VOLUME 83 | 09/25/26

First Baptist Church Builder

Grace and peace to you, church family!

For this month's article, I would like to share with you an excerpt from a paper I submitted last semester for my seminary class on The Doctrine of Man and Sin. We are currently studying this same subject in our Sunday evening study, and I hope that you have been a part of that. My paper focused on what Psalm 51 (David's psalm of confession after his sin with Bathsheba) has to teach us about the very nature of sin. The excerpt I am sharing here details four doctrinal insights that we can draw from this Psalm concerning sin.

The first doctrinal insight from this psalm is that *sin is ultimately against God*. This truth is seen in v. 4, where David writes, "Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight." This is a striking statement considering the occasion that prompted David's writing of this psalm. Would he not agree that he sinned against Bathsheba, Uriah, himself, and the nation of Israel? Rather than a denial that he sinned against these, David's statement should be seen as affirmation that his sin was a personal and direct offense against the Lord. It is hyperbole, and David's way of expressing that, though sin has real ramifications concerning others, sin is ultimately and most egregiously rebellion against God.

The second doctrinal insight from Psalm 51 is that *sin is pervasive and corrupting*. In scope, sin touches every part of man's being. In effect, it pollutes and defiles all that it reaches. This truth is implied throughout the psalm, in the very fact that David needs the Lord to cleanse him. "Blot out my transgressions," he writes in v. 1. "Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin," he continues in v. 2. The literal translation would be "multiply to wash me," denoting the intensity and thoroughness required to cleanse iniquity. All of this language implies a depth of sin that David cannot reach and a dirtiness of sin that David cannot purify. Even the basis on which he makes these appeals, namely the "steadfast love" and "abundant mercy" (v. 1) of the Lord, demonstrates that there is nothing good within himself that he can base his appeal on. All of this is reinforced in v. 6, where David declares, "Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart." These terms (the inward being and the secret heart) refer to the deepest, most internal and central part of man. The implication is that David needs truth and wisdom from God to reach that deeply, because that is the depth of sin's corruption.

The third doctrinal insight is that *sin is both personal and inherited*. That David's sin is a personal act hardly needs to be proven. It is self-evident from the way he speaks of it— "For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me" (v. 3). But the fact is that David recognizes a depravity that goes back to the very beginning of his existence, and yet does not see that as contradictory to his own personal responsibility for his sin. He writes in v. 5, " Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." Simply put, David knows he was born a sinner. But he also knows that this does not excuse his sinful actions, but rather serves to deepen his sense of guilt.

The fourth doctrinal insight is that *sin requires divine cleansing and renewal*. The first two verses speak to this, with David's appeal for mercy being framed in terms of washing and cleansing. But having dealt with those two verses under the second doctrinal insight, the relevant verses to expound upon are verses 7 and 10. David writes in v. 7, "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." Hyssop was used by the Israelites in ritual purifications. However, David is not merely expressing that he needs to go through an external ritual cleansing. The whole structure of the psalm, and the fact that he is addressing God, suggests that David is seeking an internal cleansing that only the Lord can perform, that cleansing which an external sprinkling with hyssop would represent but not actually accomplish. Divine cleansing was necessary. So, too, was divine renewal. He cries out to the Lord in v. 10, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Plumer comments, "David was not asking to have his nature improved, but renewed; not amended, but created anew." The word translated "create" ((בָּרָאmeans to bring into existence something that was not there before, denoting that David understood the necessity of divine power to bring about this act of renewal. Only God could do this.

There is much more that could be said about sin, but I hope that these four insights were helpful to you. I would encourage you, if you are not already, to join us on Sunday evenings as we continue to see what the Bible teaches about man and sin.

In Christ,
Bro. Dalton Adger

Standing on the Promises God's Rock-Solid Truths for Life

Dr. Bryan Bolton, Minister of Music and Children

Join us for a special evening of Christmas worship as our choir and instrumentalists present *Emmanuel, God With Us* on Sunday, December 13, 2026, at 5:00 pm. This is a beautiful retelling of the promise, the longing, the arrival, and the gift of our Savior. Through Scripture and song, we will celebrate the miracle that God has come near and still meets us with hope, peace, and love.

Make plans to be part of this meaningful night, and invite a friend, a neighbor, or someone who needs the encouragement of Christmas.

Rehearsals for The Sanctuary Bells are held each Monday at 6:00 p.m. This ministry offers a meaningful way to worship through instrumental music and fellowship, and we are seeking 2–3 additional players to join us.

Who Can Join? Former and new members are warmly welcomed! Basic music-reading proficiency is needed, but no prior bell-ringing experience is required. We will gladly teach you the techniques.

For more information, please reach out to Bro. Bryan at 534-4741 or 489-8970.

SAVE THE DATE!!
Family Fall Festival
Sunday, October 25
5-6:30pm

Free family fun for everyone! Come, wear your costume*, invite friends and make lasting memories!

HOST A TRUNK! Host a trunk on your own or team up with friends.

Register by October 21 at fbcpinebluff.org/trunkortreat26

DONATE CANDY! Drop off bags of individually wrapped candy at Sanctuary entrances.

*Please refrain from any scary masks/costumes.

Hyfi for FirstKids
Sunday Nights at 5:00 PM

Remaining Meeting Dates
October: 4, 11, 18 | November: 1, 8, 15

On the first Sunday of each month, we will enjoy a church-family meal before diving into meaningful topics that equip kids to love, grow, serve, and go in their everyday lives.

Time
5:00 PM

Location
FirstKids Ministry Room
(Next to the Gym)

Who Is Invited
Kindergarten through 6th grade

Deacon of the Week

RODNEY RODGERS
October 4, 2026
BLASIOUS AWONSANG
October 11, 2026
M. H. BITELY
October 18, 2026
KENNY BONDS
October 25, 2026

First Record

August 30, 2026

Budget Needs	$12,090.46
Budget Receipts	$10,176.00
TV Receipts	$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	$75.00
Other	$236.00
TOTAL	**$10,492.00**

September 6, 2026

Budget Needs	$12,090.46
Budget Receipts	$24,155.00
TV Receipts	$305.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	$100.00
Other	$2,367.30
TOTAL	**$26,927.30**

September 13, 2026

Budget Needs	$12,090.46
Budget Receipts	$11,140.50
TV Receipts	$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	$75.00
Other	$495.00
TOTAL	**$11,715.50**

September 20, 2026

Budget Needs	$12,090.46
Budget Receipts	$6,531.00
TV Receipts	$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	$175.00
Other	$282.00
TOTAL	**$6,993.00**

Trinity Village invites you to our
Fall "Soup and Shop"
(Taste the soup and shop
with vendors)
Thursday, October 15, 2026
11:00 am—3:00 pm
Booths are $25 each
(Non-refundable)
Admission by donation!!!

Donations from this even will go towards the filtration of the residents' pool

The Deacons will meet on
Sunday, October 11 at 4:00 pm

The Admin. Board will meet on
Sunday, October 18 at 4:00 pm

Sunday, October 18, 2026
will be

N2N NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

SUNDAY
Undesignated offering
will go to
Neighbor to Neighbor.

Evening Service at
Trinity Village
Sunday, October 25, 4:00 pm
Trinity Village Great Hall

Fall Bible Studies
Church-wide Bible Studies for Adults, Students and Kids begins September 6 at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Meeting Dates:
October 4—Potluck
October 11
October 18
November 1—Potluck
November 8
November 15

FBC Women's Ministry
invites you to
Aged to Perfection
Growing in all Seasons of Life
Saturday, October 10
8:30 am to 1:30 pm
Join us for a special day of fellowship, fun, food, and spiritual encouragement as we explore what it means to pursue continued spiritual maturity and become more like Christ through every season of life.
Cost: $25
Register by September 30
870-534-4741

October 25 2026
Annual Business Meeting with
Potluck immediately following
the morning service

IT IS TIME TO THINK ABOUT OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It is time to pack your shoebox! Boxes will be out in the foyer soon, ready to be filled. Children are waiting to receive the boxes. Here are 3 ways you can help: 1. Take a box (or 2 or 3), shop for items suitable for the age and gender you choose. NO SOAP this year 2. Bring suitable new items you've purchased or $ to the Church. We have shoppers and packers ready to ship. Don't forget that shipping has increased to $10. 3. Build a box online at **SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/OCC**

If you have paid online and activated your label to track, please let us know so there is no double shipping paid. Also, if you included your shipping in your contribution, please let us know. Remember, it's not just a shoebox. It's a demonstration of God's love in a tangible way that will deliver hope and joy to children around the world. It's a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship—transforming the lives of children & their families through the Good News of Jesus Christ!

Neighbor to Neighbor Needs

N2N is needing canned goods for their Thanksgiving baskets. They are asking for 100 cans of

Sweet Potatoes

These need to be in our office by
October 25

Also, please be in prayer on sponsoring a child for Christmas. The cost is $60 to sponsor.

Regular Schedule for Weekly Services

SUNDAY:
9:00 am TV Broadcast on FOX 16 (one week delay)
9:00 am Prayer room open
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service

MONDAY:
6:00 pm Sanctuary Handbells Rehearsal
6:30 pm Women and Men's BSF

TUESDAY:
10:00 am Women's BSF

WEDNESDAY:
12:00 pm Prayer Meeting
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY:
6:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
6:00 pm Griefshare

News from the Pews

STAFF PHONE NUMBERS

Bro. Dalton Adger
(318) 489-3106
Dr. Bryan Bolton
(870) 489-8970

Deacons 2026

Blasious Awonsang	318-278-4208	Roger Minyard	540-7836
M. H. Bitely	718-3764	Bruce Morgan	370-8318
Kenny Bonds	540-7001	Mac Norton	718-2895
Dan Crowder	501-944-1236	Rodney Rodgers	543-9936
James House	692-7921	Billy Stone	692-1191
Lynn King	540-7400	Marc Stratton	329-6906

Our website is live and online giving is available. Listed below are the steps you should follow.

1. Click the GIVE button on our church website: www. fbcpinebluff.org
2. Click the Give Now button.
3. Enter the amount you want to give.
4. Give to the fund pre-selected for you or choose a different fund from the drop-down menu.
5. Select a frequency.
6. Enter your email address.
7. Click CONTINUE.
8. Select your account type:
   Credit/Debit Card
   ACH/Checking Account

Enter your payment information to complete the transaction. You'll receive email confirmation of your gift.
If you choose ACH, be prepared to give the routing number of your bank and the account number.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
BUILDER

Our 171st Year

Periodicals Postage Paid at Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

PUBLISHED BIWEEKLY BY THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS 71603-7823
(UPS 774-580) 6501 S Hazel Street, Pine Bluff, AR 71603-7823

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
First Baptist Church Builder, 6501 S. Hazel St., Pine Bluff, AR 71603-7823
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