

Family Life

Volume 49, Number 5

February 2, 2014



Tune's Notes

The Bible is the Word of God. It isn't the only way God speaks to people, but it is the voice of God against which all other voices must be judged. That's why it is so important to know what it says.

When I began preaching, I had never even read the Bible all the way through. With such a deficit of biblical knowledge, I struggled to prepare two sermons and two Bible classes a week. I preached all the sermons I remembered, and bought books and tapes of them by guys I loved to hear and preached those.

At the end of three years, I was exhausted and my church was starving. I'd preached the issues and themes of my childhood. The congregation agreed with most of my presentations, but they'd been hearing the same lessons all their lives too.

It was time to do something different . . . or quit.
So I went back to school.

I actually went back to school to study apologetics, the field of defending the Christian faith. Just imagine: I was going to learn to defend a faith that I, looking at it from today's vantage point, knew nearly nothing about.

But the apologetics classes were not available on the days I could go to school. So I chose Greek. How hard could it be? I'd read a book about Greek and memorized the alphabet. I knew doctrinal arguments "based on the Greek." Surely it would be a breeze!

It wasn't.

But there, in those Greek classes, the professor asked a question I'd never heard asked about a Bible book: "what is it's point and why is it here?"

The question haunted me. I didn't know the answer to that question about any Bible book. More importantly, I didn't know any preacher who approached the Bible that way. But the quest for those answers has been my focus ever since.

I ended up never taking an apologetics class, but it was, I believe, one of those God provided forks in the road that has made all the difference in my life. How have you come to read and understand the Bible? What have been your turning points?

Love you all.
Mike



Scout Sunday

This morning we want to honor our Scouts and Scout leaders, whether you participate in American Heritage Girls, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, or Trail Life USA.

For over 100 years, God and faith have been central to the Scouting movement. This can be clearly seen in the promises/oaths of these organizations.

American Heritage Girls

I promise to love God,
Cherish my family,
Honor my country,
and Serve in my community.

Boy Scout Promise

On my honor, I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

Cub Scout Promise

I promise to do my best
To do my duty to God and my country,
To help other people, and
To obey the Law of the Pack.

Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

Trail Life USA

On my honor, I will do my best
To serve God and my country;
To respect authority;
To be a good steward of creation;
And to treat others as I want to be treated.

We recognize the dedication of all scouts to make the world a better place.

GRACE + PEACE
John Bell

You're Invited

"The Ladies Bible Class will begin a new and exciting study on February 11, 2014, using *Reading the Bible Without Getting Lost*, written by our own minister Mike Tune. Various ladies from the class will be leading discussion sessions. The book contains a synopsis of Old and New Testament history, a primer on how to read the books of the Bible, and a summary of each book. All ladies are invited to join us at 10:15 AM on Tuesdays. Child care is provided, dress is informal, and a good study with wonderful fellowship are guaranteed! Please contact **Diana Kuhn** or **Lynda Eubank** if you have any questions."



Women's Bible Study

Congregational Prayer Request for the week of February 2:

Pray for our Hispanic brothers and sisters as they strive to spread the gospel to all in their own language.

The Falls Church bulletin is sent to all members by email on Friday afternoon. It has come to our attention that some of you are not receiving that email. If you are not receiving the bulletin electronically, please inform the church office so your name can be added to the list. It won't do to miss your bulletin!

Prayer Sisters Program Resumes in February

The women of the Falls Church congregation are invited once again to join the "**Prayer Sisters**" ministry of fellowship and encouragement.

Each member of this group will have a "sister," whose name will be selected in a **drawing planned for today, Feb. 2 after the worship service.**

The location for the drawing will be announced this morning.

Each woman will pray for that sister and find ways to encourage her with inexpensive gifts, notes and expressions of care and love.

To participate, please stop by the specially marked display in the lobby to pick up, fill out and return an "All About Me" personal information card. The card has a front and back so **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU COMPLETE BOTH SIDES** before dropping it into the box for the drawing.

NOTE: If you cannot attend the drawing on Feb. 2, contact Monica Tune who will draw for you!

Those who join this activity should remember that it is very important to follow through once you've started. Therefore, carefully consider your own time constraints before joining.

For further details, or for those who might be new to this ministry, please talk to **Monica Tune** or **Diana Kuhn**.



All Falls Church Youth Are Invited to Join Bible Education Program Developed by Scouts in the Church of Christ

Scott Mills will lead a 12-week Bible-based series of lessons developed by **Members of the Church of Christ in Scouting**. This series is designed for all youth in grades one through twelve, and is open to all young people. It is not required that the student belong to any of the Scouting organizations.

The program will begin next Wednesday, February 5, and will run each Wednesday for four weeks. After that, the classes will meet on Sunday nights - before and during the worship service - for the concluding eight weeks.

The agenda includes classroom lessons, home-based devotionals, service programs, and reading assignments. Completion of the specific age-appropriate curriculum qualifies the student to receive the medal awards from the Members of the Church of Christ in Scouting. Completion of this program also allows the students to qualify for scout-based awards from Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA, and American Heritage Girls.



Two of our Elders are available after the morning assembly, in room 221 on the main level, to meet with anyone who would like prayer for special concerns.

Financial Peace Seminar Scheduled at Falls Church; Starts March 9

A plan for using money, through responsible and credible ways to manage finances, is the goal of the “**Financial Peace Seminar**” presented by the popular consultant **Dave Ramsey**. The nine-week course will begin March 6 and is being coordinated by **Gary Allmond**.

Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, the seminar presents practical steps to achieve the dream to become debt free, to manage one’s money, to spend and save wisely, and much more.

More than one million families have attended this seminar and, on average, have paid off \$5,300 in debt and have been able to save \$2,700 in just 90 days.

Registration is required. To register online, go to:

<http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/39241/class/251045>

The cost of the seminar is \$93, which is more than \$100 less than the average cost.

For more details, talk to Gary Allmond.



2nd Sunday Fellowship for February is Valentine’s Day Finger Food Dinner After Evening Service Feb. 9



The **2nd Sunday Fellowship for February** will be a Finger Food dinner next Sunday February 9 following the evening assembly. While it won’t be a “formal” dinner, it will feature a **Valentine’s Day** theme.

Please keep in mind that a “finger food” dinner is designed to be consumed without eating utensils, so keep that in mind as you prepare for this event.

Each family is requested to bring:

- ◆ A tray of sandwiches

AND

- ◆ A tray of *hors d’oeuvres*, or a veggie plate with or without dip, or a fruit plate with or without dip

OR

- ◆ A dessert that is cut into bite-size morsels

PLEASE NOTE: “Many hands make light work” still applies. If you can help set up, serve, clean up and put away, you will be welcome.

The Missions Committee will NOT meet after the February 9 fellowship.

Pedro & Mireya Batres, Nicaragua

Pedro & Mireya Batres have served in the mission fields since 1969. He is a native of El Salvador and a graduate of the Sunset School of Preaching in Lubbock, TX. His wife Mireya, a native of Nicaragua, holds a degree in social service. They worked in Nicaragua until moving to Guatemala in 1985, returning to Nicaragua in 2000. He is an evangelist in Managua, the capital city, and the surrounding areas, plus he is a popular guest speaker at special programs such as seminars, retreats and workshops. Mireya is a popular guest lecturer at women's events, especially pertaining to marriage and the family.



Pedro Batres (left) with Bertha (center) and Otoniel Rosales Peña (right). Sr. & Sra. Peña are part of the original group of missionaries who in 1969 left El Salvador to establish the first congregation in Nicaragua.

Dear brethren in Falls Church Church of Christ,

I am sending my fraternal greetings to each one of you in the holy name of our Lord. I ask Him in my prayers blessings for all of you.

I rejoice to announce a new experience in my Christian life - I am now an Elder of the *Nueva Libia* congregation in Managua. And I have the privilege of serving with a long time co-worker Roberto Aragón. So this congregation has two Elders. By the middle of February, we should have deacons, teachers and evangelists. We are blessed with several Christian men of good will to accept these ministries.

Brother Roberto and I are working together visiting our brethren and sisters and talking about our duties as pastors. We plan to add one more man as a pastor sometime this year. Roberto is an insurance salesman and I am his client with our medical insurance. Now as an elder, his personal agenda includes his commitments as a bishop of this local church. We serve here without any financial commitment from *Nueva Libia*. Roberto is self-supporting and I have the invaluable support, in every sense, from the Family of God in Falls Church.

Our beloved brother, Joe Bryan, wrote us and offered important advice for us. I have not neglected my other duties and, so, each Wednesday I record our radio program for the coming Sunday, teach biblical classes in the church, attend to invitations from other local churches, etc.

On Jan. 20, I will travel to my native country, El Salvador, to resolve the subject of my Salvadorean passport.

Dear brethren, I am grateful to all of you for your support for the Lord's work in Latin America (Nicaragua, Guatemala, Chile, Mexico). I am persuaded also about your moral and spiritual assistance to your missionaries in those countries and also for it I am thankful. I ask our Father in heaven to rain blessings on all my brothers and sisters in Falls Church Church of Christ.

Sincerely in Jesus,
Pedro Salvador Batres

Dear brethren:

I am writing to you from my native country El Salvador in Central America and I send my fraternal regards to the Family of God in Falls Church.

I came from Nicaragua by bus here on January 20 and I am staying with my brother Manuel and his family near San Salvador, the capital city. Last night, Jan. 21, I was invited to preach in a village known as San Martín, and there were over 40 adults and a few children.

Today I visited a coworker in the mission field, our brother Otoniel Rosales Peña [see photo above] who was a member of the team of preachers from El Salvador who arrived in Nicaragua in 1969 and began the Church of Christ in that country. There were four preachers and their families, including bro. Otoniel Rosales Peña. All worked for our Lord for over seven years to spread and develop the work in Nicaragua.

Unfortunately, at the present time our bro. Otoniel and his wife are sick and their health is weak. I spent about thirty minutes with them and we prayed together. Later I went to visit our bro. Oscar Alexander Castellanos, a well known preacher in El Salvador for many years. He is not so healthy nor his wife and I was in their home for a short time. We also prayed together.

I will receive my new Salvadorean passport from the Salvadorean Immigration in the coming days and after that, will return to Nicaragua.

I am glad for this short visit with my relatives in El Salvador and also to have news about the Church of our Lord here. Dear brethren, I will write you more news in the near future.

Sincerely in Him,
Pedro Salvador Batres

Prayer Requests - Cont'd

Continuing Concerns:

Prayer Requests:

cont'd in next column

We pray for the safety of loved ones serving in dangerous locations - Justin Cauthen, Paul Cummings, Mike Hill & Jeremy Sims in Afghanistan.

General Information

For Children:

- ❖ An attended nursery and a nursing mother's room - located adjacent to the Assembly Center - are available during our assembly.
- ❖ For ages 2 through Pre-Kindergarten, Children's Worship is conducted in rooms 223 & 221. Children are dismissed following communion.

Recordings:

Recordings of sermons at Falls Church are available for no charge on our website after about four days. Recordings also are available in CD format for \$5 and may be ordered by completing a CD order envelope located in the foyer.

Assistive Listening System:

Personal sound receivers are available for hearing enhancement in our Assembly Center. Our ushers will be happy to supply one of these aids for your convenience upon request.

Nursery Attendants

February 2, 2014

Morning

Kristine Spraker
Vickie Witt

Evening

Levenie Hughes

February 9, 2014

Morning

Calanthia Tucker
Meaza Zemech

Evening

Kelly Shumate

Children's Worship

February 2, 2014

2/3 Gayla Keller, Dana Hatcher
P-K Misty Marshall, Meaza Zemech

February 9, 2014

2/3 Allison McKay, Anna Souza
P-K Jessi Arevalo, Carol Alvarez

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:30 am
Morning Assembly 10:30 am
Evening Assembly 6 pm

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class 10:15 am
(October through April)

Wednesday

7:15 pm

Office Hours

9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Contact Information

6149 Leesburg Pike
P. O. Box 1036 (mailing)
Falls Church, VA 22041
Office phone: 703-820-1346
Fax: 703-820-1348
administrator@fallschurchcoc.org
Website: www.fallschurchcoc.org

Elders

Steve Dasher Wayne Doran
Bill Kincaid Jim Lane
Oliver McDaniel Joseph Tucker

Deacons

Roberto Alvarez Jose Arevalo
Matt Bensusky Ben Bohannon
Brian Collins Brandon Durant
Ignacio Espinoza Perry May
Joshua McKay Scott Mills
John Reagan Saul Reyes
Wilfredo Reyes Hal Swetnam
Jonah Shumate Kevin Thie
John Waterston Ken Yeatman

Missionaries

Amazing Grace International, Mike Tune
Kevin & Deanna Amores, Concepción,
Chile
Gary & Sue Babcock, Kent County, RI
Pedro & Mireya Batres, Nicaragua
Henry & Rosa Gutierrez, Nicaragua
Gene & Janice Luna, WBI/Guatemala
Recardo & Monica Reyes, Cuemavaca, MX
Don & Esther Roarabaugh, Torrington, CT
Jay & Piera Young, Italy & Ukraine

Staff

Mike Tune, *Pulpit Minister*
Josh Byrd, *Youth Minister*
Mary Ann Kincaid, *Secretary*

Statistics

Sunday, January 26, 2014

Bible Study 215
Morning Assembly 328
Evening Assembly 104 (SWA)
Contribution \$10,738
YTD Average \$12,081
Budget Goal To Be Determined

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

Classes & Online No Service

Worship Today, February 2, 2014

Hymn #23

Our God, He Is Alive

Hymn #555

Seek Ye First

Prayer

Sam Gregory

Hymn #694

Servant Song

Hymn # 745

Humble Yourself

Communion/Collection

Brandon Durant

Hymn #577

We Bow Down

(Children ages 2 through Pre-K dismissed to Children's Worship)

Bible Reading (*Ephesians 1:9-14*)

Anthony McFarland

Bible Lesson

Mike Tune

Hymn #346

He Lives

Announcements

Bill Kincaid

Introduction of Visitors

Hal Swetnam

Closing Prayer

Jun Amores

Song Leader

John Waterston

Ushers

Kevin Thie, Habtu Zemech



Marty Sims will lead singing this evening;

Oliver McDaniel & Jim Lane will lead the prayers.

February servers are: Joe Bohannon, Greg Citizen, Bill Furr,
Jeff Grimm, Calvin Lockhart, Clark Richardson

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014

Prayer - Hal Swetnam

Song Leader - Bobby Wilkinson