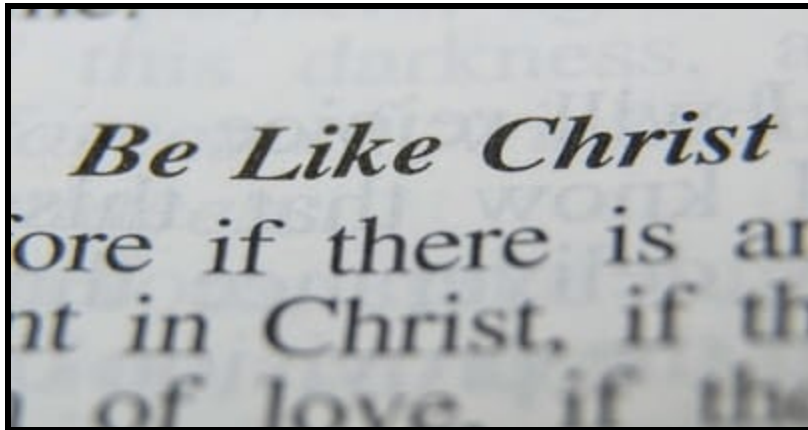


May 3, 2020



The purpose of Bethany Baptist Church is to bring glory to God by making disciples who reflect the character and priorities of Jesus Christ.



Pastor Peter Erratt: peter@bethanybaptist.ab.ca
Pastor Dennis Burriss: dennis@bethanybaptist.ab.ca



3901 44 St.
Red Deer, AB
T4N 1G7



403-347-7900 or 403-343-0855



office@bethanybaptist.ab.ca



www.bethanybaptist.ab.ca

Today - Sunday, May 3

Adult Sunday School Class [Posted at 8:30 a.m.]
9:00 a.m. Nav. 2:7 Sunday School Class [via Zoom]
10:30 a.m. Worship Service [Livestreamed]
Pastor Peter Erratt
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Church Wide Prayer Meeting [via Zoom]

Children's Ministries

Sunday School (grades 9 - 12): 9:00 AM, via Zoom
Children's Church: activity pages emailed weekly

Wednesdays

Junior High & Senior High Youth

- Zoom call at 6:30 PM
- Weekly reading plans & questions
- Google Hangouts group chat for continued fellowship

Contact Chelsey Hausch for more information

Thursdays

Women's Encourage Group

9:30 AM via Zoom
Contact church office or Nancy Erratt for more information

Women of BBC Coffee Call

2:00 p.m. via Zoom
Contact Lisa Rice for details

-Fellowship-

Important Notes!

1. Since services and events are not being held at the church please contact the church office with any concerns.
2. If you wish to have a CD of the service please contact the church office.
3. Donations may be made online on the church website, www.bethanybaptist.ab.ca, also by mail, or dropped off at the church office (no cash over \$100).

Question: "What does the Bible say about discernment?"

Answer: The word *discern* and its derivatives are translations of the Greek word *anakrino* in the New Testament. It means "to distinguish, to separate out by diligent search, to examine." Discernment is the ability to properly discriminate or make determinations. It is related to wisdom. The Word of God itself is said to discern the thoughts and intentions of one's heart (Hebrews 4:12).

A discerning mind demonstrates wisdom and insight that go beyond what is seen and heard. For example, God's Word is "spiritually discerned." To the human mind without the Spirit, the things of God are "foolishness" (1 Corinthians 2:14). The Spirit, then, gives us spiritual discernment. King Solomon was known for his power of discernment, making many wise decisions and moral judgments (1 Kings 3:9, 11). Christians today are to be discerning as well. Paul prayed for believers "to discern what is best . . . until the day of Christ" (Philippians 1:10).

A discerning person will acknowledge the worth of God's Word: "All the words of my mouth are just; none of them is crooked or perverse. To the discerning all of them are right; they are faultless to those who have knowledge" (Proverbs 8:8-9). Seeking discernment is a goal for all who desire to walk righteously: "Who is wise? He will realize these things. Who is discerning? He will understand them. The ways of the LORD are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them"

(Hosea 14:9).

We are commanded to "hate what is evil; cling to what is good" (Romans 12:9). But, unless we have true discernment, how can we determine what is "evil" and what is "good"? In order to maintain the purity of the gospel, the church must distinguish truth from heresy. Wisdom also demands that we properly discriminate between what is "best" and what is merely "good."

Discernment has many collateral benefits. "My son, preserve sound judgment and discernment, do not let them out of your sight; they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck. Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble; when you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet" (Proverbs 3:21-24).

Just as Solomon sought discernment and wisdom (Proverbs 1:2; 1 Kings 3:9-12) to explore the handiwork of God (Ecclesiastes 1:13) and seek the meaning of life (Ecclesiastes 12:13), so should believers seek "the wisdom that comes from heaven" (James 3:17). We must study the Scriptures which are "able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15). May our prayer be "I am your servant; give me discernment that I may understand your statutes" (Psalms 119:125).

(Recommended Resource: "The Discipline of Spiritual Discernment" by Tim Challies)
Article from www.gotquestions.org

Prayer Opportunities

**Pray for our Missionaries.
Refer to your "In the Fold"
Missionary Prayer Cards**

- **Acute Health Needs:**
- **Social/Care:** Greeters
- **Fellowship Prairies Church:** Calvary Baptist, Edmonton, AB

To send a Prayer Request or join the Prayer Line: Phone or email the church office

Small Groups Ministry

Coordinator: Martin Scholz

- **Blankestijn - call:** Addie & Diana (Fridays 6:30 p.m.)
- **Scholz - call:** Martin & Lorna (Two Sundays per month after the service)
- **Shortt/Reeve - call:** Doug & Joan (Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.)
Don & Patricia
- **Smith - call:** Tom & Tina (Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.)
- **Street - call:** Dave & Laurel

As a way to serve and shepherd our church family better, the Elders Board would like to invite your prayer requests, comments, and questions to the Elder associated with your last name.

Elder Shepherd Groups

A - B (Richard Klassen); C-D (Pastor Peter Erratt); Du - Han (Addie Blankestijn); Har - Kom (Lyndon Unger); Kow - Me (David Street); Mu - Ree (Tom Smith); Rei - Sm (Don Collier); St - Z (Pastor Dennis Burriss)

Donation Policy

The spending of funds received by Bethany Baptist Church is confined to Church approved programs and projects. Each gift designated toward an approved program or project will be used as designated with the understanding that when any given need has been met, or the specified program or project cannot be reasonably carried out or has not been approved, designated gifts will be used where needed most. Where appropriate, an official receipt for tax purposes will be issued as soon as possible after the year end.