

The Messenger

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

Rev. Matthew DeBord, Pastor

October 12, 2017

Treasuring His Word...

From the Pastor's Heart:

"Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to Thee in a time when Thou mayest be found; surely in a flood of great waters they shall not reach him" (Psalm 32:6). An obvious implication of this passage is that there will come a time when we will not be able to find or reach God. An amazing reminder in this text is that because of the grace of God, we are presently able to find and reach Him. The Scripture says, "If you seek Him, He will let you find Him" (2 Chronicles 15:2). Also, "we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh" (Hebrews 10:19-20). Often, especially those of us who have been in church many years, have so taken for granted this incredible promise and privilege, that we have neglected Him other than relegating our approach to times of crisis. But what if we wait until it's too late? What if "in a flood of great waters" the judgment of God comes, and we are unable to connect with Him? I have been concerned for many years that our lives are much like the weather has been lately. No one is surprised that our nation, especially anyone in the southern states, has been incredibly distracted by hurricanes, floods, and disasters over the past several weeks. The lives of many have been turned upside down such that their constant attention has been getting life put back together. Often, even when the weather is perfectly to our liking, we have so invited a whirlwind of life's activities into our own schedules, we experience such turbulence that we have left ourselves with no time to pray to God while He may be found. And, again, this "flood" of activity is self-inflicted. It is interesting that the Holy Spirit guided David to include in the above passage that this call was to "everyone who is godly." Is it possible that they are the only ones who will even recognize when they are about to be swept away in a flood of worldliness, will heed the warning, and will run to the Lord in prayer, shutting everything else out? If you find yourself in a flood of overwhelming circumstances, physical or spiritual, pray that God will deliver you that you might commit your life to seeking His face. If things seem to be running fairly smoothly for you right now, then by all means, pray to God in a time when He may be found. "Surely in a flood of great waters" it may be too late! Even though we are careful not to become "doom's day prophets" every time a disaster comes, one can't help but wonder, "Is God trying to tell us something?" He has been giving warnings since early on in the Old Testament. How gracious He is to provide reminders that "we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:10)! Be ready!



Student Ministries
Exalting Jesus · Equipping believers · Engaging the world



OPEN HOUSE
& Fellowship Dinner 

Please plan to join us for the Youth Building Open House & Church wide Fellowship Meal. See youth building renovations before or after meal, which starts at 6:00 p.m.

Deacons of the Week:

Jim Greene
Pat Webster

Church Security:

Gerald Carter
Jack Popwell

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, October 15th

8:15 a.m. - Orchestra Practice
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. - Church Wide Fellowship - Youth Center Open House (Before and After Meal)
7:00 p.m. - **No** Youth SNAC

Monday, October 16th

5:30 p.m. - Exercise Class

Tuesday, October 17th

5:30 p.m. - Exercise Class
6:30 p.m. - Stitch 'N Pray

Wednesday, October 18th

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