

FIRST THOUGHTS

Though the world mocks and even tries to squelch the testimonies of Christians, Jesus continues to be victorious. NBC will be airing the musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* on Easter Sunday. One of the stars in the musical will be Alice Cooper, the Rockstar of yesteryear. Alice Cooper is known for his outlandish performances and outfits including black make up around his eyes, fake blood, snakes and sometimes skull and crossbones type accessories. Alice Cooper will be playing Herod.

As NBC has promoted this televised event, Alice Cooper has gotten a lot of publicity and what came out of his mouth surely shocked many. In an interview Cooper said, "he knew he needed to make a change in his life when he woke up vomiting blood, 37 years ago:

"Everything that could go wrong was shutting down inside of me. I was drinking with Jim Morrison and Jimi Hendrix and trying to keep up with Keith Moon and they all died at 27."

Cooper, then 33, was diagnosed as a "classic alcoholic". He turned to his wife and the faith in which he was raised to better resist the temptations that come with the life of a rock star.

"My wife and I are both Christian," the 70-year-old performer explains. "My father was a pastor, my grandfather was an evangelist. I grew up in the church, went as far away as I could from it — almost died — and then came back to the church."

All over news sites there are headlines that say, *Alice Cooper credits God For Recovery from Alcohol, Alice Cooper: Jesus rescued me from alcoholism.*

Jesus continues to be victorious. 2000 years after Jews tried to bury Him and yet He was victorious over the grave, He continues to be victorious. He will *continue* to be victorious. One day He will come again and be utterly victorious.

Go ahead, drive the nails in My hands
Laugh at me where you stand
Go ahead, and say it isn't Me
The day will come when you will see

'Cause I'll rise again
Ain't no power on earth can tie me down!
Yes, I'll rise again
Death can't keep Me in the ground

Go ahead, mock My name
My love for you is still the same
Go ahead, and bury Me
But very soon, I will be free!

'Cause I'll rise again
Ain't no power on earth can tie me down!
Yes, I'll rise again
Death can't keep Me in the ground

Continued at top of next column

FIRST THOUGHTS CONTINUED

Go ahead and say I'm dead and gone
But you will see that you were wrong
Go ahead, try to hide the Son
But all will see that I'm the One!

'Cause I'll come again!
Ain't no power on earth can keep Me back!
Yes, I'll come again, Come to take My people back

EW

IGNITE NEWS

Father/Son Float Trip, and VBS!!!!!!

Our 3rd Annual Father Son Float trip is scheduled for June 14-16! This is one of my favorite events of the year. It is a weekend away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and a chance to connect with our sons and God. The cost will be \$75 per person. Boys in the 6th grade and under are required to have an adult guardian with them. Deadline to sign up is April 13. To sign up, have any questions, or need additional information, Call Me, Randy, or the church office.



Vacation Bible School will be June 4-8!

Have you ever wanted to travel back in time and witness epic events in history or meet famous inventors that made discoveries that changed the world?

Well, now you can! This year for VBS we are going back in time!

Imagine traveling through time and meeting the most important man ever—a man who was not just a man, but also God. One who turned the world upside-down. One who existed outside of time. We'll do just that as we embark on Time Lab. We'll remember that Jesus, our forever faithful, loving, caring, promise-keeping Lord, has been with us always!

There's just one piece missing.....**YOU!** We need lots of help to make VBS a success! We will be utilizing a rotation schedule again this year to help lighten the load on everyone. Please be in prayer about how you can help and be sure to let me know that you are willing to help!

Time sure will fly while we're having fun. So get ready to launch into hyperdrive as we take off for Time Lab! Lets go!!

Tim

REFUGE

With the month of April brings the warming of temperatures and the blooming of flowers. It is the most beautiful time of the year as the seasons change. With April comes the Easter season, the season we celebrate our risen Savior. While looking at the events following the resurrection, it is mind blowing who Jesus reveals Himself to first. It wasn't the religious elite, it wasn't Cesar, it wasn't even the eleven remaining disciples, but it was Mary. The role of women in New Testament times was rather low. Women would not have been considered a plausible witness in a court of law.

This leaves one to wonder why Jesus would choose this unlikely character to be the first to reveal himself to and give the call to go and share Jesus is alive. I think why would Jesus choose Mary, one that no one else would choose. It leads me to think why did Jesus choose me to share his Word as well. I am far from who I would choose to make an impact for His kingdom. The truth is we are all unlikely characters in the greatest story ever told. Christ doesn't see our inadequacies of speech or lack of skills but he sees the only qualifying factor of faith in Him. If we have placed our faith in Him then we have been qualified and sent to share the Good News of Jesus.

Upcoming Events

Sr. Recognition May 6

Mission Arlington May 23-26

*In Christ,
Randy Zeigler*

Saints Alive!

April 30, 2018
WMU
6:00pm

ONLINE GIVING

Go to our church website at www.fbcrayville.org and click on the GIVE button. After creating an account, you're able to give a donation or schedule a series of donations directly from your checking account or by using your debit or credit card.

FIRST NOTES 🎵

God, What Do You Want?

Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' James 4:15

Is your day planned out ahead of time? Do you ever feel busy but unproductive? I've often asked my kids this question: "What do you want?" And most of the time I'll get a vague and ambiguous response because most of the time they don't know what they want or need. Unfortunately, I get the feeling that is how it is with us and God most of the time. We often don't know what we want or need, but we keep pressing nonetheless. Thankfully, everything we want and need is in Christ. Truly, knowing Christ intimately is the key to all joy and peace. And more than anything, all God really wants is a heart and life yielded completely to Him. We are good at expressing our likes and dislikes, and we could tell of countless things of what others expect from us. But do we stop and listen to the voice of God long enough to hear what He expects from us this day? A hard lesson I've learned over the years is that being busy for God is not the same as being with Him. No matter how hard we try we cannot work our way into His presence. In my life, I've discovered that when I wholeheartedly seek after Him I find the tasks He's put before me so much more rewarding. Even Jesus sought time with the Father and prayed: "not my will but Thine be done." I encourage you to find that balance of intimacy with God that overflows into your service to Him. May each of us wake up each day and say, "God, I'm Yours. What do you want from me?"

Raymond

With Sympathy We extend Christian love and sympathy to the family of Mr. A. O. Doughty.

CARE & SHARE MINISTRY

Tuesdays & Fridays:
8:00am-12Noon

DR. WREN'S SERMONS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

Go to fbcrayville.org and click the Sermons link at the top of the page. Church activities and upcoming events are also posted on the website. Share the web address with someone and invite them to church.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

- 9:00am Worship Service
- 10:10am Sunday School
- 6:00pm Evening Worship
- 6:00pm Joy Explosion

MONDAY

- 1:30pm Helping Hands Ministry

TUESDAY

- 8:00am-12Noon Care & Share

WEDNESDAY

- 4:00pm "Through the Bible" Study
- 5:00pm Wednesday Night Supper
- 5:20pm Praise Team
- 5:30pm Men's Bible Study
- 6:00pm Jesus Among Secular Gods
- 6:00pm IGNITE-Children's Activities
- 6:15pm REFUGE-Student Worship
- 6:30pm Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY

- 6:00am Men's Prayer
- 9:30am Ladies' Prayer Group
- 5:30pm Richland Celebrate Recovery

FRIDAY

- 8:00am-Noon Care & Share

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 1st Easter Sunday
- 8th Deacons' Meeting
- 14th Second Helpings
- 15th Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 29th 6:00pm Family Fellowship Day

MAY

- 6th Senior Recognition Day



FBC STAFF

- Dr. Eddie Wren
Pastor
 - Raymond Perrin, Jr.
Minister of Music
 - Tim Allen
Minister to Children
 - Randy Zeigler
Minister to Youth
 - Beth Livingston
Ministry Assistant
 - Annie Rucker
Bill Martin
Custodian
- Office phone 318-728-3231
www.fbcrayville.org
Office@fbcrayville.org



If you are out of town or can't be in church join us live anytime on Facebook under First Baptist Church, Rayville La.



Deacons' Meeting
Sunday, April 8th, 5:00pm

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
Sunday, April 15th, 8:00am
In the Family Life Center

Wednesday Night Suppers
5:00pm - 6:00pm
\$3.00

First Baptist Church
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 Rayville, LA 71269-0810
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 72169

First Ray

SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 29TH
FAMILY FELLOWSHIP DAY

RICHLAND CELEBRATE RECOVERY

A Parish Wide Ministry

Thursdays, FBC Rayville Gym

Dealing with HURTS, HABITS, HANG-UPS? Do you know someone else who is? Join us on Thursday nights as we grow in the knowledge of God's mercy and grace in our lives.

- 5:30pm Fellowship Dinner
- 6:30pm Large Group Meeting
- 7:30pm Open Share Groups

SECOND HELPINGS

April 14th

Family Life Center

- 8:00am Begin set-up & cooking
- 9:00am Serve up food trays
- 10:00am Begin delivery routes

If you are interested in helping with this ministry and would like more information, please contact Barry Collins at 680-5818 or Lori Morris at 366-1571.

		April Birthdays			
Myrtis	Dewitt	1		Glynn	Garrett
Kevin	Carlisle	1		Suzette	Doughty
Andrea	Morris	2		Nick	Gibson
Emilee	Turner	2	Debbie	Hemmert	5
Bobby	Barton	2	Chelsea	Mitchell	5
Bill	Martin	2	Bonnie	Sapp	5
Jenny	Grantham	3	Natalie	Reeves	6
B.J.	McKnight	3	Brad	Brown	6
Cliff	Mills	3	Kym	Trisler	7
Stacey	Duboss	3	Kenneth	Raborn	7
Gene	Dewitt	4	Cameron	Williams	8
Nicholas	Heath	4	Jamie	Williams	8
Cole	Morris	4	Kaye	Perritt	9
Ellen	Perrin	4	Kellie	Thames	11
Jay	Brakefield	5	Chris	Sullivan	11
Ken	Branch	5	Ryan	Felder	12
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