

# SOUTHWESTERN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

February 2026



**Southwestern Christian Church**

2525 Lyle Rd. Weatherford, Ok 73096

## PLACES TO ENGAGE

**Rooted Groups** - Starting this month  
A great place to explore your faith and see where God might be calling you into a deeper faith.

Grow Groups: Wednesday Night  
@ 6:30pm for all ages

Women's Study @ 7am Tuesdays

Men's Bible Study @ 6am Thursdays

## ENGAGE

A Journey through Luke

## FROM THE PASTORS

Engagement can happen through many ways. We engage with God through reading our Bibles and in prayer. We engage with each other through conversations, meals, and serving each other. Through engaging we are able to deepen our relationships and get to know each other in new and deeper ways.



## PLACES TO SERVE

Music and Media Ministry

Youth Ministry

Children's Ministry

## Other Happenings

Preaching and Teaching

February 16-18

# FROM THE PASTORS CONT.

From Mike

I'd like you to recall your water baptism. If you aren't baptized, we should have that discussion. Reach out! But for those of us who are baptized, let's talk briefly about what it means to be baptized.

Does it mean once a person is baptized their troubles will diminish?

-Not at all. In fact, often they are intensified.

Does it mean a "ticket" to heaven one day?

-The Bible seems clear baptism is much more than that.

But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic.

But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed. - Acts 8.9-13

It seems Simon has had a conversion experience. The magician heard Philip preach the gospel and was baptized. The text goes on to say Simon begins to follow and subsequently learn from Philip. In other words, discipleship began. But not so fast, my friend. It's not how one begins a journey with Jesus. It's how the journey ends.

Let's keep reading from Acts.

Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostle's hands, he offered them money, saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity." And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me." - Acts 8.18-24

If we consider Simon's conversion, it's surface-level at best. The text says he saw the power of the Holy Spirit given to the Apostles and then passed on by the laying of hands. In other words, the presence of God was evident. Simon desired that power. But instead of praying for full conversion in his own life, he offered the apostles money to obtain the same power.

His heart was still far from God.

His motivation was to be seen, not to point others to God.

And because his selfishness displayed who he was, Simon was quickly told to repent of "this wickedness" and pray to the Lord.

So recall your water baptism. Think about your conversion. Ultimately, if what you have done has ANY SELFISH MOTIVE, your conversion is not complete. Everything we do is all about God! Everything.

Baptism is more than getting wet. It's dying to self and living for God.

Love you guys!