

# TWO CHRISTMASSES CALENDAR

NUMBER 179

APRIL 2023

**An inexpensive invitation to visit your church services which recipients will keep and use for a year.**

Last June we published an article titled "NO CHRISTMAS EVE CHURCH SERVICE?". It generally discussed that when most prospects in the world are most likely to attend church, we tend to have less church. We would then and now advocate having more "church" around Christmas and Easter rather than less.

Our question is how do we take advantage of the Christmas and Easter seasons without being unscriptural doing it.

Consider passing out an invitation like the one in the graphic above.

Continued on page 2



## WHAT GOD BELIEVES ABOUT YOU

*"You made me; you created me. Now give me the sense to follow your commands."* (Psalm 119:73 NLT)

God created you in his image. You are so highly valued and loved that you are actually worth the sacrifice of His Son. He gave his Son's life to cleanse you from all sin so you can spend eternity with Him.

God trusts you with free will, and he respects that gift so much he will not choose for you. He wants you to make the choice to love and obey him. He is waiting patiently and will run to meet you. Don't delay.

. Continued on page 4

## CHILDHOOD LESSONS THAT LEAD TO SCRIPTURE

As a child, I liked to sit on top of the tall wood box next to the large cast iron cookstove in my grandmother's kitchen to watch and listen while my grandfather, father, uncle and great uncles played a card game called euchre. Over time, I learned the game, strategies for winning, the importance of patience and when to boldly take risks in spite of the odds. It was a most happy place, seeing their joy of fellowship where mistakes had no effect on their love for one-another. Later, I was invited to participate in the games and even asked to play as partner with my grandfather, the one considered the best, most knowledgeable of the entire family.

We won often; lessons well learned!

. Continued on page 5

### IN THIS ISSUE:

<b>Two Christmases Calendar</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>What God Believes About You - Brown</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Childhood lessons that lead to Scripture</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Impossible for Evolution</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Calendar of Events</b>	<b>19</b>

## TWO CHRISTMASSES CALENDAR, P2

Continue from page 1

**Easter** always falls on Sunday. It is literally the day Jesus was resurrected. Would it be bad to talk about Jesus on Easter Sunday? Would it be wrong to have an Easter Sunrise Service? If you choose to have an Easter Sunrise Service, it is not the time to cancel Bible classes. It is the time to make your Bible classes all they can be. It is time to have a congregation wide meal to invite your visitors to attend. It is time to tell your members to focus on showing love to our "neighbors" rather than just each other.

**Christmas** is not so easy. There is less that one chance in 365 that Jesus was born on December 25. The shepherds were in the fields with the flocks, so it was unlikely to be winter. Christmas can come on any day of the week, with it coming on Sunday 1 out of every 7 years.

Again, holidays are not time to be cancelling your activities. It is time for your members to be of service to the church to make your activities all they can be.

The Two Christmases Calendar is one suggestion on how to help with these efforts. The graphic seen on page 1 of this issue (and above) is a folded invitation to your Holiday Happenings party, which is presumably the last Saturday before Christmas. (see page 8 for better detail). It is a holiday party, children going into classrooms to hear about Jesus, refresh-

ments, a visit from Santa, or whatever you choose to make it. It is an invitation your members can pass out to anyone, or you can distribute in your local area.

The "invitation" is a **Two Christmases Calendar** which quickly folds out into a small tent calendar as seen below. It is 14 pages long as will be seen on pages 8-14 of this issue of our



newsletter. Page 1 (top half of page 8 here) is this invitation to your 2023 Holiday Happenings. Page 13 (top half of page 14 here) is the similar looking invitation to your 2024 Holiday Happenings, right before the recipient gets to their December calendar actual page 14. The invitation is passed out flat, and easily folds out into a tent calendar.

Continued on page 3

## TWO CHRISTMASSES CALENDAR, P3

Continue from page 2

What happens on the 12 monthly calendar pages is all the information you can include that will encourage your visitors and members to attend. Plus, it is a handy and useful tent calendar that they can use all year. It's convenient 5.75" wide x 4.25" size should have a broad appeal.

**COSTING:** The cost of these calendars is \$1.50 each (in quantities of 1000) on [printsafari.com](http://printsafari.com). The price goes up or down with changes in volume. In considering your volume, remember that every member of your congregation will want one personally even before you start passing them out to potential visitors.

[https://www.printsafari.com/us\\_en/catalog/category/view/s/calendars/id/3274/](https://www.printsafari.com/us_en/catalog/category/view/s/calendars/id/3274/) will take you directly to the calendars on the Print Safari website. Our options were 5.75 x 4.25, 100 lb. Cover/12 pt, Matt finish, Wire-O-Binding, White coil, 14 sheets, 4/0 /color front, No Back, Standard turnaround time, and 1000 quantity. Inputting those will get you a price of \$1442.10 for 1000. You can then vary volume or other options to see instant price quotes.

**PREPARATION:** Print Safari has low prices for this service because they do not prepare artwork, but just do printing. You can prepare your artwork as you like, but we will help. The calendar pages are simply Excel sheets which are formatted and exported to Print Safari in jpg format. We can send you our Excel calendar which you can edit as desired.

We made calendar pages 1 and 13 in Microsoft Publisher. You can start in whatever package you use, or we can send you our Microsoft Publisher files to edit as you like. If you are happy with our graphics but just need to change the words, we will do that for you.

**SAMPLE:** If you would like to see an actual sample calendar, send an email to [bbaugh@occg.institute](mailto:bbaugh@occg.institute) and we will send you a

sample at no cost.

**TIMING:** A decision to use this tool needs to be made soon so you can have members collecting events to put in next year's calendar. You need to target the month of December for distribution. Printing and shipping to you takes about one month. That would mean that you need your information collected and artwork done about the end of October.

This is a convenient way to promote personal evangelism in your congregation. If you have another idea to share, please let us know.



Continued from page 1

## WHAT GOD BELIEVES ABOUT YOU

God has equipped you with talents and skills unlike any other human being. Don't neglect to serve others in the unique ways you have been gifted; if you fail to tell your story and live your life to the fullest in Him, it will be lost for all time.

God created you with the capacity to love and learn, to thrive in any and every circumstance. So go out there and make him proud! Show your gratitude; God loves you and he walks beside you. Reach out your hand and take His. He is always that close. God believes in you!

Elizabeth Brown

## VARIOUS MUSINGS

Someone sent this to me and I just had to share.

I had amnesia once... or twice.

Protons have mass? I didn't even know they were Catholic.

I am neither for nor against apathy.

All I ask is a chance to prove that money can't make me happy.

If the world were a logical place, men would be the ones who ride horses sidesaddle.

What is a "free gift"? Aren't all gifts free?

They told me I was gullible... and I believed them.

Teach a child to be polite and courteous in the home and, when he grows up, he'll never be able to merge his car onto the freeway.

Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.

One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.

I used to be indecisive. Now, I'm not sure.

How can there be self-help *groups*?

Is it just me, or do buffalo wings taste like chicken?

Is the 's': or 'c' in 'scent' silent?

Why does fridge have a "D" in it but refrigerator doesn't?

Why can you drink a drink but you can't food a food?

The word queue is just a Q followed by four silent letters...

Why is a W called "double-u" when it's clearly a "double-v"?

I did some financial planning, and it looks like I can retire at 62 and live comfortably for 11 minutes.

We all know that mirrors don't lie... I'm just grateful that they don't laugh.

Elizabeth Brown



## CHILDHOOD LESSONS THAT LEAD TO SCRIPTURE

Continued from page 1

However, away from that table I also learned that my grandfather was a deeply troubled, im-bittered man who many years earlier had suffered theft of livestock at the hands of trusted parishioners whose deed was known to many in the community, but all denied their awareness.

As a result, he left the church, moved to become a sharecropper and became estranged from his brother-not to reconcile for many years.

From his story I learned the futility of anger and the lasting damage of bearing false witness.

Today, I sit quietly considering the implications of worldly behaviors by many who preach the gospel of reconciliation, all the while maintaining “tolerable” acceptance of worldly standards. Those acceptances compromise the work of the Holy Spirit, who waits unnoticed or whose presence seems strangely absent. I wonder as I wait; are the churches themselves bearing false witness, driving believers away and creating doubt in the minds of those who might think of approaching God? I receive no reply, except as directed to the Word of Scriptures:

Proverbs 28:9 “If anyone turns a deaf ear to the law, even his prayers are detestable.”

Acts 28:25- 27: “They [Jews in Rome] disagreed among themselves and began to leave after Paul made this final statement: The Holy Spirit spoke the truth to your forefathers when he said through Isaiah the prophet: ‘Go to this people and say,

‘You will be ever hearing but never understanding;

You will be ever seeing but never perceiving’.

For this peoples’ heart has become cal-

loused;

They hardly hear with their ears,  
And they have closed their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,

Hear with their ears,

Understand with their hearts

And in turn, and I would heal them.






Therefore; I want you to know that God’s salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen.”

To whom can the lost turn today if we, the chosen Gentile followers of Jesus, are frustrating the work of the Holy Spirit by so much disagreement?

Larry S. Grubbs, Harrison, Ohio



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	 <p>SCIENCE UP _ RISING</p>

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<h2>Foundation School of Church Music</h2> <p>Announcing our <b>55th ANNUAL SESSION</b> July 2- July 7, 2023 At the Twin Oaks Ranch, Buda, Texas, south of Austin.</p>		
	<p><i>“Training Hearts, Minds, and Voices For Praise”</i></p>	<p>For Information or Applications See our website <a href="http://www.foundmusic.camp">www.foundmusic.camp</a></p> <p>Our school is held at the Twin Oaks Ranch, Buda, Texas, south of Austin off of IH-35. The facility has a beautiful chapel, air-conditioned classrooms and cabins, a mess hall, and a swimming pool.</p>

**"The challenges ahead of you can only be measured by the ability inside of you."**

**Zone Leader: 7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones** is a field-guide designed to help you navigate change. Resistance and conflict occur anytime change is introduced, and leaders must have the tools and resources necessary to avoid the pitfalls that hinder real success. No matter where you find yourself in the four zones, the tactics discussed in Zone Leader will enhance your ability to lead through each zone. "The challenges ahead of you can only be measured by the ability inside of you. The more you put into developing your leadership, the greater your ability to deal with the challenges you face."

"To get where you're going, you need more than just a destination: you need to know where you are now, and you need a map. To assist you on your journey, this thought-provoking book provides you with all three."

Sheila Heen, Harvard Law Professor and co-author of *Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most*.

"I wish this book could have been available when I was in both undergraduate and graduate studies. I was struck with how readability and depth worked in concert to clearly address leadership. The zones resonated with my thought processes and lay a logical format for understanding."

Gery Taylor, Executive Vice President, Prosperity Bank



Bob directs the Sunset Academy of Leadership Training. He is a coach, consultant, and full-time speaker, conducting workshops in leadership development. He is dedicated to helping leaders implement positive, transformational change and creating a vision to prepare the next generation of leaders. He lives in Virginia Beach, VA and holds a Doctorate in Intercultural Studies with an emphasis in adult leadership development from the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA.



**ZONE LEADER**  
7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones

ZONE LEADER: 7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones

TURNER



# ZONE LEADER

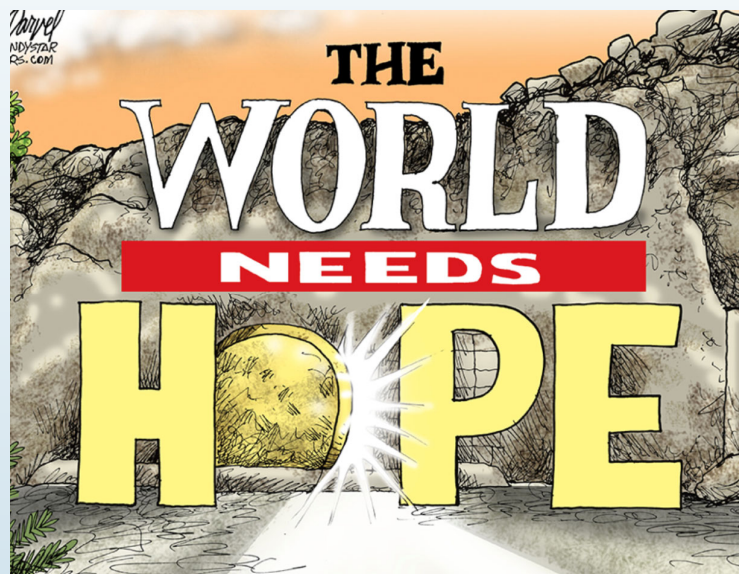
7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones

**Dr. Bob Turner**

Author of *Essential: Building Blocks 4 Life and Leadership*

Foreword by best-selling author, Jeremie Kubicek, co-founder of GIANT Worldwide

An excellent book to read. Available on Amazon.





# HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023, 6:30-7:00

PARTICIPATE WITH US IN A PROGRAM OF SONGS ABOUT JESUS.

CHILDREN WILL GO TO AGE APPROPRIATE CLASSES TO HEAR THE STORY OF JESUS' BIRTH! NURSERY WILL BE OPEN!

AFTER THE PROGRAM THERE WILL BE A FELLOWSHIP IN THE FAMILY CENTER WITH COKES, COFFEE, WASSAIL, COOKIES, AND SNACKS.



SANTA WILL VISIT IN THE FAMILY CENTER!

**LUTHER STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST**

120 LUTHER STREET  
HOUSTON, TX 77008  
713-419-8683

## JANUARY

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 MLK DAY	17 CONG. BUSINESS MEETING	18	19	20
21 BUDGET	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3





## FEBRUARY

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2 GROUNDHOG'S DAY	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16	17
18	19 PRESIDENT'S DAY	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	1	2

## MARCH

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 INVOLVEMENT SUNDAY	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



## APRIL

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 EASTER WORSHIP @ 10:30	15	16	17 CONG. BUSINESS MEETING	18	19	20
21 SAN JACINTO DAY	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

## MAY

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5 CINCO DE MAYO	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 MOTHER'S DAY	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30	31	1



## JUNE

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 FLAG DAY	15
16 FATHER'S DAY	17	18	19 JUNETEENTH	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## JULY

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL			18	19	20
21	22	23	24 CONG. BUSINESS MEETING	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3



## AUGUST

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## SEPTEMBER

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 LABOR DAY	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5



## OCTOBER

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					MARRIAGE RETREAT	
13	14 COLUMBUS DAY	15	16 CONG. BUSINESS MEETING	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 IMPACT CARNIVAL
27 FALL FESTIVAL	28	29	30	31 HALLOWEEN	1	2

## NOVEMBER

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 VETERAN'S DAY	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 THANKSGIVING	29	30 PM WORSHIP W/5TH WARD



# HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024, 6:30-7:00

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CHILDREN WILL GO TO AGE APPROPRIATE CLASSES TO HEAR THE STORY OF JESUS' BIRTH! NURSERY WILL BE OPEN!

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## LUTHER STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

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SANTA WILL VISIT  
IN THE FAMILY  
CENTER!

### DECEMBER

Sundays: Bible Classes at 9:30, Worship at 10:30 and 6 pm, Wednesdays: Service at 7:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS @ LUTHER STREET
22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27	28
29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4

## IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION #134 - HAGFISH

Hagfish are typically about 50 cm (19.7 in) in length. Hagfish have elongated, eel-like bodies, and paddle-like tails. The skin is naked and covers the body like a loosely fitting sock. They are generally a dull pink color and look quite worm-like. Eyes are simple eyespots that can detect light but cannot resolve images.

Instead of vertically articulating jaws, they have a pair of horizontally moving structures with tooth-like projections for pulling off food. The mouth of the hagfish has two pairs of horny, comb-shaped teeth on a cartilaginous plate that protracts and retracts. These teeth are used to grasp food and draw it toward the pharynx.

They are found in most of the oceans of the world, but are typically only eaten in South Korea.

Its skin is only attached to the body along the center ridge of the back and at the slime glands, and is filled with close to a third of the body's blood volume, giving the impression of a blood-filled sack. It is assumed this is an adaptation to survive predator attacks.

As a defense mechanism, Hagfish can exude copious quantities of a milky and fibrous slime or mucus from about 100 glands running along their flanks.

**Typically, a Hagfish will release less than a teaspoon of gunk from the 100 or so slime glands that line its flanks. And in less than half a second, that little amount will expand by 10,000 times—enough to fill a sizable bucket.** What this does is tends to suffocate a predator and cause them to release the Hagfish.

Can you imagine a zero I.Q. Hagfish coming up with a chemical formula for a slime which will expand in volume by a factor of 10,000 times in a half a second. It would take an intelligent designer to do this.



A Hagfish showing glands along the side.



A Hagfish tying itself into a knot to squeegee the slime off itself, another really good trick.



A car in Oregon after a wreck with a truck carrying Hagfish for shipment to Korea.

Benton F. Baugh

PICTURES AND INFO FROM WIKIPEDIA



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Grief Support/Recovery Groups meet at Spring Creek Church of Christ in Tomball, TX at no cost.

Individual programs available for a fee.

**WE WANT TO BUY YOUR CHURCH!**

If you are planning to close down your Church of Christ in the greater Houston area, we are interested in matching you with a good funding source.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you know of someone else who is thinking about closing and selling their church, we would appreciate your telling us.

\*\*\*\*\*

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## HEALING AMERICA

A timely new book by Richard Blount IV exploring the problems, causes, solutions, and benefits of being an American.

He provides an intentional approach for the country's healing process and aims at healthy relationships and spiritual maturity as the ultimate goal.

This book can be purchased for \$19.95 at: Amazon, Barnes & Nobles, and Westbow Publishing



25. *No one is in charge of your happiness but you.*

26. *Frame every so-called disaster with these words : 'In five years, will this matter?'*

27. *Always choose life..*

*Source unknown.*

A 13 lesson book written by a long time Church of Christ minister and servant of Jesus. Intended for Bible Class studies, this book can also be used for personal evangelism.

Most Bible class study books on this subject begin with Genesis 3. This study however, lays

the foundation by beginning with a basic study-outline of Biblical History, which is sorely lacking among many Christians today. Then after laying this foundation, it seeks to present a "Synthesis of Scripture" by asserting that the theme of all the Bible is Jesus, His Death, Burial, and Resurrection! The Eternal Purpose of God for Redemption is then presented with an in-depth study of Ephesians 1, and other New Testament passages which describe God's redemptive plan.

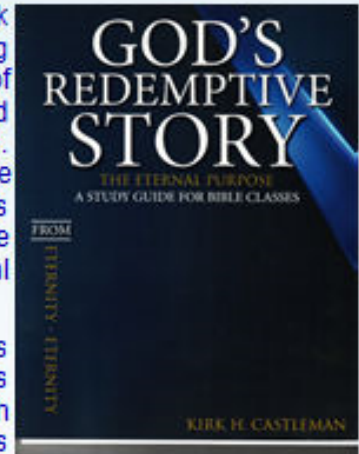
It is not until the fourth lesson that God's Eternal Purpose in Genesis 3 is presented. Then other Promises, Pictures, Prophecy, and Prep-

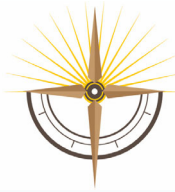
**"AN EXCITING STUDY OF GOD'S POWER AND REVELATION IN HUMAN HISTORY"**

aration, are fully described. This study includes a description of the Davidic Covenant, as well as a helpful approach to Old Testament Prophecy.

This guide is helpful for all Christians, but especially new Christians who need an understanding of God's eternal desire for all the world!

This book can be bought on Amazon for \$10.





NORTH FORT BEND  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting at Tom Wilson Elementary  
5200 Falcon Landing Blvd.  
Katy Texas, 77494.

Bible class at 9:00 am  
Worship at 10:00 am.

Please plan to attend and tell your  
friends and neighbors. Most important-  
ly, please pray for this mission effort.

[www.nfbcoc.org](http://www.nfbcoc.org)

For more information, contact:  
[info@nfbcoc.org](mailto:info@nfbcoc.org)



**Jerry Heiderich: Director**  
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Clinic 979-578-9091, Cell 214-862-8964

[jerry@gulfcoastchristiancounseling.com](mailto:jerry@gulfcoastchristiancounseling.com)



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## WINGS OF EAGLES VIDEO SERIES

Three new 20-minute videos which can be  
used to assist in personal evangelism.  
Available as a free download.

LESSON TOPICS ARE:

- (1) **IF GOD?** Atheistic evolution vs the reality of a god.
- (2) **WHICH GOD?** The various offerings to be the god.
- (3) **WHICH GROUP?** A brief history of the world and of Christianity leading to a discussion of how to find Christ's church.

Located at [occg.institute](http://occg.institute), TOPICAL LESSONS , 02 WINGS OF EAGLES

## GUARANTEED CHURCH GROWTH!

If we provide a **REFOCUS WEEKEND**, we will guarantee that if your congregation does not grow 5% in 2 years we will donate \$5,000 to the Church of Christ related children's home of your choice in your name.

**A REFOCUS WEEKEND IS:**

- (1) Friday night: Area-wide youth rally at your facility; we provide the pizza & cokes
- (2) Saturday 8:00 - 2:00: Church growth consultation
- (3) Saturday or Sunday afternoon: Dream Session
- (4) Sunday Bible Class: A church growth lesson
- (5) Sunday morning worship: A church growth sermon

See <https://occg.institute/services/refocus/> for more specific information.

For more information,  
contact:  
[info@occg.institute](mailto:info@occg.institute)



**GOOD THINGS IN  
LIFE TAKE TIME!**

*Imagine being upset  
that babies will live.*

*Barry & Ace*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**HOUSTON PREACHERS AND LEADERS LUNCHEON** Every second Tuesday except December, For information contact David Wardrup - cell: (281)635-3135; [davidcwardrup@gmail.com](mailto:davidcwardrup@gmail.com) or Cruz Hernandez - cell: (713) 560-9080; [cruzalbertohdz2017@gmail.com](mailto:cruzalbertohdz2017@gmail.com)

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