



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRDALE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025

FBC FAIRDALE SUMMER READING PLAN

PROVERBS | ISAIAH
MARK | ACTS | ROMANS | 1 JOHN | JUDE

This past Sunday during the morning worship, Pastor Josh Greene introduced our church Summer Reading Plan. In this plan, we will read 3 chapters a day. It is a good balance of Old Testament and New Testament. It is also a solid variety & survey of multiple books of the Bible. Over the summer, we will read through all of Mark, Acts, Romans, 1st John, Jude, Isaiah, and all of Proverbs twice.

We will read a Proverb daily. This is an excellent habit and beautiful spiritual disci-

pline to implement in your life. We hope you will be encouraged to read a chapter in Proverbs every day of your life. With this practice, the wisdom of God will fill your heart and mind.

You can read in whatever way works best for you. You might find a time each morning to sit and read all 3 chapters or maybe read 1 in the morning, 1 during the day, and 1 in the evening.

Additionally, invite someone to do this along with you. This will help you en-

joy it better, and it will also help you stick with it. Find a friend to hold you accountable, set aside time to read together with your family, or invite a coworker to join you over the summer.

If you commit to reading the Bible every day over the summer months, you may be surprised how much of a blessing you find this practice. We are praying that God uses this Summer Bible Reading Plan in the life of our church to help us grow stronger in our love for and knowledge of God's Word.

Disciples of All Nations: God's People in All Places

Jake Beattie | Pastor

Vamos a Ecuador!! It is that time of year again. We have been planning and praying and getting ready for the last 9 months to send a team to Ecuador again this summer. This year we are sending one of the largest groups in recent memory. We have 35 people from our church going this year to serve Campamento Bautista Chacauco.

What you normally hear about when we discuss Ecuador is kids camp or youth camp. Each year we go we are serving the camp as they put on a camp program. That is a huge part of what we do, but that is not what I want to discuss here. Steve and Carol Thompson have been in living and serving in Ecuador for over thirty years now, and their primary purpose in going was to preach the gospel and plant churches.

One thing we have been able to do while in Ecuador over the years is have an opportunity to see some of the churches that Steve has planted or been involved with planting in his years serving Ecuador. That has been such a blessing to me each time I have been able to make the trip. Josh mentioned it in his sermon this past Sunday, but a church we visited last year was Condorahua Baptist Church. The building this church met in was very small and very basic. Dirt floor, re-used plank walls, tin roof, and certainly not OSHA approved electricity. None of those things were a problem for this church.

As we had an opportunity to hear from the believers of this church we were all encouraged to hear of their faith in Jesus, their love for him and for their community, and their desire to see others come to faith.

I was reminded of what God told Paul in Acts 18. Paul had left Athens and gone to

Corinth. He began preaching the gospel and people were believing and coming to faith. One night God spoke to Paul and Acts 18:9-10 says, "And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.'" God told Paul that he had many in the city of Corinth who were his people. God said this to Paul as Paul was going about preaching and people were coming to faith.

It's amazing to be reminded that God has people that seem to be waiting to hear someone preach the gospel. God has people, and uses faithful servants to reach those people God has. One of the reasons this has always been so encouraging to me when we go to Ecuador is I am being reminded that God has people all over the globe who are faithfully serving him and preaching his gospel. As they serve God faithfully, God is working in his people to draw them to himself.

We often fall into ruts in life. Life in ministry is no different. For me to leave Louisville/Kentucky/America and see followers of Jesus in other parts of the world serving God faithfully is always a big source of encouragement. We serve a big God. He is working all over the world. As you strive to serve him and be faithful to him, be reminded that you are not alone. People from all walks of life and all stations of life all over the world are doing the same. To God be the glory, great things he has done!

Urgency and Gratitude in Student Ministry

Garth Farmer | Minister of Youth

One of the sayings my dad used to tell me growing up is “The days are long but the years are short.” There is a lot of truth to that statement but it didn’t carry much weight for me as a student. It really wasn’t until I became a parent that the significance of these words hit me. This year we had 12 high school graduates on stage for Graduation Sunday and I am certain that all of the parents of these graduates were amazed at just how quickly this day had arrived.

As a youth pastor, it’s humbling to think just how quickly the time for a student in youth ministry passes. The time we have together in discipleship is limited. If you didn’t know this already, the students who were 6th graders when I first began to lead student ministry are set to graduate high school in 2 years! That is hard to think about. It is good for us to remember that time passes far more quickly than we realize. This truth is certainly sad in some sense and yet this provides some incredible reminders that we all need.

In Ephesians 5, Paul is reminding the church to walk in love and to stay attentive to the manner in which they live so that they don’t fall into sin. He says this in verse 11 and 12, “Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.” These are fascinating verses and they bring with them two large reminders.

We live with a sense of urgency

Because our time is limited we ought to strive to make the best use of it. There are only so many Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings that each student will have in our student ministry. Our church only has so many meetings before our students

graduate and enter into adulthood. Certainly our work as the church in discipleship will hopefully continue on long past graduation day, but the limit on our time forces us to be that much more intentional in our prayers, fellowship, and discipleship.

We live with gratitude

When we are reminded that the time we have is limited we become far more grateful for the time that we do have. In reflecting on these verses and on Graduation Sunday each opportunity we have to interact with students in our ministry becomes a treasure. The appreciation we have for every conversation and Bible study grows. We don’t take our gatherings for granted, but rather we recognize that each time our students are together to fellowship, pray, and study God’s Word together is an incredible gift.

Church, our days are made up of time and we only have so much. May we be found faithful for the manner in which we used the time to love, disciple, and care for the students of our church. Join in praying that we would make the best use of the time with each and every student.