



First Baptist Church

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share Yazoo City

JANUARY 2024 • VOLUME 9 • EDITION 1

My fellow laborers in Jesus Christ, Happy New Year! It is hard to believe it is already 2024! I pray this year we as God's people embrace every second for God's glory in every facet of our lives! I would like to begin this year by asking ...

Do you know of anyone who used to be involved in the local church but no longer is? Do you know of anyone who used to seek God but doesn't have much to do with God anymore? For too many of us the answers are "yes" and "yes." Why does that happen? There are a number of reasons these things happen. Those who gather statistics tell us that topping the list is a lack of discipleship in the local church. Let's define what discipleship is. It is so much more than being a part of another small group study.

In the days when Jesus walked the earth a disciple would sit at the feet of his master and learn from him - soaking in the knowledge and character and wisdom of the master seeking to become as he is. You and I are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

"Then Jesus said, 'Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me *teach* you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light (Matthew 11:28-30)."

As we sit at Jesus' feet, seek and obey Him, His indwelling Holy Spirit transforms us to be like Him. Being a disciple of Jesus is to be a way of life. With every breath a disciple seeks to know, love, obey Jesus Christ and lead others to do the same.

On December 17, 2023 we heard from five fellow laborers in the LORD – how God had moved in each of their hearts through a disciple making opportunity entitled, "Becoming a Disciple Maker." This twelve-week study focused on 3 things:

- Making sure the participant is sitting at the feet of Jesus and learning from Him
- Learning how to share the Gospel message with others
- Becoming equipped to help new believers learn to sit at the feet of Jesus, grow in Him through the reading and study of God's word, hiding the word of God in their hearts, teaching them how to pray, etc. – in order that they may lead someone else to do the same.

We often think of making disciples as leading people to trust in Jesus – which definitely is a part of it. Too often we direct a new believer to attend church, join a Sunday School class, read a devotional, and perhaps even be a part of a new believer or new member class. Those are worthy goals.

Stats tell us that many of these people find their way to the back door of the church never to be seen again. Why? They were never taught how to be a disciple and make disciples of Jesus Christ. Consider the following illustration.

Charlie leads one person a week to Jesus. Sam leads one person a day to Jesus! Charlie and Sam *do not teach* the new believers how to be disciples and make disciples. Floyd has a different approach. Floyd leads one person a year to Jesus AND then *invests his life* into the new believer so that he/she would be an authentic disciple and disciple maker of Jesus Christ.

	Charlie	Sam	Floyd
	Leads 1 person per week to Jesus	Leads 1 person per day to Jesus	Leads 1 person per year to Jesus <i>and trains</i> him/her to be a disciple and disciple maker who also leads another to Jesus
1 st year	52	365	2
2 nd year	104	730	4
11 th year	572	4,015	2,048
13 th year	676	4,745	8,192
15 th year	780	5,475	32,768
33 rd year	1,716	12,045	8,589,934,592

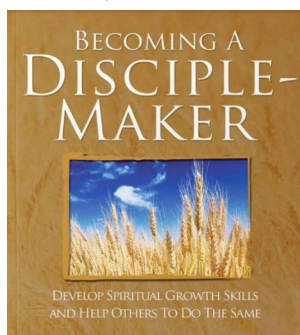
You can see the difference that making disciples has over the years. Charlie and Sam have led many to Jesus. After 33 years, according to real life stats, more than some of those 1,716 people Charlie led to Jesus and the 12,045 people that Sam led to Jesus are likely no longer in church or perhaps even seeking God at all. On the other hand, it is highly likely that the 8,589,934,592 people who have been taught to be true disciples of Jesus are still walking deeply with Jesus and are still leading others to do the same!

Another discipleship opportunity of "Becoming a Disciple Maker" will likely begin in latter January. Please consider being a part of what God is seeking to do in and through our lives as the people of FBC!

I am looking forward to another year of walking with Jesus Christ together with each one of you!

In His love and grace,

Byron



**Discipleship Class
beginning January
28th @ 3:30pm**

**"Go therefore and
Make Disciples of all nations..."
- Matthew 28:19**

Happy New Year!

I Pray '23 was a great year to you. I am so looking forward to '24 and what's in store. As we look to January there are a couple things I want to make you aware of... First being "Winter Reset" at Parkview January 12th and 13th. This will be a DNOW-like event. Registration is open and will close on the 8th of this month. Please contact me if you



would like to go. I'll need your name & shirt size (Cost is \$10). Secondly, we will be headed to Star City, Arkansas, for "Tied Up Conference" on January 27th. This is a one day youth conference

that we will drive up to and back on that Saturday. Let me know if you plan to attend! There will be breakout sessions interacting with relatable topics to your current place in life. We'll leave at 9am and will grab lunch before the event. We'll be returning late that evening (Cost is \$20).

Lastly, summer plans are super close to being finalized, but one thing we know for sure is that it is going to be epic!! Be on the lookout for that announcement this month!

Parent's we'll have an informational meeting at my house Sunday, January 7th @ 4:30pm! - Tiki

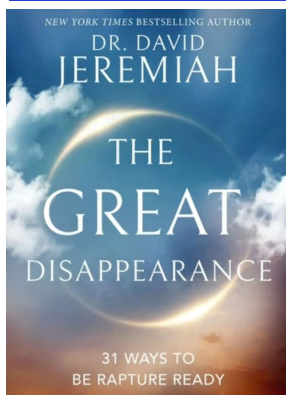
Youth Ministry
WINTER RESET
THEME : WALK THE TALK
SCRIPTURE : PROVERBS 6:16-19
SPEAKER : RODNEY JONES
LOCATION : PARKVIEW CHURCH OF GOD

12 | 8
JANUARY | PM

13 | 10
JANUARY | AM

CONTACT TAD DUGGAN
662-571-2442
T-SHIRTS - \$10
DUE BY JAN. 8

ACTIVE DEACON COUNCIL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH
3PM | ED BLDG RM208



Sunday Night
Bible Study
with Byron

beginning Sunday,
January 21st.

5pm in the Fellowship Hall

OUR CHURCH'S GOAL:
\$9,000

100% of your gifts to the
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®
enable gospel transformation
among the unreached.

GIVEN: \$14,815

imb.org/lottiemoon



December Budget Offering

Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17	Dec 24	Dec 31	Online Gifts
\$13,305	\$6,545	\$12,993	\$37,353	\$10,877	\$13,863

So thankful to the Lord for FBC's Worship Choir. This group of worship leaders gather every Wednesday and prepare to lead God's people in worship. These people recognize the scriptural importance and responsibility they share. The people in the choir loft that FBC attendees see each Sunday are not concerned with whether they are presenting a "special anthem" or leading in worship, for that is not why they are there.

Well now it's January and with a new year, why not make a fresh start, even a New Year's Resolution. You have thought about joining the choir, you have made one excuse after another...you have felt God's presence in worship and have longed to be a part of something special. Now is the time. Rehearsals begin Wednesday, Jan 10 at 6:50 pm. Please join us in this exciting and fulfilling ministry.



Gifts were received for the following designated funds:

- Lottie Moon in memory of Lida Downs
- Lottie Moon in memory of Eddie Purvis
- Lottie Moon in memory of Bill Stanford
- Youth Ministry in memory of Beth Ann's mom
- Capital Improvements in memory of Paul & Thelma Adams
- Backpack Ministry in memory Kenny Shurley



Our Wednesday night program will kick off Wednesday, January 10th and runs in 8 week increments before changing to a new adventure for the next 8 weeks. It's always a fun night that begins with high energy music, a Bible "GameShow" consisting of books of the Bible, trivia, "Does the Bible really say that?", and much more. Then on to the lesson to end the night. Each Wednesday night at 6 pm in the kids building. 6:00-6:50!



BACKPACKS OF HOPE



Thanks to those that helped pack backpacks for Christmas break!! Thank you for your continued donations also!

Current need: Ramen Noodles & Cookies

We are so grateful for those of you who donate food or give designated offerings regularly. We are constantly asked what is needed most. The easy answer is "everything". But to help those of you who ask, we will be posting 2 items each week in the Sunday bulletin that are needed most. This will help you help us.

Again, this is a powerful ministry that is making an impact for the Kingdom and we are so very thankful you have joined us in this effort! Join us weekly on Wednesdays at 4:30pm to pack these bags!

OUR SUNDAY NIGHT KIDS PROGRAM IS SUCH A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP BIBLE FOUNDATIONS IN CHILDREN, AGES 4K-6TH GRADE. EACH FALL SEMESTER, CHILDREN'S CHOIR IS PART OF THE CURRICULUM AS ILLUSTRATED THIS PAST DECEMBER WITH OUR CHRISTMAS MUSIC. OUR SPRING SEMESTER SHIFTS TO OUTREACH AND SERVICE PROJECTS. ALONG WITH BIBLE LESSONS, RECREATION, AND SNACKS, THE KIDS WILL BE LEARNING ABOUT REACHING OUT BEYOND OURSELVES AND DOING THINGS SUCH AS CARDS FOR LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES, GOODIE BASKETS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS, AND EVEN BOXES OF TREATS FOR OVERSEAS MILITARY MEMBERS. MULTIPLE SERVICE PROJECTS! ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD. EACH SUNDAY NIGHT AT 5 PM, KICKING BACK OFF ON JAN 7.



JOIN US

BBO
LUNCH &
BUSINESSMEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST
FOLLOWING WORSHIP
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

JOIN US FOR A

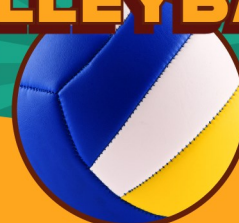
B A
SHOWER
B Y
in honor of
BETH SHIPP
SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH
2PM
319 JACKSON AVE
YAZOO CITY, MS 39194
registered on amazon

Wednesday Night Suppers

resume Wednesday, January 10th
5:15 pm | Fellowship Hall
Make your reservations weekly using
the bulletin tear-off
\$5 per plate

YAYM VOLLEYBALL

RESUMES
WED
JAN 10



6PM
IN THE
GYM

JANUARY 2023

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

LifeGroups—9:40am
Worship—10:50am
K4C & Adult Bible Study—5pm
Youth—5:30pm

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Men's Prayer Breakfast—6:30am
Supper—5:15pm
Youth, Elevate Kids, & Prayer Meeting—6pm
Choir Rehearsal—6:50

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3 NO PM ACTIVITIES	4	5	6
7 Deacon's Meeting—3pm Youth Parent Meeting—4:30pm K4C & Youth Resume!	8	9	10 Wednesday Night Activities Resume	11	12 Youth Winter	13 Reset @ Parkview
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 BBQ Lunch & Business Meeting Byron's Sunday Night Study Begins—5pm	22	23	24	25	26	27 Youth—Tied Up Conference Leave @9am
28 Beth Shipp Baby Shower @ 2pm Discipleship Study Begins—3:30pm	29	30	31	Deacon of the Week: 7—Phil Dixon, 14—Larry Davis, 21—David Eden, 28—Van Foster		

WATCH US LIVE ONLINE SUNDAYS AT 10:50!

Sunday morning services are available **LIVE** online. You can watch the service by going to www.fbcyazoo.org and clicking on the "Live Stream" on our home page. We are also Live on Facebook each week!



328 Grand Ave. Yazoo City, MS 39194

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED to PO Box 780 Yazoo City MS 39194

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

FRIDAY - CLOSED

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Yazoo City First Baptist Church

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YAZOO CITY MS

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