

The Connection

23 OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

SOLA SCRIPTURA

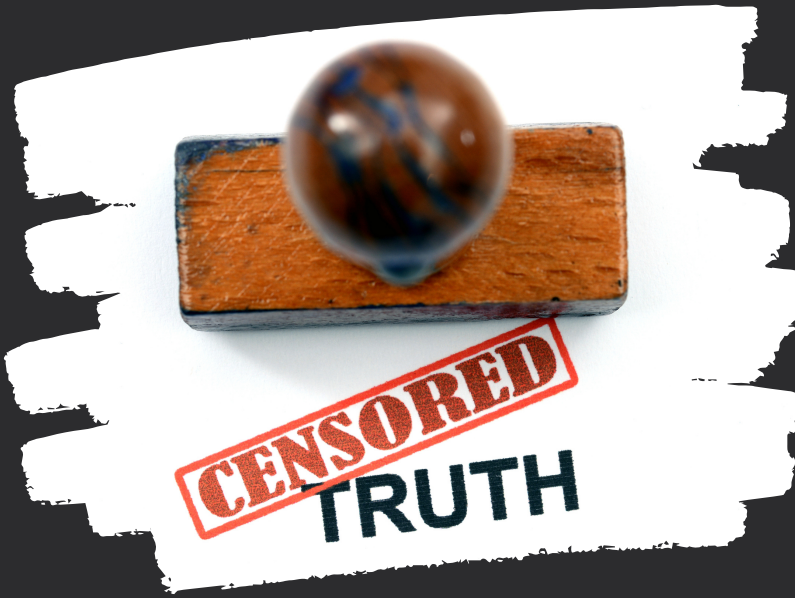
WRITTEN BY KEVIN WILLIAMS

Each day we are confronted with competing truth claims. The media is continually telling us what to believe and what not to believe. In addition to the media, we regularly listening to declarations of truth in conversations with neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family. Much of what we hear is contradictory. So how do we discern that is true? What about important issues like morality, relationships, personal identity, and God? Fortunately, we are not left to ourselves to figure out what is true. God has given us a standard to measure everything we hear. That divine standard is God's Word.

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther made a list of 95 reasons why the church's practice of selling indulgences (money exchanged for God's forgiveness) was wrong. He appealed to Scripture as a higher authority than religious tradition and the pope. He posted that list on the front door of the main church in town lighting a fuse that exploded all over Europe. The battle cry of the Reformation was the Latin phrase *Sola Scriptura*—Scripture alone is our infallible authority.

Luther's bold preaching and writing eventually landed him in front of an imperial council accusing him of heresy. As he stood before the court, they demanded that he recant his writings. Luther famously responded with these words:

Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the pope or in councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me!



We need the same conviction about the Bible held by Martin Luther. The Word of God is our ultimate authority. And we may even have to pay a price for taking a stand with Scripture when it is not popular in our society. We can be confident, though, that God will help us as we rely on Him.

On Sunday morning we will commemorate the Reformation by remembering some believers of the past who stood for the truth of Scripture in spite of persecution and martyrdom. This "great cloud of witnesses" inspires us to look to Jesus and run the race with endurance (Heb 12:1).



SUNDAY ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AVAILABLE:

9:30 AM

- **Church History: Forerunners of the Faith** (Room 207) Jerry Ascher
- **Ladies' Class: Matthew Presents Christ, the Son of the Living God** (Room 312) Sandi Stephens

11:00 AM

- **Young Couples' Fellowship Group** (Room 207) Will Breckenridge
- **The Epistles of John** (Room 312) Manuele Russo
- **Acts: The Birth of the Church** (Room 306) Bob Cook
- **College & Career Group** (Room 221) Jeff McConnell
- **Teen Fellowship Group** (Room 308) Anthony Neumann

Sunday School Classes for Children 11 am:

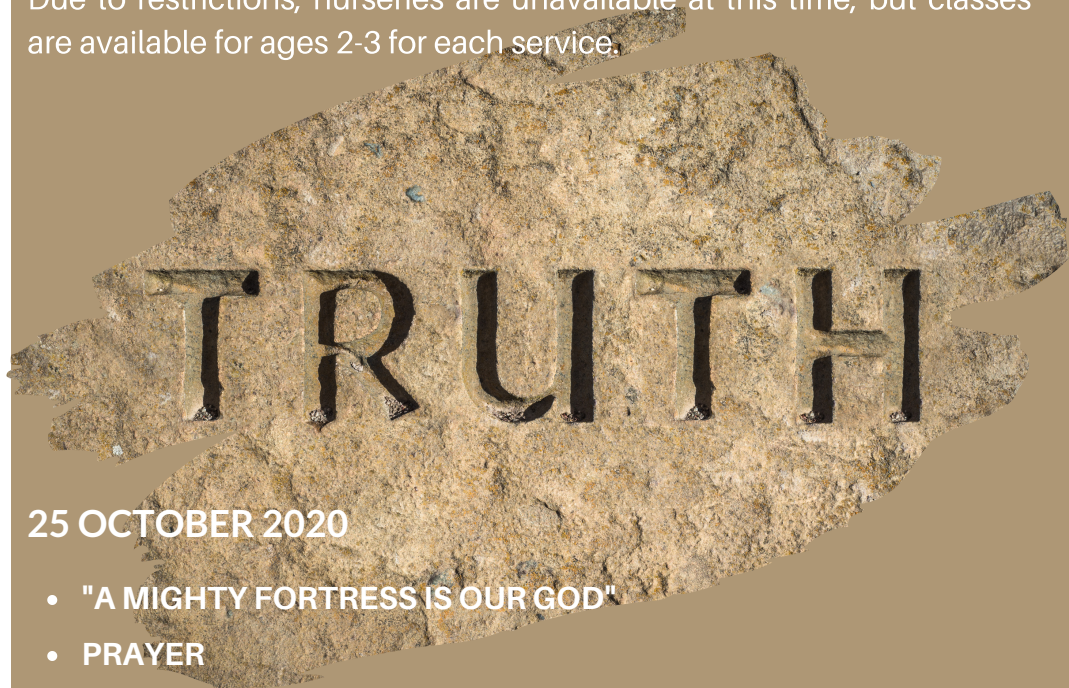
- Ages 4-5 Room 209
Grades 1-2 Room 212
Grades 3-4 Room 211
Grades 5-6 Room 309

Guidelines for in-person gatherings may be found on our website.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 9:30 OR 11 AM

Two in-person services take place in the auditorium. Services will simultaneously be live streamed in the gymnasium (no singing), or available to you at home.

Due to restrictions, nurseries are unavailable at this time, but classes are available for ages 2-3 for each service.



25 OCTOBER 2020

- "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD"
- PRAYER
- "JESUS, THE VERY THOUGHT OF THEE"
- SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 17
- "LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL"
- "O GREAT GOD"
- SERMON: "POWER OF THE WORD & A WITNESS"
2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-21 PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS
- "HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION"
- PRAYER

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING 6 PM

Foundations: Bible Truths for Christian Growth

Lesson 8b Temptation: "Your Battle with Sin"

Workbooks are available at the information desk for \$10

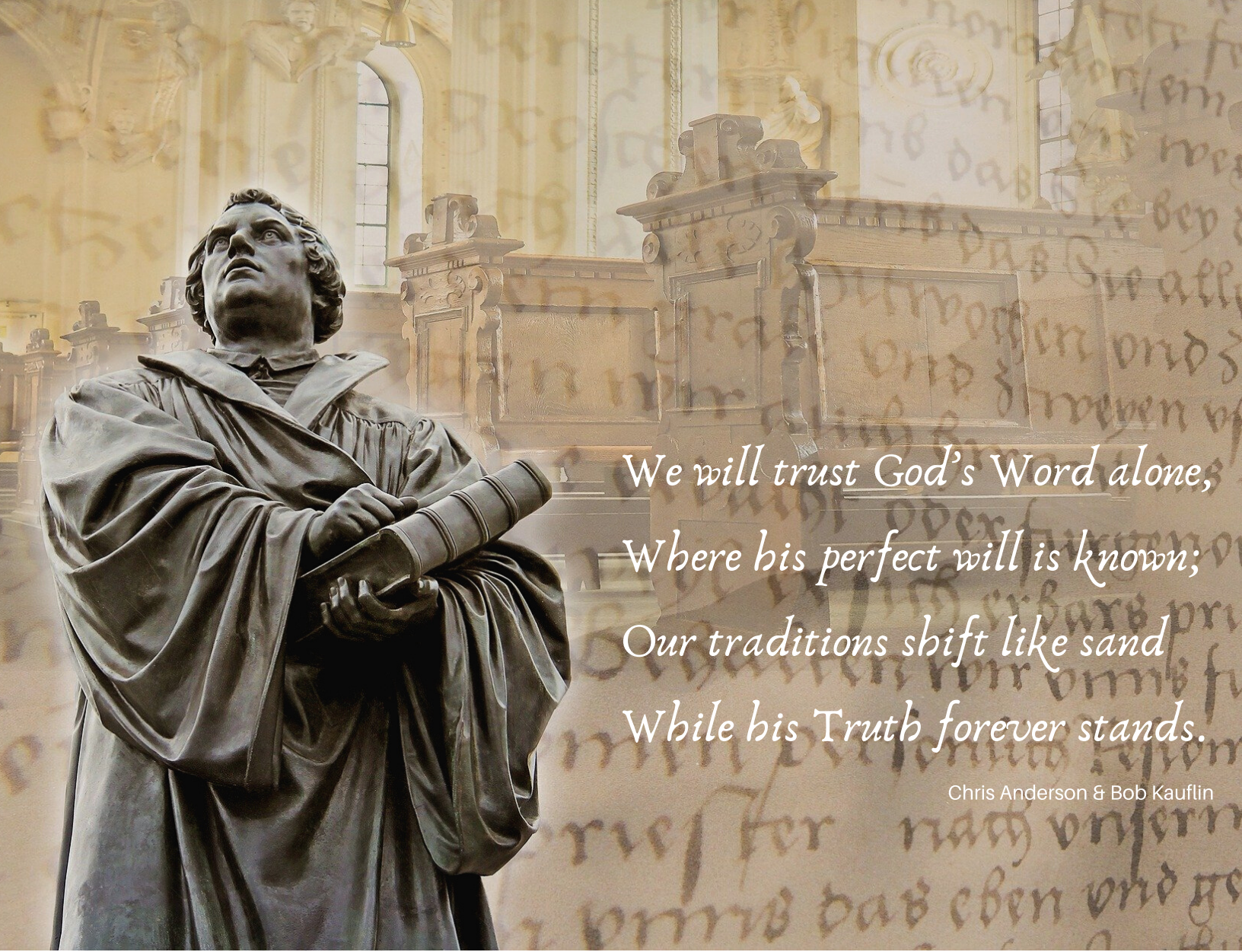
WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY/KIDS 4 TRUTH 7 PM

Children's classes for ages 4 to grade 6 are available. Adults and teens meet in the auditorium for Bible study and prayer. For our Bible study we will discuss the following questions that relate to the Sunday morning sermon:



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR 2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-21

1. What is the biblical author's purpose in Hebrews 11?
2. Which character in Scripture inspires you the most? Why?
3. Describe the power of God's Word. (Rom 1:16; 10:17; 1 Cor 1:17-18; Heb 4:12; 1 Pet 1:23)
4. Describe the power of a witness for Christ. (Acts 1:8; Rom 10:13-15; 2 Cor 5:18-21)
5. Which people in Scripture are examples of a faithful witness?
6. Who did God use as a faithful witness to you?
7. To whom can you be a faithful witness this week?



*We will trust God's Word alone,
Where his perfect will is known;
Our traditions shift like sand
While his Truth forever stands.*

Chris Anderson & Bob Kauflin

Need to contact us?

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GIVING

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com. Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.

WHAT MORE
CAN HE SAY
THAN TO YOU
HE HATH
SAID?



thank you

Thank you for your generosity in our Thanksgiving offering! So far, \$10,665 has been given for our missionaries and \$8,815 toward mortgage reduction. You can still contribute for another week before we send the special gift to our missionaries.