

FAMILIES
STRENGTHENING
FAMILIES

Family

Scripture teaches us that the foundation of God's purposes on this earth start with the family (Deut. 6:1-6, Ps. 78). God created man in His image for the purpose of reflecting His image in this world. Any Church is only as strong as the families that are a part of it. **We believe that the family is God's ideal educator, counselor, friendship provider and disciple maker.** Nothing can take the place of the Family!



Family Worship

We believe family Integrated worship to be a vital part of God's design for local Churches. It has been our conviction that our children need to be with us during singing, testimonies, and the preaching of God's Word. There is a vital connection that takes place during these times and we believe God intended for this to happen. It is only until recent history that families split up for the purpose of age segregated teaching and intentional peer involvement. We believe these to be useful in certain circumstances, but as the exception, not the rule.

Sunday School

We do not believe Sunday School to be a time for doughnuts, junk food, and entertainment. Nor do we believe Sunday school to be a time to keep children quiet and out of the adult's way. We believe that in a local church setting we could employ a fun yet simple strategy to encourage the spiritual growth and edification of each child involved. The classes should be sex segregated and taught by individuals that understand the importance and purpose that scripture places on the family. The teachers of these classes should understand and seek to reinforce the goals and issues that are important to each students' parents and help with challenges the parents may be having.



*Bethel Baptist Temple is currently
meeting at the VFW Post at
2436 Walcutt Rd
Columbus, OH 43228
Phone: 614-599-4465
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 teaching, preaching, music, testimonies
and prayer
Please call for possible changes in
service times*

Scott Eckles, Pastor

BETHEL BAPTIST
TEMPLE
WWW.BETHELCOLUMBUS.ORG

Our Purpose

We believe the purpose of the local church is to bring glory and honor to Christ by equipping individuals and families to effectively serve God and one another.

We believe that making disciples of Jesus Christ is our mandate and should be our primary focus.

We believe the local church to be a "filling station" to energize and walk alongside its individual members and to help them pass on the faith and disciple those closest to them.

We believe that the local church must be without distractions from the popular culture which can hinder one's walk with Christ. Then believers are free to worship, fellowship, edify one another and serve one another.

We desire that individuals be free from "serving the church" with busyness and distractions, but rather to serve Christ in the context of their families, jobs and friends through the local church.

We believe that the hustle and bustle of society should be kept out of the local church. It is common today for churches to offer so many programs that individuals lose sight of the simplicity that is in Christ.



WHAT IS THE FRUIT OF AN EFFECTIVE CHURCH?

Strong husbands and fathers with vision and direction from God

Virtuous wives with trust in God

Wise fathers who listen, discern, correct and praise their children

Joyful mothers with inner contentment

Mature sons who are able to stand alone, mighty in spirit and sober minded

Radiant daughters who guard their hearts

Lasting marriages that glorify God

Young people who value their parent's and God's approval more than the approval of their peers



Fruit of the Spirit evidenced by serving others and communicating on a heart level

Mature believers that are not easily offended but seek reconciliation and forgiveness

Selfless believers that are committed to mutual growth

Mature Christians that evangelize the lost and disciple the saved

MUSIC

We enjoy and uphold the hymns and gospel songs of the faith. Not only do many of the old hymns reinforce our beliefs but they also feed our spirit, our new man, and not our flesh. Many would say that this statement is behind the times, old fashioned or, simply a matter of preference. We believe however, that the church should impact the culture, not the other way around. Our culture continues to slouch toward lasciviousness and away from the fear of God. Most of what is called contemporary music is patterned after the music that the world has produced. The style, the instruments, the appeal, and the presentation all send the message to the world that "Christ is not enough". Inviting popular culture into the church clearly sends a mixed message to our children, our new converts, and our own spirits. If we start down that road, where would we draw the line? Could we draw a line? We believe that the popular culture is harmful and therefore does not belong in the church. The Bible has much to say about foundations and fruit bearing. The clear, unarguable foundation of rock music is none other than rebellion and sensuality. This foundation will never produce good fruit no matter how it makes us "feel" and regardless of what words are given to it. It is for these reasons that we will always refrain from blending any form of rock music into our services and activities.

COURTSHIP AND DATING

Avoiding the dangers of modern dating is vital to the health and vitality of the family and the local church. Being single-minded keeps our young people and older singles pure in mind and heart. Conversely, a dating spirit in a church will destroy the fellowship and worship. It is important to understand that our culture has steered

our young people away from God's best in this area. As we shepherd our children's hearts, they will naturally want and even seek out our input in their decision for a life partner. This is a critical area that will separate, even among Christians. Every relationship in life should drive us closer to God and bring us to a closer walk with him. We desire to help parents in this very critical area of gaining and keeping their children's hearts. Some would argue that some areas of life are sacred while some are secular. As Christians, all areas of our life are sacred and fall under the jurisdiction of Christ.

DOCTRINE

The purpose of doctrine is to identify what is important to God and to ensure that these things are important to us. Good doctrine always has a practical outworking and always points us to the power of the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are Baptist in our doctrine because we believe that these core ideas most accurately represent the totality of Scripture. It is our desire to continually connect with the heart of God in our preaching, teaching, and ministry to others. As the Scripture warns us, "knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth" so we must always seek to edify those who are of the "household of faith" and those who have not yet believed. Our doctrine governs what we believe and affects what we do. It is not a static set of beliefs that make us better or more usable by God than some other group. Rather, our beliefs should be the foundation and springboard for knowing God and doing his will.