

NONPROFIT
PERMIT NO.
250
Longview, TX

Sunday Nights at WHBC

Doctrine-What We Believe
6:00pm Sunday Evenings
Beginning January 15



WOODLAND HILLS
BAPTIST CHURCH
preparing people for the coming Lord
2105 East Loop 281
Longview, Texas 75605
903.757.3110

weekly schedule

SUNDAY

8:45am Coffee & Donuts
9:15am LifeGroups
10:30am Worship
5:00pm Women's Bible Study
6:00pm Children's Choir
6:00pm Doctrine Sunday Evening
Sermon Series (Beginning Jan 15)

MONDAY

5:30pm Meal
6:15pm Celebration Place
6:30pm Celebrate Recovery

WEDNESDAY

5:15pm Fellowship Meal
6:00pm AWANA
6:00pm HillsPraise Choir Practice
6:15pm Youth
6:15pm Adult Bible Study

whbchurch.com

Monthly Newsletter of
Woodland Hills Baptist Church
| January 2017

the connection

FOCUS 2017 Bible Conference January 8-10

SUNDAY

9:15 a.m. - LifeGroups

10:30 a.m.-
Bro. Malcom Ellis
Music by The Whisnants

5:15 p.m.- Meal

6:00 p.m.-
Bro. David Rice
Bro. Malcom Ellis
Music by The Whisnants
& Combined Choir
(Crossroads Baptist Church
& Woodland Hills)

MONDAY

11:00 a.m. -

Senior Adult Luncheon
Bro. Malcom Ellis
Music by The Whisnants

5:15 p.m.- Meal

6:00 p.m.-
Bro. Malcom Ellis
Dr. Herb Reavis
Music by The Whisnants

TUESDAY

5:15 p.m.- Meal

6:00 p.m.-
Bro. Malcom Ellis
Dr. Herb Reavis
Music by
Mark Trammell Quartet



Herb Reavis, Jr.



Malcom Ellis



David Rice

ATLANTA, GEORGIA
JANUARY 2-4, 2017



Cruise with us April 22-29, 2017

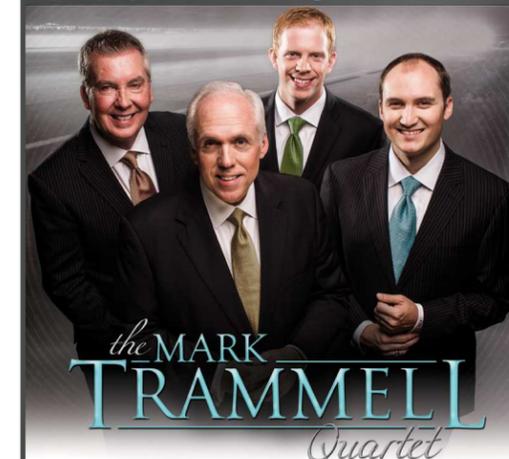
Adventure awaits while you are whisked off aboard the Carnival Freedom to Montego Bay, Grand Cayman, and Cozumel. Get a brochure from the Connection Center.



Sunday & Monday
JANUARY 8-9
6pm Nightly

www.whisnants.com

appearing soon



COMING TO WOODLAND HILLS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
6:00PM

visit us online @ MarkTrammellQuartet.com
twitter.com/MarkTrammellQT ★ www.facebook.com/marktrammellministries



This is an alleged letter that I may have gotten this past week. Did it come from you?

Dear Pastor:

You often stress attendance at worship as being very important for a Christian, but I think a person has a right to miss now and then. I think every person ought to be excused for the following reasons and the number of times indicated.

- Christmas Holidays (the Sunday before & after) 2
- New Years (the party lasted too long) 1
- Easter (get away for the holidays) 2
- July 4th (national holidays) 1
- Labor Day (need to get away) 2
- Memorial Day (visit hometown folk) 1
- School closing (kids need a break) 1
- School reopens (one last fling) 1
- Family reunions (mine & wife's) 3
- Sleep late (stayed up too long Saturday night) 9
- Deaths in family 2
- Anniversary (second honeymoon) 1
- Sickness (one per family member) 5
- Business trip (a must) 1
- Vacation (three to four weeks) 6
- Bad weather (ice, snow, rain, clouds) 2
- Ball games 2
- Races 2
- Unexpected company (can't walk out) 2
- Time changes (Spring & Fall) 2
- Special on TV (Super Bowl, etc.) 3

Pastor, that leaves two Sundays per year. So, you can count on us to be in church on the 4th Sunday in February and the 3rd Sunday in August unless we are providentially hindered.

Sincerely,
A Faithful Member

Surely we can do better than that in 2017!

Preparing People For The Coming Lord,
Bro. Charles



from my heart
Bro. Charles Hunt



Special Service

Ken Freeman, Evangelist

Sunday morning
January 15 at 10:30

God has blessed Ken as he has been in the ministry for over 30 years, serving as a youth leader for about 12 years, and an evangelist for well over 25 years. He has seen over 200,000 decisions for Christ, one of which was his own father, been in over 3000 churches, written two books, and built a ministry around this one choice to accept Christ.

Ken's approach to evangelism allows him to grab the attention of his audience through humor and his down to earth personality. His message, then, is always delivered in a fresh, easy to understand manner that roots itself in God's word. Ken's ability to be versatile allows him to communicate well in any setting, traditional or contemporary, school auditorium or church staff meeting, a large convention or an intimate retreat.

One thing is certain; God has given Ken a passion for the lost and the brokenhearted that is evident within his ministry and his everyday life.



Make 2017 Count! Bro. Kason Kuykendall



Albert Einstein said that the definition of Insanity is 'doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.' Now I don't imagine many of us would consider ourselves insane, albeit many of us are certainly a bit peculiar. Yet, I can't help but think that in a Spiritual sense Insanity might be a good way to categorize our Spiritual Lives.

Follow me through this thought if you would, most Christians see areas in their life that need to change. It could be that there's an addiction to a particular sin, it could be that there is a prideful spirit; it could be that there is some sort of idolatry in your life. Or maybe the change that needs to happen revolves more around the things that you should be doing, but you aren't. You aren't practicing evangelism, you aren't spending time in God's word on a regular basis, your prayer life is shallow, there are very few ways your serving the Lord, etc. We could continue for the examples are many, but hopefully the point is made that every one of see ways in our lives to that we need to change to make us the people that God has called us to be.

My question is what are you going to do about it? 2017 brings many new opportunities, for you and for me and for this church, but if we are not careful 2017 will be just like 2016. If we aren't careful we will live the same way in 2017 that we did in 2016, and therefore we will see no real growth in our lives. You may say we are caught in a rut, you may say we are being complacent, call it what you want; but until we get **intentional** about honoring God with our lives nothing is going to change.

I'm not talking about a new year's resolution; I'm talking about a Spirit of fortitude and determination to make this year count. 365 days... you can waste them; or you can make the most out of them; the choice is yours!

Ephesians 4:22-24— "put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."

Doctrine What We Believe

Christian doctrine is simply statements of the most fundamental beliefs that the Christian has, beliefs about the nature of God, about his action, and us who are his creatures, and about what he has done to bring us into relationship with himself.

Doctrine is not just dry knowledge, it deals with the most fundamental issues of life: who am I, what is my purpose, and where am I going?

Nowhere in Scripture do we find doctrine studied for its own sake or in isolation from life. The biblical writers consistently apply their teaching to life. Therefore, any Christian growing in Biblical knowledge will find his or her Christian life enriched and deepened during this study; indeed.

Is there a need to study doctrine? Isn't it sufficient if I simply love Jesus?



Studying theology will help us grow as Christians. The more we know about God, about his Word, about his relationships to the world and mankind, the better we will trust him, the more fully we will praise him, and the more readily we will obey him. Studying systematic theology rightly will make us more mature Christians.

New Sunday Evening Study will begin on January 15.

WOODLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

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January, 2017

WOODLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Hilltoppers

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY



Christmas with the HillToppers!



SAVE THE *Dates*

Monday, January 9 at 11:00am

HillToppers is moving to Monday for a special Focus 2017 luncheon with The Whisnants and Bro. Malcolm Ellis. You won't want to miss this!

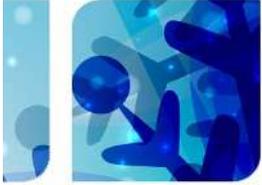
Tuesday, January 24 at 11:00am

Join us as we worship and fellowship together. You bring the sides/dessert and we will take care of the rest!



The Devils 5 Favorite Strategies

By Carey Nieuwhof



The key to overcoming the activity and influence of evil in your life and your world, of course, is to recognize it. When you expose it to the light of Christ, evil loses its power. So, in the hopes of shedding some light on evil's activity, here are some of the strategies I see presently at work in the lives of leaders and churches.

1. Division

If there's one strategy Satan comes back to again and again, it's creating division in the church. And why wouldn't he? It works. Strangely, in our culture, some Christians wear their divisiveness as a badge of honor. It's not. It's actually a badge of evil. How do we know division is a sign of the activity and presence of evil?

Paul actually defines which human behaviour is motivated by God and which is motivated by the enemy in Galatians 5. He begins by listing the characteristics of people whose lives are under the influence of evil. Hatred, Discord, Sexual immorality, Jealousy, Impurity and debauchery, Fits of rage,



Dissension, Factions, Envy, Conceit

Sadly, too much of that sounds like church. Even if you remove the sexual sins (which, tragically, are often present too), the list sounds like a job description for self-righteous Christians. But, actually, it's Satan's job description. Contrast that with what the Holy Spirit generates in peoples' lives. When the Holy Spirit gets hold of a person and a church, he produces: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, , Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control.

The contrast could hardly be sharper.

2. Arrogance

Arrogance can creep in so easily among church leaders. There are two primary ways Christians succumb to arrogance: success, and by using a common but false definition of 'maturity.'

Let's start with the first. The most difficult test of character is not failure. It's success.

Here's why. It's pretty easy to be humble when you're failing. It's just far too easy to take all the credit when things go well.

As a result, leaders of growing churches and ministries almost always have a daily fight with arrogance. Or at least hopefully there's a fight. Because if there isn't, arrogance will win. Every time.

I know in my life as the church has grown, as more people have read my blog or even listened to my podcasts, the battle against claiming credit is daily. I remember that when our church was little, I regularly prayed: "God, write a story so big here that only you can possibly claim credit."

The truth is, God has. Our church or my wider ministry has impacted far more people than I ever dreamed or could possibly have pulled off. But I still have to fight myself to make sure that I'm not trying to snatch credit for anything God has done in my life or ministry.

The goal of Christian leadership, after all, is not to get people to follow you. It's to get people to follow Jesus.

If the battle against pride isn't daily, pride will win.

A second way that arrogance creeps in is when Christians falsely characterize Christian maturity as knowledge.

If you listened to many in the church these days, you'd think knowledge equals maturity.

The more you know, the more mature you are. Scripture suggests that's a false test.

After all, as Paul points out, knowledge puffs up; love builds up. Knowledge makes you arrogant. Love fosters humility.





3. Discouragement

If you're feeling beat up by the first two points (and in different seasons, I've felt beat up by both of them...well, actually, I needed to be beaten up by both of them), then you might gravitate toward another of the devil's favorite strategies: discouragement.

Discouragement says:

- I'm no good.
- I'm not making a difference.
- I always mess up.
- What's the point?
- I might as well give up.

4. Self-Pity

If discouragement is left unchecked, it grows. Self-pity is discouragement on steroids.

Self-pity chisels in stone what discouragement whispers. It tells you there is no out. That this is the way it will always be. And it simultaneously tells you it's all your fault and none of this is your fault. Paradoxically, you believe both.

Self-pity is dangerous because it moves you to the sidelines. Living in a state of self-pity means you don't need anyone to take you out of the game because you've taken yourself out. It's an incredibly effective strategy and completely counter to the gospel.

The final thing self-pity does is rob us of all joy. Satan can't steal our salvation. But he can steal our joy. And he delights in doing it. Don't let him.

5. The Slight Crossing of Moral Lines

C.S. Lewis says in the Screwtape Letters, "the safest road to hell is the gradual one—the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts."

So how does this happen?

Often it happens when you start to compromise on the small things. Maybe you take a deduction you shouldn't on your taxes. Or you get a little too close emotionally to someone you're not married to. Sure...nothing happened. But deep down you know something is happening in your heart. Or maybe you just shade the truth a little in conversations to make yourself or the situation look better than they really do.

The first moral lapse is always the hardest. Then it gets easier from there. You may be asking God for more in your life or leadership, but whenever you ask God for more, he usually asks you what you're doing with what he's already given you.

If you're not faithful in the little things, you won't be faithful in the bigger things.

Obedience may seem boring or inconvenient in the short-term, but it's richly and deeply satisfying in the long term.



If you refuse to compromise now, it becomes much easier to resist compromise in the future.



Coming to WHBC in March!

**THE
STRENGTH
OF A
CHAMPION**

MARCH 17 & 18, 2017

EXPERIENCE A DYNAMIC WEEKEND WITHOUT TRAVELING HUNDREDS OF MILES

WITH FEATURED SPEAKERS

JIMMY HOUSTON



JOHNNY HUNT



JONATHAN EVANS



**HOSTED BY
WOODLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH**

**\$25
PER PERSON**



The Upper Room Children's Ministry

Skating Trip

Kilgore Skateland

Date: February 4, 2017

Time: 11:30am - 1:30pm

Cost: \$5.50

MUST register at www.whbchurch.com/skating-trip/ or sign up with Christy Mayfield. Parents are encouraged to attend and skate for free!

Books of the Bible Contest

Children have been challenged to learn the Books of the Bible in 66 days. (one a day) We began on January 1st and will finish on March 7th. On Sunday, March 12th, we will have our Books of the Bible Contest! Any child who can say them without making a mistake will get to choose a prize. Then we will have a race for a Toys R Us Gift Card for the Fastest 3! If any child can say them faster than Mrs. Mayfield she will have to swim in a tub of green slime! This year we are going to be learning how to navigate through God's Word, and our Books of the Bible Contest is the beginning of more to come! We hope this will encourage your child in a fun, competitive way, and will lay a foundation for years to come.



AWANA

- January 4 - Share Your Faith Night
- January 11 - Bible Drill Night
- January 18 - Minute 2 Win It Night
- January 25 - Triples Night

Sunday School Preview

- January 1 - Daniel & His Friends Obeyed God
- January 8 - Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego
- January 15 - Daniel was Rescued
- January 22 - God Brought His People Home
- January 29 - The Temple was Completed

Children's Choir
Sunday Evenings
6:00-7:00pm

**Woodland Hills
Baptist Church**
2105 E Loop 281
Longview, TX 75605
903-757-3110

Christy Mayfield
Children's Director
christy@whbchurch.com



**Volunteer of the month
Angie Roadcap**

Angie helps teach our girls LifeGroup on Sunday Mornings. She has also helped minister to the girls with summer Bible studies all while raising 4 kids (including Kyle)! Thanks for all your hard work Angie!

Celebrate Your Family Identity

Jim Burns -President of HomeWord and Executive Director of the HomeWord Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University

On Monday nights when our girls were growing up, Cathy and I would take them to the Golden Spoon for frozen yogurt after dinner. The weekly yogurt run was part of our family identity --- part of what made us who we were. Even the neighbors knew our routine and sometimes shouted to-go orders as we pulled out of our driveway. Our three daughters are now grown, but when our family gets together, we still make trips to the Golden Spoon. It's one of those simple traditions that have kept our family bonds strong.

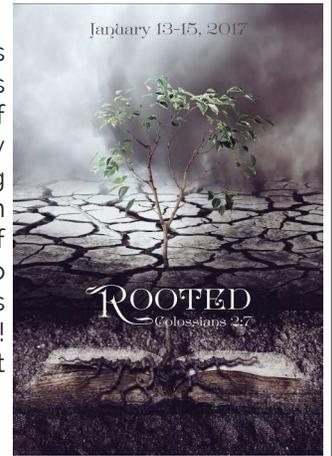
Not surprisingly, a strong family identity also helps children develop a strong and healthy self-identity. Knowing what makes their family unique --- traditions, values, and ways of relating to one another --- gives children a clear starting point for discovering their own place in the world. Studies have shown that kids who identify with their family's values tend to be less promiscuous and face less risk of drug and alcohol abuse.

I'm a big fan of parents who make the effort to build a strong family identity. But how is it done? Here are three principles that I believe are critical to the process.

1. Be present. Children regard your presence in their lives as a sign of care and connectedness. Families who eat meals together, play together, and build traditions together thrive. Your presence matters! Does your family eat together at least four times a week? If so, there is a greater chance your kids will perform better in school and be less likely to exhibit negative behavior.
2. Celebrate everything! Don't miss a single chance to celebrate your family. You can celebrate birthdays, graduations, and other rites of passage, but don't miss out on celebrating life's smaller occasions such as Little League victories, learned skills, and school achievements.
3. Talk about faith. For some families, spiritual discussions are easier said than done. But having faith conversations with your kids helps to build your family identity. They also help your kids build strong convictions, as they get older. When you regularly expose your kids to God's truth, it can, as a friend of mine says, "help them develop a sweet tooth for Jesus." And that's something far better than buying your kids frozen yogurt at the Golden Spoon.

Disciple Now January 13-15, 2017

You won't want to miss this weekend! Join us for an amazing time of worship led by Laney Wooten and preaching God's Word by Ken Freeman. Parent's, if you want your kid to get plugged in, this is the place to start! Register/pay online at whbchurch.com



January 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Town Hall Meeting 6:00pm	2 Passion Conference Atlanta, GA	3 Passion Conference Atlanta, GA	4 Arabella Service 10:00am Passion Conference Atlanta, GA	5 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm Eden Place Meal/Service Hosted by Catalyst LifeGroup 6:00pm	6 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am Adult Game Night 6:00pm	7
8 Focus 2017 Bible Conference	9 HillToppers 11:00am Focus 2017 Bible Conference	10 Focus 2017 Bible Conference	11 Arabella Service 10:00am	12 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm	13 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am Youth Disciple Now	14 Youth Disciple Now
15 Youth Disciple Now Women's Bible Study 5:00pm New Sunday Evening Sermon Series Begins 6:00pm	16 Church Office Closed	17 Shamgar 8:30am Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	18 Arabella Service 10:00am	19 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm	20 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am	21
22 Women's Bible Study 5:00pm	23	24 HillToppers 11:00am Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	25 Arabella Service 10:00am	26 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm	27 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am	28
29 Women's Bible Study 5:00pm	30	31 Shamgar 8:30am Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	1 Arabella Service 10:00am Connection Class 6:00pm			





January Birthdays & Anniversaries

2-Ann Tomlinson
3-Martha Bradburry
3-Kayci Walker
3-Mandy Williamson
4-Skylar Fondren
5-Savanna Best
5-David Miller
5-Keith Parker
6-Guy Fuller, Jr.
6-Michael Persinger
7-Sandy Johnson
8-Marcus Byrd
8-Charleene Hitt
8-Jack Medrano
8-Kent Simpkins
8-Terri Smith
8-Taylor Tarr
10-Audri Clements
10-Jacob Hill
10-Shawna Martinez
10-Kim Mullikin

10-Mark Wilson
11-Glenn Ford
11-Lindy Golden
12-Alyson Fried
12-Beverly Nugent
13-Dorothy Gregory
13-Alison Hill
13-Morgan Rhoades
14-Gail Burks
14-Gage Green
14-Trista Waalwyk
14-Sandra Williams
15-Wayne Gibson
15-John North
16-Lisa Arnold
16-Christian Roland
17-Matthew Adams
17-Ginger Miller
17-Mary Tucker
18-Jessica Folmar
18-Josh Hedgpeth

18-Kayden Taber
19-Lynn Murray
20-Madison Graves
20-Shanen Lamar
21-Ricky Allen
21-Joni Davis
21-Bron Dent
21-Erika Jackson
21-Dylan Lassen
22-Melody Fitzgerald
22-Patti Flowers
22-Tarayn Hill
22-Joyce Timmons
23-Diana Childress
23-Jenna Findley
23-Mike Northcutt
24-Robert Green
24-Elidiah Rojas
24-Kinsley Tarr
25-Reba Adams
25-Cameron Franks

26-Katie Huckaby
26-Crystal Jones
26-David Reed
27-Suzi Arthofer
27-Drake Griffith
27-Donna Miller
27-Kayden Spruiell
28-Pearl Cherry
28-Patricia Dawson
28-Angie LaMont
28-Timothy Owen
30-Bob Chucci
30-Ortha Davis
30-Billie Ruth Madding
31-Cassie Adams
31-Randy Haley
31-Gene Petty
31-Pam Turner

1-Seth & Brittney Necessary
1-Jace & Sheila Roberts
1-Brady & Jennifer Wheeler
2-Deke & Andrea Dillard
3-Kenneth & Denise Bowens

4-Chad & Terri Smith
5-Sam & Alison Logan
6-George & Mozelle Strain
8-Steve & Melba Stevenson
9-Jeff & Wendy Davis

17-Bob & Nora Chucci
23-James & Nikki Davis
23-Danny & Julie Richards
24-Ricky & Kim Allen
27-Anthony & Gennifer Coleman