

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHALLOTTE

LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. LOVE THE WORLD.

4486 Main Street
Shallotte, NC 28470
910.754.4048
thefbcs.com



Office Hours:
M-Th 9am-3pm
Closed Friday

Sunday School-9:45am
Worship-11am

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No 318
Shallotte, NC

Or Current Resident

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

8/1	1 Chronicles 22; Luke 20	8/17	2 Chronicles 29-30; Psalms 95
8/2	1 Chronicles 23; Luke 21	8/18	2 Chronicles 31-32; Psalms 112
8/3	1 Chronicles 24; Luke 22	8/19	2 Chronicles 33-34; Psalms 16
8/4	1 Chronicles 25; Luke 23	8/20	Psalms 117-118; 2 Chronicles 35-36
8/5	1 Chronicles 26; Luke 24; Psalms 98	8/21	Psalms 78
8/6	1 Chronicles 27-29; Psalms 30	8/22	Ezra 1-2; Psalms 84
8/7	Psalms 72; 2 Chronicles 1-3	8/23	Ezra 3-5; Haggai 1-2
8/8	2 Chronicles 4-6; Psalms 132	8/24	Psalms 126; Ezra 6-8
8/9	Psalms 100; 2 Chronicles 7-9	8/25	Ezra 9-10; Psalms 32
8/10	2 Chronicles 10-12; Psalms 53	8/26	Psalms 15; Job 1-3
8/11	Psalms 138; 2 Chronicles 13-15; 2 Thessalonians 1	8/27	Job 4-6; Psalms 6
8/12	2 Chronicles 16-18; 2 Thessalonians 2	8/28	Job 7-9; Psalms 38
8/13	2 Chronicles 19-20; Psalms 48; 2 Thessalonians 3	8/29	Psalms 39; Job 10-12
8/14	2 Chronicles 21-23; Psalms 92	8/30	Psalms 25; Job 13-14
8/15	2 Chronicles 24-25; Psalms 106	8/31	Job 15-16; Psalms 69
8/16	2 Chronicles 26-28; Psalms 2		

With the Vision

Monthly Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Shallotte | August 2025

- Aug 3rd @ 6p- Christmas in August Song Service
- Aug 4th-8th - Serve NC
- Aug 9th- Youth Carowinds Trip
- Aug 9th @ 8a - Cars & Coffee
- Aug 10th-Baptism Sunday
- Aug 13th- D6 Park Night
- Aug 16th 9a - Ladies' Prayer Breakfast
- Aug 18th 6:30-8:30p-Men's Ministry Meeting Dinner Provided, Speaker Doug Ward
- Aug 20th - D6 Water Balloon Night
- Aug 21st 10:30a-Bags of Hope Packing
- Aug 23rd 10:30a-Bags of Hope Distribution
- Aug 24th - Gideon Guest Speaker

DRIVE IN
MOVIE NIGHT



CAMP MYSTIC, CHRISTIANS, AND THE PROBLEM OF PAIN AND SUFFERING

In the early hours of July 4, around 750 girls, ages 7 to 17, were asleep at Camp Mystic when they woke to the terrifying sound of raging rain and a rising river. Twelve inches of rain fell in an hour, and the nearby Guadalupe River overflowed its banks in minutes, overwhelming the camp and turning dry ground into a rushing torrent.

The water rushed through Kerr County, TX, and the normally peaceful Christian camp for girls was engulfed by the flood. Even with hundreds rescued, 106 died in the flood. Of those, 27 were girls at Camp Mystic.

The question we ask

It's hard to digest. Young girls at a Christian camp? Why did God not prevent these Christian girls from perishing in the storm? It's bad enough when children die in such a tragedy—but Christian families losing their children? It just doesn't make sense.

If there was ever a time God would re-route the river, wouldn't it be then? But no. They perished, and the families are grieving in the aftermath of one of Texas' worst disasters in its history.

So, we ask God, why? Does the Bible offer an answer?

It starts with Job

When we think of the Bible's answer to evil and suffering, we usually think of the Book of Job, and for good reason.

Job is a man of God who suffers extraordinary loss, including his children. But he never renounces his faith in God. He knows that God would not punish him capriciously or for some unknown sin. In fact, by the end of the story, Job's faith is more fortified than ever.

But sometimes we overlook one of the most significant features of the Book of Job. Though it is placed roughly in the middle of the Old Testament, Job is, in fact, the earliest of all the books of the Bible. To put it another way, of all the subjects God could have started with, he preserved a story about great suffering.

Not only does the Bible not ignore evil and suffering, but the Bible faces it head-on. Even proactively. Could it be that God knew that we would be asking this same question, generation after generation? Why, God, do we suffer?

And the answer in the Book of Job is less of an answer and more of a reminder. When God shows up, He doesn't answer Job's questions or confirm his innocence. He simply amplifies the differences between His wisdom and human wondering. He is God, He confirms. And sometimes we don't need answers. We just need God.

What does the Bible say?

The Bible doesn't stop with Job. Instead, the Bible consistently teaches seven biblical truths that we need to always remember.

- **We live in a fallen world. Everyone suffers (Romans 8:20-22).** This doesn't diminish the sadness of suffering or the severity of pain, but it's true. The Bible never says that anyone, Christians included, are immune from suffering. Instead, the Bible tells us how to respond to it, the reasons for it, and the hope that can come from it.

In fact, the Bible gives us perspective. Jesus himself answers questions about moral suffering—people harming other people—by reminding His listeners not to let such evil actions distract them from dealing with their own sins. Nor should we let the onslaught of nature, often called “natural evil,” distract us from the sin of humanity. Our broken world reflects our sinful nature (Luke 13:1-9).

- **We are responsible for what we do (Romans 8:37, 14:12).** Just because we live in a fallen world doesn't mean we should give in to evil and suffering. We can combat moral evil by passing laws and upholding laws that acknowledge our sinful condition, by not causing harm against others when we can avoid it, and by cultivating character traits that benefit others, such as kindness and self-control (Gal. 5:22-23).

- **God can bring good from the worst tragedy (Gen. 50:20, Rom. 8:28).** Hope always outshines suffering (Rom. 5:5). It might be difficult to see it as we stand in the middle of our struggle, but God is working out His plan. We may never have all the answers, and our suffering may, at times, be unbearable, but God is always good and trustworthy.

We cannot see past today, but He has eternity in mind all the time.

- **No matter what you are facing, God is greater than your suffering (Rom. 8:37-38, John 16:33).** Nothing can separate you from His love, grace, and mercy. No suffering or torment is greater than God. Sometimes He shows His power in ways that we do not expect and which we would not prefer. For instance, rather than remove the suffering, perhaps He allows it to make us more like Jesus and to show His strength through us (2 Cor. 12:1-10).

But if we experience suffering or loss or pain, it does not mean the suffering is greater than God, or that He has somehow abandoned us. He is always greater than our struggles and never forsakes us (Rom. 8:37-38). In suffering, draw closer to Him and seek His presence.

- **Suffering can provide opportunities for ministry (2 Cor. 1:3-7).** Someone has experienced this suffering before you. Even our suffering provides that opportunity for ministry. God may bring someone into your life who needs to hear that God is faithful to you in your struggle and pain, your grief and trials.

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CAMP MYSTIC, CHRISTIANS, AND THE PROBLEM OF PAIN AND SUFFERING

- **Suffering grows us (Rom. 5:1-5, 1 Peter 4:13).**

Some character traits cannot be formed in the good times or when life is easy. Some character traits, many which make us more like Christ, can only be forged in the fire of suffering and pain. Patience and endurance, for example, require something to endure (James 1:2-3).

- **Our present suffering is a reminder of the glory to come (2 Cor. 4:17, Rom. 8:18).**

Our pain and suffering echo the truth. We cannot ignore it. We live in a fallen condition, but, most important, this is not all there is! God has a great plan, constantly reflected in His work on earth.

Heaven awaits the Christian, and one day a new heaven and a new earth will come! In the meantime, be patient. For God is working through you to glorify Himself!

One more thing

We should remember these biblical truths when we face suffering. But these are not pithy platitudes. God knows our suffering is real, and He brings His compassion and mercy to our pain.

But not only that, God experienced our suffering and pain at the cross, and He used it to rescue us. He used our sinful world to provide His greatest victory—the victory that overcomes our sin and redeems His created order.

So take heart! God is with you. And when you need an answer, remember: God's answer to our heartache and pain is always Jesus!

With love in Christ,
Pastor Bob

PRAYER BREAKFAST

THE LADIES MINISTRY WILL BE HOSTING A PRAYER BREAKFAST ON SATURDAY AUGUST 16TH. BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED AT 9:00. COME AND JOIN US FOR PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP AND LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE LORD'S PRAYER TOGETHER! HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

NEW TO THE FAMILY



EVELYN GRAY
JOINED APR 20



JEFF & SARAH BRADSHAW
JOINED APR 27



TREY & SUZY GOODWIN
(CHARLOTTE, CHRISTIAN, GABRIEL, GIDEON)
JOINED MAY 11

DEACON OF THE WEEK

8/3-8/9
KELLY HOLDEN
(910) 231-6053
SEEKELLRUN@ATMC.NET

8/10-8/16
FORREST TAYLOR
(910) 443-1054
FISHINBUILDER@YAHOO.COM

8/17-23
ROB MICHEL
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8/24-30
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JAMES BUFFKIN
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