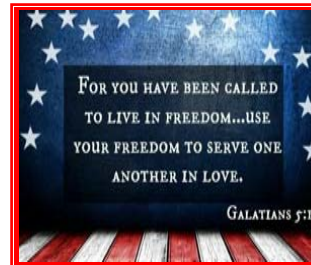


## July 2018 Events & Activities

For more information, please see our website, [www.matthewroad.org](http://www.matthewroad.org), or call the church office at 972-641-2717.

- July 4th:** Church Office closed in observance of July 4th Holiday  
No evening Bible Studies or activities
- July 5th:** Young at Heart Breakfast at Outlaws, 8:30am
- July 6th:** Women's Ministry First Friday Lunch at IHOP, see pg 5 for info  
"The voice of God" Women's Friday Bible Study begins, see pg 5
- July 7th:** VBS Set Up, 10:00am, MRBC Campus, see Brittany for info
- July 8th:** Deacon Meeting, 4:30pm, Conference Room  
"The voice of God" Women's Sunday Bible Study begins, see pg 5
- July 9th - 13th:** VBS, 6:00pm to 8:30pm, MRBC Campus, see Brittany for info  
No evening Bible Studies
- July 11th:** Nursing Home Ministry, see Carolyn Rainwater, Lynn Walraven or Sue Walker for info
- July 15th:** VBS Family Night, 6:45pm, Worship Center, see Brittany for info
- July 15th - 21st:** College Ministry NY Mission Trip, see Zach for info
- July 19th:** Nursing Home Ministry, see Carolyn Rainwater, Lynn Walraven or Sue Walker for info
- July 20th:** Parent Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center, must RSVP to [cyndikking@msn.com](mailto:cyndikking@msn.com)
- July 24th - 30th:** Youth Mission Trip, see Matt for info
- July 26th - 28th:** Mexico Mission Trip



Matthew Road Baptist Church ... a place to call home

# HOME PAGE

JULY

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 7

## Daniel's article

### *The Path to Destruction: Silencing the Prophetic Voice*

From the beginning of time, the prophetic voice of God, meaning the communication of God's explicit will, has been the most fundamental issue of human existence. The temptation in the Garden of Eden was "Did God say..." God spoke with authority over Adam and Eve. They rejected that authoritative revelation from God and all of humanity has been under the weight of the consequences of that moment. God called Abraham out of a pagan culture and set in motion a new people, people called by God and committed to following God's revealed will. It was uneven at best. Choices by Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Jacob's twelve sons often deviated from God's sovereign plan, but God kept drawing them back through grace and even painful consequences. When Israel found herself enslaved in Egypt, once again the prophetic word of God came to Moses. God spoke with authority, "Moses, I am sending you to Pharaoh." Israel came out of Egyptian captivity under the mighty hand of God. As soon as this fledgling nation was established outside of Egyptian lands, God spoke again. His prophetic word came to the people through Moses. Just like Adam and Eve, the people seemed to be in complete agreement with the revealed plans and purposes of God. However, forty days of boredom proved too much. With Moses gone, the prophetic voice of God was silenced. New voices, voices that did not reflect God's plan, spoke to the people. Much the way Satan deceived Eve, these new prophetic voices, false as they were, swayed the people. As quickly as they had declared their loyalty to the Great I AM, they now declared their loyalty to a piece of fashioned gold.

God spoke prophetically through Moses and Joshua as the nation settled the land. However, this pattern of faithful living followed by rebellion marked the human experience. The question for Israel as they entered the Promised Land was, "in the midst of their wealth and new found freedom, would they remember the God who delivered them?" The Books of Judges and I and II Samuel reflect the continued ebb and flow of the relationship between God and His people. The people would wander from the Lord by following after idolatry and immorality that was divergent from God's revealed will. God would bring trouble into the land, often through the military force of surrounding peoples. The nation would cry out to God. God would raise up a prophetic voice, a judge to remind the people of God's Word and to be used by God to liberate the nation once again from tyranny. As the nation struggles to get its footing in the newly settle Promised Land, the one thing they begin to seek is human leadership like the nations surrounding them. This leads to Saul and eventually King David, followed by David's son, Solomon. Even under regal leadership the cyclical patterned continued. The people would rebel. God would bring trouble to draw them back to Himself. A prophetic voice would enter the scene. The nation would repent and God would restore. Despite the divine work through David and the initial hope in Solomon's reign, things took a dramatic shift downward. After each successive cycle, the next rebellion became more acute, the trouble more severe, the repentance less authentic, and the duration until the next cycle grew shorter and shorter.

In the aftermath of Israel's split kingdom, the Northern Tribes pursued their own distinctive spiritual path away from the Southern Kingdom and far, far away from the faith of Abraham, Moses and David. Solomon, the last king of the united kingdom, started both nations down this path. Solomon began with such promise. The initial pursuit of godly wisdom and the building of the Jewish temple provided the united twelve tribes of Israel with solid leadership. However, his heart grew cold and the nation drifted away. For the Northern Kingdom in particular, the divergence away from authentic worship was purposefully intense. Initially, the worship of the God of the Bible continued in the north but was just part of an overall religious life of the people. Jeroboam established two new places of worship in the north at Bethel and at Dan, ironically, just like Aaron, both places were marked by a golden calf as the focal point of worship. Practically, it seems as though Jeroboam simply desired a religious life of the north that was distinct and separate from the Southern Kingdom. However, this one act began a pattern of significant drift away from God.

Within a generation, the authentic, prophetic voice of God as revealed in the Scripture and as declared by the prophets of God, was silenced. The syncretism of Jeroboam's day fell to the strident anti-YHWH party of the Northern Kingdom rulers. By the time Ahab comes on the scene, he and his wife declare war. The desire by Ahab is to eradicate the prophetic voice of God because the behavior of Ahab and his family were

## *Regular Weekly Activities*

<b>Sundays</b>	
Morning Worship	8:30 & 11:00am
Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:45am
Evening Bible Study (all ages)	5:30pm
7:17 Service	6:45pm
<b>Mondays</b>	
K2 Primary Academy (during the school year)	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
<b>Tuesdays</b>	
MRA (during the school year)	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
<b>Wednesdays</b>	
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
Adult Bible Studies	6:45pm
<b>Thursdays</b>	
MRA (during school year)	8:30am
<b>Fridays</b>	
Chick Time, at Chick-Fil-A (Camp Wisdom)	9:00am
<b>Saturdays</b>	
Men's Coffee Group (Good Day Café, GP)	7:30am

### *Average Attendance for June*

**Morning Service: 369      717 Service: 103**



**VBS**  
July 9th - 13th

**Bible Storying, led by Tom Reed**  
Begins July 18th

**Sunday Evening Time Change**  
August 19th

**Women's Conference**  
September 22nd

**Check out our website at**  
**[www.matthewroad.org](http://www.matthewroad.org)**  
**for more info about all our events!**

<i>Financials as of June 22, 2018</i>	
<b>Budget Income</b>	<b>\$ 486,153</b>
<b>Budget Expense</b>	<b>\$ (481,761)</b>
<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>\$ 4,392</b>



diametrically opposed to the revealed will of God. In order to live life without impunity, Ahab needed to silence the prophetic voice in the nation. When Elijah steps on the scene, it seems that Ahab believed he had successfully destroyed all remnants of the Word of God. Trouble comes to the nation in the form of a famine. Unlike previous generations of leaders, Ahab is undaunted by this turn of events. He doubles down. When a person or a community drift this far from the Word of God, even divine interruption to behavior is shunned.

This is the potential plight of every one of us. At first, a slow drift away from God. Then the syncretism of the Biblical revelation with the culture around us. Cultural Christianity embraces the basic tenants of the faith while simultaneously embracing thoughts, ideas, dreams and passions that come from the desires of our own heart or from the cultural messaging around us. Soon, the drift becomes a complete dissolving of anything biblical. The voice of God through His scripture and through the teaching of His scripture by the church, must be silenced in order to live comfortably in the decay of the culture and the depravity of our own heart. This is the final step in the drift away from God, the silencing of the prophetic voice of God. Our hunger and thirst for His Word transforms into a hunger and thirst for our own will. Our desire for the church and authentic worship transforms into a desire for the culture. Our eyes drift. Our minds wander. Our hands and feet carry us to places we never intended. Israel did not set out to become the Northern Kingdom of Ahab. There was so much promise as Moses led them out of Egypt. There was so much hope as Joshua led them into the Promised Land. There was great optimism as King David led the people in authentic worship of God. A few generations after David, the Northern Kingdom would reject all of that for a false prophetic voice.

All of this began with a single step away from God. The small compromises by Solomon led to bigger compromises by the people which led to the split of the kingdom. Jeroboam's political expediency of unified worship around the two golden calves led to the abandoning of the worship of the God of the Bible. Ahab's embrace of the Sidonian queen and her worship of Baal and Asherah, led to the killing of the prophets of God and the silencing His voice in the land. A single step away from the express will of God led to a catastrophic collapse. We must guard our hearts. None of us can know for certain whether one attitude or one action could begin a drift away from the God who made us and saved us. We must be vigilant lest we follow the same pattern of the nation of Israel in the days of Solomon, Jeroboam or even Ahab.



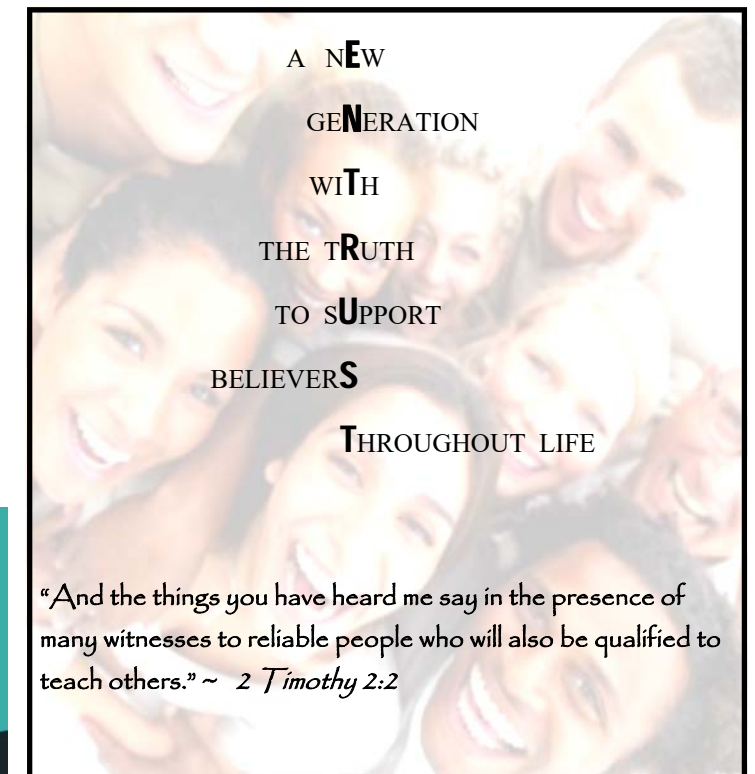
*We are excited to announce a change  
in our Sunday Evening schedule  
coming this fall!*

*Beginning Promotion Sunday, August 19th,  
our Bible Studies will move to 5:00pm,  
and 717 Worship Service will be at 6:15pm.*

## 20Somethings



Contact Rachel at [rachel@matthewroad.org](mailto:rachel@matthewroad.org)  
to find out the latest events & activities!



## Matthew Road Academy 2018-2019





# Summer Wednesday Night Bible Study



**July 18th, 25th, August 1st, 8th and 15th - Bible Storying  
led by Tom Reed**

Since the Reformation, Protestants have assumed that salvation, spiritual growth, leadership, and reproducible ministry all depended on high levels of literacy. Not all people, however, prefer to learn and grow in this way, or even have access to it. Does this mean they can not believe, grow, lead or minister? Those who don't learn by literate means prefer oral methods: story and dialogue, song, dance, drama, proverbs, and riddles. Tom will demonstrate storying and dialogue as a highly reproducible way to get the Word of God into the hearts of people without depending on literacy.

Chronological Bible Storying allows a person to build ministry competence around a series of stories chosen for a theme, for example, "Genesis to Jesus" or "The Life of Jesus" or "How to be a Disciple." Situational Bible Storying applies a specific story or set of stories to a specific person or situation. Dialogue, or guided question-and-answers, draws out the story's meaning and application. In the end, a person will know the story, its meaning, and be able to tell it to others and guide them with dialogue in the same way. Story by story, brick by brick, your bible knowledge, theological understanding, and ministry competence grows. And it's all in your head, and ready to use at any time. You won't ever have to think, "Wait. I used to know that. It's in my notes at home ..."

## Church Office Closed for July 4th Holiday



# Children's Ministry

**Free VBS!**  
**Monday - Friday,**  
**July 9th thru 13th**  
**6:00pm - 8:30pm**  
**Go to [matthewroad.org](http://matthewroad.org)**  
**to register**  
**See Brittany to volunteer**  
**or for info!**



## *Sunday School*

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

*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.

## Coming Sunday, August 19th Events





## Youth Ministry

This past month, we had a great time at camp! I wanted to thank all of those that came to our fundraising events, contributed food, and those that donated scholarships to help ensure that all of our students that wanted to go to camp were able to.



Our youth group saw several professions of faith, and we saw spiritual growth from our newer believers all the way to our mature believers. We also bonded as a student ministry in a way that only camp can. We are so very grateful to have a church like Matthew Road that supports its students year round!



July is going to be a great month! We are leaving for our mission trip on Tuesday, July 24th, and we will return on Monday, July 30th. We are going to Pike Road, Alabama, to help out Pike Road Baptist Church. We will help host VBS in the evening throughout neighborhoods in the area, and during the day we will be helping turn an old building into a new high school. We will be painting, putting up doors, cleaning out rooms to create new classrooms, and many more activities. We look forward to serving the community of Pike Road.

Throughout the summer months, after every AveNew service on Wednesday night, we will be having Wednesday night lights! This is a time to play games, eat popsicles and hang out! This is a great time for our students to create new relationships, and build on those existing relationships! We hope that your student will join us during our AveNew service and stay late for Wednesday night lights. We usually start about 8pm, and go till about 8:30 - 8:40pm.

Thanks again Matthew Road for supporting your student ministry in all that we do.

In Christ, Matt Brown  
matt@matthewroad.org  
832-955-4954

## Women's Ministry



Parenting Study  
2 weeks in September  
More info to come!

Monthly  
First Friday Lunch  
at IHOP  
(Carrier & I-20)  
12:00pm



### Weekly Bible Studies:

**Sunday Mornings**  
Rachel Sullenger & Tiffany Marich -  
Book of Acts, Library  
Josh Lemmon -  
Book of Acts, Lecture Room (by water fountain)  
**Sunday Nights**  
Meg Trihus - the Epistles, Conference Room  
Jamy Aldape - "Voice of God, (begins July 8th)  
**Wednesday Nights**  
Cyndi King - Book of Acts, Conference Room  
**Friday**  
Cyndi King - 9:00 am -  
Book of Acts, Chick Fil A (Camp Wisdom Location)  
Jamy Aldape - 11:00am -  
"Voice of God", Teller Room (begins July 6th)

DISCERNING THE  
*Voice of God*  
Fridays at 11:00am  
and  
Sundays at 5:00pm  
Begins 7.6.18  
Leader: Jamye Aldape  
Book cost: \$16

Moms  
*MOMs*  
Mentors  
LET THE WISE LISTEN AND ADD TO THEIR LEARNING,  
AND LET THE DISCERNING GET GUIDANCE.  
PROVERBS 1:5  
"let the wise listen and add to their learning, and  
let the discerning get guidance"  
Moms & Mentors  
First Mondays  
Library 7:00pm  
Contact Cyndi: 972.641.2717

ESSENTIAL  
TRUTHS OF THE  
CHRISTIAN FAITH  
Systematic - light  
Wednesdays at 5:30pm  
Childcare and snacks provided  
Fellowship Hall; first room

Samaritan's Purse  
OPERATION  
Christmas Child  
August 25th: details to follow

*Titus*  
August 31st, 6:00pm to 8:30pm  
Common Grounds  
Contact Cheryl: 469.744.2625

*Shiloh*  
Experiencing God's comfort  
in the midst of infertility and loss.  
Monthly  
Coffee Fellowships  
coming in September!  
More info to come.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2018  
September 22nd 8.30am to 3.00pm  
Cost: \$10pp; childcare \$5 per child (scholarships available)  
Light breakfast and lunch provided & CHOCOLATE  
RSVP: Email mrbcinfo@matthewroad.org or call the church office

