

This is the book in the Bible that begins, "Vanity of Vanity, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity" (Ecc 1:2). Doesn't that just make you feel chipper. One pastor said of this book, "Sounds like Solomon needs a hug."

Martin Luther said of Ecclesiastes, "We should read this noble little book every day, precisely because it so firmly rejects sentimental religiosity!" In other words, this book can yank us out of a religious daze.

It is perfectly relevant to us. It speaks to finding satisfaction in knowledge, wealth, pleasure, work, fame and sex. It is not enough to say that we are living in a *culture* that seeks to find meaning in these things. Do we not often find ourselves facing the emptiness of these things in the world?

Ever feel like you are chasing the wind? Ecclesiastes is your friend. Those struggling with purpose and meaning will read Ecclesiastes and say, "He gets it! He feels what I feel!"

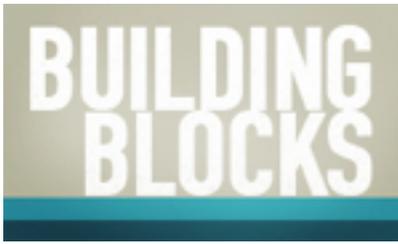
The book distinguishes between vain pursuits and meaningful living with a stinging clarity. It does not affirm or justify cynicism, skepticism, or fatalism. It doesn't say life is meaningless. It reveals what is meaningless and vain pursuits in life. It is often convicting and it is insightful all the way through. It reveals vain pursuits and presents a life that matters.

Pray. Read. Listen.

May God build up the body of Christ as we get into this book of the Bible to see "Joy, Sorrow, Vanity, and What Really Matters in Life".

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Blocks Offered at 9:30am

- Jesus and the Old Testament
- The Gospel and Sexual Ethics
- How to Study the Bible (Women's Group)
  
- Youth Block (6th-12th grade)
  
- Kids Blocks (infant-5th grade)

FALL 2015 Blocks  
Begin September 20  
Register on our  
website NOW!

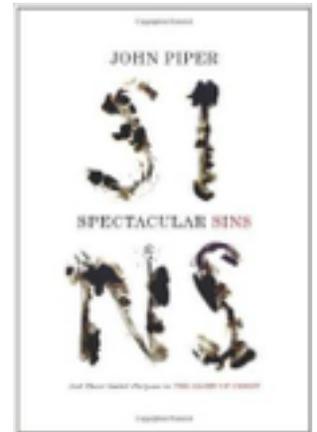
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## RECOMMENDED READING

### ***Spectacular Sins:***

And Their Global Purpose in The Glory of Christ  
by John Piper

What a weird title. Sin as spectacular? Is this a Christian book? Well, in short, yes. John Piper calls us to behold the mightiness and strength of God over everything—even sin, even natural disaster. Everything serves the good purpose of God. Available in the book stall.



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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome these new members to Milwood. If you see them around, introduce yourself.

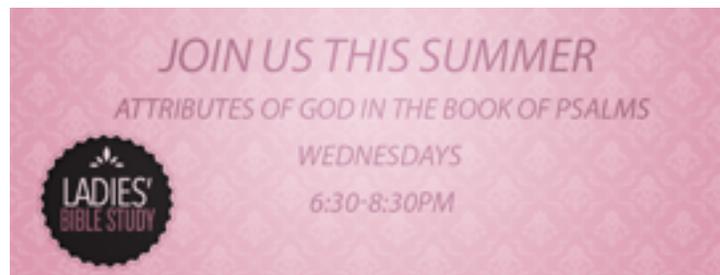


Alex & Loren Sosler



David & Jennifer Tobey  
(Nate & Will)

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**Location: Milwood Baptist Church**

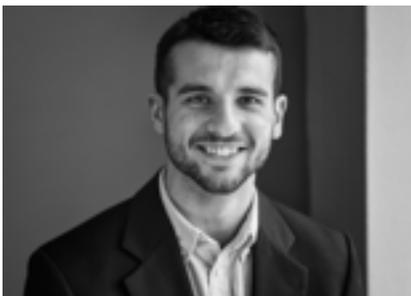
Contact Stephanie Lindsey ([slindsey5900@gmail.com](mailto:slindsey5900@gmail.com)) for questions.

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**BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE Q&A**

There is a lot in the Baptist Faith and Message. It has served as our statement of faith for many years. But maybe you've not looked at it in detail. Maybe you have questions regarding the sections on "God's Purpose of Grace", "Peace and War", or "The Family". Our BFM Q&As are simply a chance to discuss the BFM in detail with our Elders. Join us after worship August 30.

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**Support Izzy Going to College!**

Izzy El-Ubaydy, our current Pastoral Assistant, is headed to college as he continues to pursue God's call! Izzy has received a full tuition scholarship to The College at Southwestern in Ft. Worth (an extension of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary). He moves to Ft. Worth first thing in August and we want to support him several ways. One, we will continue to give Izzy his current P. Assistant stipend through December 2015.

Also, we invite the congregation to give generously throughout his college pursuit to support expenses such as books, supplies, and monthly living expenses. All gifts will go to a designated fund here at Milwood under the care of the Elders. Izzy also has several job opportunities and is looking to see what will best meet his needs and

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We will provide the main dish. Everyone is encouraged to bring a side/salad or dessert based on your last name. If your last name begins with: A-M: Side or Salad, N-Z: Dessert

Contact Janet Kilgo ([janetkilgo@yahoo.com](mailto:janetkilgo@yahoo.com)) for questions.

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## LIFEGROUPS

Are you part of a LifeGroup? Find more information about our LifeGroups and how to join one on the Milwood Baptist Church website or call the office.

## RECEIVING WEEKLY CHURCH NEWS?

If you aren't receiving the Milwood weekly email newsletter, go to the church website and sign up so you can get the latest updates and news about what is happening at Milwood Baptist Church.

You can also keep informed by liking our Facebook page: Milwood Baptist Church or following us on Twitter: Milwoodbaptist

We will be kicking off our new Awana year on August 30. We hope you consider having your kids join us for another fun and exciting club year. For more information please contact Tom Nelson (512.731.3184).

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## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEEDS YOU

Our children's ministry needs to fill the following positions during the Building Block hour:

- One person to help teach in the Toddler room for the fall semester

Please contact [Holly Bourland](#) for more info or to volunteer.

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## THANK YOU MILWOOD!

We are blown away by your generosity and love! Thank you so much for giving so freely to our Children's Ministry. Because of your generosity, all campers that participated in the fundraiser are able to go to camp at NO COST to their parents. Thank you seems inadequate! May God richly bless you! ~Love, Uptown Kids (and Holly Bourland, sponsor)



Students are studying 1 Thessalonians. Come out Wednesday nights at 6:30 for food, fellowship and sharing God's message.

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# July/August/September 2015

## Prayer List

Please use this prayer list between now and our next church family meeting. This is for personal use and to guide Lifegroup gatherings.

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### Week 1 and 5: **Building Up the Body**

In your personal time and in your Lifegroup time extract prayers for the building up of the body of Christ from Psalm 1. How can we pray for the building up of the church through Psalm one? Are there individuals that we should be particularly thankful for in light of this verse? Those whom need our prayer?

Psalm 1

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### Week 2 and 6: **Missions and Evangelism**

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

**Luke 6.27-28**

#### **Pray for July 31 Family Fun Night**

- That the community would come.
- That God will give us awareness, boldness, and opportunity for Gospel conversations.

Pray that we will **humbly love** those we disagree with and those who are different from us.

Pray for enemies of the gospel, that they would see our love and God's love for them and become proclaimers of the gospel.

Pray for opportunities for Gospel conversations and boldness to share the Gospel in our relationships.

Who has God laid on your heart to speak with?

Who are those around you who do not trust in Jesus?

Pray for the members who will serve our missions points. Thank God for them. Pray for this ministry and for the spread of the the gospel to the nations.

ACUNA. Tom Nelson, Brian Evans, Lynelle Evans, Steve Moore, Lilliana Guevarra, Daniel Kim

PUERTO RICO (Austin and Morgan Jones). Larry Lindsey

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. Stephanie and Vance Acker, Colette Loudin, Lauren Sosler

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## Week 3 and 7: **Local and Global Events**

- SCOTUS Marriage decision.
- Pray for government officials and church leaders and members.
- Churches in the South whose buildings were recently burned.
- Pray for the community of Chattanooga following the killing of 4 soldiers.
- Pray for wisdom and conviction to follow God's will regarding abortion in light of the recent news about Planned Parenthood.
- As race has become a heated subject in America, pray for the gospel to save and unite across America so that Christ is all and in all (Col 3:11).
- Pray for teachers/administrators/students coming back to school
- As the city grows, pray that the church in Austin would be faithful to Gods Word and increase in faith and number.

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## Week 4 and 8: **Member Care**

- Pray for those members who are distant from fellowship at Milwood and for the member roll clarification beginning July 19th.
- Pray for the courage to speak the truth in love in order to build up the body of Christ into maturity.
- **Gwen Halterman** - Recovering from surgery well. Stood up a few hours after hip surgery.
- Pray for **expecting mothers** and fathers in the church, for health and preparedness.
- **LifeGroup leaders** and their fervency and commitment to love God and people.
- Our elders as they oversee the church and seek to lead the church in vision.
- **Izzy El-Ubaydy** as he goes to a Southwestern Seminary to pursue his undergraduate degree and then Seminary. Pray for godly influences and friends around him. Praise God for His provision.
- **Peter Nelson**. Kidneys have not grown since birth. Potentially a transplant or dialysis. Not observing and watching blood samples.
- **Nancy Moore**. Recently retired but unable to rest. Fighting sickness past two weeks.
- **Lynelle Evans**. Seeing next round of Dr's post cancer treatment.
- **Larry Lindsey** and his recovery. Praise God for a successful surgery. Larry's eyesight has not come back in his right eye. Otherwise, he is recovering well and pathology report said the tumor was benign.
- Member's whose spouses are not believers or do not attend Milwood.
  - **Marissa Edwards**
  - **Uli Behrends**
  - **Gwen Halterman**
  - **Darren Hampton**