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Non-Profit
Organization
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Bangs, Texas
PERMIT NO. 9



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Words of Encouragement...

Mark 2:3-5 – *Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."* [NIV]

In Mark 2:1-12, Mark tells the story of the paralyzed man whose friends bring him to Jesus. Why did they bring their friend who could not get there on his own? Because they believed Jesus could make their friend whole. For them, that meant being able to walk again.

When they arrived, there was already such a crowd of people that they couldn't get access to Jesus. There was no room in the house, no room at the doorway, and no one would even make way for them through the crowd to get to Jesus. Since no one would clear a path, they came-up with a hair-brained idea of taking their friend up on the roof.

Four people carrying a person around the crowd and up on the roof would not have been easy and would have created some commotion. And when they got there, what did they do? They started hacking and digging through the straw, sticks and mud of the roof top. Now you know this would have been very disruptive to Jesus' teaching and a serious inconvenience for those inside and under that roof as chunks of it began to fall! But they finally made a hole big enough to lower the guy down.

While all this was happening... the noise and ruckus of digging on the roof, the dirt and pieces of roof falling on people and on the floor, a guy being lowered through the newly fashioned hole... Jesus was just watching. And do you know what He saw? *Faith!* Yep, Mark says that "Jesus saw their faith." And for their faith, Jesus gave forgiveness.

When Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "Your sins are forgiven," that made the heads of the religious snobs explode! (Figuratively speaking.) It blew their minds and really irritated them. How dare Jesus say or do anything like that!

Jesus perceived what they were thinking in their prideful, resistant, and unbelieving hearts. So, He asked them a question: Which is easier to do, to *say* to a person "your sins are forgiven," or to *heal* a paralyzed person so he can walk again?

To show that both were in His authority and power to do, Jesus said to the paralyzed man: Rise up. Pick up your mat. And get going. And he did... *right through the front door!*

There are several things in Mark's account of this miracle that stand-out to me:

- These 5 friends (including the paralytic man) very intentionally and purposefully sought-after Jesus. If you are going to pursue and follow Jesus, you must do it with intent and purpose, like these guys did.
- Following Jesus isn't always straight-forward. There will be obstacles in your path. Sometimes the obstacles are circumstances. Sometimes they are people. Sometimes they are barriers.
- Following Jesus can be difficult and messy. It could tear-up your roof and mess-up your floor.
- Following after Jesus often does not look like what we thought it would (or should).
- What the Lord is looking for – from all of us – is faith. Following the Lord begins *in faith...* and continues *in faith.* We are to walk by faith! The author of Hebrews reminds us of this in Heb. 11:6 that, "*without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*" The Lord looks for faith in us and rewards that faith.
- And lastly, the Lord always does much more in us and for us than we could ever expect. These guys were hoping and believing that Jesus could fix this man's legs so he could walk... and He did. But Jesus did much more and changed this man's heart so he could walk forever in a relationship with God.

So, dear believer, rise up in faith and start walking.
Blessings to you in your journey of faith and following.

Bro. Pepper

FBC Bangs "The Messenger"
To be removed from this mailing or to
submit updates, please email:
fbcbangs@fbcbangs.com
or call: 325-752-6724

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER! Any and all dates are subject to change.

June 1st: Splash Into Summer, Deacons' Committee Meeting
June 5th: Women's Ministry Meeting
June 6th-9th: Pre-Teen Camp at HOTX Baptist Camp
June 8th: Business Meeting, Building & Grounds Committee Meeting
June 15th: Children's Ministry Team Meeting
June 16th-18th: Backyard Bible Study/Cannon Courts Apts.
June 19th: Father's Day, Donuts for Dad, The Lord's Supper, No Children's Church
June 20th: Mobile Food Pantry@Cannon Courts Apts.
June 21st: Mobile Food Pantry@Bangs Housing Authority
June 25th: BANGSFEST! 2022 Youth Booth
June 26th: Mission Dignity Offering
June 29th: Youth Ministry Team Meeting
July 3rd: No Children's Church
July 4th: Independence Day, Church Office Closed
July 5th-8th: Youth-Follow, Lead, Serve Camp/HPU
July 6th: Deacons' Committee Meeting
July 10th: Women's Ministry Meeting
July 11th-15th: Youth Camp-Highland Lakes TX
July 13th: Business Meeting, Building & Grounds Committee Meeting
July 18th: Mobile Food Pantry@Cannon Courts Apts.
July 20th: Children's Ministry Team Meeting, Youth Ministry Team Meeting
July 24th-28th: Vacation Bible School
July 26th: Mobile Food Pantry@Bangs Housing Authority
July 31st: No Children's Church
August 3rd: Deacons' Committee Meeting
August 6th: Youth Passport Weekend Event at Prime Time

August 6th: Women's Ministry "Back-To-School Blessing"
August 7th: Women's Ministry Meeting, No Children's Church, No Evening Services
August 10th: Business Meeting, Building & Grounds Committee Meeting
August 12th-13th: Youth Work Days
August 14th: Promotion Sunday, The Lord's Supper, Kids Back to School Bash, Prayer Circle for Bangs Schools
August 15th: Mobile Food Pantry@Cannon Courts Apts.
August 17th: Bangs Schools Start, Children's Ministry Team Meeting
August 23rd: Mobile Food Pantry@Bangs Housing Authority
August 31st: Youth Ministry Team Meeting



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

My how the time has flown this spring! We have been overflowing with joy and gladness in the children's department! We have almost finished our Wednesday night foundational series "What's In the Bible." We've made cards for the nursing home, our Moms, and teachers. We've played lots of Gaga ball now that the weather is warm! We have loved seeing several new faces with our Wednesday night crew and we look forward to taking **32 preteens to camp** in a few weeks! Please pray for our kiddos as school is winding down and we prepare for our summer activities. We are planning our Splash Into Summer event, our camp, and of course Vacation Bible School! This year we will be learning to celebrate God's greatness with our Monumental theme, July 24-28th. We are always looking for volunteers as our department continues to grow. Will you please pray about helping and reaching these kiddos for Christ?!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

June 1st: Splash Into Summer
 June 6th-9th: Pre-Teen Camp at HOTX Baptist Camp
 July 24th-28th: Vacation Bible School, 5:30-8 pm



Thank you for sharing your kids with us at FBC Bangs! Shine for Jesus! *Sarah*

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Greetings church family. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement as I begin my ministry here at my home church. It has been such a blessing to come back to this loving church body and be able to do what I love and am called to do. As summer kicks in, we have a full schedule planned. We have over five big events and many small events to keep our youth active in the Word of God all summer.

I do ask for prayers for this summer as we jump into all these events and downtime when school lets out. Pray that we remain focused on God's will for our lives, keeping Proverbs 3:5-6 close to heart. Pray that the students going to camps will have open hearts to receive what God has in store for their future.

I personally want to thank the youth volunteers for keeping this ministry alive during the transitions over the years. They are very devoted people and they are great at what they do. Please keep them in your prayers as they go to these summer camps and help keep everything running smoothly. They have been a prime example of what Paul wrote to Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:12—"... in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, show yourself an example to those who believe."

Jarryd

Upcoming Youth Events

- BANGSFEST! 2022 Youth Booth Fundraiser, June 25th, at 9am-4pm at Bangs Event Center
- Follow, Lead, Serve Youth Leadership Camp, July 5th-8th, at Howard Payne University Campus
- Journey Youth Camp, July 11th-15th, at Highland Lakes, in Spicewood, TX
- Passport Weekend Event, August 6th, at Prime Time in Abilene, TX

Women's Ministry



BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

The children and families at Cannon Courts Apartments are invited to the Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, August 6th** to receive free backpacks and school supplies.

The FBC Deacons will be serving breakfast to the children and their families.

For more information call the Church Office at 325-752-6724.

"Back to School Blessing" is an outreach of the FBC Bangs Women's Ministry.



Starting June 1st
Ladies Fitness Classes
 will meet on Wednesdays only
 for Yoga classes at 8am
 in the FBC Gym.
 Bring a mat and join the fun!
 All ladies are welcome!



meets on Mondays at 1:30 pm in the Snack Bar.
 All ladies are welcome, just bring your Bible!

MISSIONS NEWS

The Bangs Food Pantry is OPEN the First and Third Thursdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm!

We are serving the Bangs community every month with the Good Samaritan Ministries Mobile Food Pantry!



- ◆ Third Mondays at Cannon Courts Apts by the Women's Ministry
- ◆ Fourth Tuesdays at Bangs Housing Authority by the Genesis Class

The Missions Committee will have short meetings once a month in the front of the church sanctuary after worship on Sundays as scheduled in the Church calendar.



Our Medical Closet!

We have a wide variety of equipment to loan out including wheel chairs, walkers, bed with rails, and shower chairs.