

FIRST NEWS



**San Saba
First United Methodist Church**

February 2012

**San Saba
First United Methodist
Church
204 W. Brown
325-372-3120
www.sansabafirstumc.com**

Debby Lake, Pastor

**We bid you welcome
In the name of
Our Lord Jesus Christ.
Pray with us,
Sing with us, rejoice
with us**

**Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
First Worship 10:00 a.m.**



**Ministers:
Entire Congregation**

**Pianist/Organist:
Nettie Oma Carpenter**

**Choir Director:
Tracey Thomas**

**Church Secretary:
Debbie Uli**

**Custodian:
Mario Mendiola**

From the Pastor's Study.....

The Bible is often so matter of fact about what God wills that we mistakenly think what we are called to do is easy. We can be reading along, feeling semi-spiritual and centered, and all of a sudden find ourselves nodding in agreement before a passage like Matthew 22:34-40. *All we have to do is love the Lord our God with everything we've got, and love our neighbors as ourselves*, we might paraphrase to ourselves. *Yeah, I should be able to do that*, we think. Or we read Micah 6:8, which doesn't seem to be bogged down by all those Levitical codes and doesn't say one thing about animal sacrifices, and we are lured into thinking: *Yes. Now that's reasonable. All I have to do is do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. All right, I'm with you.*



Then we start imagining what justice, love, and humble walking look like, and things get more complicated. In our imagining we begin to participate in the Kingdom, where everything looks different from what we have ever known. When we submit to the will of the One who promises us, and graces us, and loves us, our own wills are changed. When we share in the desire of God that the Kingdom come to earth as it is in heaven, God's desire becomes our own.

To do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God is not only, then, to join a new reality. It is to be ourselves completely unmade and remade – to become the “new creations” we are in Christ (II Cor. 5:17). Similarly, to do “what God requires” is not merely to take on a few extra responsibilities, but to live completely different lives.

When we start realizing this we might cease nodding emphatically and become a little concerned. Because if there's one thing we generally do not like, it's qualitative change to ourselves. Changes to others are OK, as long as they don't affect us too much. Changes to our circumstances are fine, as long as they add to what we think is good and take away from what we think is not. Improvements to ourselves are welcome, as long as they don't fundamentally change us.

Yet change, of one kind or another, is inevitable. Where will 2012 find YOU as you grapple with this reality?

In His Spirit,
Debby

**Faith Weaver Friends
Wednesday's
Jan. 18th—April 11th
3:45 to 5 p.m.,**

**The 7th & 8th Grade
Girls
Bible Study
Begins January 10th
5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Upstairs Sunday School
Room**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Monday, Feb.27th

**Methodist Women
Social & Devotional**

4:30 p.m.

Church Parlor

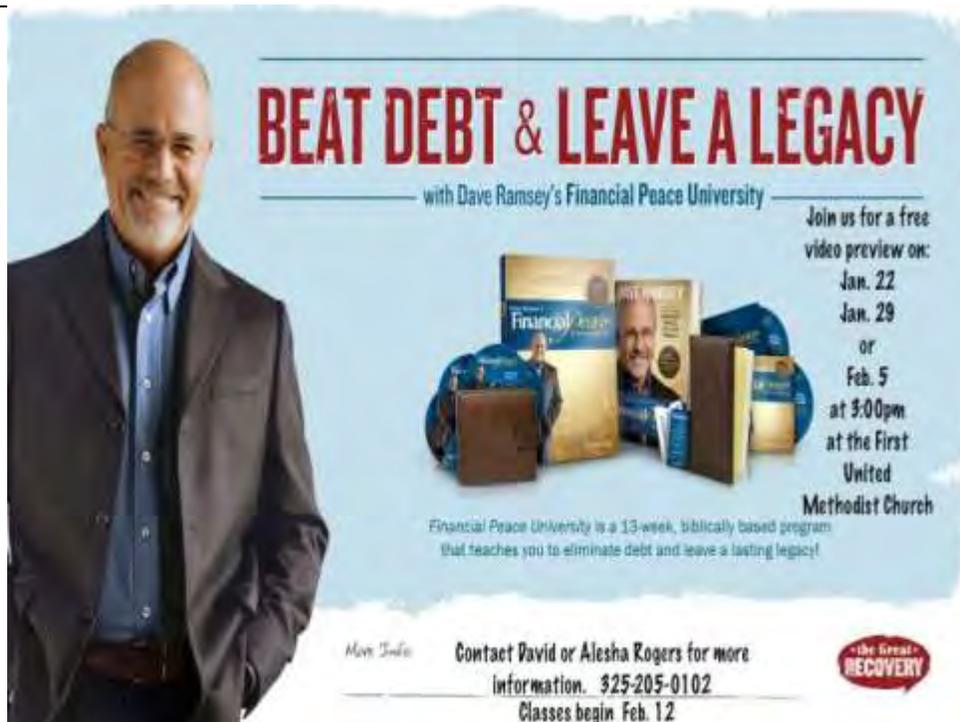
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Belated Thanks

To Misty Everett

Great Job !!!!

**Everyone really enjoyed
the
Children's Christmas
Program!!!**



BEAT DEBT & LEAVE A LEGACY
with Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

Join us for a free video preview on:
Jan. 22
Jan. 29
or
Feb. 5
at 3:00pm
at the First United Methodist Church

Financial Peace University is a 13-week, biblically based program that teaches you to eliminate debt and leave a lasting legacy!

More Info: Contact David or Alesha Rogers for more information. 325-205-0102
Classes begin Feb. 12

the Great RECOVERY



**The Junior High Bible Study Gals went to Marble Falls
For the Festival of Lights**

**Valentine Covered Dish Luncheon
Sunday February 12th
Immediately after the
Worship Service
Bring Your Family & Friends!!!!**

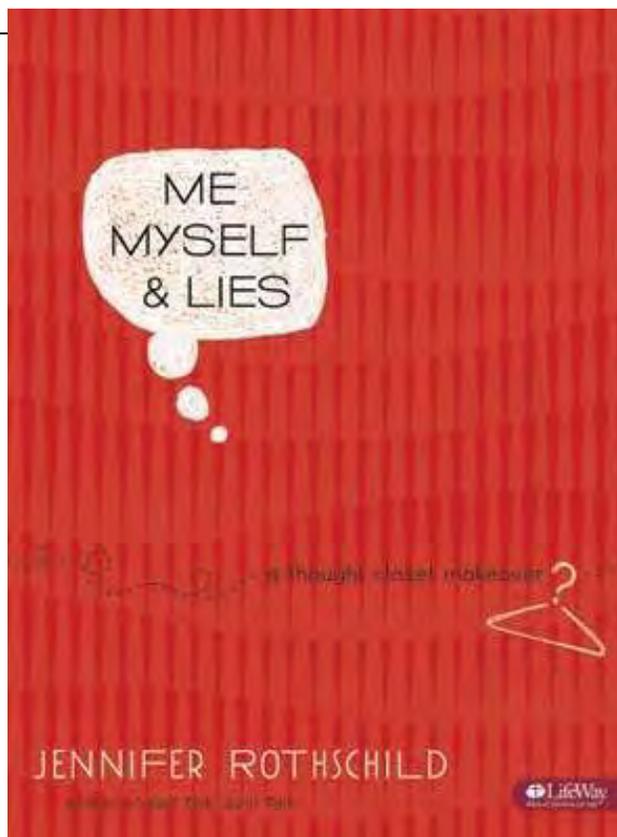


Me, Myself, and Lies: A Thought Closet Makeover [Bible Study Member Book]

Adapted from the trade book, [Self Talk, Soul Talk](#), in the Bible Study, Me, Myself and Lies, Jennifer shares practically and helpfully from her own life and from Scripture to show how every woman can turn her words—and her life—around for good.

This six-week Bible study for women encourages them to clean out the junk in their thoughts and replace these hidden negative thoughts and failures with positive truths from God's word. Rather than struggling with self-esteem, body image, stress and other unhealthy thoughts and emotions learn to replace the lies you may have been telling yourself with the truth from God's word.

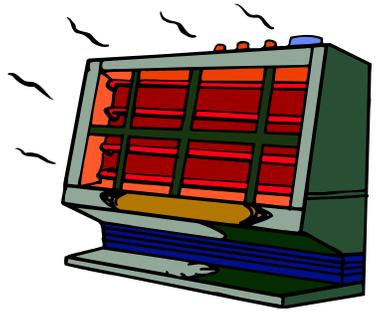
The bible study starts the week of February 13th. The morning session will be at 9:30 a.m. The evening classes time has not been determined. Contact the church office for more information.



A New Year's blessing

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;
Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,
and by making you anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.
—Author unknown

The heaters down stairs have instructions and in order to turn them on or off the instructions need to be followed. **Do not turn off the pilot light, it is hard to ignite again.** Thank you.



Our Church Family

We had several of our church family students on the San Saba ISD Honor Roll. They are: Addyson Easterwood, Madison Shahan, Daylan Smith, J.T. Moody, Ryan Mathis, Risien Shahan, J.T. Moody. Several of our church family are headed to Kerrville Saturday and the Equipping the Saints workshops. The trustees are certainly going to represent our church well. David & Alesha Rogers, Cindy & Roland Hawkins, and Travis and Cathy Gage. Others may be going that I don't know about. You may not recognize Bob Millican. He has been to the dermatologist and gotten some places burned off his face and arms. Cherry Kaye Lange, Vickie Stevenson and another friend headed to Fredericksburg for a ladies' day out. They had lots of fun shopping, eating, etc. Have you checked out the recently newly decorated Junior high class room? I have heard it is worth the trip upstairs to see it. Kelly & Lee Murray ate lunch at the Livestock Show concession stand and checked out who was showing, etc. The weather was exceptionally warm. It almost didn't seem like a stock show. Alesha & David Rogers headed to McKinney last Thursday to attend a 50th wedding anniversary party for Alesha's mom and dad. A very special occasion at a local steak house for some special people. Our very own Randy Robinson is one of three candidates running for County Attorney. Travis Smith is headed out for the last hunting trip of the year. It was Wednesday. What more can a man ask? To not have to work and have your dog with you and be headed out to the country. Del Sears did you enjoy your day?

Just for Laughs:**The reasons men should join the church choir:**

1. Rehearsals are every Wednesday night. Which means that for those few hours, you will significantly reduce your risk of contracting tendinitis from nonstop operation of a television remote control or computer mouse.
- 2 Because you wear a choir robe every Sunday, you are liberated from a task many men find quite challenging: finding clothes that match properly.
3. From your special vantage point every Sunday, in which you look out at the entire congregation from the choir seats, you will develop interesting new hobbies. Among these is a little guessing game called "Who's Praying, Who's Sleeping?"
4. On the other hand, sitting in full view of 400-500 people on a weekly basis makes it much less likely that you yourself will give in to a chronic lack of sleep. Although it has been known to happen.
5. If you think your singing in the shower sounds good now, just wait till you've been singing with us for a few weeks.
6. Singing in a choir is one of the few activities for men that does not require electronics equipment or expensive power tools. This could be good for the family budget.

Prayer Concerns

If at any time a name
needs to be removed from
the Prayer Concerns list,
please call the office
372-3120

Margaret Haug (recovery)

Sam Tisdale

Weldon Faught (recovery)

Debbie Pullen (testing)

John and Joycelyn McRorery

Jeannie Falcones (cancer, friends of
the Belks)

Lylah (Stephanie and Chase's daugh-
ter very sick)

Cristy Thornton and Family

Linda Mixon and Family

Layton Sanford (recovery)

Lee Ragsdale

F.L. Kalmus

Weldon and Pat Faught

Bettye McLaughlin's sister Jane

Zolly Jones

David and Barbara Gilger

James and Pat Reavis

Katie Andreas (continuing prayer)

Thelma Millican (nursing home)

Gordan Hall (prostate cancer)

Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schanhals)

Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia
Bell's Mom)

Landon Yarbrough (procedures)

Connie Raesner Perry

**Jeff and Jeannette Toole and
Family**

Pete and Sue Hemenway (friends
of Trish Warren)

Mark Owens (safety)

**Mitchell, Johna, Madison and
Matthew Moss**

**Our City, Our Nation, Our
Church**

In Our Military:

Alex Dove, Eric Booker,

Matthew Barrier, Ralph Kintzen

(home), Cory Clendennen(home),

Jay Huggins (home), Matthew

Phinney (home), Andrew Rey-

**nolds, John Paul Dretke, Jay
Dewitt**

Our Church Family

Several of our church family have been under the weather. I am happy to report that Barbara Gilger is recovering nicely from a infected bunion. David has been kept busy waiting on Barbara, going to the grocery store, etc. Lesa Schulze had eyelid surgery. She made it to church last Sunday and even had on eye make-up. Carol Littlefield is scheduled for carpal tunnel surgery on Friday February 3rd. Good luck to you, Carol. Margaret Haug is still under the weather. Elsie Millican & Carol Littlefield have been going out to see her on Sunday afternoons. I bet she has really enjoyed the company. Ted Red had a little trouble with his blood sugar. The report on Weldon Faught, former member of our church, is that his surgery went well. The information came from his son, Jim. Weldon was going to be dismissed from the Dallas Hospital on Friday. He and Pat were going to stay in the area for a couple of days so they could be closer to their doctor. Celia Bell's mom had pneumonia. By Monday January 23rd Celia's mom was doing better and Celia was on her way home. Please remember to keep Red Ragsdale, Nettie Oma Carpenter's brother in your prayers. He is having health problems. Congratulations to Mark & Staci Wise on the birth of their new baby boy. Don & Ann McElroy also welcomed a new grandbaby. Naturally Ann spent some time helping with the new baby and then made a quick trip to Florida to see her mom. Kay Thompson has been busy with lots of fishermen at Sulphur Springs Camp. Linda & Owen Parks spent New Year's Eve dancing the night away with some friends in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Pat Reavis had to leave church early one Sunday for a very special occasion. Her daughter was being installed as a elder in her church. J.T. Mathis celebrated his 17th birthday recently. His grandmother Michelle was here to help him celebrate. She graciously sang in the choir while she was here as some of our regulars were out of town. Katie McEwin also worshipped with us one Sunday. I know her parents, Mark & Kathy McEwin, enjoyed the visit. Ken & Cindy Prater made a trip to Oklahoma and visited relatives and picked up a load of hay. Debby Lake took some vacation time and headed to the coast. The rumor is that she was having good luck and caught lots of fish. Gennie Hamilton is on the San Saba High School power lifting team. She has placed 2nd and 3rd at some recent power lifting meets. San Saba hosted a power lifting meet on January 26th. Tracey Thomas, National Honor Society sponsor, assisted some NHS students with the concession stand as a fund raiser. Shay Easterwood is one of the power lifting coaches. Several of our church family members participated in the stock show and youth fair. J.T. Mathis placed with his hog. Madison Shahan, Casey Mathis, Ryan Mathis had entries and placed in the Youth Fair. A special thanks goes out to Tracey Thomas for filling in for pastor Debby Lake while she was on vacation. A belated thanks goes out to Misty Everett for directing a great Christmas Children's Program. Risien won 4th place in Picture Memory at the Elementary UIL Meet in Coleman. Jaycie Everett and JT Moody also participated in the UIL meet.

New Ministry Structure Being Planned

The new structure will need to be meaningful and comfortable to each participant, and include good fellowship. Even though it will be very loosely structured, it will require good leadership. It will encourage each of us to be a ministry in our church or community by supplying care and nurture to those needing it, and will also provide an opportunity to share those experiences. Small group meetings for fellowship or study may include simple but inspiring devotionals.

A number of ministry activities or study groups have been suggested during the course of our meetings to organize a new structure. Many are activities already taking place, but many represent new ministries for this church. Some of the ways to serve are suggested here:

A Book Study Group

A Bible Study Group

An Upper Room Group (Using the study in the center of the Upper Room)

Volunteers who tutor at the schools

Volunteers who help the EMS

Volunteers who drive those in need

Volunteers at the Food Bank

Volunteers at Shared Blessings

Volunteers who visit nursing home residents

Volunteers with the Boy Scouts

Volunteers who work with Faith Weaver Friends

Volunteers who work on things in our church building---- might be called
the Fixits (Polish, clean out , organize, etc.)

Volunteers who care for our flower beds, etc.

Volunteers who specialize in member care and nurture--- visit, send cards, make
Calls, arrange for food etc.

Volunteers who drive church member's to doctor's appointments, to visit loved ones
Or to worship service

Volunteers who do the church newsletter

Volunteers who sing in the choir

Volunteers who create a bell choir

A questionnaire was passed out in January. If you have not returned yours, please look for the box on the table in the foyer and place it there. We need the input of everybody. If you did not receive one, please take a blank one and fill it out and place it in the box.

Submitted by Millie Burnham

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

General Fund Income for December 2011	\$11,862.00
General Fund Expense for December 2011	\$10,521.00
General Fund Income for 2011	\$139,720.00
General Fund Expenses for 2011	\$ 136,094.00