

**2018 HPBC Goals**

1. *Individual Community Involvement*: We will endeavor to cultivate a culture of evangelism in our church this year by encouraging our members to advance the gospel through individual community involvement.
   * Specifically: We desire for our members to pursue a level of community involvement that brings them into regular contact with those who need Christ. “Community involvement” can be as simple as engaging a neighbor through a common hobby or as complex as participating in or leading a formal community organization (sports leagues, HOA, charities, etc).
2. *Church Family Gathering*: We will continue our goal from last year to devote ourselves as a church family to the practice of prayer, testifying, and discipling one another during our evening gathering.
   * Specifically: In addition to private and small group settings, we desire to see our church practice the commanded disciplines of prayer, testifying, and discipleship as an entire church family together. Our vision is for these practices to be essential and primary activities during our evening gathering. We will begin the process of structuring our evening gatherings to centralize around these activities.

**Reflect**

* *Sunday AM – Luke 1:1-25 – Heart for Humanity: Breakthrough – Drew Conley*
  1. What is your instinctive response when you hear that God knows you?
  2. Though we cannot achieve sinless perfection in this life, what does it mean to “live blameless” before Him, even in the face of long-standing trial?
  3. Main idea: we can live in a holy and pleasing way before God that testifies to our faith in His goodness and our final hope, even when circumstances sadden us, pain afflicts us, or God does not reveal his full purpose of plan.
  4. How should God’s knowledge of our true character chasten or encourage us?
  5. In what ways can we be tempted to believe that God is not present or is not answering prayer?
  6. Zechariah and Elizabeth’s prayers were answered in the end, but not in the way they expected and long after they had given up hope. What answers to prayer have you experienced after long delay?
  7. Why does God often choose to wait to break through impossible circumstances?
  8. Main idea: He often waits until things seem hopeless or impossible to come through in ways that unmistakably of Him, for His ultimately glory and our joy and growth in faith.
  9. What examples of persistent faith in the face of God’s apparent silence can you think of, either in Scripture or your own life?
  10. John’s birth was significant not only as an answer to his parent’s prayers, but because of His place in redemptive history. How should seeing your place in the history of redemption color the way you see your daily life?
* *Sunday PM – Proverbs* – *Money and Work: Wise Strategy* – *Drew Conley*
  + 1. Do you think Christians should talk more about money? Why? Why not?
    2. Did you previously think of going to the Bible for practical counsel in regards to how to handle your money? If not, where else have you received good counsel?
    3. Proverbs 22:29 – Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.
       - What are gifts and skills that God has given you that you enjoy using? Have you been able to tap into those with regards to your work? Do you hope to in the future?
    4. Proverbs 13:11 – Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.
       - Talk about why this verse is true.
       - Have you ever felt the “desire for money” pulling at your heart? Describe what that was like. How did you combat that?
    5. Proverbs 12:27 – Whoever is slothful will not roast his game, but the diligent man will get precious wealth.
       - What would be a wrong way to interpret this proverb?
       - How do we strike the balance between being diligent in work (on the one side) and being a workaholic (on the other side)? If you are comfortable sharing, which side do you tend toward? How can we help each other in this?
    6. Proverbs 3:9-10 – Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.
       - Have you made it a practice to give regularly to God through the local church? If so, talk about how you came to this decision as a family and how you work to prioritize this with the money that God gives you.
       - Do you prioritize also giving in other ways, such as giving to other organizations, meeting needs as you hear about them, etc.? Maybe share some examples of how you’ve done this.
       - What are some other ways you’ve used your resources to help people besides just giving money? Share some examples.
    7. In groups of 2-3:
       - How do conversations about money sit with you? Convicting? Encouraging? Challenging? Awkward? Why?
       - Is there any particular area of finances that we’ve discussed that you feel you could use more help? Maybe someone in your group, or someone else at HPBC could help!
       - Pray for one another in this area.