

# Foundations News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FOUNDATIONS BIBLE CHURCH | DECEMBER 2022

## CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Saturday December 24th at 5:00pm



## Children's Christmas program



Sunday December 25th at 10:15am

**Foundations Bible Church**  
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507-893-4214

Leave a message.

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**Foundations Bible  
Church Website**

[www.foundationsbiblechurch.org](http://www.foundationsbiblechurch.org)

*Preparing people for  
Wholeness in Jesus through  
The Word of God.*

*Readying the remnant  
For the rapture.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 3rd- Jason Gray Concert 6pm USC School
- Dec 4th- Potluck
- Dec 6th- CED Meeting 7pm
- Dec 13th- Quilting Group 10am
- Dec 13th- Stewardship Team Meeting 7pm
- Dec 15th- Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- Dec 17th- Men's Breakfast @ Huntley Café 8:30am
- Dec 17th- FBC Women's meeting @ church 8:30am
- Dec 20th- Spiritual Ministry Team Meeting 7pm
- Dec 24th- Candlelight Service 5pm
- Dec 25th- Christmas Program 10:15am
- Dec 27th- Quilting Group 10am
- Dec 27th- Deadline for January Newsletter

**Annual Meeting** will be coming up in January- please start working on your reports- they will need to be submitted to the office (LaNay) by January 3rd. You may email them to [baptist@bevcomm.net](mailto:baptist@bevcomm.net) or deliver them to the church office (if you plan to type your report, please email if you can!). Thank you!

## DEC ANNIVERSARIES

- 16—John & Elizabeth Schavey
- 20 -- Tom & Martha Butler
- 20 – Travis & Rebekah Cyphers
- 23 – Mitch and Laurie Jenkins

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 01 -- Ella Bahr
- 01 -- Maia Bahr
- 01 -- Grady Bahr
- 02 -- Klynn Morrison
- 04 -- Jack Lester
- 05 – Sierrah Poole
- 08 – Jason Gilreath
- 11 – Akeira Morrow
- 11 -- Derek Michaelis
- 14 -- Tyler Nepp
- 16 – Beckham Sebesta
- 23 – Douglas Jenkins
- 24 – Debbie Herrmann
- 26 – Addison Cyphers

## Repeat The Sounding Joy JASON GRAY

WITH SPECIAL GUEST JOSHUA EDWARDS

USC AUDITORIUM 600 11TH ST SW WELLS, MN



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 6:00PM

EXPERIENCE THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS

BUY TICKETS



PRESENTED BY



FIVE SISTERS PROJECT

DONATE

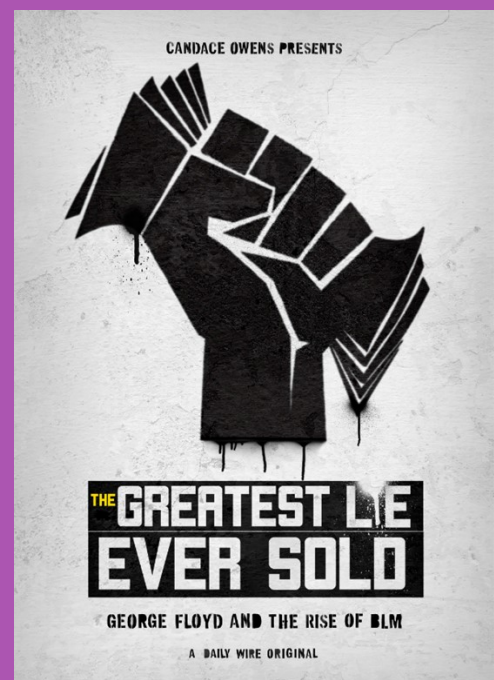


ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE WORK OF FIVE SISTERS PROJECT : HELP, HEALING, AND HOPE TO WOMEN AND FAMILIES IN CRISIS

## Movie Night

TONIGHT!

Sunday November 27th at 6:00pm



# Pastor's Pen

*Pastor D.L. Barnett*

I recently read a quote that really got my attention. It was as though something reached right down inside of me and refused to let go; and as it held on to me, it gripped me tighter and tighter. I do not remember who said it or the exact words; nevertheless, I will paraphrase it in the way the statement clasped my heart and mind:

“Those you choose to spend time with have the most impact on your life – they deposit characteristics, for good or ill, and shape the way you think, talk and live. The very trajectory of your life is directly related to the things they impart.”

God used this to remind of His Words found in the following passages:

**Luke 6:39-40** He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. 1

**Corinthians 15:33** Do not be deceived: Bad company ruins good morals.

**Proverbs 13:20** Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

**Proverbs 18:24** A man of many friends may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

**Galatians 6:7** Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

The reality of who you hang out with, who you listen to, who you admire, really does shape you. I have found that over time, friends come and go, some remain, and you pick up right where you left off and they last a lifetime – but often some relationships are seasonal. Hopefully and prayerfully, as you each become closer and closer to Jesus, who is the Life and the life long eternal life friend, all of us are being shaped and become more and more like Him... And also, that God is bringing good and godly friends into your life; while simultaneously helping you let go of those who are bad company that are eroding your morals.

Remember – as the seasons of relationships have a spring, summer, fall and winter – each one representing freshness, growth, harvest – and yes even death.... Those people you surround yourself with will bring one, some or all of these seasons.

Another gleaning of wisdom from the passages and the quote mentioned previously: are you the kind of person that is worth being around? What do you bring to the table of friendship? Are you shaping others in a godly fashion?

You see – each of us need to be sure to cherish and protect the safe, true and godly relationships we have – for they will be a help or hinderance to your walk with Christ.... And each of us need to limit the interactions – maybe even sever friendships that take you down the road of relational tyranny that endangers the good and godly ones that are needed.

Yet – keep in mind you also the company someone keeps, and as a follower of Christ – you are shaping those you spend time with. Your attitude, conversation, example, etc, etc, etc.... are either good company or bad, wise or foolish.

**Matthew 7:16-20** You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, you will recognize them by their fruits. *Continued on next page...*

# Pastor's Pen Continued-

*Pastor D.L. Barnett*

Some people are prickly, and others are precious... oh plus – rotten fruit does not fall far from a tree.... Some we call good friends might not be good for us; and some of us are those who people called good friends and aren't good for them.

And just like in the Garden of Eden – there are many two trees specifically mentioned – one brings life the other death. Friends and companions are like these trees. While one is good and allowed, the other should remain forbidden. If you're like me, I have had both good and bad friends – most at first seemed good, but like me maybe you have been duped by some, maybe you have duped some yourself – it is always easier to look at other friends first instead of the kind of friend you really are.... So – of you are having relational issues and friendship problems, it is always up to you who you spend time with, who you don't, and whether or not your worth spending time with and or not!

Choose wisely then, the company you keep and the company you are.

To close this newsletter article, I would like to give a couple more passages, that are a safe guard for you – to help you discern whether or not you know the kind of friend you are and how to pick and keep the friends that will bring life or death to this journey each of us are on until God calls us home:

**Proverbs 16:28** A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.

**Proverbs 17:9** Overlook an offense and bond a friendship; fasten on to a slight and--good-bye, friend!

**Proverbs 17:17** A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

**Proverbs 22:11** He who loves a pure heart and whose speech is gracious will have the king for his friend.

**Proverbs 26:20-21** For lack of wood the fire goes out, and where there is no whisperer, quarreling ceases. As charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife.

**Proverbs 27:6** Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

**Proverbs 27:9** Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of one's friend springs from his earnest counsel.

**Proverbs 27:17** You use steel to sharpen steel, and one friend sharpens another.

**John 15:13** Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

Praying and Endeavoring to be a Good and Godly Friend,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor D.L. Barnett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

# Spiritual Ministry Team Letter

*Makayla Nepp "Watch our lives closely"*

As I was driving home the other night, I turned the radio on and heard a pastor say we need to "watch our lives closely." The words won't be exact, but he asked a question along these lines, "Are our eyes, as Christians, opened? Are we paying attention and watching our lives closely or are we walking next to a cliff with our eyes closed?" He said as Christians, we have to be watching our lives closely. I only caught the end of his talk. He was talking about the book of 1 Timothy, but I really didn't catch anymore than this. It has been something I've been pondering since. From this, to Daren's sermons that are opening our eyes to worldly issues and demonic influences our lives which is teaching us discernment, to Ronda Coopers talk that hasn't left my mind about our witness and what that truly is like. Then, studying in Isaiah, ch 30, versus 15-17 really stood out. In context to this before I share the versus, Isaiah at the beginning of ch 30 is talking about Judah and they were to not go down to Egypt for Egypt's help and the "stubborn children did". They made an alliance, but not with the Spirit of the Lord. They didn't ask for the Lord's help, but instead they trusted in man's help and Pharaoh's protection. 30 vs 7 says Egypt's help is worthless and empty, therefore I have called her "Rahab who sits still." Then as the chapter moves onto vs 8, it is titled a rebellious people. Ch 30 vs 9 says "for they are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the instruction of the Lord; (vs 10) who say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us what is right; speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions, (vs 11) leave the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel." (vs 12) Therefore, thus says the Holy One of Israel, "Because you despise this word and trust in oppression and perverseness and rely on them, therefore this iniquity shall be to you like a breach in a high wall, bulging out and about to collapse, whose breaking is like that of a potter's vessel that is smashed so ruthlessly that among its fragments not a shard is found with which to take fire from the hearth or to dip up water out of the cistern."

Now onto vs 15 - 17 of Isaiah ch 30. "For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." But you were unwilling, and you said, "No! We will flee upon horses"; therefore you shall flee away; and, "We will ride upon swift steeds"; therefore your pursuers shall be swift. A thousand shall flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you shall flee, till you are left like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, like a signal on a hill.

My David Jeremiah study bible had a very good "for reflection" piece on vs these versus that I wanted to share with all of you. It is titled, "In quietness and strength." "Sometimes God lets us run the course of our own self-sufficiency until we have proven not only to ourselves, but to everybody else that we cannot do it on our own. Then He says to us in the soft voice of Isaiah, "In quietness and in trust shall be your strength." Another translation for quietness and confidence would be "Utter trust": Quietness + Trust = Strength. It is not the world's formula; it is God's.

Quietness means "cessation from activity." God wanted His people to regroup, to come to Him, to seek Him in the solitude of their hearts, and to receive His guidance. Our fatal tendency is to think we become strong by exerting ourselves and striving hard after things. But God says this is not the way to achieve strength. The inward fortitude needed to face life's difficulties comes only as we open our hearts to Christ in the quiet moment, ceasing from activity and letting Him supply guidance, confidence and direction as we reflect on His word."

If we continue reading on in ch. 30, Isaiah talks about the Lord being gracious and says how the Lord will have the final judgement on the enemies of the Lord's people. But, sometimes I wonder (talking to myself here as well) how often do we miss the Lord's warning and guidance. He told the people "Do not go down to

# Spiritual Ministry Team Letter Cont.

*Makayla Nepp "Watch our lives closely"*

Egypt!" but to trust and rely on Him....what did the people do, they went to Egypt for help. They rebelled. Then Isaiah shares that since they rebelled, the Lord was going to let their pursuers pursue. And following that, the Lord says "in returning" which also means repentance. He calls us to repent and in repentance and rest and quietness and in trust you shall be saved!!! Everything is listed so clearly. Yet, how often do we do the same thing as the people of Judah? We are threatened by something and we turn to other humans and peoples and things to save us, instead of turning to the Lord. I know we are humans, and we will screw up. Praise the Lord for his grace and mercy so we can repent and turn back to him. But do we always do that? Or do we stay stubborn and rebellious? Are we watching our lives closely and noticing when we screw up? Are we keeping our eyes opened to our witness as a Christian or are we just filling the pews on Sunday morning and calling it good enough? Are we being watchman on the wall as we're commanded and going out and making disciples as we're commanded? Or are we walking on the edge of the cliff with our eyes closed?

That's where rest, quietness, trust come in. If we are being still in the Lord, studying His word, ceasing from activity and letting Him supply guidance, We will find all these answers to all these questions. The answers to life are in His word and they couldn't be any more plain as day. 17 verses in Ch 30 of Isaiah give us so much wisdom right there. Plus you have Proverbs, Revelation, James, Jude, Job, Ezekiel etc. All 66 books of the bible are filled with His unending wisdom that He so simply and graciously given us. If we would always and in every situation, in everything look to Him wouldn't that make so many of our situations that we put ourselves into, that much simpler? No, I'm not saying the Christian walk is "easy or simple." It is difficult. There are spiritual battles to fight every day. Satan is constantly trying to lead us away from the path of the Lord's. Satan wants to win. And the more we profess God's truth, the more people we lead to the Lord and the more we put God into every situation, the harder Satan is going to fight. BUT, the more we open our hearts and minds to the Lord, the more we allow God in, the more we learn about God, the more wisdom of His we take in, won't that ultimately make our fights easier? Or least make our battles more "peaceful?" Won't it cause us to be less rebellious and stubborn? Won't it cause us to have more discernment so we don't make the mistakes like the people of Judah did? Yes and Yes and yes! over and over again. In this hustle and bustle lifestyle we're in these days, it is so easy to fill our days up and not give the Lord the time of day. I'm guilty of it more often than I care to admit. But, the days I do sit down and dive into God's word for more than a quick 5 minute daily devotion, those days are the days where I find the Lord working. Those are the days that I ALLOW God to work. Because very often, the Lord wants to work in our hearts and change us, but we're too stubborn to let that happen. Or we're too busy to let Him in.

So, as the rambling here comes to a close. I hope this encourages you to want to spend a little more quiet time each and every day with the Lord. I pray we can give him more than 5 minutes. There will always be something else to do, but we won't get any time back. And if we're "too busy" in this life that the Lord has so graciously allowed us to have, to spend time with Him, then can we truly expect Him to "have time for us." We tend to make life more difficult for ourselves than necessary and if we gave the Lord the time of day, how different could situations and our lives as a whole really be? So, let's make sure we are watching our lives, witness, discernment very closely and if you're going through a point in time where don't feel very close to the Lord, ask Him to put the fire for Him back in your heart and with asking him that, diving into His word and talking with Him in the quiet and stillness, I know that fire can be re lit.

In the Lords precious name.