

The Messenger

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

Rev. Matthew DeBord, Pastor

October 26, 2017

Treasuring His Word...

From the Pastor's Heart:

"I waited patiently for the LORD; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay; and He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm. And He put a new song in my mouth" (Psalm 40:1-3a).

We all love to hear someone tell how God has lifted them up and given them a new lease on life. How thrilling it is to hear about the working of God in His marvelous ways to bring something wonderful that changes life. In the context of this Psalm we find David's need to repent, recognizing the impact of sin that had brought the hopelessness of a dark pit filled with miry clay. Turning to trust in the Lord brings great blessings like a firm footing in life, and a new song of joy. The Bible encourages us to seek the Lord who gives healing for the heart, help for your life, and hope for the future.

1. HEALING for the heart: All throughout Scripture, the heart of man is seen to be sick with sin. Sin cuts us down, hinders our ability to think straight, destroys our peace, and ruins relationships. Worst of all, it separates us from God and sets us in Hell's direction. Jesus provided healing for us when He died on Calvary's cross to pay for our sins. Only the blood of Jesus can heal the dreaded disease of sin. He alone can make you whole again. Place your faith in Him, and find healing for your heart.

2. HELP for your life: No one thinks that once a baby is born, that's all that is necessary for his/her life. That child needs help and nourishment and love. It's wonderful to be born again, to be saved from the result of our sin, and to know that heaven is ours. But the battle is not over. There is a great deal of growing up to do. What would we do if we did not have the Holy Spirit of Christ to help us grow in life? What would you do in your hour of sorrow if you couldn't hear Him say, "Let not your heart be troubled"? What would you do in a time of need if you couldn't hear the Word say, "My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory"? When friends forsake you and you feel all alone, what would you do if you could not hear the Lord say, "I will never leave you or forsake you"? I am so glad I do not have to face this life without Christ. There is no other person like Him!

3. HOPE for the future: A car cannot run without fuel. Flowers cannot grow without sunshine and rain. And man cannot live without hope. If a man looks toward tomorrow and sees no hope, he is doomed. Where can a man find hope? In his money? No! It's too unstable and easy to lose. In his friends? No! They are weak and may forsake him. In his own goodness? No! We all sin and fail. The only hope that does not fail is found in Jesus Christ. Take the hand that formed and fashioned the earth and the heavens, the hand that created you. Take the hand that opened in sacrificial love on the cross and defeated sin, death, and Satan, and has the power to lift you out of the mire of sin and the pain of circumstances, and plant your feet on the Solid Rock. Hope for the future also includes an ultimate hope of a home in heaven where we will experience joy and peace for eternity in the presence of our Lord. Put your trust in Jesus and find healing for your heart, help for your life, and hope for the future.



Please join us for a church-wide fellowship meal on October 29th @ 6:00 p.m. in honor of Staff Appreciation.

The church will provide the entree and we ask that the members provide the side dishes and dessert.

We look forward to seeing everyone!

Deacons of the Week:

Gene Sorrell
Gordon Smelley

Church Security:

Bobby Boozer
Tom Powers

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, October 29th

8:15 a.m. - Orchestra Practice
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. - **Staff Appreciation Dinner**
No Evening Worship
7:00 p.m. - No Youth SNAC

Monday, October 30th

5:30 p.m. - Exercise Class

Tuesday, October 31st

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

Wednesday, November 1st

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