

Volume V, Issue 9 || September 2012

# PERSPECTIVE

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF MOUNT VERNON BAPTIST CHURCH

## WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN HE'S PREACHING

A USER'S GUIDE TO THE SERMON

How Should  
We Listen to  
Preaching?



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**STAFF** ▶ **SERMON SCHEDULE**

- September 2 A Powerful and Creative Word**  
 Genesis 1:12-24
- September 9 Entitlement**  
 1 Peter 1:3-9, Luke 15:25-32  
 Guest Preacher: Jim Wood
- September 16 A Crushing and Humbling Fall**  
 Genesis 3:1-11:26
- September 23 The Unstoppable Mission of Jesus**  
 Acts 12  
 Guest Preacher: Josh Manley
- September 30 A Surprising and Welcoming Promise**  
 Genesis 11:27-17:27

▶ **FIGHTER VERSE**

<sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 1:12-13

**INSIDE THIS EDITION** ▼

**Partnering with Families**

A brief description of why we have a family ministry and how you can be involved.

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**What to Expect When He's Preaching: How Should We Listen to Preaching?**

An article on the responsibilities of someone listening to a sermon.  
 by Aaron Menikoff

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Use the QR reader on your mobile device to sign up to receive each issue of *Perspective* by email.

# Knowing

M V B C

**Knowing MVBC** is a four-session course that introduces you to life at Mount Vernon, covering the following topics:

- **Knowing Our Commitments: Church Covenant**
- **Knowing Our Beliefs: Statement of Faith**
- **Knowing Our Structure: Leadership**
- **Knowing How to Be Involved: Discipling & Serving**

Anyone interested in membership or knowing more about life at Mount Vernon is invited to **Knowing MVBC**. All four sessions will be offered Sunday, September 9, during the Sunday School hour (session 1) and from 12:15-2:30 pm (sessions 2-3). Lunch will be provided.

You may sign up on the edge of the bulletin, by contacting the church office at 404-255-3133, or by email at info@mvbchurch.org.



## ORIGINS

an eight-week study through the book of genesis

On September 2, Pastor Aaron will begin an eight-part sermon series on the book of Genesis.

Each sermon will be available the Monday after it is delivered through the Mount Vernon Podcast on iTunes, in *The Courier*, and on the church's website at www.mvbchurch.org.

Sermons are also available on CD for \$5 per copy.



# PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES

## PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES

Families are under siege today. The spirit of the culture is increasingly hostile to the biblical pattern of the family. It seeks to redefine marriage. It marginalizes the roles of husbands and fathers. It devalues the fulfillment of being a wife and mother, and most grievously, it perceives children as a burden and inconvenience.

The biblical mandate, however, for godly marriages and parents is central to God's purposes in the family, church, and society. Fathers, mothers, and parental guardians must be equipped with a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Our desire is to see families honored and God glorified as the Word of God becomes central to the family. Our prayer is that families say as the psalmist said, "Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart" (Ps. 119:33-34).

*The Family Ministry at Mount Vernon exists to equip men and women for marriage and parenting, to partner with parents in the evangelism and discipleship of their children, and to support fragmented families.*



Photograph courtesy of Dawn Lamprecht.



## HOW TO BE INVOLVED

Parenting with families is a church-wide effort. All members of the church have a responsibility and role to play in equipping and encouraging families and Mount Vernon's Family Ministry. Below are some ways you can be involved.

**Pray!** Pray that there would be a growing vision of equipping parents and that parents will take their responsibility seriously. Pray that there will be Gospel growth in the lives of the children. Pray that the church would faithfully love and encourage families.

**Visit the Children's and Student Ministries.** Come a few minutes early on Sunday or Wednesday to visit the children and workers downstairs. Offer to sit in on a class. Go by the Preschool and Elementary desk. When was the last time you visited the Family Ministry areas?

**Learn the names and encourage the children and children's workers.** When you visit downstairs, take the opportunity to introduce yourself to the children. Shake their hands. Welcome them to Sunday School. Offer an encouraging word or write a thank you letter to the Family Ministry workers.

**Befriend and disciple families.** The goal of the Family Ministry is a multi-generational endeavor. We desire our

children to pass the Gospel on to their children and so forth. But even those in the church with children that are grown and out of the house have the unique opportunity to befriend and encourage youth families. Take the opportunity to do this.

**Volunteer to help.** The Family Ministry is always in need of more helping hands. You can tell from the calendar of events that it takes an army of loving volunteers to help equip parents and teach children. Volunteer to help coordinate a special event, serve in Children's Worship and Wee Worship, help teach Sunday School or Wednesday night for a year.

What gift has God given you for the building up of Family Ministry? Pray and use your gifts for the building up of this ministry. Please contact Doug Young or Jacob Hall to talk about how you can be involved.

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IN PREPARATION FOR THIS ARTICLE, I went to the bookstore to see if I could find any good books on the topic of listening. I found a shelf devoted to public speaking. There was a book about the art of giving a toast and a terrific guide to public speaking by Peggy Noonan, speechwriter for Ronald Reagan. I even found on the same shelf *The Idiot's Guide to Robert's Rules of Order*. But nothing on how to listen. To tell you the truth, I figured this would be the case. We are much more interested in learning how to speak than how to listen. We have all heard of the Great Communicator, but who knows who the Great Listener is? Me either.

Listening is hard work. Minds drift. I've been there. One moment you are completely engaged, the next you are wondering if you remembered to pick up your dry-cleaning. Usually we hide our wandering thoughts well. Some of us can create a weeklong to-do list while we appear to be listening to a sermon. I think the award for worst listener probably goes to the lady who sat in the choir loft and balanced her checkbook while the pastor preached.

Some of the responsibility for listening well falls at the feet of preachers. Preachers should preach good, clear, biblical, Christ-centered, applicable messages. That is what this series of articles on *What to Expect When He's Preaching* has in fact been about. There are some sermons that, frankly, are not worth listening to. I know, I've preached a few of them. Still, much of the responsibility for listening well falls at the feet of those who are charged to listen. That is what this last article is all about.

Before we head down the final stretch, remember what I've covered in this series of articles. I observed several challenges to good preaching: complacency, shame, and even preachers. I argued that preaching honors God when Christ is the content of every sermon. I suggested that most preaching should be expositional preaching. I wrote that preaching is at the heart of

what a local church does. Finally, I examined the lives of men who are truly called to preach.

Now I need to turn the tables. It is time for us to think about our responsibility to listen well to preaching. As we cover this ground, keep the following, main point, in mind: *the spiritual vitality of your life is directly linked to how well you listen to biblical preaching*. So, how should you listen? I have four answers.

#### You Should Listen Humbly

We should come to every sermon with the deep-seated conviction that we need the Word of God to comfort and convict, to encourage and to challenge. It is imperative that we see our need. Part of being a Christian, in fact, is coming to the Bible with the realization that we must *hear* rightly in order to *see* rightly. This takes humility.

The Bible is a message about God giving spiritual sight to the spiritually blind. Blindness, in fact, is often a sign of God's wrath. Moses told God's people what would happen should they stray from His commands: "The LORD will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of mind, and you shall grope at noonday, as the blind grope in darkness, and you shall not prosper in your ways (Deut. 28:28-29). Israel's disobedience would lead to blindness. Rejecting God means you will not see God.

It is God, and God alone, who can remove this blindness. His power over our eyes is made clear in Psalm 146:8, "The LORD sets prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." Therefore, we should not be surprised that God spoke of a day when he would restore spiritual sight. This is the day of the Messiah, the Servant of the Lord we read about in Isaiah "And I will lead the blind in a way they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn their darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground" (Isa. 42:16).

God's punishment for rebellion is spiritual blindness, but the promise is of a day when this blindness will be healed. It is the promise of a day when we will see the Lord with eyes of faith.

This brings us to Jesus. What did Jesus do when He came to earth? We "see" it in Mark 10. It was no accident that as Jesus left Jericho, He came upon a blind beggar who heard Jesus was near and cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus called the man, Bartimaeus, over and asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" His need was obvious, but Jesus wanted the man to say it. He did, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." Jesus' response was immediate, "Go your way; your faith has made you well" (Mark 10:46-52). Bartimaeus received the gift of sight and he began to follow Jesus.

This is Jesus' ministry, in a nutshell: He came to give sinners sight so they could follow Him. The physical healing that Jesus gave this man pointed to a far greater work. Jesus died so that the spiritually blind could now see.

If you want to listen humbly to a sermon you have to first admit that you don't see clearly. Admit that there is still sin in your life clouding your vision. Every night, before I go to bed, I take my contact lenses out. A day of air and wear and dust has worked against them. They need to be washed so that I can see. Imagine what would happen if I left them in my eye. Eventually, I wouldn't be able to see at all.

Christian, the eyes of your heart need to be washed by the Word of God. You need to admit that your spiritual vision is cloudy, and that it affects how you live, what you think, and what you say.

At Mount Vernon, we begin many Sunday mornings with a prayer of confession. It is an opportunity for us to admit, as a congregation, that we need God's help to see rightly. We do this before anything else to remind ourselves that we desperately need God's Word to work in our lives this and every day. It is a wonderful moment to pray, "Lord, I want to see." Listen humbly.

#### You Should Listen Carefully

In Acts 17 we find the classic example of careful listening. Paul and Silas were in Berea, not far from Thessalonica. Paul preached to a community of people who were familiar with the Hebrew Bible. The Apostle pointed them back to the Scriptures, and he made the case that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of everything they read in the Law and the Prophets.

These Bereans were humble listeners. They sensed their own need for Paul's message and "they received the word with all eagerness" (Acts 17:11). They closed their mouths and let Paul speak. They were humble. But these Bereans were also careful. They examined "the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so." In other words, they knew that God would never contradict himself. If what Paul was teaching them was true, his message—however difficult to understand—would not contradict prior revelation.

They listened to Paul, and they tested his message. They didn't respond merely emotionally to his teaching, but with their intellect fully engaged.

How can we exercise such intellectual conviction? How can we listen carefully? John Chrysostom was a fourth-century pastor who preached expositionally. He led his congregation through book-by-book studies of the Bible. He also prepared his congregation by letting them know what he was going to be preaching and he urged them to read ahead: "I often tell you many days in advance the subject of what I am going to say, in order that you may take up the book in the intervening days, go over the whole passage...and so make your understanding more ready to learn."

Let me encourage you to do the same thing. Wherever possible, find out what your pastor is going to be preaching on and read that passage in advance. Pray over it. Take notes about it. Come with questions in hand. As you hear the Word of God preached, you will be better prepared to listen carefully. You will also be helped by purchasing a good Bible dictionary and commentary. Use them eagerly and often. These aids are not merely for preachers; they are for listeners as well.

#### You Should Listen Practically

What if you decided one day to prepare a gourmet meal at home? You pulled out your fanciest cookbook and spent hours in the kitchen cooking an extraordinary feast. You put out your best linen and your finest china and you bought beautiful flowers to adorn the table. You plated every dish with an eye to perfection then, just when you were ready to sit down and eat what you so carefully prepared, you ran to the closest fast-food restaurant and ate a hamburger.

Sounds crazy, doesn't it? And yet how many of us sit through sermon after sermon, our ears wide open, our notebooks full—but when it comes to actually putting the sermon into practice we fail, and fail miserably? We simply walk away from the message, content to live our lives unaffected and unchanged. At the end of a biblical sermon, a feast has been laid before us. We consume it not merely by listening but by listening practically—responding to the message in faith.

James has a stern warning to those who hear God's Word but fail to do what it says:

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing" (James 1:22-25).

Not long after I came to Atlanta, a member came up to me to tell me how thankful she was for the preaching. She loved being in the Word and she loved learning about the Bible. What an encouragement! But do you know what was even better? A few months later I'd learned that she and her husband had started an evangelistic Bible study in their home. They didn't just hear the Word; they did the Word!



What does this mean for you? After you listen to the sermon, ask yourself three important questions. It might be a regular addition to your Monday devotional. *First, how did the sermon I heard help me love God more?* We want to begin with the heart. The Word of God should be working internally to change your affections and give you a greater love for the Savior. After a

## This is Jesus' ministry, in a nutshell:

### He came to give sinners sight

### so they could follow Him.

sermon your appreciation for Christ's work on the cross should have increased.

*Second, how can the sermon I heard help me obey God more?* Good sermons are applied sermons. The preacher may not always know what you are particularly struggling through, but you do! So you can take the biblical message he prepared and think deeply about what personal changes that message is demanding you to make.

*Third, how can the sermon I heard help me serve others more?* The Christian life is about more than your personal walk with the Lord, it is about your walk with the Lord's people, the church. Reflect on the message and ask how the Lord is personally growing you as a church member and as a friend, as a parent, or as a spouse. How can you use this sermon to help make disciples?

Whatever you do, please don't be like the cook who made the gourmet meal but never ate it! Don't be like the man who heard the Word but failed to do the Word. Listen practically.

#### You Should Listen Expectantly

Listen with the conviction that something amazing will happen because God's Word is powerful. It is not that every sermon is going to be a *tour de force*. Some sermons are better, clearer, and more powerful than others. Nor will every Sunday be an emotional high. There was nothing special about the river that formed the Grand Canyon—time simply did its thing. There is nothing special about churches that carve holiness into your life either—the Spirit, over time, simply works. But the gradual, sanctifying work of the Spirit in our life and the ordinariness of preaching should not change the fact that when the preaching starts we should expect great things.

Preachers are representing God when they preach. We should expect God to use their message in our lives. Paul rejoiced that the Thessalonians accepted his word as a word from the Lord (1 Thess. 2:13). A preacher's words are not the same revelation Paul communicated, but his apostolic ministry continues wherever the gospel is faithfully preached. So, when we listen to biblical preaching we can be sure that God is at work.

Peter taught that when someone with the gift of biblical teaching is exercising that gift, we should pay attention because the one

who speaks is communicating "the oracles of God" (1 Peter 4:11). And when the gospel is presented, we must not be bored. We should instead be bowled over, every time, because "it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16).

It has been over fifteen years since I delivered my first sermon, but every time I get up to speak, I am still aware that something special is taking place. I've been given the opportunity to deliver a message from God's Word. When we listen to biblical preaching, we should be sensitive that this is not a baseball game nor is it a class lecture. It is the proclamation of the Word of God, and we should expect it to accomplish something wonderful.

When you hear the preacher expounding Scripture, believe that God has a message for you. Expect the Holy Spirit to take those words and turn your life upside down. That preacher has been given an assignment from God to present you with words that are more important than anything else. Expect much from these words. No preacher is an apostle. The canon of Scripture is closed. But when a preacher faithfully delivers a message from God's Word, he is delivering a message from God. You can expect sermons to do a good, though sometimes painful, work in your life. Where the Word of God is preached, God is active.

In his own conversion story, pastor Spurgeon shows us the power of the preached Word in his life. He explained how he grew up in a Christian home, "I confess to have been tutored in piety, put into my cradle by prayerful hands, and lulled to sleep by songs concerning Jesus." But he didn't know Jesus. Maybe you can relate. You grew up surrounded by Jesus in songs and even sermons and prayers, but you never really knew him. Spurgeon was like this until he was a teenager.

Then, one Sunday morning, Spurgeon couldn't reach his intended church due to a snowstorm. So, instead, the young man snuck into a Primitive Methodist Chapel with no more than fifteen people in attendance. The pastor wasn't even there to preach. After the singing, a man Spurgeon described as a tradesman, maybe a shoemaker or tailor, entered the pulpit. According to Spurgeon, he wasn't much to listen to, "Now it is well that preachers should be instructed, but this man was really stupid. He was obliged to stick to his text, for the simple reason that he had little to say." Nonetheless, Spurgeon managed to record the words that changed his life forever:

My dear friends, this is a very simple text indeed. It says, "Look." Now lookin' don't take a great deal of pain. It ain't liftin' your foot or your finger; it is just, "Look." Well, a man needn't go to College to learn to look. You may be the biggest fool, and yet you can look. A man needn't be worth a thousand a year to be able to look. Anyone can look; even a child can look. But then the text says, "Look unto Me." Ay!...many on ye are lookin' to yourselves, but it's no use lookin' there. You'll never find any comfort in yourselves... Look to *Christ*."

Spurgeon entered that building an unbeliever and left a Christian. The Word of God changed him. The Word worked. It pierced Spurgeon's heart. It tore into him and transformed his life. Oddly enough, it wasn't the quality of the sermon that did it; Spurgeon later writes that he could not grow as a Christian under such preaching! But the fact remains that God used the Word to change a sinner's heart. We can expect that kind of power every Sunday.

So here is my prayer each week: That the Word of God would tear into people's lives. I've seen it happen in my own life and at the church I serve. A couple of years ago, a young woman started coming to church. Soon she came to faith. I asked her how the Word of God worked in her life, and here is what she said:

I didn't know about the Bible. I hadn't read Scripture until I started coming to church. I was not familiar with the Bible at all. The biggest thing to me was the application for every day life. If I wasn't listening to someone preach the Gospel, I couldn't understand it on my own. I had to have help. Once that started to happen, the ball started rolling. Now I can sit down and read Scripture, and I have more tools now to look at.

Preaching changed Spurgeon's life. It changed this young woman's life. By God's grace, it will change your life, too.

So how can we listen expectantly? *First, pray.* Pray for a heart that is receptive, ready, and eager to hear the message. Pray that you would not leave the service without a greater understanding of who God is and a greater commitment to follow Jesus Christ. Pray that through the course of the message the sinfulness of your sin would be revealed as well as the sufficiency of Christ.

*Second, prepare.* If your pastor tells you the passage he is going to preach on in advance, you can and should read it ahead of time. You will be surprised how much easier it is to follow a message when you have already soaked in the text yourself. While you are at it, make it a point to get a good night's rest on Saturday. Instead of viewing Saturday night as the day to stay up late, use those final hours to prepare for Sunday morning. Pray for your pastor as he puts the finishing touches on the sermon, and pray for unbelievers who may turn up to hear the sermon. If you are a parent, consider giving some time on Saturday to preparing the entire family for the message. If your family sees you excited for the Lord's Day, they will very likely be excited as well.

I want to write to those of you who may go to church week in and week out and yet are not seeing dramatic change in your life. Maybe you expected more. I understand. I remember as a new Christian looking around and wondering if I would ever know as much as those sitting around me. Do you know that feeling? If so, do not underestimate the cumulative effect of sitting for years under solid preaching.

Rome wasn't built in a day nor are we sanctified in a year. It takes time. Sure, sometimes a sermon can be like a bolt of lightning.

It leaves the listener in a state of shock. It can turn a life upside down in just a few sentences. But more often than not, a sermon is more like a faucet releasing one drop of water every second. It doesn't look like much but, given enough time, buckets and buckets worth of water will pour out. Be patient, the preached Word is powerful. Expect it to change your life.

#### You Should Listen Charitably

On behalf of all those pastors who are seeking to faithfully preach the Word, let me end with one more exhortation: listen charitably. In other words, if you have reason to believe that the Lord raised this particular man to preach in this particular place, then your default should be to trust him. Of course, you must listen carefully—like the Bereans, test everything he says with the Word of God. But in your criticism, strive to be charitable.

I'm thinking of verses like Acts 20:28, where Paul instructs the elders in Ephesus, "Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers." Those men were to have confidence that God had raised them up to their position of leadership. Therefore, the congregation should also have confidence in these men. Then there are passages like Hebrews 13:17, "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account."

Pastors do not have unilateral authority over a congregation—at least they *should* not! Such authority belongs only to Christ and, under Christ, the church. Furthermore, any human authority in this fallen world can and will be abused. Good pastors know their authority begins and ends with Scripture. But when it comes to preaching, because of the authority God has granted pastors, we should be ready, willing, and even eager to trust them. You need to be in a church where you trust your pastor so that you will listen charitably. Listen to his messages with a heart full of thanksgiving and love. Thank God for the way these sermons feed your soul.

Pray for your preacher. He will be held accountable for what he says. Pray his words are true. Pray that when you listen to him your guard is down and your heart is soft. Be prepared to listen charitably, fully expecting to be comforted and challenged. His ministry and, more importantly, his message, is an incredible gift from God to you.

The church today is in desperate need of excellent preachers. But we need excellent listeners, too. It is so easy to measure the quality of the sermon on the basis of the stories that were told, the jokes that were made, or even the number of folks who may have attended. But a good sermon is one that preaches the gospel faithfully. If this is done, lives will change.

Are you prepared to have your life changed as you sit under the preached Word? If so you will listen humbly, carefully, practically, expectantly, and charitably. ■

~ Aaron Menikoff

This article is adapted from a sermon given on April 17, 2010.

# September 2012

1	8	15	22	29
	7	14	21	28
	6	13	20	27
	5	12	19	26
	4	11	18	25
	3	10	17	24
	2	9	16	23
				30

2	9	16	23	30
<p>9:15 am Joint Sunday School</p> <p>6:00 pm Lord's Supper</p>	<p>9:15 am <b>Knowing MVBC</b></p> <p>New Sunday School Classes Begin</p> <p>10:30 am Guest Preacher: Jim Wood</p>	<p>4:30 pm Budget Q &amp; A</p> <p>5:00 pm <b>Students on Ropes Course</b></p>	<p>10:30 am Guest Preacher: Josh Manley</p> <p>4:30 pm Church in Conference</p>	<p>4:00 pm Covenant Group Training Session</p>

6:30 pm New Equipping Matters Classes Begin

7:30 pm Choir Christmas Preview

9:30 am Women's Bible Studies Begin

7:00 pm How to Find Work Seminar

Sandy Springs Festival

## EVENTS < BIRTHDAYS

**Churchwide** ▼  
 September 2 9:15 am *Joint Sunday School*  
 Bryan Pillsbury, Scott Sullivan, and Darrell Ingram will be leading us in thinking biblically about taking the gospel to the nations, and they will help us think specifically about the area of Central Asia.

September 2 6:00 pm *Lord's Supper*  
 We encourage members to examine their hearts and relationships with one another in preparation for this celebration of Christ's death and resurrection.

September 16 4:30 pm *Budget Q & A*  
 There will be a question and answer session for the proposed FY 2013 Budget in room 211.

September 22-23 *Sandy Springs Festival*  
 Mount Vernon will be handing out copies of *What Is the Gospel?* and trying to start evangelistic conversations with those in our community.

September 23 4:30 pm *Church in Conference*  
 At the next regularly-scheduled Church in Conference, we will be discussing many matters related to the life of the church. Members are encouraged to attend.

**New Members** ▼  
 September 9 9:15 am *Knowing MVBC: Session 1*  
 12:15 pm *Knowing MVBC: Sessions 2-4*  
 (See ad on page 1.)

**Adult** ▼  
 September 5 6:30 pm *New Equipping Matters Begins*  
 The classes being offered are Feminine Appeal, Gospel Growth for Men, and Church Life Matters.

September 5 7:30 pm *Choir Christmas Preview*  
 For those interested in joining the MVBC choir and participating in our annual Christmas at Mount Vernon concert, we will be premiering our Christmas music at the Christmas in September party.

September 9 9:15 am *New Sunday School Classes Begin*  
 The new classes being offered are a 17-week study of the Sermon on the Mount, a 17-week study on the book of Colossians, and a 36-week study on the gospel of Mark. All of our on-going classes will continue as normal.

September 17 12:00 pm *RW&A Luncheon*  
 Everyone 50 and older is invited to the start of the monthly RW&A luncheons. Bring a covered dish.

September 27 7:00 pm *How to Find Work Seminar*  
 Ben Hudson, member of Mount Vernon and author of *How to Find Work When There Are No Jobs*, will be hosting a seminar to help those looking for a job.

September 30 4:00 pm *Covenant Group Training Session*  
 Pastor Aaron will lead a series of training sessions on how to lead a small group. Anyone interested in leading a Covenant Group starting in January needs to attend this training.

1 Margaret Friend	15 Harry Early
2 Kenneth Cutshaw	Terri Jo Reeves
Leesa Wheeler	18 John Coleman
3 Greer Henderson	Rosie Lobefaro
Tyler Hughes	Todd Wheaton
Lisa Morgan	19 Sherry Harris
Preston Pillsbury	20 Andy Blackburn
4 Ed Fisher	John Due
Martha Fisher	Dedra Kirkland
Barbara Harkey	22 Bert Neal
Drew Roth	Susan Spruill
5 Jane Johns	23 Patrick Carnes
6 Betty Dewberry	Terry Clayton
7 Will Coen	Cameron Searle
Sam Galbraith	Alicia Young
Greg Kail	24 Robin Spangler
Frank Olver	25 Jaynie Chandler
Debra Swann	Amy Cofer
8 Charlotte Chapman	Laura Salzman
10 Carroll Chapman	26 Linda Andrews
Sara Tucker	Brian Neal
12 Betty Mooney	27 Jeremy Brundage
13 Coleen Bryant	Stephen Parsons
John Hall	29 Heidi Higgins
Alice Ann Sage	Doug Johns
14 Chris Reed	30 Elizabeth Hearn

**Women** ▼  
 September 12 9:30 am *Precept Bible Study*  
 All are welcome to join the Precept Bible Study as we finish the last lesson in Hebrews, followed by the book of 1 John. The cost of the workbook is \$25. Childcare is available for children 3 and under.

September 12 9:30 am *Amazing Collection Bible Study*  
 Amazing Collection is a Bible study that helps women see the Bible as a "whole" from Genesis to Revelation. We will begin in the Book of Job this Fall and end in the book of Daniel. Childcare is available for children ages 3 and under. The cost of the workbook is \$11.

**Students** ▼  
 September 16 5:00 pm *Students on Rope Course*  
 The student ministry will be enjoying a time of fellowship out on the ropes course behind the softball field. Contact Jacob Hall for details.

**Children** ▼  
 September 26 7:45 pm *Wee Worship Orientation*  
 This session is for all Wee Worship workers who were unable to make the last two sessions.



*Mount Vernon*

BAPTIST CHURCH

850 Mount Vernon Highway NW  
Sandy Springs, GA 30327

[www.mvbchurch.org](http://www.mvbchurch.org)