



Encountering God

On Sunday mornings we have been engaged in a series of messages on encountering God. Two weeks ago we saw Moses at the burning bush. This past week we saw Habakkuk in brutal honest dialogue with the Creator. Here are seven principles we have gleaned thus far to position ourselves for an encounter with the LORD.

- Turn aside
- Listen carefully
- Purify yourself
- Meet with the LORD regularly
- Expect God to communicate
- Write down what God tells you
- Wait for the LORD to bring things to pass

This Sunday the Becomers Class will keep in stride with this emphasis as they begin a book study on experiencing the greatness of God. It is not too late for you to join them for this study. Just come to that room in the Education Wing at 9:00 am this Sunday morning.

Blessings,

Les



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, Oct 10

1:00 p.m. – Women’s Bible Study

Wednesday, Oct. 11

5:15 p.m. – Movin’ Up

Sunday, Oct. 15

9:00 a.m. – Sunday School

10:05 a.m. – Kids’ Time

10:15 a.m. – Worship Service

Teachers This Sunday

Nursery

Angie Bynum/ Evalyn Fate

Kids’ Time

Joyce Evans / Chris McFarren

LOL

Michelle Tonner

Last Week

Oct. 8, 2017

Attendance

Worship Service – 117

Sunday School - 56

Stewardship Report

Giving Toward:

Current Expense	\$3036.00
Missions	\$115.00
Building/ Maint. Fund	\$110.00
Deacons Fund	\$25.00
World Missions Offering	\$965.00
Total:	\$4251.00

Bowling Party



Kids! Mark your calendar for Wednesday, November 1 to meet at the Bowling Alley at 5:15 p.m. We will have a bowling party instead of our regular Movin' Up. No money is needed. Hot dogs, chips, and drink will be provided. You will need to be picked up at the bowling alley at 6:30 p.m.

Baptism Opportunity

We will include a baptism service this Sunday. This would be an excellent time for you to identify with Jesus by being baptized. Call Pastor Les right away if you would like to be included.



Pastor Appreciation



October is Pastor Appreciation Month. The deacons invite you to speak or write a word of encouragement or appreciation to Pastor Les and Debbie. A basket is in the narthex for such cards or notes.

Movin' Up

Our kids program on Wednesday evening includes all school-age kids from Kindergarten on up. We begin at 5:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and conclude at 6:30 p.m. Please pray for this ministry. You may sign up on the bulletin board in the foyer to bring snacks and drinks. Some are for a specific date and others can be brought anytime. Thank you for your support in donations and prayer!



Deacon Meeting

Deacons – please note the time change of your meeting next Thursday, October 19. It will start at 6:00 p.m.

Prayer

Ed Higgins – Pray for his healing. He has surgery on Monday, October 16.

The Correct Comparison

A funny story is told of two brothers who were well known around town for their crooked business dealings and underworld connections. They were as mean and cold-blooded as you could imagine. Eventually, one of the brothers died, and the surviving brother wanted to give his dead brother a funeral fit for a king. He called the funeral home and made all the arrangements, and then he called the town's minister and made him an offer. He said, "I'll give you \$10,000 to put that new roof on the church if, in eulogizing my brother, you call him a saint."

The minister agreed. The whole town turned out for the funeral, and the minister began: "The man you see in the coffin was a vile and debauched individual. He was a liar, a thief, a deceiver, a manipulator, a reprobate, and a hedonist. He destroyed the fortunes, careers, and lives of countless people in this city, some of whom are here today. This man did every dirty, rotten thing you can think of. But compared to his brother, he was a saint."

Comparing ourselves with other people can make us feel better about ourselves. It is easy for us to say, "Well, at least I'm not as bad as Billy or Suzie." But our standard for behavior is never other people. Our standard is our LORD Jesus Christ. When we compare ourselves with Jesus, we all fall short of His glorious perfection (Rom. 3:23). Fortunately, as we keep our eyes and hearts fixed on Christ, the Holy Spirit changes us. God is at work in believers "both to will and to do according to His good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13). Our prime directive is to look to the LORD. The writer to the Hebrews tells us plainly that we must be "...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith..." (Heb. 12:2). When Christ walked on earth He taught about the necessity of abiding of remaining in Him. Our LORD's words are recorded in John 15:5: "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

Here is a beautiful little secret. The Creator's goal for each and every Christian is that we become like Jesus. Scripture declares, "For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters" (Rom. 8:29). Despite what our Mormon friends teach, none of us will ever be a god. Yet, someday we will be like Jesus in full moral perfection. For "...we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

Make it a great week!

Les



202 West Cherry Street
Bluffton, Indiana 46714



Homebound Members

Christian Care

Joan Sills – Room 222
Mildred Huss – Room 219B

River Terrace

Phebe Edington – Room 134
LaVera Krummen – Room 116

Signature Healthcare

Bonnie McAfee – Room 403B

Markle Health and Rehabilitation

Barbara French – Room 216

As we co-labor with other churches
in our community,
this week we pray for:
Apostolic Christian Church
Pastor Lynn Fiechter

First Baptist Church

260-824-1558

firstbaptist@adamswells.com

fbcluffton.com

 First Baptist Church - Bluffton, Indiana

Pastor: Les Cantrell
Cell phone: 260-273-9073
Music Director: Sarah Landell
Secretary: Debbie Cantrell

Sunday:
9:00 a.m. – Sunday School
9:50 a.m. – Coffee/Tea Time
10:05 a.m. – Kids' Time
10:15 a.m. – Worship Service