

The Baptist Record

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH EUPORA



What does God require of me in the new year?

2013 has drawn to a close. Many things took place over the past 12 months. Some you will remember for the rest of your lives. Others have already been forgotten. As you look back, what type of grade would you give the year? Would you give it an A+ because it was an unbelievable year? Would you give it an F because everything about it seemed horrible? Would you give it a plain old C because it was just average or about like every other year? I wonder if God would give us the same grade? I wonder if He would even be looking at the same things?

As we move forward to 2014, we will be making some new memories. Our goal should be to make this year be an unbelievable one. If our goal is anything less than that we will probably have a horrible year or at best an average year. Most of us probably live by the motto "easy come, easy go" or "whatever will be, will be." I won't say this is totally bad, but don't you think something more is possible? What if our motto for everyday was to ask "What does the Lord require of me?" If our passion is to strive to meet these requirements, 2014 will be an unbelievable year. Let's pray together that it will be as we walk by faith.

*In Christ's Love,
Bro. Travis*



Take a deeper look at God's Word in proper context

Context is defined from one source as "the circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement, or idea, and in terms of which it can be fully understood and assessed." This word exemplifies a dangerous thing when Christians use scripture to prove a point or to expound upon a point they are trying to make.

The danger lies in using some verses but disregarding the context in which they were stated. The same can be said for when we read our Bibles. To fully understand and get the correct meaning and intent for a verse, we should read before and after that specific verse to get the correct context or setting. Otherwise, we may

completely misinterpret what scripture is saying to us. When I read, it helps me to step back and take a look at the broader picture of what is going on in that setting. What circumstances have led to this? What circumstances come after this? We must understand the culture at the time as well. There are many factors that come into play when we really study the scriptures - we can't just mindlessly read a few chapters and call it a daily reading. I urge everyone to take a deeper look into the Word, and remember to keep everything in the proper context!

*Have a blessed week,
Bro. Jason*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Jan. 2 Matthew Jenkins
- Jan. 3 Rudy Allred
- Jan. 4 Louise Hill
- Jan. 4 Hannah Graham
- Jan. 4 Erin Ray
- Jan. 4 Mia Hester Pogue
- Jan. 5 Clemis Renfrow
- Jan. 6 Ricky Wilson
- Jan. 7 Gerald (Jerry) Gary
- Jan. 7 Michael Jones
- Jan. 7 Paula Rumore
- Jan. 8 Kathie Collins
- Jan. 8 Elizabeth Morgan
- Jan. 8 Zero Box

Worship is basically telling God how awesome and good He is

Hey everybody! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and I know you are excited about going back to school!

We will start G-Force back on Sunday, Jan. 5. We have two more lessons in our "Sports Spectacular" Series so I hope you plan to be there! I wanted to give you a little devotional thought to start the New Year. This comes from a kid's devotional book called *Snack Pack-Bite-Sized Moments with God*.

"Have you ever just sat and wondered what God wants? Does God

have needs? It seems strange to think that God would need something. God does not really need anything, but He definitely wants some things from us. That means we have a role in our relationship with God. God does not depend on us for anything. He does not need us to do anything to make Him who He is. But He loves it when we worship Him. Worship is basically telling God how awesome and glorious and good He is. It makes Him happy and fills His heart. Father God loves to hear His children lift

up His name. Take some time to worship God. You may choose to do this by reading the Bible or by using your own words. Tell God how much He means to you and how much you love Him. This will bless His heart, and it will also help you focus on God in your life."

I hope this will help you understand what worship is. Have a wonderful weekend and I'll see you at church.

*Love,
Mrs. Anita*

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

- Sunday, January 5**
- 9:45 Sunday School
 - 11:00 Morning Worship
 - 11:00 G-Force
 - 4:00 Youth Praise Band Rehearsal
 - 4:45 Adult Handbells
 - 5:15 Ignite (Bible study for youth)
 - 6:00 Evening Worship
- Wednesday, January 8**
- 6:45 Men's Prayer Breakfast
 - 9:30 Lifestyles WMU
 - 4:45 MISSION Wednesdays
 - 4:45 Acteens
 - 6:30 Prayer and Praise Service
 - 6:30 Revelation (Youth Bible Study & Worship)
 - 7:15 Adult Worship Choir Practice

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD 12/22/13

Adult	147
Young Adult	5
College/Career	7
Youth	23
Children	17
Preschool/Nursery	20
Nursing Home	32
TOTAL	251

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD 12/29/13

Adult	147
Young Adult	2
College/Career	7
Youth	22
Children	12
Preschool/Nursery	16
Nursing Home	0
TOTAL	206

FINANCIAL 12/22/13

Weekly Bud. Rec.	\$8,301.60
Weekly Bud. Need	\$10,413.35
Budget Needs to Date	\$531,080.85
Gifts to Date	\$534,503.28
Over Budget	\$3,422.43

BUILDING FUND 12/22/13

Gifts this week	\$35.00
Current balance	\$189,445.52

LOTTIE MOON OFFERING 12/22/13

Lottie Moon Goal	\$27,500.00
Gifts to date	\$18,331.00
Current balance	\$9,169.00

FINANCIAL 12/29/13

Weekly Bud. Rec.	\$15,506.00
Weekly Bud. Need	\$10,413.35
Budget Needs to Date	\$541,494.20
Gifts to Date	\$550,009.28
Over Budget	\$8,515.08

BUILDING FUND 12/29/13

Current balance	\$189,445.52
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LOTTIE MOON OFFERING 12/29/13

Lottie Moon Goal	\$27,500.00
Gifts to date	\$23,004.00
Current balance	\$4,496.00

CHURCH STAFF

- Travis Gray—Pastor
- Jason Carson—Music Minister/Assoc. Pastor
- Kevin Barnette—Youth Director
- Anita Russell—Children's Director
- Yvonne Hitt—Financial Secretary
- Marcelle Robertson—Custodian
- Kathy Bailey—Librarian
- Sara Hitt—Church Clerk
- Gwen Sisson—Church Secretary

