

The Simplicity of Saving Faith

“⁸But what does it say? “THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART”—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, ⁹that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; ¹³for “WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.” ¹⁴How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, “HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!” Romans 10:8-15

The Simplicity of Saving Faith

How can I go to heaven? How can I be saved from my sin? These questions, according to Paul, have clear and readily available answers. It does not require superior knowledge or intellect to be saved. There is no advanced degree in theology as a prerequisite for becoming a Christian. Salvation does not begin with a prodigious search for hidden revelation. Paul says, “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart.” The knowledge on becoming a Christian is right in front of you. Salvation begins with confession and belief. Verse 9 says that if we confess “Jesus as Lord” and we believe that “God raised Him from the dead”, then we “will be saved.” The reason salvation is linked to confession and belief comes in the statement that follows. “For with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness...” The righteousness Paul refers to in this verse is the righteousness of God. He credits to our account His very own righteousness when we believe in His Son, Jesus Christ. By believing in Jesus Christ we are renouncing our own righteousness, which is non-existent, in order to stand righteous or justified before God. Instead, of claiming our own righteousness, we lay claim to the righteousness of Christ that the Father credits to our account on the basis of our faith. The reason heart-based faith is an aspect of salvation is that this faith results “in righteousness.” We believe and God gives to us freely out of His abundance of righteousness.

The second aspect of salvation according to Paul is confession. The reason confession matters in salvation is that “...with the mouth confesses, resulting in salvation.” It is impossible to be saved unless we confess Jesus Christ as our Lord. The word “confess” in the Greek is the compound word “homo-logeo,” meaning to speak the same word. We normally use this word with reference to confessing sins. When we practice biblical confession of sins, we are NOT simply acknowledging that we have done something wrong. Instead, we speak about our sin in the same way that God Himself speaks about our sins. When we confess our sins in this way we see our sins as a horrific violation of the holiness of God. When we confess our sins in this way, we feel the weight of the brokenness of our lives and the separation that sin creates between us and God. Now, applying this concept to the Romans 10 passage, when we confess Jesus as Lord, this is more than a verbal profession. In confessing Jesus as Lord, we are expressing what the Father says about His Son. God has put all things under the control of Jesus Christ. By the Father’s perfect plan, one day every tongue in heaven and on earth will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of the Father. (Philippians 2:5-11) He wields complete sovereignty, authority, power, honor, glory, and majesty. His eternal union with the Father demands our unending loyalty. His gracious work of salvation requires our eternal worship. Salvation apart from speaking, thinking, feeling, and committing to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, there can be no salvation.

This confession reflects a life committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Consider the words of Jesus during His public ministry. “Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.’” (Matthew 16:24) Or “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.” (Matthew 7:21)

(Con’t on pg 2)

Or “But Jesus said to him, ‘No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.’” (Luke 9:62) Or “Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, ‘One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.’” Or “If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.” (John 12:26) Paul connects faith and confession in the divine gift of salvation. Faith in Christ results in righteousness and confession with the mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord results in salvation.

The Beauty of the Feet of the Messenger

This message is precious. The message is beautiful and so are the feet of those bringing the good news of salvation. This seems to be a strange observation by Paul. When noting someone’s beauty, their feet might not be the place we would begin, especially with reference to an apostle like Paul in his late 50s, who is bearing the physical marks of a much older man because of the years of persecution and hard travel. If you notice the original passage, the words appear in all capital letters. This tool of the NASB translators helps us see this as a quote from the Old Testament. Isaiah 52:7 says, “How lovely on the mountain are the feet of him who brings good news, who announces peace and brings good news of happiness, who announces salvation, and says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’” In this passage, Isaiah described the messengers returning to the city of Jerusalem to announce good news of peace and happiness and salvation because of the sovereign work of God. If a messenger bore such news, they would not walk to Jerusalem. They would run. As the dust kicked up on the mountains from their rapid pace, the watchers on the city walls would know even before the arrival of the herald that the news was good news. Paul sees himself and all others who preach the word of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the salvation found in His name as messengers with quickened steps because of the goodness of their news. Good News! Good News! God provided terms of peace for us in His Son. Anyone who believes in their heart that Jesus died in their place and rose again from the dead will be seen as righteous before God. Anyone that confesses with their mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord will be saved. How beautiful a message!

~ Daniel

Matthew Road Missions Update

Alyssa McClellin -

Every Sunday for the past month my team has been given the great responsibility and opportunity of leading different church services. What’s been adventurous about this task is that we church hop between one to three different churches each Sunday. On top of that, the month of February here in the Philippines is love month. You heard me right, love month. In spirit of this celebration my team was asked to not only host church services, but be a love panel that answers each congregations questions about love.

In the states, this whole panel idea would be slightly strange but the culture here really thrives on loving well, love. They ask questions like what the real definition of love is, when is the perfect time to get married, how should we confront our neighbors, etc.. At the end of the day, it’s really a privilege to be uncomfortable on a stage in order to impart wisdom on real true love, love that is only made possible through the Lord.

Being our last weeks here means a lot things, including saying goodbye. Before we departed we wanted to serve in a way that would really leave impact on the people we’ve built relationships with. Our team decided to try and convey our appreciation and heart for them by making a Bible story come to life. So for the last time, we walked into our beloved village. Except this time we not only came equipped with Bibles to gift, but also with much needed medical supplies and buckets to wash feet.

I wish I could write the right words to convey to you the feeling I had watching kiddos, one after another, sit in front of me nervously. They were almost too shy to be served, and my heart was so overjoyed to prove to them their eternal worth by simply washing the dirt off their little feet.

Right now, the thought of jumping on a plane back to Australia seems unbearable. I was made for this. There’s nothing more I want to do than to wake up everyday to a full day of ministry at the cost of hot showers, being able to communicate in my native tongue, and comfortable food.

It’ll be a rough goodbye, no doubt. But here’s to trusting in the sovereignty and provision of the good Lord. I’m proud to say that God has wrecked me during outreach. He’s walked alongside me as I’ve been weak, He’s given me the words when I had none, He’s been real real good.

So, peace out, Manila! Alyssa Leah

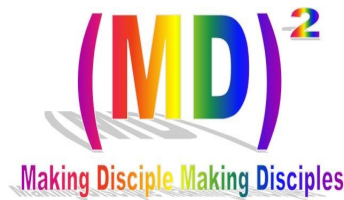


AWANA CLUBS
end Wednesday, May 24th
with our end of year party.
Questions? Please see Brittany.

Would you pray about joining the Awana team next school 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 spring 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.



Want to stay up to date with us on facebook?
 Like our page at facebook.com/mrbcchildrens

Questions regarding the children's ministry
 or how you can join the leadership team?
 Email brittanymrbc@gmail.com.

SUMMER FUN IS COMING!

CHECK IT OUT ON

OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

Wednesday Evenings during the Summer

Beginning Wednesday, May 31st, at 6:45pm, we will be offering a class that is an overview of Systematic Theology, using the textbook "Bible Doctrine: Essential Teachings of the Christian Faith", by Elliot Grudem and Wayne Grudem. Abridged from an award-winning upper-level textbook on systematic theology, this volume looks at the essentials of faith to give you a firm grasp on seven key topics including "The Doctrine of God", "The Doctrine of Man," and "The Doctrine of the Future." Marked by clarity, strong scriptural emphasis, and detail, it's designed for laypeople and nonprofessionals. No homework required, as we will go over the material in class. However, to get the most from this unique Bible Study setting, we encourage you to obtain a copy of the book for your own study. You may purchase the book online at Amazon or Lifeway.
**Please note: this will be the only adult Bible Study class on Wednesdays during the summer semester.*

Short-Term Mission Training Class

Join us Saturday, June 10th, 8:30am - 12pm, in the Worship Center, for a 3 hour training course that we are hosting with GIAL (Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics). This is for those who will be participating in short-term mission trips. You will learn practical skills and ideas that will make you more effective for Christ on the mission field.



To RSVP, or if you have questions, please contact Meg Trihus at gial_dean-students@gial.edu, for further information.

Summer Events - Save the Date!

Children

Wacky Wednesdays
 Begin— Wednesday, May 31, 6:45-7:45pm

Sports Camp
 June 5-7, 9am-12:30pm

VBS
 June 19-23, 6-8pm

Preteen Camp at Sabine Creek Ranch
 July 10-13, \$225

6th Grade Farewell Party
 Friday, August 4, 5:30-7:30pm

Awana Registration Party
 Wednesday, August 30, 6:30-8pm

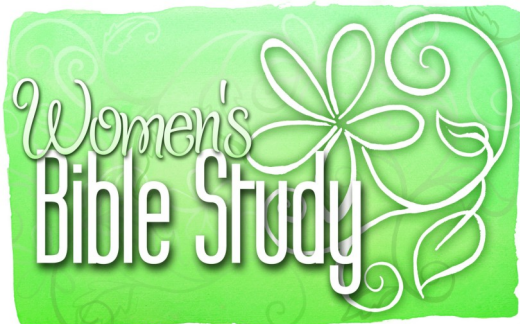
Youth

High School Camp
 June 19th - 24th

Jr High Camp
 June 26th - 30th

***MORE INFO
 TO COME!***

Women's Ministry



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 Acts

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.

SAVE THE DATE

- May 6 - Brighter Tomorrow's Mothers Day (Ministry to Women at the women's shelter.)
 - June 27 thru July 1 - Colossians on the Comal River, cost \$400 pp, 15 people, cottage addition possible for a greater number.
 - September 29 - Women's Conference, cost \$10pp
 - October 21 - Operation Christmas Child
- ...more to come



Colossians on the Comal

Cost: \$400

Dates: June 27 - July 1

Reserve your spot with a \$100 deposit.

Have you ever been on a sabbatical? Have you ever taken time to really just put aside the things of this world and see what the Lord can teach you in a few days as you luxuriate in the truth of his word? Join us as we do that. We will soak up Colossians. On the fifth day, we will return home to then pour out what we've learned into the lives of others.

SPACE IS LIMITED. Secure your reservation today with your \$100 deposit.
Have questions or need to RSVP? Contact rachel@matthewroad.org.

Youth Ministry



Our High School and Middle School camps are right around the corner guys!! I am so excited about camp this year! We would love to see all of our students participating in camp this year. Camp is a great time for our student ministry to grow closer together and for our students to encounter God in a way that they never have before. I have already begun to pray for our students who will be attending camp and parents I hope that you would join me in praying for our students. Please make sure that you swing by common grounds and pick up a camp packet that includes a camp signup, a camp covenant, and a medical release form. If you have already filled out the medical release form for a prior event this year then we have your form on file and you will not need to fill a new one out. If anyone has questions about camp please let me know!

We are still continuing our Wednesday night services and our series over the book of Acts! This past month on Wednesday nights we have seen Zach and myself being soaked in a game of water wars and of course the highlight of the month when we saw Pastor Daniel crack not one but two raw eggs on his head in a game of egg roulette. We have so much fun with our games on Wednesday nights, and yet we are able to dive into God's Word. We would love to see your student at any of our weekly events that we have and of course we would love to have them at camp!

Devotional: James 1:22 - 25 says, "**22** But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. **23** For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. **24** For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. **25** But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing." Let us remember during the month of May to be Doers of the Word and not to just listen to it. Let us be active in our faith. Daily showing our faith through our thoughts and actions. Let us take the challenge and share our faith and to dig into God's Word and live it out LOUD!

In Christ, Matt

P.S. Please note the ad above regarding our next Parent Meeting.

Student Ministries PARENT MEETING

Sunday, May 21st
12:15pm, CommonGrounds

Join us for this very important meeting as we discuss the events & activities coming this summer!

Questions? Please contact Matt at matt@matthewroad.org, or 832-955-4954.

College Ministry

SMALL groups

change happens in circles, not rows

Guys, Tuesday Nights, 6:30pm - 8:30pm
@ MRBC, CommonGrounds,
led 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



MATTHEW ROAD COLLEGE MINISTRY

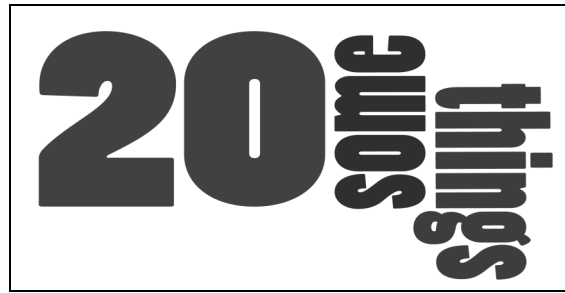
THURSDAY NIGHT HANG OUT - @ 6:30 PM - 2514 CHANNING DR 75052

SUNDAY SCHOOL - @ 9:30 PM - MATTHEW ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICE - @ 9:45 PM - MATTHEW ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
DINNER AFTER SERVICE - TBD

QUESTIONS? TEXT ZACH (210)818-3002

20Somethings

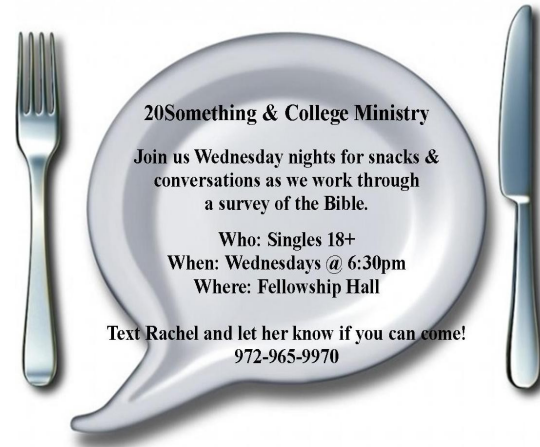


Contact Rachel at rachel@matthewroad.org
to find out the latest events & activities!

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



Open your eyes
*"... and see that the fields are white
 for harvest." John 4:35*
When: July 23 -29
Cost: \$300
RSVP to Rachel@MatthewRoad.org



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**LAST YEAR WE WERE AT THE ODOR BAUTISTA GAME TO
 SEE BASEBALL HISTORY, BASEBALL AND DAVID
 CROWDER. THIS YEAR, AUGUST 20 LET US KNOW IF YOU
 WANT TO GO!! COST - FREE. (WE HAVE A GENEROUS
 BENEFACOR!) SIGN UP EARLY FOR BASEBALL HISTORY.**



May 2017 Events & Activities

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

- May 3rd: Preteen Camp Meeting, 6:40pm, Ed Bldg, 2nd Floor
 May 4th: Young @ Heart Breakfast at Outlaws
 May 6th: Women's Ministry Brighter Tomorrows Event, see Rachel Sullenger
 May 7th: Deacon Ordination Service, 4:00pm, Sanctuary
 May 12th: Special Needs Prom, see Julee Teeples
 May 21st: NewComer's Class & Luncheon, 12:15pm, Fellowship Hall
 sign up at mrbcinfo@matthewroad.org
 May 24th: AWANA End of Year Party
 May 26th: Parents Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center
 must rsvp to cyndikking@msn.com
 May 28th: Youth Led Sunday, see Matt Brown
 May 29th: Church Office closed in observance of Memorial Day

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
Fridays	
Chick time at Chick-Fil-A (Camp Wisdom)	9:00am
Saturdays	
Men's Coffee Group (Good Day Café, GP)	7:30am

Financials as of March 31, 2017

Budget Income	\$ 212,836
Budget Expense	\$ (217,290)
Net Budget	\$ (4,454)

Average Morning Attendance for April: 352

Average 7:17 Service Attendance for April: 184