



# NEWSLETTER

Tanglewood Bible Fellowship

EIC: Wendy Powers

*The Mission of TBF is to glorify God (Psalm 86:11-13; 115:1 and 1 Peter 2:12; 4:16) by actively participating in the ongoing fulfillment of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) as a body of believers (1 Cor 12:13; 1 John 5:1-5) who collectively/individually (Phil 1:27) serve our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (Rom 12:1-2) and one another (Phil 2:3-4) functioning as a spiritual Greenhouse (Eph 4:11-16) such that by our interactions together we are catalyzed to grow (Acts 2:42) and to reproduce (Acts 2:47) spiritually.*

## Faithful and True

The name *Faithful and True* expresses the total trustworthiness, reliability, and constancy of Jesus Christ. The title reveals His character and makes known His words and works.

In Revelation 19:11, John sees a vision of Jesus as the exalted King of kings leaving heaven to return to earth: "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice He judges and wages war." This picture of Christ's second coming at the end of the age shows Jesus no longer as the peaceful, humble servant riding on a lowly donkey (John 12:12-15). Now He is the victorious King, charging forth like a conquering war general, leading His troops into battle (Revelation 19:14).

In this vivid portrayal, John identifies Jesus by four different titles, beginning with *Faithful and True*. It is the first and only time this name of Jesus appears in Scripture. The second title is unknown to us (Revelation 19:12); the third is the *Word of God* (verse 13); the fourth is *King of kings and Lord of lords* (verse 16).

The word for "Faithful" in the original language means "characterized by steadfast affection or allegiance," and the word translated "True" means "truthful or characterized by expressing the truth." The nature of Jesus Christ—His whole being—exudes faithfulness and truth. Earlier, in Revelation 3:14, Jesus called Himself the "faithful and true witness" in His letter to the church in Laodicea. Faithful and True is who Jesus Christ is.

In His first coming to earth, Jesus proved Himself to be faithful to the mission and will of God His Father: "I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work You gave Me to do" (John 17:4; see also John 5:30; Hebrews 3:6; Luke 4:43). Never once did the Lord give in to the temptation to sin (Hebrews 4:15-16), from the time Satan tempted Him in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13) until His death on the cross (Matthew 16:21-23; 26:36-44; Mark 8:31-33; 14:32-42; Luke 22:40-46).

Continued on Page 3

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**Sunday Worship Service:** 9:30 AM

Adult Services AND Children's (0-12 years) Programs

Youth (6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade) meets Sunday evenings at 6 PM

**Wednesday P.M. Service:** 6:30-7:30 PM

# A Word from Pastor David Shields

TBF Family,

I am someone who has always wanted to know the correct answer. Wrestling with questions that only have good options, and no clear best decision can fill me with anxiety. I remember being moved to tears as a child because I couldn't decide whether to spend a day having fun at home or the park.

Thankfully, I have grown some in this area, but studying Revelation can bring back some of those old feelings. Many of the passages we have looked at have dozens of different options to choose from, making me desperate to know which one is THE right one. Unfortunately, we will probably not be able to identify the right answer to every question. But there are three questions I have asked myself over and over as we work through the book. I think you will find them helpful, not just in studying Revelation, but in all of God's Word.

The first question I ask myself when evaluating an interpretation is, "Is this interpretation faithful to the Bible?" This is different than asking if I think this interpretation is the singular correct one. This question just asks if this interpretation is possibly true. An example from the first sermon in Revelation 11 is the interpretation that the two witnesses are just symbolic of the church throughout the church age. I don't think this interpretation is correct, but it is a faithful reading of God's Word. As long as an interpretation is faithful, then it could be true.

The second question is, "Is this interpretation faithful to the essentials of our faith?" This question is trying to ascertain whether an interpretation is theologically true. It is making sure that this interpretation agrees with the gospel and what we know about Christ. Plenty of heretics attempt to twist the Bible in ways that seem like they could be true on the surface. Comparing an interpretation to the essentials of our faith reveals what is false.

Finally, I ask, "Does this interpretation help me be faithful to Jesus?" This is the last question I ask because it helps keep me grounded. After all, the point of studying God's Word and searching for answers is not to satisfy our intellectual curiosity. The point is to grow in godliness and become more like Jesus.

If the answer to all three of these questions is yes, then it is a good interpretation. It is something we can be confident in. Our job as readers of the Scripture and as disciples of Jesus is to be faithful to the Scriptures, to the theology of the church, and to following Christ. When we are doing those three things, we can't get the Bible wrong, and we can be confident that we are reading it faithfully.

In Christ,  
Pastor David Shields

From the day Isaiah foretold His coming, Christ's faithfulness was known (Isaiah 11:5; 42:3). As a young man (Luke 2:49) and throughout His ministry, Jesus was a faithful and obedient servant to His Father God (John 4:34; 6:38; 8:29; 12:27; 14:31). Jesus is consistently the same "yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Others will wear out, change, or perish, but Jesus Christ remains the same for all eternity (Hebrews 1:11–12).

Jesus, who said, "I am the way and the truth and the life," is the very embodiment of truth (John 14:6). He came from His Father "full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). And His promise of eternal life is true: "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment but has passed from death to life" (John 5:24, ESV; see also John 6:47).

Because of the fidelity inherent in His character, Jesus is faithful toward His followers in every circumstance. "If we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself," declares 2 Timothy 2:13 (see also Matthew 28:20; 2 Thessalonians 3:3; Hebrews 10:23).

*Faithful and True* is a fitting title for Jesus Christ our King, and He calls His followers to emulate His faithfulness and truth (Revelation 14:12; Hebrews 10:23). The entire book of Revelation conveys a message to the church of Jesus Christ to be faithful and true, just as He is Faithful and True.

In Revelation 19:11, when John sees the gates of heaven open, the One who has been Faithful and True from ages past appears at the end of time to wage His final battle. Jesus Christ comes with justice to judge and wage war, and He will triumph over the enemies of God! The outcome is sure because He is Faithful and True. He will do what He has promised to do. He shall defeat the devil once and for all. He will destroy the power of death, wiping away every sorrow, tear, and pain from the hearts of His devoted followers (Isaiah 25:8; 1 Corinthians 15:54; Hebrews 2:14; Revelation 20:14).

GotQuestions.org



And I saw heaven opened,  
and behold, a white horse,  
and He who sat on  
it *is* called Faithful and  
True, and in righteousness  
He judges and wages war.

Revelation 19:11

REV 4:8

# What's Happening at TBF

- WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER AND SHARE Every Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Join us for a time of prayer and praise followed by a lesson from Pastor David.
- DAILY DEVOS WITH PASTOR DAVID - TBF Facebook Page
- MISS A SUNDAY? Check out the sermons on the TBF Facebook page or [tbfduncan.org](http://tbfduncan.org)
- WOMEN OF TANGLEWOOD BIBLE FELLOWSHIP- Facebook page
- TBF WORSHIP TEAM MUSIC PRACTICE. Join Us! See Dale Corbin or Lana Sleeper for details.
- DISCIPLESHIP CLASS - June 1st and 8th
- MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - On Break
- WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - On Break
- SUMMER FOOD AND FUN - June 23rd - 26th
- SUPER SUMMER SATURDAYS - Coming in June, July, and August Food, Fellowship, and Fun
- PARENTING CLASS - On Break
- TBF YOUTH - Meets Sunday Nights at 5 PM (Jam Session) and 6 PM (Study)
- AWANAS - On Break
- COMMUNION - June 15th
- KINDRED COMMUNITY - June 19th

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## Opportunities to Serve

### Let's give our moms a break....

Volunteers needed in the nursery and pre-school areas on Sunday mornings. Sign-up Sheet in the Foyer. Please see Pastor Rob Girvin.

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## Cubbie Award Ceremony 2025



You did it!  
Great job!!



Thank you to all our volunteers who helped with Awana this year.

# **Discipleship Class**

# The Real Heaven

by Chip Ingram

Meets June 1st and June 8th  
TBF Youth Room, Immediately following the morning service.  
Discipleship class led by Mike Palovik

What comes to mind when you think of heaven? Clouds? Harps? Angels? Singing? Now, honestly, does that really sound like a great way to spend eternity? The good news is, that is NOT what heaven is like. And when you discover what really awaits you there, it will radically change your view of your future and of heaven. In this 3-part series from Living on the Edge, Chip Ingram digs into scripture to reveal what our heavenly home will be like, what we'll do there, what we'll experience, and how we're to prepare for eternity today. If you've secretly thought that heaven sounded kind of boring, well, think again. In this series, you will discover the amazing truth of what awaits you there.

## **TBF MEN'S MINISTRIES**

Next Bible study to be announced... stay tuned.

### **Saying Goodbye....**

By the grace of God, Pastor Rob Girvin has served us well as both Family Pastor and Head of the Children's ministry. Thank you. Thank you for teaching our Youth, leading our Parents Class, and for starting Awana at TBF among other things. This month we say good-bye to Pastor Rob as he has taken a position in Missouri that will allow him and his family to be closer to their families.

As we look back over the past four years and forward to what God has in store for both Pastor Rob and our church, may this be a time for joy and a time for sadness. It is time to give thanks and praise to Almighty God for what Pastor Rob has given us in his ministry at TBF. With that in mind, we pray God will continue to use Pastor Rob and his family to serve Him in whatever ministry he has been called.

Pastor Rob, Hannah, Cade, Abby, and Nan - you will be missed!

The Lord bless you and  
keep you;

The Lord make His face  
shine upon you,  
And be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up His  
countenance upon you,  
And give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

# TBF Women's Ministries

Next Bible study to be announced.. stay tuned.

## Super Summer Saturdays



- Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 9-11:30 AM 2106 West Club Road. Hosted by Gay Lynn McCormic. Topic: Getting to know each other better. Sign-up sheet in the foyer.
- Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> 9-11:30 AM 22 Canterbury Lane. Hosted by Kitte Lewark
- Friday/Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> Fort Worth. Topic: "Feast" with Kristi McLelland  
The August Super Summer Saturday event will be incorporated into the trip to Fort Worth for the Kristi McLelland, "Feast" Conference. Although, admission tickets and room reservations have already been purchased anyone wishing to go is welcome, but we need to have everything locked down very soon, so please contact either Jean Crow or Kitte Lewark to make your desire to attend known.

## Summer Food and Fun

- Summer Food and Fun June 23<sup>rd</sup> – June 26<sup>th</sup>. This is the ministry of One True Light to feed the children of Duncan who are in need. We will spend the mornings that week preparing sack lunches and breakfasts for the children. Sign up sheet is in the foyer.

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# Kindred Community

Tuesday, June 19th 6-8 PM  
Marlow First Baptist Church -- Marlow, OK  
Hosted by Marlow First Baptist Church

If you are a TBF woman with a heavenly husband or know of a woman you would like to invite to this event, please RSVP by June 12- Beautiful Day 580.786.6009

# TBF Family Ministries

Happy June, Church Family!

We finished the Awana Cubbies program with our sweet little boys just a few weeks ago. Education has been on my mind a lot in the past few months. Kade finished Pre-K, and the Cubbies have graduated and will begin Sparks in the fall. We have completed the school year of curriculum for the children's church, and the youth group has been studying James with the theme of learning to be a Christian. Our family is trying to read through a pretty large and challenging children's Bible together. Like I said earlier, it seems like education has been on my mind a lot this past month, but so has Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and God's call on us as Christians, and the contention that occurs (at least in my life) when I try to balance programs and God's calling for parents and the church in how we all learn and help teach fellow believers.

This passage is as follows: *"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."*

This passage begins as our lives should, with who God is and a reminder of who our Lord is. The Lord is our God, and we are called to love Him. Not just know Him or have facts, but love Him with all of our heart, soul, and might. Love is not relegated to just feelings, knowledge, or actions; it should be derived from all aspects of our lives. The "Law" of God is not a bludgeoning tool meant to break us down, rather, it is a jack meant to lift us, by showing us that we are incapable of following the law on our own. God, being rich in mercy, ordered His own Son in our stead to be the perfect sacrifice in atonement for our sins, our failures to keep the law on our own.

Then, we are called to diligently teach them to our children. Diligence is a key word. Just like with teaching our children their letters or numbers or making sure that they are safe physically, we are called to diligently teach our children about God, not waiting for the perfect moment, delegating it to Sundays and Wednesdays, or believing it is for Sunday School to teach our kids. We should be teaching constantly, when we are walking by the way, sitting, when we go to sleep, and when we rise. They should be so close to how we live that they are what we do with our hands and how we think and speak.

The Christian faith is a walk. We can look at Jesus and the disciples as a good example. Jesus lived with His disciples. They ate together, they walked together, and talked together; they saw Jesus, not only when He was happy or teaching them, but when He was angry and when He was sad. As parents, this is how we should be with our children, not hiding our faith from our children, but in our greatest successes and lowest failures, we should show how the gospel impacts our lives. As a church family, we should not restrict our children to only children's church and a select group of people who will deal with them. Rather, how can we love the kids that God has blessed our church body with diligently?

In the love of Jesus,  
Pastor Rob

**Parenting Class** ON BREAK FOR SUMMER

**\*\*Youth Bible Study -- Sundays 6-7 PM TBF Youth Room -- Journey Through the Bible**

# LOOKING FORWARD...

## WINDOWS ON THE WORLD

### Wednesday-July 23rd

Lasagna Dinner will be served from 5:15 to 6:15 PM  
Special Guests 6:30-7:30 PM

*Some of you may already be familiar with our special guests, Gospel singer Dale Rochell and his wife Janell from Marlow. Janelle is a former teacher in this area and is one of the exercise instructors at the Simmons Center.*

*Dale is a very popular Gospel music singer and has appeared with many other well-known Gospel singers at various places like Branson and Nashville. It is an honor to have him share his talent with Tanglewood.*

*His resume includes three #1 singles and ten have made the top 10 nationally, a music video that was nominated for top country Gospel music of the year. Currently his music video "Home" was nominated for Country Gospel Music Video of 2024.*



*Be sure to invite a friend or two!*

Donations appreciated.

# David's Book Recommendations

Like many pastors, I am a big fan of books. The following books are all books you can find on my bookshelf, and I would be more than happy to lend them to anyone who would like to read them.

## **On Genesis by Augustine**

This is the most difficult patristic book I have ever read. The work contains several different attempts by Augustine to interpret the creation narrative in Genesis literally. The genius and worth of this book is that Augustine's literal interpretation of creation is vastly different from a literal interpretation today. He is not at all concerned about viewing these days as "24-hour days." Yet, he takes each one as a historical fact describing actual creation.

Augustine asks questions about Genesis that I have never thought to ask and offers answers I would have never considered. He primarily pushes an idea of simultaneous creation, which I honestly barely understand. If you want an alternative to evangelical young-earth creationism and Christian evolution, Augustine offers a different path. It is fair to say that he takes Genesis even more literally than I do.

## **The Bromeliad Trilogy by Terry Pratchett**

This was such a delightful read that it convinced me I needed to read more Pratchett. It follows the lives of foreign nomes who are struggling to live in a human world. The main section involves a group of nomes who believe the entire world is a department store and that there is no such thing as the outside or day and night. The characters are a little bland, but the world is inventive, and the story is continually hilarious.

I have no idea if children would find this funny or not, or what age it is written for. Most of the humor relies on turns of phrase or the strange ideas the nomes have about the world. I think almost all of the humor would go over kids' heads. But I found myself laughing out loud and had a hard time putting it down.

## **The Meaning of Marriage by Timothy Keller**

I would happily recommend every book Keller wrote; this one is no exception. It is probably my favorite Christian book on marriage. It is theologically and biblically rich. He roots ideas of marriage in the gospel while never losing sight of the practical applications. He touches on singleness in helpful ways that reflect his time pastoring singles in New York City. I have read this one many times, most recently as a part of our parents' group. I find myself enjoying it more and more on each reread.