

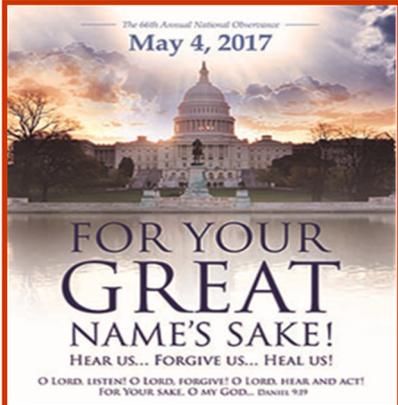


# Macedonian Call

## May 2017

In the first session of our small group “Certainties of Christianity,” which is a study of First John, we discussed the existence of truth and whether or not we can actually know truth. I shared with our group Oxford Dictionaries’ international word of the year for 2016 – “post-truth.” Oxford defines post-truth as “an adjective relating to circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping opinion than emotional appeals.” Basically, the term implies that truth is dead. In 1966, Time Magazine infamously posed the question “Is God Dead?” on its cover. Recently, it ran the same cover, only with the word “Truth” instead of God—“Is Truth Dead?” From a Christian worldview perspective the answer is, of course, “NO!” In a recent article Eric Metaxas posed the question: “If truth is dead why do we still feel guilt?” He wrote, “This ‘strange persistence’ of guilt leaves contemporary Westerners living in the worst of all possible worlds. Secularism and relativism have not liberated them from the need to ‘feel morally justified,’ nor has it freed them from feelings of guilt. What it has done is to deprive people of the means to do anything meaningful about their sense of guilt.” Quoting NY Times Columnist, David Brooks, Metaxas writes: “We have no clear framework or set of rituals to guide us in our quest for goodness. Worse, people have a sense of guilt and sin, but no longer a sense that they live in a loving universe marked by divine mercy, grace and forgiveness. There is sin but no formula for redemption.” Brooks is wrong! There is true forgiveness and redemption available to every

But to believe in true forgiveness and redemption means a person has to acknowledge that he/she is a sinner and needs to be forgiven for his/her sin. If this were the case then that would mean there’s an absolute standard of truth which has been violated. See the dilemma? This is what we’re confronted with in a “post-truth” culture as we attempt to share the Gospel truth. Pray that the hearts and minds of contemporary Westerners would be open to hear and accept God’s truth. It is the great liberator from persistent guilt. ~ Pastor Randy



May 4th @ Noon in the Fellowship Hall

**National Day of Prayer**  
The theme this year is “For Your great name’s sake! Hear us... Forgive us...Heal us!” (Daniel 9:19)  
Prayer guides and bookmarks are available at the Welcome Center.  
(a light lunch will be served on May 4th )



May 6th - 8:00 am—Noon

Don’t miss out on this opportunity to share the love of Christ with others. Sign up for one of the many projects available in the foyer.

Happy Mother's Day!

*All Ladies are invited to a Mother's Day Breakfast hosted by our Men's Ministry.*

*Sunday, May 14th @ 9am*

**Embrace** Women's Ministry

Embrace Women's Ministry is hosting a shower for all of our girls graduating from high school on Sunday, May 21st, 4:30—5:30 pm. All ladies are invited to share in this time of encouraging these students as they begin a new season in their lives.

**Baptist Men's Breakfast**  
**Saturday, May 27th**  
**7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall**

*Come join us for a light breakfast, fellowship, mission updates and a brief Bible study.*

 Every second Wednesday of each month is C.A.R.E. Night. C.A.R.E. is an acronym for "Christians Actively Reaching Everyone." We have a meal each C.A.R.E. Night beginning at 6:00 pm and ministry opportunities follow at 6:30 pm. This month C.A.R.E. Night is May 10th. Everyone is invited to join us for this night of fellowship and ministry.

**CrossWalk Small Group Studies**  
**Each Wednesday @ 6:30 pm**

**1 John** Bible Study

**TONY EVANS KINGDOM MAN**

**TONY EVANS CHRISTAL EVANS HERST KINGDOM WOMAN**

**From the Youth Pastor**

I want to say thank you to everyone for helping with all our recent events. Your help and support means so much to me. In the next couple of months, our youth and children will be very busy with camps and VBS. During this time, please pray for our leaders and our young people. Our camp and VBS events are hectic and chaotic at times but such a blessing as we see God work in the lives of our youth and children. Pray that we as leaders remain strong and focused on Jesus. Please pray that our young people get saved, disciplined, and feel the overwhelming love of Jesus through these events. It is a blessing to have the opportunity to be a part of God's work in the lives of youth and children and I thank you for partnering with me in prayer.

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*  
*(Hebrews 12:1-2) ~ Pastor Jeremy*

**Children's Church** is worship designed especially for children 3 years - 6th grade. They will meet this month on May 7th, 14th & 28th during our morning worship service.



TeamKID is designed for Kids in Discipleship! It features Bible memory games and application of Bible truths, engaging missions videos and activities, and fun activity-based learning all while helping your kids grow to be more like Jesus. Kids Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to TEAMKID on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

**Weekly Youth Bible Study**

**Wednesday @ 6:30 pm**

Wednesday Night Study is geared to teach our youth how God's Word applies to our everyday lives.



**Sunday Evenings @ 6:00 pm**

This is a service for our students to worship in song and hear preaching that directly addresses issues they face daily. It is a great time of fellowship and an opportunity for real spiritual growth. We hope to see all of our youth there!



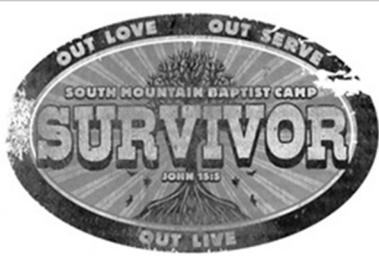
Macedonia  
**Talent Show**  
Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 5 pm  
Sign up TODAY to perform  
Dinner following the show



**AWANA** – Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed – 2 Timothy 2:15

Awana Clubs reach kids through energetic game activities, Bible-based teaching, Bible memorization and small group time with friends.

**AWANA Clubs meet Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Worship Center 3 years through 6th grade**



**Summer Camp South Mountain Baptist Camp June 12–16th 1st–6th grade**

**Sign up now at Children's Bulletin Board**



Hebrews 11 is called "the chapter of God's Faithful." The list of "famous or well known" people, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Gideon, Samson, just to name a few. There is something special about each of them; Fathering a nation, building an ark, having a child in her old age, parting the Red Sea. These are things great, beyond their human strength, very memorable, but not things we can do or are called to do in 2017. Does that mean that we can't have the same favor with God? Chapter 11:39 (NLT) says "They earned a good reputation because of their faith." Did you get that? A good reputation, not because of ability, riches, good works, fearlessness, but because of their faith!!

An acronym for faith is **Forsaking All! Trust Him.** Hey, that means that we can be part of Hebrews 11! We can trust the Father to do anything in our life that He wants us to do. That does not mean that it will be easy, it wasn't easy for those of Hebrews 11, but it was possible and rewarding. The Lord will record it in heaven and one day when He reads it to you He will say "Well Done, Good Work." Hebrews 12:12-13 says "So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fail but become strong." Let's Live it Out!!

~ Pastor Joe

**Joy Ministry Bible Study**

**Thursdays @ 10:30 am**

**Study beginning in May - "The End of Me" by Kyle Idleman**



Kyle Idleman will challenge us to pick up our cross & die to our self. But what does that actually mean?

**You must be Broken to be Whole— You must Mourn to be Happy—You must be Authentic to be Accepted—You must be Empty to be Filled**

**Don't miss out on this exciting study!!**