Learning To Love God in Every Season: Lessons from David's Life and Psalms

Loving God When No One Else Sees

The Lord said to Samuel,
"Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him.
For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance,
but the Lord looks on the heart."
(1 Sam. 16:7)

Let's begin our exploration of David by working backward from the New Testament ...

*"God raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David, the son of Jesse, **a man after my heart**, who will do all my will.'" – Acts 13:22*

That is the Bible's definitive assessment of David.

Now let's see how David's story *began*, starting with Saul ...

*[14] But now your kingdom shall not continue. **The Lord has sought out a man after his own heart**, and the Lord has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you." – 1 Samuel 13:14*

God reveals the king He has already chosen ...

What God announced in judgment against Saul, He now makes visible in His choice of David.

1 Samuel 16:1-13

God did not choose David because of what he would one day become in the eyes of men. God chose David because of what he _____ before Him.

David had learned to live before God in obscurity. And when the time came, God made visible what He had been shaping all along – a Godward heart.

What Is a Godward Heart?

A Godward heart is a heart that _____.

A Godward heart is ...

Attentive to God's _____

Full of _____ at God

Freely _____ before God

_____ to the will of God

How Do You Cultivate a Godward Heart?

Recover the discipline of _____.

_____ to include God in ordinary life.

Be _____ before God.

_____ daily to God's will as revealed in God's word.

Conclusion:

David did not become a man after God's own heart overnight.

He became that man by living before God, listening to God, speaking honestly to God, and yielding himself to God – day after day, where no one else but God could see.

As he did, he developed a confident trust in the _____ and _____ of God that would carry over into every area of his life!

Dr. Paul Thompson
Calvary Baptist Church
January 4, 2026

Sunday, January 4

Life Defined

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Adoration.....Reagan Farris
Psalm 19:1-6

19 *The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. [2] Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. [3] There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. [4] Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, [5] which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. [6] Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.*

Come Thou Fount

How Great Thou Art

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Thanksgiving.....Paul Thompson
Psalm 34:1-3, 8-10, 19-22

34 *I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. [2] My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. [3] Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!*

[8] Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! [9] Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! [10] The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

[19] Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all. [20] He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. [21] Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. [22] The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

Lord's Supper

Offering

Redeemed By the Blood of the Lamb

Message .....Paul Thompson
Loving God when No One Else Sees
1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22; 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Build My Life

Benediction.....Charles Uptain
Psalm 91:2

[2] I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

No 5pm Worship

Scripture Reading & Prayer

How Firm A Foundation

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

Speak O Lord

Corporate Prayer

Message .....Paul Thompson
This Book Will Change Your Life
Psalm 19:7-14

All Glory Be To Christ

1st Friday Men's Breakfast

Friday, January 9 | 6am | ROC Lobby

All men are invited to join together for breakfast and a time of fellowship. Donations will be accepted for breakfast.

Workday at East Avenue Baptist Church

Saturday, January 10 | 9am

We will be finishing stage construction, lighting, and cleaning up inside and outside the church.

For more details, contact Steven Whitfield at 601-916-0789 or Zach Daniels at 334-733-6326.

Learning to Love God in Every Season: Lessons from David's Life and Psalms

Beginning January 4, we will walk through the life of David to see how God forms a heart that loves Him through every season of life. From hidden faithfulness and public courage to deep failure, grief, repentance, and lasting praise, David's story shows us how to seek God when life is unfair, painful, joyful, or uncertain. Each week, we will pair the narrative of David's life with the Psalms that give voice to his prayers and worship, helping us learn how to love God honestly and faithfully in every circumstance.

Meaningful Membership

January 4, 11, & 18 | 8:30am | Office Conference Room

Teachers: Dan Tankersley, Paul Thompson, & Charles Uptain

This required membership class introduces prospective members to 1) what we believe and teach, 2) how we function together as a church, and 3) our church covenant.

Women's Coffee & Connect

Sunday, February 8 | 3pm | ROC Lobby

All women are invited to an afternoon of fellowship, meaningful conversation, encouragement and connection.

In the Word with Jen Wilkin

March 13-14, 2026 | Gardendale, AL | 35 spots still available

Jen will be teaching on the Lord's Prayer and worship will be led by Sandra McCracken. Enjoy time away with your sisters in Christ and walk away with a deeper theology of prayer and practical tools to transform not just how you pray - but why you pray. Grab a friend, sister, or daughter and make plans to come with us!

Details and registration at calvarydothan.com.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions

Calvary's Goal: $150,000

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering supports and enables IMB missionaries to live among the lost and share the gospel. 100% of your gifts to this offering enable gospel transformation among the unreached all around the world.

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 4, 2026

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 4, 2026

January Missions Spotlight

Dare to Hope (Local Missions Partner)

Dare to Hope is a ministry bringing the hope of Jesus Christ to women who are hurting and hopeless due to exploitation. They serve those who are at risk of exploitation and exist to provide spiritual and emotional support as well as practical solutions that foster healing and wholeness for women, leading them from vulnerability to stability. If you would like to learn more about the ministry work of Dare to Hope, visit daretohope.net. Prayer needs can be found on prayer cards located at the missions kiosk in the Fellowship Center foyer.

Good Churches (Global Mission Partner)

Good Churches partners with churches and individuals in the USA to support and provide church-based programs that train national, indigenous pastors in strategic cities with massive gospel needs. The primary aim of Good Churches is to plant good churches efficiently and effectively among the unreached. If you would like to learn more about the work of Good Churches, visit goodchurches.org. Pick up a prayer card at the missions kiosk in the Fellowship Center foyer for specific ways you can pray for this ministry.

calvarydothan.com
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Calvary
901 Montezuma Avenue
Dothan, AL 36303
Church Office 334.792.5159
Weekday Ministry 334.793.9898

THE PEOPLE CAME...
December 28
Life Group: 344
10:00 Worship: 550
5:00 Worship: n/a
Hispanic Church: 109
Neighborhood Church (NY): 25

THE PEOPLE GAVE...
General Fund
Given December 28: $100,896.85
Given Y-T-D Surplus (Deficit): ($244,699.00) as of 11/30/25
Lottie Moon Y-T-D: $91,837.00

BIBLE READING PLAN
January 4-10
- ○ Ps 3, Gen 4, 1 Chr 4, Luke 2:1-21
- ○ Ps 4, Gen 5, 1 Chr 5, Luke 2:22-52
- ○ Ps 5, Gen 6, 1 Chr 6, Luke 3:1-22
- ○ Ps 6, Gen 7, 1 Chr 7, Luke 3:23-4:13
- ○ Ps 7, Gen 8:1-19, 1 Chr 8, Luke 4:14-44
- ○ Ps 8, Gen 8:20-9:19, 1 Chr 9, Luke 5:1-6:16
- ○ Ps 9, Gen 9:20-10:32, 1 Chr 10, Luke 6:17-49

Sunday Schedule

8:30am	Life Groups & Open Classes
10:00am	Worship, Fellowship Center
	Kid's Worship, Grades 1-5, Chapel (except 1st Sunday)
5:00pm	Family Worship, Sanctuary
	Childcare for Babies-K3

STAFF ON CALL
Sunday, January 4:
Randy Hunt | 334-791-7986
Saturday, January 10:
Charles Uptain | 334-797-7191
Sunday, January 11:
Reagan Farris | 504-319-6986

SERMON SCHEDULE
Sunday, January 11

10am
Loving God When His Honor Is at Stake
1 Samuel 17:1-51
Message by Paul Thompson

5pm
Our Strong and Mighty King
Psalm 144
Message by Steven Whitfield

Wednesday Schedule

6:00pm	Open Classes, D-Groups, & ESL Classes
	Birth-K5, Preschool Bldg
	Grades 1-5, Chapel
	Grades 6-12, Student Room
7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

I'm New Here
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.

To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code or you can fill out the Connect Card in this bulletin and place it in the offering plate.
Also, be sure to stop by our Next Steps table in the foyer after the service for a gift from us!

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 AM sermon notes, go to calvarydothan.com/messages.

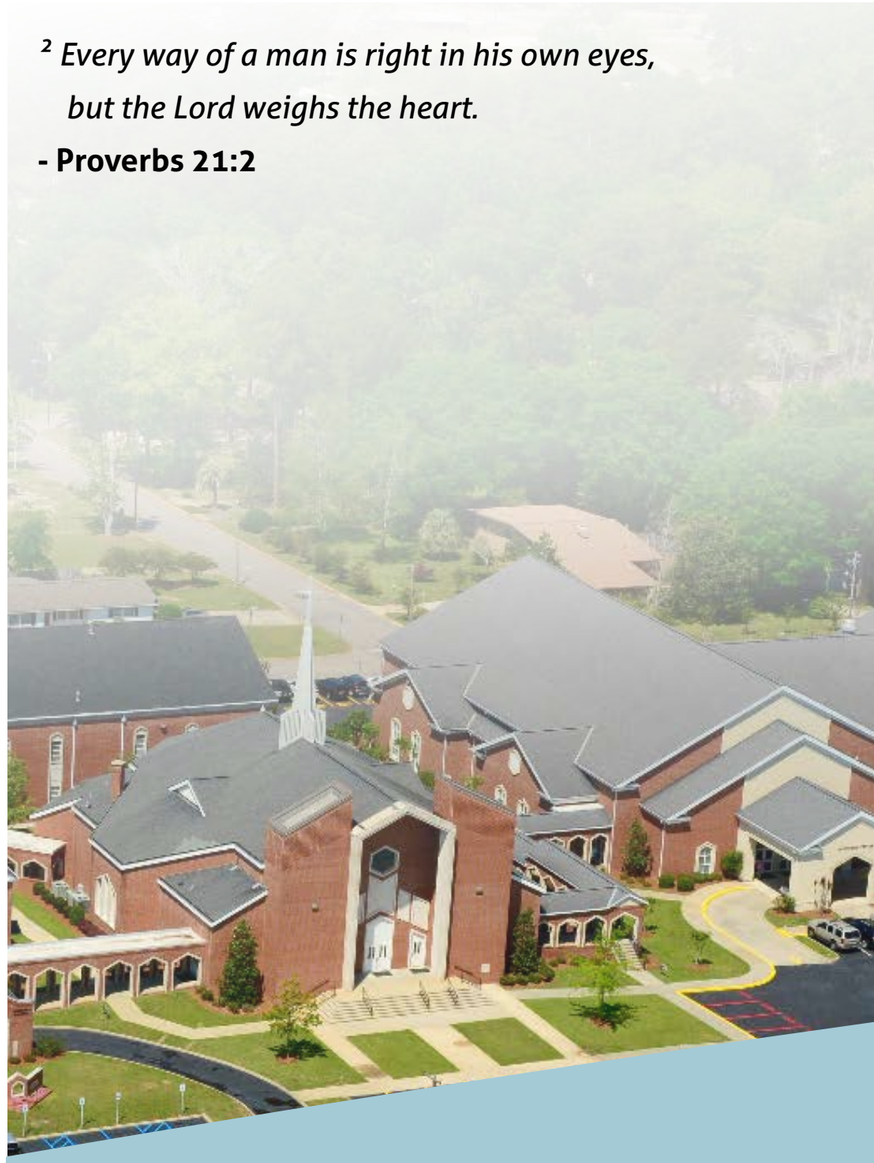
Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson	Senior Pastor
Charles Uptain	Executive Pastor
Dan Tankersley	Discipleship Pastor
Steven Wilson	Interim Worship
Tommy Perry	Missions
Joyce Alexander	Preschool
Josh Robertson	Children
Stephanie Tankersley	Children's Worship
Reagan Farris	Students
Randy Hunt	Senior Adults
Zach Daniels	Resident Church Planter

Lay Elders
Jed Downs
Dave Lindey
Don Mills
Sam Tarwater
Ian Worrell

[2] Every way of a man is right in his own eyes,
but the Lord weighs the heart.

- Proverbs 21:2



WELCOME TO
Calvary
BAPTIST CHURCH