

First Edition

July/August
2016



First Baptist Church of San Mateo 2801 Alameda de las Pulgas San Mateo, CA 94403 650-345-1965 www.fbcsanmateo.org

Got any idols? Are you sure?

By Pastor Marc Heinz

The past few weeks as part of my preparation for our study on 1st Samuel I have been reading through the first eight chapters of this powerful and insightful book daily. Recently, during my reading and study time I was reminded how quickly and easily God's people turned away from following wholeheartedly after the Lord. Seemingly overnight they adopted foreign gods and were worshipping them. And it is very clear that the Israelites were strongly attracted to the worship of Baal and Ashtaroah, and so they erected local high places where sexually oriented and highly charged cult rituals could be practiced.

Tragically, this depraved worship quickly spread, and resulted in Israel's breaking of many of God's commandments, including the commandment to have no other gods before Him. This way of life was in total opposition to everything that Israel should have stood for as the people of God. As God's chosen people they should have known better! Yet, they chose to leave God out of their plans, and as a result they stumbled and fell, bringing tremendous suffering on themselves, their children and their nation.

The first commandment is: *"You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God. Exodus 20:3-5.*

A simple or basic definition of an idol would be that an idol is anyone or

anything that takes your focus away from God. Scripture makes it clear that our loyalty and love must first and foremost be given to Him. God must be our #1 priority. While we may not be tempted to worship stone or metal gods, or participate in weird cult rituals, don't be fooled into thinking that you are living in a world devoid of false gods or false worship. Quite the contrary, our world is not a godless world, but rather a world that worships that which is false. And when people become enslaved to the worship of these kinds of things, they are dehumanized and destroyed just as quickly as Israel and her neighbor's were.

Now it's important to understand that we are actually living in a world today that is far more driven by idolatry and sensuality than the one the Israelites faced. But the "false gods" and idols that are worshipped today have different names. And may include worship of things like: self, power, relationships, career, success, possessions, hobbies, addictive substances, money, beauty, sports, politics, clothing, leisure activities, pornography, internet, and on and on it goes.

If you really think about it, it is obvious that we are living in a world that for the most part has lost its bearings because it has abandoned God, and worships the creature rather than the Creator. It is a world that promises personal fulfillment but actually destroys the individual because it is based on a distorted anthropology that says material things are more important than people

Studying this portion of scripture

caused me to ask how could someone ever turn away from worshipping the One, true, living God, in order to turn to that which is false? I also wondered why Israel's relationship with God had grown so cold. What happened? More importantly, I was compelled to ask myself; what must I do to insure that something like that never happens to me or to the ones I love?

Fortunately, Samuel gave God's people the key to victory. He declared that repentance from idolatry and loyalty toward God are the prerequisites for blessing. Therefore, we must be singularly minded and focused on God and His Word. Folks, we need to allow God to set the pace and the priorities in our lives! We also need to be alert and diligent so that the world will be unable to squeeze us into its mold.

Folks, we please the Lord when we maintain an exclusive, loyal relationship to Him. And you know what? God not only demands that He be the priority of our lives.... He deserves to be our #1 priority! God, and God alone is the One to whom all praise, honor, worship and glory is due.

So what about you? Any idols? Anything you need to change? Saints, its never to late to stop where you are and regroup and then move forward in the strength and power of Almighty God.

"Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Give careful thought to your ways.'"

Haggai 1:5 (NIV)



FBC Youth Summer Camp 2016

By Doug Andrews

We saw God do some incredible things at Hume Lake in our hearts and minds, and with the togetherness of our little youth group here at FBC.

God taught us through examining the biblical account of Elijah. The seemingly silly theme of Bingo and life on Old MacDonald's Farm (God's nation of Israel) helped students to connect with the situation of Israel as it fell into idolatry under the evil leadership of Ahab and Jezebel. It was Elijah, whom God called to stand against the evil all around him and speak the word of God boldly. Our students were challenged to stand for the Lord in this dark and idolatrous generation. Even though we may struggle with fear, we can run to the Lord and receive redemption and restoration. God worked and spoke to each one of us as we sought Him.

My greatest emphasis with our kids at camp was to take the time to individually connect with God in their own life. Their strength to truly change and keep the connection they

established with the Lord only comes through daily time with Him. The #1 priority needs to be abiding in Him. All that He is and has for us is the greatest treasure we could ever experience in this life, FAR greater than anything the world could offer.

Each one of us had a personal encounter with God that has left us unchanged. What was wonderful about this experience, was that we were together through it all. I saw students take the initiative to be together and include everyone in all that we were doing. Many of my older students planned and worked before we even left for camp to create activities that would bond the group together. I can't wait to see how God will take the lessons and experiences we had to grow us even deeper in Him, and also for us to bond closer together.

Thank you for your prayers and scholarship support for these kids to go to camp and have these incredible experiences.

FBC Summer Regular Events:

FBC YOUTH Service Sunday Mornings 11:00 - 12:15 pm

Our next teaching direction for our Sunday youth group meeting is going to focus on Exploring God's word and how we fulfill His purpose for us in our lives as the church.

FBC YOUTH Mid-Week

Combining CAD and TNT (High/Jr. High) for the Summer - Tuesday Nights 7:15 - 9:00 pm (no Thursday nights)

Our next teaching direction for our mid-week youth group meeting is going to focus on "Walking with the Lord" in our lives.

Youth Guyzzz Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10:30am - 12:00pm
Lots of "zzzz"s make it cool!

We're studying through the book of 2 Corinthians and looking at how a Christian makes decisions and where strength for life comes from. This will be a great opportunity for kids to learn HOW to read the Bible for themselves and know what God is saying through the text.

Friday Morning Coffee and Bible (or "BibleBookClub" as we like to call it) - Fridays, 9:00 am Hillsdale Starbucks

We are reading and discussing different Psalms through the summer This has been a great time together. Bring a few \$ for coffee and your bible/notebook.

■ 7/15: Psalm 40

■ 7/22: Psalm 103

Fellowship Activities

We'll also be planning various fun activities and outings this summer to spend time and share life together. We'll be announcing these as we develop them.

July Calendar:

Sundays (24th & 31st):

Regular Services

Tuesdays (19th & 26th) 7:15pm

CAD and TNT

Wednesdays (20th)

BBQ at 6:30pm

Worship Rehearsal 8pm

Wednesday (27th)

Paint Night at 6:30pm

Thursdays (21st and 28th)

Youth Band Rehearsal 7pm

Worship Rehearsal 8pm

Friday (29th)

Movie Night at 6:30pm

WHEN WE'RE PROVOKED

(Excerpts from "The J.I. Packer Classic Collection")

"Holiness means, among other things, forming good habits, breaking bad habits, resisting temptations to sin, and controlling yourself when provoked. No one ever managed to do any of these things without effort and conflict.

"How do we form the Christlike habits which Paul calls the fruit of the Spirit? By setting ourselves, deliberately, to do the Christlike thing in each situation.

". . . Thus, we should think of

- Love as the Christlike reaction to people's malice
- Joy as the Christlike reaction to depressing circumstance
- Peace as the Christlike reaction to troubles, threats, and invitations to anxiety
- Kindness as the Christlike reaction to all who are unkind
- Goodness as the Christlike reaction to bad people and bad behavior
- Faithfulness and gentleness as the Christlike reactions to lies and fury
- Self-control as the Christlike reaction to every situation that goads you to lose your cool and hit out

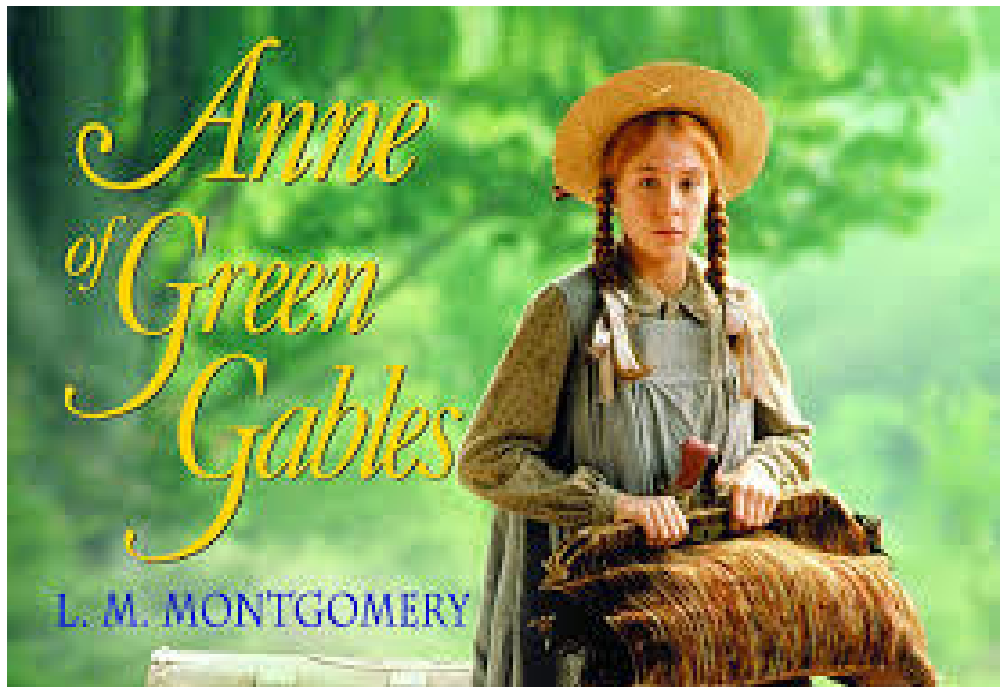
The principle is clear: The Spirit is with us to empower us, and we know that Christlike behavior is now in the profoundest sense natural to us. But still, maintaining Christlikeness under this kind of pressure is hard."



WED., JULY 20th

6:30 P.M.

**Bring a salad or dessert to share.
Everything else will be provided.**



Movie Night - Friday, July 29th, 6:30 p.m.

**Hot Dogs, popcorn, and drinks will
be provided. Bring a salad or
dessert to share.**

Defeating Discouragement

Discovered online and

Submitted by Marlene Varney

Nehemiah 2:1-8

“Discouragement can rob peace, joy, and contentment. But I have great news if you feel disheartened: You need not be stuck!

“I’ve known people who appeared to be in impossible situations. A few years later, however, they were in a terrific place, either in terms of their circumstances or their emotions. The reason? They never gave up. Instead of sulking in self-pity, they chose to believe God and step out in faith. In that way, they did not remain entrenched in an emotional pit.

“Nehemiah is a good example. He had every reason to feel defeated, because his people were in trouble. After receiving news that the city wall had been destroyed, this man of God acknowledged profound disappointment and grieved. Yet doing so was risky, because sadness in the presence of royalty was punishable by death.

“Though pain flooded his soul, Nehemiah didn’t allow himself to stay in that low place. Instead, he cried out to God for direction. And the Lord answered with amazing power, prompting the king to notice his servant’s sad countenance and then to ask what he could do to help. This miracle led to the rebuilding of the wall and the redemption of God’s people.

“The Lord can take an impossible situation—no matter what it is—and move in ways mightier than you can imagine. Do you live in eager expectation of what the Lord will do? Or have you chosen to linger in the depths of despair? Like Nehemiah, turn your disappointment into a petition for God’s help. He can restore your hope and prevent negative emotions from gaining a stranglehold on your life.”

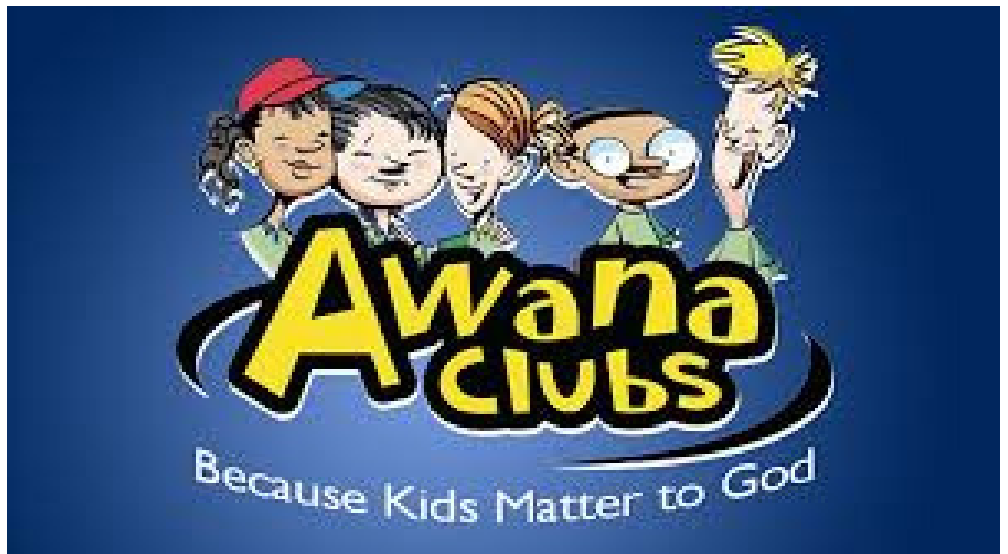
This so speaks to me this morning!
I hope you find comfort in it as well

Blessings,
Marlene

“God’s presence and ownership or His people gave them their identity.”

In God’s Presence

by J. I. Packer



By Cathy Thomas

First Baptist will again be hosting the Awana Program, beginning September 7th. The Wednesday night program runs from 6:30-8:00 PM.

Awana Clubs provides an opportunity for children to: hear the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ and learn how the Bible applies to their daily lives, listen to Bible Stories and/or stories of great Christian leaders to inspire and encourage them to walk in obedience and faith in Jesus Christ, learn the Word of God through memorization and recitation of key verses, fellowship with others through activities and games.

The Awana Clubs offered this year will be:

Cubbies

Three through Five Year-Olds

Truth & Training

Grade 3 thru 6 (8 to 11 years old)

Sparks

Grade K thru 2nd (5 to 7 years old)

Trek/Journey

Junior High/High School (12-17 years old)

We are looking for dedicated Christian men and women who love the Lord and love to serve Him in a ministry with children. This involves a weekly commitment of time with the children. Leaders encourage the children to be attentive during story time and participate in singing. They listen to the children recite verses and help them participate in game time.

We have an application process for all potential workers (some checking of references) and a training session. We are especially in need of leaders in the Cubbies Club. If you are interested or need more information contact, Ron Thomas at awanaronthomas@yahoo.com



July 27th, 6:30 pm

Everything you need will be provided. Just come and let this be a spiritual act of worship!

FB**Consummate
Man**

Men's Monthly Break- fast

**August 6
8:30 a.m.
in the
Chapel.**

Psalm 8 -

¹O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens! ²From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength Because of Your adversaries, To make the enemy and the revengeful cease. ³When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained; ⁴What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him? ⁵Yet You have made him a little lower than God, And You crown him with glory and majesty! ⁶You make him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, ⁷All sheep and oxen, And also the beasts of the field, ⁸The birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea, Whatever passes through the paths of the seas. ⁹O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth!

SEED DEVOTIONAL

[Morgan, R. J. (1997). On This Day: 365 Amazing and Inspiring Stories About Saints, Martyrs & Heroes (electronic ed). Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers.]

Discovered online and Submitted by Sheryn Cockett

I Thessalonians 1:2-3

Dear Seed-Sowers!

I was reading and praying today. I read this devotional and was blessed and encouraged by the writers thoughts. I thought you might be blessed by these thoughts too! May it be a blessing to you. Go out and be a link in somebody's chain.

Links in the Chain

Edward Kimball was determined to win his Sunday school class to Christ. A teenager named Dwight Moody tended to fall asleep on Sundays, but Kimball, undeterred, set out to reach him at work. His heart was pounding as he entered the store where the young man worked. I put my hand on his shoulder, and as I leaned over I placed my foot upon a shoebox. I asked him to come to Christ. But Kimball left thinking he had botched the job. Moody, however, left the store that day a new person and eventually became the most prominent evangelist in America.

On June 17, 1873, Moody arrived in Liverpool, England, for a series of crusades. The meetings went poorly at first, but then the dam burst and blessings began flowing. Moody visited a Baptist chapel pastored by a scholarly man named F. B. Meyer, who at first disdained the Americans unlettered preaching. But Meyer was soon transfixed and transformed by Moody's message.

At Moody's invitation, Meyer toured America. At Northfield Bible Conference, he challenged the crowds saying, If you are not willing to give up everything for Christ, are you willing to be made willing? That remark changed the life of a

struggling young minister named J. Wilber Chapman.

Chapman proceeded to become a powerful traveling evangelist in the early 1900s, and he recruited a converted baseball player named Billy Sunday. Under Chapman's eye, Sunday became one of the most spectacular evangelists in American history. His campaign in Charlotte, North Carolina, produced a group of converts who continued praying for another such visitation of the Spirit. In 1934 they invited evangelist Mordecai Ham to conduct a citywide crusade. On October 8th Ham, discouraged, wrote a prayer to God on the stationery of his Charlotte hotel: Lord, give us a Pentecost here. Pour out thy Spirit tomorrow.

His prayer was answered beyond his dreams when a Central High School student named Billy Graham gave his heart to Jesus.

And Edward Kimball thought he had botched the job!

Friends! You are a link in somebody's chain! Pray about who God is asking you to share the Good News of Jesus with. You may never know whose life will be forever changed because of your faithfulness.

God loves you and do so I,
Dave

I am not praying just for these followers. I am also praying for everyone else who will have faith because of what my followers will say about me. I want all of them to be one with each other, just as I am one with you and you are one with me. John 17:20,21a

(End of article)

**Leadership
offerings for the month of July
will be for the fund for the
needy. In August these offerings
will go to City Impact.**

“... all the remnant of the people ... came and worked on the house of the LORD.” Haggai 1:14

See the bulletin board and sign up to help restore the Lord's house.

“In His temple everything says, ‘Glory!’” Ps. 29:9



Have you ever considered honoring a loved one by providing a bouquet of flowers for the sanctuary? Several dates are available. Sign up in the notebook on the counter in the narthex. We ask and appreciate a \$40 gift for each arrangement.

The office staff will order your bouquet to be delivered -- so convenient, and so appreciated by your loved ones.

Ephesians 1:7-14 (The Message)

By Doris Waddell

I've always loved the first chapter of Ephesians because it tells us of God's love planned for us - all because of His kind intention (a thought that is written several times in different ways throughout that chapter.)

Because I was looking for ways to fill the First Edition, I prayed for help and I believe God directed me to this passage in *The Message*.

I hope it has the same effect on you as it has on me, that is to worship our amazing LORD.

“Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the Cross, we are a free people -- free of penalties and punishments chalked up by all our misdeeds. And not just barely free, either. *Abundantly* free! He thought of everything, provided for everything we could possibly need, letting us in on the plans he took such delight in making. He set it all out before us in Christ, a long range plan in which everything would be brought together and summed up in him, everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth.

“It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he us working out in everything and everyone.

It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free --signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. The signet from God is the first installment of what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life.



August 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
All Events Are Subject to Change.	1	2 7:15 pm C.A.D. & TNT	3 6:30 pm Prayer & Worship Night 8pm Worship Rehearsal	4 3pm Youth Band Reh.	5	6 8:30 am Men's Monthly Breakfast
7 Communion	8	9 7:15 pm C.A.D. & TNT	10 6:30 pm Midweek Ser. 8pm Worship Rehearsal	11 3pm Youth Band Reh.	12	13
14	15	16 7:15 pm C.A.D. & TNT	17 6:30 pm Midweek Ser. 8pm Worship Rehearsal	18 3pm Youth Band Reh.	19	20
21	22	23 7:15 pm C.A.D. & TNT	24 6:30 pm Midweek Ser. 8pm Worship Rehearsal	25 3pm Youth Band Reh.	26	27
28	29	30 7:15 pm C.A.D. & TNT	31 6:30 pm Midweek Ser. 6:30 pm AWANAS Leadership Training 8pm Worship Rehearsal	SUNDAY MORNINGS: 9:30am Bible Studies for Children and Adults Contemporary Style Worship 11:00am Bible Studies for Adults and All Youth Classical Style Worship		



First Baptist Church
 2801 Alameda de las Pulgas
 San Mateo, California 94403

Daily Bible Readings

The following Bible readings are provided by
 biblegateway.com for our use.

July

Fri.	01	Psalms 136-140
Sat.	02	Psalms 141-145
Sun.	03	Psalms 146-150
Mon.	04	Proverbs 1-3
Tues.	05	Proverbs 4-6
Wed.	06	Proverbs 7-9
Thurs.	07	Proverbs 10-12
Fri.	08	Proverbs 13-15
Sat.	09	Proverbs 16-18
Sun.	10	Proverbs 19-21
Mon.	11	Proverbs 22-24
Tues.	12	Proverbs 25-27
Wed.	13	Proverbs 28-31
Thurs.	14	Ecclesiastes 1-3
Fri.	15	Ecclesiastes 4-6
Sat.	16	Ecclesiastes 7-9
Sun.	17	Ecclesiastes 10-12
Mon.	18	Song of Songs 1-4
Tues.	19	Song of Songs 5-8
Wed.	20	Isaiah 1-3
Thurs.	21	Isaiah 4-6
Fri.	22	Isaiah 7-9
Sat.	23	Isaiah 10-12
Sun.	24	Isaiah 13-15
Mon.	25	Isaiah 16-18
Tues.	26	Isaiah 19-21
Wed.	27	Isaiah 22-24
Thurs.	28	Isaiah 25-27
Fri.	29	Isaiah 28-30
Sat.	30	Isaiah 31-33
Sun.	31	Isaiah 34-36

August

Mon.	01	Isaiah 37-39
Tues.	02	Isaiah 40-42
Wed.	03	Isaiah 43-45
Thurs.	04	Isaiah 46-48
Fri.	05	Isaiah 49-51
Sat.	06	Isaiah 52-54
Sun.	07	Isaiah 55-57
Mon.	08	Isaiah 58-60
Tues.	09	Isaiah 61-63
Wed.	10	Isaiah 64-66
Thurs.	11	Jeremiah 1-3
Fri.	12	Jeremiah 4-6
Sat.	13	Jeremiah 7-9
Sun.	14	Jeremiah 10-12
Mon.	15	Jeremiah 13-15
Tues.	16	Jeremiah 16-18
Wed.	17	Jeremiah 19-21
Thurs.	18	Jeremiah 22-24
Fri.	19	Jeremiah 25-27
Sat.	20	Jeremiah 28-30
Sun.	21	Jeremiah 31-33
Mon.	22	Jeremiah 34-36
Tues.	23	Jeremiah 37-39
Wed.	24	Jeremiah 40-42
Thurs.	25	Jeremiah 43-45
Fri.	26	Jeremiah 46-48
Sat.	27	Jeremiah 49-52
Sun.	28	Lamentations 1-3
Mon.	29	Lamentations 4-5
Tues.	30	Ezekiel 1-3
Wed.	31	Ezekiel 4-6

night of
**PRAYER
 & WORSHIP**
 Wed., Aug. 3, 6:30 P.M. in the Chapel

Why did Jesus come?

Here's what He said:
**"I have come that they [you] might
 have life and have it abundantly."**
 John 10:10