OUR MISSION

Glorifying God by Developing & Deploying Disciples in This Generation for the Next

God's plan for you is to bring glory to Himself through your life. Whether becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ, developing, or deploying as His disciple, take the next step today.

The Question: The issue of identity has taken on a life of its own recently, although it has been an issue of human significance from the beginning. So, who am I?

The Answer: I can only have freedom in my identity as much as my identity aligns with God's truthful and accurate assessment of who I am. Each month we will explore further God's truth to shed light on who I am.

Who Am I?

I need God's unchanging truth to guide me in changing times.

Since I am born with a sin nature that distorts truth and is susceptible to deception (Ps. 51:6; Is. 53:6; Prov. 1:10; Heb. 13:12–13; James 1:12–14), I need God's Word, rightly interpreted, to be my measure of truth (John 17:17; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:15–16).

- 1. What does the Bible say about homosexuality? Homosexuality is a sin (Lev. 18:22; Rom. 1:26–27; 1 Cor. 16:9). Same sex "marriage" violates God's heterosexual design for marriage (Gen. 2:18–25; Matt. 19:4–6; Eph. 5:22–33), and God's prohibition of homosexuality.
- 2. What does the Bible say about transgenderism? In addition to November's teaching, God's Word affirms that one is to identify both in practice and appearance with one's God-ordained gender/sex (Gen. 1:27; Deut. 22:5; "effeminate" in 1 Cor. 6:9 describes people identifying as other than birth gender; 1 Cor. 11:1–15).
- 3. Is there hope for me if I struggle with such sin? There is hope and power to honor God in ANY sin. Of the sins God condemns in 1 Cor. 6:9, four are sexual sins. Yet, God says that "such were some of you, but ye are washed, [and] sanctified in...Christ" (6:11). There is hope and power for you!

"Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way."

Psalm 119:128

Alphabetized baskets are located in the back of the Auditorium to share Christmas cards with other church members. Cards will not be delivered to you. Please check the baskets for cards you receive.



Who

Am I? Shaping

My Identity in God's

Sight

For your convenience, hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers. For Sunday services, audio is also broadcast live in the Reception Room.

Carols & Candlelight Service
December 21 @ 5:00 p.m.

The annual business meeting was held Wednesday evening. Phill Harris will remain treasurer, and Chris Dooley and Don Potter will join the deacon ministry. The 2025 budget was approved as well as missions gifts for Harvest Baptist Bible



College in Guam, First Bible International, a financial gift to help James Scott purchase a snow blower for their ministry in Japan, and an offering to the Tennessee Independent Baptist for Religious Liberty.

Holiday Service Schedule

- ♦ Wednesday, December 24—All mid-week ministries are cancelled.
- ◆ Sunday, December 28—No evening service (Normal morning schedule)
- i ♦ Wednesday, December 31—All mid-week ministries are cancelled.
- Sunday, January 4—Normal Sunday Schedule
- ♦ Wednesday, January 7—Patch Club & Teens Involved resume

! The church office will not be on a regular schedule the next two weeks.

 Harvest Baptist Bible College in Guam is training students as future ministers and trained laymen for service in the local church. A high percentage of the students return to their home to minister.



- First Bible International translates and publishes Bibles in many languages.
- ♦ Tennessee Independent Baptists for Religious Liberty

You can designate your gift to any of these wonderful and effective ministries through the end of the year.



Upward will be held on Saturdays beginning January 10 through February 14. Registration is discounted this month. You can go to the event page on our website or to https://stanleyheights.org/upward.

Please see Dave Wemmie if you would like to get involved.

Parents, your children ages 3 through 3rd grade are welcome to attend Children's Church during the morning service. They can go to the side exit when they are dismissed during the service. You may pick them up in the 4's & 5's classroom upstairs.

Sermon Notes for Kids are available in the back of the auditorium.



Michael & Barbara Hinson — Georgia Praises

◆ They had 5 people at their Thanksgiving service.

Prayer

- ♦ Lali & Anna to believe in Jesus
- ◆ God to work in the hearts of an Iranian family that visited
- Nikolozi, a new pastor in a church on the coast of the Black Sea has reached out for help since he has no theological training
- They have their Christmas service today.

Ed & Mary Frampton — IBJM

Praises

- Ed was able to meet with and encourage parents and family members of 12 young children who were killed while playing soccer by a ballistic missile fired from Lebanon.
- Their board of directors met at the Global Outreach Ministry Center in NYC.

Prayer

- ♦ For more laborers
- Two new missionary applicants were approved. Pray for the David Dupree family and Caleb Shelby as they begin deputation.

2025 MISSIONS GIVING REPORT:

2025 Total \$124,323.50 December Giving \$ 4,462.00

This Week

4:30 Choir Rehearsal

Sun.

Jan. 24

5:00 Carols & Candlelight

Wed. No Midweek Ministries

Looking Ahead

Dec. 28No Evening ServiceDec. 31No Midweek MinistriesJan. 7Patch & Teens ResumeJan. 7STEP ResumesJan. 10Upward Begins

Baby Shower for Lorna Snow

Nursery

Sunday School:

Vicki Baughman/Margie Waller

Nursery AM:

Kyra Hill/Ava Lee

Nursery PM:

Dawn Ward/Olivia Tredy

Wednesday:

No Service

Lock-Up: Jason Waller
Pastor on Call: Pastor Baughman

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Sermon Notes

