



The Vine & Branch

July 2026

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." John 15:5



**Churchwide Picnic
TONIGHT July 1st
6:00pm-8:00pm
@FBC Bryan**

***in front of Matt's House-free event!**

**SPECIAL
EVENT**

Thursday July 23

**Piano concert
featuring
Wade Daniel**

11:00am-1:00pm

Fellowship Hall

Cost for lunch

\$8

**SWANBERG
MINISTRIES**

Cost: \$20 per person



**SENIOR ADULT
DISCIPLESHIP WEEKEND**

DR. DENNIS SWANBERG

JULY 25 // 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM // FELLOWSHIP HALL

**A DAY OF TEACHING, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND FELLOWSHIP
FOR SENIOR ADULTS WITH DR. DENNIS SWANBERG.**

REGISTER AT FBCBRYAN.ORG/EVENTS

Photos from past ministry events



Save the Date

August 14- Cybersecurity
9am-2pm College Life Space

August 23- Hymn Sing
5pm Room 231

September 14- Young at Heart
Fall Kickoff
11:00am Fellowship Hall



Abiding Thoughts from Pastor David

Remember Ethan, our youth pastor, speaking on scripture a few weeks ago. His three main points were 1) Read the Bible, 2) Keep reading the Bible, and 3) Never stop reading the Bible. I hope you were as convicted as me by his words of encouragement to be in the Word daily. As I continue to read God's Word, I have become increasingly interested in the Old Testament and how it trains us in God's ways. The Old Testament is the foundational, inspired Word of God, written by man. It teaches us how to live righteous lives by emphasizing God's laws, statutes, and commands. God talks about what happens when we follow Him and when we stray from Him. The Old Testament is always pointing to a redeemer in the form of judges, prophets, kings, queens, and the like. The Old Testament also lays out the coming of the ultimate redeemer, Jesus Christ God's Son, coming to usher in a new heaven and a new earth. The psalmist writes, "God's word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path". Take time today and meditate on Psalm 119, the meditations on the excellencies of the Word of God. A few weeks back I was reading in 1 Chronicles. Here is a place where you can easily get bogged down. 1 Chronicles is a litany of endless genealogies. You move from Adam to Abraham to Jacob to David and to Judah. Next, you will visit the remaining ten tribes of Israel including the Levites. My encouragement to you today is to push through even the seemingly less significant parts of scripture, because you never know what God's word will reveal to you. Case in point, the prayer of Jabez nestled in the middle of these endless genealogies. 1 Chronicles 4:9-10, "Jabez was more honorable than his brothers; and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, "Because I bore him in pain." Jabez called upon the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from harm so that it might not bring me pain!" And God granted what he asked". Bruce Wilkinson, in his book; *The Prayer of Jabez, Breaking Through to the Blessed Life*, notes that the prayer of Jabez teaches how to pray a daring prayer that God always answers. He goes on to state, "It is brief – only one sentence with four parts tucked away in the Bible, but I believe it contains the key to life of extraordinary favor with God". The prayer of Jabez teaches us to acknowledge that God is the only source of true favor. That only God can grant our requests and give us the ability to manage what we ask for. And finally, that God is our only source for protection from external threats as well as our own pain and anguish. The prayer of Jabez reminds me of driving in Arkansas. Remember the expression don't blink or you will miss it? Once, I was driving down the pig trail from Fayetteville to I-40 looking for Buck Snort (outside of Cass). Well, I blinked and missed it (I'm not making this up). So, as you read scripture, be focused, don't blink or you may miss something that could change your life.

Be blessed, see you Sunday!

David