



Volume 6, Issue 1

January Newsletter of Petal First Baptist

December 27, 2017

Greetings!

I hope and pray that you and your family had a wonderful Christmas celebrating and rejoicing in the "birthday" of our Savior, Jesus - Emmanuel, God with Us! What an incredible miracle and gift of love from our Heavenly Father who gave up everything for us! I also pray that many of you found that peace promised from the angels to the shepherd as the holidays can be so incredibly difficult too.

Let me also be the first to say HAPPY NEW YEAR! It's almost 2018 and we are ready to launch into 2018 with a bang! We have several exciting things happening in 2018 and I don't have time to tell you about all of them. But, let me share with you the first two that are right around the corner - well really starting this coming Sunday!

As a part of our Motives that we value God's Truth Over My Opinion and Life Transformation Over More Information and our Marks of Living Biblically and Faithfully, we will launch our **2018 Message Series and Emphasis entitled Route 66** which will take us through the entire Bible in the year 2018! I am so excited about this journey and many have expressed the same. Our Goal is to LEARN more than ever about the Lord and His Word, to fall deeper in LOVE with Him and His Word and to then, and most importantly, LIVE out that Word in our daily lives. I want to challenge and encourage you and your family to jump on Route 66 with us in 2018.

Sunday, December 31st I will share a message on an overview of the Bible and this series and then January 1st we will begin our reading together (See reading plan below). Then on January 7th, we will begin a message in Genesis and then on successive Sundays we will preach a book or two each Sunday. The following week, LifeGroups will, starting back January 7th, go through that book and discuss those in their small groups together. Be sure and grab the resources in the foyer to help you in this journey through God's entire Word!

The 2nd exciting thing happening is the launch of our Discipleship Blueprint that will help us deeply fulfill our mission of Engaging People with the Hope of the Gospel to See Lives Transformed as well as our motive of Relationship Over Isolation, and Life Transformation Over More Information and involves all 6 of our marks of living authentically, biblically, connectedly, desperately, evangelistically, and faithfully. We

are meeting with leaders in January and will then launch our first Discipleship Groups in February. Please be praying for these leaders as they embark on this exciting journey too!

I am looking forward to all that the Lord is going to do in each and every one of us in the coming year. He has been so faithful and so good to Petal FBC in this past year and I can hardly wait to see what happens next! I am praying and believing that you will be a vital part!

In Christ Alone,

Brad



Thank you for your incredible sacrificial giving once again to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Mission! Our **Goal was \$25,000+** and you have given **\$22,385.00 as of December 27**. If you have not given yet or feel led to give more, you still have the opportunity to do so this Sunday, December 31. **THANK YOU AND JOB WELL DONE Petal FBC!!**



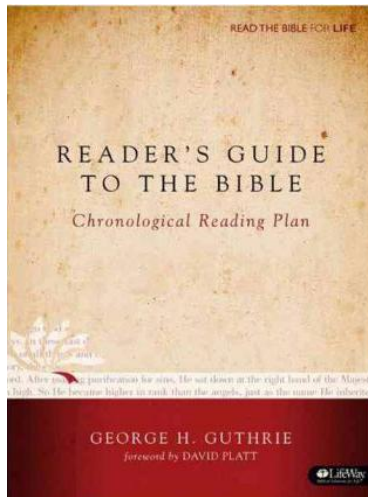
Catch up, make a year end contribution or give a year-end gift above your regular offering to help us finish out the 2017 on a strong note. We count on December being our largest month and this year is no exception. **Our Goal is \$80,000+ which will set the tone for 2018 and help us in planning for the first part of the year. As of December 27, close to \$67,000.00 has been given to the general fund.** To be counted and posted in 2017, all gifts must be in the church office OR POSTMARKED

no later than Sunday, December 31. This includes online giving as well. Contact the church office for more information. [www.petalfbc.com/online-giving](http://www.petalfbc.com/online-giving)

### IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE READ!

*Tax code alert: Next year many will not be able to fully benefit from their charitable donations due to the favorable standard deduction beginning in 2018.*

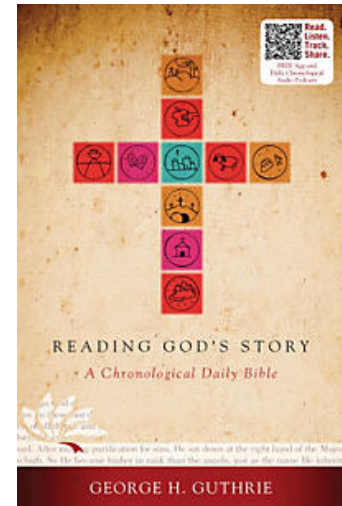
*You may want to consider prefunding next year's charitable donations before December 31st for a tax benefit that you might not otherwise receive. Consider asking your tax professional what most benefits you.*



A companion devotional with the reading plan along with extra resources to help you get the most out of reading through the Bible in 2018. Cost: \$10



The title of our Message Series and LifeGroup series as we embark on a journey in 2018 through the entire Word of God. Each Sunday Pastor Brad will preach the a book of the Bible and the next Sunday LifeGroups will also work their way through that book too. It's going to be an exciting journey you don't want to miss!



The Chronological Bible we are encouraging everyone to read through in 2018. It is also on the Bible App. Hard copies will be \$15.



Come join us on **Thursday, January 4** as we feed PPS Teachers/Staff. It's another great opportunity for us to care, serve and pray for our PPS family! We need all kind of help with preparation of food, setting up as well as serving that day. Call Kim Morgan (601-549-1003) to volunteer!



Everyone is invited to join the Prayer Walk of the PPS campus Sunday, **January 7 at 5 p.m.** Notepads will be available next Sunday for participants to pick up and write notes in advance of the prayer walk. Plan on bringing the whole family.





Family Friendly Wednesday Nights Resume on January 10 @ 5:30 p.m. with Family Supper followed by opportunities for the entire family @ 6:15 p.m. Pastor Brad will begin a brand new series in Refuel entitled ***Sharing Jesus Without Freaking Out.***



### 3D (Digging Deeper Daily) JANUARY READING PLAN

#### Week 1 (January 1-6)

- Day 1 - Genesis 1-2
- Day 2 - John 1:1-3, Psalm 8; 104
- Day 3 - Genesis 3-5, Proverbs 8
- Day 4 - Genesis 6-7
- Day 5 - Genesis 8-9, Psalm 12
- Day 6 - Genesis 10-11

#### Week 2 (January 7-13)

- Day 1 - Genesis 12-13
- Day 2 - Genesis 14-16
- Day 3 - Genesis 17-19
- Day 4 - Genesis 20-23
- Day 5 - Genesis 24-26
- Day 6 - Genesis 27-29

### Week 3 (January 14-20)

Day 1 - Genesis 30-33  
Day 2 - Genesis 34-37  
Day 3 - Genesis 38-40  
Day 4 - Genesis 41-43  
Day 5 - Genesis 44-46  
Day 6 - Genesis 47-50

### Week 4 (January 21-27)

Day 1 - Job 1-5  
Day 2 - Job 6-9  
Day 3 - Job 10-13  
Day 4 - Job 14-17  
Day 5 - Job 18-21  
Day 6 - Job 22-24

### Week 5 (January 28-February 3)

Day 1 - Job 25-28  
Day 2 - Job 29-32  
Day 3 - Job 33-36  
Day 4 - Job 37:1-40:5, Psalm 19  
Day 5 - Job 40:6-42:17, Psalm 29  
Day 6 - Exodus 1-4

Click this link to start the reading plan on the Bible App:  
[www.bible.com/reading-plans/64-reading-gods-story](http://www.bible.com/reading-plans/64-reading-gods-story)

[petalfbc.com](http://petalfbc.com)



Dates for MFuge 2018 are June 18-23. It will be at the University of Mobile in Mobile, AL. A \$50 deposit is due by January 28. More info to come soon. Contact Chris with questions.

We are looking at going to CentriKid in Pulaski, MS for Kidz Camp 2018 in either June or July. If you are interested in your child attending camp, please email Brittany ([brittany@petalfbc.com](mailto:brittany@petalfbc.com)) as soon as possible. More info will be available soon.

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**LifeGroups Resume January 7 at 9 a.m.** This is the perfect time to jump into a small group as we will also be walking through the Bible book by book in connection with our Route 66 Message Series and reading through the Bible in 2018. Here is the link to the listing of our **LifeGroups**. [www.petalcbc.com/grow/lifegroups/](http://www.petalcbc.com/grow/lifegroups/) You can also check out this website that we will be using that has some great resources to help in this journey. [www.thebibleproject.com/explore/](http://www.thebibleproject.com/explore/)

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If you are interested in going to Southeast Asia in **February, May, or November of 2018**, please contact Melanie Blanton at 601-545-3198 or 601-270-2897. Be a part of helping us reach our unreached, unengaged people group! Don't let cost be a hindrance!



A construction team is being put together to complete a project in Haiti, **February 10-17, 2018**. If you have interest, contact Melanie Blanton at the church office.



**Plan to be with us starting back on Saturday, January 13th** as we get very close to finishing the house on 42 with our partnership with Mt. Vernon and Petal UMC Contact Andy Simmons (601-606-2994) for more information.





Hope Clinic will sponsor an Abortion Recovery class beginning Sunday, February 4, at 6:00 p.m.

**Surrendering the Secret** is a powerful 8-week study that helps hurting women find the path to healing through honest, interactive Bible study. Women will be encouraged and supported as they allow God into rooms of their heart that might have been sealed for too long. It's time to let go of the shame, accept His forgiveness and heal.

Call, text or email Dee (601-582-7738 or [d.mcdermitt210@gmail.com](mailto:d.mcdermitt210@gmail.com)) for confidential meeting place and other details.

## *Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!* **Holiday Schedule**

### Worship Only

Sunday, December 24

Sunday, December 31

### No Wednesday Activities

December 21 & 28

January 3

### Prayer Walk @ PPS

Sunday, January 7 @ 5pm



Click the link  
to access the  
Monthly  
Church  
calendar!





Connect with us

