



**EASTSIDE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

The Link

JANUARY, 2011

OFFICE: (208) 734-7041
204 EASTLAND DRIVE N.
TWIN FALLS, ID 83301

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY—WEDNESDAY

8:30 A.M.— 1:30 P.M

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

OFFICE CLOSED

WEBSITE:

WWW.ESBCTWINFALLS.COM

OFFICE EMAIL:

dawn@esbctwinfalls.com

PAUL THOMPSON, PASTOR

HOME:(208) 733-7562

E:MAIL

paul@esbctwinfalls.com

JOHN MARTINEZ

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

HOME: (208) 733-5763

E-MAIL:

John@esbctwinfalls.com

CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY'S

9:15 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:30 A.M.

WORSHIP

6:30 P.M.

EVENING SERVICE

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

**1:30 P.M. - PRAYER IN
REQUA HOME**

WEDNESDAYS

6:30 P.M.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY
THE ROC
KID'S CLUB
LADIES BIBLE STUDY**

THURSDAYS

6:00 P.M.

**MAGIC VALLEY SINGLES
WOK N GRILL**

1ST SATURDAY

**9:00 A.M.
SONNY BUNCH
PERKINS RESTAURANT**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

In October I challenged the Sunday night worship attendees to memorize the Sermon on the Mount with me. Nearly a month into preaching Matthew 5 -7 on Sunday nights I began to see my lazy side taking control of my progress. I suppose I'll always have need of removing things of this world that hinder me from meditating upon His word more.

After re-reading in Deuteronomy recently my eyes landed on chapter 17:18-20. From this principle I have become convicted not only of my laziness in memorizing Scripture but my laziness in Bible study. With the benefit of computer Bible programs and a word processor I can enter a word in a search engine and find any verse I'm looking for within a matter of seconds. I can cut and paste Scripture text from my Bible program into my word processor and within moments I've read the text I'm going to preach on, I've thought about it, and I've prayed about it. But had I let those words seep into the inner depths of my mind? The text from Deuteronomy 17:18-20 is written for the kings of Israel, but the principle of that instruction has left a profound impact on me. Here is the (cut and pasted) version of Deuteronomy 17:18-20...

¹⁸ When he is seated on his royal throne, he is to write a copy of this instruction for himself on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests. ¹⁹ It is to remain with him, and he is to read from it all the days of his life, so that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to observe all the words of this instruction, and to do these statutes. ²⁰ Then his heart will not be exalted above his countrymen, he will not turn from this command to the right or the left, and he and his sons will continue ruling many years over Israel. Deut 17:18-20 (HCSB)

I broke this text down like this: First I probed with some early questions about context. What kind of impact this would make upon the king? Implications upon Israel? Then I decided to probe with some personal question... What would happen if I did this? So I've decided to experiment with the Sermon on the Mount. I have (hand) written the entire sermon (Matthew 5 -7) to see how this will impact my memorization of the text.

After writing out all three chapters, I am already excited about what the remainder of this first taste of this discipline will be like. I have seen things in this sermon, even though I have read many times before, but had never seen the depth of the words once they passed the lenses of my eyes and externals of my ears they had to get wrapped up inside my mind to then process what I had just read and heard to tell my hand how to grasp the pen and place it on the paper of my journal and then begin to put those words on to the surface of my personal 'scroll'. WOW! I must say I am very excited, humbled, and interested in the outcome of this discipline. I have not just read and heard these living words, these words are now interwoven in and throughout my mind, connecting and interconnecting, cross referencing and interlocking; not just in, out, and lost until the next time I need to fire up the search engine. Now... off with the computer and on with the pen and paper feeding my mind with the things above.

I encourage you to ask God to help you hunger and thirst for his Righteousness like you never have before. Put the things of this earth behind you and press on toward God. Find your rest in him, find your joy in him, finally find out what it's like to have your heart fixed upon your treasure in Heaven.

Happy New Year!

Paul Thompson <><

<http://bridgebloggin.blogspot.com/>

<http://esbctwinfalls.com>

This One Thing I Do

As we face a new year, it is characteristic that New Year's resolutions are brought up, some to be kept, but more to be practiced for a while, then given up. Someone has tracked a group of people and reported that those who set goals were much more productive than those who did not do so. It stands to reason, of course. More importantly, those who wrote their goals down, however, actually far exceeded the accomplishments of those who merely kept their goals in their minds. One might call this process "intentionally targeting our purpose".

The Apostle Paul was consumed by one goal: "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended [attained], but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14). That singleness of heart showed itself in another shade of the same color when he told the Corinthians, "I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:2).

One of the Psalmists wrote this: "I would rather be a door-keeper in the house of God than dwell in the tents of wickedness" (Psalm 84:10b). It is a good thing to choose God and seek Him first. "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).

Gene Lawley – Adult Men's Class Leader



Happy Birthday

- 3 Keith Bloyd**
- 4 David Thompson**
- 5 Andrew Brown**
- 8 Casey Brown**
- 11 Wendell Kinch**
- 11 Gail Lindsey**
- 15 Jessica Martinez**
- 25 Jordan Crider**
- 28 Daryl Jemison**

Gail Lindsey & Her Talking Quilts

**January 11, 2011
7:00 P.M.**

**First Baptist Church Burley, ID
A presentation using quilts to show
each of us where we are in our
walk with Christ.**

**This event is being filmed for focus
on the family, so come be a part of
the
evening. This is an event meant for
men, women, children and teens.**

The Truth Project

The Truth Project is a DVD-based small group curriculum comprised of 12 one-hour lessons. Designed to equip believers with a comprehensive biblical worldview. Practically & personally participation will be re-introduced to the truth claim of God. Each lesson discusses in great detail the relevance and importance of living the Christian worldview in daily life. Most importantly it address the need to marry our actions to our core belief. What this curriculum does is nothing short of transformational. Classes begin on Tuesday January 18th at 7:00pm at ESBC.

Mind's Attention Heart's Affection

It is funny how we look forward to Christmas, thinking it will never get here, and now with some strange sort of surprise it's all over with and we're looking at a brand new year. Wow! Where did 2010 go?

Which brings me to my question for 2011: Are you thinking about a **New Year's Resolution**? I can assure you that if you are contemplating some changes in your life you are not alone. Just about all of us want certain things to be different in the New Year. There are, no doubt, issues in our lives for which we are convicted and wish were never there in the first place. Our knee jerk reaction is likely to go buy a book or start a program or get a membership. We may unknowingly assume that laying something over the top of these problems is solution enough to fix it and make us the person we want to be or even worse the person we believe others expect.

Romans Chapter 12 is always a great place to settle on at this time of year. Paul writes *"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."*

Imagine with me for a moment... If we were to look at our life from above as if it were a map, picture seeing everything all at once from beginning to present as well as all the choices we made that led to both good and bad events; I bet we see a **'pattern'**; This is what I believe Paul is speaking of when he mentions not conforming to patterns of this world. Now look at Romans 6: 6-7, *"For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin."* Paul boldly proclaims here we are **dead to sin**. Paul confirms again in 2 Corinthians 5:17 *"Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things are passed away; behold, new things have come."*

So if we are *"...dead to sin..."* and a *"New Creature in Christ"*, the old being gone and the new having come, as Paul aptly describes- then begs the question for us at this time of year: Why do we even need to make Resolutions?

Paul describes in Romans 7:23 a 'warring' or conflict in our bodies with the flesh. The position is that we have two forces at play in our lives: the old nature (sin and flesh) and the new person in Christ which are diametrically opposed. But it is critical to understand one simple yet overlooked detail; when we are redeemed in Christ, this conversion does not simply provide an additional nature of righteousness atop the old nature of sin, the old nature is eradicated. It is gone, removed, stamped out! This new nature has completely replaced the old. **We do not have a sin nature any longer.** It is gone! Without getting too weighty and comparing apples to oranges, in all actuality the Apostle Paul writes in the 6th-8th chapters Romans as well as 2 Cor. 5:17, about the Doctrine of Regeneration, which by definition literally means "made brand new" or "Born-Again". Regeneration is not about two proverbial dogs fighting it out in our souls. Regeneration is about the death of what once was and the total replacement with a new man, a total spiritual rebirth- an overhaul. Our desires and longings and affections are now spiritual and righteous since Christ has taken up dwelling by His Spirit in our spiritual hearts. What once was dead *in sin* (us) is now alive with hope *in Christ*.

The warring problem Paul speaks of in Rom. 7: 14-25 is reference to the battle believers have as we 'work out our salvation' Phil 2:12; (a topic for another article) that when we are spiritually reborn (regenerated/overhauled) we don't get to cash in this **"physical"** body for a spiritual one quite yet. Paul writes about that over in the next chapter when he states in 8:23 we are *'eagerly'* waiting for the redemption of our body- the flesh part of the equation. The flesh is what imprisons the man and wars against the *new man*. This is why Paul says *"I do what I do not want to do, and what I do not want to do, I do..."* (See Rom. 7: 14ff)

Ultimately, it comes down to this: As Children of God we are redeemed and sealed to that day of redemption (Eph. 4:30) that is to come when we will meet Jesus in the air and reign with Him forever. However until that day we dwell in this flesh-yet-to-be-redeemed body at war and conflict in our souls.

But remember, everything that needed to be done to bring about our salvation was completed on the Cross by Jesus Christ. And yet we still live in this state with an unredeemed flesh that has a propensity to seek out sin and challenge our spiritual longings.

Here is the beautiful thing about the provision in our salvation: *"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."* Rom. 8:1 and in the following verses we are reminded that we are now able, through the Spirit to fulfill the demands of the law whereas before our rebirth we were slaves to the law. It is through the **Spirit** and not our **flesh**, that we are able to live victorious lives. Humbly submitting ourselves as **Peter** urges us in 1Peter 1:14 in his letter to the scattered Church not to *"...conform to the former lusts which were yours in ignorance..."* and by **Paul**, *"...to the pattern of this world but by being transformed by the renewing of our minds so that we are able to test and approve God's good pleasing and perfect will."* This is what I would suggest, in 2011.

So let me encourage and challenge you to try this: Instead of concentrating on starting something *new* or *different*, be intentional and make a list of all the actions you were proud of or things that you did according to the Word in 2010; keep those items central in your life. That's it. It's as simple as that. If you didn't do so hot in 2010, then start by reading and living out the Word of God in your daily life. The rest will naturally snowball and flourish in Godly spiritual growth.

The idea is easy: if you focus on keeping the Godly and righteous things in your life, you likely won't feed the habits, problems, or shortcomings that we wish we didn't have in the first place. Bottom Line- **"Keep Up The Good Working-Out Of Your Salvation!"**

Blessings and Happy New Year!

John Martinez

We are on the web
www.esbctwinfalls.com

EASTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
204 EASTLAND DRIVE NORTH
TWIN FALLS, ID 83301

Contact People

Children's Sunday School

Helen Requa 736-2964

Deacons

Bill Dobson 280-0600

Roger Maxwell 735-1449

Nursery

Blake & Christie Burton 734-2700

Secretary

Dawn Edgar 734-7041

Senior Adult Leader

John Requa 736-2964

Student Ministry

John Martinez 733-5763

Treasurer

Gen Ennis 733-4028

Worship Ministry

John Martinez 733-5763

Youth Sunday School

Dan Stieneke 734-7041

January Nursery schedule

January 2nd
9:15 am Blake Burton
10:15 am
Christie Burton

January 9th
9:15 am Christie Burton
10:30 am
Blake Burton

January 16th
9:15 am Blake Burton
10:30 am
Christie Burton

January 23rd
9:15 am Christie Burton
10:30 am
Blake Burton

January 30th
9:15 am Blake Burton
10:30 am
Christie Burton

BLOG

Our pastors blog sites are
at.

www.esbctwinfalls.com

Then click on their name
and you will be directed
to their

"Blogger" Site

This is a great way to get
to know your Pastors on
a more intimate level.
Read their thoughts, see
their stories, post your
own responses, and ask
them questions.

BENEVOLENCE PANTRY

January

*We need to restock the
benevolence pantry*

*Please bring
Macaroni & Cheese
Canned Meats*

*Soups
Vegetables
(no corn please)*

*Please remember to check the
expiration date*

Thank you for helping

Dawn

Eastside Baptist Church

seeking to glorify God



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1* 9am Sonny Bunch Perkins Restaurant
2 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:30pm Evening Service	3	4	5 6:30 PM Adult Study The ROC Kids Club Ladies Bible Study	6	7	8
9 *9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Evening Service	10	11 7:00 P.M. Talking Quilts	12 6:30 PM Adult Study The ROC Kids Club Ladies Bible Study	13	14	15
16 *9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Evening Service	17	18	19 6:30 PM Adult Study The ROC Kids Club Ladies Bible Study	20	21 7:00 P.M. Card Making Class	22
23 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Evening Service	24	25	26 6:30 PM Adult Study The ROC Kids Club Ladies Bible Study	27	28	29

31 * 9:15 am
 Sunday School
 10:30 am
 Worship
 MVBA
 5th Sunday

Scripture Verse
 13 Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, 14 I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God's heavenly call in Christ Jesus.
 Philippians 3:13-14 (HCSB)

* January 1st
 9:00 A.M.
 Sonny Bunch Perkins Restaurant

* January 9th
 5:30 P.M.
 Deacons Mtg.

* January 16th
 5:00 P.M.
 Church Council Mtg.
 5:30 P.M.
 Ministry/ Business Mtg.

* January 31st
 5:00 P.M.
 5th Sunday Gathering of the MVBA
 Hagerman, Idaho

**“The Link
 Calendar
 of
 Events”**