



temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

As you read this article, I am preparing to wrap up my fourth trip to the Holy Land. And how blessed my time in Israel and Jordan has been! To walk in places where Jesus walked is both inspirational and educational. As someone rightly said, "You come to the Holy Land reading the Bible in black and white, and you leave reading it in color." Visiting Palestine certainly opens up one's perspective and provides rich insight to the Scripture. However, the sites and places should point us to a greater reality . . . the reality of Jesus Christ.

I was especially challenged in this area by Jim Denison's reflection on his own trip to the Holy Land:

"Looking out over the Old City of Jerusalem as the sun set over glimmering limestone buildings, sitting in the olive-treed Garden of Gethsemane, standing before the ancient Western Wall, traveling on a ship across the sapphire-blue Sea of Galilee—how could I be in more holy places? Surely, if any places on earth could fill my soul, these would. And yet there was something left out, something more. Something to which we could only point but never become. The city of Jerusalem was just a city. The Garden of Gethsemane was just an olive grove. The Western Wall was just a wall. The Sea of Galilee was just a body of water."

In other words, our focus should not be upon "holy places"; it should be upon a Holy Person. Only through Him can our soul find its satisfaction!

As we move closer toward Easter, I hope we will especially recognize our opportunities to glorify this Person and to declare His greatness. Let's commit to gather together in our regular worship services. And let's invite people to join us for these powerful moments. Some people's spiritual sensitivity may be heightened during this Easter season, and that provides us an open door to invite them to worship with us. In addition to our regular services, we also have other times when we can draw aside. For example, I will lead an Easter Bible Study Luncheon April 3-5. It was an awesome time last year, and I believe it will be this year as well. I am just saying, don't miss the opportunity to see God work in your life and in others' lives this Easter!

Finally, remember to pray and give toward our missionary efforts. Our South Asia team will leave in about three weeks, so be praying for their preparation and empowerment. And of course, we need to continue to pray for our North American missions as we support them through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. We still have a way to go to meet our \$85,000 goal, but I am convinced our Lord has blessed us with the resources to achieve this goal!

My friends, our Lord is risen! Jesus is alive! Let's worship Him as the reigning King, and let's make His great Name known! Lord willing and the plane arrives, I will see you Sunday!

College Connection Casey Casady

WOW! God really showed off and showed out at Beach Reach this year. We served with over 400 other college students from around the country. In the first week we have the honor of reporting:

We picked up over 4000 van riders! We prayed with over 850 people! We had over 1500 gospel conversations!

We had over 850 pick ups. And God saw 11 people secure their eternity in HIS kingdom!

It was truly an amazing week. Special thanks to our van drivers: Scott Felder, Emma Shelton, Dr. John King, John Queen, Joey Fairley, Meredith Nichols, Leslie Brister, and Dr. Dustin Whitlock. Also, a very special thanks to our ministers of encouragement and pancakes: Rusty Mabry, Don Hogan, and Johnny Murad. God used each one of you in amazing ways to allow all of these students to GROW IN CHRIST, CONNECT IN COMMUNITY, and ENGAGE IN MISSION. Glory to God for His work and His people.



EASTER
AT TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, APRIL 9 | 9:00 A.M. | 10:30 A.M.
CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION WITH US.
Learn more at events.temple.life



**Boston Church Plant
PRAYER FOCUS**

More information can be found at
boston.temple.life

A thank you card has been received from...
Life Tree Life Choices of North Central LA; Bernadine Skains
(Located on the bulletin board in the Library window)

Policy for Announcements

All announcements to be considered for church-wide publications are due in the Church Office by noon on Thursday **prior** to the week of the next publication.



HOLY WEEK
BIBLE STUDY

APRIL 3-5

JOIN US HOLY WEEK FOR A BIBLE STUDY DURING A LIGHT LUNCH ON MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AS WE PREPARE FOR EASTER!
Learn more at events.temple.life



WinShape Camps
for Communities

July 10-14
At Temple Baptist Church

Come be a part of an incredible adventure as we combine sports, recreation, arts, Bible study and worship into one amazing week.

Find more info, at
winshape.temple.life



the family of **Bennie Loflin.**



Neighbors and Nations

Dr. John King

It has been a few weeks, but I am still amazed at the support and response we received for our Temple Missions Banquet on February 24. The event was a huge success as we rallied around Jacob and Amanda Ambrose whom we will send this summer to make disciples in Boston. The event raised over \$30,000 in financial support (100% of which will go to the Boston Church Plant), in addition to significant prayer support and personal encouragement for the Ambrose family.

The banquet would not have been possible without an army of volunteers. I cannot mention everyone because it really was a team effort (especially set up and tear down on the day of the event). Special thanks to Glenn Scriber who organized the countless details of the auction and so much more. Thanks to the dozens and dozens of donors who stepped up and gave INCREDIBLE items to make the silent and live auctions so much fun. Thanks also to the kitchen crew, headed up by Bill Cox and Don Hogan, and the decorating crew, headed up by Carole Carson, Edna Smith, and Lynn Rodrigues. I am sure I left some people out, so please accept my apologies. I am so thankful to be part of a church that has a vision and passion for missions!

Don't forget to make your contribution to the North American Mission Board's Annie Easter Armstrong Offering! Our goal is \$85,000 and we're currently at \$28,066.66. So let's give generously to see the gospel go forward in cities and towns across our continent!

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LORD'S SUPPER

REMEMBERING HIS SACRIFICE

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Label here

Phone: (318) 255-3745 • Fax: (318) 255-0134
Website: temple.life

Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, March 26

- 9 a.m. - Blended Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life;
- Contemporary Worship (*Gathering Space*); Sunday School for all ages
- 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Youth Chicken Dinner Pickup (FH)
- 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship | Parent Child Dedication (Sanctuary);
livestream at live.temple.life; Sunday School for all ages
- 4 p.m. - Bible Drill (JPMR)
- 5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (The Springs)

Tuesday, March 28

- 11:45 a.m. - Senior Adult Luncheon (FH)

Wednesday, March 29

- 5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8,
\$15 max/family; Menu: Natchitoches Meat Pies);
Women's Retreat Planning Meeting (Chapel)
- 5:45 p.m. - Junior High Worship (Youth Rm)
- 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting | Bible Study (FH); Children's M³ (JP);
Women's Bible Study - Anxious (Rm 252)
- 6:45 p.m. - Temple College Freshman Bible Study (Rm 216)
- 7 p.m. - High School Worship (Youth Rm);
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)
- 8 p.m. - Temple College Midweek (Sanctuary)

Thursday, March 23

- 2 p.m. - GriefShare (Rm 216)

March 30 - April 1 - Women's Retreat



Broadcast Hours: Sundays: 9 a.m. Channel 11 (KAQY); 9 and 10:30 a.m. livestream (live.temple.life)
Family Life Center Hours: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
The Journey Place Playscape Hours: Monday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday 2:30-4 p.m.