



The Character of His Disciples and Living a Life of Service

Created to See Glory

Psalm 145:5 On the glorious splendor of Your majesty and on Your wonderful works, I will meditate.

We were created to know God. We were made to know Him in the fullness of His attributes. God made us and all things to demonstrate His glory. For much of our lives we ignore the purpose for which we were made. This failure is ours alone. Our sin distracts us from His purposes in our lives. It is impossible to fix our eyes on the glory of the Creator when our eyes are fixed on our own desires. Stephen Charnock made an excellent illustration in regard to this. “An eye, taken up with the presence of one object, is not at leisure to be filled with another: he that looks intently upon the sun, shall have nothing for a while but the sun in his eye. Oppose every intruding thought and put to silence all that competes for our awe of his Majesty.”

The psalmist says it this way, “...on Your wonderful works, I will meditate.” Meditation fixes our mind on a particular thing. Meditations are the prevailing thoughts during our morning commute. Mediations are the thoughts that dominate our mind when the lights go out and we struggle to fall asleep. Psalm 145 was written by David. Maybe we can imagine the young shepherd David with the all night task of watching his sheep. What dominated his thinking? David reflected on the majestic character of God and on the wonder of God’s works in human history. It may be that David’s extensive time working the graveyard shift with his animals provided provided the perfect backdrop for this psalm. Imagine, David staring at the night sky. Unhindered by manmade lights, the human eye can see 100 million stars at night in the Milky Way. On a hill outside Bethlehem 3000 years ago, nothing prevented David from seeing the wondrous works of God. Nothing, other than the constant distraction of straying sheep, other shepherds, physical exhaustion, worries and anxieties, plans for the future, regrets from the past, and a host of other things that may have come across David’s mind.

Even as I attempt to complete this final chapter for the studies, I have been interrupted a dozen times. The phone rings, my kids coming in and out of my office, individuals with “quick” questions, staff members checking on some church business, emails, worries about the schedule for the rest of the week, plans for tomorrow, and the list goes on and on. We battle to have a few moments of focused thinking. We fight to get time and energy to focus our minds. Interestingly enough, if the task at hand is my favorite sports team, I am fully enthralled. Surely God is worthy of greater attention than a sporting event?

What is our purpose in life? Why are we here? Why is the creation here? We were made for the glory of God. That is why God created us. The glory of God is the coalescence of all the attributes of God and God’s demonstration of those attributes in His work in creation and human history. When we see His grace, we are seeing one aspect of His glory. The grace of God points us back to the full panoply of His attributes. When we observe the power of God, God’s power directs our thinking back to the God of power and thus to the whole collection of His attributes, namely His glory. This is why God created the universe. He created us and all things for His glory. All things point back to the nature of the God who made us. The greatest activity, the highest calling, the grandest task of our lives is focusing our minds on His glory.



Created to Display Glory

Having displayed the glory of His Father throughout His public ministry, Jesus gave this task to His followers. All followers of Christ Jesus are called to declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to display the life and ministry of Jesus Christ through our life of holiness and ministry.

John 13:1-17 Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. ²During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, to betray Him, ³*Jesus*, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God, ⁴got up from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself. ⁵Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. ⁶So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, “Lord, do You wash my feet?” ⁷Jesus answered and said to him, “What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter.” ⁸Peter said to Him, “Never shall You wash my feet!” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.” ⁹Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, *then wash* not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all *of you*.” ¹¹For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, “Not all of you are clean.” ¹²So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined *at the table* again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for *so* I am. ¹⁴If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor *is* one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Jesus Christ left us an example to follow. We are called to imitate His life and ministry. He is the Son of God and yet washed the disciples’ feet. He is the Creator of the universe and yet He knelt down in humility to minister to the disciples. Their reaction to His humility in this moment is striking. “Lord, do You wash my feet?” Simon Peter articulated what the entire group must have been thinking. The irony of God serving humanity takes on greater weight when we consider that just prior to this event some of the disciples had been debating which one of them was the greatest. Jesus confronted the disciples and declared greatness for His followers is to be marked by being a servant. Then Jesus showed them exactly what He meant by this. The author of this account reminds us all of the transcendent moment that provided the backdrop to this event prior to its telling. “He loved them to the end.” Jesus Christ was executed less than 24 hours later. This was His greatest act of service and love. He served most and loved greatest by giving His all for us. In Mark 10, the words of Christ drive this truth home.

Mark 10:43-45 ...but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

The Son of Man served others, even to His death. Therefore, all who claim to follow Him will serve others just as Jesus Christ served. In doing so, we display the glory of God. God made us to see glory. Christ saved us to display glory. By serving others we demonstrate the love and kindness of God as exemplified in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

~ Daniel (excerpt from his El Paso Medical Mission Bible Study)

Children's Ministry



AWANA HAS BEGUN!

Wednesday Nights, for kids ages 3* - 6th grade
6:30pm - 8:00pm

*3 year olds in Cubbies must be potty trained, and have turned 3 by Sept. 1st. A parent must stay on campus through the duration of the program. See our website to see what Adult Bible Study classes we have for you.

Would you pray about joining the Awana team this year?
Or do you know anyone who might be a good fit
for this ministry opportunity?

Contact Brittany at brittanymrbc@gmail.com if you would like to participate in the amazing ministry!



Sunday Nights 5:30pm
Education Building
2nd floor



For kids in kindergarten through 6th grade - Join us for games on the front lawn (weather permitting) followed by girls and boys Bible studies focused on becoming disciples who go into the world to make disciples. This fall we will finish our study on the book of Matthew.

Sunday School

Join us every Sunday morning from
9:45-10:45am as we journey through the Gospel Project.



Newcomer's Class & Luncheon



Since we have people attending our church from every type of church background, we have established an on-going class, which provides basic information about our church. As a part of the class, we will explain what we believe, how we operate, our vision, and a little about the background of our church. This informal setting will allow the opportunity to ask questions and grow in your understanding of the ministries of our church.

Lunch & Childcare are provided. If you would like to attend, please contact the church office at mrbcinfo@matthewroad.org, or call 972-641-2717 to RSVP for this class and childcare, if needed.

College Ministry



change happens in circles, not rows

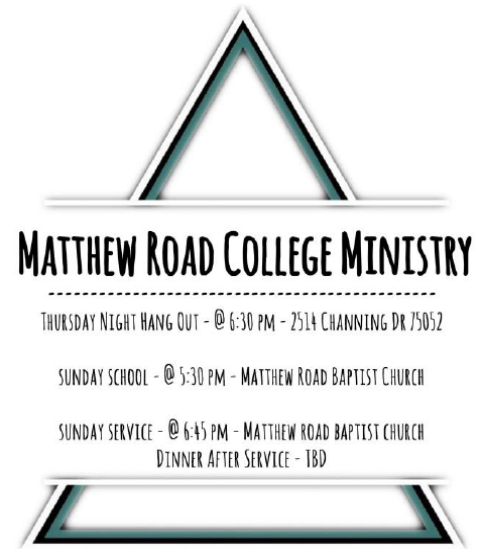
Guys, Tuesday Nights, 6:30pm - 8:30pm
@ MRBC, CommonGrounds,
lead by Zach Van Veldhuizen

Ladies, Tuesday Nights, 6:30pm - 8:30pm
@ 2514 Channing Drive, GP TX 75052,
led by Caroline Van Veldhuizen

Guys, Saturday Mornings, 9:00am - 11:00am
@ MRBC, CommonGrounds led by Kevin Marek

Ladies, Saturday Mornings, 9:00am - 11:00am
@ 1310 N. Cockrell Hill Rd #1028, Dallas TX, 75211, led by Caitlin Marek

Also Sundays, 9:45am & 5:30pm @ MRBC, see Welcome Desk for info



QUESTIONS? TEXT ZACH (210)818-8002

MRA Registration for Fall, 2017



"Whether you turn to the right or to the left,
your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying,
"This is the way; walk in it." Isaiah 30:21

University Style Education setting; we partner with Christian families in their child's education and walk with the Lord.

Benefits of a University Model Education:

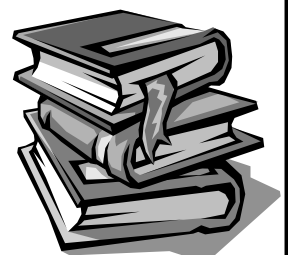
- Academic Structure and Accountability
- Challenging Christian Curriculum
- Qualified Teachers with Specialized Focus of Study and Low Student/Teacher Ratios
- Ability to Place Child Outside of Grade Level
- Students Develop Strong Work Ethics and Study Habits Needed for College Coursework
- Fundamental Parental Involvement
- More Time for Family and Activities of Interest
- School Field Trips and Special Activities
- Cost Effective College Preparatory

Monday, Feb 28th

6:30pm-8:00pm

Please arrive on time.

Preview Night is a chance to take a glimpse of MRA. We will share our mission, the 2017-2018 course offerings, answer your questions and introduce the MRA Staff. Families who are interested will be able to schedule their Family Interview and Assessments, starting the process of enrolling at MRA.



www.matthewroadacademy.org

4601 Matthew Rd, GP 75052 469-261-3779

Women's Ministry

She Teaches

Women's Ministry on MRBC's campus uses Psalm 1 as a guide.
 A Psalm 1 woman is rooted in the Word of God, allowing the Word to be a stream of truth that will bear fruit in her life.
 As she goes, she will teach that the Lord is good... to her family, her friends, and everyone she encounters.



Weekly Bible Studies:

Sunday mornings
 Rachel Sullenger & Tiffany Marich
 - the book of Acts
 Joy Richards & Chris Anderson
 - 1st, 2nd & 3rd John

Sunday nights
 Meg Trihus - the Epistles

Wednesday Nights
 Cyndi King - the book of Luke

Friday Mornings, Chick Fil A
(Camp Wisdom Location)
 Cyndi King - 9:00 am
 The book of Luke



Youth Ministry

Small Group Bible Studies return January 9th!

High School Girls - 6:30pm-7:30pm on Thursdays
 Shannon Prater- (214-536-8751), Greg Prater- (214-536-9051)
 Address - 4405 Browning Ln Grand Prairie, TX 75052
 Leader: Christine Wehrli - (682) 551-9831

High School Guys - Geisendorffs - 6:30pm-8:00pm on Mondays
 Ed Geisendorff - (469-236-6052), Angela Geisendorff - (972-602-3866)
 Address - 4646 Betts Dr. Grand Prairie, TX
 Nick Breedlove (Student Helper) (214-605-3629)
 Garrett Halsell (Student Helper) - (972-824-3929)

High School Guys - Kings - 6:30pm-8:00pm on Mondays
 Doug King - (214-557-5437), Cyndi King - (214-762-9437)
 Address - 4106 Devon Ct. Grand Prairie, TX
 Daniel King (Student Helper) - (214-304-0190)

Middle School Girls - 7:00-8:00pm on Tuesdays
 Glen McGregor - (318-469-7132), Kim McGregor - (318-469-2186)
 Address - 2820 Plume Ct. Cedar Hill, TX
 Leader: Chelsea Galbraith- (214-729-8278)
 Annabelle McClellin (Student Helper) - (469-503-8449)

Middle School Guys - 6:30pm - 8:00pm on Mondays
 Eli Moreno (817-727-9576), Ana Moreno (817-727-9517)
 Address - 2235 Tawny Owl Rd Grand Prairie, TX
 Leader: Dante James (Intern) - (972) 834-0336

February 17th - 19th -
Heartbeat

Cost:

\$50 bring a friend rate

or

\$50 if signed up by Feb.2nd

or

\$70 if signed up after Feb. 2nd

We welcome
 Matt Brown as
 our new student pastor!

See his article below

See Matt or Zach for more info
 about events & activities

Hello from Matt and Ann Elise

I am a 30-year-old native Texan originally from Sugar Land. I was raised in a Christian home. I came to know Christ at the age of 11 and surrendered to the ministry at the age of 17.

I served in the United States Marine Corps for 4 years (2008 – 2012) and was able to live in Japan and to travel to some amazing places like Hiroshima, Thailand, South Korea, Hawaii, and Iwo Jima.

My wife, Ann Elise and I have been married for 7 years. We were married on June 13, 2009 in Sugar Land, TX. We have two dogs. Our eight-year-old miniature Schnauzer is named Charlie Brown and our three-year-old Weimaraner is named Luna Brown.

I earned my Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Studies in June of 2012 from Southwestern College, in Winfield, Kansas. On December 16, 2016 I earned my Masters of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

I have served in churches such as Sugar Creek Baptist Church, Sugar Land, TX, First Baptist Church Fresno, TX, and Southcliff Baptist Church, Fort Worth, TX, and most recently Hampton Road Baptist Church. Positions I have held at these churches were youth pastor, youth ministry assistant, youth ministry intern, college leader and Sunday school teacher.

My wife and I have a goal to reach out to all 7th – 12th grade students providing a place where fellowship and fun can occur through developing their relationships with God, themselves and the community. We seek to help strengthen relationships between students and families as well as to strive to strengthen relationships between the students and the church body. Finally, we look to grow student's relationships with each other.



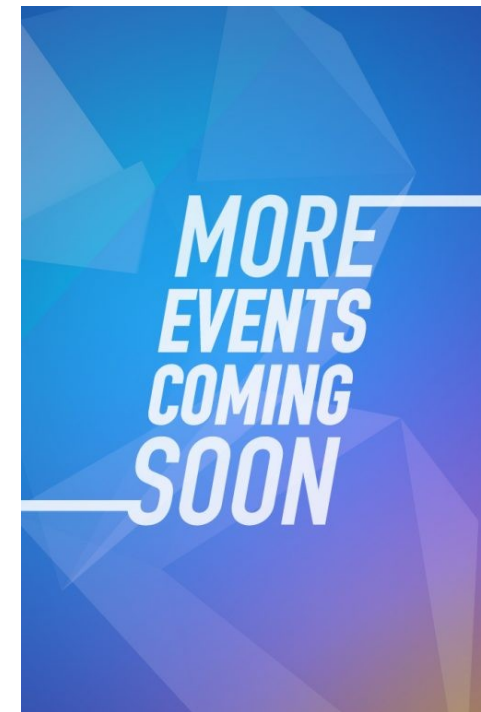
20Somethings

20some things

Classes:

- ~ Sunday Morning 9:45 am: Jeff Morris leading
- ~ Wednesday Night 6:30pm: Food and Discussion

Contact Rachel at rachel@matthewroad.org
to find out the latest events & activities!



Men's Retreat



See Josh Lemmon for more info

Friday & Saturday
Feb. 24th & 25th
Mt. Lebanon
Cost: \$45

February 2017 Events & Activities

For more information, please see our website, www.matthewroad.org, or call the church office at 972-641-2717.

February 2nd:

~ Young @ Heart Breakfast at Outlaws, 8:30am

February 10th & 11th:

~ Women's retreat, see Rachel for info

February 15th:

~ Finance Committee Meeting, 5:45pm, Jr High Girls' Classroom, CG

February 17th - 18th:

~ HeartBeat, see Zach or Matt for info

February 17th:

~ Parent's Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center

Must RSVP @ cyndikking@msn.com

February 19th;

~ NewComer's Class & Luncheon, 12:15pm, FH, please RSVP at welcome desk or mrbinfo@matthewroad.org

February 22nd:

~ Quarterly Business Meeting, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

February 24th - 25th:

~ Men's Retreat, see Josh Lemmon for info, or call/text 817-617-0472

Discipleship

Sunday Nights:

- ◇ College - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Discipleship - Choir Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Ladies Bible Study - Conference Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Young Marrieds Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Couples Class - Library, 5:30pm
- ◇ Guy Talk for youth - Common Grounds, 5:30pm, see Matt for exact location
- ◇ Girl Talk for youth - Common Grounds, 5:30pm, see Matt for exact location
- ◇ MD² for children - Education Building, 5:30pm

Wednesday Nights:

- ◇ Awana Club for children - Ed. Building, 6:30pm
- ◇ Collide for youth - Common Grounds, 6:30pm
- ◇ 20Somethings/College Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 6:30pm
- ◇ Adult Bible Study - Library, 6:45pm
- ◇ Women's Bible Study - Conference Room, 6:45pm

Regular Scheduled Activities

Sundays

Morning Worship	8:30 & 11:00am
Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:45am
Evening Bible Study (all ages)	5:30pm
7:17 Service	6:47pm

Mondays

K2 Primary Academy (during the school year)	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am

Tuesdays

MRA (during the school year)	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am

Wednesdays

K2 Primary Academy (during the school year)	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Collide (youth)	6:30pm
Adult Choir (during the school year)	6:30pm
Wacky Wednesdays (children)	6:30pm
20Somethings/College	6:30pm
Adult Bible Studies	6:45pm

Thursdays

MRA (during school year)	8:30am
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Fridays

Chick time at Chick-Fil-A (Camp Wisdom)	9:00am
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Saturdays

Men's Coffee Group (Good Day Café, GP)	7:30am
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Average Morning Attendance for January: 329

Average 7:17 Service Attendance for January: 136