

The Messenger

Weekly Publication of First Baptist Church, Clanton, Alabama (205) 755-3840
"Leading others to know Jesus Christ"

Rev. Matthew DeBord, Pastor

March 1, 2018

Treasuring His Word...

From the Pastor's Heart:

"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Ephesians 5:15-17).

How often do you imagine while we are casting up our quick "me-focused" prayers does God say, "What about Me?" Whereas it is amazing that this Sovereign God would want to have anything to do with us, and actually have an on-going personal relationship, it is more amazing when you calculate it, that we don't spend any more time with Him than we do. You would think given the opportunity to spend time with our favorite person, movie star, sports hero, or performance idol, that we would relish the chance. How much more should we be flocking to get next to the one and only Creator God of the Universe!

Maybe the problem lies in the investment it takes to really get to know Him. We've have mentioned a couple of times lately the fact that it takes time, energy, and space. We understand the time part, because we have so filled our schedules, there's not much of it left. Which means that if we are going to spend open-ended time with God, we will absolutely have to say "no" to some things and remove them from the schedule altogether. That right there may keep a lot of people from getting to know God. Then, the mental energy it takes to focus and meditate upon God's Word, that effort to pay attention with intense listening, keeps others from ever getting very close. We are so shaped in this society to have all our gadgets and apps do our thinking for us, our minds are bent upon attention deficit disorders.

If we are able to manage both the hurdles of time and energy, then comes the space issue. Once we have invested the time and focused the energy on digesting God's Word as the Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts, we have to make room in our lives for the application of that truth. Often that requires us moving some more things out of our lives to make space for the things of God.

As the above passage states to be careful how we walk, we are going to have to know what God's will is. But how can we know what that will is if we are not spending time with Him, listening to Him? It is no wonder that Jesus challenged us to "count the cost" when considering our commitment to Him!



Deacons of the Week:

Bobby Boozer
Gene Foshee

Church Security:

Jim Greene
Robert Arnold

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 4, 2018

8:15 a.m. - Orchestra Practice
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship
Youth Served Meal Immediately after A.M. Service
6:00 p.m. - Evening service
7:00 p.m. - Youth Snack

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

4:30 p.m. - Handbells
5:00 p.m. - Family Supper
5:30 p.m. - AWANA
5:45 p.m. - Prayer Meeting
6:30 p.m. - Choir Practice
6:30 p.m. - E3 Student Ministries

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

6:30 p.m. - Stitch 'N Pray

Peace by Piece will meet every
1st and 3rd Friday @ 9:00 a.m.
in the Campbell Bldg.

