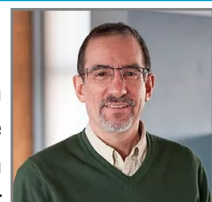


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Newsletter—March 2025

Busyness



Busyness is probably the most common description I get from people describing the current condition of their life. I try not to use the word, not because I'm not too busy, but because the simple truth is, we have ourselves to blame. We like to blame other things, or perhaps we think busyness is a badge of importance. Some of us like to be busy but haven't been very successful at defining a healthy level. Some have no problem using the word "no" and don't struggle with busyness. While "no" may be a practical solution, even that person may be missing the spiritual issue and solution.

I suspect the real issue is that we have brushed over, if not set aside, God's prescription for balance. I'm guilty. I'm talking about a sabbath rest. I used to think that observing the Sabbath was Old Testament Law and not applicable to New Testament Christianity. Then I realized God established sabbath rest before He chose the Hebrew people, called Abraham, or gave His law to Moses. God established the Sabbath on the seventh day of creation.

Busyness may be the reason the word "sign" struck me a few days ago while reading in Exodus. There God defined the sabbath rest to Moses in this way, "But as for you, speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'You shall surely observe My sabbaths; for this is a **sign** between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who **sanctifies** you.'" (Exodus 31:13, *NASB95*, bold and italics added). "Sanctified," means set aside as holy, by God and for God. God was telling His people the Sabbath observance was to be a sign for them of the covenant He made with them, setting them apart as His holy people. They would obey Him and He would protect and provide for them. Ceasing to work one day in seven would show faith in God to keep His covenant.

I wonder if not observing a sabbath rest isn't a sign for the New Testament Christian too. A sign of not believing that the pattern God gave for weekly rhythm is best, and of not trusting Him to provide and protect as we rest?

The basis of the sabbath rest is God's rest at the end of the creation week. "By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made." (Genesis 2:2-3).



The three parts of a sabbath rest are to cease working, reflect on God's workings on behalf of His people (in sanctifying them), and getting refreshed (Exodus 31:17).

I wonder what our busyness would look like if we practiced a sabbath rest. I wonder if we would still talk about being so busy. I wonder if a side-effect of keeping still long enough to hear God would be answers like, "I'm as busy as I want to be."

Still struggling to be still,
Pastor Dan





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Elder book review—6:30 am, LL #106 Men's Breakfast—8-10 am, NC/K NC/K in use—12:30-5pm
2 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline—9 am Next Steps-Step 4 (s.1)—9 am, Library Mission Trip Info. Meeting—Noon, NC Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm, NC Fusion—6-8 pm, NC	3 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Men's Grp.—7 pm, NC	4	5 Awana: Trek/Journey—5:15 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm Women's Study—6:15 pm, LL #106	6 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC No MBC Worship Practice	7 Wounded Heart Study begins—6:15 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	8 Women's Brunch—10 am-1 pm, NC/K Iglesia Biblica Vigil—7 pm-Midnight
9  Daylight Savings Begins Worship Services: The Gathering—9 am & Baptism Service—11 am at 18 & 8th with Potluck Sunday School & Pipeline—9 am Next Steps-Step 4 (s.2)—9 am, Library Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm, NC Fusion—6-8 pm, NC	10 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Elder Meeting—6 pm, LL #106 Deacon Meeting—6 pm, NC	11	12 Awana: Trek/Journey—5:15 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm Women's Study—6:15 pm, LL #106	13 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—6:30 pm, S	14 Homeschool Co-op—8:45 am-3:30 pm, all church Awana T&T Boys' Event begins—6 pm, all church Weekend to Remember—Fri-Sun, Madison	15 Awana T&T Boys' Event ends—9 am, all church Weekend to Remember—Fri-Sun, Madison
16 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline—9 am Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm, NC Fusion—6-8 pm, NC Weekend to Remember ends	17 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Men's Grp.—7 pm, NC	18	19 Awana: Trek/Journey—5:15 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm Women's Study—6:15 pm, LL #106	20 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—6:30 pm, S 	21 Homeschool Co-op—8:45 am-3:30 pm, all church Primetimers Pizza Hut Lunch—11:30 am Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Wounded Heart Study—6:15 pm, NC	22
23 Lord's Table Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline—9 am Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite & Fusion Jeopardy with Primetimers—4:30 pm, NC	24 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Warfare Team—6:15 pm, LL #106	25	26 No Awana No Women's Study	27 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—7:30 pm, S Fusion at Lydia Home, Chicago	28 Homeschool Co-op—8:45 am-3:30 pm, all church Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30pm, S Iglesia Biblica Women's Study—6-8 pm, LL# 101/102 Wounded Heart Study—6:15 pm, NC Fusion return from Lydia Home, Chicago	29 Iglesia Biblica Youth—5-7 pm, NC
30 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline—9 am Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm, NC Fusion—6-8 pm, NC	31 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Men's Grp.—7 pm, NC					

MBC Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday 8 AM—4 PM
& Fridays 8 AM—Noon



• HAPPY •
Wedding
• ANNIVERSARY •



- 1 Harper Polhill
- 3 Jake Hunsberger
- 7 Carol Botteron
- 9 John Jordan
Roger Krauss
Mike Newberg
Joshua Skoumal
- 12 Gabrielle Gruber
Oliver Kuenzi
- 13 Kadin Paske
Duane Zimmerman
- 16 Rylan Kelley

- 17 Anna Schultz
- 24 Cora Polhill
- 25 Mary Kubly
Marissa Skoumal
- 26 Regan Bartelt
Erik Haworth
Craig Signer
- 27 Natalie Reed
- 28 Libby Thoman
- 29 Dale Klitzke
- 30 Joan Coppes
Amanda Ohlrich

- 6 Doug & Nancy Larson
- 8 Ron & Sharon Kubly
- 9 Kevin & Ashley Clark
- 11 Joe & Libby Thoman
- 20 Montana & Connie Henderson
- 23 Adam & Grace Anderson
Ray & Pauline Wyss
- 24 James & Debra Hurlbert

Our MBC Photo Directory has been updated!



Do you know how to access our directory?
Follow the directions below!

(Please Note—your email address must be listed in our directory in order for you to access the directory)

1. Access the directory on your **Computer** at:
<https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/>
or by **Downloading the Instant Church Directory App** on your smartphone.
2. **Create your Log In:** Your login will be the email address you turned in with your directory information. If you need to add an email address, contact the office.
3. **Create a Password.**
4. **Verify:** a confirmation email will be sent, click on the link to verify.
5. **That's it!** Sign in through the app or your computer to access our directory.

With Our Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family & friends of Gloria Huffman. Gloria went home to be with the Lord on February 7, 2025

May God comfort & bless you with His peace.



Newsletter—March 2025



I recently had the privilege of attending the No Regrets Men's Conference. The theme was "Rescued". Are you thankful that when you accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior you were rescued from sin, death, and hell? We need to be intentional about giving out the message of the Gospel, the "Good News". Make it a priority in your prayers to pray for the salvation of

specific people such as your unsaved neighbors, relatives, and friends. If you ask God for opportunities to witness, He will open the door of opportunity for you. As I become more chronologically gifted, some would say as we become older, I realize the need to be more intentional and redeem the time I have to spread the Gospel message.

Pray also for the salvation of our Federal, State, and Local officials. Pray for your Law Enforcement, Fire, and EMS personnel. My wife and I have seen lately how God is opening the doors for us to witness to our neighbors. It's exciting to see God working. Make sure you are making witnessing to specific people a priority in your prayer. God is working, we need to join Him in this important work!

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader

Baptism

Sunday, March 9th—Schedule Change!

9:00 am Worship Service at Monroe Bible Church
Sunday School, Pipeline, and
Next Steps-Step 4 (s.2) also at 9:00 AM

11:00 am Baptism Service & Potluck at 18 & 8th
Sandwiches, chips, cake, & drinks provided.
Congregation please bring a side dish to share!

NEXT STEPS

Are you looking to be more involved?
Would you like to be better equipped?

Following the Next Steps at the Bible Church is not only a way to enable you to become more involved, but will also be valuable to your personal growth. Each session is 1-hour long and designed to be completed in order.

- Step 1: Our Mission & Vision
- Step 2: Our Core Beliefs
- Step 3: Our Commitments
- Step 4: Our Equipping
- Step 5: On Mission

Please Note:
Steps 1, 2, & 3
 are required for
 church membership.

Upcoming Sessions:

Step 4: March 2 & March 9

Step 5: April 6 & April 13 (required for mission trips)

Please sign up for all Next Steps classes at the Welcome Center, or on our website under Events. Pick up a 2025 Next Steps brochure at the Welcome Center for a listing of all classes for the 2025 calendar year.

AWANA

Boys' T & T Event

Church lock-in, all church in use.

Beginning **Friday, March 14th**
 at 6:00 PM and
 ending **Saturday, March 15th**
 at 9:00 AM.

Contact Jason Elgin (608-426-1978)
 with questions.

Permission slips are required!

Newsletter—March 2025



Monroe Bible Church plans to again host a One Meal Food Packing Event for Kids Around The World at 18 & 8th on **April 5th** from **9:00-11:30 AM**. This is a fun time of fellowship as well as service and is a great activity for folks of all ages. We pack in assembly lines and there are tasks for people of all sizes and abilities, so sign up at the One Meal table in the foyer and put the date on your calendar. We have always been done before noon, so you still have Saturday afternoon for other activities. The cost is unchanged from last year (\$9500) and we have a start toward the total with proceeds from last year's fundraising, but we still need donations to make the total. The donation box will remain out for a couple more weeks and we are grateful for any size donation. Please be aware checks must be made payable to Kids Around The World (not Monroe Bible Church) and are tax deductible. The meals we pack help feed children in some of the most poverty-stricken areas of our world. The kids receive spiritual food along with the physical, so even if you can't help pack, you can help a needy child by donating.



This year's short term mission trip to the Dominican Republic will be with KATW and part of the mission will be food distribution. If you are interested in participating but have not yet attended a mandatory Information Meeting, there is one more scheduled for **March 2nd** at noon. This is a new type of mission trip for MBC so there are new things to know, even if you have participated in a short-term mission trip before. If you have questions, please contact Crystal Zimmerman at 608-325-6793.

MBC recently received a letter from Steve Fowler with SEE (Society for Europe's Evangelization). Some of you may remember Steve and Victoria from their 2021 visit and the sermon Steve gave. At that time, he asked us to pray that his French would improve enough so that he could preach in French when he returned to France. And God helped him to accomplish just that! His ministry continued in 2024, making 2 trips to France to preach, do street evangelism, teach at the Bible Institute, plant a new church in Paris, and help establish a new U.S. couple led to serve as missionaries in France. He helped prepare for a group of college students from Bob Jones University who stayed at the Bible Institute, and he worked with a missionary couple from Ukraine who later decided to join with SEE. In between trips to France, he traveled over 5,000 miles in the U.S. to carry out work for SEE. His predecessor, Art Sommerville, would be pleased to see the ministry continued with such zeal. Steve considers his supporters vital to God's work and is very appreciative of our prayers and financial assistance. He asks us to pray for the new church in Paris, for the new missionaries there, for more workers willing to serve the Lord in France, and for safety as they travel. Thank you for remembering those we support as they work faithfully to serve the Lord around the world.



Marriage Ministry Mentor Couple of the Month Randy & Lucy Whyte

We will be married 44 years in May 2025. We have raised 3 sons who are now happily married themselves and now we have 4 wonderful grandchildren.

We were not born again when we got married but were both saved around 10 years into our marriage. Lucy was saved first and Randy came to the Lord about 2.5 - 3 years later.

The biggest struggle we had was around finances. It took us many years and a career change to get us out of a load of debt. The new career in field service helped the finances but unfortunately the long hours caused us to struggle with our parenting.

We praise God for His grace in blessing us with godly teaching throughout our marriage from men and women of faith. We were able to participate in marriage Weekend to Remember seminars, parenting Sunday school classes, Promise Keepers, Fireproof your Marriage, the Love Dare, Financial Peace, and multiple other Bible studies that have all helped us grow in our faith and love for God and for each other. We can truly say we are best friends in a great marriage because of God's love.

Clarity House Update

It's hard to believe we have been working with Clarity House for seven months already! During this time, we have been focused on answering some key strategic questions about Monroe Bible Church:

Mission: What do we do in everything we do? What does the Gospel do in our context? What is Good News to Monroe, WI in 2025?

Measures: When are we successful? What are the kind of disciples that we are intentionally seeking to develop? How do we know if we are accomplishing our mission?

Strategy: How do we do it? How do we equip disciples to be disciple-makers? Do we have a discipleship map or a discipleship menu? How do we develop learning leaders instead of loyal listeners?

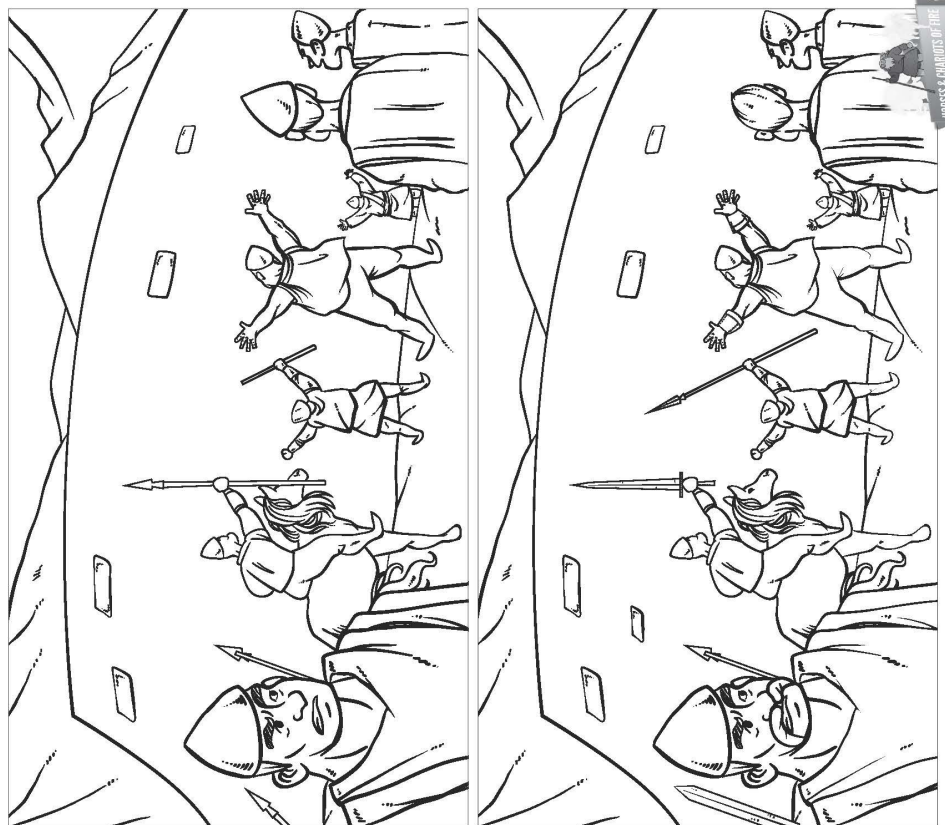
The goal of all this is to help us focus on and organize around doing the one thing Jesus told us to do – make disciples that make disciples.

The Clarity House Team is Pastor Dan, Pastor Kevin, Loren Bruehlman, Amy Haworth and Amanda Ohlrich. If you have any thoughts about these questions or want to chat more about this process, we'd be happy to talk to you.

HORSES & CHARIOTS OF FIRE

HORSES & CHARIOTS OF FIRE

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.

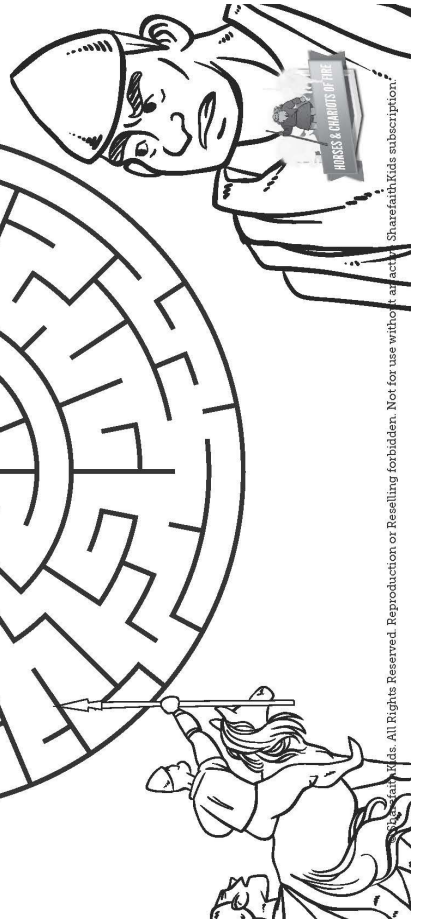
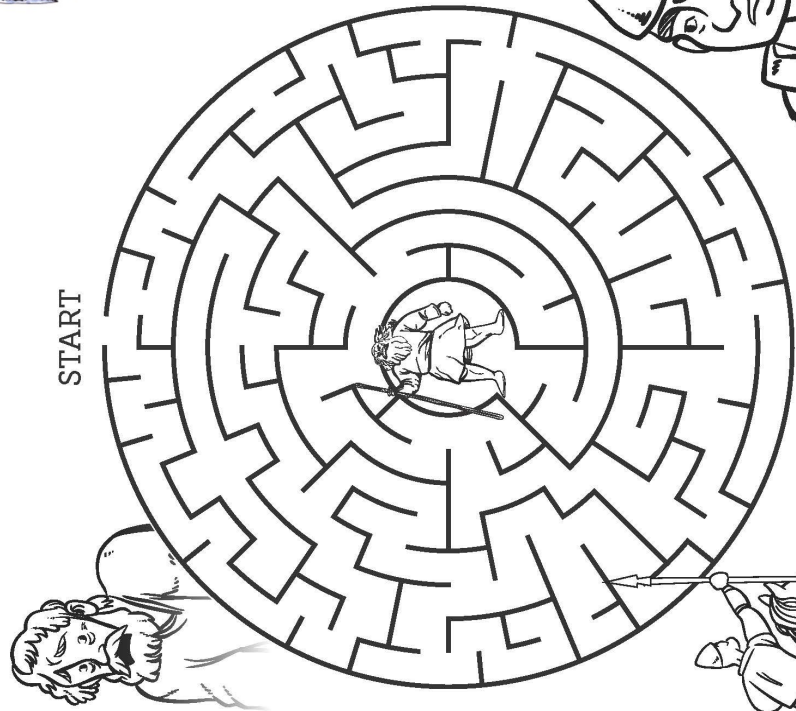


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Guide Elisha's servant to Elisha before the city is overtaken



START



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