

First Baptist Church Newsletter

March 16 2022

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Continuing Our Study

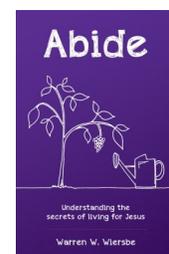
How do we abide in Christ? The author states historically there have been two schools of thought: the "quietists" and the "activists." The first group says you do nothing. You simply yield to Jesus and let Him have His way. The other group strongly disagrees and asserts that while we must yield, we must also obey. We must actively read the Bible, pray, worship, and do all that Jesus wants us to do (*Abide*, p. 23).

I personally tag these two groups "Resting" and "Wrestling." The author Warren Wiersbe and I agree that both groups actually help us discover how to abide in Christ. But I tend to emphasize resting that prompts obedience, while Wiersbe tends to lean toward wrestling marked by the discipline of obedience. After reading pages 21-42 of *Abide* what is your opinion about abiding in Christ?

To me, resting does not mean stopping all activities. A restful vacation does not mean doing absolutely nothing. Reclining comatose on a bed all day might provide boredom but rarely rest. True resting in the physical and the spiritual realms involves engaging in fun, meaningful, or beneficial activities. So it is when we rest (or abide) in our relationship with Jesus.

I look forward to seeing many of you this Sunday,

Les



EASTER EGG HUNT!



The Christian Education Board is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt at the church on Saturday, April 9 at 3 p.m. All children are encouraged to come and have fun.

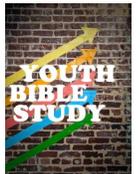


Call For Graduates

We are making a list of all students that will be graduating from high school or college this year. The Christian Education Board plans to honor them on Sunday, May 15. Please let us know of graduates in our church family by signing up their name and school on the bulletin board in the foyer.



Wednesday Opportunities for Students 6:00—7:15 p.m.



Adventure Kids (K-5th grade)
Meet downstairs in the CE Wing

Youth Bible Study (6th-12th grade)
Meet upstairs in the CE Wing

We will meet each Wednesday in March

Spring Break special on March 23 - both groups will have PIZZA



In April:

We will meet each Wednesday, except - not on April 13

Thank You

Dear Church Family, Thank you for everything, including coming to the viewing and funeral, a lovely meal, and many cards. Thanks to Pastor Les for a really nice service.

Betty Bynum and family



Teachers Sunday March 20, 2022

Kids' Time

Joyce Evans and
Sydney Collins

LOL

Loren Wanner

UKRAINE UPDATE

Last Sunday our church family collected \$3,344.00 designated to send to Ukraine through our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Thank you for your generosity! Below we have more information about the Ukrainian situation from our ABC International Ministries. Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as all impacted by this ungodly invasion.

The office of the Baptist Union of Ukraine has been relocated to Western Ukraine, nearer to the Polish border. Leaders and staff meet there three times a day for prayer and coordination. The Union president's prayer request was for good coordination as they try to provide evacuation and humanitarian aid to people coming through or trapped - since bridges around major cities have been strategically blown up to slow the advance of Russian convoys. This also limits escape routes for Ukrainian civilians. The Baptist Union is seeking to serve over one million internally displaced people coming through.

Prayer list from Ukrainian Baptist Union:

1. Good coordination of efforts to provide evacuation and humanitarian aid.
2. Safe travels for the drivers and vehicles bringing people from their towns and then returning with goods and supplies.
3. Missionaries in the area, like Jon and Amanda Good, to have the resources and energy needed to provide relief for refugees.
4. God's comfort for those who have lost family and/or their homes.
5. That the power of the Holy Spirit will continue working within the Christians of Ukraine and surrounding areas.
6. For wisdom and order to prevail for followers of Jesus in Russia, as well as for all peace-loving Russians.

Additional prayer list from Pastor Les:

Pray for a different story. Many legislators are predicting the biggest war in Europe since 1945, so cry out to God that He would write another story in our time; that the Almighty would tear down evil schemes and give wisdom from heaven to peacemakers seeking a less violent way.

Pray against fear. Ask that the LORD would rescue those who are vulnerable from the hands of their enemies. Allow peace of heart and mind to prevail.

Pray for healing. Ask God to deliver Ukraine from evil. May He have mercy and heal this land, and any who have been wounded in body or mind. Please grant Ukraine peace and the chance to develop as a nation that values truth, justice, and freedom - all rooted in the goodness of God.

Pray for Ukrainian Christians. Pray for the church in Ukraine, a nation in which 70% of the population call themselves Christian. Pray that God would give them courage in this crisis that they may proclaim the good news of the Kingdom, bind up broken hearts, and bring comfort to all who mourn.

Pray for salvations. Pray that God would save the lives of many more people in Ukraine, bringing redemption by drawing millions to salvation in Jesus Christ.

Pray for our Baptist family. Finally, pray for the Baptist churches, church plants, and those who are part of our global Baptist family who live in Ukraine and Russia. Pray for Ukraine Baptist Union, which works with many Baptist churches and the children they serve through this organization.

First Baptist Church
202 W. Cherry Street
Bluffton, Indiana 46714



Sunday

Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

Kids' Time 10:10 a.m.

fbcbluffton.com

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First Baptist Church-Bluffton Indiana

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