

# FIRST FOCUS

## **THINK, ACT, BE**

What would it be like if Jesus lived your life right now? The late Dallas Willard once asked that question in a conference I attended many years ago. Instead of thinking about what Jesus would do, he asked us to imagine how he would transform the lives we have right now. If he lived in your house, with your family, here in Tallahassee, how would he proclaim the gospel? That's precisely what he's called us to do. When he said "Come, follow me," we did not move to Tiberias on the shores of the sea of Galilee, purchase a net and a boat, and invest in the local fishing industry. We followed him right here, where he met us. We repented, believed, and began a journey with Jesus. We became disciples.

From September 13 to November 8, our church will learn again to be disciples of Jesus. We're starting over, practicing together what it means to Think, Act, and Be like Jesus. We will study 10 core doctrines of the Christian life and apply those in 10 critical ways to our daily living. We will discuss the virtuous fruit that comes out of a life fully surrendered to Jesus' life. Each person will have the opportunity to come to Sunday Morning Bible Study (SMBS) and receive a copy of Randy Frazee's book on this topic. Randy is the senior minister of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio and based much of this work on his research while he was teaching pastor at Willow Creek.

We could not ask for a better time to work together through this material. Every day, we have opportunity to ask and answer questions about our faith. Our children press us for knowledge, and our friends ask us for information. Our hearts burn to know more about our faith to reassure us through life's daily challenges. We know that doctrine is more than principles on a page. They are practices for daily living. As James said, we are to be doers of the word, and not just hearers only. This series is designed to help us see how our beliefs inform our daily living and vice versa. Our series will also allow us to invite friends who have questions about Christian beliefs. For inquirers, beginners, skeptics, and strugglers, everyone can learn as a disciple of Jesus.

On Sundays in worship, I'll be teaching these core beliefs, practices, and fruit. On Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. beginning September 2, I'll focus on why we believe what we believe and obey. Why are our views on salvation, the trinity, the church, marriage, eternity, and much more so important to life today? In addition, Zach and Josh will lead "Theology and Culture" for College Students and Young Adults on the first Wednesday of each month in Fellowship Hall at 7:30 p.m. Both Sundays and Wednesdays will give us reassurance, confidence, and guidance as we live the Christian life.

Every age and stage will be studying this material in SMBS—from children, to youth, to adults. We should have some great Sunday lunch conversations in our house! We'll be publishing a "Verse of the day" that households can use in individual or family Bible study and prayer, and Rhonda Smith will be enlisting folks to lead a few small groups in the week to build community in our church and supplement the teaching on Sundays and Wednesdays. There is truly "something for everyone" in this series.

Pick up a copy of the book beginning this Sunday in your SMBS classes. If you're not already in a class, now is a great time to start. Like children being brought to Jesus, we're all beginners in our faith. Let's grow together.



# THIS WEEK

## COLLEGE STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

As contemporary cultural norms continue to drift further from traditional biblical standards, today's Christians must be able to apply robust theology to the unique challenges of our culture. On the first Wednesday of each month, college students and young adults are invited to gather for a time of dinner and discussion as we explore the intersection of theology and culture. We will begin this series by looking at the perceived conflict between science and religion. Can you hold the Bible as God's written revelation while still accepting the results of modern scientific inquiry? Bring your questions and be ready for a great discussion...and the chance to win some free stuff, too. Dinner is served at 7:30 in the fellowship hall, and the discussion begins at 8:00. For more info and upcoming topics, go to [fbctlh.org/events/theology-culture-science](http://fbctlh.org/events/theology-culture-science).

## OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN CHOIR

Our Sanctuary Choir is open to all adults, college-age through senior adults, and meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm in C-2201. This active choir performs a wide variety of challenging and inspiring music and leads our congregation in worship most every Sunday at the 9:00 traditional service. We are gearing up to kick off the fall with special music on August 23 to welcome our college students back, and on September 13 to launch the Think, Act, Be series. Then on Wednesday, September 16, we will introduce and sing through our Christmas Musical program (to be presented December 13). We invite you to join the Sanctuary Choir just for Christmas, or for all year round. For more information, contact Penny ([penny@fbctlh.org](mailto:penny@fbctlh.org)) or Lenoir ([lbrewer@fbctlh.org](mailto:lbrewer@fbctlh.org)).

If you are retired or semi-retired, First Joy Choir may be the right fit for you. We meet on Monday mornings, 10:30-12:00 in C-2201, and spend our time enjoying snacks, planning activities, having a time of prayer and devotion, and of course, singing our hearts out! We are primarily an outreach choir, enjoying monthly "sing-outs" in various locations around the Big Bend, including Assisted Living and Retirement Facilities. We are planning to be a performing choir at The Celebrating Grace National *Inspire!* Choral Festival in Jacksonville next April 14-16. We need to take 50 singers, so now is a good time to get involved and learn the music with us!

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor  
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary  
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options  
10:15AM First Step, Welcome Center  
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary

### MONDAY, AUGUST 24

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Connect Center  
10:30AM First Joy Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201  
5:00PM First Brass, Adams 200

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall  
6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Preschool Class, Duval 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Elementary Music & Missions, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Youth Collide, CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary  
6:00PM Moms Connect, Adams Basement  
6:00PM Women's Bible Study, Adams 301  
7:00PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201  
7:00PM Chamber Players Rehearsal, Adams 200  
7:15PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

# COMING SOON

## **SUMMER SUNDAY NIGHT SING**

Sunday evening, August 30, at 6:00 pm, the FBCTLH Music Ministry is proud to present the 6th annual Summer Sunday Night Sing with our own FBC Chordsmen, Murray Cooper, Byron Folsom, Chris Green, and Don Thompson. This year, the Chordsmen are very proud to feature several of your favorite FBC solo artists in concert: Omar Allen, LeAnn Sbordone, Amy Parker, Mark Milner, Jackson Green, and yes, Pastor Bill Shiell! This lively evening of southern gospel music will have your spirit lifting, your toes tapping and your heart dancing. Invite your friends and neighbors and arrive early for good seats!

## **GRIEFSHARE**

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. This is a thirteen week series that incorporates the use of a facilitator, video, discussion and a workbook. Join us starting Sunday, September 13 from 3:00-4:30PM for our Fall series. Contact Lindsey (lindsey@fbctlh.org) for more information.

## **DIVORCECARE**

Help spread the word! Someone you know may be hurting...make sure they know about DivorceCare, a weekly seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. It incorporates the use of a facilitator, videos, discussion, and a workbook. Anyone may join the group at any time during the 12 weeks. The next series at FBCTLH begins this Wednesday, September 16, in Adams 315 from 6:00-7:30PM. Contact Lindsey (lindsey@fbctlh.org) for more information.

CONNECT WITH US online @fbctlh



## **SERVE**

### **FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME**

For the month of August, we will join the Children's Home in providing personal hygiene items - shampoo, conditioner, body wash, and deodorant. Collection bins are in the College Avenue foyer, the welcome center, by the elevator on the first floor of the Adams building, and in the main office.

### **MORE OPPORTUNITIES**

Check out the [fbctlh.org/Serve](http://fbctlh.org/Serve) page for more ways to get involved now in serving in and through FBCTLH.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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PERIODICALS  
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**THE VISION NEWSLETTER**

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For submissions, address corrections, or to unsubscribe, contact x132 or [hello@fbctlh.org](mailto:hello@fbctlh.org).

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Vision, 108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

**SERVICE RECORDINGS**

[fbctlh.org/sermons](http://fbctlh.org/sermons)

Our Traditional Worship service is broadcast on Comcast Channel 21 at 11:00AM each Sunday.

Contact x215 or [lee@fbctlh.org](mailto:lee@fbctlh.org) with questions.

If you are homebound and would like to be on our mailing list to receive a free DVD of our worship services each week, please contact x201 or [lenoir@fbctlh.org](mailto:lenoir@fbctlh.org). All other requests are \$5, and can be made at the front desk or online at [fbctlh.org/contact](http://fbctlh.org/contact).

**FELLOWSHIP MEAL**

August 26 - hamburgers with all the trimmings, fries, green beans, baked beans, salad, and dessert

**FINANCIALS**

YTD budget: \$1,808,915  
Budget Receipts On 8/16/15: \$38,966  
YTD receipts: \$ 1,581,740

**DEACON SCHEDULE**

Deacon of the Day – Bill Smith

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Lee Scarboro
- 10AM Howard Rhodes
- 11AM Keith Gaskins

**SECURITY SCHEDULE**

Sunday, August 23

- 8AM Ben Hart
- 10AM Lyle Ragans
- 11AM Erik Eikeland

Wednesday, August 26

- 6PM Charles Maynard

<b>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP</b>	9:00AM
<b>BIBLE STUDY</b>	10:00AM
<b>CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP</b>	11:15AM

# I AM CALLING

Exodus 3:7-14