

<b>Ministries of Faith Baptist Church</b>	<b>Psalm 34:18</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FBC Publications</li> <li>• WBOF Radio 105.9 FM</li> <li>• Missions Program</li> <li>• Bus Ministry</li> </ul>	<i>The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.</i>
<b>Opportunities for the Week</b>	
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Morning Service 6:00 p.m. Evening Service	<b>Wednesday</b> 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting <b>Saturday</b> 10:00 a.m. Visitation

### **When God Is Silent**

A story has been told of a man who was told by the Lord to push against a giant boulder with all his might. Day after day he toiled from sunup to sundown, his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock. Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out.

After months of pushing with no signs of accomplishment, the man approached the Lord. "Lord," he said, "I have labored long and hard in your service, putting all my strength to do that which You have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged the rock by half a centimeter. I am failing You"

To this the Lord responded compassionately, "My friend, I only asked you to push against the rock. I did not tell you to move it. You think you have failed, but look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back sinewy and sturdy, your hands are callused from constant pressure, and your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. You have accomplished all I asked. It is My job to move the rock."

God wants to use you, and He is strengthening you through times of waiting, solitude, and uncertainty. When God is silent, He is still working. Remain obedient and open to His will. Even though you cannot always see Him working, He is! The question is, "Will you remain faithful when He is silent?"

—Paul Chappell, *A Daily Word*



**December 10, 2017**  
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**Dr. Ron Hodge, Pastor**

## Welcome to Our Services Today

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for being with us on this Lord's day. We are truly honored by your presence. It is our hope and prayer that you will receive a blessing from the services.

### A Word From Our Pastor



This is the season for giving and receiving, but some people are a little stingy in their giving. I want to tell you about a very generous Giver. In fact, He gave to us the greatest gift of all—eternal life. For some people, it is so incredible—so unbelievable—that they have trouble accepting this gift. One man said, “I was brought up to believe that you got what you earned...nothing comes free. The gift of salvation is incredible to a guy like me!” (A *Daily Word* by Paul Chappell) —Pastor Ron Hodge

### WBOF 105.9 Radio

### Christmas Share-a-Thon

What a tremendous blessing as we completed our Christmas Share-a-Thon on yesterday. The total amounts donated and pledged were not available at the time of this writing. Watch for an update in next week's bulletin. Thank you to all those folks who donated or pledged and all those who helped during the Share-a-Thon. What a blessing as we see God doing great things here at Faith Baptist Church. Continue to pray that God will use this distinctively Christian radio station for His glory as we reach out to people around the world with the Gospel.

### Christmas Gift to Jesus

Over the years we have been encouraged to make our Christmas gift to Jesus be the biggest gift of all, and we have suggested our families make that an annual tradition. After all, it is His birthday we are celebrating and it seems fitting that we honor Him in this way. There are special Christmas offering envelopes on the Welcome Center if you care to use them.

### Points to Ponder

- ◆ “How many observe Christ's birthday! How few, His precepts!” ~**Benjamin Franklin**
- ◆ “Christmas can be celebrated in the school room with pine trees, tinsel and reindeers, but there must be no mention of the Man whose birthday is being celebrated. One wonders how a teacher would answer if a student asked why it was called Christmas.” ~**Ronald Reagan**
- ◆ “You can never truly enjoy Christmas until you can look up into the Father's face and tell Him you have received His Christmas Gift.” ~**John R. Rice**

## Faith Baptist Church Publications

What a blessing the printing ministry has been in recent days as we continue spreading the Gospel through the printed page. Exciting things are happening in our Print Shop. We are working daily to assist ministries all around the world with their printing needs. God is very gracious to us as He sends more printing our way. We are shipping 2 full pallets of books, over 1,000 pounds each Monday via truck lines to Kannapolis, South Carolina, and we are forever grateful for all the volunteer work provided to complete the project.

We have already started the printing on the 5,000 Trail of Blood books and ask that you continue to pray for the printing ministry as the Gospel is printed daily. Pray for the workers, the machines, the jobs, the souls that are touched because of this ministry. Again, be a part of this work. Please pray and trust God about volunteering some of your time in this great effort.

### Christmas Gifts to Jesus

*“And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.” Matthew 2:11.*

The wise men knew whose birth they were celebrating. The Bible says they gave Him gifts of “gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” Most importantly, they gave Him the gift of worship and adoration. Giving was their way of ascribing worth to Christ the Messiah.

The wise men honored Jesus as the King of Kings by giving Him gold, as Priest by giving Him frankincense, and as Prophet by giving Him myrrh. All of these gifts are of great value and are associated with wealth and royalty. The wise men recognized who Jesus was—the Lord and Saviour of the world.

Luke 16:13 says, “No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” Our wealth or possessions are so intimately related to ourselves that we cannot give an offering without giving ourselves. In essence, the wise men were recognizing their need for a Saviour over their need for money or material possessions. They were saying, “We choose to serve God over money.”

Many people today are so materialistic that they think money diminishes one's need for God. Just as the wise men recognized Christ's birth, we should remember the true meaning of Christmas. During this season, let's be thinking about the wise men's gift of worship. Shouldn't we take time to give Christ our worship this holiday season? —A *Daily Word* by Paul Chappell