpose; if there's no true story of where we came from and why we're here, then there's nothing that really gives our lives meaning.

The TRUTH of the matter is that absolute truth (God himself) gives life meaning, purpose, morality, and so much more! And the TRUTH is that now is time the church needs to stand up for the absolute truth (even under the threat of harassment, oppression or persecution).

Remember truth will set you free! But let's not forget to add context to that verse by looking at the verse that precedes it – 31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "***If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.*** 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

To be set free, we must obey him. We must be his disciples. Then we can know the truth and that truth will set us free. So I invite you to join us in person or online as we seek to know

and live out absolute truth. We will seek to cling to his teaching that there is only One God, One Way to Heaven, One Church and One Mission. We will experience life as his disciples as we rally around these absolute truths.

Join us for this series beginning on Sunday, August 16th as we are concluding our look at some of the characteristics of God found in the letters of John.

And remember, God is good all the time. And all the time God is good. That's the truth!

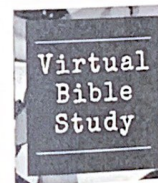
Pastor Stephen



MZBC Kids will be going to Redwood Park Pool on Wednesday, August 5th from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. The buses WILL NOT be running, so please bring your child directly to the pool. A parent/guardian must be present at all times with children that are not confident swimmers. Please bring a swim suit, towel, and a change of clothes if needed. Please do not bring any snacks. All snacks will be provided.

We continue to have Sunday morning services at 8:30 and 10:30am in the sanctuary. You are encouraged to wear masks and they will be available to you if you need one. Hand sanitizer is available for your convenience. Please remember to practice social distancing.

Our MZBC Kids video lessons have now gone live! Every Sunday at 6:00 PM our MZBC Kids lesson will be posted on the church website and on the church Facebook page. There is a activity sheet that goes along with each lesson, so be sure to print it off and use it to follow along with the lesson.



South Caldwell Christian Ministries is collecting filled book bags to be given to school age children. If you would like to fill a bag please do so and bring it to the church by August 9th. If you need a list of supplies contact the church office.

I still cannot believe that we will be going into our fifth month since all of our lives have been radically changed. Church events that have been occurring for years are cancelled. Youth and children's camp are cancelled. Many other Summer events are cancelled. As a church, we have had to drastically change how we view and do ministry. However, we still serve a God that is greater than the bad in the world right now. He is still ever present, and I have proof of this. I know of four reasons why I know that God is still with us. Those four reasons are all children in our church that have accepted Jesus as their savior in the past four months.

It's so easy to start thinking about all the negative things going on in our world. I am encouraged when I think about those four kids and their decision to not give in to fear, but to put their trust in the one who drives out fear. Join me in praying for these kids as they start one of the greatest journeys they will ever be apart of. I'm so thankful for parents, volunteers, and many others that have been apart of this time of uncertainty. I cannot show enough gratitude for all of you. Thank you for all you do. - Chris



2020 XYZ Beach Trip

September 21-25, 2020

Pick up and fill out SA Insurance Info Form

Final Payment Due by August 11th

MZBC Youth Bible studies will now be in a video format. You will be able to find these on the church Facebook page or on the church website. They will be posted on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM. For any questions, please contact Chris.

Please see the insert from the Baptist Children's Homes of NC. Starting Sunday, August 2nd we will use these prayer guides to pray for individual children at the Baptist Children's Homes.



Contributions have been given to the Food Pantry:

In Memory of Frankie Ross, James Keen & Gene Grogan by: Anne Smith

In Honor of Randy & Susie McCall by: Joyce Long

Contributions have been given to Together We Build:

In Memory of James Keen by: Lou McRary and Dennis & Joyce Pressley.

In Memory of Gerry Keller by: Dennis & Joyce Pressley

In Memory of Roger Cox by: Bill & Pat Kincaid

In Memory of Frankie Ross by: Faithful Hearts Sunday School Class and Bill & Pat Kincaid

In Memory of Carolyn Hampton (Deane Sigmon's Sister) by: Love One Another Sunday School Class

A contribution has been given to the Music Ministry in Honor of Randy & Susie McCall by: Bill & Pat Kincaid

Associate Pastor Search Committee

Please prayerfully consider nominations for the Associate Pastor Search Committee.

Nominations will be on August 9th.

Also be in prayer for our Interim Search Committee.

The following people are serving on this committee:

Jennifer Moore

Linda Smith

Angie Turnmire

Several jigsaw puzzles have been placed in the Church Library for you to take and enjoy. After you put it together please return to the library for others to enjoy!

