

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

March 10, 2022

Volume 3, Issue 3

Pastor's Word

The word for March is "abide."

Abide means "to remain stable or fixed in a state" (Webster). For the follower of Jesus "abide" is to live, to continue, or to remain in Christ. It pictures an intimate, close relationship with Jesus.

Paul said of this relationship awareness ***"For to me to live is Christ..."***

In Galatians 2:20 he writes ***"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."*** (NIV)

Abiding in Christ is living in this spiritual relationship reality: ***"Christ lives in me..."***

John Piper explains abiding in Christ as: "Hour-by-hour abiding in Jesus means hour-by-hour trusting him to meet all your needs and be all our treasure."

J. C. Ryle says "To abide in Christ means to keep up a habit of constant close communion with Him—to be always leaning on Him, resting on Him, pouring out our hearts to Him, and using Him as our Fountain of life and strength, as our chief Companion and best Friend."

Abiding in Christ for the follower of Jesus is the lifelong lifestyle of walking with and in Him. ***"The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."***

Charles Stanley on June 23, 1964 wrote this journal entry "...For seven years I have searched for the truth, the secret of the victorious life. Now I have found it – abiding in Christ. The vine is Christ; I am the branch. The Holy Spirit is the sap that runs from the vine into the branch. The branch lives, grows, bears fruit not by struggles and effort but by simply abiding."

Abiding in Christ is the secret to living the victorious life.

Abiding in Christ allows the Holy Spirit to work in our life. To produce the fruit a follower of Jesus is to produce. The Holy Spirit gives us the spiritual ability to accomplish all the Lord wants us to accomplish in His kingdom work.

Let's make it our goal to focus on abiding in Christ!

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

John 15:5 NIV

Pastor Jerry

First Southern Baptist Church

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Office Hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

There is a **'prayer' opportunity** taking place on Sunday mornings following the worship service

AND

You are Invited

to join us!

Following the morning service, we gather briefly at the front for a season of prayer. We are praying for our church, and for God to reveal His vision for our church this year. We would love to have you join us.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Dear Pastor Jerry & Janice
Also Church Family

I feel so blessed to have all of you in my life and am strengthened by your many prayers and support. God is so good all the time.

United we can be a testimony to others of God's love.



Thank you,
Regina

Follow us on the church's Facebook page at **First Southern Baptist Church**:

- "Worship and Word" broadcast at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays by Pastor Jerry; upon viewing you are encouraged to **Share** and **Like** so that it will be available to your friends on FB



- Also, "Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Jerry" broadcast on FB at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays

March Verse of the Month

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Galatians 2:20 NIV

A Penned Note from the Pastor's Wife



It says in Matthew 7:24-25 TLB:

²⁴ "All who listen to my instructions and follow them are wise, like a man who builds his house on solid rock. ²⁵ Though the rain comes in torrents, and the floods rise and the storm winds beat against his house, it won't collapse, for it is built on (solid) rock."

I've heard a song recently that's new to me (2018) entitled "My Feet Are On The Rock" by I Am They (see the link for the youtube video).

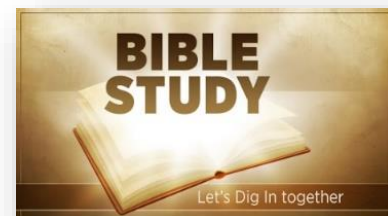
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lYwx3RZr1bE>

I share this with you because we are experiencing troubling times in our world, our nation, our state, our county, our city, and our church family. But one set in the lyrics says this:

*When I feel my hope about to break
I will cling to Your unchanging grace
Let the waters come and the earth give way
I'll be dancing in the rain!
My feet are on the rock*

That Rock is Jesus Christ, and 'all other ground is sinking sand.' Keep your feet on the Rock!

Janice



Opportunities available at FSBC to study God's Word together:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. both in-person (Book of Romans) and on FB

Fridays at 11:00 a.m. - Women's Bible study

JOIN US

For more information call the church office at 784-1641.

North American Mission Board

Prayer Requests – March 2022

Mark and Shannon Finnigan

Church Planter

Life Point Church

Oceanside, CA

Mark@lifepoint.city



Pray God will provide a space Life Point Church can call its own that will serve as a hub for our ministry in the community.

Jonah and Katherine (Kathy) Easley

Church Planter

Awakening Church

Bellevue, WA

pastor@awakeningseattle.com



Pray God would grant spiritual and emotional health to our family. Having three special needs children, we face challenges daily and need God's strength to persevere. Pray we would be faithful in our calling and fully trust God in planting a church in a difficult culture.

Noah and Tarin Madden

Church Planter

Life Community Church Weymouth

Quincy, MA

noah@lifecommunitynow.org



Pray God would grant us favor as we build relationships within our community, which is familiar with religion but void of a relationship with God. Pray God would soften the hearts of those who witness our gospel proclamation and demonstration.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions

This offering accounts for 50% of NAMB's budget with 100% of offering gifts going directly to the field to support missionaries and their ministries. Pray people would donate generously to the offering as they recognize that we can do more together as a unified force to impact North America for the gospel than we can alone.

anniearmstrong.com

