

photo by Doug Brush



the
channel

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The Historical Jesus - Part 1 of 4

by Dr. Eric Costanzo

It is the first Sunday of August, which means we are near the conclusion of our sermon series on the Parables of Jesus. As we wrap up this series over the next four Sundays, I want to consider who Jesus was in history, and who He is to be in our lives today.

What do we really know about Jesus? Well, for those of us who live according to the “for the Bible tells me so” mentality, there is quite a lot. But not everyone gives the Bible the credibility it deserves. So is there anywhere else outside of the Scriptures where we can find historical evidence about Jesus? Absolutely.

The books of the New Testament are not the only early sources to mention Jesus of Nazareth. Historical records by Thallus, Tacitus, and Josephus all mention Jesus and His followers, as do the Gnostic pseudo-gospels and a number of other letters and books from the first and second centuries. The genuine existence and influence of a Jewish rabbi known as Jesus, who lived during the days of Caesars Augustus and Tiberius is hard to dispute.

In 1906, a brilliant physician, musician, and theologian named Albert Schweitzer published the indelible work *The Quest for the*

Historical Jesus. In it, Schweitzer chronicles “scholarly” descriptions of Jesus during different eras of history after the 1st Century. In nearly every case, scholars’ most innovative conclusions produced a Jesus that conveniently supported their own worldviews.

Are we also guilty of making Jesus into who we want Him to be as opposed to who He really was and is? The real Jesus was not and is not defined by convenience. If our goal is to make Jesus into whomever or whatever we want Him to be, we will have successfully fashioned an impotent imitation.

May we never take lightly what it means to worship the true Christ, Jesus of Nazareth. As the book of Hebrews begins:

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. (Hebrews 1:1-3)

Next up: Part 2 - Who did Jesus claim to be?



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publication deadlines

The Channel
Wednesday

Messenger Wrap
Monday

TableTalk
Tuesday

Please email all submissions to Kim Hayes by 10:00 a.m. at kim@stbc.net

on the cover

Special guest in Mr. Leon’s class

School Supplies for North Tulsa

One of the wonderful ministries we have at South Tulsa Baptist Church is to help with school supplies for children in North Tulsa. We need to bring school supplies to the church by Wednesday, August 17. Tubs are available near the entrances to the church. The men from North Tulsa will be here on August 19 to pick them up. As you are purchasing school supplies for your children would you purchase a few extra things and bring them to the church? Thank you for your ministry to these children.

Happy Anniversary

John and Lettie Upchurch celebrated 54 years of marriage August 3!

Be a Mentor Mom

MOPs is looking for some Mentor Moms. Moms who walk a few steps ahead of the moms in our group. Mentors bring perspective on mothering, womanhood and relationships. You have the opportunity to invest in the lives of young women, cheer them on as they try new things and lead the celebration of all they do! Please contact Miriam Shipman at 757-634-9624.

GriefShare

If you've experienced the death of a loved one, GriefShare is here for you. Groups meet at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. on Mondays in the STBC Conference Room. New members are always welcome. For more information, please call Mary Jane Howarth at 918-749-0826.

the scorecard



07.31.16

Church in Action

Giving

Ministry Financial Plan	312,619
Actual MFP Receipts	277,243
General Fund	55,997
Building Fund	1,360

Sunday Bible Study

Adults	490
Youth	80
Children	71
Preschool	84
Unclassified	10
Total	735

Weekday Bible Studies

Adult, Youth, Women's, Men's

Music & Worship

Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, Praise Team

Stephen Ministry

Care Receivers	10
Care Givers	24

GriefShare *afternoon - evening*

Participants	4 - 5
Facilitators	8 - 4

Early Learning Program

Church on Mission

Jail Ministry

Prayed to Receive Christ	5
Bibles Distributed	21
Quarterlies Distributed	77
Tract Ministry	150

The Ministry Center

Volunteers	25
People Helped	271
Salvations	1

Worship Service Online

LIVE Views

(U.S. 1,684; International 622)

@ Legend at Mingo Road	
@ Brookdale Broken Arrow	
@ Autumn Leaves	14
@ Prairie Rose	15
@ Clare Bridge	22
@ The Arbors	3
@ Burgundy Place	9
@ Legend at Tulsa Hills	21
@ Storey Oaks	28
Total	2,418

ON DEMAND Views

(U.S. 768; International 284)

Cities Represented	29
<i>Tulsa, Broken Arrow, Dallas, Bixby, Jenks, Sapulpa, Highland Village, Lee's Summit, Princeville, Amarillo, Bartlesville, Bastrop, Lansing, Lufkin, Oklahoma City, Purcell, San Francisco, Sand Springs, Smyrna, St. Louis, Hoffman Estates, Norman, Blanchard, Claremore, Fort Worth, Grandview, Kansas City, Severna Park, and Ludhiana.</i>	

For more information about these ministries and how you can be involved, check out our online scorecard at www.southtulsa.org.

please pray for...

Jessie Adams
Jacqueline Arterburn
Larry & Karen Baker's
Daughter's Family
Sharon Barnett
William Bass
Mary Baucam
Holly Bowlby
Beth Brumbaugh
Karen Byrd
Suzi Byrd
Pam Campbell
Gary Chapman
Howard Chapman
Kathleen Cleary
Evie Coons
Chris Crabtree
Chris Cuaderes
Buster Davenport
Ashlyn Dirteater
Joy Disler
Craig Donnelly
Annabelle Doolin
Michelle Dudley's
Mother, Ann
Betty Dugger
David Eldridge
Tammy Ezell
Lane & Evie Fleming
Vicki Franks
Julie Gentry
Jordan Greenway
Tricia Hadicke
Breydon Hammer
Sonja Harvey
Ginny Hensley's mom
Richard and Carol
Herman
Steve Herman Family
Barbara Herndon
Ron Holland
Judi Hopkins
Kaden Howard
Christian Jaspersen
Katherine Johnson
Tonya Johnson
Josh Jordan
Rachel Key
Beverly Kieffer

Beverly Kieffer's
brother, Mark
Mildred Lawson
Virginia Love
Edith Mabry
Dianna Maddox
Dale Marden
Geraldine McCoy
Alicia McLaughlin
Greg Moran
Elizabeth Moses
Orvalyn Murphy
Mike Nelson
Naedene Neumeyer
Jackie Newman
Monica Oliva
Manley Porter
Heather Priddy
Jon Randall
Martha Rogers
Dylan Rowe
Clay Sanderlin
Mary Jo Sanders
Barbara Shores
Logan Short
Frank Sims
Judy Smith
Sharolyn Sorrels
**Laura Steen and
unborn baby**
Kelsey Thrasher
Allan Trimble
Becky Tuttle
John Vick
Danny Wasson
Bill Weir
Katie Wilkinson
Dixie Woodard
Lorraine Yeubanks

*If you have a prayer
request, an update
or a change, please
contact Carolyn in
the church office at
918-299-0904 or
carolyn@stbc.net.*

Dear Church Family,

As most of you have heard by now, we will be leaving STBC in two weeks to minister to the people of Guatemala, working with BuildinGuate. We are excited about this new chapter in our lives and how God will give us opportunities to serve Him in this step of faith. However, this comes with a large loss--leaving our church family of 22 years, where we raised our two children and served in a multitude of ways. Thank you so much for your love and support over the years and please keep us in your prayers! ~*Stephen and Lee Anne Griffin*

Precept Bible Studies Beginning in September

Covenant - Mondays

Knowing God's Covenant (11 lessons)

Mondays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room beginning September 12. Excellent for those who have yet to take a Precept course. Please contact Patrick Lovelace at patricklovelace@cox.net, 918-286-3226 for more information or to enroll.



Isaiah Part 1 - Thursdays

The Word of the Holy One to Israel, the Remnant, and the Nations . . . and the Promise of the Child to Be Born (Chapters 1-39) - (14 lessons) Thursdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room beginning September 8. Isaiah offers insight into the final days which complements Revelation, Daniel, 2 Thessalonians and Zechariah. Please contact Patrick Lovelace at patricklovelace@cox.net, 918-286-3226 for more information or to enroll.

Mission Moments

Mario Mino, Guatemala

Recently, we had a very special group from Utah! This group helped us with some much needed painting. They also loved on the children and ministered to the children and youth through special dramas and testimonies. The majority were young people! We were thankful and impressed by their hard work and desire to serve God and to make a difference.

One of their biggest challenges was weeding and leveling part of the new land for the soon to come Christian Junior High School. As a preliminary phase, they also helped us to plant some grass. They worked with much love and care, knowing how much difference a Christian J. H. will make in the community! Please keep us in your prayers as we begin some planning meetings for this next stage of our Great Adventure with God in Guatemala! Please also pray for our personal finances. We love you and appreciate you!

Too Busy to Care?

It can be easy to get caught up in our own little worlds of activities and problems, causing us to forget about others who are truly less fortunate. Those individuals might be as close as next door, or around the block, or across our city. The Ministry Center is a wonderful place to come and share Christ's love and hope with those needing assistance. Serving at The Ministry Center will open up your world and let you see just how blessed you are, regardless of your circumstances.

Meet just a few of our Ministry Center clients [*note: names have been changed*]:

- Joe and his wife Chris are living in a campsite by the river. Chris is expecting a baby at any time. She has also been diagnosed with bone cancer and has been given six months to live. She has refused a bone marrow transplant because of the pregnancy. The couple has a five-year-old son that has sickle cell leukemia and has to have constant medical attention. He is currently living with a relative in Arkansas. The new baby is a girl and they are ready to name her Heavenly Grace when she is born. They have found another relative to take the baby, until such time that their homeless situation is resolved. The living conditions and the heat have definitely taken a toll on Chris. Joe is sad and discouraged about his wife's health and is wanting to end his life when she dies.
- Mary's daughter is incarcerated in a rural southeast county of Oklahoma. Mary had gone to live with the daughter shortly before the incarceration to help her take care of her five children. The area was so dangerous that Mary felt it necessary to relocate the five grandchildren to Tulsa for their safety. They are now living in a local shelter, as funds are too limited to afford housing. Mary is trusting God in her situation and is looking for a church home, as she understands the importance of being part of a body of believers.
- Nancy just had hernia repair surgery, needed to correct some issues from a cancer surgery a year ago. She spent three days in ICU following the recent surgery because of a severe drop in hemoglobin. Within a week of her hospitalization she had to go back to work, even though she was still in a lot of pain and was very weak. She is back at work because she needs the money and has no paid leave. She works hard and loves her job working with mentally handicapped adults, but the pay is low and the month is usually too long to make her paycheck stretch.
- Jerry is homeless and living by the river. One night his kerosene lantern blew up as he was trying to light it. He received severe burns to his head, hands, arms and torso. He spent several days in ICU on life support. He was finally moved to a regular room for 1½ days before he was discharged. He was given a small sack of salve, gauze, a few pain pills and sent on his way back to his tent. The excruciating pain he is experiencing is exacerbated by the

tremendous heat of this summer. His raw skin and now filthy bandages are breeding grounds for infection.

Every client has a story that will warm or break your heart. If you are looking for a place to serve that will bless you beyond measure, please pray about your participation at The Ministry Center. There is always room for you to serve. For more information, or for a tour of The Ministry Center, please contact Alice Bones at alice@ministry-center.org, or by cell phone, 918-720-5419. [*The Ministry Center, 312 S. 33rd West Ave, Tulsa, OK 74127. "His Heart . . . our hands."*]

Guatemala Mission Moving Sale August 12-13

In preparation for their move to the Guatemala mission field in two weeks, Stephen and Lee Anne Griffin are selling their household goods – kitchen items, furniture, rugs, home décor, televisions, office supplies, baby/children's items. The sale will be held at 9535 South 92nd East Avenue, Tulsa, in the Cedar Ridge Park addition, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, August 12 and Saturday, August 13. For more information, call or text Lee Anne at 918-845-5396.

Bible Art Journaling – Ladies, our last summer workshop will be Thursday, August 25 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

FirstSteps

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

etc 8:30 Aug 7

hostess:	Debbie Steen
Room 101	Ken & Laura Lovett
Room 102	Brenda Negahban
Room 111	Caitlin Everett, Michelle Dudley
Room 105	Sam Pogue, Molly Dudley
Room 108	Barbara Tuttle, Jill Whitten
Room 109	Karlas & Jennifer Gripado

etc 10:45 Aug 7

hostess:	Lila Johnson
Room 101	Patra Hair, Carol Selby
Room 102	Brenda Negahban, Lauren Granger
Room 111	Caitlin Everett, Michelle Dudley
Room 106	Sam Pogue, Molly Dudley
Room 107	Hannah Barnett, Jenny McMinn
Room 109	Robert Gerred, Lashan Young
Room 114	John & Diana Lowe

etc 8:30 Aug 14

hostess:	Debbie Steen
Room 101	Bobby & Julie Rosene
Room 102	Brenda Negahban, Kendra & Kelsey Thompson
Room 111	Caitlin Everett, Michelle Dudley
Room 105	Sam Pogue, Molly Dudley
Room 108	Barbara Tuttle, John/Erin Zimmerman
Room 109	Deanna, Larry & Dillon Smith

etc 10:45 Aug 14

hostess:	Lila Johnson
Room 101	Karen & Mike Bright
Room 102	Brenda Negahban, Georgeann Hiebert
Room 105	Caitlin Everett, Michelle Dudley
Room 106	Sam Pogue, Molly Dudley
Room 107	David & Katrina Cottrell
Room 108	Jessica & Justin Roye
Room 109	Kay & Randy Watson
Room 114	Nathan & Amanda Reagan

STAY CONNECTED

by Dru Finley

Hope to Live For

Pain and suffering can often cause a person to retreat into a shell where they see nothing but their current circumstance. People have different ways of dealing with pain and suffering, but one way that can often exacerbate the situation is to fixate on the pain. It's hard not to sometimes, but when a person fixates on the pain it can tend to make the suffering seem bigger and more inescapable. That's why people need hope! Hope is that thing that allows people to see a gleam of light at the end of the tunnel. When you focus on the light the darkness doesn't seem so dark. But, it is when you focus on the darkness that you feel lost. Someone once said, "We can live forty days without food, eight days without water, four minutes without air, but only a few seconds without hope!"

For the Christian, hope is more than just wishful thinking. It is an eager expectation of things to come! It is knowing that God will do what He said, and anticipating its arrival. This type of hope gives Christians something to focus on, even when the suffering is taking place. Something is coming for Christians, and it is so big that it will completely eradicate every amount of pain that we experience in life! Paul said, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the Glory that is to be revealed to us" (Romans 8:18). The Greek word for "consider" is not Paul's way of stating his opinion, rather it is a word that means that there is a rational calculation, a mental weighing of the evidence. It is a word that expresses strong assurance and no doubt. What Paul is saying is that he has compared his suffering and his coming glorification, and his conclusion is that the coming glory outshines the present pain!

That should bring comfort to the Christian. It should also give the Christian a point of focus. When we think and focus on what we are going to receive regardless how much we hurt now, we are given hope which can carry us through the dark days of our lives. The promise is not that God will remove pain from our lives, but that it is bearable when we know the glory God has in store for us. Not only does focusing on our coming glory give hope, it also causes us to long for it, and wait eagerly for it. Therefore, suffering turns to anticipation, and the life of pain is overshadowed by the life of promise. Our desire and longing then turn not just to escaping suffering, but living with Christ our eternal hope!

So, as Christians we must focus our eyes upon that which the Father will give us, knowing that it is our hope and life. But, we must also realize that there are many around us that don't have this hope. The more we live with our eyes set on our coming hope, the more hope they will see in our lives. Which in turn will create more opportunity for us to share the message of Christ which can become their hope too! So, look to your future hope and let God fill your heart with peace, so that He can in turn give hope to the hopeless around you!

Rejoice in Hope **2016** *Fighter Verses*
August 1 - August 7
"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."
~Philippians 1:21

*

August 8 - August 14
"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord,..."
~Jeremiah 29:11-14

LIFELINE STUDENT MINISTRY

STUDYING LEADERSHIP: NEW SUNDAY MORNING TEACHING SERIES BEGINNING TODAY!!

"Where do leaders come from?" "What does a good leader do?" "How can I be a godly leader?" "What if I don't want to be a leader?" In this study, we will discuss and begin to answer these questions and many more. This is the perfect time to study such questions as our country gets ready to choose a new leader. On a more personal note, whether you are in high school or middle school, you have been called to be leaders in your faith! Join us!

LAST HOUSE PARTY THIS WEDNESDAY! AUGUST 10TH. 6PM TO 8PM AT THE HOLDEN'S. JOIN US!

Summer has come to an end... But we have one more House Party! Join us for food (students bring pop or chips) and swimming! We have worship and a lesson after hanging out. Lessons are

led by our interns! House parties are a great way to get to know people! Bus leaves the church at 6:00 and gets back at 8:00.

PROMOTION SUNDAY IS AUGUST 14! GET READY TO MOVE ON UP TO A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS!

Congratulations, you've graduated! Well, graduated Sunday School classes that is! On Sunday, August 14, we're going to have some change. Everyone moves up a grade! Graduated seniors move up to the college class, and upcoming 7th graders move into our middle school. You're bound to see some new people so make sure and introduce yourself. You'll also want to make some time to get to know your new teachers!

BACK TO SCHOOL WEDNESDAY HOURS: 5:30-6:30 AUGUST 17, 24, AND 31

It's about time for the school routine to start back up! Our normal hours for youth group are 6:30 to 7:30, but until youth choir starts back up we will be meeting an hour earlier. Wednesday nights are an awesome opportunity to bring friends during the school year. We'll have fellowship and dive into the word. It's a great place to get to draw close to people and to God. Make plans to be there on Wednesday nights in the fall!

DAILY BIBLE READING

Next week's scripture -

August 7 Luke 15:1-10; 1 Timothy 5:1-15; Proverbs 7; Ezra 9.

August 8 Luke 15:11-32; 1 Timothy 5:16-25; Proverbs 8; Ezra 10.

August 9 Luke 16:1-9; 1 Timothy 6:1-10; Proverbs 9; Nehemiah 1-2.

August 10 Luke 16:10-18; 1 Tim. 6:11-21; Proverbs 10:1-16; Neh. 3.

August 11 Luke 16:19-31; 2 Tim. 1:1-7; Proverbs 10:17-32; Neh. 4-5.

August 12 Luke 17:1-10; 2 Tim. 1:8-18; Proverbs 11:1-15; Neh. 6.

August 13 Luke 17:11-19; 2 Tim. 2:1-13; Proverbs 11:16-31; Neh. 7.

Wednesday Dinner August 10, 2016

Dinner Assistants: Jana King, Steve Linn, Doug McFarlin, and Mark Meese.

Menu: Chicken spaghetti, salad, garlic toast, dessert, and beverage.

Dinner Reservations:

Name _____

of adults _____ @ \$5.00

of children _____ @ \$3.50

(Up to \$18.00 per family)

Please make this a standing reservation.

PLEASE make your reservations or cancellations by Tuesday at noon. Tear out this form and place in the offering plate or call the church office, 918-299-0904.

Psalm 46:10

SOUTH TULSA BAPTIST CHURCH

Children's Choir

for kids age 3-6th grade

Wednesdays
at 5:30 pm

Choosing God's Way

KNOW • GROW • SHOW

Begins September 7

southtulsa
BAPTIST CHURCH

10310 S Sheridan Road, Tulsa, OK 74133
918.299.0904 | southtulsa.org

Sharing the Good News
about Jesus in our community
and around the world

this week at stbc

Sunday, August 7

College Ministry to Glorietta

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:00-9:30 a.m. Library Open

9:00 a.m. Early Sunday Bible Study Group

9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study

10:50 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Blood Drive

12-12:30 p.m. Library Open

2:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Leadership

4:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision

4:30 p.m. Communications Committee Mtg.

6:00 p.m. Secret Church

Monday, August 8

College Ministry to Glorietta

1:30 p.m. GriefShare

6:30 p.m. GriefShare

Tuesday, August 9

College Ministry to Glorietta

Wednesday, August 10

College Ministry to Glorietta

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Library Open

11:00 a.m. Homebound Ministry Meeting

1:30 p.m. Empty Nesters 1 Ladies Prayer

4:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner

5:45 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer

5:45-6:45 p.m. Library Open

6:00 p.m. Student House Party

6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

7:30 p.m. Orchestra

Thursday, August 11

College Ministry to Glorietta

10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day

6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Friday, August 12

College Ministry to Glorietta

6:00 p.m. Kingdom Explorers Fellowship

Saturday, August 13

5:00 p.m. FIT Date Night

Classes for
kids age
3 thru
6th grade

MISSION: MY LIFE

CHILDREN'S MISSIONS

ROYAL AMBASSADORS | GIRLS IN ACTION | MISSION FRIENDS

Wednesdays 6:30-7:15 p.m. | Begins September 7

A GLOBAL GOSPEL IN A WORLD OF RELIGIONS

SUNDAY NIGHTS
JULY & AUGUST 2016

SECRET
CHURCH.
KNOW HIS WORD. KNOW HIS PERSECUTED.