ISSUE 34 | NUMBER 11

RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

CHURCH FOCUS

November 2026



This Month at RBC	
1	Communion 10am
8	Leaders Meeting 5pm
11	Veterans Day (church office closed)
22	Harvest of Praise 10am
26	Happy Thanksgiving!
29	Ladies Cookie & Ornament Exchange 11:30am

PASTOR'S MESSAGE: THE GOD WHO ENCOURAGES

Athens and Corinth are 53 miles apart. It's a long walk. Paul is discouraged. Weary from travel. Feeling lonely. Timothy and Silas are still not with him. He is thinking *Athens is not much of a success. Those philosophers are unrepentant!* Paul is not only tired physically, he is drained emotionally and is discouraged spiritually. But here in Corinth, there are four encouragements that await him. God certainly knows how to comfort His people, amen?

#1) God gives Paul the encouragement of friends in Christ. Aquila and Priscilla are "probably already Christians when Paul met them. They had come from Rome, where a church already existed (Romans 1:7-8)" (John MacArthur, Acts 13-28, 147). God knows Paul needs companionship, and so God orchestrates Aquila and Priscilla and Paul's ways to converge into Corinth. Moreover, they happen to be of the same trade as Paul, which is further evidence of God's sovereignty and providence over their lives. They are tentmakers! They work with leather. And so they keep company with each other! Better still —God sends him Silas and Timothy from Macedonia. More friends have come! Yay! The more the merrier! I want you to know church, I'm your friend. Each one of us needs a friend or two. And what a perfect place to find good friends—in church!

#2) Another encouragement which God sends to Paul is the encouragement of seeing people get converted. Paul walks out of the synogogue (exasperated) and goes to the house of Justus. But then, notice: Justus is "one that worshipped God"—this one is converted! And Paul is encouraged! Moreover, Justus' house is adjoined to the synagogue, where the chief ruler of the synagogue, Crispus is his name, also believes on the Lord with all his household. Paul's efforts with the Jews aren't a total loss after all! Plus, the Bible tells us, and many of the Corinthians hearing believe, and are baptized (see Acts 18:7-8).

#3) Encouragement in the Promise of God Who has elected many to salvation. God Himself tells Paul not to be afraid any longer. Paul must be in some great distress! The Lord shows up in his dream and encourages him. *Hey Paul, you go on speaking alright? Don't be silent.* "For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee" (Acts 18:10).

And then here's something that is a real practical encouragement not only to the apostle's heart but to me as well as a preacher of the gospel. The Lord says in the ending of verse 10–**I have much people in this city** of Corinth! What? In this city? Yes in Corinth which "boasted an outdoor theater that accommodated 20,000 people; athletic games second only to the Olympics; a Greek, Roman, and Oriental population; and the great temple of Aphrodite with its 1,000 prostitutes. The immoral condition of Corinth is vividly seen in the fact that

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Veterans Day
Wednesday November 11



Thanksgiving
Thursday November 26







Men's Prayer

Attention RBC Men!
Join your brothers in Christ every Tuesday and Friday at 4:30 pm in Pastor's office for a special time of prayer & worship.



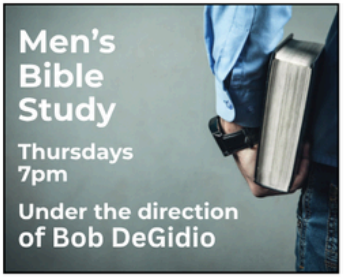
Discipleship Class

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



Women's Bible Study

Ladies, join your sisters-in-Christ for this blessed time of biblical understanding and spiritual growth.



Men's Bible Study

RBC Men, don't miss this opportunity for sound Bible teaching and meaningful fellowship.



Children's Discipleship Ages 3-11

2nd & 4th Sundays

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:

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 7pm
Adventure Club ages 3-11
Youth Discipleship

Thursdays:

Men's Bible Study 7pm

Three Ways to Give

At Church | Online | By Mail

RIVERSIDE
BAPTIST CHURCH
9015 Magnolia Avenue
Riverside, California 92503
(951) 687-6106
www.RBCSoCal.com
Pastor: Christian Torres

HOMEBUILDERS

A Reason To Give Thanks

After Eddie Rickenbacker and his companions were rescued after more than three weeks adrift in life rafts in the Pacific, he was asked what lesson he had learned from the ordeal.

He answered that anyone with plenty of fresh water to drink and enough food to eat should never complain.

His words still speak clearly today. Many blessings can become so familiar that we barely notice them. This Thanksgiving, pause to give thanks for clean water, nourishing food, a safe place to rest and the people God has placed in your life. Let gratitude continue long after the holiday table is cleared.

A Mission Field Of Prayer

Missionary Cynthia Sundman shares the story of a woman in her 80s who is battling cancer and confined to bed. Though she can no longer leave home, she keeps a list of missionaries around the world and prays for them each day.



Cynthia says, "This woman travels the globe every day serving the Lord. Her mission is to pray for all the missionaries on her list."

Her story reminds us that faithful service does not always require travel or public recognition. Sometimes ministry happens quietly, from a bedside, through prayers lifted to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

(Continued from front page)

The God Who Encourages

the Greek term *Korinthiazomai* came to mean 'to practice fornication.' There were taverns on the south side of the marketplace, and many drinking vessels have been dug up from those liquor lockers. Corinth was noted for everything sinful" (Ryrie, *Study Bible*, 1619). Much like today's sin city, right?

But God says I have much people in Corinth! *Do you know what this means?* God has elected many people in this city! Who are they? They are those in Corinth who (to borrow the Bible's language) "were ordained to eternal life" (see Acts 13:58). God says, in essence, I have elected them Paul; but *they have not yet believed, Paul, so I want you to continue preaching the gospel. They will believe because they are whom I have elected to salvation from before the foundation of the world! They are My people; and therefore, I want you to go and preach to them so that they will believe!*

And so in Acts 18:11, we're told that Paul continues there in Corinth a total of 1 year and a half, teaching the word of God among them. And it is during this 1.5 years stay that a fourth and final encouragement is provided for Paul.

#4) God's encouragement in the judgment given by an honest, fair-minded, even-keeled, consistent politician, Acts 18:12-17. The one I'm referring to is Gallio the deputy of Achaia. He is the proconsul there in Corinth between July A.D. 51 and June A.D. 52. He tells the rioting Jews and Greeks (who brought charges against Paul) to quit it and go home! And so Paul is free!

To recap, the Lord knows how to comfort the discouraged minister of the gospel. Are you weary Christian? God gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might God increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Because of God's Grace,

Christian Torres
Pastor-Teacher