



70 Years

The Star News



WWW.BSBCOKC.ORG

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FEBRUARY 2018

The Power of Connection

Connection is a critical component to the success of any organization or organism. Connection, according to Dictionary.com is simply to join, link or fasten together, unite or bind. To expand on this definition, connection means to come into contact as to form a single whole. As the look of modern day ministry continues to evolve, connection, although necessary has become more and more difficult to experience. With the ever increasing popularity of live streaming services, social media and archived sermons, parishioner's now have more options than ever before to receive the word of God. Yes a good sermon, Ted Talk or online Bible Study is just a click away.

While we use many of the above mentioned methods to reach the lost, I am not convinced any of these alternative methods of receiving the word can fill the void only personal connection can bring. In Hebrews 10:25 the writer reminds us, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." There is a power that comes only from connection. The message in this passage is very clear. Assembling ourselves together gives us the best opportunity to encourage one another. Not only are we able to encourage one another, we are also able to develop irreplaceable relationships.

With the overwhelming dependence our society has on electronic devices as a means of communication, the less personal our lives have become. While electronics do give us the ability to reach further, they don't necessarily help us experience true connection.

Let's make it our purpose to move beyond just reaching the masses and seek to connect Christians through personal relationships that help us to experience at a personal level the Love of God. Let's make it our business to come to church as a family. BSBC is a place where every member of the family can come and receive ministry specifically designed to help them grow in their faith as we grow together as a local body of believers.

We will continue to reach the world through our online and media ministries by delivering first class broadcasts as we improve our online experience. However, we will be intentional as we deliver global ministry on the local level through personal connection.

Members of BSBC, let's make our vision a reality! Let's Live in the Love of God, Walk in the Will of God and Experience the Power of God. Our connection will manifest in our mission as we *Equip the body of Christ through Evangelism, Discipleship and Christian Service, meeting the needs of the whole person.*

Thank you so much for being a part of the BSBC Family. Meet me at the altar Sunday so I can personally greet you.

Blessings,

Pastor Rodney R. Payne

Appreciating the Giver of Spiritual Knowledge

By Dione Smith



On February 25th, Bethlehem Star will celebrate and appreciate our Pastor and his lovely family for 9 wonderful years of faithful service. Our theme is: "Appreciating the Giver of Spiritual Knowledge" –Jeremiah 3:15 "And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding "(KJV). Under Pastor Payne's remarkable leadership, our congregation has not only gained spiritual knowledge, but we've grown in numbers as well. Not only is our Pastor committed to the edification of the congregation, but his family displays this same level of commitment. Danielle and Devin have played a huge role in taking our Music and Fine Arts ministry to heights that were unimaginable. Our First Lady, Thelma Payne is always there to assist with a listening ear and provides excellent advice when asked. Sister Payne has also dedicated her time and efforts to ensuring that our youth ages 0-5 years old are always well cared for during worship services. This day is not only a time to



celebrate the blessings that God has given us through our first family, but also a time to give a heartfelt thank you to the Payne family for dedicating their lives to serving God through their dedicated service to Bethlehem Star Baptist Church.

For the BSBC family this is much more than a traditional event on the calendar. It was by the hand of God that He sent the Payne family to BSBC. We believe the union of Pastor Payne and BSBC was God ordained as only He can do. We are truly blessed to have a pastor with compassion for people, a sincere love for God, a hunger for the Word, a passion for teaching, the gift of leadership, and a vision for the church. Those are the qualities we will celebrate on this special day.



“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” Psalms 133:1

SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 18, 2018



*For about 20 years,
BSBC has
celebrated
Annual Family Day*

BSBC ANNUAL FAMILY DAY

March 18, 2018

You may be familiar with a TV show about a multigenerational family of law enforcement officers called Blue Bloods. This show has a signature scene where all the members in the family come to the father’s home for Sunday dinner. Or perhaps you are familiar with scenes in the movies of Madea where the family gathers around the table for Sunday dinner at Madea’s. In the 80s, Sunday dinner after church over Grandma’s, Big Momma’s or Auntie’s was the place to be! On Saturday you may have even been part of helping to prepare that Sunday’s meal.

At the Star, we have our way of showing value in the family by celebrating multigenerational connections with extended friends and family on Annual Family Day. Invite your friends and family members, whether they have a church home or not to fellowship with us on **March 18, 2018**. This day only comes once a year where we have another opportunity to set aside a day to come together as one big family to continue the tradition of a family gathering.

By Tarea Burgett

Coming up in May: SONIC FREE FAMILY DAY

SONIC is celebrating the family by offering free admission to the
Oklahoma City Museum of Art

WHEN: Sunday, May 6, 2018

TIME: 12pm to 5pm

For additional details, visit: <http://www.okcmoa.com/visit/events/sonic-free-family-day-4/>

Simultaneous Revival

By Khia Glover

As a kid you probably knew it as the time your parents would drag you to church every day for the entire week. However, as we get older and grow in Christ our perspectives should change, right?

The simultaneous revival is actually a unique event that presents an opportunity for the entire city to worship *simultaneously*. During the week after Easter Sunday just about every church in Oklahoma City conducts a nightly revival. There are services to attend throughout the day with morning services, evening services, and also includes late night services which generally hosts some of the most dynamic, well known pastors. The guest preachers are always highly anticipated. This is one of the longest running revivals in the city with a great history running for over 70 years.

Bethlehem Star is one of many churches to host evening services for the revival, April 2-6, 2018 at 7pm. Other churches also included are Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Fairview Baptist Church, St. John Baptist Church, New Zion, and numerous others.

Executive Leadership Team (ELT)

As you are probably aware, BSBC is branching out in its effort to "Equip the body of Jesus Christ". Pastor Payne has created a new leadership structure designed to incorporate the expertise and ideas from all areas in the church. The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) is designed as the Strategic Leadership of the church. This team will:

- Develop and promote a culture conducive to Vision and Mission execution
- Develop and implement systems, infrastructure and strategies
- Identify and develop talent to operate with integrity and creativity, maximizing their gifts and talents

ELT consists of:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Pastor Payne | 6. George Bland |
| 2. Wendy Johnson | 7. Brandon Tillman |
| 3. Dorsey Wardsworth/Al Adams | 8. Arthur Campbell |
| 4. Barbara Campbell | 9. Joseph Smith |
| 5. Sam Brown | 10. Danielle Adams |

BSBC Mission:

To equip the body of Christ through Evangelism, Discipleship, and Christian Service while ministering to the whole person

Vision:

Live in the Love of God,

Walk in the Will of God

Experience the Power of God

Do you have Full Coverage?

By Precious Coleman

You always here that old saying of “I have full coverage”, but what does that really mean? People think that means they have collision, comprehensive, rental, towing, and roadside assistance, etc. This is far from the truth. Insurance covers collision and comprehensive. Rental, towing, and roadside assistance is additional coverage that you must add on. It is not automatically added. Your deductible amount is also your choice. Deductibles can range anywhere from \$250 to \$2,500. Be sure when choosing a plan, you choose something that is comfortable for you and your budget. Because if you are in an accident (regardless of who is at fault), you will be responsible for paying the deductible if you go through your insurance policy. This deductible is only for repairs to your vehicle. If you are in an accident and you are responsible for damages to the other party’s vehicle, or other property, then your insurance will handle that with no out of pocket expense to you (up to a certain amount). Again that certain amount goes back to what you have chosen. So, when looking at your policy you may see something that says \$25/\$50/\$25. This is called your liability coverage (25/50/25 is the state minimum for the state of Oklahoma this varies by state). If you are responsible for an accident, this is the maximum your insurance will pay out. The first number represents a bodily injury. This means if one person was injured in a vehicle you hit, the maximum your insurance would pay is \$25,000. The second number is for when there are multiple bodily injuries in a vehicle you hit. The maximum your insurance will pay out is \$50,000. The last number (to me) is the most important because it represents what your insurance will pay out for someone’s property. That is for any and everything you may hit with your vehicle, from another vehicle to a house.

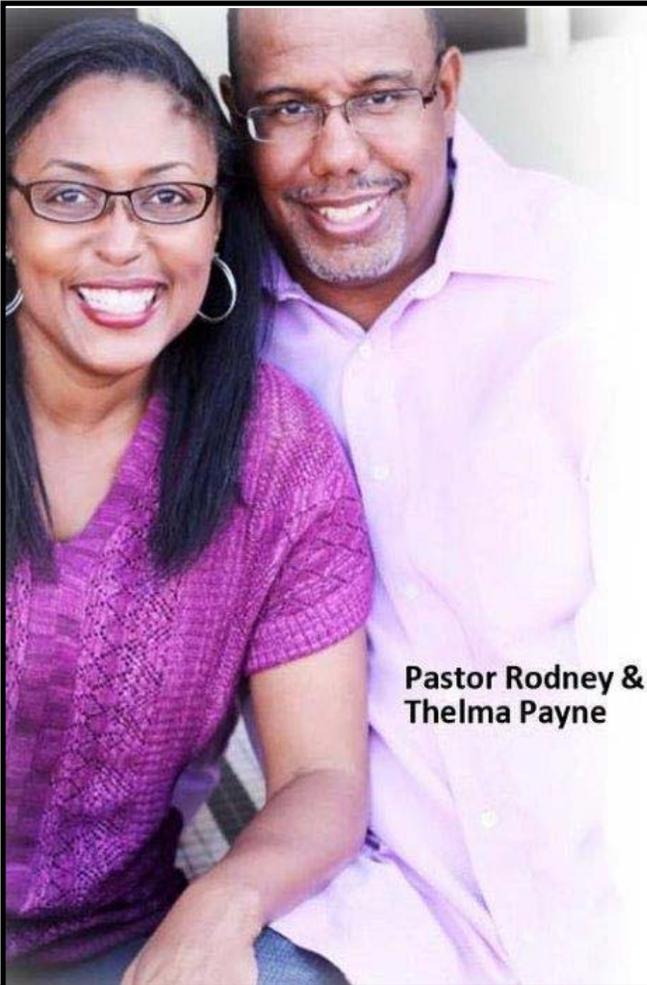
When vacation time comes around, road trips are always big on the list. Be sure to check your coverage to see if it carries over onto that rental you plan to get. Not all policies do. It is important to call your agent to make sure. If your policy does carry over and you damage the rental, your deductible will apply as if it were your own vehicle. If your insurance does not carry over, you may want to purchase the insurance from the rental company called Damage Waiver. That way if there is an accident this coverage acts as your insurance coverage. Otherwise you would be responsible for damages to the rental and any other vehicle or property damage you may have caused. Just be sure that you know and understand your insurance policy and what it covers. You don’t want to wait to find out in the middle of a crisis.

What is important to me

By John Dixon

My name is John Dixon. I am a seventh grader at Heartland Middle School. Grades can get you to a lot of places in life. I believe all students should have good grades and should have the help they need to be able to do that. I believe that if they have the right help and support they can achieve the goal of getting good grades. You see, if you get good grades that could open a whole lot of doors for you in the future. For instance by getting good grades that could potentially lead to scholarships. Scholarships can help you get the education that could lead to a job you never thought you would have.





Pastor Rodney &
Thelma Payne



APRIL 12-14, 2018

ROMAN NOSE STATE PARK
WATONGA, OKLAHOMA

\$350.00 PER COUPLE

Employment Opportunities

For your convenience, the Star Comms booth has a binder where you can find current employment opportunities.

The binder is updated weekly. Please stop by and an attendant will be happy to assist you.



Did You Know???

- ◆ The new BSBC App has an electronic bible application that allows you to change translations and is searchable.
- ◆ Our Scholarship Ministry assists/supports high school and college students who are active church members.
- ◆ Deacon Chairman Emeritus Ransom Miller Jr. started Special Interest Group (SIG) because he felt our boys were missing a very important part of life...bonding/fellowshipping with dads and men.
- ◆ You can search through the many church ministries and see where volunteering is a good fit for you.
- ◆ The Star News team is always on the look-out for writers, editors and ideas to make our newsletter the best it can be in supporting our congregation and lifting up the name of Jesus!

Boundaries: What are they and how can we get some?

By Sis Brittany Black, M.S., LMFT-C

Boundaries build self-love, self-esteem, and self-respect. With them you can reconcile many relationships and resolve others as boundaries provide the space to also love, build up and respect one another. Without boundaries people tend to get hurt in relationships or not be as happy as they could be. Some people think of boundaries as ways to keep people out; however, they are just the opposite. When we have boundaries we actually can *safely* allow, people into relationships with us without a huge fear of getting hurt. So what are boundaries? In the physical world boundaries are fences, walls, signs, etc. They state where my property begins and yours ends. Similarly, personal boundaries are the limits we set with others. In other words, boundaries are statements of what is or is not okay with you in interaction with another person. Three things define healthy boundaries: clear, consequential, and consistent. A poor boundary will be unclear, have no follow-through, and constantly shift. A good and healthy boundary is clear and direct in word and action; it will come with thought-out consequences which are followed through after any violations. A healthy boundary is consistent in being clear, in consequence and with one's values.

So what does the bible have to say about boundaries? Let us first examine the nature of God Himself. Simply said, there is no one better at boundaries than God. Boundaries are all about being *set apart*, keeping the good in and the bad out. God has not only perfected this, but He is very clear and consistent regarding what is and what is not okay with Him. God is also clear and consistent with the consequences of violating the limits of what is and what is not okay with Him. As for scripture, the bible tells us to tell it like it is letting our "yes" be "yes" and our "no" be "no" (Matthew 5:37). Boundaries are about self-control which the bible teaches us to have (Titus 2:12). Boundaries are about taking personal responsibility for ourselves which the bible commands us to do (Galatians 6:5). Lastly, God calls us to be like Him (Ephesians 4:15).

So how can we get some boundaries? It's not so much about "getting some boundaries" as it is identifying what and where they are. We actually already have them! We can identify what and where our boundaries are by recognizing and acknowledging our feelings. Just like when we are sick we understand something went *wrong* with our body, when we are upset we can understand something went *wrong* with our boundaries. We can start right there.

Sometimes we might feel bad about setting boundaries but we must remember how our relationships suffer when we are unhappy. There's much research on the topic of boundaries, and how to set boundaries is overwhelmingly consistent with three short things.

- 1) Know your limits (understand what your values are and understand what tends to upset you)
- 2) Be clear and direct (state your boundaries when someone is getting too close for comfort with them. This can be scary for many, but you can start practicing with something small, just know this step is very important.)
- 3) Follow through consistently (if you don't take your boundaries seriously, no one else will either)

I hope and pray we all research this topic further for our well-being and protection as we learn and grow in our walk with Christ.

REFERENCES

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Probe Ministries. (n.d.). 1. Boundary Basics. Retrieved January 20, 2018, from <https://bible.org/seriespage/1-boundary-basics>

Tartakovsky, M. (2016, July 17). 10 Way to Build and Preserve Better Boundaries. Retrieved January 20, 2018, from <https://psychcentral.com/lib/10-way-to-build-and-preserve-better-boundaries/>

Biblical Trivia

1. Who cried to The Lord and God granted him fifteen more years to live?
2. What was the sign that God would heal him?
3. Who prayed "that I may not cause pain"?
4. Who did Jesus call out of the tomb (grave)?
5. Who was killed by having a tent peg driven through his head?
6. Who are the two Gentile women listed in Jesus' genealogy?
7. Who said "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone"?
8. Who did Peter bring back to life?
9. Who was the great grandson of Boaz?
10. What are the Hebrew and Greek names for Satan?

You have a prize waiting for you at the Star Comms booth!



Correctly answer all the bible trivia questions to redeem your prize.

HIGHLIGHTED CALENDAR EVENTS

February

- (11) Annual Men and Women's Day Service, 3:00pm
- (18) Black History Program 9:30am
- (25) Pastor's Appreciation

March

- (9) Greater New Zion
- (11) EZCDA Spring-N-Spirational Day 3:30pm
- (12) Evangelism - New semester starts
- (14) Wednesday services at Mt Olive 7:00pm

(14-16) Sheppard Street Church revival 7:00pm

- (18) Annual Family Day
- (24) NEM teachers' training 8:00am

April

- (1) Resurrection Sunday service 6:00am
- (2-6) City-wide Simultaneous Revival
- (12-14) Marriage Retreat (Roman Nose State Park)
- (22) Annual Ushers' Day 3:00pm
- (25-27) Spring Revival (Mt. Moriah Baptist Church)

Please consult the Sunday bulletin, church website and BSBC Communications Center for updates.



Rodney Payne



Pastor Rodney Payne



pastorrodneypayne



Bethlehem Star Baptist Church



@PastorRPayne

Bethlehem Star Baptist Church



BETHLEHEM STAR
BAPTIST CHURCH
 LIVE IN THE LOVE OF GOD . WALK IN THE WILL OF GOD
 EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF GOD