ISSUE 33 | NUMBER 5

RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

CHURCH FOCUS

May 2025



Pastor's Message:
THE LOGICAL FORCE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION (PART 1)

Please follow the logical force of the Great Commission. Jesus gave His disciples the great commission of proclaiming His life and ministry; death, burial, resurrection, ascension and soon return—so that people around the world will learn of it and embrace that good news for the salvation of their souls, right?

You are a disciple of Jesus if so be that you have embraced that same gospel, right? Then, this great commission is yours to fulfill, too.

Now, Jesus essentially said, if we are going to do anything for the church of Jesus, then we're gonna have to do it through the power of the Holy Spirit. If we are to engage in any action for the church of Jesus, we must do so through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Now, what did Jesus say to them? ***You wait for whom? They waited for the Holy Spirit empowering, right?*** Now, what did they do in this waiting? They went home to Jerusalem and got into an upper room—about 120 of them disciples of Christ, and had a **prayer meeting**. Application—we come together and pray—that's the way they waited for the Holy Spirit empowerment!

I went to Monrovia to attend a seminar on making disciples. The teacher's name is Samuel Rai. He was forcefully recruited by the Maoist revolutionaries at the age of 14, and rose to the rank of brigade commander in China's revolution and specialized in communist propaganda.

Wounded in a battle, he went into hiding where he was exposed to the gospel and was converted to Christ. After being baptized he traveled to London where he was trained under the tutelage of Peter

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This Month at RBC

4	Missions Pick-Up Sunday Communion 10am
10	Ladies Brunch 10am
11	Mother's Day Service Baby Dedication Leaders Meeting 5pm
16-17	Master's Men Conference
26	Memorial Day *(Church office closed)*



Mother's Day

May 11, 2025

"Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her."
Proverbs 31:28



Memorial Day

May 26, 2025

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."
John 15:13





You're invited to join our annual Master's Men Conference in Hanford, CA! Our desire is to see God bring a real revival to the men of our churches.

Registration is **$65** before May 1st and will increase to **$75**.

For more information or to register, please visit MASTERSMENCONFERENCE.COM.



Ladies Bible Study

Ladies, join us! Brittany Torres leads us as we continue to examine the unique roles God has given to Christian women.

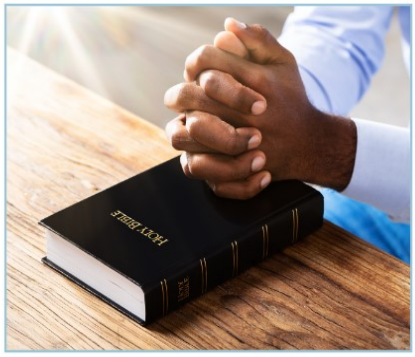
Discipleship Center

Come check out the DC! Books, Bible Studies, and more...there's something for everyone!



Discipleship Class

Come grow in your faith! Under the direction of Jose Duran, the Discipleship Class meets every Sunday morning at 9am in the DC.



Men's Prayer

Come be a part of this very special time of prayer and fellowship every Tuesday and Friday at 4:30pm.



CHILDREN'S DISCIPLESHIP

2nd & 4th Sundays

Ages 3-11

Regular Schedule

Sundays:

Discipleship Class 9am
Women's Bible Study 9am
Morning Worship Service 10am
Children's Discipleship
(2nd & 4th Sunday)
Choir Practice TBA
Evening Worship Service 6pm

Tuesdays & Fridays:

Men's Prayer 4:30pm

Wednesdays:

Adventure Club 6:30pm
Youth Discipleship 7pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 7pm

Thursdays:

Men's Bible Study 7pm



RIVERSIDE
BAPTIST CHURCH

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HOMEBUILDERS

Seizing Holy Opportunities

In Holy Moments, Matthew Kelly discusses the world's need for more small (but sometimes large) instances of people caring for others, cultivating joy, encouragement and love instead of anger, envy, fear. Kelly defines a Holy Moment as "a single moment in which you open yourself to God. … You set aside personal preference and self-interest, and for one moment you do what you prayerfully believe God is telling you to do."

This may mean mowing the lawn for a neighbor with a broken leg, praising a child on his artwork, buying a surprise snack for someone having a bad day, working extra shifts for a coworker with cancer so she can receive her full salary while out sick, paying for the next car's drive-thru order. Anyone can create a Holy Moment, because you don't need special skills, position or wealth. "If you want to see miracles, make yourself available to God," Kelly suggests.

He adds that God has a track record of collaborating with "the most unlikely people to make amazing things happen, and now He wants to collaborate with you." When we're open to God's leading, holy opportunities abound. And we will experience as much joy as the ones to whom we show care.

A Prayer For Mother's Day

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.

We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

(Continued from front page)

The Logical Force of the Great Commission (Part 1)

Masters in the Metropolitan Tabernacle (C.H. Spurgeon's old church). Upon returning to Nepal he was wonderfully used of God to establish over 350 Baptist churches all around Nepal.

One of his most compelling testimonies is about his brother who was a witch doctor. Sam had witnessed to him for years; but his brother attempted to kill him several times! People would have prayer meetings to pray for his salvation—nothing happened! One time, he had a picture of his brother printed, and people would come and touch it and pray to God for his salvation; but, again, nothing happened! Finally, after 10 years, Sam decided he would fast and pray. For 72 hours he fasted and prayed. Went to his brother and preached to him the good news of Jesus Christ. His witch doctor brother is converted, and within an hour, burned up everything he's got for his witchery!

What's the moral of the story? **Fast and pray! Really pray.** And the Holy Spirit empowering took place. If we are to engage in any action [if we're gonna embark on any endeavors] for the church of Jesus, we must do so through the power of the Holy Spirit.

So, the first major application has to do with **Spirit-empowering.** In part 2 of this newsletter, I will give you the second major application which has to do with strategic witnessing.

With Sincere Love In Christ,



Christian Torres
Pastor-Teacher