

# The Challenger

## Ministerial Staff

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Volume 56

April 2021

NO. 4

Why are we in danger every hour? I affirm by the pride in you that I have in Christ Jesus our Lord: I die every day! If I fought wild animals in Ephesus with only human hope, what good does that do me? If the dead are not raised, **Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.** - 1 Cor 15:30-32 (HCSB)

This passage is found in one of the most foundational chapters in the Bible – 1 Corinthians 15. In it, Paul is emphasizing the importance of the resurrection. In the above verse, he’s basically saying, “My goodness, if there’s no such thing as a resurrection, why am I fighting off wild animals for the sake of the Gospel? Why am I putting myself in danger? If this life is all there is, I need to be eating and drinking it up in luxury rather than follow a path of suffering!

Unfortunately, many of us are tempted to condense Paul’s words to say, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die,” and we’ve left out, “If the dead are not raised.” The way many of us are tempted to interpret the Christian life (in the way that we actually live as opposed to the words that we say), this life is all there is, so let us not concern ourselves with Heaven and its stored-up rewards. Let us not concern ourselves with pouring our lives out as a drink offering for the sake of eternity. Let us concern ourselves with the NOW! God needs to take away my suffering NOW! God needs to bless me with all of His riches NOW! God should be obligated to fix my health NOW! God needs to turn our country into His kingdom NOW! Wait a minute. The joy of the Christian life isn’t the expectation that all of our problems are immediately going to be taken away in this life. As a matter of fact, we might even have some problems added. (Paul had added onto his schedule wrestling matches with wild animals!) Our joy is grounded in the fact that this life isn’t all there is because at that first Easter, Jesus defeated death, displaying His power as a promise that someday, He will resurrect us to a whole new existence, too.

Makes Easter pretty important, doesn’t it? Arguably even more important than Christmas. The Resurrection, the event that makes it to where this life isn’t all there is, is what gives the Christian hope - meaning if I die tomorrow or if I lose every earthly possession I own or if God brings me through a time of intense suffering, I still have my hope. Jesus’ resurrection enables us to set our sights on the eternal rather than the temporary. From that, the knowledge of a resurrection determines our priorities. See why it’s so crucial to Christianity? No wonder Paul said that without it, our faith and his preaching is meaningless!

I guess that leaves us with the question this season, “In our time, in our priorities, in our ministries, in our giving, are we living our Christian lives in the light of the resurrection?”

In His Grip,  
Pastor Fred

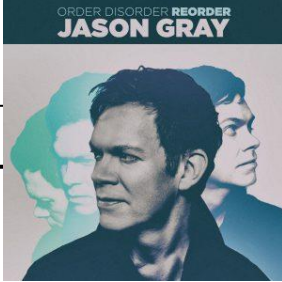
First Baptist Church  
411 N. Warren Ave.  
Winslow, AZ 86047



**Family Bible Connection  
Wednesday Nights  
6-7 pm  
In the Activity Center  
Everyone is welcome!**



**SAVE THE DATE!!!  
JASON GRAY CONCERT  
APRIL 7, 2021 4-6PM  
in the south parking lot**



**Easter Morning  
Worship Service 9:00  
am  
& 10:30 am.  
No Brunch and  
No Sunday School.  
Please join us in person  
or on livestream with  
Facebook at the 9:00 &  
10:30 services.**



**Quarterly Update Sunday 04/25/2021** in the Activity Center immediately following the morning worship service. Lunch will be provided.



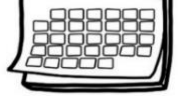
**Food Box Distribution** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday from 3:00pm - 5:00pm. If you are in need or know of someone who may be helped by receiving a box, please share this information. For more information please see Freddie Campbell.

**Senior Adult Lunch** will be Friday, 4/16, at 11:30 AM. This will be a potluck. Please bring a main dish and side/dessert to share



**Men's Breakfast  
Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM  
In the Activity Center  
Kevin Berg will be our guest speaker**



**Mark your calendar!!** 

04/01	6:00 PM	The Most Excellent Way
04/02	8:30 AM	Men's Bible Study
04/02		Good Friday - No School
04/02	7:00 PM	Good Friday Service - Desert View Baptist Church
04/04	9:00 am & 10:30 am	Easter Morning Worship Services
04/04		<b>NO Twice Fed or Teachers' Bible School</b>
04/05	6:00 PM	Men's Potluck
04/05	6:30 PM	Men's Bible Study
04/06	9:00 PM	Men's Fellowship
04/06	9:30 AM	Ladies' Bible Study & Fellowship
04/06	2:00-5:00 PM	Hope Pregnancy Center
04/07	4:00 pm	Jason Gray Concert
04/07		<b>NO Family Bible Connection Tonight</b>
04/07		<b>NO Youth Night</b>
04/08	3:00 PM	Food Box Distribution
04/08	6:00 PM	The Most Excellent Way
04/08	7:00 PM	Church Council Meeting
04/09	8:30 AM	Men's Bible Study
04/10	8:00	Men's Breakfast
04/11	3:00 PM	Deacon's Meeting
04/11	5:30 PM	Twice Fed
04/11	5:30 PM	Teachers' Bible School
04/12	6:30 PM	Men's Bible Study
04/13	9:00 PM	Men's Fellowship
04/13	9:30 AM	Ladies' Bible Study & Fellowship
04/13	2:00-5:00 PM	Hope Pregnancy Center
04/14	6:00 PM	Family Bible Connection
04/14	7:15 PM	Youth Night
04/15	6:00 PM	The Most Excellent Way
04/16	8:30 AM	Men's Bible Study
04/16	11:30 AM	Senior Luncheon
04/18	5:30 PM	Twice Fed
04/18	5:30 PM	Teachers' Bible School
04/19	6:30 PM	Men's Bible Study
04/20	9:00 AM	Men's Fellowship
04/20	9:30 AM	Ladies' Bible Study & Fellowship
04/20	2:00-5:00 PM	Hope Pregnancy Center
04/21	6:00 PM	Family Bible Connection
04/21	6:00 PM	Youth Night
04/22	3:00 PM	Food Box Distribution
04/22	6:00 PM	The Most Excellent Way
04/23	8:30 AM	Men's Bible Study
04/25	12:00 PM	Quarterly Update - Lunch Provided
04/25		<b>NO Twice Fed or Teachers' Bible School</b>
04/26	6:30 PM	Men's Bible Study
04/27	9:00 AM	Men's Fellowship
04/27	9:30 AM	Ladies' Bible Study & Fellowship
04/27	2:00-5:00 PM	Hope Pregnancy Center
04/28	6:00 PM	Family Bible Connection
04/28	7:15 PM	Youth Night
04/29	6:00 PM	The Most Excellent Way
04/30	8:30 AM	Men's Bible Study