



January 2021

BBC Family,

As we mark the closing of one year and the beginning of a new year, it's important to take a moment to reflect on all that God has done in the past year. Some of these memories are difficult losses, both of people, events, and resources. Some, however, are joys, some are new opportunities, some of them are simply gifts that make us shake our head in wonder at the love of the Father. Too often we humans keep our eyes focused on the past and the known. The future feels like a weakness to us, because it is unknown. Thankfully we serve the God who is sovereignly and lovingly with His people—He knows the past, the present, and the future, and our weakness is His strength.

With that in mind, I hope that with the coming new year, we will rest in our weakness and His strength just as Paul did. He was tired of his past ailments (thorn) and unsure what the future held for him as he wrote these words to the Corinthians, "*But he [God] said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

May we boast in our own weakness in order for Christ's power to increasingly rest upon us. So rather than making a resolution, start a habit of resting in His strength by reading His Word. The Word that reminds us of who He is and how much He loves us.

Happy New Year, family!
Pastor Nate

Join us as we meditate through the book of Proverbs throughout the month of January by reading one chapter from Proverbs each day. And, check out Sunday morning worship at 10:30CST to hear Pastor Nate kick off the series, *Wisdom from the Deepest Well* from the book of Proverbs. Whether in person, or online, we hope you'll join us!

Adult Sunday School meets weekly at 9:15am—

On January 3, Greg Smith will finish the study of *Romans* with an overview. Beginning January 10, please join teacher Marilyn Wallberg as we study *Habakkuk*. Learn how the storms of life can become opportunities to activate your faith and discover how remembering is essential to understanding the faithfulness of God.

**Don't Miss Our Annual Business Meeting
Sunday, January 24th @ Noon**

You are invited to attend whether or not you are a member. Come to hear reports on the past year and to look at what's ahead for BBC, as we praise God for His blessings and ask for His guidance on the year ahead. The 2021 proposed budget will be presented as well as number of new church officers and committee chairs to be elected, for voting upon by church members.

Covid-19 Gathering

Throughout this changing time of our current pandemic situation, we as a church have continued to monitor and adjust as things change. The Deacon & Church Boards met and discussed what are our current practices and what our moving-forward practices will be within the current climate. At this time it was agreed upon that we will abide by the current government expectations; masks and social distancing are expected within our facilities. After looking through scripture at what was expected of us as followers of Christ, we found that we are able to abide by the current government mandate and biblically adhere to what Christ has called us.

We have room for more people on a Sunday morning and we would gladly like to have the issue of having so many people that we have to get creative to fit people in. We have started some programming for Sunday School and Children's Ministry and will expand as the need grows!

We are excited to be together; may we continue to look forward to seeing each other's faces!

2021 offering envelopes will start in February

Please continue to use any leftover 2020 envelopes for the month of January. If you already tossed them or ran out and need more, let me know and I can get some to you for January. We are switching the start date to coincide with distributing them at the annual meeting going forward. If you do not currently use envelopes and would like some or if you no longer wish to receive them, please reach out to me at financial@beckerbaptist.org, fill out the form on the "[Welcome Center](#)" of our website under "Order Offering Envelopes", or call the church office. We also will switch to a mailable offering envelope to make it easier for those already mailing them in. So grateful for everyone's support of the ministries of BBC, thank you!

Cortney Asher
BBC Financial Secretary

Join in prayer with others weekly on Wednesdays at 7pm, currently meeting via Zoom video. Contact Jan Miller (320.444.1322) for Zoom link information.



Happy New Year from BBC Kids! The start of a new year is always a time of reflection and anticipation for me. I love to look back on the past year, see what God has done, how I have grown, and where I have room to grow. I cannot wait to write up my goals and plans for the year with a sense of expectation that nothing is impossible with God!

This January, we are kicking off a new CHILDREN'S CHURCH SERIES called *UNBOXED*. With the holiday season having just passed by, most kids still have the concept of giving and receiving gifts fresh on their minds. While many, if not all, of the gifts that were unboxed at Christmas will eventually fall into disrepair, gifts given by God will never fade! Through this "Unboxed" series, kids will discover what kinds of gifts those are, starting with the fact that **everyone has special gifts!** Then they will see how **God can use those gifts to help others**, among those gifts being **special blessings from God**, as well. Our gifts help us **care about what God cares about**, by focusing on heavenly things, and **we can trust God with our gifts** when we offer it up cheerfully!



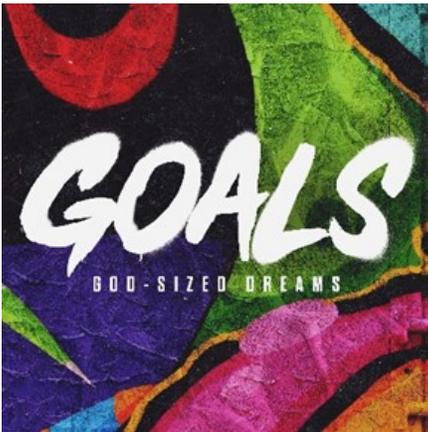
AWANA: While it is our hope, to resume meeting in person, we are still in the decision-making process with mandates, volunteer's availability, etc. Our January 6th class will be virtual, and we hope to have a plan going forward after that regarding in-person/virtual. As many of you, we remain flexible and continue to pivot at each turn. Thank you for your patience. Check your emails each week with information, teaching videos and more to complete the lesson and sections at home!

January 1st may be just another day, but we all look at it as an opportunity to start over, to pursue new adventures, heal old wounds, and begin a new chapter in the story of our lives. We all love a good story and I would love to hear your plans for a fresh start this year!

In Christ,
Amy Drehmel, BBC Kids Director



Happy New Year! This year as I'm making resolutions for 2021, Andrew is on my mind. Scripture doesn't tell us a whole lot about his life, but a short sentence tells a lot about his character. He was one of the first people to follow Jesus, and the first thing he did was find his brother Peter to tell him! John tells us, "He brought him to Jesus" (John 1:42). Because Andrew told Peter about Jesus, many lives were changed. Peter became a great leader in the Church who led many to know Jesus. My prayer and question for all of us in 2021 is - who are we going to bring to Jesus? Our greatest impact in 2021 might come through the person we tell about Jesus. At the end of the year, what we did will matter much less than who we impacted for Jesus - our spouse, children, co-workers, friends, and even strangers.



JANUARY SERIES – “GOALS”: We all have goals! Whether your goal is to raise your grades, learn a new skill, get TikTok famous, change the world, or all of the above, there are things you want to do, accomplish, and become. But let's be honest— it's not always easy to achieve our goals. Sometimes it difficult to even know which goals to set in the first place! That's why, in this series, we'll explore the story of a guy with a seemingly impossible goal and the steps he took to make his goal a reality. His name is Nehemiah, and because of his example we can learn a lot about goal-setting, decision-making, leadership, and trusting God. Through Nehemiah's story, we'll see that **big difficulties** can inspire God-sized goals, **you are designed** for God-sized goals, God **gives us strength** to pursue God-sized goals, and God-sized goals require **God-sized gratitude** .

DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGY – USE YOUR GIFTS: Each year, we have a discipleship strategy that we follow. Why? Because we believe **spiritual growth should be the lens through which we see everything else we do in our ministries**. We believe there are four spiritual habits that help teenagers (and adults, too) grow closer to God. These four habits aren't anything new. They've been talked about countless ways, by countless numbers of people. At Momentum, each quarter we focus on one: spend time with God, spend time with others, use your gifts and share your story. We believe these four spiritual habits are the behaviors that help teenagers grow closer to God. Our focus this month is use your gifts. We are encouraging students to find a cause that they care about and then we challenge them to get involved with a cause by serving and identifying needs within our community that they can meet individually or as a small group.

Because They Matter,
Pastor Kevin