

In Chains for the Gospel

Acts 26

Introduction: “Chief Motivating Factor”

Paul’s 5th Defense:

Begins and ends with the _____ ...

For Paul, it was _____ ...

For Felix, it was _____ ...

Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead? (26:8)

The Resurrection of Jesus was ...

_____ to us

_____ by us

_____ for us

The Resurrection was the great “therefore” of Paul’s life:

Why I _____

Why I _____

Why I _____

Paul’s life (and hopefully ours) _____ apart from it.

A Big Question: Are We Trying to Make Everybody _____? _____!

We want people to _____ of the Gospel ...

We want people to _____ and find life ...

We want people to _____ from the penalty of their sins ...

We want people to _____ with God ...

How?

_____ and _____

For those **not-yet-Christian:**

Don’t _____ ...

Don’t _____ ...

But _____!

“Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains.” (26:29)

Epilogue: The Beautiful Irony of Paul’s Chains

Sunday Morning Call to Prayer

Sundays | 8-8:15am | Parlor

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 time will meet in the Parlor while lights are being replaced in the Sanctuary.

Thanksgiving Communion Service

Join us Tuesday, November 22, at 6pm in the Fellowship Center for a service of thanksgiving and communion.

Christmas Toy Drive

Calvary is partnering with a local school to provide toys for children this Christmas. If you’d like to donate, please visit calvarydothan.com to view the Amazon wish list. Items can be shipped directly to Calvary. The deadline is Sunday, December 11.

Presentation of Final List of Elder Candidates

The council of elders present Tyler Campbell, Jed Downs, and David Glover as elder candidates. The church will be asked to vote on each man at the end of the worship service on December 4 as required in the church bylaws.

Calvary Kids Worship Schedule

Please mark your calendar. There will be no Kids Worship on these Sundays: December 4, December 25, and January 1.

Calvary Kids Leaders Needed

There are some excellent openings in the Calvary Kids Ministry we hope you will consider serving. We have THREE openings on Sunday mornings, and ONE opening on Wednesday evenings. If you’re interested in joining our team and would like to learn more, email us at zach@calvarydothan.com or text 334-733-6326.

Student Summer Camp 2023

June 9-13 | 6th-12th Grade | Deadline for \$75 Deposit: January 15

Mark your calendars! Online registration is open for camp next summer! Register soon to reserve a spot for your student.

India Mission Trip Opportunity

Pastor Paul and Tommy Perry are going on a short-term mission project to India, January 1-14, 2023. There is room for 2 more people to go. If you are interested, contact tommy@calvarydothan.com.

Christmas at Calvary Schedule

Breakfast in Bethlehem | Saturday, December 3 | 9:30-11:30am | Fellowship Center

A preschool family event for ages 3 (by 9/1/22) through Kindergarten

Calvary Christmas | Sunday, December 4 | 6pm | Fellowship Center

Christmas at The Ark | Thursday, December 8 | 5:30-7:30pm

Join other members of your Life Group for this special time of fellowship, fun, and sharing Christmas cheer with the residents of The Ark this Christmas.

Preschool, Children & Student Christmas Parties | Wednesday, December 7 | 6pm

Christmas Family Fun Night | Wednesday, December 14 | 6-7pm | Fellowship Center

Senior Adult Midmonth Worship | Thursday, December 15 | 11am | Fellowship Center
Lunch will immediately follow the service.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service | Saturday, December 24 | 5pm | Fellowship Center

Christmas Day, December 25 | No Life Group | Worship at 11am | Sanctuary

No Midweek activities on Decemer 21 or 28.

Folks attending the membership class at our church are often surprised at the emphasis we place on attending our Lord’s Day gathering. This priority isn’t just a particular quirk of *our* church; it should be a biblical priority for *every* church.

Let’s look at four reasons the Bible prioritizes gathering:

1. The presence of the Lord commends it.

The Lord Jesus promises his presence at the gathering of his people: “Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them” (Matt. 18:20).

In light of the whole biblical narrative, this passage shows the extraordinary eschatological implications of the gathering. God’s presence was lost in Eden (Gen 3:8), but it returned in some capacity in the tabernacle (Exod. 25:8, 22), the land (Num. 35:34), and the temple (1 Kgs. 8:10–11). But his presence with Israel was always limited: “Will God indeed dwell on the earth?” (1 Kgs. 8:27).

In the coming of Christ, God came to dwell with and die for his people (John 1:14; 10:11–15) so that those who receive the Son might become the gathered children of God (John 1:11–13; 11:51–52). And now, since the risen Christ is present among his gathered people, we have the privilege of joining with him as his brothers and sisters, praising his Father and ours (cf. Ps. 22:22; Heb. 2:12).

The very word that Jesus chooses for his community, *ekklesia*, implies that the church is “a society of men called out of some place or state and congregated in an assembly.” We are still the church during the week as we are scattered, but we are only the church during the week because we gather on the Lord’s Day.

Our present, earthbound gatherings anticipate the time when he will dwell with us visibly (Rev. 21:3; 22:4). What a privilege and a promise! Who would want to miss out on that?

2. The command of the Lord requires it.

Gathering isn’t just a privilege, it’s also a command that creates a solemn responsibility. “Do not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching” (Heb. 10:25).

Throughout the New Testament, we see the weekly gathering of the church on the Lord’s Day as both a pattern and a precept (1 Cor. 5:4, Luke 24:33 John 20:19, Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 16:2).

3. The community of the Lord needs it.

Gathering is commended and commanded for our good. One of the primary purposes of gathering is mutual edification. True, the church can be built up through informal and small group conversations during the week. But the New Testament repeatedly emphasizes that the church is edified when it “comes together” (1 Cor. 11:20, 33, 34; 14:26).

4. The pictures of church imply it.

The images Scripture uses to describe the church highlight the necessity of gathering. The church is the body of Christ that recognizes the other parts of the body particularly as they gather together as one body (Rom. 12:3–8, 1 Cor. 10:17, 11:29, 12:12–31, 14:1–19). The church is a temple where all the stones are built together through the mutual edification that occurs as they gather (1 Cor. 3:16–17, Eph. 2:19–22). The church is a family where we feed one another with the Word of God (Col. 3:16) around the table of the Lord. The church is a flock of sheep that are together in the sheepfold.

Taken from an article by Mike Gilbert-Smith, pastor of Twynholm Baptist Church in Fulham, England.

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

November 20, 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.

November 20, 2022

November Missions Spotlight

Moses O. Odhiambo

Echoes of Mercy Mission, Kenya

Echoes of Mercy exists to evangelize and disciple others through church planting and leadership, as well as through a number of mercy ministries including widow care, education, and healthcare. If you would like to learn more about the ministry work of Echoes of Mercy you can visit [facebook.com/eomkenya](https://www.facebook.com/eomkenya) or www.echoesofmercy.org.

Fostering Hope

Local Missions Partner

The leadership of Fostering Hope has a desire to support, encourage, and assist foster families and children of the Wiregrass. Their mission: Fostering hope by sharing Christ's love with foster families and children of the Wiregrass. If you would like to know more about the ministry work of Fostering Hope you can visit [facebook.com/fosteringhopewiregrass](https://www.facebook.com/fosteringhopewiregrass) or fosteringhopewiregrass.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...

November 13

Life Groups: 530
10:00 Worship: 596
Hispanic Church: 111
Grace City Church (NY): 30

THE PEOPLE GAVE...

General Fund

Given November 13: \$39,313.15
Y-T-D Budget
Surplus (Deficit): \$13,583.71

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, November 20:

1 Kgs 6, Eph 3, Ezk 36, Ps 86

Monday, November 21:

1 Kgs 7, Eph 4, Ezk 37, Ps 87-88

Tuesday, November 22:

1 Kgs 8, Eph 5, Ezk 38, Ps 89

Wednesday, November 23:

1 Kgs 9, Eph 6, Ezk 39, Ps 90

Thursday, November 24:

1 Kgs 10, Phil 1, Ezk 40, Ps 91

Friday, November 25:

1 Kgs 11, Phil 2, Ezk 41, Ps 92-93

Saturday, November 26:

1 Kgs 12, Phil 3, Ezk 42, Ps 94

Midweek Schedule

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

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/how-to-become-a-christian/.

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

Ministry Staff

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

STAFF ON CALL

Sunday, November 20:

Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791

Saturday, November 26:

Dan Tankersley | 334-655-8765

Sunday, November 27:

Dan Tankersley | 334-655-8765

SERMON SCHEDULE

Tuesday, November 22 | 6pm

Exodus 15: The Victory Song

Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, November 27 | 10am

Acts: Promise and Warning

Acts 27

Message by Paul Thompson

Wednesday, November 30 | 6pm

Exodus 16: The Pull of Egypt; The Provision of God

The Provision of God

Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, December 4 | 10am

Acts: The Hard Journey of God's Will

Acts 28:1-6

Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00am Call to Prayer, Parlor

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.

I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.

- Acts 26:17b-18



WELCOME TO
Calvary
BAPTIST CHURCH