

A Life-Giving Church

Acts 20:1-12

Context: The aftermath of the Ephesus riot (Acts 19:28-41)

If *our* _____ is not colliding with *their* _____, then it's likely we've already been _____ more than we realize!

If my _____ to _____ doesn't sometimes put me at odds with all the 'gods' of the age, then I'm more _____ than I realize.

Diagnostic question for us all: Are you willing to be the " _____ "?

Be _____ even if it means being _____.

Speak _____, even if its _____ or _____.

Judge _____ the _____ that you see.

Fear _____, but never _____.

Be the _____ 'bad guy' you can be.

A culture of **encouragement:** (Acts 20:1-6)

Nothing is more _____ to a healthy, Gospel-declaring church than the _____.

Sopater (Berea), and Aristarchus and Secundus (Thessalonica) were from Macedonia; Gaius (Derbe) and Timothy (Lystra, Acts 16:1) from Galatia; and Tychicus and Trophimus (both probably from Ephesus, cf. Acts 21:29) from Asia.

Stay the course! God is keeping His _____ promise!

How did Paul encourage them? (Hint: See Ephesians 4!)

How do we encourage each other? (Hint: See Hebrews 10:24-25!)

A culture of **resurrection:** (Acts 20:7-20)

The real _____ of the church is best experienced in its normal, healthy, everyday _____ practiced _____.

They _____ ...

They gathered _____ ...

They gathered around _____ ...

Then, " _____ " fell out of the window, and two amazing things happened:

1) God worked thru Paul to _____ him! (Putting Paul in the select company of Elijah, Elisha, and Peter)

2) They went right back to _____ and the _____!

We may – at God's own discretion – experience on occasion the visibly, profoundly, shockingly _____, but it is the consistent, faithful work and witness of the _____ that gives new life to the spiritually _____ and renews life for the spiritually _____/_____.

Therefore, I will ...

Sunday Morning Call to Prayer

Every Sunday at 8:00-8:15 am in the Sanctuary, there is a time of prayer led by our pastors and elders. Everyone is invited to join in for part or all of the prayer time.

Prayer and Praise Service | October 16

The staff is seeking stories of answered prayer to highlight in our upcoming Prayer and Praise Service. If you have an answered prayer you would like to share with the congregation, please call the church office or email justin@calvarydothan.com.

Fall Family Day

CornDodgers Farm | October 9 | 3pm | \$10 per person

Load up the family and let's meet up at CornDodgers Farm for a fun-filled time of fellowship. Concessions will be open for you to purchase. Check out their webpage for all activities and food options, <https://corn Dodgers farm.com>.

SABA Fall Food Drive

Kickoff fall with a food drive for YOUR Ministry Center. This food drive for non-perishable foods will run through the entire month of October. Beginning Wednesday, September 28, drop boxes will be placed around campus. Thank you in advance for your generosity in serving our community.

Student DNow Weekend

Stranded | November 11-13 | 6th-12th Grade

Cost to register is \$100 (additional students/siblings \$85 each). Register online at calvarydothan.com. The deadline is Sunday, October 30.

Calvary's Resource Center is Now Open

Looking for solid resources for discipleship and Christian living? Look no further than the Calvary Resource Center. New resources and merchandise are added weekly so be sure to stop by often.

The Resource Center will be open Sunday mornings and by appointment. Make an appointment at calendly.com/calvaryresourcecenter/browse.

Calvary Preschool Needs You

We are growing in Preschool and we have a few volunteer opportunities.

- 2 teachers (serving every other month) during Life Group
- 2 teachers for Wednesday evening
- Life Group Substitute Teachers

To volunteer or to get more information, contact Joyce Alexander in the church office or email joyce@calvarydothan.com.

Facilitators Needed for DivorceCare and GriefShare

DivorceCare is a 13-week, video-based support group program that helps those going through a divorce to find counsel to manage the emotional turmoil and gain practical tools for decision making.

calvarydothan.com/divorcecare

GriefShare is a 13-week, video based support group program that helps those who are grieving to face challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

calvarydothan.com/griefshare

If you would like to help with either of these ministries, contact the church office.

Does Doctrine Really Matter?

"Is it enough to "believe in Jesus" in some amorphous sense that divorces "faith" from any particular doctrine about Him, or is doctrine—and the *content* of our faith—really important after all?

Scripture plainly teaches that we must be *sound in the faith*—which is to say that doctrine *does* matter (1 Timothy 4:6; 2 Timothy 4:2-3; Titus 1:9; 2:1). It matters a lot.

"If anyone advocates a different doctrine, and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, he is conceited and *understands nothing*" (1 Timothy 6:3-4, emphasis added).

Sound, biblical doctrine is a necessary aspect of true wisdom and authentic faith. The attitude that scorns doctrine while elevating feelings or blind trust cannot legitimately be called faith at all, even if it masquerades as Christianity. It is actually an irrational form of unbelief.

God holds us accountable for *what we believe* as well as *how we think* about the truth He has revealed. All Scripture testifies to the fact that God wants us to *know* and *understand* the truth. He wants us to be *wise*. His will is that we use our minds. We are supposed to think, meditate, and above all, to be discerning.

The content of our faith is crucial. Sincerity is not sufficient.

Consider, for example, these well-known verses. Note the repeated use of words like *truth*, *knowledge*, *discernment*, *wisdom*, and *understanding*:

- "*Thou dost desire truth in the innermost being, and in the hidden part Thou wilt make me know wisdom" (Psalm 51:6).*
- "*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments" (Psalm 111:10).*
- "*Teach me good discernment and knowledge, For I believe in Thy commandments" (Psalm 119:66).*
- "*Make your ear attentive to wisdom, incline your heart to understanding; for if you cry for discernment, lift your voice for understanding; if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will discern the fear of the Lord, and discover the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding" (Proverbs 2:2-6).*
- "*The beginning of wisdom is: acquire wisdom; and with all your acquiring, get understanding" (Proverbs 4:7).*
- "*We have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding" (Colossians 1:9).*
- "*In [Christ] are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3).*
- "*All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16).*

God's Word makes it abundantly clear that He wants us to use our minds. And one of the most vital duties facing every Christian—especially in an era (such as ours) when the church is overrun with contradictory ideas and spiritual confusion—is the duty of discernment."

- Dr. John MacArthur

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

My Decision Today:

I trusted Jesus as Savior.

I'd like to join Calvary Baptist Church.

I believe God is calling me into ministry/mission.

Please have a pastor or elder contact me.

If you would like to speak with someone about one of the items noted above, please visit the Next Steps Kiosk before you leave today.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Pastors & Prayer Team Only

Churchwide

Connect Card

September 25, 2022

Please complete this tab, tear it off and drop it in an offering plate, or in the boxes by the exits.

- Please update my information
- Please contact me about membership

I am a:

- First Time Guest
- Attender
- Member

Name

Address

City

State/Zip

- Male
- Female

- Married
- Single

Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Spouse

Spouse's Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Children:

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Please complete the additional information on the back of this tab, if applicable.

September 25, 2022



I'm New Here

To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code.

How to Become a Christian

Want more information about how to become a Christian? Go to calvarydothan.com/become-a-christian/.

If you would like to view a pdf of today's sermon notes, go to calvarydothan.com/podcast.

calvarydothan.com

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901 Montezuma Avenue
Dothan, AL 36303
Church Office 334.792.5159
Weekday 334.793.9898

FIRST TIME GUEST?

We're so glad you've joined us for worship today and would love to be able to share more with you about our church. Please fill out the Connect Card to the left and place it in one of the offering plates when they are passed. Be sure to stop by our Next Steps kiosk after the service for a gift from us!

THE PEOPLE CAME...

September 18
Life Groups: 462
10:00 Worship: 553
Hispanic Church: 131
Grace City Church (NY): 30

THE PEOPLE GAVE...

General Fund
Given September 18: \$73,103.93
Y-T-D Budget
Surplus (Deficit): (\$27,014.79)

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, September 25:
Ru 1, Acts 26, Jer 36, Ps 9
Monday, September 26:
Ru 2, Acts 27, Jer 37, Ps 10
Tuesday, September 27:
Ru 3-4, Acts 28, Jer 38, Ps 11-12
Wednesday, September 28:
1 Sam 1, Rom 1, Jer 39, Ps 13-14
Thursday, September 29:
1 Sam 2, Rom 2, Jer 40, Ps 15-16
Friday, September 30:
1 Sam 3, Rom 3, Jer 41, Ps 17
Saturday, October 1:
1 Sam 4, Rom 4, Jer 42, Ps 18

Midweek Schedule

6:00pm Midweek Worship, Sanctuary
Preschool, Birth-K5, Preschool Building
Children, Grades 1-5, Kids Worship Room
Students, Grades 6-12, Student Room
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

4 Ways to Give

- Give online by going to calvarydothan.com/give-online/.
- On Sundays, drop in the offering plate or in the collection boxes near the Fellowship Center exit doors.
- Mail to 901 Montezuma Avenue, Dothan, AL 36303
- Bring to the church office, M-F, 8am-12noon & 1-4:30pm

Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson.....Senior Pastor
Charles Uptain.....Executive Pastor
Dan Tankersley.....Discipleship
Patrick Lima.....Worship
Tommy Perry.....Missions

STAFF ON CALL

Sunday, September 25:
Dan Tankersley | 334-655-8765
Saturday, October 1:
Randy Hunt | 334-791-7986
Sunday, October 2:
Randy Hunt | 334-791-7986

SERMON SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 28 | 6pm
Exodus 7: When God Hardens Hearts
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, October 2 | 10am

Acts: My Life Purpose
Acts 20:13-38
Message by Eric Donop

Wednesday, October 5 | 6pm

Exodus 8: When Man Hardens His Heart
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, October 9 | 10am

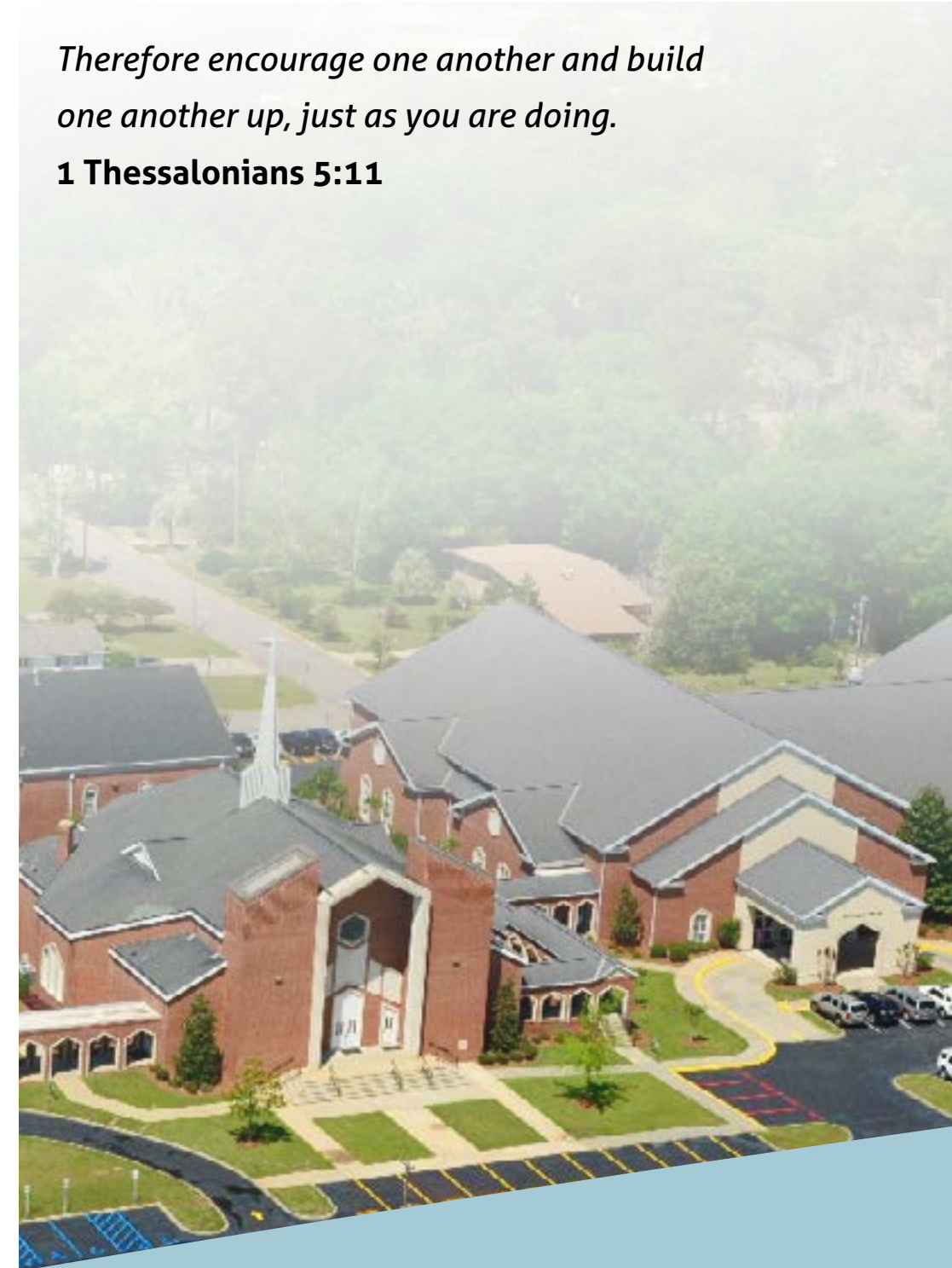
Acts: Love Worth Dying For
Acts 20:36-21:16
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00am Call to Prayer, Sanctuary
8:30am Life Group
10:00am Worship, Fellowship Center
Kid's Worship, Grades 1-5, Chapel (except 1st Sunday)
11:00am Worship Broadcast on JoyFM 94.3/96.1 with a 1 wk delay.

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11



WELCOME TO
Calvary
BAPTIST CHURCH