

New Member's Guide



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Church Contact Information

Ways to Contact Us

<i>Mailing Address</i>	P.O. Box 1050 Van, TX 75790
<i>Physical Address</i>	119 E. Main St. Van, TX 75790
<i>Phone Number</i>	(903) 963-8391
<i>Email Address</i>	fbc@fbcvan.org
<i>Church Website</i>	www.fbcvan.org

Church Office Hours

<i>Monday—Thursday</i>	8:30am – 4:00pm
<i>Friday</i>	8:30am – 12:00pm
<i>Saturday—Sunday</i>	Closed

Weekly Schedule

Sundays

Sunday School	9:00am
Morning Worship	10:15am
Evening Bible Study	5:00pm

Wednesdays

Family Fellowship Meal	5:45pm
Adult Prayer Meeting	6:00pm
FBC Kids	6:30pm
FBC Student Ministry	6:30pm
Adult Bible Study	6:30pm

Our Vision and Values

First Baptist Church has a very simple and compelling vision for our church, our community, our nation, and our world:

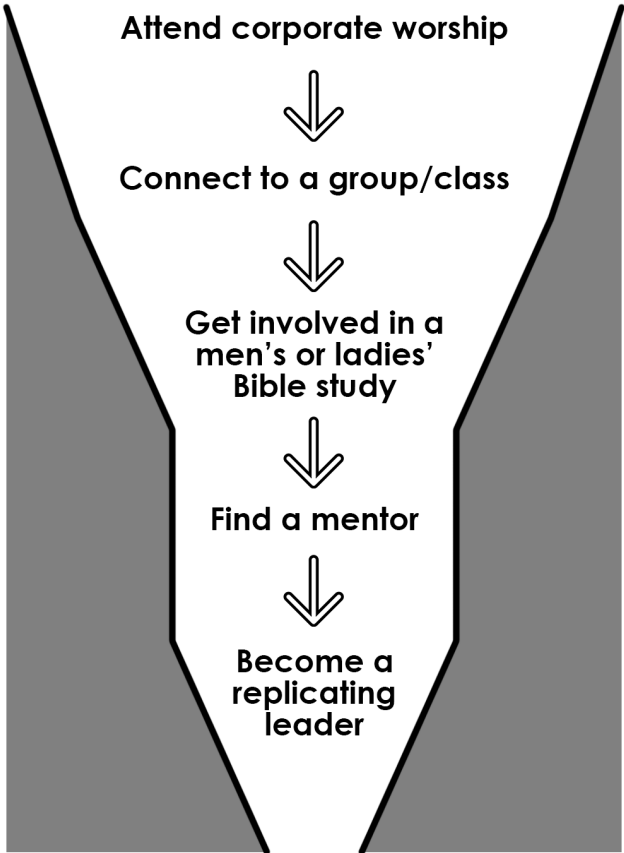
EVERY *FAMILY* REACHED

We want to see *every family* in Van and around the world reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We evaluate every ministry and entity of our church against that vision. We want everything we do to contribute toward achieving that goal. We will accomplish this vision by being *intentionally*:

- ***PRESENT*** in our community;
- ***VOCAL*** about our faith;
- ***WELCOMING*** in the church;
- ***CONSISTENT*** in preaching the Gospel;
- ***PROACTIVE*** about developing leaders;
- ***COOPERATIVE*** with other churches.

Go to fbcvan.org/everyfamilyreached to watch our *Every Family Reached* sermon series!

Discipleship Path



Discipleship Path

Brandon Cox wrote that, “Discipleship is the art and science of helping people find, follow, and fully become like Jesus. Discipleship happens as God's people show love, share truth, and live life with one another, making new disciples along the way.” That is the mission of the church. Reaching every family with the Gospel is only the first step; intentional discipleship is our end goal.

At First Baptist Church, we look at discipleship like a narrowing path. Each subsequent step narrows and intensifies the focus. We want every church member to move steadily down this path:

Attend corporate worship

The widest and easiest part of the path. We expect every member to connect to the body of Christ in corporate worship, but we are also mindful of the fact that very little active discipleship happens in such a large group.

That's why the road narrows here to a more focused area:

Connect to a group/class

Joining a Sunday School class and/or a Wednesday night Bible study group is a key step in our Discipleship path. The smaller group unlocks more accountability. You're able to connect at a deeper level than in corporate worship alone. But the road narrows even further:

Get involved in a men's or ladies' Bible study

There are small group Bible studies available throughout the week for men and women. These small groups offer an intense level of camaraderie, encouragement, accountability, and opportunity to go and grow deep. We encourage you to plug into one of these groups.

Find a mentor

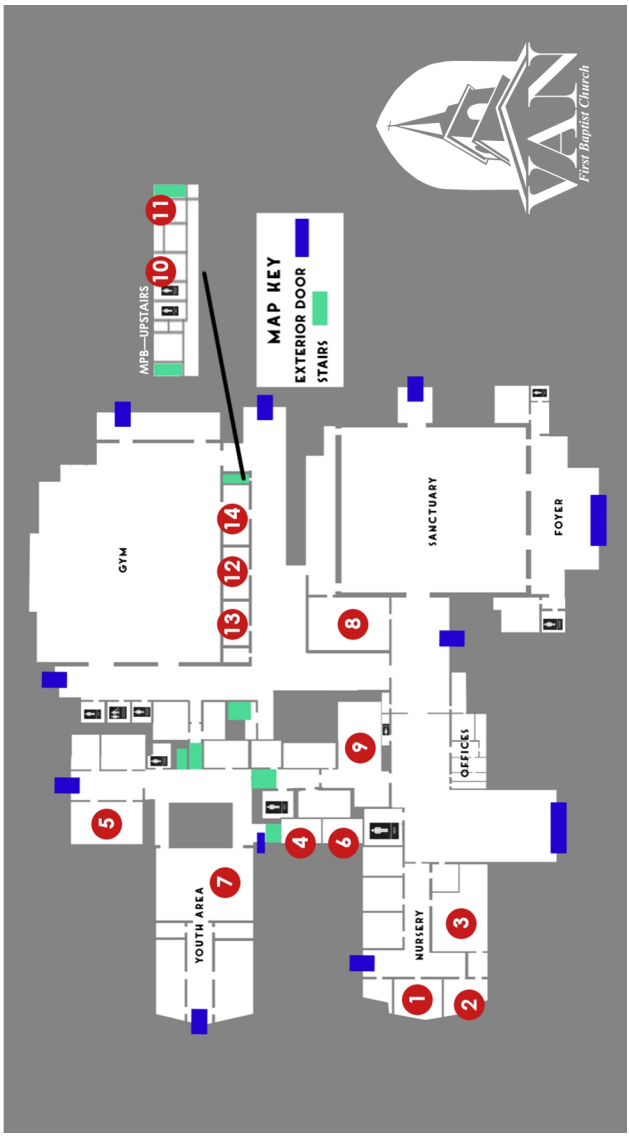
One-on-one mentoring is an absolutely unmatched opportunity for growth. In this kind of relationship, you can discover the student-teacher framework that Jesus intended for His

followers. We offer opportunities to find a mentor in our *Walk with the Wise* program. This program runs 3 months at a time and matches a younger and an older member up together to build a relationship. We think this is a critical step to becoming a fully-devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

The path of discipleship narrows finally to the most important juncture:

Become a replicating leader

All that came before brings us to this place. As the pastor, the Sunday School teachers, small group leaders, and mentors have poured into a church member, they are preparing them to go and do likewise. This step is our desire for all church members, that eventually they become replicating leaders. That they pour themselves into other people as they have been invested in. This is clearly demonstrated in 2 Timothy 2:2 —“What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” The Discipleship Path leads us to make disciples who make disciples. That is how we're going to see *every family reached* with the Gospel!



MPB—UPSTAIRS

MAP KEY
EXTERIOR DOOR
STAIRS

GYM

SANCTUARY

FOYER

YOUTH AREA

OFFICES

NURSERY

- 1** **Nursery (birth–24 months)**
Teacher—Jana Veader
- 2** **2s & 3s**
Teacher—Linda Thomas & Pam Neal
- 3** **Pre-K / 4s**
Teacher—Kirstin Hardin
- 4** **Kindergarten & 1st Grade**
Teachers—Nate & Amanda Catlin
- 5** **2nd & 3rd Grade**
Teacher—Linda Busch
- 6** **4th–6th Grade**
Teachers—Jeremy & Erin Peterson
- 7** **Students (7th–12th grades)**
Teachers—Colt & Olivia Chabert,
Sam & Elizabeth Harvey, Asheley Smith
- 8** **Adult 6 (ages 20-30)**
Teacher—Micah McMillan
- 9** **Adult 5 (ages 30-45)**
Teacher—Kevin Reed
- 10** **Adult 4 couples (ages 45-55)**
Teacher—Scott Thomas
- 11** **Adult 4 ladies (ages 45-55)**
Teacher—Sandra Goswick
- 12** **Adult 3 (ages 55-65)**
Teachers—Norman Hoff and
Tommy Bullman
- 13** **Adult 2 (ages 65-75)**
Teacher—Larry Goswick
- 14** **Adult 1 (ages 75+)**
Teacher—John Hardin

Classes & Groups

There is a place for *everyone* to find meaningful community and connection and grow in your faith! We want to bless and minister to every member of your family!

Nursery & Pre-K

We provide nursery care for kids from birth to age 4 during all of our worship services. Our nursery and Pre-K area is located on the south side of our campus. We prioritize safety, security, and cleanliness in working with our youngest children. Our staff and volunteers are background checked, thoroughly trained and ready to love your little ones! Please arrive early enough before service to register your children (if you haven't already) and check them in! Our FBC Kids Director will be ready to assist you.

Sunday School Classes (9am)

Babies — birth to 2 years old

Toddlers — 2 to 4 years old

Pre-K — 4 year-olds (before Kinder)

Kids

At FBC Van we are committed to loving, serving, and reaching *families!* That shows up big time in our kids ministry. We offer several opportunities each week for your kids to worship, learn the Bible, and grow together. All our kids leaders are background checked and trained.

Sunday School Classes (9am)

Kindergarten–1st grade

2nd–3rd grade

4th–6th grade

Wednesday Nights (6:30pm)

Wednesday night is the focus for our kids ministry! We worship together, split into small groups for Bible teaching, learn about missionaries around the world, and play some epic games together. Your kids will love it! Everything kicks off at 6:30pm after our Family Meal.

Other Opportunities

There are many events and opportunities throughout the year like sports nights, camp, and other special times for your kids to connect to God and others.

Students

We have a thriving student ministry at FBC Van where 7th through 12th graders come to worship God, experience faith in community, develop their own identity as believers, and reinforce their beliefs before launching out on their own for college. All of our youth ministry leaders and volunteers are background checked and trained.

Sunday School Small Groups (9am)

JH Boys (7th-8th grade)

JH Girls (7th-8th grade)

HS Boys (9th-12th grade)

HS Girls (9th-12th grade)

Wednesday Nights (6:30pm)

Students meet for worship, teaching, small groups, and community on Wednesday nights. Our volunteers are friendly and authentic, and our Family Pastor strives to address real issues from a biblical perspective. Your student will be loved, blessed, challenged, and encouraged on Wednesday nights. Everything kicks off at 6:30pm after our Family Meal.

Other Opportunities

There are many events and opportunities throughout the year like camps, retreats, D-Nows, events, sports nights, and other activities for your students.

Adults

Sunday School Classes (9am)

Our Sunday School is a thriving part of our church's discipleship process. Our classes are vibrant and provide an excellent opportunity to grow together in community.

- Adult 1 (75 and older)
- Adult 2 (65 to 75 years old)
- Adult 3 (55 to 65 years old)
- Adult 4 Couples (45 to 55 years old)
- Adult 4 Women (45 to 55 years old)
- Adult 5 (35 to 45 years old)
- Adult 6 (25 to 35 years old)

NOTE: These age categories are not rules; they're loose guidelines. They help us to organize the classes by stage of life. But we want you to attend where you will thrive! Your personality and individual family needs may put you in a

different class than your age, and that's perfectly OK!

Wednesday Nights

5:45pm — *Family Fellowship Meal*

- Bring your family and join us for a delicious meal before our Wednesday night activities begin! Wednesday night is *Family Night* and we provide something for the whole family to engage together and with others!

6pm — *Adult Prayer Meeting*

6:30pm — *Adult Bible Study*

Women's Ministry

- Our Women's Ministry meets for weekly Bible studies, monthly events, and annual retreats. Stay up-to-date on what's going in this ministry by visiting **fbcvan.org/women**.

Men's Ministry

Our *Man Maker Ministry* exists to reach, challenge, and encourage men in the Van area to strengthen their family and personal relations with Christ and to be the men that God is calling them to be

and others need them to be.

- *Men's Small Groups* meet throughout the week to pray together, read a book or devotion, and to talk about faith and life as brothers in Christ. Contact the church office for dates and times.
- We meet quarterly for a *Saturday Men's Breakfast* for fellowship, teaching, and brotherhood.
- We also hold events every few months like fishing, shooting, grilling, ball games, etc. to provide even more opportunities for growth and connection.

The Baptist Faith & Message

(Adopted by the SBC in 2000)

I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.¹

II. God

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and

Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

A. God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.²

B. God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon

Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.³

C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He

convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.⁴

III. Man

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan

man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.⁵

IV. Salvation

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.⁶

A. Regeneration

Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work

of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace. Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Savior.

B. Justification

Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C. Sanctification

Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit

dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

D. Glorification

Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

V. God's Purpose of Grace

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal

judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.⁷

VI. The Church

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.⁸

VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.⁹

VIII. The Lord's Day

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience

under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.¹⁰

IX. The Kingdom

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.¹¹

X. Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.¹²

XI. Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.¹³

XII. Education

Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is co-ordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence,

and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people. In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.¹⁴

XIII. Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, and a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically,

proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.¹⁵

XIV. Cooperation

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.¹⁶

XV. The Christian and the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.¹⁷

XVI. Peace and War

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.¹⁸

XVII. Religious Liberty

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to

render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.¹⁹

XVIII. The Family

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to

biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.²⁰

Attitudes of a Church Member

(Adapted from Thom Rainer's *I Am a Church Member*)

I will be a functioning church member.

Every church member should aim to be active in using their spiritual gifts to build up the body of Christ. Thom Rainer wrote: “With a country club membership you pay others to do the work for you. With church membership, everyone has a role or function. That is why some are hands, feet, ears, or eyes. We are all different, but we are necessary parts of the whole. Every member is vital to the body of Christ and when all members are not using their gifts in the body the church suffers!” A very helpful question that church members can ask themselves is, “How can I best serve my church?” Starting on page 50 you can find out about some ministries in the church you can plug in to and serve!

I will be a unifying church member.

“The world will know if we are Christians or not by the way we who are believers act toward

one another.” Rainer was echoing Jesus' words in John 13:35. Jesus also prayed in John 17 that the members of His church would be united and unified in love. Many of us have been involved in churches where there was little to no unity but that should not be the case. “The health of any group is tied to its unity.” One of the most damaging things to church unity is gossip within the church. Church members have a responsibility to fight for (no pun intended) church unity at all times.

I will not let church be about my preferences.

We live in a church culture that is predominately “me” focused. The solution is that church members should relinquish their wants and preferences as soon as they join their local church. “The strange thing about church membership is that you actually give up your preferences when you join. Don’t get me wrong; there may be much about your church that you like a lot. But you are there to meet the needs of others. You are there to serve others. You are there to give. You are there to sacrifice.” Serving others is what Jesus did and what He calls us to do within the church.

I will pray for my church leaders.

The pressure to lead, guide, protect, provide for, and shepherd a church is enormous. We should be in prayer for our leaders—pastoral staff, deacons, and committees—as they strive to listen and follow the voice of God for our church. The stakes are too high not to. Rainer wrote, “We should not be surprised, then, when we hear about a pastor’s moral failure. We are grieved and heartbroken, but not surprised. The devil is setting traps for pastors; anything he can do to bring harm to the pastor’s reputation. He will stop at nothing—greed, adultery, anger, addiction—to catch the pastor in his trap.” God works through the prayers of believers and pastors need all the prayers they can get.

I will be a joyful church member.

“Have you ever seen a GCM? That's my acronym for a 'grumpy church member'. They are the church members most likely to complain at church business meetings. They are the persistent critics of the pastor and staff.” Members like that are both a drain on the church and a barrier to Christ's kingdom in our community. We need to commit to being joyful, positive, encouraging church members instead!

I will lead my family to be healthy church members.

The necessity and responsibility of families in the church is to pray for the church, worship together in the church, and develop a love for the church. Rainer offered this helpful thought: “As I grow more deeply in love with my church, I will do all I can in God’s power to bring my family with me. We will pray for our church leaders together. We will worship together. And we will serve together.” We desperately need more families who love the church and who worship, serve, and pray for the church!

I will treasure church membership as a gift.

“Church membership is a gift. A gift must be treasured. It should not be taken for granted or considered lightly. Because it is a gift, we must always be thankful for it. And when we are thankful for something, we have less time and energy to be negative.” We need more church members who are grateful for the gift of the local church and membership within the body!

Expectations of a Church Member

(Adapted from Thom Rainer's *I Will*)

Faithful Attendance

Acts 2:46-47 give us an incredible picture of a joyful, sacrificial, unified group meeting faithfully for corporate worship. “Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with joyful and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.” That's the right attitude and function of a church member!

A member is expected to join with his or her brothers and sisters in Christ as often as they can. Church attendance isn't just about “being fed”; It's about loving the body of Christ, exercising our spiritual gifts, worshiping the Lord, and growing together as we study Scripture. We offer multiple opportunities on Sunday and throughout the week to gather.

Connection with a Group

A church member is five times more likely to stay in a church and contribute if they are connected to a small group or class! This is an important step in our *Discipleship Path*, and every member is expected to engage other church members in a group. We offer Sunday School classes for all ages on Sunday mornings, classes and groups on Wednesday night, and men and women's Bible studies throughout the week. We encourage you to plug into a group and enjoy the encouragement and accountability these groups provide!

Sacrificial Serving

“We are to serve. That is the basis for joy and that is what church members should do.” Thom Rainer cuts straight to the point. Growth and joy come when we lay down our preferences and desire and live to serve others. The expectation for every church member is to use their spiritual gifts in the service of Christ in the body of Christ. There are many ways to serve at First Baptist Church. You can find more information about spiritual gifts on page 62 and different ways you can serve on page 50 of this book.

Intentional Evangelism

Every believer is called to take the message of the Gospel with them into their daily lives. We share the Gospel both in our attitudes and lifestyle, and also through our intentional decision to walk across the street and verbally tell the story of Jesus. It is not just for those with the spiritual gift of evangelism (see page 62) or for the pastors and staff of the church. It is the responsibility and privilege of every member to share their faith. On page 63 of this book you can find an easy way to share the Gospel with your friends and neighbors.

Generous Giving

Luke 12:34 says, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” We give toward things we place a high value on. And an expectation of each church member is that they would value God's church and give generously to support it. When you give your tithes and offerings, you are not paying dues at a country club, you are obediently giving back to God a portion of what He has blessed you with. Your faithful giving allows the church to meet needs and spread the Gospel both in our community and around the world!

Church Covenant

Having been led, as we believe by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith having been baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly most solemnly and joyfully enter into this covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We covenant, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry and the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also covenant to maintain family and private devotions; to train our children in God's word;

to seek the salvation of our relatives and acquaintances; and walk carefully in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and an example in our behavior; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger. We believe that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit and that we are to offer our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God (Romans 12:1).

We covenant to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior. We further covenant to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian compassion and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense but always ready for reconciliation; and to be mindful of the teachings of our Savior (Matthew 5:23-24).

We covenant that when we move from this church we will as soon as possible unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

Your signature and today's date

Membership in our By-laws

Admissions to Membership

- A. Membership may be requested at any regular preaching service of the church on any Sunday, any regular mid-week prayer service, or any publicly and previously announced preaching service.
- B. The congregation will immediately vote on the prospective member and their name will be added to the official church membership roll as soon as the Pastor or an appointed church member or members make sure of their salvation, explain the Church's doctrinal position and assists them in understanding the organization and governance of the church and their responsibility as a member.
- C. Membership is conditioned upon one of the following:

1. Public profession of faith in Christ and baptism by immersion in water;
 2. Receipt of a letter of dismissal and recommendation from some other Baptist church of like faith and order;
 3. Statement, acceptable to the church, of previous membership in a church of like faith and order, having been baptized by immersion in water
- D. Membership can be arranged by proxy, as approved by the staff and Deacons.

Termination of Membership

Membership will be terminated in the following cases:

1. If a member dies;
2. If the church issues a letter of dismissal and recommendation for membership in some other Baptist church;
3. If a member joins a church of another faith;

4. If the church withdraws fellowship from a member as provided by the Holy Scriptures;
5. If a member requests removal of name from church membership roll.

Voting of Members

- A. On any matter coming before the church for its determination, each member shall be entitled to one vote. This vote shall be exercised in person or by absentee ballot, not by proxy.
- B. All matters requiring a congregational vote shall be determined at a regular or special conference meeting of the church held in accordance with these bylaws.
- C. The vote of a majority of the members present and voting—including absentee ballots—will carry an issue unless, prior to voting, the church specifies a different percentage (such as 75%).

Rights of Members

- A. Every member of the church is entitled

to vote at all elections and on all questions submitted to the church in conference, provided the member is present or provision has been made for absentee balloting.

- B. Unless otherwise stated, every member of the church is eligible for consideration by the membership as a candidate for elected committees and offices in the church.
- C. Every member of the church may participate in the ordinances of the church.

Meetings of Members

- A. *Worship Services.* Public services for worship shall be held on Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening of each week. Other public services for worship may be held at such other occasions as recommended by the pastor.
- B. *Regular Conference Meetings.* Regular conference meetings of the members for the transaction of the business and affairs of the church shall be held quarterly.

There is no need to notify members of such regular meetings.

- C. *Special Conference Meetings.* A special conference meeting can be called and announced for the church to handle its business and affairs. This process can be initiated by (1) a majority of the members present at an official business meeting, (2) the Deacons, or (3) the pastor. In the first case, the vote to have such a meeting constitutes the announcement. In the second and third cases, the announcement must be given at an official public meeting of the church. In every case, the announcement must be given at least ten days prior to the called meeting. The agenda for the special meeting shall also be announced and strictly followed.
- D. *Place of Meetings.* The regular or special conference meetings of the church shall be held at the church property at 119 E. Main Street, Van, Texas.
- E. *Quorum of Members.* The members present at any regular or special conference meeting of the church shall constitute a quorum.

- F. *Parliamentary Rules*. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, is the authority for rules of procedure for all conference meetings of the church.

Discipline of Members

- A. This church shall emphasize to its members that every reasonable measure will be taken to assist any troubled member. If the member is clearly doing wrong, counsel and guidance should be sought from the pastor, other members of the ministerial staff, or deacons. The attitude of members toward one another shall be guided by a concern for redemption rather than punishment.
- B. Should some serious condition exist which would cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the church, the pastor and the Deacons will take every reasonable measure to resolve the problem in accord with Matthew 18. If it becomes necessary for the church to take action to exclude a member, a two-thirds vote of the members present is required; and the church may proceed to declare the person to be no longer in the

membership of the church. All such proceedings shall be pervaded by a spirit of Christian kindness and forbearance.

- C. The church may restore to membership any person previously excluded, upon request of the excluded person and by vote of the church, upon evidence of the excluded person's repentance and reformation.

Places You Can Serve

There are many opportunities for serving at First Baptist Church! Whether you want to serve weekly or monthly, we have a variety of different committees and ministries you could plug in to and use your spiritual gifts (see page 62).

Committees

Building & Grounds

This committee manages our church property and handles some building projects in the church. If you have skills or experience in construction, electric work, plumbing, or any kind of maintenance, this would be the perfect place to serve!

Christian Education (CEC)

The CEC manages our Sunday School program. They recruit and train teachers, order curriculum, and evaluate the

ministry as a whole. If you have a background in education or a desire to help people learn more about the Bible and discipleship, this would a great place to serve.

Finance

This committee oversees the stewardship of the resources God continues to bless us with. They carefully monitor the church budget and work together to ensure that our finances are being used to bring glory to God and accomplish our vision of seeing every family reached. If you have an aptitude for finance and maybe experience in business or accounting, we would love to have you as part of this team!

Missions

Our Missions Committee is responsible for our Great Commission responsibilities both locally and internationally. They plan and execute all our local outreach projects like our Fall Festival and Winter Coat Drive. They are responsible for promoting our three annual offerings—*Annie Armstrong*,

Reach Texas, and *Lottie Moon*—in the church. They schedule missionaries and work to extend our church's Gospel footprint internationally. If you love to plan, organize, and especially if you want to be a part of a team seeing people reached with the Gospel, the missions committee is a perfect place for you.

Nominations & Communications

The NCC is responsible for staffing every committee with qualified church members and also for all matters relating to communication with the church body. This is a key committee for making sure our church functions smoothly and properly. We would love for you to join this vital team.

Nursery

The Nursery Committee oversees our childcare ministry from birth to age 4. This is a crucial ministry in the church as we try to reach and serve new families. If you love babies and want to be a blessing to young families, this is definitely the right committee for you.

Personnel

Our Personnel Committee oversees our church staff. They recommend new hires, write job descriptions, conduct yearly evaluations, and handle employee issues. If you have experience or training in management, hiring, HR, or other related fields, please ask about our Personnel Committee.

Safety & Security

Our Safety & Security Committee is responsible for keeping our congregation and church facility safe. They provide actual on-the-grounds security during all worship services in addition to planning and implementing security and emergency procedures for the church. We would love to include you on this committee as we strive to keep our members safe and protected.

Teams

Connect

Our Connect Team is responsible for providing a welcoming environment for

guests and first-time visitors, following up with them, and assimilating them into the church family when they decide to join the church. If you have a positive, encouraging, approachable personality, we would love to see you serve here.

Decorating

Our Decorating Committee works hard to make sure our church is designed and decorated in a way that points people to the Gospel and contributes to our vision of seeing *every family reached*. If you have an aptitude for interior design, a passion for painting, or maybe you just have ideas about what our church should look like, ask about this committee.

Fellowship

Our Fellowship Team handles our kitchen and meal responsibilities. They plan, manage, and serve weekly Wednesday Night family fellowship meals, quarterly potluck lunches, and other special events. If you're looking for a weekly opportunity to serve and be a blessing to others, please contact us about the Fellowship Team.

Ordinances

The Ordinance Team is responsible for preparing to observe the two ordinances of the church—baptism and the Lord's Supper (see page 25). They prepare the elements of communion and serve as helpers during baptism. This is a great place to see lives transformed and the Gospel presented as the church lives and acts in obedience to Scripture. Please ask about you can serve on this team!

Ministries

Nursery

Every Sunday our dedicated nursery workers care for our little ones, playing, holding, changing diapers, giving snacks, and loving them. We operate on a 2-month rotation, so volunteering would mean serving during the morning (10:15am) service once every 8 weeks.

Kids

There are many opportunities to serve in our kids ministry! On Sundays you could help or teach in Sunday School. On

Wednesdays, lead a small group, help with missions, games, worship, or even just be crowd control. You could serve during VBS or kid's camp. There are so many ways to serve! Contact our Family Pastor or our FBC Kids Director for more information!

Youth

Just like in the kid's ministry, you could serve on Sunday mornings in Sunday School or on Wednesday Nights. Adult leaders teach, help with worship, check-in, food, relationship-building, small groups, and more. Ask our Family Pastor for more information about serving with our students!

NOTE: If you are interested in serving in our nursery, kid's ministry, or with our students, there is a screening and application process in place. We require members to attend for a specific amount of time before they start serving in any ministry involving minors. We also require interviews, background checks, and age-specific training as well. We place high priority on our kids, and we

know what a tremendous privilege and responsibility it is for parents to trust us with their little ones, so we want to go above and beyond to keep them safe!

Other Opportunities

We believe there is a place for every single member of First Baptist Church to serve! There are too many potential places to serve to list every single one of them here. Please contact the church office if you are searching for your place of service in the church family!

KidCheck

Our Nursery & Kids Ministries use an application called *KidCheck* for check-in, attendance, and roster management.

Go to fbcvan.org/kidcheck to learn more about the program and register your family.

According to our Nursery Policy, we will not release kids in our care to anyone outside of the list of approved guardians on the KidCheck account. So make sure that your guardian list is up-to-date!

Our priority is to make sure that our kids are safe, protected, and cared for.

Church History

The church began with a small group in the Elm Grove School (three miles east of Van), and within a few years (1921) they became Union Chapel Baptist Church. Eleven years later Union Chapel Baptist moved to the growing community of Van (oil had been discovered in 1929) and became the First Baptist Church of Van, Texas. The first portion of the church site was acquired in February 1932 and the church was incorporated in April 1932.



This was the original church building, and now constitutes the north end of our education wing. It has been in continuous use since 1932.

Reverend E.M. Ogden preached the first sermon in the new church, and when the invitation was given, there were two conversions and thirty-five additions by letter. The church grew rapidly in its first years, reaching 400 members by 1938.

As the church membership grew, the physical facilities grew to meet the needs of the worship service, the Sunday School and other activities. A baptistry was added in 1941 and a new sanctuary was constructed in 1947 and remodeled in 1967.



*This sanctuary was built in 1947 and remodeled in 1967.
Currently, it is used as our Youth facility.*

In 1980, a fellowship hall, a kitchen, Sunday School rooms and church offices were completed. A beautiful 500-seat sanctuary was dedicated on April 1, 1990. This is the part of our church campus we see today with the steeple and pillars.

In more recent history, the facility expanded once again to meet the growing needs of the church and community. A brand new multipurpose building containing a beautiful foyer, a state-of-the-art gym, a new kitchen, and a wing of seven classrooms was dedicated on the church's 75th anniversary in 2007.



A draft of the MPB, which was dedicated in 2007.

Eighteen men have served and shepherded First Baptist Church as pastor since 1932. Their names and tenures are listed on page 73.

At FBC Van we are proud of our heritage and history, and confident in our future moving forward!

Spiritual Gifts

God the Holy Spirit has uniquely gifted each believer with special *spiritual gifts* to supernaturally empower them to serve the church by strengthening and encouraging other believers. The primary biblical passages that deal with spiritual gifts are Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 and Ephesians 4:7-16.

Lists and opinions vary about which spiritual gifts are active today, and you can see our church's theological position on the spiritual gifts on pages 19-20 of this book.

Spiritual gifts are not meant to be a divine mystery. They should not be difficult to find out and implement. In fact, the best way to discover your gifts are to plug into a local church and start serving! You can find a list of opportunities for serving starting on page 50 of this book.

Type this address into your web browser to download a packet of information from Lifeway Resources about spiritual gifts.

<https://bit.ly/2WjHKq2>

How to Share the Gospel

In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus gives His followers a clear command (which we call the *Great Commission*): “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Go and share your faith. Go and carry the Gospel with you into every corner of your life and every corner of this world. We are not to be silent. We are not to hold anything back. We are to replicate our faith in the lives of others. This is not an option; it's a command. We are to be eager and passionate about sharing the Gospel with everyone we come into contact with. In Robert Coleman's classic *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, he wrote, “We have not been called to hold the fort, but to storm the heights.”

Here is a practical system of accurately and concisely sharing the message of hope that Jesus died, was buried, and rose again to provide redemption for His people.

God Rules

The Bible tells us that God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. *Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17.*

We Sinned

We all choose to disobey God. The Bible calls this sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. That's bad news. *Romans 3:23; 6:23.*

God Provided

But wait. There's also good news! God sent His Son Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. That's something that we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. *John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9.*

Jesus Gives

Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family now, and for all eternity. That's the best

gift ever! *Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 2:8-9.*

We Respond

How can you respond to this gift? Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He has already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus. *John 14:6; Romans 10:9-10, 13.*

The ABCs help us remember how to respond to the gospel.

A—Admit

Admit that you are a sinner and repent. Repent means to turn around or to change direction. We turn away from our sin and turn towards God.

B—Believe

Believe that Jesus is God's Son and receive His gift of forgiveness from sin.

C—Confess

Confess to God, and other people, that Jesus is your savior and that He is Lord of your life.

How to Study the Bible

(Adapted from Tammie Pittsley's *Life, Love and Jesus*)

The SOAP method of Bible study is one of the easiest and most effective ways to understand and apply the Bible in our daily lives!

S—Scripture

Before you can start, you must determine what passage of Scripture you will be studying. I suggest doing a short book and breaking it into paragraphs. Most Bibles have paragraph divisions that you can use. For example, in my Bible the book of Philippians has four chapters, but thirteen paragraphs. It is much easier to focus on shorter passages than longer ones, so I would go with the thirteen paragraphs as my outline.

You might also be attending a church where you know in advance what the passage for the sermon will be. Those passages would be perfect for the SOAP Bible Study method. Or maybe you want to read one psalm a day or

focus on your favorite Bible verses.

However you choose your passages, stick to a plan. Don't skip around reading one chapter of Genesis today, then a chapter of Galatians tomorrow, and next a chapter in Proverbs. Be intentional in your reading, not haphazard.

Once you've chosen your passage, you must read it. In fact, read the passage several times in several different versions. Try to read at least three or four different versions. It isn't that hard. In fact, blueletterbible.org will show you several versions of one verse with just a couple of clicks. Ask the pastor or your Sunday School teacher for more online tools and resources you can use.

After reading the passage several times, choose one to three verses that are particularly meaningful to you and write them out long-hand (no typing!). The act of writing wires directly into your brain, making the verses easier to remember. There is something special about writing verses out by hand, so unless a physical handicap such as severe arthritis or a broken wrist prevents you, write the verse or verses you choose out by hand.

After writing out the chosen verses, write a

paraphrase. That is, write out how you would say the verse to someone without changing the meaning but making it more understandable. Rewriting the verse in your own words is an effective way to make sure you really understand what the verse is saying.

O—Observation

Observe closely the verses you wrote by re-reading those verses and their context (verses immediately before and after) a few more times. Record any observation you have about the passage. Questions to ask yourself during this observation time can include the following:

- *Who wrote this passage?*
- *To whom is this passage written?*
- *What is the message of these verses?*
- *What words or phrases stand out to me?*
- *Do these verses remind me of any other verses or passages of Scripture?*
- *Was this written before or after Jesus lived? Before or after the resurrection?*

Write out all your observations, just as you wrote the verses. It may be helpful to also write the questions you are answering. And remember, this list of questions is just a

suggestion. Ask and answer any questions that occur to you.

A—Application

After observing what the passage is saying, now you must answer the question, “How should my life change because of what I’ve read and learned today?” Think about your words, your behavior, your relationships, your job, your family. Nothing should be off-limits to the Holy Spirit.

Asking specific questions may help you think of possible actions the Lord may want you to take. Ask yourself questions about sin, obedience, attitudes, character traits, and promises of God. Just like with the other steps, write down your application.

P—Prayer

I assume you started with prayer, but if not let me state clearly here, that prayer should be the bookends of your study.

Begin by asking the Lord for His wisdom, understanding, and a heart to learn. End by turning your application into prayer. Pray the verses you’ve studied back to the Father and

thank Him for speaking to you through His Word.

Example

Using Psalm 19 as our text, I'll walk you through an example of what you might write as you go through the SOAP Bible Study method.

Scripture

- Verse 14: “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.”
- Verse 14 paraphrase: O LORD, You are my Rock and my Redeemer. Help me to always say and think things that will honor and please you.

Observation

- The psalmist, David, wrote this as a hymn of praise to God.
- In verse 14, he is praying to the LORD, asking that he would always make choices with his mind, heart, and tongue that are pleasing to the LORD.

Application

- I know that if I think about the Word and

Speak about Jesus, my words and thoughts will be acceptable. But I cannot do that all day.

- I will need to be more conscious of what I am thinking, and what I am saying.
- Specifically, when gossiping starts at work, I will walk away or speak up—speaking up is preferable, but not always possible.
- Also, I will post verses in my cubicle so that I have uplifting and God-honoring thoughts to think of while I'm working.

Prayer

- Lord Jesus, help me to fill my mind with Your Word so that what comes out of my mouth will be God-pleasing words. Give me the courage to speak up for those being spoken against when gossiping starts at work.

That's it! The SOAP method is short and sweet, and easy to accomplish in a limited amount of time. But it is not shallow. You spend time thinking about what you are reading and then apply the Word to your life. I hope you find the SOAP Bible Study method a blessing in your life.

Index & Footnotes

The Pastors of First Baptist Church of Van

- E. M. Ogden (1932–1937)
- Dr. Oliver Shields (1937–1940)
- Edward R. Dickerson (1941–1948)
- R.D. Copeland (1948–1951)
- Eddie Cummings (1951–1952)
- Luther Greer (1952–1955)
- J. B. Fowler (1956–1958)
- Q. C. Dietering (1958–1961)
- Steve Ditmore (1961–1964)
- John Trafton (1965–1967)
- James Day (1968–1981)
- J.S. Shamburger (1981–1987)
- Richard A. Byrd (1987–1992)
- Mark A. Turman (1992–1997)
- R. Lynn Snider (1998–1999)
- Michael E. Calhoun (2001–2012)
- Dr. Tom Campbell (2013–2017)
- Mark Frizzell (2019–present)

¹ I. The Scriptures

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalm 19:7-10; 11:11, 89, 105, 140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Acts 2:16ff; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

² 2. A. God the Father

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3, 15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9ff; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

³ 2. B. God the Son

Genesis 18:1ff; Psalm 2:7ff; 110:1ff; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16, 27; 17:5, 27; 28:1-6, 19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18, 29; 10:30, 38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16, 28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20, 28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5, 20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3, 34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8, 24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15, 24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

⁴ 2. C. God the Holy Spirit

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalm 51:11; 139:7ff; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19; Mark 1:10, 12; Luke 1:35; 4:1, 18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4, 38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17, 39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11, 14-16, 26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11, 13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8, 14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

⁵ 3. Man

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5, 7, 18-22; 3:1-24; 9:6; Psalm 1:1-6; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:27-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18, 23; 5:6, 12, 19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18, 29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19, 21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.

⁶ 4. Salvation

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14, 29; 3:3-21, 36; 5:24; 10:9, 28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18, 29-39; 10:9-10, 13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18, 30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8, 14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 1:6-2:11;

Revelation 3:20; 21:1–22:5.

⁷ VI. God's Purpose of Grace

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-8; 1 Samuel 8:4-7,19-22; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31ff.; Matthew 16:18-19; 21:28-45; 24:22,31; 25:34; Luke 1:68-79; 2:29-32; 19:41-44; 24:44-48; John 1:12-14; 3:16; 5:24; 6:44-45,65; 10:27-29; 15:16; 17:6,12,17-18; Acts 20:32; Romans 5:9-10; 8:28-39; 10:12-15; 11:5-7,26-36; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2; 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:4-23; 2:1-10; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10,19; Hebrews 11:39–12:2; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:2-5,13; 2:4-10; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:19; 3:2.

⁸ VII. The Church

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⁹ VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16,21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.

¹⁰ VIII. The Lord's Day

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¹¹ IX. The Kingdom

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¹² X. Last Things

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¹³ XI. Evangelism and Missions

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelation 22:17.

¹⁴ XII. Education

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¹⁵ XIII. Stewardship

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¹⁶ XIV. Cooperation

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¹⁷ XV. The Christian and the Social Order

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¹⁸ XVI. Peace and War

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12:14; James 4:1-2.

¹⁹ XVII. Religious Liberty

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²⁰ XVIII. The Family

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