

The Purpose of FBC . . .

Accept, love and challenge people with God's truth. We help any willing person reach his or her fullest potential to become radically Christ-like.

Bible Reading for the Week

March 26-Joshua 12-15
March 27-Joshua 16-18
March 28-Joshua 19-21
March 29-Joshua 22-24
March 30-Judges 1-2
March 31-Judges 3-5
April 1-Judges 6-7
April 2-Judges 8-9

Birthdays

Lorina Gillette (3/29)
Karissa Whitlatch (3/31)
Turner Coleman (4/1)
Roark Nelson (4/1)
Gary Maack (4/2)
Carol Van Kley (4/2)

For Our Guests . . .

Welcome to First Baptist Church! We are so glad you have joined us this morning.

Guests . . If you would like to receive information or a brochure on FBC and any of its ministries, please stop by the Connections Center.

Also, please share any prayer or praises in the space provided on one of the orange Communication Cards located in the pew racks. Let us know how we can help you!



By giving to Faith Promise you help our missionaries spread the Gospel of Jesus around the world!

Visit our Website for more information on all our ministries:
<http://fbc-tempe.org>

For a complete listing of our Pastoral Staff and contact information, please visit our website at fbc-tempe.org.
You may also contact the Church Office at 480-839-0926.

Free Sermons

Want to listen to one of the sermons by Pastor Roger or one of the other FBC Pastors?

Free sermons by Pastor Roger and the other FBC Pastors are available to you on the FBC webpage at www.fbc-tempe.org.

Volunteer House Cleaners Needed at FBC

We are looking for a few good men and women who could help with some important tasks on our campus. We need help with:

- ✓ Vacuuming
- ✓ Cleaning windows,
- ✓ Landscape projects,
- ✓ Clean tables and chairs,
- ✓ Dusting for cob webs and
- ✓ Organizing several storage rooms.



If you would give a few hours to help with one or more of these projects, contact the Church Office at 480-839-0926.

Financial Update 2023

General Giving	Last Week	YTD (3/19)
Budget Plan	\$ 27,766	\$ 333,192
Giving (Donations)	\$ 16,062	\$ 212,908
	\$ -11,704 (Shortage)	\$ -120,284 (Shortage)
GF Expenses	\$ 47,146	\$ 266,706
Faith Promise	Last Week	YTD (3/19)
Budget Plan	\$ 1,078	\$ 12,936
Giving (Donations)	\$ 1,304	\$ 8,395
	\$ 226 (Overage)	\$ -4,542 (Shortage)
FP Expenses	\$ 80	\$ 7,484

Legacy Cumulative Debt Reduction

	Last Week	Since Jan 2019
Legacy Designated	\$ 1,044	\$ 506,781

Please continue to give to help reduce our long-term Legacy debt of approximately \$697,105.00
On February 6, 2018, our debt was \$1,829,853.40.

How Do I Get Connected?

Do you want to meet and get to know the full-time Pastors, Children's Director, Women's Ministry Director and others? If so, you are invited to attend one of our "Welcome Lunches" as a guest of Pastor Roger and Diana. If you would like to attend our next Welcome Lunch please contact the Church Office by calling 480-839-0926.



**FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH OF TEMPE**

**WE
LOVE
GOD
PEOPLE**

Accepting, loving and challenging people with God's truth

March 26, 2023

4525 S. McClintock Drive
Tempe, AZ 85282
480-839-0926
fbc-tempe.org
Dr. Roger Ball, Senior Pastor

Welcome to Worship

8:00 am-Traditional Worship

Oh Worship the King
Welcome and Announcements
Nothing But the Blood
Praise to the Lord the Almighty
Prayer
Message-Al Fadi
“Remembering God-Work Place”

9:30 am-Contemporary Worship

God Is For Us
Welcome and Announcements
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me
Oh Praise the Name
Prayer
Choir
Message-Al Fadi
“Remembering God-Work Place”

11:00 am-Alternative Contemporary Worship

Mediator
Welcome and Announcements
In Awe
Christ is Mine Forevermore
All Creatures of Our God and King
Prayer
Message-Al Fadi
“Remembering God-Work Place”

6:00 pm-Evening Worship

Welcome
Always
God of Revival
Prayer
Message-Pastor Peter Molina
“Transformed-Dead to Sin”

CIRA 2023 Update

The Center for Islamic Research and Awareness (CIRA-a full-time ministry of FBC) is excited to provide you with this financial update for the period of January-February 2022.

Financial Need

Annual Budget	\$ 139,447.00
Giving-to-Date	\$ 26,367.00
Under Budget	\$ 113,080.00

On behalf of Al Fadi, Hanane and the CIRA ministry thank you for your kindness and your continued support. Your contributions enable them to serve HIM to advance the Gospel to Muslims here and throughout the world. For more information contact Al Fadi at alfadi@CIRAIInternational.com. Make out all checks to FBC earmarked “CIRA.”

Church Plant 2023 Update

The FBC Church Plant (10 minutes from FBC-Tempe) in Guadalupe (a ministry of FBC) is pleased to provide you a financial update for the period of January-February 2022.

Financial Need

Annual Budget	\$ 150,000.00
Giving-to-Date	\$ 8,444.00
Under Budget	\$ 141,556.00

The FBC Church Plant in Guadalupe along with Peter and Trisha Molina, would like to say thank you for your support and contributions which enable them to serve HIM and share the Gospel with the people of Guadalupe. For more information regarding the Church Plant, you can contact Peter Molina at pmolina@fbc-tempe.org. Make out all checks to FBC earmarked “Church Plant.”

This Week at FBC

Sunday, March 26

8:00 am-Traditional Worship
8:00 am-Adult Bible Class
9:30 am-Contemporary Worship
9:30 am-Kid City Children’s Classes
9:30 am-Teen Bible Class
9:30 am-Adult Bible Classes
11:00 am-Alternative Contemporary Worship
11:00 am-Kid City Children’s Classes
11:00 am-Adult Bible Classes
12:00 pm–Lunch in the MAC
5:45 pm-Awana
6:00 pm-Evening Worship Service

Monday, March 27

6:30 am-Men’s Bible Study
7:00 pm-Parents of Addicted Loved Ones

Tuesday, March 28

9:30 am-Women’s Tuesday Morning Bible Study
7:00 pm-Young Singles Small Group

Wednesday, March 29

5:30 pm-Young Families Group

Thursday, March 30

5:00 pm-Junior High and High School Music Hangout
6:00 pm-Junior High and High School Youth Group

Safety and Security



For the safety and security of everyone, your backpack or bag may be inspected. Thanks for your cooperation!

FBC Window Decals

FBC car window decals are still available for purchase. All proceeds from these go to Faith Promise to support our FBC Missionaries and Short-Term Mission Trips. If you have any questions regarding these, contact David Brinn.



Visit our Website for more information on all our ministries:
<http://fbc-tempe.org>

Library News

New Books and DVD’s are out and on the shelves of the FBC Library!

Stop by and check them out!



FBC Bible Classes

8:00 am

Messenger Class-Room 107/108
(Couples and Singles, 50’s-70’s)

9:30 am

Nursery- Birth through 23 Months Old Children’s Classes-Kid City
(2 Years through 6th Grade)

Ladies Class-Room 104
(Ladies Only)

Men’s Class-Room 105
(Men Only)

Truth Seekers-Room 106
(Couples and Singles All Ages)

JHM (Junior High)-Room 207
(Junior High Ages 12-14)

HSM (High School)-Room 207
(High School Ages 14-18)

11:00 am

Nursery- Birth through 23 Months Old Children’s Classes-Kid City
(2 Years through 6th Grade)

The Hood-Room 107/108
(Couples and Singles All Ages)

Christ-Like Marriage-Room 118
(Couples All Ages)

Online Donation

Why not consider signing up for electronic giving. FBC relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give once or on a recurring basis. To give electronically, visit www.fbc-tempe.org and locate the link to the electronic giving page.

Consider These

“My take on tithing in America is that it is middle-class or robbing God. Tithing to the church and spending the rest on your family is not a Christian goal. It is a diversion. The real issue is: How shall we use God’s trust fund-namely, all we have-for His glory? In a world with so much misery, what lifestyle should we call our people to live? What example are we setting?” (John Piper, Pastor and Author)

“Getters generally do not get happiness; givers get it.” (Charles H. Burr)

Reflect

Reflect . . .

Would you be willing to pray and, with God’s help, determine how much is “enough?” If God gave you extra money beyond this amount, how would you want to use it for God’s work?

Prayer . . .

Heavenly Father, help us to determine what “enough” is for our family and to joyfully and generously share the rest. Amen.

Help FBC Meet Its Budget

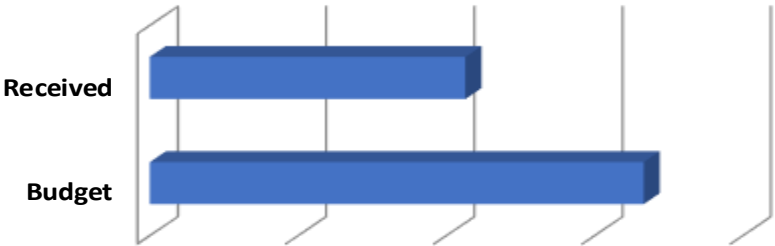
We appreciate your faithful giving to FBC and its ministries.

God is doing many good things at our church. Pray for the economy in America.

We need \$27,766.00 each week to meet our budget.

YTD Money Needed
\$333,192.00
YTD Money Received
\$212,908.00
UNDER Budget
\$-120,284.00

2023 General Fund Giving



	Budget	Received
■ Series 1	\$333,192.00	\$212,908.00



Sunday Lunch in the MAC

Your donations at the food line in the wood boxes help greatly to cover the cost of each meal

March 26 – Chicken and Italian Sausage over Penne Pasta, Peppers and Onions, Caesar Salad, Bread, Salad Bar and Dessert

April 2 – Teriyaki Beef and Broccoli, Fried Rice, Egg Rolls, Salad Bar and Dessert.

April 9 – Easter Sunday Breakfast and Lunch

April 16 – Sub Sandwich Bar with Condiments, Toppings, Chips, Salad Bar and Dessert

April 23 – Meat lasagna with Garlic Bread, Vegetables, Caesar Salad, Salad Bar and Dessert

April 30 – Assorted Pizzas, Caesar Salad, Toppings, Salad Bar and Dessert



(Birth through

6th Grade)

Preschool and Kindergarten

Bible Story: Pharaoh's Daughter Cares for Moses

Bible Point: Shout

Elementary

9:30 am Bible Story: Triumphal Entry – Palm Sunday

11:00 am Bible Story: Triumphal Entry – Palm Sunday

Extraordinary Blessings / Special Needs

Bible Story:

Our goal is to partner with parents in teaching children to see and experience the world through the lenses of our beliefs.

Our desire is for them to have a biblical worldview instead of a secular worldview. Our worldview influences everything in our lives. We want our children to know that God's Word is the foundation for our lives and is the standard we use to judge every thought and action. Our Bible is perfect and true. If we use it as our foundation, it will guide us and change our lives.

Kid City Prayer Request for the Week:

Pray for our Kid City teachers . . .

To walk in holiness and may their steps be ordered by you.

Awana Clubs

Sunday Evenings from 5:45 to 7:15 pm
3-years-old – 6th Grade

March 26 – Club Night



“TOT TOWN”



FREE New Indoor Play Area in Kid City!

Ages – Birth to 5 years old with attending parent

When – First and Third Thursdays of each month
from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Where – FBC Kid City Preschool

Call your friends, bring your tots and meet up with new friends for some great play time. This is an amazing NEW community space, which includes bounce houses, imagination play, doll houses, an indoor playground and more! Contact the Church Office for more information.



Men's Golf Tournament

Date and Time - Saturday, May 13, 2023, 7:30 am

Place – Ahwatukee Country Club

Cost - \$65.00 per person

Includes: Two-Man Best Ball, 1 Round of Golf,
Warm-Up Range Balls, Cart and Buffet Lunch

To Register – Call or Text Jim Strouse at 480-410-5245



All Church Hike

Date and Time – Saturday, April 1, 6:00 am to 3:00 pm

Location – Washington Park - Payson

(Moderate – 3.5 Miles – 800 Feet Elevation)

Bring: water, snacks, sunscreen – lunch at Chili's

Hike up to an abandoned train tunnel,
then finish hiking through an old fish hatchery oasis.

For more information, contact Adam Bachman at
480-363-5570 or at ajbachman7@hotmail.com



Church Action Meeting

At our Church Action Meeting last Sunday, March 19, during our Morning Worship Services there was a strong approval of all the individuals that were nominated. Be sure to pray for these individuals as they serve in a leadership role here

at FBC.



Online Giving

Have you ever considered using online donations to make your contributions to FBC?

Online Giving . . .

- Helps you plan your offerings as a percentage of your income (I Corinthians 16:2).
- Is easy, convenient and secure.
- Supports the ministry program at FBC, just like your plate offerings do.

Would you like to give online? Go to the FBC webpage at www.fbc-tempe.org and click on "Donations" and follow the directions. If you need assistance contact Pam Rosendale at 480-839-0926.



Serving Helpers and Cooking Helpers Needed

- ***Serving Help is needed in Skylight Café*** on Sundays at 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am – Contact Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2394 or at the Church Office at 480-839-0926
- ***Serving Help is needed at Lunch in the MAC*** on Sundays at 12:00 pm – Contact Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2394 or at the Church Office at 480-839-0926
- ***A Cooking Assistance is needed on Sundays for Lunch Preparation*** – Contact Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2394 or at the Church Office at 480-839-0926
- ***Individuals are needed to help Wash Dishes on Sundays following Lunch*** – Contact Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2394 or at the Church Office at 480-839-0926



GriefShare Support Group In-Person or Online

Help and encouragement following the death of a loved one

GriefShare Weekly Seminars –

Sunday, February 5, through May 7 (via Zoom or in person on request)

For registration information, contact Teresa Kovac at 732-319-5533 or visit www.Griefshare.org



Women's
helps create

Ministries
opportunities

for women to grow in their relationship with Jesus, to make healthy and safe connections with other women of faith, and to use their God given talents to benefit the church body and the community.

Sign-up at the Women's Ministry Table to receive an email reminder on all activities and events.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Dates – January 10 – April 25 (No Spring Break)

Time - 9:30 – 11:30 am in Room 118

We are excited to welcome back Sue Jones. She will be teaching on the ***Fruit of the Spirit ~ Cultivating Christlike Character.***

Women's Luncheon with Erica Wiggernhorn

Date – Saturday, April 22

Time – 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Cost - \$15.00 each

(reserve a whole table for \$60.00 – 6 chairs)

Reservations can be made at the Women's Ministry Table
starting the first week of February



All-Church Baby Shower

In just a few short weeks (March 22) our Pastor-In-Training Tom Croke and his wife, Sheriess, are expecting their first child – **a baby girl.**

Join us in expressing our love for this special blessing God is giving to them by praying for them and showering them with diapers and baby wipes.

There will be a special table set-up in the lobby on Sunday, March 26, where you can place your diapers and baby wipes.



“Remembering God”

We cannot afford to forget God in these areas of life.
If we ***“Remember God,”*** how would these parts of our life look?

March 26 – “Remember God – In the Work Place”

Al Fadi

April 2 – “Remembering God – In Church”

Al Fadi

April 9 – EASTER – “Remember God – The Resurrection”

Al Fadi

April 16 – “Remembering God – Sexuality”

Al Fadi

April 23 – “Remembering God – Parenting and Grandparenting”

Al Fadi

April 30 – “Remembering God – Money”

Al Fadi

May 7 – “Remembering God – Marriage”

Al Fadi

Have a friend or family who needs to

“Remember God”

in one of these areas of life?

Be intentional to invite people to this series
and see what God will do!



The surest steps toward happiness
are the church steps.

Resurrection Sunday

Celebrate Easter at FBC “Remembering the Resurrection”

Easter Sunday, April 9

8:00 am – Worship Service in the Worship Center

9:30 am – Worship Service in the Worship Center

11:00 am – Worship Service in the Worship Center

**Special Children’s Program at 9:30 and 11:00 am
in Kid City for children grade 6 and younger.**

**Youth are encouraged to attend the 9:30 am
Service in the Worship Center with Pastor Scott.**

***FREE Breakfast
in the Café, Quad and MAC
from 7:00 to 11:00 am***

Scrambled Eggs with Cheese, Rosemary Roasted Potatoes, Bacon and Sausage Links, Cinnamon French Toast, Vanilla Sour Cream Pancakes, and Assorted Breakfast Pastries



***FREE Lunch in the
Café, Quad and MAC
from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm***

Cheese Tortellini with Sausage Bolognese, Florentine Omelet “Bake” with Spinach, Tomato, Fresh Mozzarella, Potato, Cheese and Egg, Rosemary Roasted Potatoes, Sweet and Sour Meatballs, Green Curry Meatballs with Cilantro and Scallions, Italian Chicken Cutlets with Fresh Tomato Sauce and Parmesan, Cookies, Brownies and Assorted Pastries

Beverage Station Served All Day
Coffee, Juice, Flavored Water



Reserve Your Spot NOW and Experience the Holy Land in 2024

Join Pastor Roger and Dianna as they lead you on a ten-day trip of a lifetime to the Holy Land – **March 6-16, 2024.**

A trip to the Holy Land is a powerful journey that can ignite your Christian faith through seeing the places Jesus walked, worked miracles, died and rose from the dead. Here are just a few reasons why you should visit Jerusalem and the Holy Land:

- You will learn that the city where Christ sacrificed Himself on the cross is a real place.
- Visiting the Holy Land will give you a better sense of what is written in the Bible.
- To understand the disciples as fishers of men, you need to visit and take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee.
- While on this trip you will connect with God and your faith in ways you can't at home.
- Did you know that the Dead Sea is the lowest place on Earth?
- While visiting the Western Wall you will have the opportunity to leave a prayer note tucked in the wall.

☐ **Yes, I/We are interested in visiting the Holy Land
with Pastor Roger and Dianna**

Signed _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

**For more information tear off this form
and drop it in the Offering plate.**



WACKY WEDNESDAY

**We are turning the
summer upside down with
Wacky Wednesday.
Join us for one
Wednesday
or come for all.**

VBS

3 year old's - 5th graders

**June 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

FREE | SPACE IS LIMITED

Registration & Info: fbc-tempe.org

Show your compassion at our next

Compassion Outreach Day

Honoring God & Others!

Saturday, May 6, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

- Breakfast in the Park
- Free Car Wash
- McClintock Street Clean-Up
- Homeless Outreach Care Bags



***Sign-Up at the Compassion Outreach Day
table in the foyer for the project that you
would like to take part in***



Reading God's Word

The Bible has been banned, burned, scoffed and ridiculed. Scholars have mocked it as foolish. Kings have branded it as illegal. A thousand times over its grave has been dug and the dirge has begun, but somehow the Bible never stays in the grave. Not only has it survived, it has thrived. It is the single most popular book in all of history. It has been the bestselling book in the world for years!

There is no way on earth to explain it. Which perhaps is the only explanation. The answer? The Bible's durability is not found on earth; it is found in heaven. For the millions who have tested its claims and claimed its promises there is but one answer – the Bible is God's book and God's voice.

The Inspirational Study Bible

"God's word is alive and working and is sharper than a double-edged sword. It cuts all the way into us, where the soul and the spirit are joined, to the center of our joints and bones. And it judges the thoughts and feelings in our hearts." (Hebrews 4:12)

"The truly happy people are those who carefully study God's perfect law that makes people free, and they continue to study it. They do not forget what they heard, but they obey what God's teaching says. Those who do this will be made happy." (James 1:25)

God Stories – March 2023

1. Be patient with anyone with dementia or Parkinson's or related health challenges. Mental decline creates insecurity. Be on the look-out for confusion in the evening hours, disorientation, inability to speak or understand language, making things up, mental confusion, or inability to recognize common things. Be careful and kind in your response to a person with memory loss.

2. Join our Christlike Marriage on Sundays, at 11:00 am in Room 118 to learn what is the real purpose for marriage as a Christian. Also learn what Biblical love is. Join Don and Tracy Harbin in discovering how to experience more joy in your marriage. This class is open to anyone who wants to invest in their marriage.



3. Pray for the thirty-eight Christians from FBCT to embrace Jesus in Israel from March 2-12. Pray for this group people on this life-changing trip.

4. Heartbroken people get help from *GriefShare* Classes. Help and encourage someone following the death of a loved one to attend *GriefShare Weekly Seminars* from Sunday, February 5, through May 7.

5. Please be praying for a church in Texas as they consider supporting our church plant in Guadalupe.

6. Praise God for the record low Church debt on the Worship Center which is now at \$600,000 - down from \$1,829,853 on February 6, 2018. Thank you very much. God bless you. Please designate your money to Legacy Debt Reduction at FBCT

7. Greg Jones recently served on a short-term Mission Trip in Nigeria. Greg says "Things have been going very well. I shared in a church service on Sunday about helping people to become Christians and then helping them to become mature in Christ. We started a 2-day training with about 20 pastors who had attended our training last year. We were impressed with how they are now implementing what we taught. We gave them further instructions and encouragement. Next, we started 3 days of training with a new group of 25 people. They also seem to be understanding the principles that we are teaching, and it is new to them. They are asking good questions."



8. Would you help make it possible for Jada Britt, daughter of Quinton and Lori Britt, to raise \$3,800.00 to be part of an upcoming summer medically based Mission Trip to East Africa? Jada is a Junior at California

Baptist University studying to becoming a Physician Assistant in either pediatrics or surgery. She will be serving in East Africa for three weeks working in hospitals and clinics and sharing the gospel. There will be eight individuals on her team and she is currently training and preparing to serve field workers in helping in whatever aspects of life they need. Her goal is more than volunteering, it is to spread God's love and fulfill the great commission through the service of healthcare. Please pray for Jada and her team as they travel across the country on this journey. She is taking a step of faith this summer by going into another country for the very first time. Also, be praying for her as she shares the gospel and that God is able to work through her to reach those she meets. Checks can be made out to FBC earmarked "Jada Britt."

9. A woman came to GriefShare having lost her mom, after moving to Arizona specifically to care for her. She had no other relatives in the area, and no friends here. She was withdrawn and tearful at first, and almost relieved to be around people, as she came to in-person GriefShare. Weeks later she was still not "right" but she was laughing with the group recounting dropping her phone in the toilet and losing for a time her one ongoing connection to the world including her sister. She eventually moved on, and we had not seen her for a time, and then she rejoined from Atlanta on Zoom after the pandemic hit. She was with us just to touch base and get re-grounded in the new environment of again being in involuntary isolation. Church commitments and family commitments (she is now near a sister's family) and time zone challenges quickly moved her beyond us, well on her way to a new normal.



10. A woman in rural Colorado lost her husband, and could not maintain the farm. She moved to Arizona temporarily with her son's family, thereby suddenly losing much of her support network, her church, and her daily routine and not wanting to impose on her son. Then the health issues descended. We prayed with her through surgery, another move, and more. In the midst of her grief experience she went to a concert where the music leader gave out roses to some of the ladies - and she received one! She was inspired by his heart and touched by its beauty as well as the beauty of the music. She continued to grow in health and in service, joined a church in Arizona, and became a caregiver for another family.

**Video and audio services and messages are being
live streamed at 9:30 and 11:00 am and 6:00 pm Sundays at
<https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchTempe>**



**Pastor Roger's sermons and other FBC Pastors
can be heard for free on our website
at www.fbc-tempe.org.**

Sunday Mornings Messages

April 2 – “Remembering God – Church”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

April 9 – “Remembering the Resurrection”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

April 16 – “Remembering God – Sexuality”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

April 23 – “Remembering God – Parenting and Grandparenting”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

April 30 – “Remembering God – Money”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

May 7 – “Remembering God – Marriage”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

Sunday Evening Messages

March 26 – “Transformed – Dead to Sin” (Romans 6:1-14) Pastor Peter Molina

April 2 – Easter Musical

April 9 – No PM Service

April 16 – “Transformed – Bearing Fruit” (Romans 7:1-6) Pastor Peter Molina

“Remembering God – Work Place”

March 26, 2023
Al Fadi

Foundational Truth

Genesis 1:26 - *Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (27) God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (28) God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”*

1. We are All made in the Image of God
2. We are All blessed by God to do work
3. We are All mandated to bless others through work

How do we remember God at the Workplace?

1. By Obeying His Mandate

Genesis 1:28 – *“Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”*

2. By Being Fruitful and Productive

Deuteronomy 16:10 - *“You shall keep the festival of weeks for the Lord your God, contributing a freewill offering in proportion to the blessing that you have received from the Lord your God. (11) Rejoice before the Lord your God—you and your sons and your daughters, your male and female slaves, the Levites resident in your towns, as well as the strangers, the orphans, and the widows who are among you—at the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. (12) Remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and diligently observe these statutes.”*

3. By Remembering His Good Work in Our Life

Exodus 23:16 - *“You shall observe the festival of harvest, of the first fruits of your labor, of what you sow in the field.”*

4. By Glorifying Him through our Character and Integrity

1 Timothy 6:1 - *"All who are under the yoke as slaves are to regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that the name of God and our doctrine will not be spoken against. (2) Those who have believers as their masters must not be disrespectful to them because they are brethren, but must serve them all the more, because those who partake of the benefit are believers and beloved. Teach and preach these principles."*

APPLICATION

1. Receiving God's Blessing of Productivity Means Respecting Co-workers

Ruth 2:8 – *Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Listen carefully, my daughter. Do not go to glean in another field; furthermore, do not go on from this one, but stay with my maids. (9) "Let your eyes be on the field which they reap, and go after them. Indeed, I have commanded the servants not to touch you. When you are thirsty, go to the water jars and drink from what the servants draw. (10) Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your sight that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?" (11) Boaz replied to her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law after the death of your husband has been fully reported to me, and how you left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and came to a people that you did not previously know. (12) "May the Lord reward your work, and your wages be full from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge." (13) Then she said, "I have found favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and indeed have spoken kindly to your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants." (14) At mealtime Boaz said to her, "Come here, that you may eat of the bread and dip your piece of bread in the vinegar." So she sat beside the reapers; and he served her roasted grain, and she ate and was satisfied and had some left. (15) When she rose to glean, Boaz commanded his servants, saying, "Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not insult her. (16) "Also you shall purposely pull out for her some grain from the bundles and leave it that she may glean, and do not rebuke her."*

2. God Bestows His Blessing of Productivity Through Human Labor

Ruth 2:5 – Then Boas said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, “Whose young woman is this?” (6) The servant in charge of the reapers replied, “She is the young Moabite woman who returned with Naomi from the land of Moab. (7) “And she said, ‘Please let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves.’ Thus she came and has remained from the morning until now; she has been sitting in the house for a little while.”

3. God’s Blessing is the Source of Human Productivity

Ruth 2:1 – Now Naomi had a kinsman of her husband, a man of great wealth, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. (2) And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, “Please let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after one in whose sight I may find favor.” And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.” (3) So she departed and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers; and she happened to come to the portion of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. (4) Now behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem and said to the reapers, “May the Lord be with you.” And they said to him, “May the Lord bless you.”

4. God Calls People to Provide Opportunities for the Poor to Work Productively

Ruth 2:17 – So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. (18) She took it up and went into the city, and her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also took it out and gave Naomi what she had left after she was satisfied. (19) Her mother-in-law then said to her, “Where did you glean today and where did you work? May he who took notice of you be blessed.” So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, “The name of the man with whom I worked today is Boaz.” (20) Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, “May he be blessed of the Lord who has not withdrawn his kindness to the living and to the dead.” Again Naomi said to her, “The man is our relative, he is one of our closest relatives.” (21) then Ruth the Moabitess said, “Furthermore, he said to me, ‘You should stay close to my servants until they have finished all my harvest.’” (22) Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, “It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his maids, so that others do not fall upon you in another field. (23) So she stayed close by the maids of Boaz in order to glean until the end of the barley harvest and the wheat harvest. And she lived with her mother-in-law.