



Holiness

Often I have prayed, as you have, that God would give me insight about a difficult decision with which I was faced. For example, most recently, I prayed about whether purchasing another automobile was the right choice for my family. While I believe such prayers to be valid, I wonder if my motives behind these prayers are based on my desire to truly know God's will or on my desire to choose what will make my life better or easier. In other words, I want God to play fortune teller, to look into my future and give me insight as to how well such a purchase would work out for me and not whether it is His will for my family. Let me put it to you one more way. I wanted the benefit of the power of His omniscience without submitting to the authority of His Lordship.

I know this to be the case because there are other areas of my life that I know with absolute certainty what God's will is, and yet, about those things I seemed to be much less convicted. One such area is God's desire for my holiness. Ephesians 1:4 says that "he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight." It's not just His desire that we should be holy; it is His plan. His eternal purpose is to look at me and see one who is "holy and blameless." What a marvelous truth. God's eternal plan is that I should look like Jesus forever. It's not just an illusion; the Bible says that God is actually changing us into the image of His Son. (Romans 8:29) While I accept and welcome the idea that God will one day perfect me for all eternity, I'm not nearly as excited about partnering with Him in the *current* process of sanctification. I know from Scripture that it is God's will that I should be sanctified (1 Thes 4:3), and yet I don't pursue holiness...just a new car.

All throughout scripture, God has expressed a desire that His people should be separate from the world around them, set apart. This is not merely a matter of geography, meaning we should literally segregate ourselves from

unbelievers, but rather it is an issue of holiness, that we should be consecrated for His purposes and nothing else. We can see an illustration of the *separateness* that God desires for His people even in the pages of the Old Testament.

In the tabernacle, there were articles that were designed specifically for use in the sacrifices and worship that took place there. They were said to be *consecrated*, a Hebrew word meaning "to set apart." They were not to be used for common purposes. They were reserved for God alone and had to be purified with the sprinkling of blood before they were acceptable to God. In the same way, Aaron, the high priest who ministered before God, also had to be sprinkled with blood for his purification in order that he might enter the Most Holy Place. It was the blood that made everything acceptable. We also, having been permanently cleansed by the blood of Christ, are acceptable before God to serve Him as priests and yet our daily lives don't always reflect the holiness of the God we are called to serve.

In Jerry Bridges' book *The Pursuit of Holiness*, he speaks of the "necessity" of holiness in the life of a believer in a chapter entitled, *Holiness is Not an Option*. He says, "When the Holy Spirit comes into our lives at our salvation, He comes to make us holy in practice. If there is not, then, at least a yearning in our hearts to live a holy life pleasing to God, we need to seriously question whether our faith in Christ is genuine...true salvation brings with it a desire to be made holy." I believe that this desire to be like God will inevitably reveal itself in earnest effort on the part of true believers to "not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds..." (Romans 12:2)

This may have been what Paul had in mind when he wrote to a young pastor named Timothy and instructed him with these words. *But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay,*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>Guest Article</i>	1
<i>Students</i>	3
<i>20Somethings</i>	3
<i>Music Ministry</i>	4
<i>PAW Ministry</i>	4
<i>Women's Ministry</i>	5
<i>Children's Ministry</i>	6
<i>Watermelon Social</i>	7
<i>Kindergarten</i>	7
<i>June Calendar</i>	8
<i>Summer Discipleship</i>	8
<i>Weekly Events</i>	8
<i>Attendance</i>	8
<i>Financials</i>	8

some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. (2 Timothy 2:20-21 - NKJV) Although our sin has been atoned for and our standing before God is secure, there is a cleansing process that needs to continually take place. We are called to be willing participants in that process. Here, we are told that sanctification is a matter of self evaluation. We must determine those things that exist in our lives for dishonorable purposes and cleanse ourselves from them.

But how are we to know the honorable from the dishonorable?

I believe the Bible teaches us to fix our eyes fully on Jesus for the answer, to see Him revealed in the pages of scriptures as a perfect image of the invisible God. We are to make Him our hero and follow His example... imitate His character. That is what I think is meant by the "renewing of your minds." When we see Christ as He really is, in all His glory, we cannot help but put Him back in His rightful place in our lives and crowd out all the counterfeit deities that have captured our affections and influenced our behavior.

Almost every young boy has heroes in his life. As a young boy, there were people whom I would emulate (usually rock stars or athletes) because they exhibited some quality or characteristic that seemed appealing to me. Something about their very existence made me want to be like them. Today, clothing, hairstyles, music, even our language is shaped by people's desire to be conformed to the image of their heroes. Our very heart's desire is to be a carbon copy of those people whom we worship. One possible reason for the unholy condition of many professing believers today could be the unholy condition of their idols who have replaced the true God. (Even our TV shows testify to it – *American Idol among others*). We have lost the desire for holiness because we have lost the sense of awe we once had for the living God. Maybe we've lost our sense of awe because we no longer see God as He really is...in all His glory!

Our first challenge is to see God and to see Him as He really is. While this is partially possible in our view of creation, the only true and perfect picture of the Father is the Son as revealed to us through the pages of Scripture by His Spirit. The prerequisite to a holy existence is an enlightened and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. If your personal attempts at *goodness* have proven futile, as they ultimately always will, then give Jesus a try. His work of redemption is what makes our sanctification a possibility. He has procured for us not only a right standing before the Father but the unlimited power of His Spirit for our sanctification.

If it's not your heart's desire to live a life which is conformed to the image of your Creator then maybe you have only experienced God in theory and never really personally met Him. I would invite you to discover Him for the first time in His Word. Or, maybe you do know Him but just haven't been face down in His presence in a long time...His real overwhelming presence.

The second challenge is to not focus on, and ultimately covet, a world that denies the existence of a perfect, holy and glorious God because they would then have to bow in submission to His authority. Rather you should "set your hearts (focus) on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God."

Church family, God's desire for us is that we should be holy. It was the shedding of the precious blood of Jesus that has made it possible for us to become holy in His sight. Should we not then submit to His desire that we be made holy in our daily lives? I challenge you to spend some time meditating through the pages of Scriptures on the holiness of God. See Him in all of His glorious splendor. I have listed some of my favorite passages below for you to consider along with a few books that I highly recommend. I pray that we all can experience the glory of God anew and that He would rekindle a passion in our hearts to "reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image." (2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT)

Struggling along side of you by His strength, Phil

Psalm 8
Psalm 15
Psalm 96
Daniel 2:20-23
Luke 1:46-55
Philippians 3:7-11
Colossians 1:15-23
Revelation 21-22

The Attributes of God by A. W. Tozer
The Holiness of God by R. C. Sproul
Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ by John Piper
The Pursuit of Holiness by Jerry Bridges

(these books are available in the Church Library)

Students

Summer Student Events & Activities

- ☼ June 7th - TGIF - Youth Social Gathering @ the Hines at 7:00pm
- ☼ June 17th-22nd High School Camp - Impact Camps
- ☼ June 24th-28th Middle School Camp - Impact Camps

NOTE: Camp Registration is due June 2nd, please see Zach for more questions, schedules, locations, or anything else relating to camp.

Dear MRBC Youth: I'm so excited for this summer and I want to encourage you to get involved in one of our many activities this summer. Along with Youth Camp, we have small groups meeting throughout the summer, as well as Collide on Wednesdays.

I challenge us to grow God's Kingdom, and encourage you to invite any friends or classmates to our church activities this summer, that they may hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. In Matthew 28:19, Jesus states to "Go and Make Disciples," and I believe our goal this summer is to do just that. Be blessed friends! ~ Zach



20Somethings



Who are we? We are... sinners in need of God's Grace, part of God's plan for the future, going to make an impact on the world for Christ; we aren't children any more, we are making the decisions that will effect the rest of our lives. We matter to God.



Mission trip to the Rio Grande Valley & Mexico July 28th - August 3rd

If you are interested in going to Mexico with the 20something group, or just "considering it", please come to this **informational meeting, Sunday, June 2nd at 5pm in the conference room.** We will talk about what we are doing, where we are staying, and the cost. Questions? Please see Rachel.

Weekly Events:

- * **Sunday AM:** Follow Me by David Platt; 9:45AM
- * **Sunday PM:** Systematic Theology at 6:00pm (Sunday nights we usually hangout after 7:17)
- * **Mondays:** Chik-fil-a at Camp Wisdom & 360, 11:30am
- * **Wednesday nights:** Bible Study in back of Common Grounds. We are studying *Spiritual Gods at War*, 8:30pm.

Music Ministry

I hope that you enjoy our musical presentation of *Experiencing God: The Musical*, coming Sunday, June 2nd. I know that the choir, orchestra, and tech crew members have been blessed as we prepare for that day of worship. We pray that you and your family will be blessed, as well. As always, our primary goal is that that our Lord would be pleased with our offering to Him. As He reveals Himself to us, we long to respond to Him with worshipful obedience and devotion.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to share what the summer months hold in store for the music ministry of Matthew Road Baptist Church. The adult choir will continue to work hard throughout the month of June, but will take a short break for the month of July. Rehearsals will resume in August. You can expect great music in July as we continue to be led by our praise teams and a few special ensembles.

Both Proclamation and the children's choir will take a break for the summer, but will be back for the fall semester. We are already identifying resources and ministry opportunities for both groups. Be sure to thank Tammy Phipps and Zach Elkins for the great leadership that they provided to the children and students.

I believe that the summer months provide a time for rest, but they also provide an opportunity for the music ministry to be more inclusive than ever! Please let me know if you are interested in serving on a praise team over the summer. I hope you'll also consider joining us in the fall. Personally, I'm already excited about one of my FAVORITE worship experiences of the year... Vacation Bible School! We'll see you there! ~ Jeff

PAW Ministry

Unplugged!



Summer Camp

**An 8 week camp
offered
for Children Ages
9 months - 12 years**

Sponsored by
PAW @ Matthew Road Baptist Church

Unplugged! at MRBC offers a fun and safe program for children during the summer. It is operated as a non-profit ministry to the children and families in our community. As a ministry of Matthew Road Baptist Church since 2001, our classes are open to any child regardless of race or religious beliefs. **Unplugged!** is Mondays and Wednesdays, from 9:30am - 2:30pm, beginning June 10, 2013, through August 7, 2013. *(We will be closed Monday, July 8 and Wednesday July 10 for Vacation Bible School.)*

Our camp activities are appropriately designed for the age group and the stage of development of each child. In today's society, our children don't know what it is to be without all their electronics. We want to show them that they can still have fun and be unplugged from all their game systems, TV, computers, internet, etc... **Unplugged!** is our summer semester that offers a fun old fashioned style camp!

For more information about pricing and registration, please contact Cyndi King at 972-641-7380 or by email at cyndikking@msn.com.

Women's Ministry



Sisters of Strength

Be a Sister of Strength!

Take the time to
strengthen a sister!

Make a phone call! Send a card! Pray!

Let us walk this life together!!!

Have a prayer request? Need more
information about our Women's Ministry
classes or events? Need to get in touch with
our Women's Ministry Coordinator?

Then contact us at our email address:
womensministryofmatthewroad@gmail.com



Ladies Night Out will return this fall!

Information will be posted on
the Women's Ministry Bulletin Board,
located in the nursery hallway of the Worship Center.



You are invited to the Ladies Tea and Luncheon

June 1st, 2013 11:30-1:00

**"From Flip Flops to High Heels -
We are all made in His image!"**



Moms and Grandmas, please feel free to bring your girls ages 6th grade and up.

Cost is \$5.00 a person.

Please rsup so we can plan accordingly.

**RSVPs can be made to Jennifer Howard 443-717-4152,
womensministryofmatthewroad@gmail.com or the church office at
christy@matthewroad.org or 972-641-2717.**



- † Ladies Sunday Night Bible Study, 6:00pm. Please see the Women's Ministry Bulletin Board, down the nursery hallway, for more information. This is open to ladies of all ages!
- † Ladies Wednesday Night Bible Study, 6:30pm. Please see the Women's Ministry Bulletin Board down the nursery hallway, for more information. This is open to ladies of all ages!

Children



Don't miss out on MD² this summer!

We will begin our summer MD² classes on Sunday, June 2nd!
Each week we will have games, large group lessons, and small group discussion!

Boys will be learning about "Bible Heroes and Bad Guys".

Girls will be completing "The Official Princess Handbook" as we learn about
beauty, poise, and righteousness.

Sundays, 6-7pm for Kindergarten through 6th Grade

Boys meet in Area 56/Girls meet in 4th Grade Room

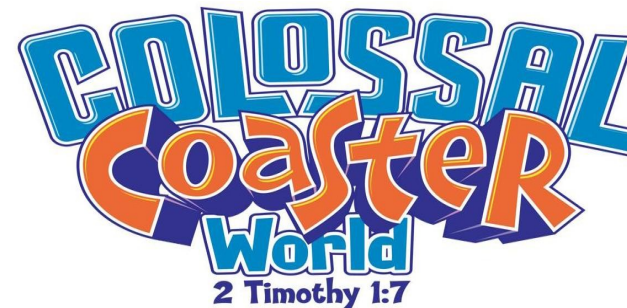
Small groups broken up by age



COMING THIS SUMMER - KIDS ON MISSION!

WEDNESDAYS 6:30PM

UPSTAIRS, EDUCATION BUILDING



Matthew Road Baptist Church

Vacation Bible School

July 8-12

Monday-Friday

6:00-8:30pm

972-641-2717

Colossal Coaster World will challenge kids to face
their fears and trust God as they zip along the
roller coaster of life. Through every twist, turn, and
dive kids will learn that God has not given them a
spirit of fearfulness, but a spirit of power, love, and
sound judgment. At the end of the week, kids will
want to do it all over again!

VBS Meeting: June 30 @ 5pm in the Choir Room.

Please email Maggie if you would like to help!

We need A LOT of workers :)

**T-shirts are \$7. Email Maggie at
maggie@matthewroad.org, if you would like one.**

VBS DECORATING AND CANVASSING DAY!

WHEN: SATURDAY, JULY 6TH, 9AM - 2PM

WHERE: MRBC CAMPUS AND SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS

WHAT: DECORATING FOR COLOSSAL COASTER WORLD VBS AND
HANDING OUT FLYERS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

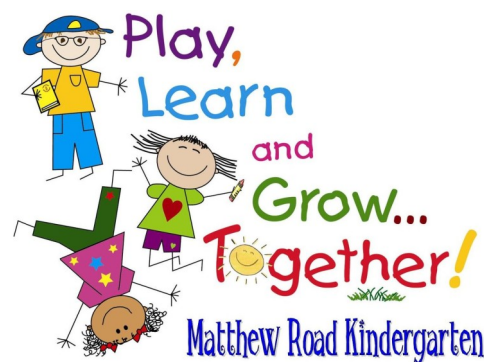
WHO: EVERYONE!

QUESTIONS: SEE MAGGIE OR ROSE

Watermelon Social



Matthew Road Kindergarten



Are you looking for an educational alternative other than traditional
5 day a week kinder?

Do you want to instill a love of learning in your child?

Are you looking for a kindergarten
that still values *developmental learning?

Do you value a classroom with a low ratio and a teacher
with 30+ years experience with kindergartners?

Are you wanting your child to learn Biblical principals?

Then we may be the kindergarten for you!!!

Matthew Road Kindergarten is a Tuesday and Thursday program.

Hours: 8:45am - 2:30pm Tuesdays and Thursdays

Cost: \$175.00/month

Curriculum: Academically integrated and developed to the individual needs of your child

Maximum Class Size: 12

For more information, contact Cyndi King @ 972-641-7380 or by email at cyndikking@msn.com

*"Developmental" or "child-centered" kindergarten involves a focus on inspiring a love of learning. Learning is still a big part of developmental programs, but it is learning in a more general sense. The organization of the physical space is very important and students learn through engagement with sand boxes, crayons, and other items in the room. In general, students are steeped in "experience" and learn through their senses. In addition, communication and social interactions are valued and important.

June 2013 Events & Activities

For more information, please see our website, www.matthewroad.org, or call the church office at 972-641-2717.

- June 1st:** Ladies Tea & Luncheon, 11:30am, Fellowship Hall, see Jennifer Howard or ad in newsletter
June 2nd: "Experiencing God the Musical", 8:30am service, 11:00am service, 7:17pm service, see Jeff
20Somethings Mission Trip Meeting, 5:00pm, Conference Room, see Rachel
June 6th: Young @ Heart Breakfast at Outlaws, 8:30am
June 7th: Youth TGIF, see David & Nancy Howard
June 8th: Jr. High Guys class party, 4:00pm, CommonGrounds, see Ms. Crystal or Ms. Christy
June 10th: PAW Summer program begins, 9:30am, see Cyndi
June 12th: AWANA Leader Appreciation Dinner, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall, see Charles or Anita Fry
June 13th: 20Something Fun Night, details to come, see Rachel
June 15th: Deacon Meeting, 8:30am, Fellowship Hall, see Chris DeWolfe
June 16th: B&G Meeting, 5:00pm, Conference Room
June 17th - 22nd: Senior High Camp, see Zach
June 21st: PNO, 6:30pm, Worship Center, see Cyndi
June 23rd: Preteen Camp Kickoff, 5:00pm, see Maggie
Churchwide Watermelon Social, 8:15pm, on the front lawn
June 24th - 28th: Preteen Camp, see Maggie
Jr. High Camp, see Zach
June 30th: VBS Meeting, 5:00pm, Choir Room, see Maggie

Discipleship

Sunday Nights:

- ♦ The Study of Acts - Sanctuary, 6:00pm
- ♦ Ladies Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 6:00pm
- ♦ Adult Bible Study - Library, 6:00pm (ongoing)
- ♦ 20Somethings - 2nd Flr, Ed. Building, 6:00pm (ongoing)
- ♦ Guy Talk for youth - classroom behind coke machine in CommonGrounds Bldg., 6:00pm (ongoing)
- ♦ Girl Talk for youth - classroom to the right of the stage in CommonGrounds Bldg., 6:00pm (ongoing)
- ♦ MD² - Education Building, 6:00pm (ongoing)

Wednesday Nights:

- ♦ Kids On Mission, 6:30pm, Ed. Building
- ♦ Collide (for youth), 6:30pm, CommonGrounds
- ♦ Adult Bible Studies, 6:30pm, Worship Center
- ♦ 20Somethings Bible Study, 8:30pm, CommonGrounds

Friday Nights:

- ♦ Bible Study at the Germer's home, 7:00pm, see the Germers for more info

Average Morning Attendance for May: 436
Average 7:17 Service Attendance for May: 183

Regular Weekly Calendar

Sundays	
Morning Worship	8:30 & 11:00am
Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:45am
Evening Bible Study (all ages)	6:00pm
7:17 Service	7:17pm
Mondays	
PAW Summer Program	9:30am
Tuesdays	
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
Counseling Classes	6:30pm
Wednesdays	
PAW Summer Program	9:30am
Collide (youth)	6:30pm
Kids On Mission	6:30pm
Adult Bible Study	6:45pm
Adult Choir	6:45pm
20Somethings	8:30pm
Fridays	
In-home Bible Study (at the Germer's Home)	7:00pm
Saturdays	
Men's Coffee Group	7:30am

Financials Thru April 30, 2013

Budget Income	\$295,807
Budget Expense	(319,193)
Net Budget	(23,386)