

# ***The First Baptist Messenger***

Established 1836

*Dr. Fred A. Malone, Pastor*

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## ***“When He Cometh”***

*by William Orcutt Cushing*

*“When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.” Colossians 3:4*

The Scriptural promise of Christ's second coming is always a thrilling truth for believers to ponder. Beyond that, the thought of the Savior creating a jeweled crown from little children who love Him is a fascinating pictorial concept. William Orcutt Cushing conceived the idea for his “Jewel Song” text from the promise in Malachi 3:17: “And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels” (KJV). Pastor Cushing wrote the text for the children in his own Sunday school in 1856.

Several years later, William Cushing suffered a period of deep despair in his life. After the death of his wife, he developed a creeping paralysis and the loss of his speech at the age of forty-seven. He was forced to retire from the ministry after twenty-seven years as an active and successful pastor in Disciples of Christ churches. When he pleaded, “Lord, give me something to do for Thee,” God answered, giving him the gift of writing appealing hymn texts. He worked with such talented musicians as Ira Sankey and George Root to produce more than three hundred gospel hymns during his remaining years. Such hymns as “Hiding in Thee,” and “Under His Wings” are a few of his texts that have since contributed much to the lives of Christians everywhere.

William Cushing's picturesque words in this hymn, “They shall shine in their beauty – bright gems for His crown,” could also be used to describe his own qualities of character. He was known by his many friends to be a noble, sweet, deeply spiritual Christian. Loved by all, Cushing continued to inspire and encourage others despite his handicap until the end of his life at the age of seventy-nine.

*When He cometh, when He cometh to make up His jewels,  
All His jewels, precious jewels, His loved and His own.*

*He will gather, He will gather the gems for His kingdom,  
All the pure ones, all the bright ones, His loved and His own.*

*Little children, little children, who love their Redeemer  
Are the jewels, precious jewels, His loved and His own.*

*Chorus: Like the stars of the morning, His bright crown adorning,  
They shall shine in their beauty – bright gems for His crown.*

[information taken from *Amazing Grace* by Kenneth W. Osbeck]

As Christians, we should strive to live in the expectancy that Christ could return today. We can also carry this little children's hymn and its message with us and share its truth with family and friends.

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

### Worship Wars Today

Joh 4:21 Jesus \*said to her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

Joh 4:22 "You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

Joh 4:23 "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

Joh 4:24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Our Lord told the Samaritan woman that He had brought in a new form of worship for God's people. "An hour is coming, and NOW is...," He said. No longer would the Samaritans worship false gods in their country nor would Israel worship the true God in Jerusalem at the Temple. Their "worship war" would end. Rather, Jesus the Messiah came to establish a new worship in spirit and truth for all.

Yet we are still in "worship wars" today. Our people often return from travel, worshiping at other churches, and tell me how little of Scripture is read before or during 15-20 minutes of preaching. The majority of time is taken with music of one kind or another.

Is this the worship Jesus brought when He came? Well, it depends. It depends on how you decide what to do, and what not to do, in worship. It depends upon what rule you follow to structure Christian worship. Is there a rule? Or can we just do what we think is best?

1. First, there is a rule for Christian worship. Our Lord Jesus came to establish a new worship "in spirit and in truth;" a more spiritual worship than either Samaria or Jerusalem. And that new spiritual worship would be instituted by Him in revealed truth from God.

"In spirit" means a closer fellowship with God, our spirit to His Spirit, than was practiced in the old forms of worship. "In truth" is more than "sincerity." It means that His truth, His Words, would be at the center of worship and that the worship would proceed according to His truth revealed. It would be an instituted worship "in truth."

And this is what He did through His Apostles as they established the worship of the church. They taught baptized Christians to do "all that I commanded you (Matt. 28:20)." So, from the day of Pentecost through the rest of the New Testament, we have commanded and illustrated the new form of worship which Jesus instituted: worship regulated by His specific instructions and words. This is called "The Regulative Principle of Worship (RPW)."

In fact, the RPW is the reason we are Baptists! We only see believer's baptism commanded in the NT. However, many Baptist pastors and churches do not hold faithfully to the RPW for worship today. They have opted either for the Catholic inventive (creative) principle or for the Lutheran normative (its not

specifically prohibited) principle. So, almost anything is permissible for Christian worship.

This is why we are in "worship wars" today, even among Baptists. We do not agree together on the biblical rule of worship anymore. Until we Baptists return to our original biblical rule of worship, we will see more and more inventiveness, creativity, and additions to our worship services (drama, dancing, movies, etc.) which will, in turn, push aside the things commanded in Scripture.

2. Second, how should we apply the rule of "The Regulative Principle of Worship"? Well, first we have to understand that it applies to the major elements of worship which are commanded in Scripture; i.e., reading God's Word, preaching, congregational singing, prayer, the Lord's Supper, baptism. These are the major things commanded and/or exemplified in the New Testament. They cannot and should not be changed, even in another culture. These are universal elements of worship for all Christian churches. We must major on the majors revealed in Scripture.

Second, we have to understand that the circumstances of worship are those things necessary for any human gathering; i.e. time, length, place, hymnals or overheads, air conditioning or not, pews or chairs, etc. These things are left to the liberty of each church. But this does not mean we can institute new forms of worship (drama, dance, concerts, comedians, etc.) as permitted circumstances.

Further, it is clear that Paul commands Timothy that the reading and teaching (and hearing) of the Word of God is the priority for Christian worship:

1 Tim 4:13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.

This was the primary activity of Jesus and the Apostles in worship services. Congregational singing has a place in worship, as does prayer and the ordinances. But the modern restructure of worship with all kinds of music is pushing out the clear priority of the reading and teaching of Scripture. This violates the historic Baptist rule of the regulative principle of worship, robbing God's people of God's Word and its teachings.

Our Lord did indeed establish a new form of worship according to His instructions. It is a simple worship, without priests and pageantry. It is a spiritual worship where each soul directly communes with God. And it is a worship "in truth," according to Christ's commands as to how God is to be worshipped.

This simple and spiritual worship requires people to be active in their hearts by faith to bow down before God, hear His Word, pray, and respond with praise and obedience. May God have mercy on us and return our churches to the worship Christ regulated and commanded. For this simple worship in spirit and truth pleases Him.

John 4:23 "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.



## *ARBCA Missionary Focus*

Meet one of the missionary families we support through our offerings:

**The Durands – Daniel and Loraine, Marie-Therese, and Jean-Rene - Chateauguay, Quebec, CANADA**

Daniel Durand writes:

July was very exciting for our family as well as for our church. We had the enjoyment of seeing our son, Georges-Emile married to Stephanie Lemay. Two years ago, Georges-Emile wanted to change churches because we are few and he wanted to meet a girl. I encouraged him to have confidence in God. Other people in the church have certainly had the same desire and if all say to themselves the same thing, the church empties. He humbly followed my advice. Some months later, Stephanie joined the church. It was the woman whom the Lord sent for Georges-Emile. We want to give thanks to the Lord.

The marriage ceremony was the first opportunity for me to preach the Word with a majority in attendance being non-Christians, as well as in front of my family (my brother, my parents, and my brother-in-law). Unfortunately, our son, Etienne, was not present for the marriage. We regret that and we ask the Lord to do a work in Etienne's life. Pray that God would grant him a repentant heart.

For some weeks, a family has been visiting our church. They live one hour from Montreal, but they are ready to travel to hear God's Word. It is good to see persons of conviction. Steve, the father, is interested in Reformed theology.

As regards Aylmer's cell (near Ottawa), there is very encouraging news. Two brothers (same parents) began a Pentecostal church several years ago. One of them, Louis, discovered the doctrines of grace. His brother said to him that he could not work any more with him. Louis heard that there was church believing in the doctrines of grace at Aylmer. He has been attending the cell with his wife for several months. Louis and his wife have opened two houses to minister to people who struggle with alcoholism, one house for men and the other for women. It is a promising field for evangelization.

Andre Pinard, who is responsible for the Aylmer cell, has begun a Bible study in these houses. We want to give thanks to the Lord for his opportunity.

Georges-Emile will join the Faculty of Theology FAREL for September. It is a very good Reformed paedobaptist faculty. We are delighted with his interest for the Word of God and for the Church of Christ.

While we are in the midst of an economic crisis and while a pandemic threatens, it is good to remind ourselves that our God reigns in the sky and that His plan is executed exactly as He decreed it, that He may be glorified. *For the kingdom is the LORD'S, and He is the governor among the nations. (Ps. 22:28)*



## *ARBCA Missionary Focus*

Meet one of the missionary families we support through our offerings:

**The Bloises– Oscar and Dolly - Kingston, JAMAICA**

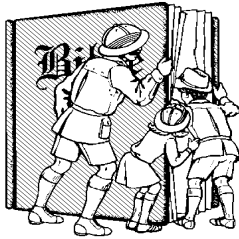
Oscar writes:

We are encouraged by what is happening in both churches, Grace Reformed Baptist Church and Faith Missionary Baptist Church. There are visitors and one of our prayers is that we may see results from our preaching as we encourage them to make a commitment to Christ. A Jamaican who is a pastor overseas is interested in becoming our local pastor. We are praying and seeking God's will in this area. We will keep you up to date when we have more information regarding this matter.

It was great feeling when we arrived at the airport and saw the team from Hazelton and Carlisle, PA, coming for our Daily Vacation Bible School for the 12<sup>th</sup> year, Jul 25-Aug. 1 They worshiped and participated with us on the Lord's Day at Grace and Elder Knowlden from Hazelton preached. The lesson was based on living in a broken world, using the parable of the prodigal son, leaving and returning home again.

The daily attendance for the D.V.B. S. fluctuated between 38 and 108. Our brother Dan Stuber from Carlise, who was in charge of the older boys, was able to keep their minds on the Word and counseled them to leave their way of life and follow the way God set out in the Bible. The older girls were taught by Mrs. Knowlden and they, too, were moved by her experience and knowledge of the Bible. The theme for the week fit the lifestyle of some of the kids, for they come from broken homes and difficult situations.

We at the churches have been praying for the week and we do hope that God will use it to bring the boys and girls to an awareness and commitment to Him.



# Book Room Review

## Divorce – Before You Say “I Don’t”

by Lou Priolo

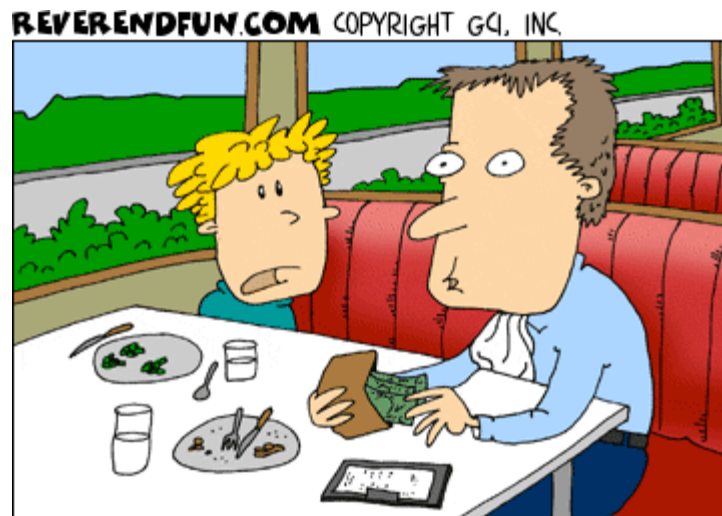
From the cover:

*This hard-hitting booklet, which is part of the “Resources for Biblical Living” booklet series, is designed to persuade people who are pursuing divorce – on other than biblical grounds – to reconsider their plans. Lou Priolo lays out the consequences of an unbiblical divorce and refutes nine common justifications that he has heard in his many years of biblical counseling. He also addresses the issue of being “in love” with someone other than one’s spouse.*

*Lou Priolo’s direct but fair counsel contained within these pages is much needed for so many professing believers today. Biblical, practical, straightforward, and timely, are the main qualities that these brief booklets will offer to those who read them. If you’re looking for a relevant word for your difficult path, read them hopefully and receive much needed direction. After you’ve read them, by placing these booklets into the hands of a hurting friend, you may also be giving that person just the thing he or she desperately needs in order to receive a ready word for a difficult situation.*

*Lou Priolo brings over two decades of counseling experience, a deep knowledge of Scripture, and a love for God’s people to his writing.*

*[You may purchase this booklet from our Book Table for \$2.00]*



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HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

**“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.” Proverbs 17:22**

# Newsbytes and Announcements



**A Call For Help:** Pastor Martin Holdt, from Pretoria, South Africa, is the President or Principal of a small, struggling Baptist seminary which has an old, sparse library of books. Pastor Steve Martin of Heritage Church in Fayetteville, Georgia, volunteered to do what he could to help raise support to update the library at the seminary, so that Pastor Holdt can carry on in the training of South African Baptist pastors. The best way to help is to donate money toward the purchase of the books needed. Cumberland Valley Bible Book Service is offering them very good prices on these building block sets of books. Those interested in the theological education and extension of Christ's Kingdom in South Africa, may send their checks to Heritage Church, 150 Lester Road, Fayetteville, Georgia, 30215. For the sake of simplicity, it would be better not to stipulate the purchase of particular books. Instead, simply send your funds and Heritage Baptist will purchase them from Cumberland. Your name will be included in the list of those who contributed to the library. (Steve Martin says of Pastor Martin Holdt: "He is one of my most respected and trusted brethren in the gospel ministry. He needs no recommendation from me – a lion needs no acclaim from a mouse!") A list of the books they hope to send for the seminary in South Africa is as follows:

GENEVA COMMENTARY SERIES, Banner of Truth; 34 volumes-- \$ 620  
THE BIBLE SPEAKS TODAY COMMENTARY SERIES (John Stott; ed.); IVP--48vols-- \$ 605  
NEW AMERICAN COMMENTARY SERIES; Broadman & Holman; 38 volumes-- \$ 810  
BAKER EXEGETICAL COMMENTARY SERIES; Baker; 14 volumes-- \$ 445  
PILLAR COMMENTARY SERIES (D. A. Carson; ed.); Eerdmans; 12 volumes-- \$ 378  
REFORMED EXPOSITORY SERIES; P & R; 11 volumes-- \$ 250  
NEW INTERNATIONAL GREEK COMMENTARY SERIES; Eerdmans; 12 volumes; \$ 512  
WELWYN COMMENTARY SERIES; Evangelical Press; 49 volumes; \$  
EP STUDY COMMENTARY SERIES; Evangelical Press; 19 volumes-- \$ 390  
PREACH THE WORD SERIES (Kent Hughes, ed.) ; Crossway; 25 volumes-- \$ 470  
NIV APPLICATION COMMENTARY SERIES; Zondervan; 40 volumes-- \$ 825  
NEW INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY SERIES; Eerdmans; 40 volumes-- \$ 1340  
NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY (Hendrickson/Kistemaker); Baker; 12 vol.-- \$ 110  
TYNDALE COMMENTARY SERIES; IVP; 48 volumes; \$ 540  
ZONDERVAN ILLUSTRATED BIBLE BACKGROUNDS; Zondervan; 9 volumes; \$ 300  
IVP DICTIONARIES OF THE BIBLE; IVP; 7 volumes-- \$ 291  
Mark Dever, THE MESSAGE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT; Crossway; \$ 28  
Mark Dever, THE MESSAGE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT; Crossway; \$ 21  
Rogers & Rogers, THE LINGUISTIC AND EXEGETICAL KEY TO THE GREEK N.T.; \$ 28  
Beale & Carson, COMMENTARY ON THE N. T. USE OF THE O. T.; Baker-- \$ 42  
Leland Ryken, et. al. eds; DICTIONARY OF BIBLICAL IMAGERY; IVP-- \$ 42  
James Montgomery Boice, EXPOSITION OF ROMANS; Baker; 4 volumes-- \$ 45  
Martyn Lloyd-Jones, EXPOSITION OF ROMANS; Banner of Truth; 14 volumes-- \$ 300

*\*They are trying to collect all the monies needed by the end of January 2010, so that they can tell Martin and the seminary that the books are being shipped in February.*




**Christian Martyrs in Somalia:** An al-Qaeda linked terror group in Somalia beheaded four Christians according to human rights watchdogs International Christian Concern (ICC). Members of Al-Shabaab (which means "youth" in Arabic) kidnapped Fatima Sultan, Ali Ma'ow, Sheik Mohammed Abdi, and Maaddey Diil and eventually beheaded the Christians after they refused to renounce their faith in Jesus Christ. They had been working to help orphans. The militant group told the families of the victims that their bodies would not be returned to their kin as Somalia cemeteries were only for Muslims. Though Somalian Islamist have been know to carry out ruthless attacks against the country's Christian minority, Muslims there are also the "victims of Al-Shabaab's cruelty," the ICC reported. Somalia's Christians comprise less than 1 percent of the African nation's 9.8 million people. The extremist group has been forcibly removing Mogadishu residents' gold and silver teeth using rough tools – or even just hands, according to Reuters. The group alleges that such artificial teeth are used for fashion and beauty and therefore break strict Muslim religious law. Al-Shabaab has been designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization by the United States Department of State. [Modern Reformation, Vol. 18, #7, Nov. – Dec. 2009]



**Quebec Students Must Study Other Religions:** Christian students in Quebec must attend a world religions course after a judge ruled in September that the class does not infringe on their religious freedom. Concerned parents, who previously could choose between courses in Catholic, Protestant, or moral instruction, had argued that the class on ethics and religious culture undermined their efforts to instill Christian faith in their children. The course, taught through 11<sup>th</sup> grade, is the final step in the process begun in 1997 of secularizing Quebec schools. [Christianity Today, November 2009].



November 2009

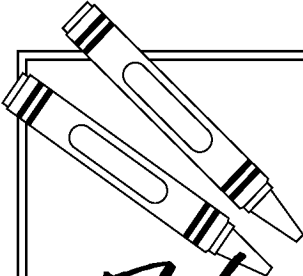
S	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>LORD'S DAY</b> S.S. – 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Fellowship Meal 1:30 Lord's Supper Service (no evening service) <b>(P. Purpera)</b>	<b>2</b>  <b>(K. Roddy)</b>	<b>3</b>  Ladies' Bible Study @ Suzanne Eschete's 6:30 p.m.  <b>(P. R. Roddy)</b>	<b>4</b>  6:30 Pr. Mtg. PraiSing Him  <b>(J. Rogers)</b>	<b>5</b>  <b>(W. Sager)</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>(B. Schindler)</b>	<b>7</b>  <b>(D. Sevier)</b>
<b>8</b> <b>LORD'S DAY</b> S.S. – 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Fellowship Meal 1:30 Business Mtg. (no evening service) <b>(M. Singleton)</b>	<b>9</b>  <b>(M. Sloan)</b>	<b>10</b>  Family Life Fellowship @ 6:30  <b>(M. Smith)</b>	<b>11</b>  6:30 Pr. Mtg. PraiSing Him  <b>(H. Spolar)</b>	<b>12</b>  Ladies' Bible Study 9:30 a.m.  <b>(D. Taylor)</b>	<b>13</b>  <b>(A. Town)</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>(M.Vargo)</b>
<b>15</b> <b>LORD'S DAY</b> S.S. – 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45a.m. Fellowship Meal Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.  <b>(B. Walker)</b>	<b>16</b>  <b>(F. Walker)</b>	<b>17</b>  Ladies' Evening Bible Study @ Suzanne Eschete's 6:30 p.m.  <b>(G. Alexander)</b>	<b>18</b>  6:30 Pr. Mtg. PraiSing Him  <b>(B. Andrews)</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>(W. Andrews)</b>	<b>20</b>  <b>(C. Axsom)</b>	<b>21</b>  <b>(M. Axsom)</b>
<b>22</b> <b>LORD'S DAY</b> <b>(A. Barnett)</b>  29  <b>(R. Clark)</b>	<b>23</b> <b>(N. Bennett)</b>  30  <b>(Rachel Clark)</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>(R. Boudreaux)</b>	<b>25</b>  6:30 Pr. Mtg. PraiSing Him  <b>(J. Bryant)</b>	<b>26</b>    <b>(J. Carline)</b>	<b>27</b>  <b>(M. Carline)</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>(W. Carruth)</b>

**Please pray for the families in ( ) each day!**

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- |                 |                        |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 2– Sandy Phares | 16 – Rachel Clark      | 22 – Bernadine Edwards |
| 3 – Jacob Owens | 17 – Tim Clark         | 23 – Adam Town         |
| 3 – Clay Mayeux | 18 – Elisabeth Dighton | 27 – Betty Rogers      |
| 5 – Mike Kelly  | 19 – Luke King         | 27 – Sandra Vargo      |
| 6 – Zach Kelly  | 20 – Missy Durham      | 30 – Nancy Covington   |
| 9 – Dawn Taylor | 21 – Jim Rogers        |                        |

## Children's Corner



# Just for **KIDS**

## *He gave thanks*

This Thanksgiving, you may share a special meal with family and friends. Do you remember the time when Jesus shared a meal with thousands of people and gave thanks?

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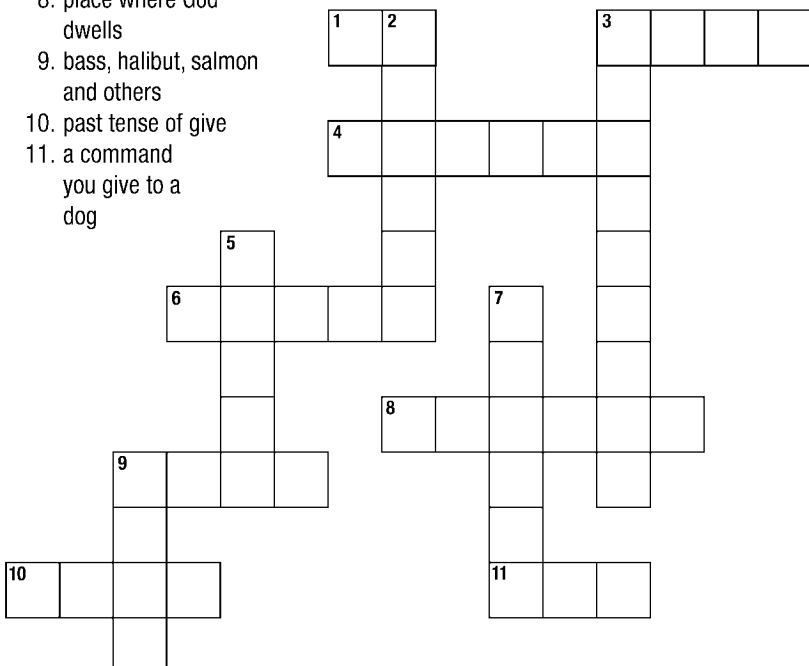
Use the clues to find important words from Matthew 14:19 (NIV).

**Across**

1. opposite of down
3. opposite of up
4. more than one loaf
6. penniless
8. place where God dwells
9. bass, halibut, salmon and others
10. past tense of give
11. a command you give to a dog

**Down**

2. another name for humans
3. twelve of Jesus' closest friends
5. what a lawnmower cuts



Across: 1. up, 3. down, 4. loaves, 6. broke, 8. heaven, 9. fish, 10. gave, 11. sit  
 Down: 2. people, 3. disciples, 5. grass, 7. thanks, 9. five

## Attitude of GRATITUDE

The Thanksgiving holiday reminds us that we should always be grateful for the many blessings God provides. Keep a special gratitude journal, and write in it often to keep an attitude of gratitude.



**What you need:**

- Paper (8½" x 11" sheets, plain or lined)
- Stapler
- Stickers
- Crayons or markers

**What you do:**

1. Fold several sheets of paper in half.
2. Staple the pages together on the folded crease.
3. Write "Attitude of Gratitude" on the cover.
4. Decorate your journal with stickers and drawings.
5. On the inside cover, write "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV).
6. Use your journal daily as a reminder of your blessings and as a guide for when you say prayers.

*Let the little children come to Me...*

## **Where We Meet**

12329 Jackson Street  
Corner of Jackson & Church St.  
Clinton, LA 70722

**Visit our website:**  
[www.fbcdintonla.com](http://www.fbcdintonla.com)

## **When We Meet**

### **Sunday Schedule**

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study  
10:45 a.m. - Morning Worship  
12:15 p.m. - Fellowship Meal  
6:00 p.m. - Evening Worship

### **Wednesday Schedule**

6:30 p.m. - Bible Study & Prayer Meeting  
Children - "Praising Him"

## **First Baptist Church**

12329 Jackson Street  
PO Box 552  
Clinton, La. 70722  
[www.fbcdintonla.com](http://www.fbcdintonla.com)

**Dr. Fred A. Malone, Pastor**  
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