

# THE BRIDGE

January 14, 2024

Newsletter and Sermon Notes

## *From the Pastor's Desk*



Thank you all who have supported the upcoming Israel trip for me with your prayers, finances, and words of encouragement. I've had many text messages and conversations with people asking why go, and why me. It's very simple. When God speaks, we respond. Isaiah 6:8: *Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"*

I've been asked by the International Conference of Police Chaplains to use my training, education, and police experience to go with a group of other Master Chaplains to conduct Critical Incident Stress Management debriefings to the Israeli National Police Department, peer support to the officers, and minister to the survivors of police officers killed in the line of duty as a result of the October attacks from Humas. The real question is not why you. The real question is--if not me, then who?

I strongly believe that where God is working, He extends an invitation to Christ Followers to join Him. Then it's decision time and a choice resulting in a crisis of belief. I choose to join Him in ministering to Israeli first responders by sharing the hope that comes from knowing Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior. I know not everybody understands, but the important thing I ask is to keep this trip bathed in prayer and for the Lord to go before our group paving the road for open hearts and spirits to hear the truth and then accept the saving knowledge of the One and True God Jehovah--Creator, Son of the Living God, Bread of Life, Holy One of Israel--Jesus Christ!

To God be the Glory

Pastor Sam

## Weekly Schedule

### Sunday Mornings

- 8:30 Discipleship Class (adults and youth)
- 9:30 Worship Service and Children's Church

### Ladies Bible Study *Book of Romans*

- Tuesdays 9:30AM – Fellowship Hall

### Sermon Application Study

Wednesdays 6:30PM

- Adults – Sanctuary
- Youth – Conference Room

## Happy Birthday

Tommy McMichael– Jan 17

## Prayer Requests

Pastor Sam's upcoming mission trip to Israel

Pastor Randy's upcoming mission trip to El Salvador

Milton Berryman – *healing (surgery)*

Randy Garrett - *healing (surgery)*

Family of C.B. Faison - *grief*

Vickie Siebert –*knee replacement recovery*

Nancy Nolker – *cancer*

Bryant Gilsdorf – *cancer, palliative care*

Tammy Brown – *neck pain*



### Simple Mission

*Deliver and teach a consistent Gospel message for a complex world*

### Clear Vision

*Strengthen families and community with the love of Christ and accountability of the Word*

### Sunday Sermons are Posted

[firstsimplechurch.org/sermons](http://firstsimplechurch.org/sermons)

Facebook



## Sermon Notes

### 1. Approaching God—Through the \_\_\_\_ Covenant

**Hebrews 12:18-21:** *You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."*

**Exodus 20:19:** *and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die."*

**Galatians 3:19:** *Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator.*

### 2. Approaching God—Through the \_\_\_\_ Covenant

**Hebrews 12:22-24:** *But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.*

**John 4:23-24:** *Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."*

**Ephesians 2:19:** *Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household*

**Romans 8:1:** *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus*

**Romans 2:16:** *This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.*

#### Ministry Staff

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