

CHURCH FOCUS

September 2026

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ASK THE PASTOR SUNDAY NIGHTS



This Month at RBC

6	Communion 10am
7	Labor Day (Church office closed)
9	Adventure Club 7pm
13	Leaders Meeting 5 pm Grandparent's Day
19	Outreach 9 am
24-26	Men's Retreat

PASTOR'S MESSAGE: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE *ASK THE PASTOR SUNDAY NIGHTS*

How Should Christians Prepare for Jesus' Return?

Christians should prepare for Christ's return by living wisely and planning for the future, avoiding both the extremes of neglecting spiritual duties and setting arbitrary deadlines for His return. The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) emphasizes the importance of diligently working with the spiritual opportunities and resources God has given us, highlighting the responsibility and response of each servant.

Let us be faithful with the opportunities and resources God entrusts to us. The first two servants, who doubled their talents, represent genuine believers who serve God wholeheartedly. The third servant, who buried his talent, symbolizes a professing Christian who squanders spiritual opportunities and serves himself, ultimately facing condemnation.

Christ's redeeming work offers forgiveness and a righteous standing before God through faith. While awaiting Christ's return, believers should steward their opportunities, stay busy serving Him, and engage in worship, fellowship, evangelism, prayer, Bible study, and ministry to others. These actions prepare believers for Christ's coming and ensure they hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

What About the Ethiopian Bible and the Book of Enoch?

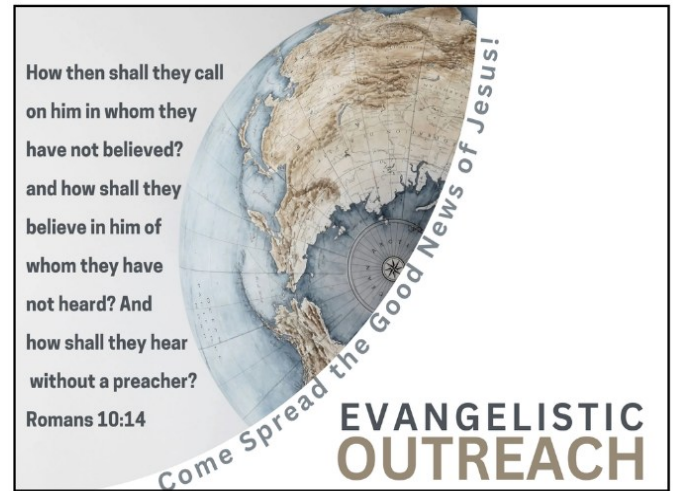
The Bible is sufficient for spiritual nourishment, sustaining Christian religion, and growth in sanctification. The 66 books of the Bible are enough, as they encompass all necessary teachings for life and godliness. The Ethiopian Bible, while containing the 66 books, also includes additional books not accepted as Scripture, such as the Book of Enoch. No, the Ethiopian Bible is not the original Bible. Nor is there a conspiracy to remove a lot of parts from the so-called original Bible. And the book of Enoch was not accepted as Scripture as early as the 300's B.C. That means, that by the time that Jesus walked in Israel, the accepted Bible was what is called the Greek Septuagint. It did not include the Book of Enoch.

(Continued on back page)



Labor Day

Monday September 7
(Church office closed)



Outreach

Saturday September 19



MEN'S RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 24-26

Purpose:
To help godly men become thoroughly outfitted for loving service to God and others and to challenge men to keep growing toward spiritual maturity in their lives.





SPEAKER: PATRICK ODLE
\$273/PERSON

REGISTER TODAY AT:
IRONWOODCAMP.ORG

49191 Cherokee Road, Newberry Springs, CA 92365




Round-Up Sunday

**BACK-TO-BACK SERVICES
& POTLUCK LUNCH**

SEPTEMBER

27TH

SUNDAY

10AM

BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISHES TO SHARE!

Join Us!



Men's Prayer

Attention RBC Men!
Join your brothers in Christ
every Tuesday and Friday
at 4:30 pm in Pastor's
office for a special time of
prayer & worship.



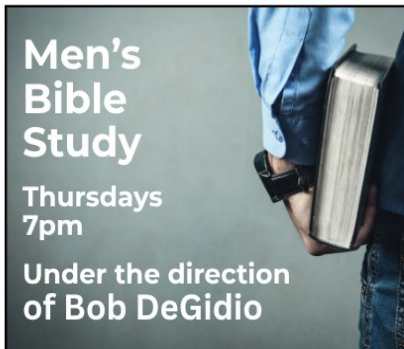
Discipleship Class

Come grow in your faith!
Under the direction of Jose
Duran, the Discipleship
Class meets every Sunday
morning at 9am in the DC.



Women's Bible Study

Ladies, join your sisters-in-
Christ for this blessed time
of biblical understanding
and spiritual growth.



Men's Bible Study

RBC Men, don't miss this
opportunity for sound
Bible teaching and
meaningful fellowship.

Regular Schedule

Sundays:

Discipleship Class 9am
Women's Bible Study 9am
Morning Worship Service 10am
Children's Discipleship
(2nd & 4th Sunday)
Choir Practice TBA
Evening Worship Service 6pm

Tuesdays & Fridays:

Men's Prayer 4:30pm

Wednesdays:

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 7pm
Adventure Club ages 3-11
Youth Discipleship

Thursdays:

Men's Bible Study 7pm

Three Ways to Give



At Church



Online



By Mail

RIVERSIDE —BAPTIST CHURCH—

9015 Magnolia Avenue
Riverside, California 92503
(951) 687-6106
www.RBCSoCal.com
Pastor: Christian Torres



Children's Discipleship Ages 3-11

2nd & 4th
Sundays

HOMEBUILDERS

When The Road Gets Rough

It had been a long trip home, and the weary traveler still had miles to go. So when a sign appeared reading, "Rough Road Ahead — 4 miles," he braced himself.

Rough was an understatement. The lanes narrowed, the shoulder disappeared, and traffic slowed to a crawl. Drivers carefully weaved around potholes and construction equipment, inching forward one stretch at a time. But just as the sign promised, after four difficult miles, the road opened up and smoothed out again.

Jesus offers a similar kind of clarity about life. In John 16:33, He says, "In this world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Notice He doesn't say we might face trouble. It is part of the journey. There will be stretches that feel slow, uncertain and hard.

Notice that Jesus didn't say we "might" have trouble. Sooner or later, problems will come. The road will get rough. But Jesus has already defeated everything the world can throw our way. We just have to keep moving, fueled by hope.

The promise is just as certain as the warning sign. The rough road does not last forever, and it does not have the final say. Christ has already gone before us, and smoother ground is ahead.

A Prayer for Joy and Laughter

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,
Give me the wit to see a joke
To get some humor out of life,
And pass it on to other folk.

—Anonymous

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Highlights of the *Ask The Pastor Sunday Nights*

(Continued from front page)

"We live in a world where sin and woke-ness is considered 'okay' and 'normalized' (For example—same-gender marriages, gender changes, abortion rights, etc.) Personally, I don't agree with/support things like that, but I have a respect for them and a burning desire to show them the truth. **Are there any Bible verses or applications that I can show them that say what they're doing is sinful, and how can I reach out to them and share the truth of the Gospel to them? I know these people everywhere are broken and hurting, and I just want them to know Jesus' love for them and shine my light and give them hope. How can I do that?"** I commend the teenager that asked such a beautiful question. I commend her biblical desire to show people the truth. The Bible teaches us to speak the truth in love, Ephesians 4:15. We should no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ. In our response we should emphasize the importance of speaking the truth in love, respecting all individuals as made in God's image, and upholding the Bible as the standard of good and evil. Moreover, we need to assert that homosexuality and other deviations from God's design for marriage and procreation are sinful, and therefore press the need for repentance. See Genesis 1:26-27, Leviticus 18:22, Romans 1, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. [You can watch the *Ask The Pastor Sunday Nights* on [YouTube.com/@rbchurch](https://www.youtube.com/@rbchurch).]

Because of God's Grace,



Christian Torres
Pastor-Teacher