



The BCC Connection

September
2021

*Bancroft Congregational Church
Pastor Todd Evans*

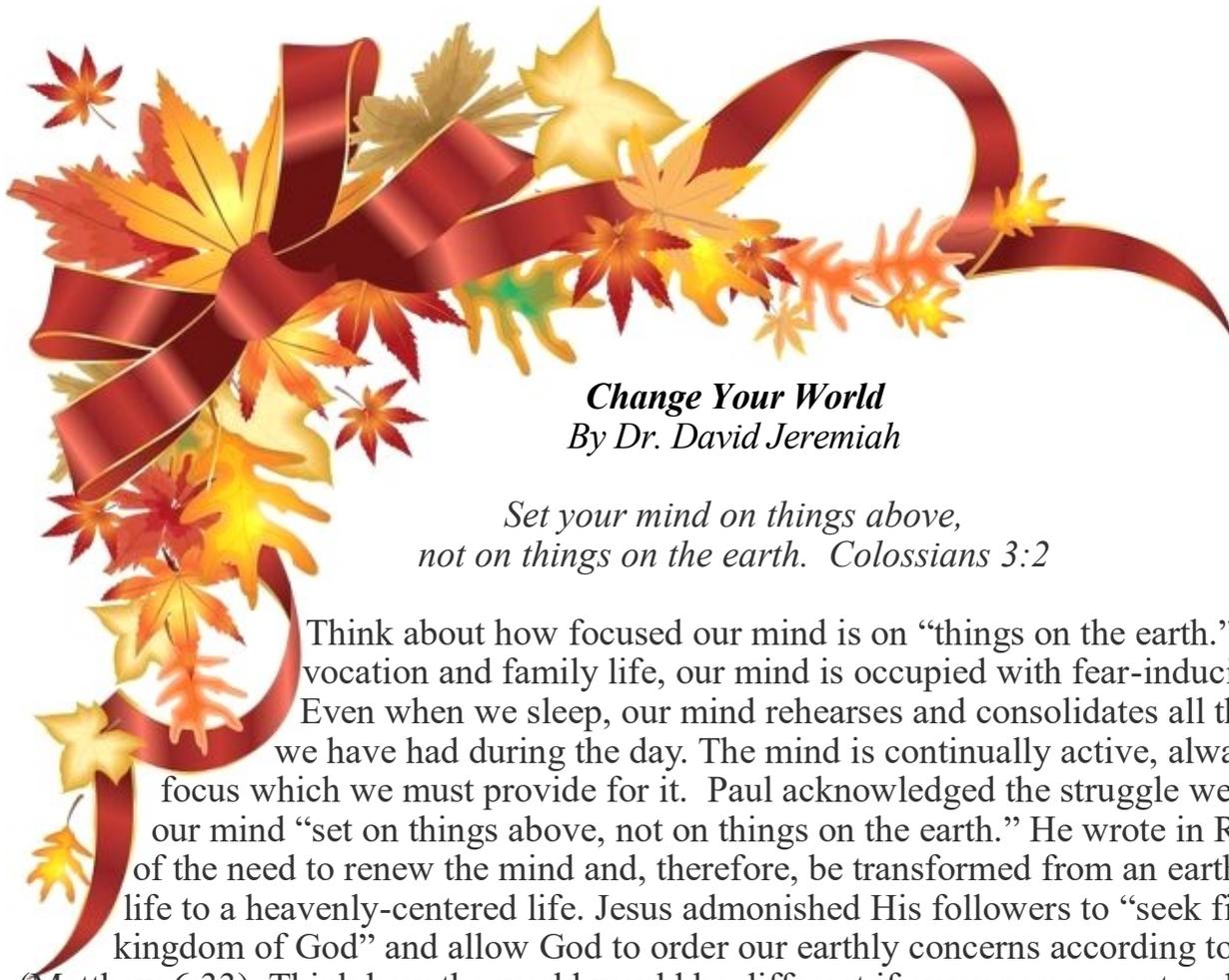
217 S. Shiawassee St., P.O. Box 98, Bancroft, MI 48414 989-634-5724

Sunday Worship Hours

Christian Education Hour 9:45 am

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

There are Nursery and Jr. church programs available for children during our worship service.



Change Your World *By Dr. David Jeremiah*

*Set your mind on things above,
not on things on the earth. Colossians 3:2*

Think about how focused our mind is on “things on the earth.” Besides our vocation and family life, our mind is occupied with fear-inducing headlines. Even when we sleep, our mind rehearses and consolidates all the thoughts we have had during the day. The mind is continually active, always seeking a focus which we must provide for it. Paul acknowledged the struggle we have to keep our mind “set on things above, not on things on the earth.” He wrote in Romans 12:2 of the need to renew the mind and, therefore, be transformed from an earthly-centered life to a heavenly-centered life. Jesus admonished His followers to “seek first the kingdom of God” and allow God to order our earthly concerns according to His will (Matthew 6:33). Think how the world would be different if every person centered their mind on the values of the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12) and the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Take the challenge: Keep your mind centered, one day at a time, on heavenly things. You may just change your world.

Focus on giants—you stumble. Focus on God—your giants tumble.
Max Lucado



From your favorite pastor



Jude 1-3

In our continued look at the battle for truth, I want to take the next couple of articles and do a breakdown of the book of Jude. This is an important book to look at rather extensively because it deals with just the issue we are facing as the Church, that is false teachers coming in and leading people astray. It has become such an issue over recent years because of the different resources we have to listen to “preachers,” from streaming TV to podcasts, audible books, and real books. In the midst of all of this, we encounter an age-old difficulty- apostasy, Gnostic teachings, teachings that sound like Christian teachings but are not and oppose the main foundational teachings of and about Christ. This is here because it has moved across the pond from Europe, where the evangelical church is nearly dead and where less than 5% of the population goes to church on a Sunday morning. Most polls have shown that this has happened because Scripture is no longer taught as absolute truth (which is what we’ve been looking at recently). None of these battles are new and have been raging since the very beginning of the Church. This is why the book of Jude is even more relevant in these post-modern/post-Christian times that we live in. Times that teach that all morals and truths are relative. Times that attack the Bible and the teachings within it. Jude’s Spirit-inspired letter dealing with these issues will guide us as we go forward in the war for truth.

This letter was written by Jude (Judas) the brother of James and half-brother of Jesus between 68-70 A.D. We know this because of the mentioning of James and the lack of mentioning of the destruction of Jerusalem which happened in 70 A.D. Jude wrote this letter to a particular audience: *“To those who have been called, who are loved by God the Father and kept by Jesus Christ.”* (v.1) He is writing to all those who have been called by God and have their eternity’s bound to Christ, or in other words to every true Believer. This letter is coming from a genuine and sincere concern for the spiritual life of each of them and for the truth of Scripture. I say this because of the concern that comes through in v.3, *“Dear friends...”* I think he was writing to encourage them in their striving to fulfill the call of Christ on their lives, to love Him with all we have, love others as we love ourselves, and to go share the Gospel, *“...although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share...”* (v.3). But the rising movement of heretical teachings drove him to change his letter to deal with what he believed to be a more pressing issue. It was pushing him so much that we see it in his use of the word **necessity/had to/must** which translates to mean a heavy burden or mandate. His burden for sound doctrine led him to know that they would be unable to share their salvation with others if they lost the Gospel. (cont. on page 3)

He goes on to appeal to them to defend the fight for the truth continually and vigorously, “...urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints.” (v.3) He wasn’t the only one fighting this fight either, as we see Paul taking this on in his letters to Timothy as well as John the Apostle’s letters: “Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him. Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work.” (2 John 9-11)

Many in the church today do not see the need to defend the Bible, they want to fit in with this relativistic world and not offend anyone. But we are clearly called throughout Scripture to defend the truth vigorously. We are in a time when our beliefs are attacked every day from all sides in all ways and it will continue. We are to stand for the Word, knowing that we will be standing for God. I finish with the same question we have been dealing with for months: Are you ready and willing to stand for the truth of the Gospel against, not just the world but false teachers in the church?

This month’s Scripture work: Jude, 2 John, 2 Timothy

Be blessed & be a blessing

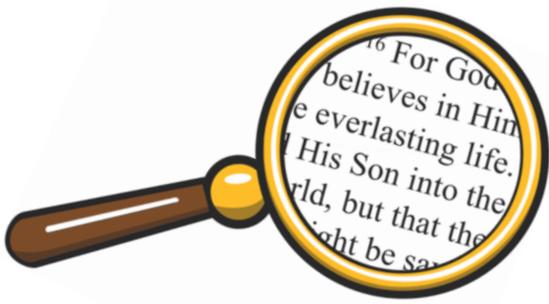


PT

Resources

Holy Scripture both NIV & NLT versions
The Truth War by John MacArthur
Never Give Up by Michael Yousef
The Faith by Charles Colson





Apologetics



So, What Makes the Bible So Special?

By Derwin Gray

Apologetics Bible pg. 623

In a world filled with different so-called holy books, what makes the Bible special? Your Buddhist friend meditates on the *Lotus Sutra*; your Mormon cousin thinks the Book of Mormon is more accurate than the Bible; your Muslim teammate loves his Qur'an (a.k.a. Koran); your Hindu neighbor reads the *Vedas*, and the couch-jumping Tom Cruise thinks the writings of its Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard are Scripture. What makes the Bible more special than these?

The Bible is special because it is *from* God. The Bible claims throughout that God is its ultimate author. 2 Timothy 3:16 says, “*All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correction, for training in righteousness.*” 2 Peter 1:21 teaches us that *inspired* means the bible authors were “moved by the Holy Spirit” and thus “spoke from God.”

The Bible is special because of its *continuity*. It was written over a fifteen-hundred-year period by 40 different authors. Some authors were kings, some were peasants, and some were fishermen. It was written in different times and places (including three different continents) using three different languages. Despite its diversity, the Bible tells a single unfolding story: God the Son became human; His motivation for this mission trip was love for fallen humanity.

The Bible is special because of its *survival*. It was first written on paper-like material called papyrus and had to be copied and re-copied by hand for hundreds of years. Through this lengthy process, which involves countless copyists, the Bible remained uncorrupted. We have a mountain of manuscript evidence showing that the Bible was accurately copied throughout the centuries. Many non-believers have tried to discredit or destroy the Bible, but God has preserved it so people like you and me can know Him and love Him. And learn to love others as dearly as we love ourselves.

The Bible is special because of its teachings about Jesus. In the Bible, we encounter a God who passionately pursues a love relationship with us. Jesus came to earth on a rescue mission to love, forgive, and make salvation possible by dying in our place. Amazingly, God offers us eternal life free of charge. Our only requirement is to accept Jesus' free gift by faith. In contrast, all other world religions teach that we must earn God's approval by being good enough as if we had to earn our Father's love and forgiveness by our efforts.

The Bible is special because of its influence on the world. The Bible has had such an influence on the world that the centuries are measured from the birth of Jesus! The Bible, when interpreted correctly, has produced a positive social change in the world. For instance, William Wilberforce fought to end slavery in Great Britain because of the Bible's message.

Ultimately, the Bible is special because it is God's word. It highlights Jesus, tells us our purpose for living, instructs us on how to live, and promises us heaven if we'll follow Jesus in faith.

The writer of Psalm 119 spoke of another benefit of God's work: “*The revelation of Your words brings light and gives understanding to the inexperienced*” (vs 130). But don't just take this person's word for it. Give that truth a road test and check out the Bible for yourself.

Weekly Service Schedule for September 2022

Service	4th	11th	18th	25th
Greeter	Sally Labadie	Lee Habermehl	Brian Reed	Walt Reed
Greeter	Jr. Love	Cyndy Habermehl	Karla Reed	Marion Reed
Nursery	Layne Valade	Cathy Taber	Brian Reed	Jenny Habermehl
Nursery	Daphne Valade	Laurie Valade	Karla Reed	Paula Wahl
Sound	Isaac Zander	Matt Post	Jade Evans	Jazz Evans
Computer	Vaeh Cooke	Kaylee Siddens	Sarah Bias	Aaron Zander
Welcome/Call to Worship	Matt Post	James Huguelet	Layne Valade	Carl Cooke
Prayer Elder	Brian Reed	Carl Cooke	Lee Habermehl	Matt Post
Jr. Church Teacher	Charlotte Adolf	Paula Wahl	Becky Durling	Diane Lepior
Jr. Church Helper	Lee Habermehl	Jenny Habermehl	Cathy Taber	Shana Post
Scripture Reader Message Prayer	No reader needed	Maddie Bias Job 42	Dan Bryant John 1:35-51	Jordan Owens TBD
Benediction	Pastor	Matt Post	James Huguelet	Layne Valade
Financial Team	Layne Valade	Lee Habermehl	Carl Cook	James Huguelet
Financial Team	Dan Bryant	Brian Reed	Matt Post	Gary Hammond
Communion	Matt Post			

Please remember if for any reason you are unable to meet your scheduled obligation, ***please contact someone from your team to take your place as soon as you know you are unable to fulfill your obligation.*** The changes however, will not be printed in the bulletin.

Thank you for your service to our church!

Weekly Service Schedule for October 2022

Service	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
Greeter	Sally Labadie	Lee Habermehl	Brian Reed	Walt Reed	Sally Labadie
Greeter	Jr. Love	Cyndy Habermehl	Karla Reed	Marion Reed	Jr. Love
Nursery	Tracie Zander	Layne Valade	Cathy Taber	Brian Reed	Jenny Habermehl
Nursery	Patty Hewitt	Daphne Valade	Laurie Valade	Karla Reed	Paula Wahl
Sound	Matt Post	Isaac Zander	Matt Post	Jade Evans	Jazz Evans
Computer	Maddie Bias	Vaeh Cooke	Kaylee Siddens	Sarah Bias	Aaron Zander
Call to Worship & Prayer	Carl Cooke	Lee Habermehl	Matt Post	James Huguelet	Layne Valade
Prayer Elder	James Huguelet	Brain Reed	Layne Valade	Carl Cooke	Lee Habermehl
Jr. Church Teacher	Diane Lepior	Sharon Lewis	Charlotte Adolf	Paula Wahl	Becky Durling
Jr. Church Helper	Shana Post	Amber Bias	Cevin Valade	Jenny Habermehl	Cathy Taber
Scripture Reader Message Prayer	Sandy Braid John 2:12-25	Carl Cooke John 3:1-21	Laurie Valade John 4:1-26	Vaeh Cooke TBD	Jade Evans TBD
Benediction	Pastor	Brian Reed	Layne Valade	Carl Cooke	Lee Habermehl
Financial Team	Gary Hammond	Tom Wahl	Brian Reed	Matt Post	Dan Bryant
Financial Team	Layne Valade	Lee Habermehl	Carl Cooke	James Huguelet	Layne Valade
Communion	Lee Habermehl				



Fruits of the Spirit

September



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- Day 1: Galatians 5:22-23
 - Day 2: Zephaniah 3:17
 - Day 3: John 3:16-17
 - Day 4: John 15:9-10
 - Day 5: John 15:12-13
 - Day 6: Habakkuk 3:17-18
 - Day 7: 1 Peter 1:8-9
 - Day 8: Luke 15:7
 - Day 9: Psalm 30:5
 - Day 10: 1 Peter 3:11
 - Day 11: James 3:18
 - Day 12: Psalm 29:11
 - Day 13: Romans 12:18
 - Day 14: Exodus 34:6-7
 - Day 15: James 1:2-4
 - Day 16: Romans 5:1-2
 - Day 17: Romans 5:3-4
 - Day 18: Proverbs 31:20
 - Day 19: Colossians 3:12
 - Day 20: Titus 3:1-2
 - Day 21: Ephesians 4:1-2
 - Day 22: 2 Peter 1:5-6
 - Day 23: 2 Peter 1:7-8
 - Day 24: Hebrews 11:1-2
 - Day 25: Hebrews 12:1-2
 - Day 26: Romans 14:19
 - Day 27: Proverbs 25:28
 - Day 28: Proverbs 16:32
 - Day 29: Titus 2:11-14
 - Day 30: Philippians 4:8
- Pastor's verses for this month:
Jude, 2 John, 2 Timothy*

This Month's Cause for Celebration!

September



- 3rd Caleb Gaboury
- 6th Sarah Bias
- 11th Isaac Zander
Debbie Price
- 14th Peggy Rancour
- 16th Dona Blight
- 17th Cevin Valade
- 25th Patty Hewitt
Karen Huguelet

Ephesians 5:18-19

“...be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord...”

- 6th Al & Amber Bias
- 12th Brian & Karla Reed
- 18th Mike & Karen Heiple
- 30th Doug & Loretta Leithauser



Kids Corner

Mason Jar Lid Suncatchers

To make this craft you will need:

- Mason jar rings (wide mouth)
 - Mason jar frog lids (wide mouth)
 - Ribbon
 - Hot glue and hot glue gun
 - Scissors
1. After gathering supplies, weave the ribbon through the mason jar frogs. An assortment of solid, plaid, striped, and polka dot ribbon makes the sun catchers look whimsical and fun!



2. Squirt hot glue or tacky craft glue inside of the mason jar ring. Place the mason jar frog inside of the ring, then allow the glue to dry. When the glue is dry, use scissors to remove the excess ribbon from the suncatcher.
3. String a small loop of brown ribbon through the top of the suncatcher, then secure it with glue. Fold a small piece of green ribbon together to create a leaf for the apple, then glue it to the inside of the brown ribbon.



4. Hang the suncatchers to the window with a small removable Glue Dot.



Melted Crayon Leaf Suncatchers

Before you begin, spend a little time outside collecting leaves. The leaves you choose will later become the inspiration for the shape and color of your suncatchers. Maple, and Oak, are good ones, but there are many more! Can you name some others? Let their vibrant colors be your inspiration.

To Make This Craft You Will Need

- mini grater
- crayons
- wax paper
- an old towel or dishcloth (2)
- iron
- double-sided tape
- 1 Sharpie marker
- scissors

Directions

1. Carefully grate crayons over pieces of wax paper with a mini grater. We discovered that using multiple colors looked best, as it realistically resembled the way leaves change color.
2. Place a second sheet of wax paper over the crayon shavings. Center old dishcloths under (to protect your ironing board cover) and on top (to protect your iron) of both pieces of wax paper, and gently iron over them. The wax paper and crayon shavings melt together, creating beautiful, lasting fall color.
3. Now, chose a leaf and trace it onto the wax paper. Cut out the shapes, then place them on the window with double-sided tape.

Aren't they lovely?

Mission News!

Operation Christmas Child

We're looking for school supplies for August and September. Now is a great time to find them on sale! You may bring in your donations and leave them in the box in front of the office window.

"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done." Proverbs 19:17

Island Off Ivory Coast

The island of Vridi Ako is a largely forgotten place, even though it is located just a short distance from Ivory Coast's largest city, Abidjan. Accessible only via a 30-minute ride aboard a makeshift wooden ferryboat, Vridi Ako is home to a wide variety of ethnic groups. The one common denominator on the island is desperate poverty. The island has been known as a hangout for criminals, where alcohol and drugs often destroy young people's lives. Occult practices and idol worship drag others down.



The situation prompted one local Operation Christmas Child representative to wonder: *What chance do children have in such a place? How will they find any guidance toward truth?* A neighboring church had tried three times to plant a new congregation on the island but with no success. However, Flore Sebeyo, a local woman, still believed something could be done. After attending a presentation by Operation Christmas Child leadership in the area, she worked together with her pastor to mobilize a concerted prayer effort for the forgotten island. "God gave us faith to believe that through sharing gifts with children we could find a breakthrough," Flore said. Flore contacted the village chiefs on the island and obtained permission to hold an Operation Christmas Child outreach event. A total of 150 children attended and joyfully received gift-filled shoeboxes packed full of toys, school supplies, and personal care items that were just for them. Touched by these tangible expressions of God's love, the children also heard an engaging presentation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. "The following Saturday, we started The Greatest Journey class with 64 children," said Flore, describing Samaritan's Purse follow-up discipleship program for shoebox recipients. "By God's grace, 43 of these children graduated and received certificates." Now one year later, the team has a shelter on the island where 27 adults and 91 children are coming to church regularly! "Operation Christmas Child has been such a wonderful blessing, giving us the opportunity to reach children with the Gospel," Flore said. "Our vision is to set up a center to teach children to read and write, because so many of them here don't go to school because their parents can't afford to send them to the mainland for school." As a result of Operation Christmas Child's work there, Vridi Ako is already a safer place for children and a location where the Word of God is freely proclaimed. We praise God for this transformation and look forward to more good reports in the future!



Grandma's Kitchen



*Slow Cooker Apple Butter
couldn't be easier.*

Ingredients

- 10 large apples, peeled, cored, and chopped
- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- pinch of salt

Instructions

1. Cut apples into 1-inch chunks and place in a 6-quart slow cooker along with the granulated sugar. Cover and cook on **HIGH** for 6 hours.
2. Stir in 1 cup of brown sugar, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, and a pinch of salt. Cover and cook on **LOW** until the apples are soft, about 4 hours.
3. Using an immersion blender or stand blender, process the apple mixture until smooth. If you're using a blender, secure the lid, and remove the centerpiece to allow steam to escape. Then place a clean towel over the opening and blend until smooth.
4. Cool completely and refrigerate in air-tight containers for up to 1 month.

How to Serve:

Apple butter is wonderful served on toast or English muffins, as a condiment to chicken or pork, or even on deli sandwiches. Try it with your next turkey sandwich!

Apples:

I love to use a combination of apples that include; Golden Delicious, Honeycrisp, Fuji, and Gala

Making Apple Butter Overnight:

Place all the ingredients into a 6-quart slow cooker, cover, and cook on **LOW** for 10 hours, or overnight. It's a wonderful aroma to wake up to. After 10 hours on **LOW**, uncover and stir. Cook until the apples are very tender, and the mixture has thickened and becomes dark brown.

Best Uses



Red Delicious:
Sauces, Cakes, Butter



Granny Smith:
Pies, Crisps, Tarts



Honey Crisp:
Pies, Tarts, Dumplings, Bars



Golden Delicious:
Sauces, Cakes, Butter



Pink Lady:
Pies, Cakes, Breads, Bars



Proverbs 7:2 "Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye."

Pastor Todd Evans
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 217 S. Shiawassee St.,
 PO Box 98
 Bancroft, MI 48414



Bancroft Church Phone Number:
 989-634-5724
 Secretary: Diane Lepior
 Office Hours: 9-2 daily
 Tuesdays by appointment
 Please use the church phone or Facebook
 to contact the office during office hours.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 	5	6	7 10 am Small group starts up again today	8	9	10  <i>Men's Prayer Breakfast</i>
11 C.E. starts up again- 9:45am	12 Mission Mtg 10 am C.E. Mtg 6:30 pm	13	14 Ladies Fellowship 7pm Elders 7pm	15	16	17 Pantry 10-Noon 
18	19	20	21 6:30 pm Small group starts back up tonight	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Weekly activities:

Wednesdays: 6:30pm Adult Small Group
 Wednesday: 10am Adult Bible Study
 Thursdays 6:00pm Karate

Matthew 5:16

*Let your light shine
before men that they may
see your good deeds and
praise your Father
in heaven.*

HuntAndHost.net



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