



**December 2009**

Dear Church,

Ponder these words spoken by our Master Servant King Jesus (Acts 20:35)

***It is more blessed to give than to receive.***

Read that verse one more time. That is incredible! That is radical! That is so very much not the normal mindset this time of year. The majority of the time it is not my way of thinking. Is it yours? But it is the mindset of Jesus. Jesus would rather *give* than *get*...literally.

This Christmas you may have a Christmas list, and for some of us those lists may be longer than other people's lists. And on your list may be a new pair of shoes, a new sweater, a new treadmill to help you lose weight in the new year, a new book, a new car, or a new television. We love to get our wishful gifts at Christmas time.

Do you realize that Jesus' mindset is different. His list would be made up of all the different things He could give away and all the different people He could give to. His mindset is that it would be more of a blessing for you to give someone new shoes, a new sweater, a new treadmill, a new book, a new car, or a new television instead of you receiving those gifts. Wow! That is the opposite of how we are so often. I don't know about you, but I want to be a giver. I don't want to be a getter, I want to be a giver. I want to be so much like Jesus that my inclination is to give, my desire is to give, my focus is to give, my hope is to give and my effort is to give. Maybe it is because I am about to turn 30 years old, and with age comes less of a desire to get things, but I hope that it is because I am becoming more like Christ and as he does and desires so I do and desire.

As 2010 quickly draws near, my prayers for all of us at FBCF are intensifying. And one of my main prayers is that God would make us a giving people. I long for the day when all of our hearts beat with a passion to give...not get.

Will you join me in striving and working to be like Jesus? If so, let's deny ourselves and start giving. Let us give away our stuff, our money, our time, our priorities, and even ourselves. Jesus did. After all, it is more blessed to give!

-Your Pastor, Josh Greene

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRDALE—FIRST NEWS

- \* The Basement has been remodeled! It looks great! Thanks to many of the men in our church working hard this week, our basement looks much better. Our Wednesday night dinners will be much more comfortable.
- \* Lottie Moon Offering now in progress. Our Church Goal is \$3,000.00 The amount given to date is: \$803.00 That is only after 2 weeks. Lets keep up the good work.
- \* Live Nativity on December 20, 21 & 22. Evening Worship on Sunday will be caroling outside by the Live Nativity at 6:00. I hope that you will make every attempt to be here for this great event. A visual image of the Biblical story of Jesus being born in a manger. We will have free hot chocolate and coffee for everyone.
- \* We will be doing the hospitality room for King of the Bluegrass basketball tournament on Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 5-9. Please sign up for food donations.
- \* Sarah Kent needs your help in a school project at Manual High School. This is for the Ronald McDonald House. She has placed a bin in the hallway with a list of needed supplies.
- \* Christmas Card Collection and distribution. The Youth are doing a wonderful job with this. Please be give us your Christmas cards so that we can distribute them to the church.
- \* Poinsettias for Church Decorating. Please remember to take your poinsettias home with you. This coming Sunday, the 20<sup>th</sup>, is the last Sunday before Christmas
- \* Church Website. The Church website is running well. Please check [www.fbcfairdale.org](http://www.fbcfairdale.org) on a daily basis to see the latest that is happening at our church.
- \* New Offering Envelopes available on December 20<sup>th</sup> They will be on front pew and in alphabetical order by last name. Unnumbered blank sets for anyone who needs a set.