

# *the* VISION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FIRST BAPTIST SHALLOTTE | JANUARY 2020

classes  
start  
Jan 8

**disciplelife** *classes*  
Wednesdays @ 6pm | Dinner @ 5:30pm

*Learn more or sign up at [fbcshallotte.org/wed](http://fbcshallotte.org/wed)*

#### **Grace Filled Marriage 2**

Love is what gets us married, but grace is what keeps us married. Grace makes a good marriage better and rescues a marriage in trouble. Learn to use grace based solutions to sticky situation in your marriage.

#### **Defined**

Who am I? Why do I matter? And before asking, who am I? You must first answer, who is God? Once the answers are clear, we can move forward and discover all God has called us to be.

#### **When Helping Hurts**

Good intentions are not enough. Rather than simply defining poverty as a lack of material things, learn to get to the root of the issue: broken relationships with God, self, and others. Explore how to help the poor without hurting.

#### **The Things We Long For... (Women Only)**

You may long for prayers to be answered, healing for a sick one, a better marriage or maybe even to draw closer to God. Study the Bible to find out how longings can be met.

#### **Discovering Church Membership**

Learn more about our church family. The class is a great introduction for new members, recent visitors and anyone considering joining First Baptist.

## Church Events

- Jan 1<sup>st</sup>—No Services
- Jan 5<sup>th</sup>—Church Family Chat
- Jan 8<sup>th</sup>—DiscipleLife Classes Kickoff
- Jan 12<sup>th</sup>—Fusion & Youth Small Groups Kickoff
- Jan 13<sup>th</sup>—Ladies' Ministry Meeting
- Jan 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>—Strength to Stand Conference
- Jan 19<sup>th</sup>—Quarterly Ministry Meeting
- Jan 26<sup>th</sup>—“Overcomer” Family Movie Night

HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

# The Reason Why Is So Important

Why are we here? FBCS, that is. What is our one, Why are we here? FBCS, that is. What is our one, nonnegotiable purpose?

Is it to make you and me happy? To be the biggest church, the most popular church, the most comfortable church in Brunswick County? Is it to have the best building? Or, is it to attract people from other churches?

No? Then, why are we here? This is one of the most important questions we can ask.

Simon Sinek is a speaker and author who specializes in teaching leadership. In his book called *Start With Why*, Sinek uses Southwest Airlines as an example of an innovative company that has demonstrated remarkable success for one reason—they began their journey asking the question “why?” As Sinek says, “Southwest was not built to be an airline. It was built to champion a cause. They just happen to use an airline to do it.”

In 1967, airline travel was too expensive for most people, and it was considered a rare perk for the elite. As a result, Sinek says, only 15% of the traveling population traveled by air. The founders of Southwest saw this and decided their reason for existing was not to compete for the 15% that were already flying.

They decided they would focus on the other 85%, the ones who didn't fly.

At that moment, 85% of the traveling population wasn't even thinking about flying. They thought it was too expensive. So, Southwest made it cheap. They thought it was elitist. So, Southwest made it accessible—even fun. They thought it was too complicated. So, Southwest made it simple. In other words, since the other airlines were already reaching 15% of the traveling public, Southwest shaped all they did on this one purpose—reaching the 85% of unreached travelers.

The rest is, well, airline history. Southwest, Sinek writes, is not only one of the most successful airlines in history, but also one of the most successful businesses, even earning a profit in the 2008 recession.

And they have remained successful because they have never forgotten that “Why” comes first.

Now, I am not one to say that we should adopt business practices for everything we do in the church, but there is a universal lesson here. And I don't have to push hard for you to see it. Because the truth is, we often spend way too much time competing with other churches for people who already go to church and not enough reaching the masses who have yet to come to Christ.

Think about it. We spend lots of energy looking around at what other churches are doing *to attract other church people*, and then we want to do the same thing. And this concerns me. Deeply.

Why? Because that is not why we are here.

So let's ask again, why do we exist? Jesus answered that for us.

“Jesus came near and said to them, ‘All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded



you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matt. 28:18-20).

Let me say clearly, if God brought you to FBCS from another church, I am glad you are at FBCS! And I am delighted that God brought you here! But together we must not forget – we exist to fulfill the Great Commission, and we are being disobedient if we compete with other churches for people who are already Christians rather than actively seeking to win the lost to Christ.

So I am excited to let you know about a team that caught a vision for Who's Your One, and God has brought them together to help us all stay focused on the main reason we are here.

At the Ministry Meeting January 19, we will formalize the Community Connections Team, but they have already been meeting for several months—praying, strategizing, and making plans. The primary purpose of this team is to keep FBCS focused on Who's Your One and reaching the unreached in our community.

For instance, did you know the NC Baptist State Convention has identified 250 “pockets of lostness” throughout our state? According to the State Convention web site, these are areas in which the general population “is growing or changing faster than the churches around them.”

And, get this, they have identified Supply as one of those areas.

Now, are you sitting down? According to the NCBSC, there are more than 2,500 unreached households (not individuals—households!) in Supply—that's hundreds of people who have not made a commitment to Christ, to a church, or both!

What if we started 2020 with this in mind—our purpose for being in Brunswick County is not to compete with our neighboring churches for people who are already saved and churched. Our purpose for being here is to reach everyone else—starting with Supply!

Remember, we are here to champion a cause. The cause of Christ.

With Love in Christ,  
Pastor Bob

Visit Pastor Bob's Blog:  
[BOBWEATHERS.NET](http://BOBWEATHERS.NET)



# Monthly Ministry Info

## children

FUN DAY WEDNESDAY  
WEDNESDAYS | 5:30PM

QUEST FIRST KIDS MINISTRY  
WEDNESDAYS | 6:15PM

FIRST KIDS CHOIR  
SUNDAYS | 6:00PM

## fusion

FUN DAY WEDNESDAY  
WEDNESDAYS | 5:30PM

BIBLE STUDY  
WEDNESDAYS | 6:30PM

SMALL GROUPS KICKOFF  
JAN 12 | 5:30PM

## youth

FUN DAY WEDNESDAY  
WEDNESDAYS | 5:30PM

BIBLE STUDY  
WEDNESDAYS | 6:30PM

SMALL GROUPS KICKOFF  
JAN 12 | 5:30PM

STRENGTH TO STAND YOUTH CONFERENCE  
JAN 17-20, 2020  
PIGEON FORGE, TN  
BALANCE & FORMS DUE NOW

## men

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY  
WEDNESDAYS | 6:30AM

## messages

UPCOMING SERIES: "DECISIONS THAT SHAPE  
YOUR LIFE: FIVE PRINCIPLES FOR MAKING PLANS  
FROM GOD'S PROSPECTIVE"  
STARTS JAN 5 | 11AM

LISTEN ONLINE AT  
[FBCSHALLOTTE.ORG/MESSAGES](http://FBCSHALLOTTE.ORG/MESSAGES)

## ladies

MINISTRY MEETING  
JAN 13 | 6:30PM

## prayer

PRAYER TIME  
SUNDAYS | 9:30AM

## chat

CHURCH FAMILY CHAT  
JAN 5 | 6PM  
BRING YOUR IDEAS AND QUESTIONS  
AND LET'S TALK!

## ministry meeting

QUARTERLY MINISTRY MEETING  
JAN 19 | 6PM

## disciplelife

DISCIPLE LIFE CLASSES BEGIN  
JAN 8 | 5:30PM  
SIGN UP AT [FBCSHALLOTTE.ORG/WED](http://FBCSHALLOTTE.ORG/WED)

FROM THE CREATORS OF WAR ROOM

# OVERCOMER

High school basketball coach John Harrison and his team face an uncertain future when their town's largest manufacturing plant shuts down unexpectedly. As hundreds of people move away, John reluctantly agrees to coach cross-country, a sport he doesn't even like. His outlook soon changes when he meets Hannah Scott, an unlikely runner who pushes herself to the limit. Inspired by the words and prayers of a new friend, John starts to train Hannah for the biggest race of her young life.

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**  
*presented by Sunday School*

**January 26 at 5:30pm**

Contact Tanya at 910-617-9409 if you can help with concessions, welcoming and clean up.



Love God.  
Love One Another.  
Love the World.

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 318  
Shallotte, NC

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHALLOTTE

4486 Main Street  
Shallotte, NC 28470

910.754.4048      fbcshallotte.org

### Office Hours:

M-Th 9am—3pm; F 9am—1pm

Sunday School	9:45am
Morning Worship	11:00am
Evening Worship	6:00pm
Wednesday	6:00pm

# Read the Bible Beginning to End Reading Plan

**1-Year Plan.** It is important to understand the fullness of God's message to the churches, and a great way of doing this is reading the Old and New Testaments simultaneously. This plan, which can be completed in one calendar year, does just that. Readings from both Testaments are included from the beginning and although each reading does not contain both Testaments, the two are read effectively.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/1 Genesis 1-3; Matthew 1     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/17 Genesis 41-42; Matthew 12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 Genesis 4-6; Matthew 2     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/18 Genesis 43-45             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/3 Genesis 7-9; Matthew 3     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/19 Genesis 46-48             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 Genesis 10-12; Matthew 4   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/20 Genesis 49-50; Matthew 13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/5 Genesis 13-15              | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/21 Exodus 1-3; Matthew 14    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/6 Genesis 16-17; Matthew 5   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/22 Exodus 4-6                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/7 Genesis 18-19; Matthew 6   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/23 Exodus 7-8; Matthew 15    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/8 Genesis 20-22              | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/24 Exodus 9-11               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/9 Genesis 23-24; Matthew 7   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/25 Exodus 12-13; Matthew 16  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/10 Genesis 25-26             | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/26 Exodus 14-15; Matthew 17  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/11 Genesis 27-28; Matthew 8  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/27 Exodus 16-18              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/12 Genesis 29-30; Matthew 9  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/28 Exodus 19-20; Matthew 18  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/13 Genesis 31-32             | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/29 Exodus 21-22; Matthew 19  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/14 Genesis 33-35; Matthew 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/30 Exodus 23-24; Matthew 20  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/15 Genesis 36-38             | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/31 Exodus 25-26              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/16 Genesis 39-40; Matthew 11 |   |