

FIRST FOCUS

“GOD, ME, AND WE” DISCIPLINES

Thinking like Jesus is one thing; but without action, it's just words. As one of my friends once told me, if the Greeks had compiled the New Testament, the fifth book would have been “Thoughts.” Instead, right after the Gospels (good news), we have “Acts.” Now, we turn to acting like Jesus.

Randy Frazee writes that there are ten spiritual disciplines of the Christian life that activate a person's journey with Jesus. These are the exercises we use to practice our faith. Much like a piano student learns (and re-learns) how to play an instrument, we practice our faith in many ways. The ten we focus on this month are the ones critical to a thriving convert. I've divided these practices into the “God, me, and we” disciplines—those that develop our relationship with God, myself, and others. For the next three Sundays, we'll be discussing these practices.

October 4- God

Worship, Prayer, and Bible Study

October 11- Self

Single minded devotion to God

A life fully surrendered to God

Generosity with the time and money God has given us

October 18- Others

Biblical community

Spiritual gifts

Sharing faith with others

Many of us were taught in youth group that this journey from thinking to acting is the distance from the head to the heart. I suggest to you it's much more than that. It's the revolution of a life that changes us; our feet, our hands, and causes us to reach out to each other as well. To go there, we need humility, a teachable spirit, and a desire to mature in our faith. We need to spend even more time in the “belly of the fish.” As Jonah, the apostle Paul, and so many others learned, the journey of following God begins downward into the depths of our lives. We learn so much better when we're dependent, vulnerable, and needy. So as we take the next step in the Jesus Revolution, pray for God to teach you again. All of us need the practice.



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 focus this week on the topic of race. 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 PM in the fellowship hall, and the discussion begins at 8:00 PM.

For more info and upcoming topics, go to fbctlh.org/events/theology-culture-race.

FAITH, FOOD, FRIDAY

The God Squad continues its fifth Faith, Food, Friday season with "Religious Liberty," exploring the contentious national debate over what the correct relationship between government and religion should be along the lines of equality and freedom of religion. The program will be held Friday, October 9 from noon to 1 pm at one of this season's new program venues, Good Samaritan United Methodist Church (3720 Capital Circle SE across from Southwood) with lunch available beginning at 11:30. It will be moderated by Dr. Bill Shiell of First Baptist Church. Joining Bill are God Squad regulars Rev. Betsy Ouellette-Zierden of Good Samaritan United Methodist Church, Rabbi Jack Romberg of Temple Israel, Pastor Darrick McGhee of Bible Based Church, and Father Tim Holeda of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church.

All Faith, Food, Friday forums are free and open to the public. Lunch is available for \$8 if you RSVP by the Tuesday ahead of the program and \$10 with a late reservation or at the door – all lunches are paid cash or check at the door. You may also bring a brown bag lunch. For a menu, more information or to reserve your seat go online to <http://wiki.tothevillagesquare.org/x/QYDf>, email fff@tothevillagesquare.org or call 590-6646.

FIRST LOVE

We set aside a day each fall for our entire church to come together and serve our community. There is a place for you to use your gifts to serve others – by encouraging, sewing, praying, singing, constructing, and more! This fall we will gather as a church on Saturday, November 7 starting at 8:30AM. If you are interested in participating or would like more information, contact Hannah (hannah@fbctlh.org). You can sign up online (fbctlh.org/first-love) or in the connect center.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10:00AM Church-wide Bible Study Options
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Connect Center
10:30AM First Joy Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201
5:00PM First Brass, Adams 200
6:00PM Bells of Praise, Adams 211

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

6:30PM International ESL Class, Chason 2201

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

11:00AM Senior Ladies' Bible Study, Large Meeting Room
4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall
6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1st Floor
6:00PM Preschool Class, Duval 1st Floor
6:00PM Elementary Music & Missions, Duval 2nd Floor
6:00PM Youth Collide, CLC 2nd Floor
6:00PM Adult Bible Study/Business Meeting, Sanctuary
6:00PM Moms Connect, Adams Basement
6:00PM Women's Bible Study, Adams 301
7:00PM Youth Praise Team, Adams 211
7:00PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201
7:00PM Chamber Players Rehearsal, Adams 200
7:15PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:30PM THEOLOGY & CULTURE, Fellowship Hall 317

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:30AM International ESL Class, Chason 2201

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

11:30AM Faith, Food, Friday, Good Samaritan United Methodist Church

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

COMING SOON

WOMEN ON MISSION

Women on Mission groups will meet on Tuesday, October 13. All women of the church are invited to attend. For more information, contact a group leader or WOM Coordinator, Donna Heald (224.3940).

- Group 1: Patsy Faircloth and Gloria Dowden | Time: 9:30AM | Location: Second Harvest of the Big Bend, 4446 Entrepot Blvd. | Program: Tour the new facility and do a mission action project. Call Linda Wheeler to ride the bus.
- Group 2: Glenda Verhine | Time: 9:30AM | Location: Comprehensive Emergency Services Center (Kearney Center) on Pensacola Street | Program: Tour the new facility and learn about volunteer opportunities
- Group 3: International - Maurine Wagner | Time: 9:30AM | Location: Westminster Oaks Pool House | Program: "Holy Land Highlights"

INVITATION FROM THE MUSIC MINISTRY

The Music Ministry of First Baptist Church

cordially invites you to

"Come Home for Christmas."

The Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra will present our annual Christmas musical
Sunday evening, December 13 at 6:00 pm

And we need you. If you sing, play an instrument, or are skilled in any aspect of stage/dramatic production, we would love for you to take part. You can sign up anytime in the next few weeks.

Call or email Lenoir in the music office for more information 222-5470, Ext. 201; lbrewer@fbctlh.org

A CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY FOR MARTY AND JANICE SMITH

The International Ministry invites you to Celebrate and Honor the Ministry of Marty and Janice Smith. Heaven only knows the impact on the Kingdom this couple has had in the lives of people as they have served their Master in this community. Join us for this Celebration Luncheon in their honor on Sunday, October 18th following the Contemporary service in the Fellowship Hall. The meal will be prepared by our FBC Hostess and Kitchen Staff with the International Ministry leading the program. The cost for lunch will be \$6. RSVP to Jordan Mallory (jmallory@fbctlh.org) or sign up online.

SERVE

FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

For the month of October, we will join the Children's Home in providing food pantry supplies: canned vegetables, fruits and soups and boxed food (pasta, rice, cereal). 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 page for more ways to get involved now in serving in and through FBCTLH.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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THE VISION NEWSLETTER

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SERVICE RECORDINGS

fbctlh.org/sermons

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

Contact x215 or 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 lenoi@fbctlh.org. All other requests are \$5, and can be made at the front desk or online at fbctlh.org/contact.

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
TALLAHASSEE
FLORIDA

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

October 7 - veggie bar: macaroni and cheese, steamed cabbage, butterpeas, fried okra, corn muffins, salad bar, dessert

FINANCIALS

YTD budget: \$2,148,087
Receipts 09/27: \$44,332
YTD receipts: \$1,853,931
Missions Offering: \$5,420.50

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Jeff Butts

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Tim Barry
- 10AM Nathan Adams
- 11AM Sherman Wilhelm

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 4

- 8AM Lorne Shackelford
- 10AM Jim Wheeler
- 11AM Mark Byler

Wednesday, October 7

- 6PM Lee Vickery

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP	9:00AM
BIBLE STUDY	10:00AM
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP	11:15AM

COMMUNICATION TRAINING

Hebrews 4:12-16