



News to Know

The Bridge Christmas Event: Thursday

Meet at Coosada Baptist at 6:15. Bring money for supper. We should arrive back to the church at 9:30. We have a couple of extra tickets, if your student would like to join.

Summer Camp

Summer camp sign-ups are open until December 14. A \$125 deposit is due at sign up. [Sign up here](#) for middle school. [Sign up here](#) for high school.

Christmas Party

Our Christmas party will be December 17 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. The theme is "Pancakes and Pajama Pants." You can [sign up here](#). If you would like to help, please let me know!

Refuge: Wednesday at 6:30

We'll worship together in The Harbor at 6:30. If you're curious what happens at Refuge each week, feel free to drop in one Wednesday to check it out.

Sunday Morning Small Groups

Every week, we have small groups that discuss our previous Wednesday's message. Passive learning (listening to a teaching) has retention of 5-10% but active learning (discussing the message) has retention of up to 75%! Small groups are important to us.

Abounding Grace Girls' Bible Study

Sunday at 6:00 PM at the church!

Refuge this Week

This week, we're going to continue our study on David's life a little longer by looking at 2 Samuel 6. In the chapter, David brings the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem. The question we'll ask: "Is God at the center of your life?"

- 1) **Do you desire God?** David wanted the Ark back in Jerusalem as one of his first acts as king. Until then, it had been sitting in a random town in a random man's house. For decades, Israel had pushed God to the side, almost without realizing it. But David was determined to place Him back at the center of the nation. It's just as easy for us to drift and let God slide to the margins of our lives. So the question is: Do you truly want the presence of God at the center?
- 2) **Do you have compromise in your life?** While Israel's intentions were good, they transported the Ark the wrong way. God had given clear instructions, but they ignored them and placed the Ark on a cart instead. In their minds, it didn't seem like a big deal. Compromise works the same way in our lives. We may genuinely want God, but often we want Him on our terms, in our own way.
- 3) **Do you long for holiness?** As they were transporting the Ark, it began to tip, and a man named Uzzah reached out to steady it. The moment he touched it, he was struck dead. To us, that feels like a severe consequence. Why would God respond so strongly to something that seems so small? Because God is holy. The issue wasn't that God was too harsh, it's that Uzzah was too casual with what was sacred. In the same way, we're called to clear out the parts of our lives that treat God lightly and pursue holiness with reverence.
- 4) **Do you know Jesus?** When David saw Uzzah die, he became angry, and then afraid. He asked, "Who can stand before this holy God?" We wrestle with that same question. If we can't approach God because of His holiness, how can we ever truly know Him? The good news is that Jesus came as our mediator. Because of Him, we can stand in God's presence. Jesus makes a way for us to draw near to a holy God with
- 5) **Do you truly worship?** When they bring the Ark back to Jerusalem, the people rejoice. David even takes off his kingly robes to join in the worship. God's presence leads to God's praise. His wife sees him, and she gets disgusted. But, David doesn't care. He continues to worship.

Resource of the Week

This week's resource isn't about parenting, but I found the truths in it very encouraging for the Christmas season. It's titled, "God Tabernacled Among Us." You can find it [here](#)



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