



# First Edition

## October 2016



First Baptist Church of San Mateo 2801 Alameda de las Pulgas San Mateo, CA 94403 650-345-1965 [www.fbcSanMateo.org](http://www.fbcSanMateo.org)

### ***The Enduring and Endearing of God's Faithfulness***

***By Senior Pastor Marc Heinz***

It seems to me that no matter what age we are, we have to endure some type of testing. In elementary school we had spelling tests; in high school it was history and science tests, and in college there were tests in English literature, Math and a variety of other subjects. Life is filled with tests, and of course those tests come in a variety of shapes and sizes. There are physical tests, emotional tests and even spiritual tests. In Genesis, Chapter 22, we find what many would consider to be one of the greatest tests of all time.

Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance. Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go over there; and we will worship and return to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for

*the burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son. Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "In the mount of the LORD it will be provided." Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."*

This was an incredibly difficult and challenging test, yet we see that Abra-

ham passed with flying colors. So how was he able to that? Abraham refused to allow fear or doubt to take up residence in his heart. Believing that somehow God was going to see Him through it all. And so during the most trying and difficult of situations he continued to believe that God loved and cared for him and that the Lord would keep His promise.

In both the Old and New Testaments we are told that Abraham was a man of faith. We read in Hebrews that he trusted God, and when God told him to leave his home and go far away to a distant land, he obeyed. Even though he had to live in a tent, Abraham confidently waited for God to bring him to that heavenly city whose designer and builder was God.

Some may wonder, why God chose to test Abraham in such a way. Perhaps after all the hardships and difficulties Abraham had already gone through, he was beginning to think that the storm had blown over and there would be no more trials in his life. Or maybe he was beginning to idolize his son? These thoughts are nothing more than speculation. One thing I do know for sure is that God tested Abraham just like He tests us.

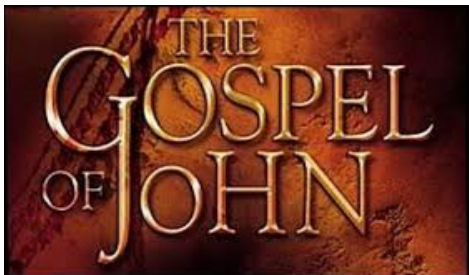
The clear teaching of scripture is that God tests His people. He also allows us to go through trials and afflictions in order to mold and shape us into instruments that He can use for His glory and our good. And while we may not like tests, they do help us grow and mature, and they are used to build up our faith. And faith is of great importance to

Continued on the next page.

God! Listen to what Peter says: *That the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*  
1 Peter 1:7

One of the key lessons we can learn from the testing of Abraham's faith is that God was always with him. God was actively involved in his life whether he faced tests, challenges, or hardships. Yes, Abraham passed through fierce fires and endured great strain, but in the end he emerged triumphantly because he had placed his hope and trust in Almighty God.

In reality, Abraham's whole life is a testimony to the faithfulness of God. And his story reminds us that we can count on God to see us through any trial or test we will face. How wonderful it is to know that the Lord will supply our every need! He will provide all the power and resources that we need to successfully handle the various challenges and tests that come our way. And in the end, all who place their trust in The LORD will be able to say: He has been so much more than faithful to me!



### Studies in the Gospel of John Continues Each Wednesday

**BUT** it's not too late to be a part of this class. All are welcome whether you began the study earlier or not. Homework is available in the narthex each Sunday.

*John 20:30 explains*

**Why This Gospel Was Written**  
***“Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book, but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.”***



## Have Fun! Come and Help!

A gift to celebrate 70 years of God's faithfulness is being put together. It's similar to the above, but made of clay. You are invited to be a part of this process. There is a part of it that has some calligraphy or your own hand writing. If you want to learn a bit of calligraphy or use your own, come on Saturday afternoon, October 1, 1:30 p.m. and you can help with all the gifts, or make these gifts special ones for members of *your* family. If you're interested, talk to Doris Waddell.

## Movie Night - Friday, October 28, 6:30 p.m.

**Hot Dogs, popcorn, and drinks will be provided. Bring a salad or dessert to share.**

High school history teacher Grace Wesley (Melissa Joan Hart) comes under fire for answering a student's (Hayley Orrantia) question about Jesus. When Grace refuses to apologize, the school board votes to suspend her and threatens to revoke her teaching certificate. Forced to stand trial to save her career, Grace hires young lawyer Tom Endler (Jesse Metcalfe) to defend her in court. Endler devises a powerful strategy to show the jury the historical significance of Wesley's classroom discussion.



**October 2**  
**Breakfast, 8:45 am**  
**Combined Service, 10:00 am**  
**Special Guest Speaker,**  
**Susan Perlman of**  
**JEWES FOR JESUS**  
**Followed by our annual**  
**Ministry Fair**



Susan Perlman had a “typical” Jewish upbringing in Brooklyn, New York, yet her life as one of the founders of Jews for Jesus has been anything but typical.

Susan came to believe in Jesus after a street encounter with Christian rock singer Larry Norman. . . . Soon after coming to faith, Susan moved to San Francisco. There her experience as an advertising copywriter and social activist helped shaped Jews for Jesus into the agency that changed the face of Jewish evangelism—making the Messiahship of Jesus an unavoidable issue to Jewish people worldwide. She helped write (and acted in) the ministry’s dramatic presentations, authored numerous broadside tracts, and has been in charge of our media relations since the very beginning. She also created (and still serves as editor in chief) ISSUES our publication for Jewish people who are willing to explore issues from the perspective of Jews who believe in Jesus.

Susan’s travels with Jews for Jesus have brought her into contact with many other missions agencies and various Christian organizations with whom she has served on committees and boards. In addition to the many articles she has written for Jews for Jesus, she’s enjoyed opportunities to speak, write and contribute editing skills for numerous other

groups and publications. Take a look at her photo gallery which includes a pic of her addressing 30,000 young people in a football stadium in Dresden, Germany about forgiveness and new life in Messiah through a translated message. You can also see here some things she wrote recently—the foreword in one book and a chapter for a book about A.W. Tozer.

Among the many hats that she wears, Susan is the first assistant to the Executive Director of Jews for Jesus and oversees our communications. She has led many evangelistic outreaches over the years, and is excited to have a part in mentoring a new generation of Jews for Jesus leaders. Susan’s thoughts on this new generation can be heard as one of many voices in our documentary, “Awakening.”

**Biography**

Susan Perlman is one of the co-founders of Jews for Jesus. Susan is the associate executive director of Jews for Jesus and also director of communications for the organization. She also serves as the editor in chief of ISSUES, their evangelistic publication for Jewish seekers. She left a career track in New York City to help launch Jews for Jesus in San Francisco in the early 1970s. Jews for Jesus is a missions organization on the forefront of Jewish evangelism. The ministry is reaching Jewish people for their Messiah in 14 countries and 26 cities.

Other opportunities are available at the following website:  
<http://jewsforjesus.org/Susan-Perlman>

**Our Missionaries**  
**at Work**

Dear Friends,

Thank you for praying for us and for your generous support. We are so grateful!

We have been welcoming the new international students at our campuses. Our group has t shirts to wear and welcome gifts to give as we greet the new students. So far, we have given out about 300 welcome gifts. Audrey has been busy sending all the students who receive a welcome gift an e mail. She has received some encouraging replies:

Hi Audrey,

I met your friends from international students club at the orientation. I loved the way they welcomed us and the goodies were awesome. I would love to attend every single event if possible. Thank you guys for everything. You all are awesome.

Hey Audrey,

Thanks a lot for welcoming us in such a great way. This is my first trip to California. I’ll definitely attend the 1st September meet, hopefully we’ll meet there. Thanks again to you and the entire team. You did a great job yesterday.

We gave out welcome gifts at Delta College and University of the Pacific in Stockton, but we do not have anyone there this year to lead regular weekly activities. We do have a home to have monthly dinners and we do have someone to take students on fun outings. There are a few community people who have expressed interest in helping to disciple students or to lead an evangelistic Bible study. Stockton is an hour away from where we live. Would you pray that God would show us what to do for these dear students? We had our first monthly dinner in Stockton on September 3rd.

**Prayer Requests:**

That the international students who received welcome gifts will come to Christ.  
For God to raise up the right person to lead in Stockton.

For each person in our family to love the Lord above all else.

For God to raise up a new leader in Stockton

Alan and Audrey Dianich  
 4909 Hamilton St.  
 Sacramento, Ca 95841

**Special offerings for the month of**  
**October will go to Jews for Jesus.**



# WAR WORSHIP RETREAT

Oct 21-22

WORSHIP  
REST  
TRAINING  
RESOURCES  
GROW  
DISCIPLE

## FBC's Annual HARVEST FESTIVAL - coming soon.

Check the website for date and time: [fbcsanmateo.org](http://fbcsanmateo.org)



**A Beautiful Prayer from An  
Old Hymnal**

**O Master, Let Me Walk  
with Thee**

*O Master, let me walk with Thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
Tell me Thy secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.*

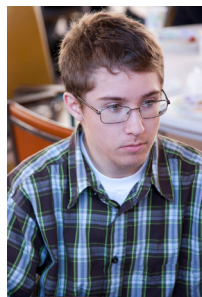
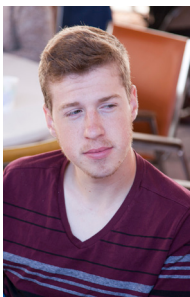
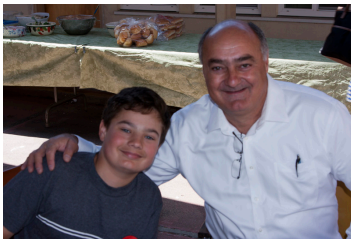
*Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of  
love;  
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward  
way.*

*Teach me Thy patience! still with  
Thee in closer, dearer company,  
In work that keeps faith sweet and  
strong, in trust that triumphs over  
wrong.*

*In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening  
way,  
In peace that only Thou canst  
give, with Thee, O Master, let me  
live.*



# SALMON BAKE 2016



## Men's Monthly Breakfast

October 1, 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel. For ALL men.



October 5: Sandy Squire  
 October 7: Pat Coffey  
 October 16: Greg Andrews  
 October 17: Tim Dufficy  
 Sandy Murray



October 7  
 Darryl & Eliza Fujita



## The following article

is provided by Ron Walters, Sr. VP, Ministry Relations, Salem Media Group," kfaxcommunity@SalemInteractiveMedia.com

After lulling his sheep to sleep, David looked upward. In awe, he noticed the stars, right on schedule, had taken their assigned seats in the darkened sky. "The heavens declare the glory of God," the psalmist said the astronomical wonder being too much to ignore. And, with just his 20/20's as sponges, David soaked up the grandeur of a star-drenched heaven. "He counts the stars and calls them all by name."

Oh David, how right you were. But what you didn't know was how many stars that meant, and how many names that would require.

David didn't know, and neither do we. Science, however, is always ready to grab its calculator, sharpen its pencil and provide an answer.

To count the stars is an age old obsession. History tells us that, before Galileo, the count was somewhere between 2,000 and 3,000 stars. With the aid of only the naked eye, that's as far as anyone could see. But in the 17th century the famed Italian astronomer, with the use of a crude telescope, began to count the stars and discovered the immensity of the heavens.

Fast forward three centuries to the Palomar Observatory in southern California, with its massive 200 inch reflecting telescope. George Ellery Hale planned, designed, and constructed the project for 20 years. When completed, astronomers peeked into the lens, and calculated that they were peering 500 million light years into space.

What did they see? Stars!

In 1990 the Hubble Space Telescope was designed to outdo Palomar and rid astronomers of earth's dreaded light pollution. Hubble was launched 354 miles into the upper atmosphere. But within weeks of the deployment, flawed images revealed Hubble's primary mirror had been ground to the wrong shape. It was too flat by 2,200 nanometers. The in-space repair job delayed the telescope's use for three years. But, once the looking glass was operative, astronomers were seeing 13 billion light years into space.

And what did they see? Stars!

But, science isn't finished with its insatiable stargazing appetite. Today, under construction and in test mode,

is the James Webb Space Telescope, scheduled for liftoff in October of 2018. Whereas the Hubble is orbiting the earth at a measly 354 miles, the Webb will find its home a million miles from earth, orbiting the sun. The Webb, with its infra-red detectors, is expected to see 100 times farther than the Hubble.

And, what will they see from the Webb Telescope? Stars!

But, that still doesn't answer the question, "How many stars are up there?"

Well, NASA won't get specific on that one. But, what they have said is that our galaxy, the Milky Way, houses 400 billion stars. And there are about 100 billion galaxies in the "observable universe." The official number of heavenly bodies is, as NASA says, "Uncountable and incalculable."

But, not for our God! "He counts the stars and knows them all by name."

No wonder the psalmist said, "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, [I conclude] how majestic is Your name in all the earth!"

There's a strong parallel between peeking at the heavenly wonders through a telescope, and the work you and I do every week from our pulpits.

We open His word and teach about our Creator, but it's a limited view, the tip of the iceberg. We give glimpses of eternity through a straw, heaven through a keyhole. We speak of immortality from a mortal's viewpoint and offer His living word through perishing lips.

We tell all we know about an omniscient God. With all our might we speak of His omnipotence. In our ever changing world we tell of His immutability. We faithfully labor through the scriptures but His truth can never be exhausted.

And though "we see through a glass, darkly," it's still a fabulous sight every time we take a look. There's so much about our God to brag on. So, point to Him with pride.

Blessings,  
Ron Walters



*Have you ever considered honoring a loved one by providing a bouquet of flowers for the sanctuary? Several dates are available. Sign up in the notebook on the counter in the narthex. We ask and appreciate a \$40 gift for each arrangement. The office staff will order your bouquet to be delivered -- so convenient, and so appreciated by your loved ones.*

## Billy Graham's Prayer for Our Nation

"Heavenly Father,

We come before you today to ask your forgiveness and to seek your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, 'Woe to those who call evil good', but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values. We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery. We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. We have killed our unborn and called it choice. We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable. We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building self esteem. We have abused power and called it politics. We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it ambition. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment. Search us, oh, God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Amen!

*I can do ALL THINGS  
through Christ  
who STRENGTHENS me.  
Philippians 4:13*



# October 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Harvest Festival to Be Announced</b>						
<b>SUNDAY MORNINGS:</b> 9:30am Bible Studies for Children and Adults Contemporary Style Worship 11:00am Bible Studies for Adults and All Youth Classical Style Worship						
<b>All Events Are Subject to Change.</b>						
2 <b>Communion</b> 8:45 am Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Combined Service Susan Perlman Ministry Fair	3	4 7:15 FBC Youth	5 6:30 pm Midweek Ser. 6:30 pm AWANA 8pm Worship Rehearsal	6	7	8 8:30 am Men's Breakfast
9 12:30 Children's Leadership Meeting	10 Columbus Day	11 7:15 FBC Youth	12 6:30 pm Midweek Ser. 6:30 pm AWANA 8pm Choir Kick-off	13	14	15
16	17	18 7:15 FBC Youth	19 6:30 pm Midweek Ser. 6:30 pm AWANA 8pm Worship Rehearsal	20	21	22
23	24	25 7:15 FBC Youth	26 6:30 pm Midweek Ser. 6:30 pm AWANA 8pm Worship Rehearsal	27	28 6:30 pm Movie Night	29
30	31					



First Baptist Church  
2801 Alameda de las Pulgas  
San Mateo, California 94403

## Daily Bible Readings

The following Bible readings are provided by [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com) for our use.

### October

Sat.	01	Habakkuk 1-3
Sun.	02	Zephaniah 1-3
Mon.	03	Haggai 1-2
Tues.	04	Zechariah 1-3
Wed.	05	Zechariah 4-6
Thurs.	06	Zechariah 7-10
Fri.	07	Zechariah 11-14
Sat.	08	Malachi 1-2
Sun.	09	Malachi 3-4
Mon.	10	Matthew 1-3
Tues.	11	Matthew 4-6
Wed.	12	Matthew 7-9
Thurs	13	Matthew 10-12
Fri.	14	Matthew 13-15
Sat.	15	Matthew 16-18
Sun.	16	Matthew 19-21
Mon.	17	Matthew 22-24
Tues.	18	Matthew 25-28
Wed.	19	Mark 1-3
Thurs.	20	Mark 4-6
Fri.	21	Mark 7-9
Sat.	22	Mark 10-12
Sun.	23	Mark 13-16
Mon.	24	Luke 1-3
Tues.	25	Luke 4-6
Wed.	26	Luke 7-9
Thurs.	27	Luke 10-12
Fri.	28	Luke 13-15
Sat.	29	Luke 16-18
Sun.	30	Luke 19-21
Mon.	31	Luke 22-24

### *God's Providence* By Ron Murray

Sandy and I recently went through a difficult trial that revealed God's providence in the lives of His children. Last April, our son in law, Doug, went up to our cabin in the Sierras for some quiet time. He reported back that our pine trees weren't looking as green as usual and 16 of them showed holes from beetles boring into the bark. The drought had weakened the trees' natural resistance allowing the beetles to invade and kill them. Some 60 million trees in California are dead or dying, including ours.

The trees are an important part of the mountain experience for us with many 100 foot pines over a century old growing on our property. Their majestic, towering appearance gives us a peaceful feeling each time we see them. I was desperate to save as many as possible.

I decided I would go up to the cabin and check out the problem. There had to be a remedy. I searched the internet, yellow pages, and talked to friends about the beetles and got nowhere. No spray, fertilizer or treatment would work. 16 trees were going to die and they had to come down. Prices from local tree services to remove them were very high, up to \$2,000 per tree. I was out of ideas except one – Pray and turn it over to God. What a good move!

The day after I gave it to God, our neighbor in the mountains called me. I had spoken to her only 1 or 2 times in the previous 10 years so the call was a surprise. She said that a group of home owners were getting together to have a logging company do all trees at one time. They had the heavy equipment to cut the trees, access to space to drop the trees and would sell them to a lumber mill lowering our cost by 80%. I immediately joined the group. Another neighbor who I had never met happened to be outside as we left for home. I talked to him and he has now joined the group. If we had left a few minutes earlier I would have missed him.

The trees are all down now and removed. The view is more open with plenty of trees to be seen, just further away. It may even be better.

A few years ago I would have considered many of these things to be just chance. Now, thanks to Pastor Marc's sermon, I believe it is God' Providence. He has dealt with all our concerns, financial and emotional, in a way I never could have. Next time I'm going to Him first.

PS: On the way home we picked up a nail in a tire. While we waited at a tire shop for the repair God provided a complementary lunch, live music and the tire was fixed at no charge. Ask me about it.