

Welcome to First Baptist Church

“Making much of Jesus among the peoples of the Earth,
Starting with the people next door.”

We're glad you're here!

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Sam Byers & Greg Pflasterer – Elders (also called pastors)

Keith Palmer, John Throgmorton & Jerry Wagner - Deacons

ORDER OF WORSHIP ~ MAY 1, 2016

▪ **WELCOME** – Grace and Peace to you!

▪ **CALL TO WORSHIP** – Psalm 99 ESV

LEADER: *The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The Lord is great in Zion;*

CONGREGATION: **he is exalted over all the peoples.**

LEADER: *Let them praise your great and awesome name!*

CONGREGATION: **Holy is he!**

LEADER: *The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.*

CONGREGATION: **Exalt the Lord our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he!**

LEADER: *Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called upon his name.*

CONGREGATION: **They called to the Lord, and he answered them.**

LEADER: *In the pillar of the cloud he spoke to them; they kept his testimonies and the statute that he gave them.*

CONGREGATION: **O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**

LEADER: *Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain;*

CONGREGATION: **for the Lord our God is holy!**

▪ **SONG** – 2. Holy, Holy, Holy (1st, 2nd & 3rd verses)

▪ **PRAYER**

▪ **SONG** – 252. Glory Be To the Father [Gloria Patri]

▪ **OLD TESTAMENT READING** – Leviticus 19 ESV

▪ **SONG** – I Hear the Words of Love (1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th verses)

▪ **NEW TESTAMENT READING** – Luke 10:25-37 ESV

▪ **SONG** – 134. Jesus Paid It All (1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th verses)

▪ **PRAYER**

▪ **SCRIPTURE READING** – 1 Corinthians 13:1-7 ESV

▪ **PASSING OF PEACE** – Let us welcome and greet each other!

▪ **SONG** – 386. Family of God (Chorus only)

▪ **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

▪ **PRAYER**

▪ **SERMON TEXT** – 1 Corinthians 14 ESV

▪ **TIME OF RESPONSE** [The Lord's Supper, Offering, Prayer]

▪ **THE LORD'S PRAYER** – Matthew 6:6-13 KJV

▪ **SONG** – 253. Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow [The Doxology]

▪ **BENEDICTION** – Jude 1:24-25 ESV

Lord's Day Meditation

The Christian life is a journey to the greatest joy that exists. But “the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few” (Matt 7:14). Why is that? Because, as Jesus's disciples learned in Mark 8, in order to pursue our greatest joy, we must deny ourselves.

If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. (Mk 8:34)

Carrying a Roman cross did not sound like the Messianic kingdom they were longing for. It sounded like death. Jesus wanted them to die? Yes.

Jesus was preparing them for the cross — his first and foremost, then theirs — and the multi-millennial mission to call out true Israel from all peoples into his kingdom. Jesus was teaching them to intentionally move toward death.

All present that day would die physically, some as martyrs. But all his followers would also have to die spiritually, to themselves. They would have to die to the desire for self-glory, die to the desire for worldly respect, die to the fear of man, die to the desire for an easy life, die to the desire for earthly wealth, and a thousand other deaths. Finally, they would have to die to their desire to save their earthly lives.

But Jesus wasn't calling his followers to some stoic life of self-sacrifice. He was inviting them to joy beyond their imagination. Jesus was calling his followers to deny themselves the world's paltry, brief joys so that they might have overflowing eternal joy. He was calling them to deny themselves hell, that they might take up heaven.

The Christian life is hard, sometimes agonizing, but we shouldn't be surprised (1 Pet 4:12). The Christian life is hard because denying our fallen selves is hard. Our lives are our most precious earthly possession. Nothing displays the worth of Jesus more than our willingness to give away our lives (in small and large ways) for his sake.

The only things that Jesus asks us to deny are what will rob us of eternal joy. Like Moses in Heb 11:25–26, we are called to deny ourselves the passing pleasures of sin and consider the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the world's treasures. How? By looking to the reward!

Source – “How Can Self-Denial Be Hedonistic” by Jon Bloom

“A cheap Christianity that offends nobody, requires no sacrifice, and costs nothing is worth nothing.”

~ J.C. Ryle ~