

SMALL GROUPS | A DROP FROM THE ALTAR | SENIOR ADULTS | EVENTS

the messenger

● LIVE OAK CHURCH MAGAZINE / APRIL 2024

FROM
THE
PASTOR'S
DESK

MEN'S
MINISTRY

WORSHIP:
I BELIEVE

ADULT
BIBLE
STUDIES

WORDS:
CHRIST-FILLED
AND HONORING
COMMUNICATION



) (

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in this issue...

07 **from the pastor's desk**

Our mission at Live Oak is to bring people to know the Messiah and grow in their faith.

10 **words**

Our words have such a strong effect on our children. What we choose to say and how we say it matters.

14 **i believe**

For those of us who follow Jesus, we believe in life, healing, hope, and a God who loves us more than we can imagine.

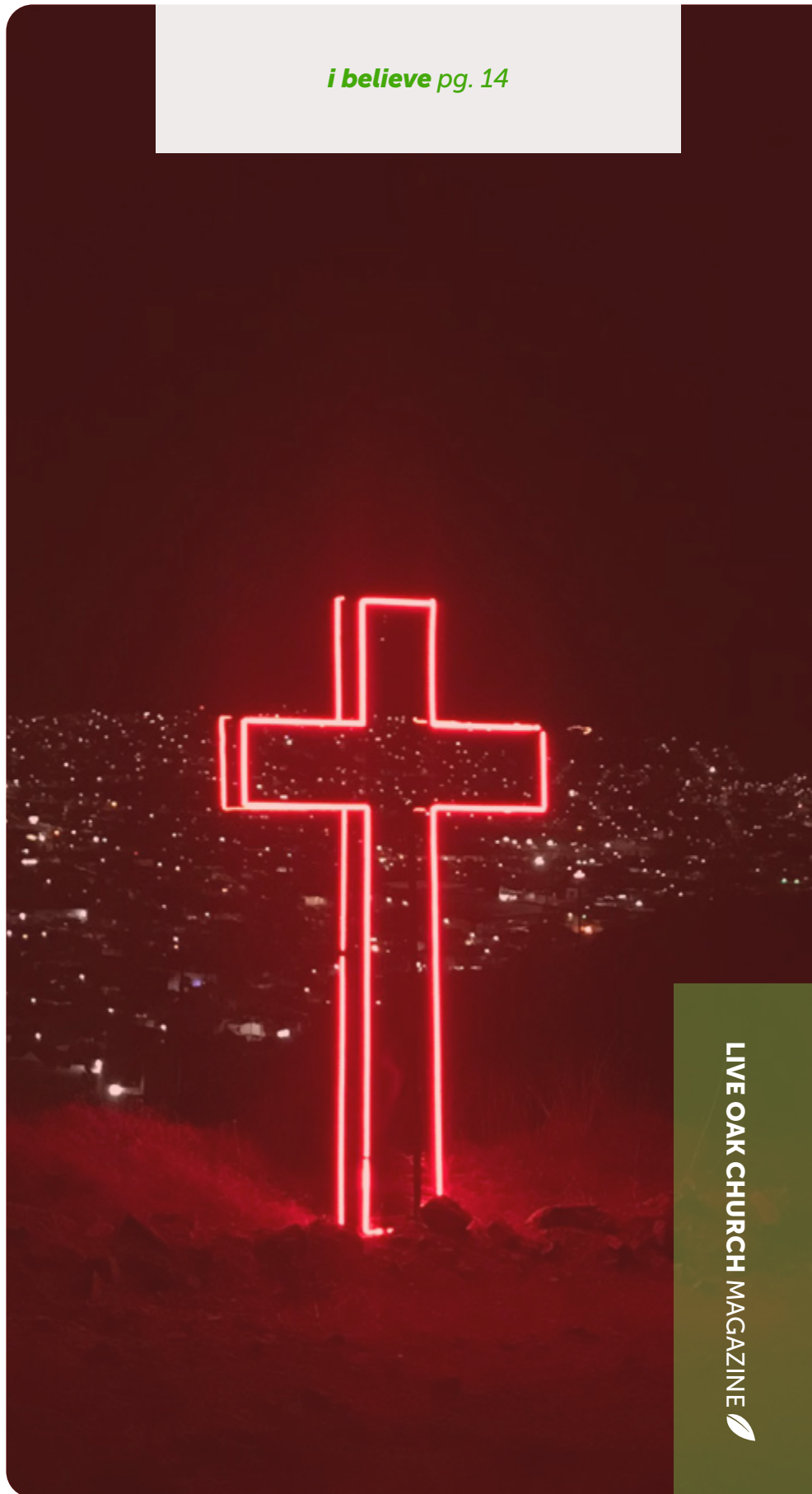
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4 MONTHLY EVENTS

5 SMALL GROUPS

22 MEET OUR TEAM



APRIL 2024 | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

a time and a place for everyone

For more information about groups and events visit www.liveoak.church or call (225) 664-4801

- WEEKLY CALENDAR -

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Worship Service
8:45 AM Children & Pre-Teen Sunday School
 Sherri Gardner: K-3rd - Room #214
 Jodi Rushing: 4th - 6th - Room #213
8:45 AM Student Ministry:
 Nathan Lott: 7-12th Grade - Upstairs in FLC
8:45 AM Adult Small Groups:
 See Page 5 for Full List
9:30 AM Children's Ministry - FLC
9:30 AM Preteen - Chapel
9:30 AM Worship Service
10:00 AM Students 7th-12th Grade:
 Jonny Carroll - Upstairs in FLC
11:00 AM Children's Ministry - FLC
11:00 AM Preteen - Chapel
11:00 AM Worship Service

MONDAY

6:30 PM Women's Deeper Life - Chapel
6:30 PM Men's Deeper Life - Room #201
6:30 PM Men's Home Bible Study - Robert Poole's House

TUESDAY

6:30 PM - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month - Chapel
 Stephen Hebert - Bible Prophecy: The Essentials

WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM Quilters Ministry - FLC
9:30 AM Worship Wednesday - Online
6:00 - 7:15 PM Kingdom Kidz: K - 3rd Grade
6:00 - 7:30 PM Preteen: 4th, 5th and 6th Grade
6:00 - 7:30 PM Student Ministry: 7th - 12th Grade
6:30 - 7:20 PM Worship & Study - Adults

THURSDAY

6:00 PM Men's Play and Pray Basketball - FLC
7:00 PM Refuge - Room #201

FRIDAY

5:30 AM Iron Man Study - Room #202
6:00 PM Adult Co-ed Bible Study - Room #202

- EVENTS -

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

8:45am in Room #102
4 Week class that restarts the first Sunday of every month.
Email Sam LoBello at sam@liveoak.church

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

6:30pm in the Chapel
Second and fourth Tuesday of each month.
For more information email Stephen Hebert at stephen@liveoak.church

MEN'S MINISTRY

Crawfish Boil (pg. 18)
April 27

LIVE OAK LADIES

Lego Night (pg. 14)
April 12



church
map



ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Blue = Small Group Red = Large Group

SUNDAYS

Starting at 8:45 AM

Young Adult Couple's Class // *The Gospel of Mark* // Krist & Katie Norsworthy - Room #212

Young Adult Co-ed Class // *Gospel of John* // Brayden Lott - Upstairs FLC

Median Adult Co-ed & Couple's Class // *The Book of Revelation* // Dickie Davis - Room #202

Senior Adult Class // *Explore the Bible* // Layne Hutchinson - Room #201

Pastor's Class // *Gospel of Luke* // Dr. Mark Crosby - Choir Room

New Member Class // Bro. Sam LoBello - Room #102

Starting at 9:30 AM

Co-ed Class // *Book of Romans* // Robert Poole - Room #211

Couple's Class // *Book of Daniel* // Todd & Sealy Pettavino - Room #202

Sunday Evenings

4:00 PM // **Co-ed Doctrinal Study** // Layne Hutchinson - Room #202

6:00 PM // **Young Adult Group** // Nathan Lott - FLC



WEEKDAYS

Monday

6:00 PM // **Men's Discipleship Group** // *Topical* // Robert Poole's Home

6:30 PM // **Deeper Life Men** // *Explore the Bible* // David Tate - Room #201

6:30 PM // **Deeper Life Women** // *John: Savoring the Peace of Jesus in a Chaotic World* // Jan Tate - Chapel

Tuesday

5:30 PM // **Ladies Bible Journaling** (2nd Tuesdays) // Jenny Bauer - Room #202

6:30 PM // **Bible Prophecy: The Essentials** (1st & 3rd Tuesday) // Stephen Hebert - Chapel

6:30 PM // **Grief Support Group** (2nd & 4th Tuesday) // Stephen Hebert - Chapel

Wednesday 6:30 PM

Co-ed Home Group // *The Book of Acts* // Jim & Janet Setoudeh's Home

Worship & Study // *Reasons to Believe (Apologetics)* // Pastor Mark - Sanctuary

Thursday

6:00 PM // **Men's Play & Pray Basketball and Lesson** // Jim Otken - FLC

7:00 PM // **REFUGE Addiction Recovery Group** // Sam LoBello - Room #201

Friday

5:30 AM // **Men's Group** // *Book of Acts* // Jim Otken - Room #202

6:00 PM // **Co-ed** // *Book of Hebrews* // Robert Poole - Room #202

Second Saturday of Each Month

7:30 AM - **Men's Prayer Breakfast & Study** // *One at a Time: The Life and Ministry of Jesus* // Sam LoBello - Room #202





Honoring
Graduates



Senior Dinner
April 21st @ 6:00pm - FLC

Senior Recognition
May 5th @ 9:30 and 11am Services



register on the app



April is here, and it is starting to feel like Spring. We had a wonderful Easter season and have been blessed by seeing how the Lord is working in the lives of so many. The baptisms, testimonies, and involvement of so many in our church are a blessing to our church and community.

Our mission at Live Oak is to bring people to know the Messiah and grow in their faith. Growing in our faith is crucial as we face challenges, obstacles, and difficulties along our journey. It is, therefore, important to note that we are not alone on this road. Many have traveled it before us, with us, and even more will travel it after us.

Two of the most popular characters in the New Testament are the Apostle Peter and the Apostle Paul. When you read their story, you discover the many challenges, obstacles, and difficulties they endured as they traveled on the road of faith. This



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road is not an easy road because the challenges are many, and days are long. However it is a road that when traveled brings blessing and purpose.

As we look to the Spring and Summer months and reflect on what God is doing in our lives, let's recognize that challenges will come our way and that often,

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

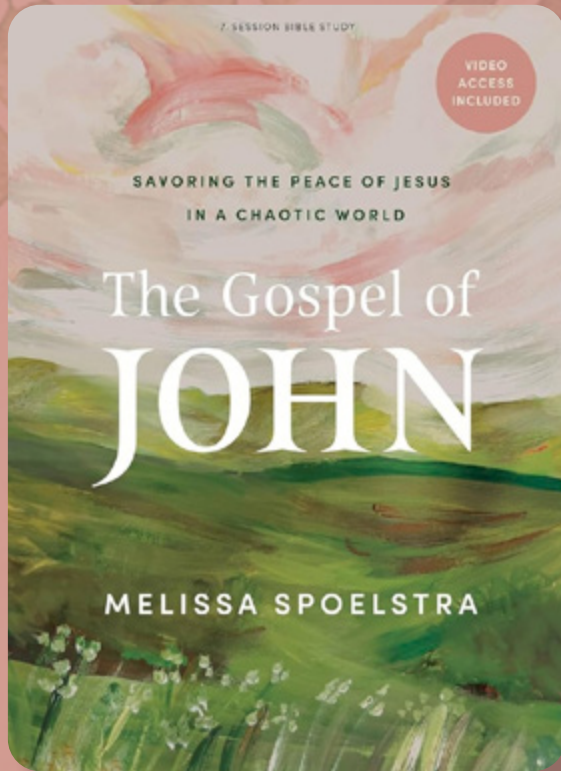
these challenges strengthen us and help us to be the disciples God has called us to be.

In April, we will look at the Apostles Peter and Paul and how they managed hardship, challenges, and major mistakes, how God used them to change the world, how God forgave them, equipped them, and blessed them to be His servants in a unique and fantastic time, and how God can and will do the same for you.

So come see us Sunday as we parallel the lives of Peter and Paul with ours!


Dr. Mark Crosby
Senior Pastor

DEEPER LIFE GROUPS



DEEPER LIFE FOR WOMEN

The Gospel of John: Savoring the Peace of Jesus in a Chaotic World

Mondays at 6:30 PM
In the Chapel.

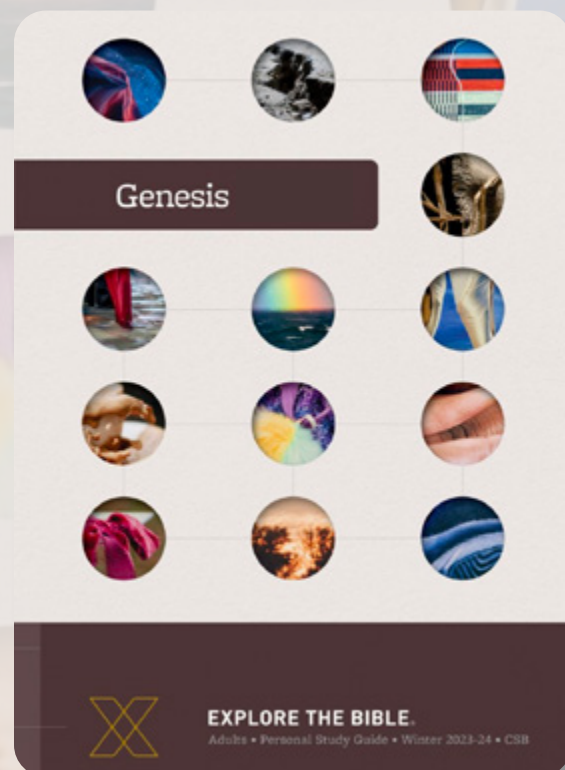
Led by Jan Tate

DEEPER LIFE FOR MEN

Book of Genesis: The Patriarchs...Bringing Their Stories to Life

Mondays at 6:30 PM
In Room #202.

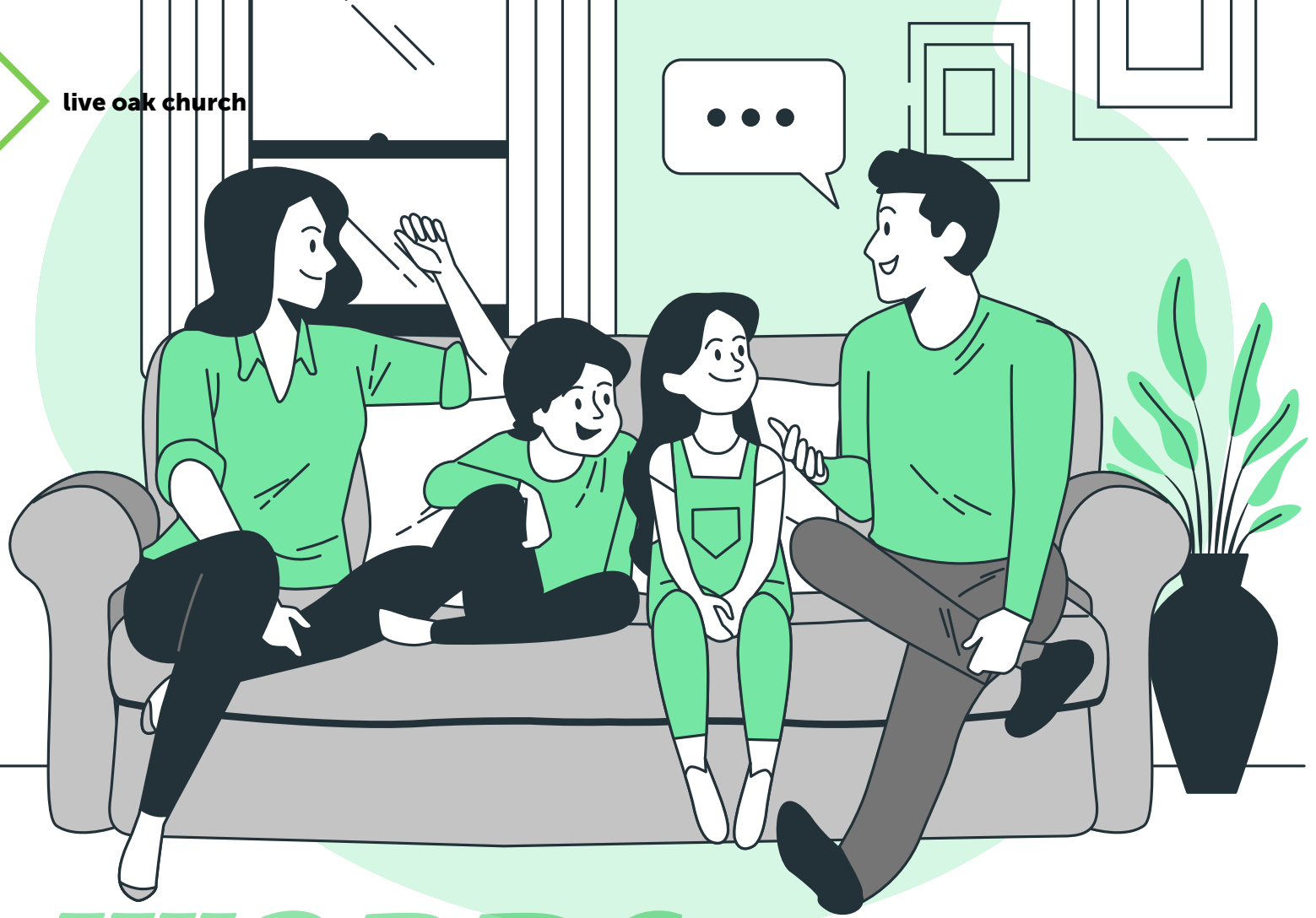
Led by David Tate



NEW MEMBERS CLASS

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Have you been visiting Live Oak Church? Considering becoming a member? We have a New Members Class just for you! This class begins the first Sunday morning each month at 8:45 and ends on the fourth Sunday. In these four sessions you will encounter life changing truths and learn more about Live Oak Church. You will look at Salvation in 3-D, learn to Enhance Your Relationship With God, Examine the Stages of Spiritual Growth and Discover Your Spiritual Gifts. This class meets in Room #102 and recycles each month. You can sign up for our New Members Class at the Information Desk. We look forward welcoming you into our Live Oak Church Community of Faith!



WORDS

by Faith Storck

People watching by far is one of my most favorite things in this world to do. I love to see the mannerisms of people, how they talk, walk and dress. Now that I am sadly no longer in the thick of parenting, I find it fascinating to watch how others parent. Disney World is known as one of the most magical places in the world. Kids of all ages, young and old travel from near and far to capture a little bit of the Disney Magic. That being said, there's just something about parenting in Disney World.... It brings out the best or more often than not the worst in parents.

We've all seen that kid in the middle of the theme park have a complete and utter melt down. It's hot, they are tired, the kid is thirsty or hungry. Whatever the reason, the kid has shut down. Meanwhile Cruella de Vil is coming in hot. The mom is yelling and completely losing her mind. At this point, no one that is watching is looking at the child. They are on the sidelines eating their freshly popped Disney popcorn while watching the parenting nightmare that is happening

right in front of their eyes. It's a sight to behold. Oh momma! Your kid doesn't know what to do with their big feelings. They can't quite express how they feel. While they don't have any words, you, losing your mind momma, have all the words, yet they aren't the best words and frankly how you are responding to your child is quite scary.

We all know this situation can happen anywhere and at anytime. Navigating your child's emotions, as well as our response, is sometimes difficult. Often times, after the incident has passed, parents more often than not think they could have handled that better. Most parents would love a guidebook in this area, well at least I did! Well you are in luck, there is one.... The Bible.

Our words have such a strong effect on our children. What we choose to say and how we say it matters. The Bible gives us more than enough direction when it comes how to speak to others, yet we somehow seem to have a problem in this area.

- “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” Proverbs 15:1.

- “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” Ephesians 4:29

- “Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.” Colossians 4:6

These are just some of the verses that speak on this matter. There are so many more. However, it is clear that God’s plan regarding our speech is that we should be wise in how we use our tongue. Scripture also shows us that what comes out of our mouths, is what is in our hearts (Matthew 15:10-20). So does that mean we can’t just fly off the handle and scream at our children and others like a crazy person to get our point across and get their attention? Unfortunately not.

I grew up in house that was full of blunt women. I know it’s hard to imagine, but I am the least blunt of all the women. Lauren has always been such a quiet child, but in the last few years, blunt has become her new theme. She shocks me sometimes. I apparently birthed a blunt child as well. We’ve had to have the “think it, don’t speak it” talk in our house quite a few times over the past few years. I’m all about honesty, but there are ways to get your words across and still not offend the masses. Personally, I still have to work on that daily.

It doesn’t help dissolve the problem if your words are nice, but delivered in a harsh manner. It stirs the pot and increases anger. How we speak to people in any situation speaks volumes. What you speak to them carries such weight.

How we speak to our children becomes the voice in their head and also they replicate what they hear.

If I could give people, especially parents something to think about on this matter, and also to instill in your children it would be:

1. Pray before you speak. Ask God to guide your thoughts and your tongue. Ask Him for the appropriate words to speak to people, but also for words that will edify and encourage others.

2. Think before you speak. If you are in the heat of a moment, stop and take a few moments to think about what you are going to say. Think about if what you are about to say would please God. If it isn’t, then you probably shouldn’t say it. As children of God, we are to be quick to listen and slow to speak (James 1:19). As a parent, I’ve seen when my words just crush Lauren’s spirit. I can’t take them back. Remember parents, the words that you speak to your children carry weight. Instead of putting them down, encourage them. Even in a moment of correction, the words you use should be full of gentleness, tenderness and grace.

3. Apologize when you are wrong. Instead of being quick to speak, be quick to apologize when needed. When you go to bed each night, you want your conscience about your speech to be right between God and man.

Will how you respond to certain situations or how you speak to people change over night? Absolutely not, but if we train our heart and minds on things above and do everything we can to let our conversations be full of Christ, then our mindset will change and our children will learn one of the most important tools I feel is needed today, Christ-filled and honoring communication. 🌿

***“PRAY BEFORE
YOU SPEAK.
ASK GOD TO
GUIDE YOUR
THOUGHTS &
YOUR TONGUE.
ASK HIM FOR THE
APPROPRIATE
WORDS TO SPEAK”***

REFUGE

Support. Instruction. Accountability.

"Taste and see the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."

Psalm 34:8

Thursdays at 7 PM

**STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION? WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.
WE MEET IN ROOM #201.
COME JOIN US!**

JOURNEYING THROUGH GRIEF

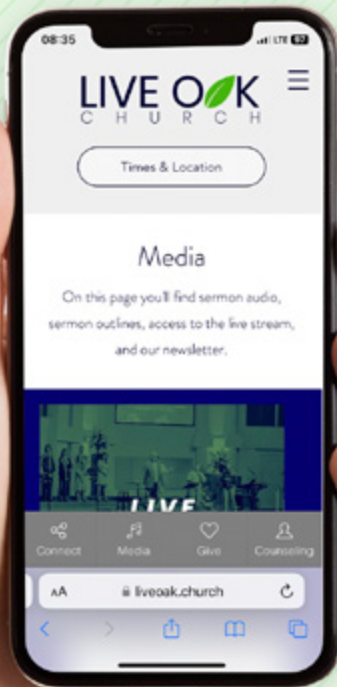
at Live Oak Church

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

2nd & 4th Tuesday of the Month

6:30pm in the Chapel

For More Information Contact: Pastor Stephen
Stephen@liveoak.church



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I BELIEVE

by Trent Barnett

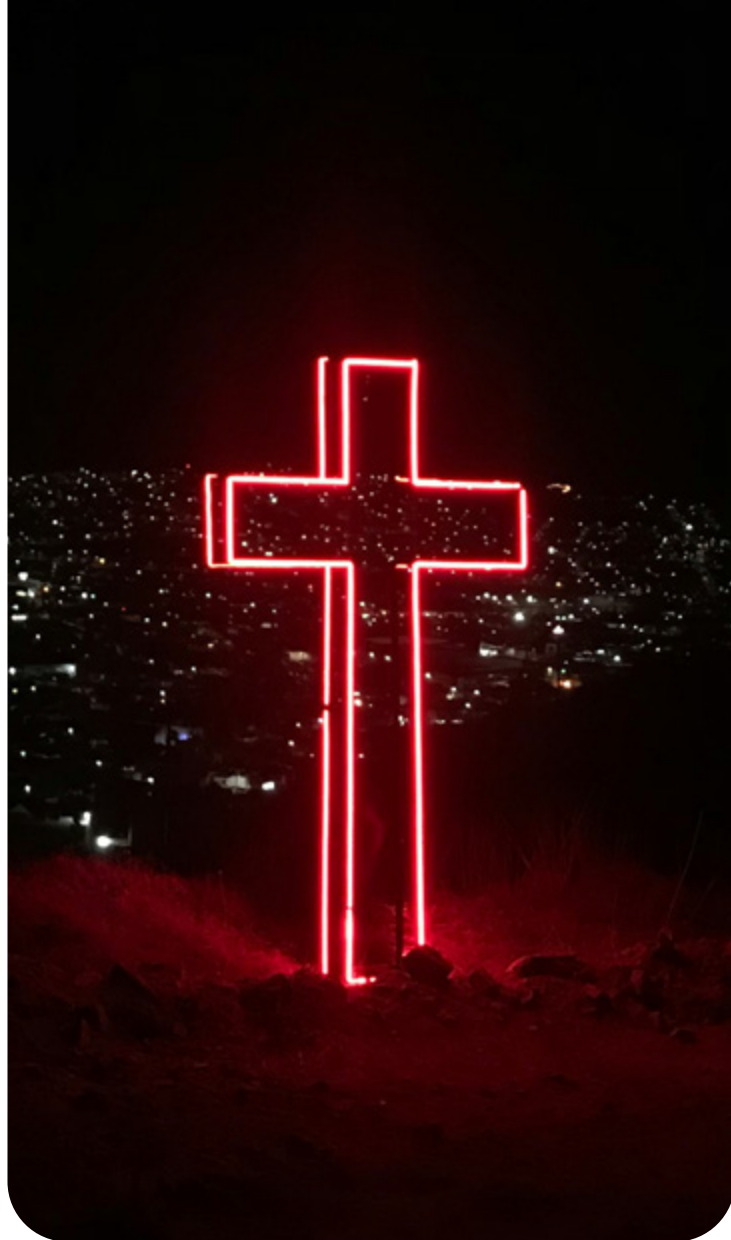
Recently, we introduced the song “I Believe” by Phil Wickham. This song declares our hope in the ministry and message of Jesus Christ. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 15 of the truth he declared - that Christ died for our sins, He was buried, but then raised to life again.

When asked about the story behind this song, Phil Wickham said, “There are so many people in a state of crisis of their faith [asking] what is real? What do I believe?... There’s so many obvious people looking for hope. In a crazy world that seems like it’s shifting every week, they’re looking for some solid rock to stand on, that’s not shifting underneath their feet. And I believe I’ve found it - with all my heart - in the person of Jesus.”

The lyrics of “I Believe” echo the Apostles Creed & the Nicene Creed, declaring the essentials of our faith that form our theological foundation and understanding of God. The song itself becomes a modern creed of sorts, set to upbeat music as a “joy-bomb for people to get behind” as Phil Wickham has described it. The chorus calls us to praise the triune God - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit - the One who has overcome. After declaring the truths that we believe, and raising our hearts to praise God, the song’s bridge is a great exclamation point, quoting Romans 1:16: “No I’ll never be ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. How could I ever walk away from the One who saved my life?” How, indeed!

In 1 Corinthians 15, Paul writes, “if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain, and so is your faith” (v. 14). Paul’s words here are bold, but true. If Jesus wasn’t raised from the dead, then he wasn’t who he claimed to be, his teaching was in vain, and death won.

But Christ has been raised! This fact confirms His claims, His teaching, and His power over sin, death, and the grave. Jesus has won



the victory! We have confidence in the fact of Christ being risen because of eyewitness testimony and historical accounts. The hope we profess is definitely not futile. “It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16b). This work of Christ has borne fruit for the Kingdom of God for thousands of years - and is bringing dead people to life still today!

As Phil Wickham said, “In a world with so much confusion, it is like water to our souls when we sing the truth of what we believe. Because, for those of us who follow Jesus, we believe in life, healing, hope, and a God who loves us more than we can imagine. I hope this song blesses you today. I invite you to sing along, and preach to your own souls, the truth of who He is.” While this music is certainly a celebration, it is simply a tool to communicate the truths we believe - the Truth (Jesus Christ) who we are to called to worship in every moment. I hope you declare these lyrics, as we proclaim the power of Christ for salvation in our church, in our homes, and in our community. 🍀

the **family answer man** podcast



DR MARK CROSBY



REV DAVID ORGES

Find Over 90 Episodes Here:
www.liveoak.church/media

LIVE OAK *Ladies*

LEGO NIGHT

APRIL 12 @ 6:30P

\$10 | DINNER SERVED | 18+
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

LIVE OAK CHURCH

QUILTING MINISTRY

WEDNESDAYS AT 8 AM IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER
COME JOIN US!

YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY BY WRITING QUILTERS IN THE "OTHER SECTION" OF YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPE. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOU SUPPORTING US!

MINISTERING TO:

VETERAN'S HOME
NURSING HOMES
HOSPICE CARE
ADDICTION RECOVERY CENTER
BATTERED WOMEN'S HOME



SENIOR ADULTS

by Landra Reed



Happy April everyone! We had a wonderful turnout for the Dinner Bell, and hoping to do the same for the Iron Horse. We are heading to the Iron Horse in Jackson, Mississippi on April 11th. We will leave the church at 8:30am by coach bus. There are 50 spaces available, so please make sure to sign up. We will play bingo on the way, and the cost is your meal.

Senior Adult Mothers, it's that time of the year when we will be celebrating you at the Lake House for our annual Mother's Day Tea. Please make sure to sign up on line, with Nancy, or with me. The date is May 6th at 11am. The cost is free.

LIVE OAK

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MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN HELPING MEN BE MEN

CRAWFISH BOIL

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 AT 1:00 PM, FAMILY LIFE CENTER



**THIS IS A FREE EVENT
COME JOIN US!**

GRIDIRON MEN'S CONFERENCE®



George Foreman



Phil Waldrep



Willie Robertson



Daniel Dickard



James Merritt

We are heading to the GRIDIRON Men's Conference for the 11th consecutive year! This year's speakers include George Foreman and Willie Robertson. Dixieland Tours will be transporting us to the Propst Arena in Huntsville, Alabama. We will leave the church parking lot at 8 AM on Friday, June 14 and return on Saturday, June 15. Cost is \$175.

You can sign up on our Church App or email sam@liveoak.church

rightnow MEDIA

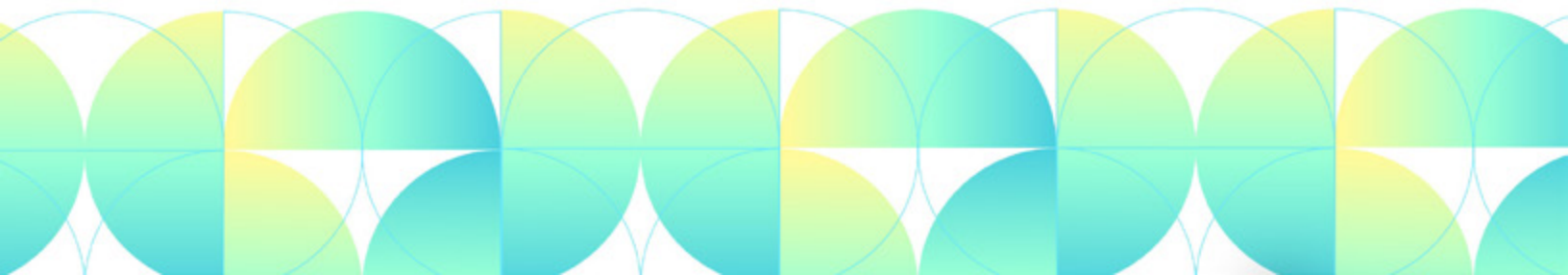
A Gift for You

We've purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to everyone in our church.

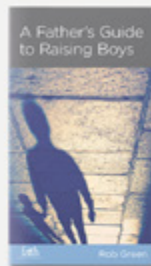
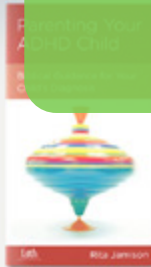


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Mini Books



25 TOPICS TO HELP YOU NAVIGATE LIFE!



Find Yours in the Lobby

A DROP FROM THE ALTAR

by sam lobello

One of my seminary professors used to say to his class while teaching, “This is a drop from the altar.” He was communicating to his students that what he was about to say was important and may well appear on the next test. As a result, it would be wise for us to remember it.

As I have journeyed through life God has given me “Drops from the Altar” from time to time. I have tried to remember them and apply them to my life. I will share one with you each month. I hope you find them to be helpful in your journey, as well.

“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and to discover the prisoner was you.”

Corrie Ten Boom

YOUNG ADULT COED CLASS

Sundays at 8:45 AM
in the FLC (Upstairs)

Led by
Brayden Lott

YOUNG ADULT COUPLES CLASS

Sundays at 8:45 AM
in Room 212

Led by Krist & Katie
Norsworthy

meet our team

Reach Us at info@liveoak.church



Dr. Mark Crosby
Senior Pastor



Rev. David Orges
Executive Pastor



Trish Graves
Business
Administrator



Rev. Trent Barnett
Worship Pastor



Rev. Sam LoBello
Director of Adult
Ministries



Rev. Stephen Hebert
Minister of
Pastoral Care



Rev. Nathan Lott
Young Adult &
Student Pastor



Faith Storck
Director of
Children's Ministry



Rev. Krist Norsworthy
Communications
Coordinator



Linda Holdman
Administrative
Assistant



Rev. Chris Lacara
Maintenance
Director



Kim Pamplin
Counseling Office
Manager



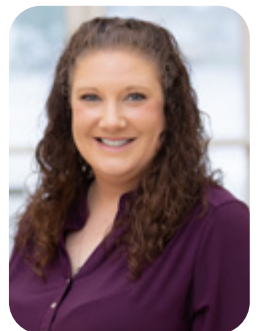
Jim Otken
Treasurer



Ila Clark
MDO Program
Administrator



Austyn Chopin
MDO Curriculum
Administrator



Liz White
Office
Secretary

Coming together from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences, our skilled team of pastors and ministry professionals are the backbone of Live Oak Church. Their ideas and leadership help shape the direction and mission of our organization as we continue to grow.

LIVE OAK CHURCH SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

It's Cool in the Furnace

A Musical about Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego



DATES: JUNE 24TH-28TH, 9AM-12PM
PERFORMANCE: JUNE 28TH @ 6PM

CAMP IS OPEN TO THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 6TH GRADES
REGISTER ON THE CHURCH APP

LIVE OAK CHURCH

we are driven by a single goal:
to do our part in leading people
into a growing relationship with
Jesus Christ

5 Ways to Give



IN PERSON

PLACE YOUR OFFERING IN THE WOODEN BOXES LOCATED INSIDE LIVE OAK CHURCH



MAIL

MAIL YOUR GIFT TO
P. O. BOX 709
WATSON, LA 70786



ONLINE



TEXT

TEXT "LIVE OAK" TO 77977. FOLLOW THE LINK AND ENTER THE AMOUNT YOU WISH TO GIVE



RECURRING

VIA THE "ONLINE" OR "TEXT" OPTIONS, SELECT "MAKE A RECURRING GIFT"