

What is a Biblically Shaped Church?

1 Timothy 3:14-15

I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.

Premise: The source of a church's life is _____.

_____ is sufficient to _____ us and to _____ us in all matters as a church.

_____ we _____ springs from _____ we _____ we are!

_____ doesn't drive behavior. _____ does!

_____ are we?

1) A _____, under the authority of a Good Father ...

2) _____, rescued from the kingdom of darkness ...

3) A _____, founded on the truth ...

_____ are we to _____?

1) As a family, we display the love of our Father by _____.

This looks like ...

2) As a called-out assembly, we display the Gospel by _____.

This looks like ...

3) As a building of "living stones", we guard the truth by _____ and _____.

This looks like ...

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only scriptural officers are bishops or pastors and deacons whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

Article XIII, The New Hampshire Confession of Faith, 1833

*Dr. Paul Thompson
Calvary Baptist Church
January 1, 2023*

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions

Calvary's Goal: \$150,000

100% of your gifts go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering to enable gospel transformation among the unreached. imb.org/lottiemoon.

2023 Five Day Bible Reading Program

This year we are encouraging you to participate in the 2023 Five Day Bible Reading Program. You can access a pdf at <https://calvarydothan.com/wp-content/uploads/Bible-Reading-Schedule-2023.pdf> or see the back of the bulletin for each week's reading assignment.

This special Bible reading system allows you to read the entire Bible (or just the New Testament) in one year while only reading five times a week. Five readings a week gives room to catch up or take a day off to focus on other Bible reading or spiritual disciplines, and makes daily Bible reading practical and do-able.

The Old Testament readings are placed as chronologically as possible. The only exception is Job, probably the oldest book in the Bible, but placed at the schedule's end because it is hard to fit elsewhere. The New Testament readings space the Gospels out throughout the year to keep the reader constantly coming back to the life and teachings of Jesus.

Alabama Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries TIPS Class

Have you ever felt the Lords call to foster?! There are 6,000 children in Alabama that need a safe and devoted home. Alabama Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries will lead a TIPS class starting January 12. This training will be held every Thursday for 10 weeks and class is from 6-9pm. Allow us to stand shoulder to shoulder with you on this journey. Please call ABCH at 334-677-7856 to sign up! Class location is 325 Ross Clark Circle Dothan, AL 36303.

Pray for Calvary's India Mission Trip

Please pray for David and Lee Glover, Tommy Perry, and Paul Thompson as they serve alongside our mission partners in India for the first two weeks of January. They will be involved in a variety of teaching, training, and hands-on ministry opportunities over a 13-day period, January 1-14. Please pray for their safety, effectiveness, and for long-term fruitfulness from their labors. Please also pray that our mission partners (The Van den Akkers and the Vadavanas) would be encouraged and that their ministries would be blessed.

TOGETHER: How We ALL Foster a Healthier Church

Combined Life Groups for ALL Students and Adults

Beginning Sunday, January 8, we will present a powerfully defining 4-week teaching series for ALL Student and Adult Life Groups at 8:30am in the Sanctuary. Children, Grades 1-5 will have joint Life Group in the Kids Worship Room. There will be no Kids Worship in January. We will resume our normal Life Groups on February 5.

Interested in Church Membership at Calvary?

If you are considering church membership, be sure to attend our joint Life Group meetings January 8-29. Email dan@calvarydothan.com for more information.

Calvary Marriage Conference -The Marriage of Your Dreams

4 Sessions - January 8, 15, 22 & 29 | 5pm | Fellowship Center

Dream bigger, love better, and experience a deeper relationship with God and your spouse than ever before. After celebrating 50 years of marriage, pastor and counselor Paul Tripp will help you to discover how in this 4-session video-based conference. Register online at calvarydothan.com. Childcare and activities for babies-5th grade are available with registration.

Student Summer Camp 2023

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

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

Meaningless Membership: A Southern Baptist Perspective

What do Britney Spears, Brad Pitt, Bill Clinton, and Al Gore have in common? If you answer, "All four have been members of Southern Baptist churches," you move to the head of the class.

These four individuals are found in the branch of Christianity that also includes Al Mohler, Mike Huckabee, Bobby Bowden, and Billy Graham, among others. Our Southern Baptist churches include their share of prominent personalities. Some bring honor to our denomination. Others bring dishonor.

The purpose of this article is to answer the question, How has meaningless church membership adversely affected the Southern Baptist Convention?

The question assumes that membership in many Southern Baptist churches has little impact on how those members think or live. Historically, Baptists have affirmed regenerate church membership, which implies that every church member should walk in holiness and purity. Yet the widespread reality today is otherwise. A person can walk in ways that bring great shame to the name of Christ and yet remain a member in good standing in a Southern Baptist church ...

What are the consequences of such meaningless membership?

It Gives a False Assurance of Salvation to Multitudes ... the failure to practice church discipline and maintain integrity in our church rolls gives the multitude of "inactive members" a false assurance of salvation.

It is common for a man or woman to join a Southern Baptist church, but then to stop participating in worship and fellowship—sometimes for decades. Yet when the church says or does nothing, the individual continues to believe he or she is saved. This is the case because of our refusal to obey God in the matter of discipline ...

It Harms Our Gospel Witness

... the fact that so many Southern Baptists live in open disobedience to God's commands and have little involvement with their fellow members greatly harms our denomination's gospel witness.

Hypocrisy within our churches is common, and Southern Baptist churches almost universally fail to practice church discipline. As a result, Christ's bride is stained and soiled when she should be progressing toward radiance, holiness, and blamelessness ...

It Hinders our Missionary Efforts

... meaningless membership in Southern Baptist churches hinders our efforts to declare God's glory to the nations.

Yes, it is true that we have the largest number of missionaries worldwide of any American denomination. Our 5,000 International Mission Board missionaries span the globe. Yet this translates to one missionary for every nine Southern Baptist churches. In light of the Bible's clear teaching on missions, is it unrealistic to think that every church should have a least one missionary serving internationally? More than 30,000 Southern Baptist churches have no missionary from their ranks. How can this be? Where is the passion to declare God's glory among the nations?

WHAT SHALL WE DO? RECOVER MEANINGFUL MEMBERSHIP.

A recovery of meaningful church membership is desperately needed in the Southern Baptist Convention. Perhaps then we will know something more of "him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen" (Eph. 3:20-21).

By Al Jackson, Retired Senior Pastor, Lakeview Baptist Church, Auburn, AL

You can read the entire article here: <https://www.9marks.org/article/journalmeaningless-membership-southern-baptist-perspective/>

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

January 1, 2023

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.

January 1, 2023

January Missions Spotlight

Joe and Andie Carroll Erbil Baptist Church, Kurdistan

The Carroll's seek to serve the members of Erbil Baptist Church by encouraging them to be bold in their witness, and have wisdom to seek the salvation of their family, friends, and neighbors. They are also working towards the planting of a Kurdish-speaking church in this region. If you would like to learn more about the ministry work of Joe and Andie, you can visit erbilbaptist.church. Also, if you would like to know how to pray for the Carroll's, please pick up a prayer card at the missions kiosk in the Fellowship Center foyer.

Wiregrass Hope (Local Missions Partner)

The mission of Wiregrass Hope is to share the hope of Christ, promote human life, and care for people through pregnancy resources, biblical counseling, and relationship education. Their vision is to build a healthy community where individuals and families value life and thrive because of the love and grace of Christ. If you would like to know more about the ministry work of Wiregrass Hope, you can visit facebook.com/wiregrasshopegroup or wiregrasshope.com.

 calvarydothan.com

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 [/calvarydothan](https://www.facebook.com/calvarydothan)



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...

December 25
Totals available 01/08
10:00 Worship:
Hispanic Church:
Neighborhood Church (NY):

THE PEOPLE GAVE...

General Fund
Totals available 01/08
Given December 25: \$
Y-T-D Budget
Surplus (Deficit): (\$68,053.50)
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
Given to 12/18: \$93,612.00


5-DAY BIBLE READING PROGRAM

- January 1-7
- Genesis 1-2, Psalm 19, Mark 1
 - Genesis 3-5, Mark 2
 - Genesis 6-8, Psalm 104, Mark 3
 - Genesis 9-11, Mark 4
 - Genesis 12-15, Psalm 148, Mark 5

Midweek Schedule (Resumes 01/04)

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	Joyce Alexander.....Preschool
Charles Uptain.....Executive Pastor	Zach Daniels.....Children
Dan Tankersley.....Discipleship	Reagan Farris.....Students
Patrick Lima.....Worship	Randy Hunt.....Senior Adults
Tommy Perry.....Missions	

STAFF ON CALL

Sunday, January 1:
Randy Hunt | 334-791-7986
Saturday, January 7:
Charles Uptain | 334-797-7191
Sunday, January 8:
Reagan Farris | 504-319-6986

SERMON SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 4 | 6pm
Lessons on (More Than) Leadership
Exodus 18
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, January 8 | 10am
A Biblically Shaped Church:
Truth and Love in a Biblically Shaped Church
1 Timothy 1:1-7
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.

And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

- 2 Corinthians 6:18



WELCOME TO
Calvary
BAPTIST CHURCH