

RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

# CHURCH FOCUS

February 2025



## Pastor's Message:

### DAYS FULL OF SORROW, JOY

Days are full of sorrow. Days are full of joy. I prefer the latter. "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away" (Psalm 90:10). Days are full of "labor and sorrow"—that's the Biblical reality. Moses, the writer of this Psalm, knew it full well. He spent 40 years in Egypt as a prince. But another 40 years in the Midian desert as an outcast! And then, yet another 40 years leading over a million Jews out of slavery.

Days are full of sorrow. Moses ought to know. He wrote Genesis. "And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy

head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Unto the woman [God] said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" (3:14-21). Cursed. Enmity. Sorrow. Thorns. Thistles. Dust. I told you days are full of sorrow!

But days are full of joy—is what we all prefer! Another Psalmist said "Thou wilt shew me the path of life:

*(Continued on back page)*

## This Month at RBC

2 Communion 6pm

9 "I Love My Church" Sunday  
10am

Leaders Meeting 5pm

14 Valentine's Banquet  
5:30 pm

15 Outreach 10am

17 President's Day  
*(Church office closed)*

# WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9AM | BEGINNING NOVEMBER 3RD



PLEASE SEE BRITTANY TORRES FOR MORE INFORMATION

## Women's Bible Study

Ladies, join us every Sunday at 9am for Women's Bible Study!



## President's Day

The church office will be closed on Monday, February 17th in observance of President's Day.

# I ❤️ MY CHURCH SUNDAY

February 9th at 10am

Our Lord Jesus Christ purchased the church with His own blood—that's how much He loves His church!  
How much do we love the church?  
Will we show our love by prioritizing Christ's church?

SOLID ROCK BAPTIST ACADEMY INVITES YOU TO

## VALENTINE'S DAY

### Banquet

ENJOY MUSIC, SKITS, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE BY SOLID ROCK BAPTIST ACADEMY!

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS CONVENTION FUND

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$15 PER PERSON*</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">*BABYSITTING PROVIDED</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">WHEN: FEB 14TH, 2025 @ 5:30 PM WHERE: RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, 9015 MAGNOLIA AVENUE, RIVERSIDE CA.</p>
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:  
BRITTANY TORRES (951-216-9622)  
OR SHERI HAROLD (505-716-1504)



### Gospel Outreach

Join your church family Saturday ,February 15th at 10am as we share the "Good News" with our community!



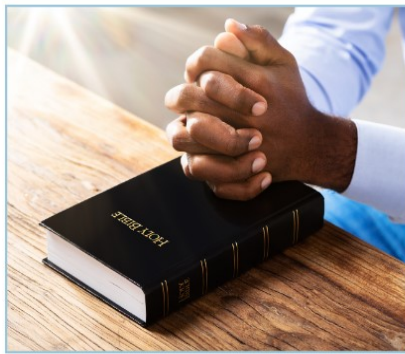
### Discipleship Center

Come check out the DC! Books, Bible Studies, and more...there's something for everyone!



### 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.



### Men's Prayer

Come be a part of this very special time of prayer and fellowship every Tuesday and Friday at 4:30pm.

## 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:

- Adventure Club 6:30pm
- Youth Discipleship 7pm
- Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 7pm

### 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

2nd & 4th Sundays

Ages 3-11

# HOMEBUILDERS

## True Love

Many of us celebrate Valentine's Day in both fun and serious ways. Children exchange treats and humorous cards with classmates and friends; some bring home handmade cards for the adults in their lives. Romantic partners may go out to eat and present each other flowers, chocolate, a fancy card — maybe even an engagement ring!

As playful as Valentine's Day can be, it's also a great time to remember the serious side of love, as indicated by these quotes:

- “When you love someone, you love the whole person as he or she is, and not as you would like them to be.” —Leo Tolstoy
- “You don't love someone because they're perfect; you love them in spite of the fact that they're not.” —Jodi Picoult
- “Love ... is quiet understanding, mutual confidence, sharing and forgiving. ... It settles for less than perfection and makes allowances for human weaknesses.” —Ann Landers

We can do the difficult work of true love — actions, not just feelings — only because God loved us first. He did (and does) so despite our imperfection, and in Jesus, God shows us how to share true love with others. This Valentine's Day, if you don't remember any other profound quotes, hold this one in your heart:

- “We love him, because he first loved us.” —1 John 4:19 (KJV)

## “Time”

Time is  
too slow for those who wait,  
too swift for those who fear,  
too long for those who grieve,  
too short for those who rejoice.  
But for those who love,  
time is eternity.

—Henry Van Dyke

# PASTOR'S MESSAGE

*(Continued from front page)*

## Days Full of Sorrow, Joy

In thy presence is fulness of joy; At thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore” (A Michtam of David, Psalm 16:11). Yes, that's what we all prefer! Whereas Moses highlights days full of sorrow, David highlights days full of joy. However, Moses does record the antidote for sorrow. God sends the Serpent-Crusher. Ironically, He is called a man of sorrow; but He is the antidote for sorrow because He absorbed all our sorrow in order to give us the fulness of joy and pleasures for evermore! (See Isaiah 53, John 10:10 and 15:11.) Jesus said to His disciples, “your sorrow shall be turned into joy” (John 16:20). You gotta have Jesus then, right? Right. If you've never had an opportunity to know who He really is and what He has done for sinners like you, then now is the time to find out. He is the Serpent-Crusher whom God promised to send in Genesis 3:15. He is the one who absorbed the curse and the sorrow given to Adam and Eve and us, their descendants. Jesus Christ is the second Adam who has perfectly obeyed God in all His commandments. He is the one who has turned His disciples' sorrow into joy!

You can find Jesus in the pages of Scripture. In fact, you can start reading the book of John. It will take you to the beginning of all things, and it will explain to you that His death, burial and resurrection are necessary to turn your sorrows into joy. As a ten-year-old boy in a little village in the Philippines, (around the year 1988—yeah, the 1900's!), this same story was passed on to me by a faithful lady Sunday School teacher. Since then, I've embraced it. Since then, I've clung to Jesus as my Savior and Lord. He is my Savior. He saved me from the curse. From enmity. Sorrow. Thorns. Thistles. Dust. He is my Lord. He commands me to “Rejoice evermore” (1 Thessalonians 5:16). Days are full of sorrows, yes! But days are full of joy, too—definitely!

With Sincere Love In Christ,



Christian Torres  
Pastor-Teacher