

SPANISH MINISTRY



Queridos Hermanos en Cristo: Continuamos encerrados, cuidando nuestra salud. A lo menos, eso espero de cada uno de Uds. Sé que hay algunos que andan sueltos sin importarles las normas puestas por el gobierno local para mantenernos sin ser atacados por el COVID-19. Lo sé porque los he visto en Walmart, pero no se han acercado a la iglesia a adorar a Nuestro Señor como debieran. ¡Lo material es importante pero lo espiritual es más que eso!!

Para los que no han regresado: Ya terminamos el edificio de educación cristiana y lo estamos usando. Dios nos ha bendecido grandemente y ahora nos toca reciprocarnos con nuestro servicio a Él. Después de unos días festivos muy agradables, hemos instituido el horario normal con el motivo de continuar sirviendo al Reino de Dios y estrecharlo.

Consideren esto: Dios es cuidadoso, amoroso, un padre compasivo. Él te ama más de lo que jamás llegarás a comprender. Dios te ama más de lo que puedas entender. Dios es amor, y Él te hizo para amarle. Él demuestra Su amor por ti en cada cosa que haces, y Su compasión es Su cualidad más sobresaliente. Dios es un Padre que se preocupa. La Biblia dice: **"Tan compasivo es el Señor con los que le temen como lo es un padre con sus hijos"** (Salmos 103:13 NVI). Él se preocupa compasivamente por todo en tu vida.

La mayoría de los discípulos eran pescadores profesionales. Un día cuando ellos estaban pescando, Jesús, que estaba cansado, se recostó en uno de los bordes del bote y se durmió. Cuando la tormenta llegó, esto no debió haber molestado a los discípulos. Como pescadores, ellos estaban acostumbrados a las tormentas. Pero ésta debió haber sido una muy grande, porque realmente se asustaron. El bote se balanceaba y se agitaba, y el agua se estaba entrando. Ellos estaban nerviosos y despertaron a Jesús, para hacerle una de las preguntas más importantes de la vida: "Señor, ¿no te importa?"

Tú y yo le hemos hecho esta misma pregunta a Dios muchas veces y de muchas formas: Dios, ves el reporte del médico, ¿no te importa? Ves el desastre en el que está mi matrimonio, ¿no te importa? Ves el poco dinero que tenemos en nuestra cuenta bancaria y todas las facturas por pagar que tenemos, ¿no te importa? Ves como mis hijos están teniendo dificultades en el colegio, ¿no te importa? Tú conoces este miedo que se aferra a mi mente y del cual no puedo deshacerme, ¿no te importa?

La respuesta es que sí, a Dios le importa mucho. De hecho, a Él le importa más que a ti. Él quiere ayudarte más de lo que tú quieres Su ayuda. Él sabe que es lo que más te ayudará, mucho mejor que tú. Él está consciente y le importa. **"Pongan todas sus preocupaciones y ansiedades en las manos de Dios, porque él cuida de ustedes"** (1ª Pedro 5:7 NTV). Si tú supieras y pudieras sentir cuanto tu Padre Celestial se preocupa compasiva y constantemente por ti, lo amarías mucho más. Si sientes que Dios está a miles de kilómetros de distancia, es porque no entiendes la clase de Padre amoroso que tienes. Ese entendimiento es el primer paso para tu paz interior.

Hermanos, esta prueba (COVID-19) continua pero no debemos dejar que Satanás nos dañe la FE. Manténgase fiel a la Palabra de Dios y a las disciplinas cristianas. Espero verlos en los servicios en la Iglesia.

En Su Servicio, *Norman Torres, Pastor*

Dear family in Christ: We continue in lockdown in order to take care of our health. At least I hope that you are doing so. There are some on the loose with no care for the regulations set by the local government to protect us from COVID-19. I have seen some of you in Walmart, but you have not come to church to worship our Lord as you should. Material things are important, but spiritual matters are more so!

For those who have not yet returned, we have finished the Christian education building and are using it. God has blessed us greatly, and now it is our turn to reciprocate with our service to Him. After some very pleasant holidays, we have instituted the normal schedule with the motive of continuing to serve the Kingdom of God and to strengthen it.

Consider this: God is a caring, loving, compassionate Father. He loves you more than you will ever understand. God is love, and He made you to love Him. He shows His love for you in everything He does and His compassion is His most outstanding quality. God is a caring Father. The Bible says: **"The Lord is as compassionate to those who fear him as a father is to his children"** (Psalm 103: 13 NIV). He compassionately cares about everything in your life.

Most of His disciples were professional fishermen. One day when they were fishing, Jesus, being very tired, rested on the side of the boat and fell asleep. When the storm came, this should not have bothered the disciples. As fishermen, they were used to storms. But this one must have been unusually big because they got really scared. The boat rocked and rocked, and the water was coming in. They were nervous and woke Jesus up to ask one of the most important questions in life, "Lord, don't you care?"

You and I have asked God this question many times and in many ways: "God, You see the doctor's report; don't You care? You see the mess my marriage is in; don't You care? You see how little money we have in our bank account and all the bills we have to pay; don't You care? You see how my children are having difficulties at school; don't You care? You know this fear that clings to my mind, and I can't get rid of it; don't You care?"

The answer is yes! God cares! In fact, He cares more than you do. He wants to help you more than you want His help. He knows what will help you the most, much better than you. He is aware and cares. **"Put all your worries and anxieties in God's hands, for he cares for you"** (1 Peter 5: 7 NLT). If you knew and could feel how compassionately and constantly your Heavenly Father cares for you, you would love Him so much more. If you feel that God is thousands of miles away, it is because you do not understand the kind of loving Father you have. This understanding is the first step to having inner peace.

Remember that the only thing that you can give God, that He does not already have, is your love for Him. Brothers and sisters, this trial (COVID-19) continues, but we must not let Satan damage our FAITH. Stay true to God's Word and the disciplines of the Christian life. I hope to see you in the next church service.

In His service, *Norman Torres, Pastor*

First Baptist Church of Horizon City



Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11



THE ENCOURAGER

No. 27

January 2021

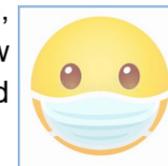
"We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ."
Colossians 1:26

The Christmas decorations are probably packed for another year. We made it to the end of 2020! 2021 begins with hope but little change in the uncertainty that surrounds us. It is important to remember that God has made Himself known at every point in history, despite the challenges and dangers that His followers faced. Our assignment is not to always seek the easy way but to be faithful regardless of circumstances. In order to be the "light of the world" in dark times, Christ followers must be growing to full maturity in Him and have a deep and intimate walk with Him. This does not happen by accident.

We are given the charge from Paul that we must 1) proclaim Him, admonish each other and give attention to teaching. This requires wisdom. We must be focused and intentional in our task to influence those we know to be complete in Christ. This teaching should begin with our children, as well as our youth and adults.

What does this mean for our church family? It means that we need to get the church back together as much as we can in a safe way. If you are sick, please stay home. If you are in an at-

risk group, If you know communicable stay home.



please stay home. you have been exposed to Covid-19 or some other disease, please

We will continue to offer studies/services online. For others who can: take appropriate precautions—hand sanitation, wearing a mask, etc. We are working hard to make adjustments so our worship and study will be as safe as possible, but there is no way to fool-proof life! If you need a mask, we will provide one for you.

I am excited to share that we will be resuming Sunday School and other Bible studies in the next couple of weeks. Our goal is to do what we can to help each other grow so we are complete in Christ. Pray for us. We want to get this right. Find a place to serve. Read your Bible every day and spend time with the LORD.

Jesus is LORD,
Pastor Wes



Bible Study Groups

<u>Day/time</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday		
8:00 a.m.	English Worship	Auditorium
9:00 a.m.	Young Adults (ages 20-32) Mark Zdawczyk	Room 102
9:00 a.m.	Marriage and Family, Joseph Kyle "Dimensions of Love: Deep Dive into Biblical Love"	Room 141
9:00 a.m.	6-12th grade, Dallas Kyle	Room 108
9:00 a.m.	3-5th grade, Mike and Carmen McConnell	Room 104
9:00 a.m.	K—2nd grade, Regina Foster-Hilliard	Room 103
9:00 a.m.	Nursery, Yolanda Lopez	Room 107
10:00 a.m.	English Worship (over flow in Room 141)	Auditorium
1:00 p.m.	Spanish Adult Study, Norman Torres	Room 102
1:00 p.m.	Spanish Adult Women Study, Patty Posadas	Room 141
1:00 p.m.	Spanish Youth, Mary Navarrete	Room 108
1:00 p.m.	Spanish Children, Steve Lopez	Room 104
2:00 p.m.	Spanish Worship	Auditorium
6:00 p.m.	Youth (grades 6-12), Dallas Kyle	Room 108
Monday		
6:30 p.m.	Spanish Women, Martha Avila	Room 141
Tuesday		
6:30 p.m.	English Women Bible Study, Paula Combs	Room 141
6:30 p.m.	English Men Bible Study, Jim Combs	Room 102
Wednesday		
9:30 a.m.	English Bible Study, Pastor Wes	Room 141
6:30 p.m.	English Adult Bible Study, Pastor Wes	Room 141
6:30 p.m.	Youth group (Grade 6-12), Dallas Kyle	Room 108
6:30 p.m.	Kingdom Kids (toddlers -5th grade), Dallas Kyle	Auditorium
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Bible Study, Norman Torres	Room 102
8:00 p.m.	Spanish music practice	Auditorium
Thursday		
6:30 p.m.	CEED—New Testament Survey, Pastor Wes (Center for Evangelism, Education and Discipleship)	Room 141

Just a thought . . .

Follow your heart?



. . . they left everything
and followed Him Luke 5:11b



Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14 :27

YOUTH Children

We made it to 2021, yay! As we start this new year, I am so excited. The youth will be starting this new year by diving into a video study called "Different" by Jonathan Evans. This is a four-week study talking about how to stand for Christ in every area of life. After this study, we will go into "The Case for Christ" and let the youth be the jurors who put Christ on trial. The kids will decide; Was Jesus really the Messiah? We will also be incorporating community service activities and some movie nights. I want to assure you that our top priority is keeping your kids safe, so we will be asking each one to wear a mask and stay socially distanced.

Youth meeting times:

**Sunday, 9 AM and 6 PM
Room 108**

**Wednesday, 6:30 PM
Room 108**

Please bring your youth to any of these meetings. We are going to be working on building relationships and community within the group and with parents. My wife, Angela, and I are excited for this year for what God has in store for us and the youth group. Please continue to pray for us and the youth, as 2021 will bring new challenges for all.

Pastor for Children and Youth, Dallas Kyle



This year is going to be an exciting year for the children's ministry, as we will kick off new programs for all ages. We will be taking kids on an adventure through the Bible and teaching them how the Bible can be applied to their lives and in their families' lives. We will be asking all volunteers and children to have a mask on and stay socially distanced. Safety is our priority. We will incorporate games, music, crafts, Bible lessons and snacks as part of our children's ministry.

Children's meeting times:

Sundays 9 AM

Nursery/toddlers, Room 107

Age 4-2nd grade, Room 103

3rd – 5th grade, Room 104

Sundays 10 AM

Nursery/toddler, Room 107

**Children's Church (Age 4-2nd),
Room 103**

Wednesdays 6:30 PM

Kingdom Kids

(Toddler - 5th in the auditorium)

I am so excited about 2021. Please join me as we pray for all the parents, kids, and volunteers as we begin to meet again. Please pray that lives will be touched and everyone will remain healthy.



TITHE.LY

Get the app and search for

First Baptist Church of Horizon City.

Choose from any of our designated funds to give to this ministry.



Find us on
Facebook

Video of our weekly sermons are provided each week



First Baptist Church Horizon City

rightnow MEDIA

Download the RightNow Media app for your smart phone, tablet, Apple TV, Roku, or Amazon Fire TV.

Rightnow MEDIA has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever you want—on your phone, tablet, computer, or on your TV at home. You will have **FREE** access to thousands of video resources to help you with parenting, marriage, discipleship and more. It includes content for all ages and stages of life, and all of your family members are invited to set up their own accounts as well. <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/account/Invite/FBCHC> and fill out your profile or text "RIGHTNOW FBCHORIZON" to 41411.