

Careline newsletter

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 2018

WHATEVER YOU DO...

Navigating the seemingly, shark-infested waters of our shifting culture may get many Christians in a twist. Pastor Dennis reminds us to navigate using two things: grace and mercy. In this way, whether we eat or drink or whatever we do, we may glorify God.

This summer we have been examining the culture shift in which we are living, and the identity crisis that it is leading us to as a people. We've also been studying scripture to understand how we, God's people, should be impacting the culture in which we live. Sometimes we almost think that it is a hopeless case. Sometimes it seems that way, But with Christ, hope shines through if we look to Him. One thing that I have learned this summer through listening to sermons, reading books, and studying scripture concerning culture is that we might be living in a new time, but actually the old manifesting itself all over again in different ways. As Solomon tells us, "There is really nothing new under the sun." (Ecclesiastes 1:8-10) "All things are full of labor; Man cannot express it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing. That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun."

Is there anything of which it may be said, "See, this is new"? It has already been in ancient times before us.

There may be some new inventions, innovations, and technology but the problems and the general workings of the world and the human heart are all still the same. Nothing has really changed as far as man's plight. So how do we engage this world, this culture?

I believe the first thing we have to do is look inwardly. We live in what some people believe is the most communicative time in the world. What are we communicating? How are we communicating? Today so much is done digitally; we blog, we twitter, we Facebook, we Instagram, we snapchat. I mean email has become old school today and telephone conversations are almost a thing of the past, and a personal visit is almost un-heard of.

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Mark Your Calendar

- **9.3—Church Office Closed**
- **9.5 – Midweek Church-Wide Dinner Resumes**
- **9.8—Youth BTS Party @ ZDTs in Seguin**
- **9.9—Discipleship, Calvary Choir, Kids Praise Kick Off**
- **9.17—BBA @ CBC**
- **9.26—See You @ the Pole 7:30 AM at HS & JHS**
- **9.27—CTLIC Banquet**
- **9.29—Parents' Night Out**

Now listen carefully I am NOT saying that the digital world should have no place in our lives, but should be at the center of our lives? Some people's lives are totally digital today. It is their mainline communication and if you look at much of the communication and pictures it is all about "me." It's selfie this or that, it is *my* this or that, or *my* feelings that need to be heard or saw. The scripture tells us, "Whether we eat or drink or whatever we do, do all for the glory of God." I think today we can say, "Whether eat or tweet - do all for the glory of God!" Your internet life should not be all about you and how you feel and your need to be heard, it should be about what brings Glory unto God. So as when we do get online, let us focus whole heartedly about what we are saying before we type anything and ask ourselves a question about how is this going to reflect on the Kingdom of God. I've read some blogs and most of the time it is someone's rant on what they feel, explaining or rationalizing their behavior or their hurt feelings.

Also as we engage this culture, let us relate to people as Christ related to people. He always sought to have a reconciling motive. He wanted others to be with Him. Yes, He was tough and direct with the Pharisees, but He confronted them with truth because they were usually trying to trap Him. Even then He was desiring for them to repent, to come and to follow Him. Christ really didn't write people off. There has always been two extremes dealing with people, we either excuse one another's behavior and they see no need to repent or we are so harsh and we damn them and give zero hope for any restoration. God is a God that is righteous but He is also a God of grace and mercy. As we deal with this culture we must strive to engage people where they are, not where we want them to be. We have a lot of mixed up people that are being led astray by some very mixed up people.

We have to remember that God works from the inside out. So we must stand in truth which does not waiver. Truth is always bathed in grace and mercy.

As we engage the culture we will also see that there are a lot of people that are depressed and searching for real answers not clichés. One of the most staggering stats I read lately is that between 20-25% of Americans over the age of 18 will battle depression at some point. I believe one reason why people are depressed is because we are not a culture of true communication. There is something about personal interaction that enables many people to come out of depression. We are a culture of little contact, we seclude ourselves behind gated communities and locked doors. This breeds loneliness and depression many times. Let's always remember that we don't really know what people are going through. We need to keep in mind that people might really simply be lonely, but they are not sure how to interact with people. Let us minister with care and love. One of the saddest statistics is that of suicide. Suicide has been on the rise every year since 1999, every day 123 Americans commit suicide. When people lose hope they gravitate toward suicide. So let us be people that display our hope in Christ with love and care.

Let us minister realizing that we are God's agents in a world that needs to see and hear the truth, but bathed in grace and mercy.

Last of all, one of the greatest way to empower one's self to work in the Kingdom is prayer. Prayer touches the heart of God the Father and He will war against the enemy that inflames the cultures of the world that stand against His righteousness. Ready, set, engage!

In Christ,
Bro. D

I Corinthians 10:31

"Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

WE WILL NEVER
CHANGE THE WORLD
BY GOING TO CHURCH.
WE WILL ONLY
CHANGE THE WORLD
BY BEING THE CHURCH.

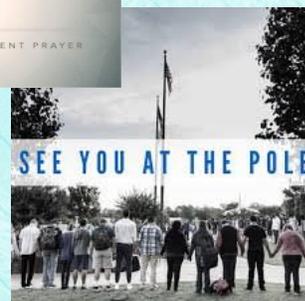
"Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter."

—Francis Chan

See You at the Pole Day!

Calling all Junior High and High School Students!

The National Day of Student Prayer comes around every year in September. Look for your Youth Pastor Randy, or Senior Pastor Dennis to be on your campus, at the flag pole at 7:30 AM on September 26!! Contact Randy McDaris for questions or concerns at 210-557-2151 or randy@calvarysanmarcos.com



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Sarah Martin-Whitaker
2 Samuel Kidd No Evening Activities	3 Sonya Evans Joshua Garcia Naya Garcia Labor Day Church Office Closed	4 Celebrate Recovery 6:00—Dinner 6:30—Meetings	5 Abigail McCoy Regular Schedule	6 George Enslie Jamie McDaniel 6:30 PM Praise Team/Band Rehearsal	7 Brad Doring Alexia Smith	8
9 Regular AM CBC Fall Semester Kicks Off Tonight - Calvary Choir - Kids Praise - Discipleship Classes	10 Jamie McDaniel 7:00 PM Outreach Teams/ Visitation	11 Ethan Diaz Mario Rosales Celebrate Recovery 6:00—Dinner 6:30—Meetings	12 Adam Reyes Regular Schedule	13 Debby Brewington 6:30 PM Praise Team/Band Rehearsal	14 Will Boswell Maria Haney	15
16 Genevieve Campos Josh Heiser Carly Reyes Regular AM & PM Schedules	17 BBA Luncheon 11:30 AM No Outreach Teams	18 Walden Harris Celebrate Recovery 6:00—Dinner 6:30—Meetings	19 Regular Schedule	20 Kallayah Kratzer 6:30 PM Praise Team/Band Rehearsal	21 Jeanne Coburn Brenda Spire	22 Dennis Klatt Stew Harris 5:00 PM ParentNight
23 Regular Am & PM Schedules	24 Ralph Caperton 7:00 PM Outreach Teams/ Visitation	25 Aaron Isaacks Jana Major Whitney Nichols Celebrate Recovery 6:00—Dinner 6:30—Meetings	26 Ronnie Butler Billie Heiser Annette Valdez See You @ the Pole For JH/HS Students Rufus Kamalakar	27 Myrtle Turner CTLC Banquet	28 Paul Martin	29 Jason McCoy 5:00 PM Parents' Night Out
30 Julie Hernandez						

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 6

It's CAR SHOW Season!! Our 11th Annual Car Show will take place on its usual date of the first weekend in October! We will also have an Art Show to showcase all of our diverse talents. The Art donations will be sold via Silent Auction and all proceeds go to Car Show expenses. (Overages will help pay for Fall Fest as well.)

Those interested in participating in the Art Show should look for entry forms in the foyer—these forms contain information about guidelines for Art Show. Look for information on both Car Show and accompanying Art Show in foyer on info tables and also in the weekly bulletin.



Children's and Student Ministry Programs Get Rebranded!



Look for the new Calvary Kids logo (above) in our church-wide publications, signs, and online! Sometimes you need a refreshing makeover, right? Well, thanks to Miranda Whitehouse, our Children's Minister on staff, we have one!

The slogan you see next to it is part of the church-wide initiative to move our Sunday School literature to The Gospel Project. Parents will see and hear this slogan and the accompanying "coins" that The Gospel Project employs to teach the basic story of our Great God and His Redemptive Plan, from Creation to the Cross, and beyond. Also, on Wednesdays, our kids missions/Bible memorization time will be called "Kids Encounter." We want every child to have the opportunity to encounter Jesus as they study the Word of God, fellowship with other believers, and learn about their part in His Kingdom purposes.



Randy McDaris, our new Student Minister is working hard to make sure Calvary student programs get up and running with new ideas, innovation, and plenty of student involvement.

The Student Ministry also has a new logo and has decided to call the Youth meetings times, "Youth Takeover." The idea is that students will live to allow Jesus to "take over" every area of their lives and Christian witness and will challenge friends they invite and visitors to do the same.

Discipleship Fall 2018

Classes In Session September 9 @ 6:00 PM.

Sign up at Kiosk 2 in Sanctuary!

For Women

God of Creation—by Jen Wilkin

As God reveals Himself through Scripture, we can only begin to understand ourselves when we first glimpse the character, attributes, and promises of our Creator. Books—\$13 Facilitators: Judy Glover & Carol Kelly Meeting in the CBC Fellowship Area

For Men

Cultures in Conflict—by Ray Vander Laan

In the same way, the church today is called to proclaim the gospel in every environment, showing the world what it looks like when we give our lives to Jesus. Filmed on location in Israel and Greece, John Clarke Facilitating Books available for \$7.50 Rm 202

Co-Ed

The God You May Not Know—by David Jeremiah

Let's get to know the God whom we may not know as well as we should! Based on the latest book by Pastor David Jeremiah. David Kavecki Facilitating—Rm 220-221

One-to-One Discipleship

Especially designed to be used one-to-one, this manual will strengthen the growth of a person no matter where they are in their spiritual journey. Facilitator: Pastor Dennis Meeting in Pastor's Study

Couples

Sacred Marriage—by Gary Thomas

Explore how God can reveal Himself to you through your marriage and help you grow closer to Him as well as to your spouse. Facilitators: Gary & Jan Hamilton Rm 205/206

For Youth

Jr. High and High School Students will be meeting together to study in Youth Auditorium, Rm 212 See Randy McDaris for info

For Kids

Kids Praise is a graduated choir/music program for children aged Preschool (4) through 5th grade. Register online ASAP!

We aren't called
to fill the pews
with members;
we are called
to fill the world
with disciples.

Shay L. Sanchez

**DISCIPLESHIP
TAKES LONGER
BUT GOES FURTHER**

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