



"For the Lord is good,
His steadfast love endures forever..."
Psalm 100:5



The Word Became Human...We Have Seen His Glory

John 1:14 functions as the apex of this weighty theological treatise on the nature of Jesus Christ. "In the beginning was the Word..." but why does that matter to us? It matters because the Word took on human flesh. He became a human being. Only, He was different than any other human being. He was "full of unfailing love and faithfulness." This "grace and truth" as the NASB calls it, demonstrated something fundamentally different in the Word (Logos). He lived a radically different life, different than anyone ever has or ever will live. From this verse we may conclude that the only way we would ever be able to see the glory of God is through this miraculous moment in human history. "And the Word became a human...and we have seen His glory." Apart from the incarnation, the glory of God cannot be seen or experienced. But now "we have seen His glory," a glory that comes from His Father and is communicated to us through the incarnation of His Son. To see, know, experience and delight in the glory of God is why we are here. That is why God made us. That is why we have breath in our lungs. He made us to know Him in the fullness of His glory. Prior to human sin, humanity had access to God in all His glory. However, human sin obliterated our avenue to Him. The holiness of God requires that we must be holy in order to be in His presence. There is no way back to the glory of God unless God does something to provide a way back. No small intervention will do in this journey back to the original intent. Our violation of God's character, our rebellion against His sovereignty over us, is far too great. It will require something radical. It necessitates an eternal and infinite rescue. In order to restore our access to our Creator, our Creator must take our life upon Himself. He must walk among us, revealing the nature of the glory of God in His unfailing love and faithfulness. Then, in His absolute perfection, He must bear our sin as if He had rebelled and then He must overcome the finality of death by rising again from the dead. In His incarnation, death, and resurrection, the avenue back to the original intent has opened. As John says in verse 16, "From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another."

In verse 18, John restates the nature of God's revelation to us through His Son Jesus Christ. "No one has ever seen God. But...He has revealed God to us." Remember Moses' desire to see the glory of God in Exodus 33. "Show me Your glory," came the request. "No one can see Me and live," came God's response. Israel lived under the pressing nature of the Law and their inability to fulfill it. God gave the Law through Moses, but because of human sin the Law could never restore us to God. The Law simply identifies the severity of our need. Outside of the Word becoming a human being, the incarnation of God in the man Jesus Christ, no one can ever see God. Now, in Christ, God can be seen and understood. In fact, in Christ that glory of God can be seen, experienced, and delighted in forever and ever. The title for Jesus from verse 1 comes full circle. He is the Logos, the Word, the very revelation of God to humanity.

"In the Beginning was the Word"

"¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. ⁴In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. ⁵The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." John 1:1-5

John, in notable contrast to Matthew and Luke, gives His own Christmas account. Christmas or advent gives the historic account of God becoming a man in the birth of His Son. He is conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He was announced in advance of His birth by Gabriel and announced at His birth by a host of angels to the shepherds. I believe John was aware of the other Gospel accounts and sought to record aspects of Jesus' public ministry that were previously unrecorded. John's incarnation account precedes Luke's and Matthew's by an eternity. He goes back in time prior to Mary and Joseph. He goes back in time prior to the Old Testament prophecies concerning Messiah. He goes back to Genesis 1:1. "In the beginning..." the Son of God was there. Not only was He there at the creation of the universe, He was the instrumental cause of everything that has come into existence. Angels may have announced His birth, but He spoke them into being. Shepherds and sheep witnessed His announcement, but He created them in His own image. He is more glorious, more majestic, more splendid than our minds can comprehend. He is the very revelation of God in this world, thus called the Logos (word) by John. When we look at Jesus Christ we see what we need to see of the nature of God. He is Emmanuel, God with us.

(NLT) "⁹The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. ¹¹He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. ¹²But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. ¹⁴So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. ¹⁵John testified about him when he shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.'" ¹⁶From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses, but God's unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us." John 1:9-18

40 Days of Prayer

Praying with a
Contrite Heart:

The Mark of Spiritual Health



As part of the 40 days, we will host a **6 hour prayer vigil** on Sunday, September 25, Noon to 6PM. Additionally, we will gather as a congregation at selected times during each week of the 40 days. We also have the following corporate prayer times:
Sunday mornings at 7:50 AM in the conference room
Sunday evenings at 7:50 PM in the conference room
Tuesdays at 12:15 PM in the worship center
Wednesdays at 8:00 PM in the conference room
Be sure to check www.matthewroad.org for daily updates and our community blog. The entire copy of the book will also be available online.

Children's Ministry



AWANA HAS BEGUN!

**Wednesday Nights, for kids ages 3* - 6th grade
6:30pm - 8:00pm**

*3 year olds in Cubbies must be potty trained, and have turned 3 by Sept. 1st. A parent must stay on campus through the duration of the program. See our website to see what Adult Bible Study classes we have for you.

Would you pray about joining the Awana team this year?
Or do you know anyone who might be a good fit
for this ministry opportunity?

Contact Brittany at brittanymrbc@gmail.com if you would like to participate in the amazing ministry!



*Sunday Nights 5:30pm
Education Building
2nd floor*



For kids in kindergarten through 6th grade - Join us for games on the front lawn (weather permitting) followed by girls and boys Bible studies focused on becoming disciples who go into the world to make disciples. This fall we will finish our study on the book of Matthew.



Sunday School

Join us every Sunday morning from 9:45-10:45am as we journey through the Gospel Project.



Save the Date! Preteen Retreat at Mt. Lebanon
Friday-Saturday, November 10-11
for kids in 3rd-6th grades.
Cost: \$40

**Fall Festival is coming!
Monday, October 31st
6:00pm - 8:00pm
MORE INFO TO COME!**



Want to stay up to date with us on facebook?
Like our page at [facebook.com/mrbcchildrens](https://www.facebook.com/mrbcchildrens)

Questions regarding the children's ministry
or how you can join the leadership team?
Email brittanymrbc@gmail.com.

Mary Hill Davis Offering



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR TEXAS MISSIONS: SEPTEMBER 11-18

Understanding that missions is what believers do to reach beyond the needs of their congregations to witness and minister for the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission, WMU of Texas designed the Mary Hill Davis Offering to advance Texas Baptist missionary efforts to help people come to know Christ. Therefore, it is the goal of the WMU of Texas to strengthen and support Texas missions opportunities through the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

During the Week of Prayer for Texas Missions, prayer guides will be distributed. You are encouraged to pray for the eight mission projects featured in the prayer guide. Our church's goal for the Mary Hill Davis Offering is \$5,000. You are encouraged to seek God's will as to how He wants you to participate.

Get Connected

**Missed a sermon?
Want to share our sermon series
with a friend or family member?**

**Check out our website and
listen to or download our sermons:
www.matthewroad.org**



Women's Ministry



Weekly Bible Studies:

Sunday mornings

Rachel Sullenger & Tiffany Marich
- the book of Acts
Joy Richards & Chris Anderson
- the book of Acts

Sunday nights

Meg Trihus - the Epistles

Monday Nights

(please contact the office for the summer schedule)

Nina Wilhite - OT Survey, Beginning
Sept. 12th, 6:30pm, Conf. Rm.
Diana Hines - Precept Leviticus
Study, Beginning Sept. 12th,
7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Nights

Cyndi King - the book of Luke

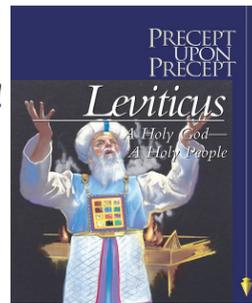
Friday Mornings, Chick Fil A

Cyndi King - The book of Luke

Precept Leviticus 8 Week Study
Begins Monday, September 12th, 7:00pm!

A few books are available.

Cost: \$16 for book



October 15th
Painting with Ellen
cost \$20.00 pp due
upon registration

Last day to register
October 3rd

Youth Ministry

Small Group Bible Studies have begun!

High School Girls - 6:30pm-7:30pm on Thursdays

Shannon Prater- (214-536-8751), Greg Prater- (214-536-9051)
Address - 4405 Browning Ln Grand Prairie, TX 75052
Leader: Christine Wehrli - (682) 551-9831

High School Guys - Geisendorffs - 6:30pm-8:00pm on Mondays

Ed Geisendorff - (469-236-6052), Angela Geisendorff - (972-602-3866)
Address - 4646 Betts Dr. Grand Prairie, TX
Nick Breedlove (Student Helper) (214-605-3629)
Garrett Halsell (Student Helper) - (972-824-3929)

High School Guys - Kings - 6:30pm-8:00pm on Mondays

Doug King - (214-557-5437), Cyndi King - (214-762-9437)
Address - 4106 Devon Ct. Grand Prairie, TX
Leader: Weston Southers - (972-834-2094)
Daniel King (Student Helper) - (214-304-0190)

Middle School Girls - 7:00-8:00pm on Tuesdays

Glen McGregor - (318-469-7132), Kim McGregor - (318-469-2186)
Address - 2820 Plume Ct. Cedar Hill, TX
Leader: Chelsea Galbraith- (214-729-8278)
Annabelle McClellin (Student Helper) - (469-503-8449)

Middle School Guys - 6:30pm - 8:00pm on Mondays

Eli Moreno (817-727-9576), Ana Moreno (817-727-9517)
Address - 2235 Tawny Owl Rd Grand Prairie, TX
Leader: Dante James (Intern) - (972) 834-0336

College Ministry



Thursday Night Hang Out -
Thursday, 6:30pm, 2514 Channing Dr, GP, 75052
Sunday Bible Study -
Sunday, 5:30pm, MRBC
Sunday Service -
Sunday, 6:45pm, Sanctuary
Dinner after Service, place TBD

She Teaches...

Women's Conference, September 17th, Cost \$10
8:30am - 3:15pm

(MUST RSVP CHILDCARE, \$5 PER CHILD)

RSVP by Monday, September 12th to diana@matthewroad.org
or call the church office at 972.641.2717.

COVENANTS

Dr. Hedin - OT covenants

Dr. Bullock - NT covenants

Dr. Kim Sweet, M.D. - Church covenants

Small group tracks include a covenant look at marriage, childrearing,
raising of teenagers, friendship, adults honoring their parents, grand
mothering and Don't Waste Your Life.

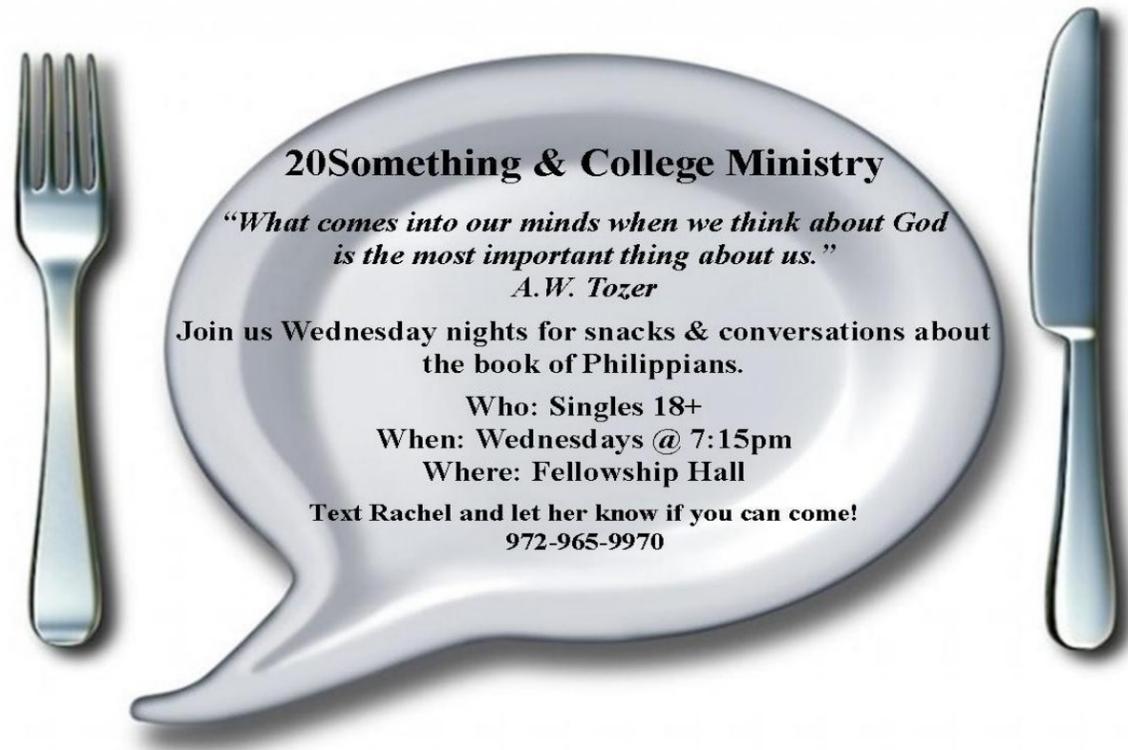
Snack breakfast, Lunch & CHOCOLATE included!



20Somethings & College Ministry



Contact Rachel at rachel@matthewroad.org to find out the latest events & activities!



Classes:
 ~ Sunday Morning 9:45 am: Jeff Morris leading
 ~ Second Sunday after 7:17
 ~ Wednesday Night 7:15pm: Dinner and Discussion

Updated September 2016 Events & Activities

For more information, please see our website, www.matthewroad.org, or call the church office at 972-641-2717.

- September 5th:** Church Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day
- September 7th:** Finance Committee Meeting, 5:30pm, Teller Room
AWANA begins, 6:30pm, MRBC Campus
- September 10th:** Deacon Training, 8:15pm, see Steve Hines
Youth Back to School Outreach, 6:00pm, see Zach
- September 12th:** Women's OT Survey Class begins, 6:30pm, Conference Room
Women's Leviticus Precepts Study begins, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall
- September 17th:** Women's Conference, 8:30am, Worship Center
- September 21st:** Finance Committee Meeting, 5:30pm, Teller Room
- September 23rd:** Parents Night Out, 6:30pm, MUST RSVP to cyndikking@msn.com
- September 25th:** Blood Drive, 8:00am - 12:pm, see Tiffany Halsell
40 Days of Prayer - 6 Hour Prayer Vigil, 12:00pm, room tbd

Discipleship

Regular Scheduled Activities

Sunday Nights:

- ◇ College - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Discipleship - Choir Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Ladies Bible Study - Conference Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Young Marrieds Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Couples Class - Library, 5:30pm
- ◇ Guy Talk for youth - Common Grounds, 5:30pm, see Zach for exact location
- ◇ Girl Talk for youth - Common Grounds, 5:30pm, see Zach for exact location
- ◇ MD² for children - Education Building, 5:30pm

Wednesday Nights:

- ◇ Awana Club for children - Ed. Building, 6:30pm
- ◇ Collide for youth - Common Grounds, 6:30pm
- ◇ Women's Bible Study - Conference Room, 6:45pm
- ◇ 20Somethings/College Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 7:15pm

Sundays	
Morning Worship	8:30 & 11:00am
Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:45am
Evening Bible Study (all ages)	5:30pm
7:17 Service	6:47pm
Mondays	
K2 Primary Academy (during the school year)	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Women's Bible Study (during the school year)	6:30pm & 7:00pm
Tuesdays	
MRA (during the school year)	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
Wednesdays	
K2 Primary Academy (during the school year)	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Collide (youth)	6:30pm
Adult Choir (during the school year)	6:30pm
Wacky Wednesdays (children)	6:30pm
20Somethings/College	7:15pm
Thursdays	
MRA (during school year)	8:30am
Fridays	
Chick time at Chick-Fil-A	9:00am
Saturdays	
Men's Coffee Group (Good Day Café, GP)	7:30am

Average Morning Attendance for August: 397
 Average 7:17 Service Attendance for August: 158

Financials as of August 19, 2016	
Budget Income	\$ 667,787
Budget Expense	\$ (652,378)
Net Budget	\$ 15,409