



*February 2019*

## 2019 Men of Valor Conference

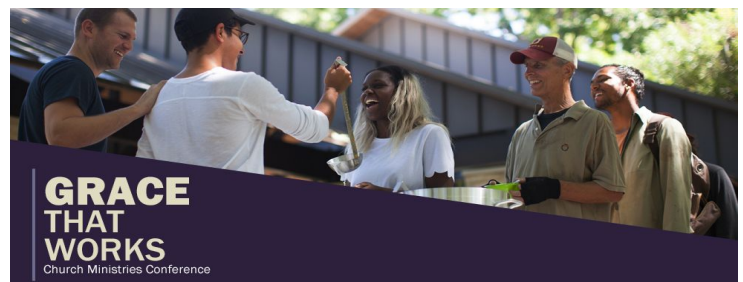


On January 26th, about 80 men carved out about 6 hours to eat, sing, listen to challenges from 9 different speakers, and then eat again. The theme of the conference was “Building Up and Tearing Down Strongholds”. The men were challenged to demolish strongholds that the enemy has been permitted to build because we have given him room to build them. They were also challenged multiple times to build up the right kind of strongholds in their own lives. Of the 9 speakers, Pastor Jon and Pastor Andrew each spoke from First Baptist. Others who

spoke were Pastor Bill Hossler of Evergreen Missionary Church, Rob Ebmeyer of Impact, Pastor Jon Bell of Impact, Pastor Nathan Gray of Elmdale Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Mark Hardy of Lowell Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Kevin Reed, and Dan Boon of Impact. Pastor Andrew spoke out of Ezekiel and talked about how God profaned the temple because Israel had made an idol out of it. It was a stronghold that kept them from the true worship of God. It was a reminder that we may have strongholds that we think are good and are unaware that they are keeping us from pursuing the glory of Christ. Pastor Jon spoke out of Psalm 1 to show how God uses His Word to build up a stronghold in the believer’s life. He gave them some practical ways to develop the discipline of reading and engaging in God’s Word, so that they are like a tree planted by streams of water. There were about 16 men from FBC at the conference.

## 2019 Church Ministries Conference

Dr. Charles Ware will be the featured speaker for this year’s conference and there will be four different sessions for you to choose from a list of multiple workshops. It is a great way to learn more in your area of ministry. If you haven’t signed up yet for this year’s Church Ministries Conference, please make sure you do before Feb. 24th. The total cost of the conference is \$30, but the church will pay \$20 of it for those signed up by the deadline. The conference will be March 8th-9th at Calvary Baptist Church on 28th street.



Let me introduce  
you to...



# Biblical Training

Often people will come to me with a desire to know more about the Scriptures or to dive deeper into theological issues, and I have found it difficult to find really good, trusted resources that don't cost a bunch of money. I want to introduce you to a resource that I have been familiar with for about a year now and have used quite a bit. Biblical Training is a web-based platform that helps individuals grow in their knowledge of the Word, theology, church history, leadership, and much more. This ministry was started by Dr. Bill Mounce, and he has partnered with many of the top seminary professors of some of the top seminaries in the country to provide a trusted resource. Here is one of the best parts about it... it is free for you to use! All you would need to do is to go to [www.biblicaltraining.org](http://www.biblicaltraining.org) and sign up. Like I said, it is free and there is no trial period. The only cost is if you were to desire to be a part of one of the certificate programs or if you wanted to purchase supplemental material such as a commentary or theology book as a recommended resource. I would encourage you to check this out. By the way, they have a sweet app that has all their courses for you to either stream or download and listen to on the go.

Soon, we will be launching some different learning tracks on our website, using Biblical Training, to help you be more intentional about growing in your knowledge of the Word and being better equipped to carry out ministry. We are calling them E-Lectives. Our desire is to give you a road map toward learning more about theology, church history, missions, and God's Word in general. We also want to equip you with skills in the area of leadership and personal spiritual formation. Lord willing, we will be launching this by the end of February.



**February 10** we will have a **Faith Path Legacy Workshop on Leading Your Child to Christ.** The workshop will be held in Room 15 (at the bottom of the steps, near the popo machine).

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 is very clear - it is God's design that parents are responsible for helping their children learn the truths of God's word. Each workshop, we will give parents the tools and resources to help them succeed, at this mission. This workshop will specifically focus on how you can guide your child to have a lasting relationship with Christ. This workshop is geared towards parents of early elementary aged children, but anyone who is interested in learning more on this topic is welcome to attend.

**Next Workshop: March 10 Baptism and Communion**

## [ Dis · ci · ple ]

*“Therefore, be imitators of God, as dearly loved children”*

— Ephesians 5:1

Covenant is one of the most important themes in the Old Testament. As we read through Hebrews 8-10 during the month of February, we will see that this major theme culminates in the work of Jesus. Jesus is the mediator of the new covenant. Every month, we celebrate Jesus's blood, which is the blood of the new covenant (1 Cor. 11:25). Christians are under the new covenant.

Jeremiah 31:31-33 is the primary passage that looks forward to a new covenant. In that passage, we find these important words: “I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” The result of God's new covenant is a people that belongs to God, a people to whom God has bound himself. However, this is not a new promise. In fact, Moses says to Israel, “You have declared today that the Lord is your God...And the Lord has declared today that you are a people for his treasured possession” (Deut. 26:17-18). However, the Mosaic covenant did not succeed in making a people for God. Why? Because Israel “did not continue in my covenant” (Heb. 8:9). But under the new covenant, God creates a people who truly know him. They are his people.

What does this have to do with FBC's Discipleship Pathway? How is this relevant to how we connect with one another?

God did not establish a covenant with you and another with me. Rather, he established a covenant, not with many persons, but with a people. Therefore, to claim covenantal status is to commit to covenantal obligations, not only to God but to one another. *We* are God's people. Therefore, you and I are bound together just as much as God has bound himself to us. This agrees with Jesus's prayer in John 17, where he prays “that they may all be one...that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

The depth to which we connect with one another is a testament to the covenant that binds us to God. With whom can you establish, deepen, or reconcile a relationship to display your participation in God's covenant?





# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## Family Time - Faith Path Legacy Workshop

I had several people tell me that they wished that they could have attended Sunday's Faith Path Legacy workshop, but could not for whatever reason. If you missed the last workshop, and had hope to attend - this is for you!

The base for all of our Faith Path Legacy Workshops are the verse Deuteronomy 6:6-7 "These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

When Moses shared these words with the people of Israel, he specifically pointed out the necessity of active and regular parental involvement in the spiritual lives of their children. God has revealed great truths to us, yet often we do not engage as a family in seeking to learn about and understand these truths. Various studies indicate that more than 90 percent of American homes have at least one Bible in them, but there is a difference between owning one and reading one. There's also a difference between owning a Bible and being actively involved in family Bible study.

### Make the Time

We are so used to the hectic pace of our daily lives that it becomes difficult to fit "one more thing" into our schedules. Unfortunately, when it comes to family Bible study, it should not be viewed as one more thing but as a central focus of our devotion to God. It is a parental responsibility commanded by God, and it also provides a wonderful opportunity to help build and strengthen bonds between family members.

One key step, then, in laying the groundwork for edifying family Bible study is making a commitment to set aside specific and regular time to gather together as a family.

## Spiritually Nurturing Children

Next, the verse tells us to "impress" God's commandments upon our children. Making such an impression on children generally requires a recurrence, meaning repetition. For children to absorb God's truths, regular times of family Bible study, devotion and worship are important. Memorizing portions of Scripture also becomes important in making a godly impression on children. The verse also instructs parents to "talk about them," meaning that we are to engage in conversation with our children that includes God and His commandments. The passage implies that we are to do this everywhere – at home, when traveling, when resting, when facing each new day, etc. Too often, we set aside one day or a portion of a day for church worship, then neglect the reality of God in our daily lives the rest of the week. But if we truly believe in God and His truths to the point of committing our lives to His service, then we need to make God a part of everything we do. Again, this is easier said than done. Nevertheless, the point here is to include God in our daily lives, as an example to our children.

### Being a Role Model

Finally, don't become legalistic about your family Bible study times or beat yourself up about missing a scheduled time. As a parent, strive to be a role model to your children about the importance and reality of faith in your life, but do so without being a negative example. Making God a genuine reality in your daily life is more important than sticking to a strict schedule. Prior to Moses offering insights regarding parental involvement in the spiritual lives of children, he writes, "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5 NIV). Jesus, too, repeated this phrase in the Gospels (see, for instance, Matthew 22:37).

We must first commit our lives to God before we can effectively pass on our legacy of faith to our children. This commitment must begin with our love for God with every aspect of our being.



### Tips for Family Bible Time

While there are no definitive techniques or methods to family Bible study that will apply to every family, here are some general principles.

**Be Consistent** - Set aside a specific day and time for your family Bible study and stick to it as best as you can.

**Don't Give Up** - Keep at it even if you miss a few times, pick up where you left off and start again.

**Keep it Short** - The younger your child - the shorter the attention span.

**Keep it Simple** - You may wish to find a good children's Bible and read some stories from that, as including passages from the Bible.

**Involve the Kids** - Make sure that the kids are involved in the time.

**Have Fun** - The kids will look forward to it, if it is enjoyable for them.



## FBC Youth

Ignited by Change - Fueled by Faith - Led by Passion



Hello church family,

FBC Youth went to Lake Effect at Lincoln Lake on January 18-20, and we had a great time! It was a fun-filled weekend! I am thankful that so many students were able to go. We had 47 students go to Lake Effect this year. Additionally, most of our youth adult leaders were able to go. Throughout the weekend, we attended series of general sessions in which the speaker discussed several stories from the life of David. He spoke about a variety of issues related to the Christian life,

such as developing a disciplined and focused spiritual life, maintaining your faith through trials, and how to confess and repent.

I've included a few photos from the weekend. There is so many fun things to do at Lincoln Lake! From hockey to canvas painting to badminton to games, it is a great opportunity for students to get away from everyday life in order to build stronger relationships with one another and learn more about God.



I want to especially thank all of our youth leaders who were able to go. This retreat is a great way to grow stronger relationships with our students. But to do that, they gave up an entire weekend away from their families and other responsibilities. I continue to be deeply encouraged by their dedication and love for our students.

— Pastor Andrew



# FBC Calendar: February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					10am: Prayer Shawl Ministry	7am: Basketball
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	6:15pm: Youth Group (Grade 6-12)	7am: Basketball 9am: Ladies Bible Study 6pm: Tae Kwon Do	10:30am: Play Date for MOPS 4pm: Missions Mt 6:15pm: Awana Grand Prix	7am: Basketball 5:30pm: Family Matters Mt 7pm: Children's Ministry Team Mt	7-9pm: Annual Leadership Retreat	7am: Basketball 8am-2pm: Annual Leadership Retreat
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Communion	6:15pm: Youth Group (Grade 6-12)	7am: Basketball 9am: Ladies Bible Study 6pm: Tae Kwon Do	8:30am: Men's Bible Study 10:30am: Play Date for MOPS 6:15pm: Awana	7am: Basketball 9am: MOPS 7pm: Admin Mt 7pm: Mercy Mt	10am: Prayer Shawl Ministry	7am: Basketball
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	6:15pm: Youth Group (Grade 6-12)	7am: Basketball 9am: Ladies Bible Study 6pm: Tae Kwon Do	10:30am: Play Date for MOPS 6:15pm: Awana	7am: Basketball 11am: Prime Time 6:30pm: Ladies Coffee Break		7am: Basketball
24	25	26	27	28		
	6:15pm: Youth Group (Grade 6-12)	7am: Basketball 9am: Ladies Bible Study 6pm: Tae Kwon Do 6:30pm: Elder's Mt	8:30am: Men's Bible Study 10:30am: Play Date for MOPS 6:15pm: Awana	7am: Basketball 9am: MOPS		

## February Reading Plan

Week 1 Starting on Feb. 4	Week 2 Starting on Feb. 11	Week 3 Starting on Feb. 18	Week 4 Starting on Feb. 25	"Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years." -Charles Spurgeon
Day 1: Heb. 9:1-10	Day 1: Heb. 9:11-22	Day 1: Heb. 9:23-28	Day 1: Heb. 10:1-18	
Day 2: Ex. 26:1-37	Day 2: Acts 7:1-53	Day 2: Matt. 16:13-28	Day 2: Psalm 40:1-17	
Day 3: Lev. 16:1-34	Day 3: Ex. 24:1-18	Day 3: 2 Cor. 4:16-5:10	Day 3: Rom. 11:25-36	
Day 4: Psalm 51:1-19	Day 4: 1 John 1:1-10	Day 4: Acts 16:16-34	Day 4: Col. 2:8-23	
Day 5: Matt. 27:27-56	Day 5: 1 Pet. 4:1-11	Day 5: Titus 2:1-15	Day 5: 1 Cor. 15:12-28	