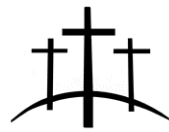


# THE FIRST WORD for .... January 19, 2025



## First Baptist Church Eden

A Place of Grace to  
Believe, Belong, and Become

101 Burleson Street (325) 869-3681

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday Small Groups 9:30 am

Sunday Worship 10:45 am

Pastor: John Curry (432) 923-2163 edenpastor@frontier.com

Worship Ministry Leader: Mike Turner conchospringsgolf@yahoo.com

Youth Ministry Leader: Loren Briggs (325) 656-3234 loren3484@hotmail.com

Children's Ministry Leader: Pam Young (432) 413-3205 jeunejoven@gmail.com

Adult Ministry Leader: Teresa Escue (325) 450-7279 edenfbsec@frontier.com

**FBC Eden exists to bring glory to God by becoming a "3E community":  
Embracing God in worship, Encouraging one another in love to become  
fully-devoted disciples, and Engaging the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.**

**January 19:** Pot Luck following Morning Worship

12:30 pm Members Meeting

**January 26:** 3:00 pm Nursing Home Ministry

4:00 pm Deacons Meeting

**February 9:** LORD's Supper

Souper Sunday Church Meal

**February 10:** 6:00 pm MOC Meeting

**February 11:** 10:00 am Community Ladies Gathering @ Church of Christ

**February 14:** 6:30-8:30 pm Valentine Dinner

Everyone is invited to a special Valentine's Day Lasagna Dinner (Singles or Couples). We'll spend the evening dining, fellowshiping, and enjoying light entertainment. Child care is available upon request. Reserve your space with a \$5 deposit by February 10th. See Phyllis or Wanda for more details.

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Worship ..... 88

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Wednesday Night..... 57

### Today's Message

Want to Hear Great Things?

Jeremiah 33:1-3

### ARE YOU A SAP SUCKER?

*And you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root. Rom. 11:17*

Have you ever been really thirsty? I mean, tongue sticking to the roof of your mouth, dried out, and parched thirsty. What did you do? Did you ignore the thirst or did you, as the Sprite slogan says, "Obey your thirst"? My guess is, if you are anything like me, you found a way to quench your thirst and satisfy your desire and need for refreshment.

Physically, the body needs water in order to survive. Every part of the body requires water in order to function properly and effectively. Without water, we wither and die. Spiritually, the same is true. Jesus said, "Blessed are all who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled." Mt. 5:6. And in John 4:14 he said, "Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of living water welling up to eternal life."

Even before that, in Jeremiah 2:13 God said, "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water." That was true of the Israelites, and it is often true of us as well. We are often guilty of digging our own cisterns. We trade the living water of God for the stale and stagnant waters of this world. We foolishly think we can go days, even weeks, without drinking from the fount of living water. Satan has deceived us into believing that we can be self-sustaining people. He blinds us and occupies our time with the things of this world in such a way that we don't even realize we are dying of thirst. In John 15:5-6, Jesus said, "If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers...." Just as the physical body without water withers and dies, so too, the spiritual body without living water withers and dies.

Paul reminds us in Romans 11:17 that we, the wild olive shoot, have been grafted in and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root. Who is the olive root? Jesus, himself. We are grafted into him and must remain in him. We must drink in the word of God, spend time in quiet solitude with the Lord, and be filled with living water from the spring of living water on a daily basis.

May God bless and nourish all you devoted sap suckers.

Thanks again to Tina Briley  
for her article for this  
week's First Word.