



Calvary Herald

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Sermons for the Season of Lent: Kingdom 101

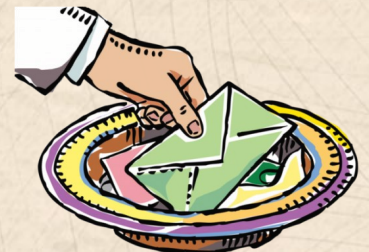
According to both Matthew and Mark, Jesus inaugurated his public ministry by announcing, “The kingdom of God has come near! Change your life and believe the good news!” And from that moment on, his message about the kingdom persuaded some to put their trust in him, while it led others to condemn him. Of course, we still pray, “Thy kingdom come; they will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” But what exactly are we praying for when we make that request? What does it mean for us to desire the kingdom? And what can we expect to happen in us and through us as the kingdom continues to come near?



These are the questions that we’ll be trying to answer during the season of Lent as Pastor Alex shares, “Kingdom 101: Learning the Ways of What’s Next.” By studying the teaching of Jesus in the gospel of Matthew—and especially some of his “kingdom parables,” we’ll seek to develop a deeper understanding of how the kingdom operates, so that we can embrace it more completely and share it more eagerly. Please worship with us as we study God’s Word and worship together.

Bulletin Board Fundraiser

Throughout the month of March, we're inviting you to help send our youth on this summer's mission trip to Washington D.C. by participating in our Bulletin Board Fundraiser. Just stop by the bulletin board in the middle of the children's Sunday School hallway. There, you will find 100 offering envelopes, each one labeled with a dollar amount from \$1 to \$100. Select an envelope based on the amount that you would like to give. Place the designated amount inside and write your name on the front. Then, drop your envelope in the offering plate OR hand it directly to Alex Bracey. Thank you so much for supporting growth opportunities for Calvary's young people!



New Short-Term Sunday School Option Starts Soon

The Narrow Gate Sunday school class will begin a new short-term study on March 19. This study is based on Tim Keller's book *The Reason for God* and will help equip participants to respond to some modern-day objections to Christianity, as we seek to share our faith with others. If you'd like to be better prepared to engage with these objections, please join us! The series will run for six weeks, and there is a discussion guide to accompany the study, so let us know by March 12 if you plan to join.



Pancake Fundraiser

The Surry Baptist Men will host their next Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on Saturday, March 18, in the Fellowship Hall at Calvary Baptist. The event will begin at 7 o'clock that morning and will continue until approximately 10:30. These breakfast events are one of the key ways that the Baptist Men raise the money that allows them to build ramps and provide other services for people in need in our community. The food is great and the fellowship is even better, so we'd really

appreciate your participation and your donation. If you have any questions about the Breakfast or about the ministries of Baptist Men, please contact Mike Francis.



**Happy Work Anniversary
to Billie Doyle,
who joined Calvary's staff on
March 11, 2002!**

We Appreciate You!



Dear Calvary...

A sincere thanks to all who prayed for our family during sister Carolyn's illness and passing. We appreciate our church family so much.

Thank you, Bob and Pam Peake

Our thanks to the church family and volunteers who made the Christmas treats for us to enjoy. We appreciate all the ways you remember us thru the year.

Owen & Sandra Stone

I am truly blessed to serve as a Sunday School teacher at Calvary! I am also very appreciative of the gift card I received. I feel that I should be thanking the church as I am so grateful to have the opportunity to interact with the children, parents and congregation in this capacity.

Blessings, Denise Cain

Thank you very much for remembering me as a part of the College Ministry. I will certainly put the gift cards to good use. Your kindness really made me feel special and is much appreciated!

Love, Leah Cain

Thank you for your gift card to recognize the teachers here at Calvary. And, thank you for allowing me to share God's word for over 25 precious years.

The Ruth Sunday School class is one of the greatest blessings in my life. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of such a Spirit-filled, mission-minded group of ladies. Their strong faith and commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ serve as wonderful role models for us all.

Thank you for the blessing of being a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

In Christ's Love, Brenda Barfield

Memorials and Honorariums

In Honor of Jo Ann Surratt's 90th Birthday
by Jerry and Sandi Nowlin

In Memory of Eston Doyle
by Claudia Bryant

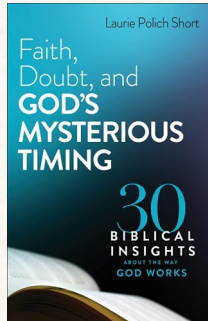
In Memory of Bob Meinecke
by Claudia Bryant, Allison Johnson,
Roger and Donna Keck,
Jim and Lilnette Phillips

What's New @ RightNow Media

If you're searching for answers, they might be right here, Right Now! Check out just two of the resources available on RightNow Media that can help you draw closer to God:

Faith, Doubt, and God's Mysterious Timing

What in the world is God doing? It's easy to wonder, isn't it? We're living in an unfolding story, and it's hard to hold on when difficult circumstances linger, or your deepest prayer hangs in the air, seemingly unanswered. Thankfully the Bible tells of people who experienced the same thing. Mining often-overlooked passages of Scripture, Laurie Short has unearthed practical, encouraging gems of wisdom to help you trust God when the way forward is unclear.



Brand:New



How should the world view the church? Or put another way: **What is the church's "brand"?** Unfortunately, we've created a brand for the church that Jesus never intended. In this sometimes challenging 5-part video series, Andy Stanley tells us how we can give the world a "Brand:New" perspective.

You can get free access to all the Bible studies and other resources on RightNow Media just because you're connected to the Calvary church family! If you haven't yet created your free account, just contact Pastor Alex, and he'll be happy to send you a registration link.

Calvary's New Directory

(In Print, Online, or On Your Phone!)

We're in the process of producing our next church directory...and we need your help! If you haven't already done so, please visit "InstantChurchDirectory.com" and click on "Member Sign In." When you're directed to the login page, select the button that says, "First time signing in? Create Login." This will take you to a page where you can enter the email address that our church has on file for you and where you can create and confirm a password. When you hit "Submit," you'll be sent a verification email. And once you respond to that message, you'll be able to update your information and upload a photo of yourself or your family.



Please note: 1) You can also create your account using the "Instant Church Directory" app that you can download to your phone or mobile device from your carrier's app store. And 2) if we don't have an email address on file for you, you'll have to send that information to Pastor Alex before you can create a directory account.

Of course, if you prefer not to use these digital tools, you can also update your directory entry the old fashioned way, by completing a "Directory Information Card" (available in the sanctuary lobby) and returning it to the church office. Then, you can email a photo to Pastor Alex—or listen for the dates that Debbie Howlett will be available to take your photo during Sunday morning church activities.

We hope to complete the update process by Easter. Then, you'll be able to access our directory anytime by using the Instant Church Directory website or app—or by reserving a print copy. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Missions in March: Blessings in a Bag

This month, we'd like to invite you, your family, or your Sunday School class to share the love of Christ by providing "Blessing Bags" that contain essential hygiene products to local schools and other ministry partners. Just request a bag from Jan Varney, and then fill the bag with one each of the following items: Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Bar Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Comb, and Hairbrush. (Note: If you purchase these items at Dollar Tree, you'll spend approximately \$15 per bag.) Then, simply return your completed bag(s) to Calvary by Sunday, March 26, and we'll deliver them to ministry partners who can put them in the hands of those who need them. We'd like to believe that we can prepare at least 60 bags. So, let's get busy blessing others! And "thank you" in advance for your participation.

blessings

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