



**SUGAR LAND BIBLE CHURCH**  
"BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE FOR 38 YEARS"  
1982-2020



## THE CORNERSTONE

June 2020



### SLBC Re-Opening Guidelines

Dear SLBC Family and Friends,



Given the recent lifting of restrictions by Gov. Abbott, your SLBC Elder Board has decided to open the Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study and the Main Services held in the Sanctuary, this weekend. However, please carefully read "THE REOPENING SUGAR LAND BIBLE CHURCH PLAN AND PROCEDURES" below and plan accordingly. It is imperative that all attendees follow these instructions. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we begin our move toward normalcy!

ELDER BOARD

SUGAR LAND BIBLE CHURCH

#### REOPENING SUGAR LAND BIBLE CHURCH PLAN AND PROCEDURES

##### BEGINNING 05-24-2020

Partial Reopening on May 24, 2020 and May 31, 2020, with "The Rapture" lessons first hour starting at 9:45 AM and second hour Worship Service continuing with Philippians at 11:15 AM: While the elders take the threat of CV-19 very seriously, we have agreed to open the church for attendance with some limitations and safeguards. With Governor Abbott's phase II guidelines now in place (specifically, the recommendation for up to 50% occupancy for businesses), we agree that we can partially reopen SLBC. Please use your own good judgment regarding personal attendance. Should you decide to attend, please be respectful of others and take all necessary precautions. We have a fairly high percentage of attendees that are both over the age of 65 and that have underlying medical conditions, which makes the personal decision to attend church services particularly important. The follow-

## Missions for the Month



# KHCB Radio Amistad

Houston Christian Broadcasters, Inc.

Dear friends at SLBC,

We have aired a large number of interviews and special programs to assist you during this time of limited activity. One of these programs was Vital Issues with my twin, Eileen Lopez, where she explained

the science of neuroplasticity that involves creating new pathways in the brain. She gave examples of activities that families can do at home to strengthen our brains. If you didn't watch this or other special

SHOWS, you can watch them on our YouTube channel or on our Facebook page. Tim, who has 198,000 followers on You Tube wrote the following comment about the Show with Eileen: *'Amazing content,*

*Keep up this good content.'* We thank God that this program was a blessing to this friend.

We received another email comment about the music. *"I listen to your station almost every day. I am in Durham, NC. I use "Time In" and the Radio Amistad website as well. I have noted the selection of songs,, perfect for the crisis in which we are ALL living. Thank you very much! You give encouragement!!!! I lived in Houston in 1983-1986 and God used KHCB to train me in the early years of being a Christian. It's still my favorite station and now Radio Amistad! Thank you and continue in the work of the Lord."*

During this month, when the congregation cannot meet and when love offerings are down in many churches, we appreciate even more your kind contribution to the ministry. You help us continue to minister to fearful people and remind them that God is in control. Thank you for joining us in this work.

Serving the King,

*Dolly Martin*



Eileen Lopez, right, suggested a list of activities to help strengthen the brains of children and adults.

**Andy Woods—Pastor**

## Signs of the Times for 2020

### (Part 4)

In our first installment, we observed that the Bible places much emphasis on the signs related to Christ's return (Matt. 24:33; Luke 21:28; Heb. 10:25, etc.). Observing these signs helps us ascertain that general time of human history in which we find ourselves. We noted that if the signs of the Tribulation period are rapidly approaching, and the rapture of the Church precedes the Tribulation period, then the rapture must be coming even faster. Thus, we began to ask ourselves, what are some of these signs that are now setting the stage for the coming Tribulation period? We selected the following *seven* signs as deserving of analysis to be covered in

this series:

1. Signs related to Israel
2. Signs related to international politics
3. Signs related to economics
4. Signs related to technology
5. Signs related to spirituality
6. Signs related to society
7. Signs related to understanding Bible prophecy

Therefore, this series is dedicated to exploring the *seven* signs related to the soon return of Jesus Christ. As a result of this teaching, may we all grow in our understanding of the unique time in which we now live.

### 1. Signs Related to Israel

There are several signs meriting discussion concerning the modern state of Israel. These include Israel's miraculous political rebirth in 1948, recapturing of Old Testament Jerusalem in 1967, ambition to rebuild her third Temple, and desire to live in harmony with her hostile neighbors. In our last installment we focused upon Israel's recapturing of Old Testament Jerusalem in 1967. In this installment, we will focus on *Israel's ambition to rebuild her third Temple*.

Another sign related to the nation of Israel is that Israel must have an interest in rebuilding their Temple. What event that will occur in the middle of Daniel's Seventieth Week? This event will involve desecration of the Temple (Dan. 9:27). It is something that has historical precedent in the activities of Antiochus Epiphanes during the intertestamental period. What Antiochus did is recorded in the uninspired yet historical books of 1–2 Maccabees. During that time (A.D. 167), Antiochus entered the Temple that the Jews had rebuilt following their return from the Babylonian Captivity. He banned Jewish use of their prayer books and Talmud as well as the Hebrew practice of circumcision. He also halted the practice of animal sacrifices in the Temple. Furthermore, he set up a pagan image of Zeus in the Temple. Interestingly, Daniel predicted this event four-hundred years in advance through his use of the expression "desecration of the sanctuary" and the "abomination of desolation" (Dan. 11:31). By applying the nearly identical phraseology to the work of the future Antichrist at the Tribulation's midpoint (Dan. 9:27), the prophet conveys that the future Antichrist will replicate these very events. If Daniel's short-term prophecies concerning Antiochus came to pass with such accuracy, why would not Daniel's long-term prophecies concerning the future Antichrist also not come to pass with the same degree of accuracy and literalness?

Thus, the future Antichrist will similarly walk into the Temple. He will desecrate it. He will forbid the Jews from offering sacrifices any longer in their Temple. He will also set up a statue in the Temple that

miraculously speaks. There is a reference to this speaking image in Revelation 13:15, which says, “And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.” Quite obviously, for these prophecies to be fulfilled at the Tribulation’s midpoint through the Antichrist’s desecration of the Temple, the Jews must first rebuild their Temple.

There are four temples in Jewish history: two past and two future. Solomon built the first Temple in 966 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1), which was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon on the eve of the seventy-year captivity. Then, that first Temple was followed by Zerubbabel’s temple, which was rebuilt by the Babylonian returnees in the days of Ezra. This second Temple was refurbished by Herod (John 2:20) and served as the very Temple that Christ interacted with during His earthly ministry (Matt. 4:5; 24:1-2; John 2:14). For example, it was this temple that Christ interacted with when, as a young twelve-year-old, he went into the Temple and confounded the Jewish leaders with His wisdom (Luke 2:46). This second Temple was eventually destroyed by the Romans forty years after the time of Christ (Luke 19:44) in the horrific events of A.D. 70.

Yet, several areas of predictive prophecy (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 11:1-2) all reveal a third tribulation Temple that the Antichrist must desecrate: [Daniel 9:27, “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”] [Matthew 24:15, “Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand)]. [2 Thessalonians 2:4, “who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.”] [Revelation 11:1-2, “Then there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, ‘Get up and measure the temple of God and the altar, and those who worship in it. Leave out the court which is outside the temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread underfoot the holy city for forty-two months.’”]

What is eventually going to become of this third temple? My belief is that it is going to be destroyed during the seventh bowl judgment, which predicts the greatest earthquake in human history (Rev. 16:17-21). This third Temple will then be replaced by the glorious fourth millennial Temple as predicted by the prophet Ezekiel (Ezek. 40-48).

So, we are now living in-between temples 2 and 3. Bible prophecy demands that the third Temple must be rebuilt and be fully functioning at the midpoint of the Tribulation period so that the future Antichrist can desecrate it. Prior to this, at some point, and I do not know exactly how and when it will happen, Israel must rebuild its third temple. My wife and I had an option to go to Israel not long ago and during this trip we visited the Temple Institute in Jerusalem. What do you find in the Temple Institute? You can view a Menorah made of gold. It is very heavy. This Menorah is designed to be placed in the rebuilt temple that the Jews are seeking to build. You can also see a small model of what they think the coming Temple is going to look like. You can also see the priestly garb that the priests will wear when they fulfill their duties in the rebuilt Temple. The Jews are also currently breeding a special animal called the Red Heifer which will be used to dedicate and eventually restore the animal sacrifices to be offered in their coming Temple. The existence of the Temple Institute and its contents reveal the clear ambition among the Jewish orthodox to rebuild their third Temple, which is exactly what the pages of Bible prophecy predict. What is happening with all these things? God is setting the stage for his end time program!

All of this to say that Israel’s ambition to rebuild her Temple constitutes therefore a key sign demonstrating that we are rapidly approaching the events of the Tribulation period. We will explore more signs related to the nation of Israel in our next installment. Specifically, we will focus on Israel’s desire to live in harmony with her hostile neighbors

(To Be Continued...)



## Art and Robin Allen Ministry Newsletter at McChord AFB. WA

Life and ministry here in WA continue to be blessed and bear fruit. Even with the current health crisis we have found ways to stay connected and deepen relationships. When the crisis began to capture the world's attention God seemed to impress on me that He was going to touch many lives in a very personal way.

As the "stay at home" orders were beginning to sweep the nation, I thought what a great time to do several home projects. So, I began to dive in. After a few days while taking out the trash, I missed a stair step and came crashing down onto the trash. When I stood up, I felt the sting of pain in my foot and realized it was broken. The Lord then reminded me of other studies, books, and discipleship projects I had lined up on my desk which I never seem to have time for. I thanked Him for His work in my life and am now writing this long overdue ministry update for starters.

God's personal touch is also happening with my daughter Elizabeth and her husband Trey. When the gov't halted all non-critical military moves, it put them in a serious predicament. Trey was on the last week of his Army nurse training and was supposed to take a national test, graduate, then leave their rented apartment at Walter Reed in MD and move back to TX to their newly purchased home. They seemed to be stuck and didn't know if they should wait it out, move anyway or for Trey to stay and Elizabeth move alone. They asked how to clearly know what God would have them do. After sharing some principles with them, they went to the Lord for His specific will and waited. Within hours they heard from the Army that they could move and test later when the facilities opened. As soon as they arrived at their new place the news reported that Gov Abbot opened all medical test facilities to get medical folks in the field. Trey was able to take the test and is now waiting to see if he will deploy with the Reserves or work at a local hospital.

We are hearing many stories just like these from those in our ministry and from friends and family.



## Scripture of the Month



*Isaiah 26:3 NKJV*

*You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.*



God is always amazing us and we are continually awed by how He can orchestrate purpose and order in the midst of continual chaos.

Our Navigators ministry at McChord AFB is going well even though we haven't been to the base in a couple weeks. We are holding our Wednesday discipleship study using Zoom and have seen more attend consistently on video than in person. The fellowship has deepened, and many are sharing their "social distancing" and witnessing stories.

Meeting one to one with airmen has not skipped a beat either. Many have been off work and confined to their dorms or homes as they rotate on "skeleton crews" at work. So, they're available more now than before. Meeting on Zoom or messenger video has created great opportunities to continue personal discipleship.

Our neighborhood outreach effort has been blessed also. We started a monthly soup night where our neighbors are invited to bring their own bowls and spoons for free soup and conversation. We have had a house full each time and have connected with several neat people. We were able to follow up with some and introduce the Gospel. We also were able to meet and encourage those who are already believers. We look forward to when we can open our doors again.

### Please pray for:

- fruitful ministry, bringing the Gospel and call to discipleship at JBLM
- develop airmen as disciple-makers in their own networks of people
- protection, encouragement and strength for our family
- wisdom, opportunities and effectiveness to continually develop this ministry
- opportunities to share Christ with our neighbors



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**No Children's Classes or Nursery:** We plan to start these on June 7th. Until then, all children must stay with their parents. There will be live-streaming of both services in the Fellowship Room, and parents of children who will have difficulty being quiet for the sessions are asked to be seated there with children. We encourage parents with very small children or infants to remain at home until the Nursery reopens on June 7th.

**Youth** will meet for the first hour upstairs, as usual, except with appropriate precautions.

**Greeters and Ushers** will wear face masks.

**Hand Sanitizer Availability:** Hand sanitizer will be available in several places in the foyer. Please use some as you enter and again as you leave.

**Limited Seating:**

- a) Every other row will be taped off. Please be seated as far forward as possible and move to the center of the row with spacing between groups as listed below.
- b) We ask family units sit together with at least 2 chairs between family units. Two or more individuals who are not members of the same household, but who are attending together, may also sit adjacent to one another, with 2 empty seats on either side.
- c) If you plan to attend both sessions and you leave your seat between sessions, please mark your seat with a bulletin, Bible, or other personal item and return to the same seats.

**Live Streaming in Fellowship Room:** The room will be set up with chairs only (no tables) in groups, with each group positioned 6 feet apart. As stated above, we encourage families with younger children to utilize this room, but the room is open to anyone.

**Social Distancing:** Please refrain from shaking hands or touching others and maintain 6 feet of spacing between yourself (family unit) and others.

**Dismissal:** We will dismiss by row, starting in the back of auditorium. Ushers will assist. Please do not congregate in the sanctuary or in the foyer. Pastor Andy, nor the elders, will greet after the service.

**Face Masks Usage:** These are not mandatory, but feel free to wear them if you so desire. If you are in a high-risk category and plan to attend, we encourage you to wear a face mask.

**Food and Drinks:** No food, coffee, or tea will be provided until further notice.

**Worship Service Music:** There will be no Congregational Singing, for at least the next two Sundays, due to concerns that singing spreads the air-borne virus 2-3 times farther than normal. Plans are to provide some piano and/or special vocal music before the service begins.

**Seating Disinfection:** All seating will be cleaned each week before church services using the disinfectant Sniper. (See <https://www.nokout.com/SNiPER-Disinfectant/> for information about this product.) Hard surfaces like door handles, light switches, countertops, faucets, etc., will be wiped down.

**Congregational Responsibilities:** Please take all necessary precautions and use your best judgment regarding attendance (and your children's attendance). Please wash your hands and maintain acceptable social distance.

*(Continued on Page 8)*

**Please stay at home if:**

- a) you are sick with cough, shortness of breath, chills, headache, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, fever of 100 ° F or higher, or have possibly been exposed to COVID-19 during the last 2 weeks;
- b) you have underlying at-risk medical conditions (e.g., heart, lung issues, and diabetes); and
- c) you are over 65

**Please carefully consider the decision to attend. Live streaming will continue to be available.**

**Disclaimer:** COVID-19 is highly contagious and is known to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. By attending Sugar Land Bible Church, you agree to abide by the procedures established by the church to protect attendees and staff, and you voluntarily assume the risk that you and/or your family may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 either at the church, in the church worship service, or in the nursery or Sunday School. You agree to assume all the risks of attendance and participation for you and your family, and you waive any liability against the church and any other parties.

Elder Board  
Sugar Land Bible Church

## Youth Class during



## COVID-19

By Ashlynn Morris

The world seems to have been turned upside down during this COVID-19 pandemic. People wearing masks, stay at home orders, long lines outside of stores, and empty store shelves have become a regular sight in the past months. Because of the pandemic, the Youth group haven't been able to fellowship in the same way they used to. But thanks to technology, the Youth group has been able to connect through video calls so that they can do Bible Study.

For the past few weeks, the Youth has been scheduling Wednesday night and Sunday morning classes through video calls on a platform called Zoom. The Youth have been "zooming in" to listen to Youth Pastor Gabe Morris. It has been a blessing to be able to see faces of friends that you haven't seen in a while, and to gather together and pray for one another through this hard time.

On Sundays, the Youth has been going through a course called "My Bible: Can I Trust It?". In this course the Youth have been going through the Bible, book by book, studying the time it was written, who it was written by, who it was written to, and the purpose of the book.

On Wednesdays, the Youth have been studying Basic Theology. In this course the Youth have studied a variety of different subjects, like Angelology, Demonology, Anthropology, Homology, Satanology, Ecclesiology, and many others.

After classes, the Youth is able to talk and pray for each other and our nation. The Youth also developed a little tradition where everyone on the zoom call will do something silly while someone takes a screenshot. One week the theme was silly faces. Another week they all pretended to be sleeping. One fun theme was when everyone got their pets for a group pet picture. The pictures that they have taken will always serve as a memory of the Youth gathering together to study the Bible despite this difficult time. The Youth is extremely excited to be able to go back to church, and will continue to pray for our country and everyone who has been affected by this Coronavirus.

A good verse to remember during this pandemic is Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." God is with us even during the hard times, and he has a plan and purpose for all of this.

## Encouragement for the Cooped-up Mommy!

By: Fabi Morris

The day is filled with running around issuing commands and trying to keep everyone in line. I am keenly aware that my tone of voice has clearly been sliding toward yell levels since just after breakfast. At the end of the day, all I'm certain of is how wretched I am. The very thing I'm requiring of my children is devoid in me. The crushing weight of it all and the fact that tomorrow I will have to do it all over again leaves me undone. I fall on my knees and realize I am in desperate need of the Lord's mercy.



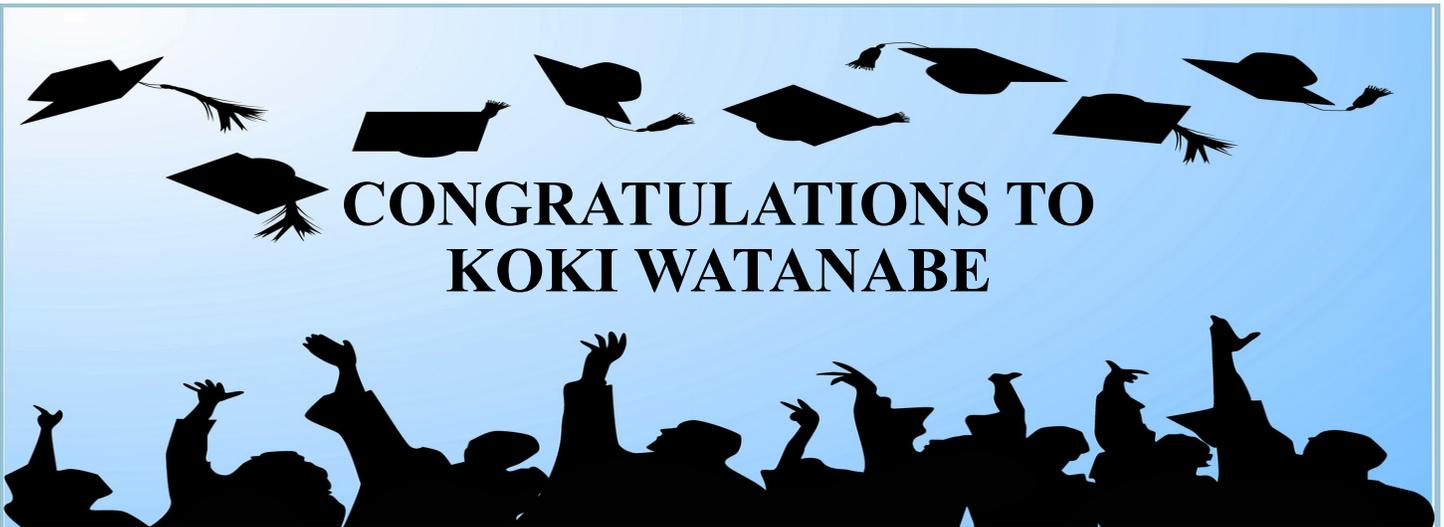
### A week later.

Ahhh, today was a great day! The children were so pleasant, and spent some great quality time with each other without much bickering. The kitchen even got cleaned without me issuing a reminder. Boy, I have done a great job training these kids. Just look at them! Tonight, I think I'll kick back and relax.

Of the two 'day in the life' stories above, I've come to develop a great appreciation for scenario 1. Any day I end in prayer, fully dependent on the Lord's mercies is a good day. Any day my self-righteousness tries to convince me I'm really amazing is a scary day.

Every minute I spend on my knees is a minute multiplied. The person I encounter on the other side has more perspective, strength, resilience, and compassion for the journey.

So when the going gets rough, as it most certainly will, I need to square my heart with Paul's command in 1 Thesalonians 5:17 to pray without ceasing. A steady flow of communication with my Savior is an anchor and a lifeline without which I am sure to flounder and wander and lose my way - until I remember that "pray without ceasing" was never a suggestion, but a command



SLBC has a very special high school graduate to celebrate this year - Koki Watanabe - 2020 graduate of Clements High School. When the Watanabe family arrived at SLBC several years ago, Koki became a regular and enthusiastic youth group attender. Within a short amount of time, one thing became clear. Koki loved serving - wherever and whenever needed. He has served at SLBC Ladies Lunches, on the VBS stage crew, and during summer service projects.

He has also been a faithful member of his high school's NAVY ROTC program, completing two Navy Leadership Academy Camps. Additionally, he was an outstanding member of the color guard. When Koki was a sophomore at Clements High School, his achievements helped the JROTC make it to Nationals for the first time in the school's history. Koki plans on joining the military but is not certain if that is where the Lord is leading him. Please join us in congratulating Koki and praying for the Lord's continued guidance for his life post-graduation. Great job, Koki! You are a great blessing to our church!



If you would like to leave encouragement or a gift for Koki, please look for a graduation card box in the foyer.

