

Two Beautiful Psalms

Footnotes:
Psalm 1:1 Or way
Psalm 1:3 Or canals
Psalm 1:3 Or foliage
Psalm 1:3 Or all that he does prospers
Psalm 1:6 Or approves or has regard to

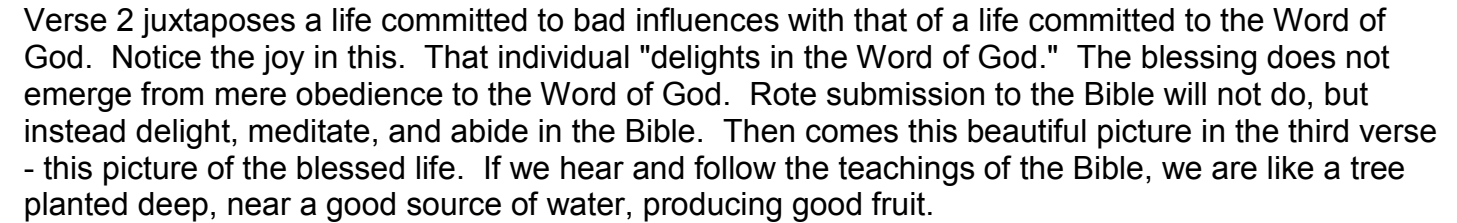
Cross references:

Psalm 1:1 : Prov 4:14
Psalm 1:1 : Ps 5:9, 10; 10:2-11; 36:1-4
Psalm 1:1 : Ps 17:4; 119:104
Psalm 1:1 : Ps 26:4, 5; Jer 15:17
Psalm 1:2 : Ps 119:14, 16, 35
Psalm 1:2 : Josh 1:8
Psalm 1:2 : Ps 25:5
Psalm 1:2 : Ps 63:5, 6
Psalm 1:3 : Ps 92:12-14; Jer 17:8; Ezek 19:10
Psalm 1:3 : Gen 39:2, 3, 23; Ps 128:2
Psalm 1:4 : Job 21:18; Ps 35:5; Is 17:13
Psalm 1:5 : Ps 5:5
Psalm 1:5 : Ps 9:7, 8, 16
Psalm 1:5 : Ps 89:5, 7
Psalm 1:6 : Ps 37:18; Nah 1:7; John 10:14;
2 Tim 2:19
Psalm 1:6 : Ps 9:5, 6; 11:6

Blessings

Such an appropriate introduction to the entire book of Psalms. The first word of the book, "blessed," indicates the tremendous benefit to hearing and following the truths of this particular book, as well as the truths communicated throughout the entire Bible. The connotation of being blessed by God runs counter to our transient culture. We often pursue happiness, fleeting pleasures, and temporary distractions. Ironically, chasing such short-term happiness can actually hinder true blessing. As happiness seeks immediate pleasure on our own terms, blessedness seeks joy on God's terms. Happiness ultimately is idolatry- the worship of the self. Blessedness comes from an act of worship - seeking God above all else. Blessed: the inward joy that comes from God. It comes from outside us, from God. It comes on God's terms and for God's glory.

In this opening verse, the psalmist identifies hindrances to divine blessing. As Paul says, "bad company corrupts good morals.". Bad company also hinders divine blessing. If you long for the joy that only God can give, be careful how you spend your time. Don't hang out with people who are dominated by sin. Be careful where you get your advice for life. The wicked come from all sides, constantly speaking with authority into our lives saying, "Live this way! Embrace this idea! Follow this dream!" Their way sounds good, but the result is destruction and misery. The followers of God must be constantly vigilant in how we live. Notice the purposeful way in which those blessed of God live. Purposefully we are to avoid walking, standing or sitting with unrighteous people. We must purposefully avoid being swept into the sinful person's lifestyle, thinking, attitudes and pleasures.



Is it really worth it? Is it really worth living counter to the culture? Is the blessing better than the temporary pleasures of this life? Does the blessing remain forever? According to the psalmist, the righteous will be "in the assembly of the righteous." In other words, the righteous will be in the house when God gathers His people. The way they lived their lives will be forever credited to their account by their God. How about the life poorly lived? The psalmist considers the outcome of those three characters from verse 1, the wicked, the sinners, and the scoffers. All their deeds are forever lost. As Spurgeon says of this verse, "The righteous carve their name upon the rock, but the wicked write their remembrance in the sand. The righteous ploughs the earth, and sows a harvest here which shall never be fully reaped until they enter the enjoyments of eternity; but as for the wicked, they plough the sea, and though there may seem to be a shining trail behind his keel, yet the waves shall pass over it, and the place that knew them shall know them no more forever." Those who live in rebellion against God are wasting their lives.

Practically speaking, this plays out every day of our lives in every aspect of our lives. We must be constantly cautious in our thoughts, motives, words and actions. We must constantly war against this world's system and its sinful disposition. We must battle against the temporary pleasures that steal our eternal rewards. We fight to live in ways that will bring God's blessings, His inward, everlasting peace and soul satisfaction that He gives to those who love Him and His ways.

~ Daniel

Annie Armstrong

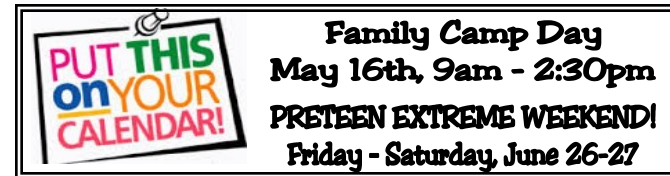


Jesus shared His earthly mission statement in Luke 19:10 when He stated: “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost.” It’s the same mission the North American Mission Board embraces as they help churches reach North America for Christ. NAMB’s Send North America strategy is designed to help Southern Baptists push back lostness by prioritizing the planting of new evangelistic churches—especially in under-reached and underserved areas, such as our large cities and our non-

South regions. The task is urgent because in the last 100 years Southern Baptists—and evangelicals in general—have lost significant ground in the church-to-population ratio, especially in the non-South regions of North America and in and near our large cities where more than 80 percent of our population lives.

To help the NAMB missionaries accomplish this God-given mission, first of all, we can pray for these missionaries. On March 1st, you will receive an eight-day prayer guide at the end of the worship service. You are encouraged to pray throughout the week for each featured missionary. Secondly, we can give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions. Our church goal is \$5,500. Our offering, together with the total offerings from all Southern Baptist churches throughout America, will help the missionaries push back lostness in North America. Thirdly, we can do our part by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with those who need Him.

Children's Ministry



Wednesday Nights, for kids ages 3* - 6th grade.

*3 year olds in Cubbies must be potty trained, and have turned 3 by Sept. 1st. A parent must stay on campus through the duration of the program. See our website to see what Adult Bible Study classes we have for you.



Sunday Afternoons, for kids from 7th - 12th grade.

TREK/Journey is for students in Jr. High and High School to continue AWANA. 7th - 12th grade AWANA meets on Sundays from 4:00pm - 5:30pm.



VBS Dates are set so put them on your calendar! Theme: MOVE!

From here to there. From bored to passionate. From selfish to giving. From unfocused to wide awake. With MOVE! kids will be shown people in the Bible who changed direction and moved, and they all had one thing in common: Somewhere along the way, they came face to face with Jesus.

Monday through Friday, June 15-19 - 6-8:30pm.

*OUR 1ST VBS LEADER MEETING IS THIS MONTH, SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH, 12:15PM, IN THE LIBRARY



Sunday Nights 5:30pm

Front Lawn of
Worship Center

This Spring we will study the Old Testament books of Ezra & Nehemiah. Don't miss out as we learn what it means to be courageous leaders for God's Kingdom.



Facebook - facebook.com/mrbccchildrens
Twitter - MRBCmrbc

We will continue through the Gospel Project on Sunday mornings at 9:45am! Don't miss a Sunday hearing the Gospel presented throughout the entirety of the Bible.



Student Ministry

Check out the Student Ministry Events & Activities coming soon!

Bible studies:

- High School Guys (9th - 12th) - @ the Geisendorff's, Mondays, 6:30pm, led by Seniors
- High School Girls (9th - 12th)- @ Christine Wehrli & Maggie Dean's, Thursdays, 6:30pm, led by Christine & Maggie
- Middle School Guys (7th, 8th & 9th) - @Kings, Mondays, 6:30pm, led by Andrew Snyder
- Middle School Guys (7th & 8th) - @ Ms. Shirley's or the Hines, Mondays, 6pm-8pm, led by Chris Hines & Jonathan Phipps (contact Jonathan at 214-796-9181 for location)
- Athletes Guys Bible Study - @ MRBC, Mondays, 6:00pm, led by Zach
- Middle School Girls (7th & 8th) - @ the West's, Mondays 6:00pm-7:00pm, led by Madi Snowden

Counseling Ministry

Announcing Grace Groups for Individuals and Families Dealing with Mental Health Struggles

Matthew Road Christian Counseling is sponsoring a Living Grace Group and a Family Grace group in Grand Prairie. The Living Grace group is a support program for people diagnosed with serious mental illness. The Family Grace Group is a support program specifically for parents, siblings, spouses, teen-age and adults sons and daughters, partners and significant others who are caregivers of persons with severe and persistent mental illness. The weekly sessions are held on Thursday evenings at Matthew Road Baptist Church, from 6:30pm-8:00pm.

The support groups will cover information about Building Your Faith, Stigma, Communication, Medication, Grieving and Grace, Being Holistic, You're not the Hero, Cycles and Triggers, Community, Crisis and Problem Solving, Negative and Destructive Behavior, Boundaries to Rebuild, Enabling vs. Empowering, and Staying Ahead of the Game. The Living Grace group will be facilitated by a counselor, and the Family Grace group is facilitated by 2 family members who are MHGA volunteers and have taken intensive training as course instructors.

The Grace Groups are offered at NO COST.

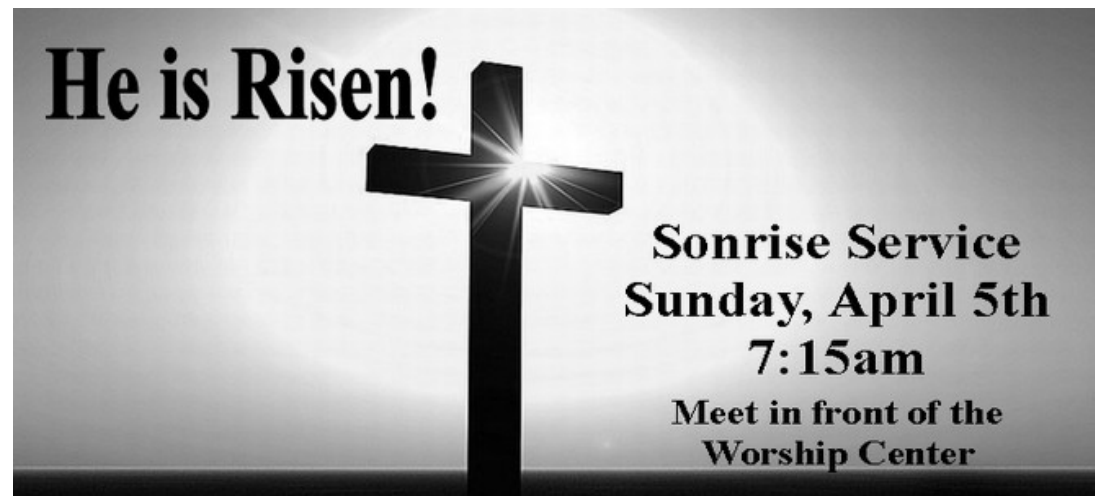
For more information or to register, contact either Greg Trihus 972-855-8547 or greg.trihus@sil.org, or Meg Trihus at 972-372-9671 or meg.trihus@sil.org. You can also contact Matthew Road Christian Counseling 469-278-5901, Keith@matthewroad.org.

Easter Services

In addition to our regularly scheduled weekly services, we will be celebrating with two additional services.



***Childcare for 3 & under only**



***NO CHILDCARE AVAILABLE**

We will enjoy a muffin breakfast immediately following the Sonrise Service

Women's Bible Study



Beginning May 19th, 4:30pm, at Glazed.

Diana Hines teaching six week study.

More info to come...

(<http://store.precept.org/On-Sale-Now/Sweeter-than-Chocolate-Hebrews-11.html>)

PAW



Preschool Academy of Westchester (PAW) is a quality preschool program for children ages 9 months - 5 years old.

Your children will enjoy their classroom activities planned around our curriculum, "Wee Learn" (published by LifeWay). At our program, your child will learn about sharing, healthy living, academics, music, American Sign Language, the Bible, manners, cooperation and giving. It is a time for both you and your

children to enjoy.

Schedule: We are a Monday & Wednesday preschool. Our hours are 9am - 2pm.

Tuition and Fees: Tuition is \$130.00 per month. There is an annual supply fee of \$75.00 (prorated if enrolling during the school year) and a registration fee of \$35.00 (non-refundable). Supply and registration fees are due upon enrollment.

Pease call Cyndi King, at 972-641-7380, for more information about this and our Summer Programs.

Enroll now for fall semester!

Matthew Road Academy

MRA Discovery Days

Our summer program offers students from 1st - 6th grade an amazing opportunity to discover fun while learning. To sign up, please go to matthewroadacademy.org/summer.



- ⚙ **Imagination Station, June 1st & 3rd, 9am -2pm**
Let your child's imagination come to life, as they learn to build the things that they previously only seen in their dreams. Imagination station will be a 2 day camp of building and discovery.
- ⚙ **Kitchen Chemistry, June 8th & 10th , 9am -2pm**
What happens when vinegar mixes with baking soda? How messy can you get in the kitchen? Kitchen Chemistry will bring science to a whole new level of fun as children learn how different items found in their own kitchen can become their next experiment.
- ⚙ **All About Nature, June 22nd & 24th, 9am -2pm**
The world around us is full of mystery. God's creation is constantly calling us to explore, so come join us as we learn about what God made in the beginning, from the biggest to the small. This week will be hands on and full of fun, so be prepared!
- ⚙ **Water Works, June 29th & July 1st, 9am -2pm**
It's hot outside, and it's time to stay cool! So bring your sun block & your towels because we are going to be exploring water first hand in this fun filled week of H2O.

20Somethings

What's up

April 17th - Retreat at Riverbend (See Rachel) \$50.00
May - Top Golf (See Madi) \$10.00

NEED INFO?

Call or Text Rachel
@ 972-965-9970

20Something Retreat

When: 4.17 thru 4.18
Time: 5:30 - eat dinner before
Where: Riverbend
Cost: \$50

Please register by April 6th.
\$25 deposit due when you register.

See Rachel or Madi to register
or if you have any questions.
Rachel: 972.641.2717
Madi: 580.478.6634

Music Ministry

It's not too late to join us! All ages will have the opportunity to lead in worship during this exciting time in the life of our church.

- ♫ Adult choir rehearsals will have begun! Wednesday nights at 6:30pm, in the sanctuary.
- ♫ Proclamation Youth Choir has begun. Wednesday nights, at 5:45pm in the choir room.
- ♫ The Children's Choir meets Wednesday nights, at 6:00pm, on the second floor of the ed. building.

20some things

REGULAR SCHEDULE

Bible Study
Sunday:

9:45AM - Topical;
The Book of Acts
Ed Bldg
5:30PM - Snack/Prophets as
Preachers
Fellowship Hall

Discipleship Wednesday:

8:30PM - Common Grounds
I & II Thessalonians

Mexico Mission Trip
July 26th - 31st
more info to come...

April 2015 Events & Activities

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

- April 1st:** Youth Easter Service, TBA
April 2nd: Young @ Heart Breakfast at Outlaws, 8:30am
Youth "Passion of the Christ" Movie, 7:00pm, Place TBD
April 3rd: Good Friday Service, 7:00pm, Sanctuary (childcare for 3 & under only)
April 5th: Sunrise Service, 7:15am, front lawn of Worship Center (no childcare available)
April 10th: MRA Field Day, 9:00am, MRBC Campus
April 17th: Parents Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center *by reservation only
April 19th: NewComer's Class & Lunch, 12:15pm, Fellowship Hall
April 26th: Ride to Rescue, after 2nd service, Joe Pool Lake, More info to come...



Sunday, April 19th
12:15pm
Fellowship Hall

SAVE THE DATE!
RIDE TO RESCUE
SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH
MORE INFO TO COME...



Discipleship

Sunday Nights:

- ◇ 20Somethings - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Discipleship - Sanctuary, 5:30pm
- ◇ Ladies Bible Study - Conference Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Young Marrieds Bible Study - Library, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Couples Class - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Guy Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 5:30pm, see Zach for exact location
- ◇ Girl Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 5:30pm, see Zach for exact location
- ◇ MD² for children - Education Building, 5:30pm

Wednesday Nights:

- ◇ AWANA Club for children - Ed. Building, 6:30pm
- ◇ Collide for youth - CommonGrounds, 6:30pm
- ◇ Adult Bible Studies - Library, 6:45pm
- ◇ Women's Bible Study - Conference Room, 6:45pm
- ◇ 20Somethings Bible Study - CommonGrounds, 8:30pm

Regular Scheduled Activities

Sundays	
Morning Worship	8:30 & 11:00am
Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:45am
Evening Bible Study (all ages)	5:30pm
7:17 Service	6:45pm
Mondays	
PAW Program	9:00am
Tuesdays	
MRA	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
Wednesdays	
PAW Program	9:00am
Wednesday Night Dinner	5:15pm
Proclamation (youth choir)	5:45pm
Children's Choir	6:00pm
Collide (youth)	6:30pm
Adult Choir	6:30pm
AWANA Club	6:30pm
Adult Bible Study	6:45pm
20Somethings	8:30pm
Thursdays	
MRA	8:30am
Fridays	
Chick time at Chick-Fil-A	9:00am
Saturdays	
Men's Coffee Group	7:30am
(Good Day Café, Grand Prairie)	

Average Morning Attendance for March: 356
Average 7:17 Service Attendance for March: 194

Financials as of March 13, 2015 (without PAW)

Budget Income	\$ 163,806
Budget Expense	(165,656)
Net Budget	(1,850)