

FIRST CHRONICLES August, 2024

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"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." - Romans 12:1

Last month, I talked about an important concept of glorifying God—our worship during the Sunday morning service. For about 5-10 minutes, we pause everything else we're doing and we lift our voices in song. We do this first and foremost because God is worthy of all the praise we can give Him. We do it secondly because it helps the word of Christ to dwell richly in the other believers around us. While it is good that we naturally think of worship as the music we sing on Sunday morning, it is also not complete. Worship is so much more than the weekly 5-10 minutes we devote to it. In fact, it should encompass our entire lives.

We see this reality not only in the verse quoted above, but also in the one quoted in the picture (not to mention many other places in the Bible). In Romans, Paul calls believers to present their bodies as a living sacrifice. His choice of words is important—sacrifices were completely devoted to God. The moment an animal or an amount of produce was given for sacrifice, it could be used for no other purpose. Its destiny was set. For animals, this marked the rest of their lives—their sacrifice would result in their death. So it is with believers. Being a living sacrifice means that we are completely devoted to God—our one purpose in life becomes worshiping God in everything we do. This continues unto our physical death (and will continue in eternity in heaven). This is what we are called to do.

Why? Because, Paul says, this is our spiritual worship. We show in our words and in our actions what is taking place spiritually—that everything we do is in praise and worship of God. But again, the words Paul chose are important. The word for "worship"—"latria" in the Greek—also means "service." In other words, Paul is thinking about more than singing for a few minutes on a Sunday morning. Conducting our lives as living sacrifices will be shown primarily in the actions we take. What are

we DOING in our lives to serve God?

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. ans 3:17

This service includes what we do in the church and what we do outside of the church. We can serve God in the church through ministries such as AWANA (which starts next month! ①) and outreach events. Outside the church, we can help those in need, give a kind word, engage those around us in conversations about God, lead Bible studies in our homes, and be a Christian example in our workplaces (for example). Worship should encompass our entire life—everything we do should glorify God.

That is what we are called to focus on this month. Let's worship God in all that we do. Let's present our bodies as living sacrifices. Let's do this together.

In Christ, Jesse



GREETERS	NURSERY WORKERS	CHILDREN'S CHURCH		
Sunday, August 4 Stan & Crystal deBoer Judy Eben	Sunday, August 4 Judy Eben	Sunday, August 4 Abby Kramer		
Sunday, August 11	Sunday, August 11	Sunday, August 11		
Jim & Sharon Douglass	Gerri Spangler	Sarah Gruis		
Sunday, August 18	Sunday, August 18	Sunday, August 18		
Bryan & Rachel Kramer	Terresa Wagenaar	Katie DeBoer		
Sunday, August 25	Sunday, August 25	Sunday, August 25		
Darren & Julie Kramer	Donna DeBoer	Rachel Kramer		



Thank you, First Baptist, for all the prayers and cards I received during my recent surgery. Also, thank you for the flowers I received. It is great to belong to such a wonderful church body.

- Darren Kramer

Thank you for the flowers, cards, prayers, and visits with my recent knee surgery. I am grateful to have such a loving church family. -Judy Eben



- Deacons, staff, and Advisory Board don't forget to mark your calendar for the leadership retreat on Friday, August 16th. We will meet from 6:00-9:00 pm and go through our upcoming calendar. There will be food!
- We will be having our Awana Leaders Meeting Sunday, August 11, at 5:00 pm. If you are helping in Awana in any way, please be present. Please let Donna DeBoer (712-348-4654) know how many from your family will be attending for a pizza supper by August 7.
- Ladies Night Out will be at Lynette's house Tuesday, August 13, at 7:00. All ladies of the church are invited for a night around the campfire!
- Sunday School Promotion will be Sunday, August 25, at 9:00 am. There will be donuts and juice in the Fellowship Hall before the promotion, and then the kids will be dismissed for Sunday school.



August	3	Lon Arends		
	5	Harold & JoAnn Schneiderman		
		Joan Boneschans		
		Theodore Kramer		
	9	Jason & Connie Christians		
	10	Rachel Busse		
		David Eben		
	12	Paul & Sharilyn Reemtsma		
	15	Miley den Hoed		
	18	Ashley VanTubergen		
	19	Helen Eben		
	22	Ryan & Kricket Arends		
		Lila Walters		
	23	Ross & Amber Kooiker		
	24	Lesli Kramer		
	25	Lon & Linda Arends		
	26	Lexi Cottington		
	27	LeAnn Doeden		
	29	Kayla Reck		
		Dennis Winkowitsch		
	30	Jeff Eben		
		Shirley Winkowitsch		



AWANA -Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed

While the apostle Paul was in a Roman prison, he wrote II Timothy 2:15 to serve as an encouragement to Timothy. "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the Word of Truth." (II Timothy 2:15). Just as Paul taught Timothy to study Scripture and serve the Lord many years ago, a pastor in Chicago, Illinois influenced thousands of young people to follow Christ. One of the young people in his church helped develop the AWANA ministry.

The AWANA Youth Association was officially started in 1950. The program spread to several churches in the USA then into Canada and then throughout the world. In 1986 it became AWANA International. AWANA materials are now available in more than 15 different languages.

AWANA is a worldwide nonprofit organization focused on providing Bible-based evangelism and discipleship solutions for ages 2 to 18. AWANA gives children the opportunity to know, love and serve Jesus, no matter their background. AWANA is a mission supported by First Baptist Church with activities starting again in September.

The Mission board

Sunday School Picnic

The Sunday School Picnic will be on Sunday, August 18 following the morning service. Group 3 will work in the kitchen. We will be having grilled hotdogs and hamburgers. Please bring your own salads and desserts to share. We will have small inflatables and yard games.

Appointment Committee	Buying			
CE Board	Alyssa den Hoed			
	Donna DeBoer			
Bean Bag Tournament	Collecting for the Buying Committee			
Abby and Bradley Kramer	Merlyn Winter			
Bryan and Rachel Kramer	Daryl Kramer			
Lemonade	Ice Cream Dippers			
Jim & Sharon Douglass	Sunday School Teachers			
Table Set up				
Ushers				
Kitchen Committee (Group 3)				
Rhonda Kruse				
Linda Christians				
Kayla Reck				
Terresa Wagenaar				
Amber Kooiker				
Breanna Schrick				
Dawn Hayenga				
Abby Kramer				
Rachel Kramer				
Taylor Kramer				

August 2024									
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu 1	Fri 2	Sat 3 Youth to Thunder Road			
9:00 AM Fellowship Time 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U	5	6	7 6:30 PM Youth 7:00 PM Visitation	8	9	10			
COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Fellowship Time 10:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Awana Leaders Mtg 6:30 PM Discipleship U	12	7:00 PM Ladie's Night 7:00 PM Deacon Board Meeting	14 6:30 PM Youth 7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	15	16 6:00-9:00 PM Leadership Retreat	17			
18 MISSION SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Sunday School Picnic	19	20	6:30PM Youth 7:00 PM Visitation	22	23	24			
9:00 AM Sunday School Promotion 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U	26	27	6:30 PM Youth 7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	29	30	31			