

Marbleton Community Free Will Baptist Church

1703 Marbleton Road
Unicoi, TN 37692
Website: marbletonfwb.com

WELCOME

Week of July 23, 2023 Schedule of Services:

Sunday School 10:00 A.M.

Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:45 A.M.

Today is **Backpack Distribution Day** immediately following our morning Worship Service.

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, **Meet for Prayer** 6:00 P.M.

* Special Prayer Request: Pulpit Committee and
God's direction for a new pastor

Tuesday, **Ladies Bible Study:** Meet downstairs in the Reception Room at 6:00 P.M. Ladies – everyone is invited! We have some great fellowship, a dessert usually, and then we have the privilege of studying in God's word.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God" 2 Timothy 2:15

Wednesday, Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7:00 P.M.

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| Happy Anniversary: Dan & Angie Johnson - July 17 th Gary & Mary Lynn McNabb - July 22 nd |
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A group of seniors were sitting around talking about all their ailments. "My arms have gotten so weak I can hardly lift this cup of coffee," said one. "Yes, I know," said another. "My cataracts are so bad I can't even see my coffee." "I couldn't even mark an 'X' at election time my hands are so crippled," volunteered a third. "What? Speak up! What? I can't hear you!" said another. "I can't turn my head because of the arthritis in my neck," said a fourth, to which several nodded weakly in agreement. "My blood pressure pills make me so dizzy!" exclaimed another. "I forget where I am, and where I'm going," said another. "I guess that's the price we pay for getting old," winced an old man as he slowly shook his head. The others nodded in agreement. "Well, count your blessings," said a woman cheerfully, "thankfully we can all still drive."

PERSPECTIVE

We are a generation in a hurry, captured by a desire to finish it up, to get it done. We hurriedly take our place in today's horn blowing, door slamming, rib jostling society. To speed us on our way, we've devised condensed books, instant coffee and TV dinners. We want to ride on the freeway; any little delay in the middle lane, and we are filled with impatient acts, unkind words and unprintable thoughts. This must be part of the reason it's sometimes hard to walk with God. He doesn't seem to get in a hurry. His plan may turn us off through sorrow's valley, or across monotony's plain or up pain's winding hill. For in His wisdom, He sees there are some things you cannot do quickly. There are some places you cannot go in a hurry and there are some things you cannot be in an instant. He knows you can't become a saint in a second or a master in a moment. He knows it takes delay and dark nights, setbacks and sad hours mixed with sunshine and blessing, freeways and bypasses.

And learning slowly, I am prone to pray: God, send relief. I cannot bear the sorrow, pain and tears. But with time's passing, I have come to pray: God, I want to learn quickly; I want to know Thy way. So let Him have His way. Let Him slow you down or hold you still or back you up. He will get you there, in His time and in His way.
Bob Benson / The Grace Broadcaster

Three strikes and you're out!

Anyone who has ever played baseball has heard those familiar words. In fact, American culture has adopted that phrase to apply to a number of different situations. However, the bottom line is the same in each one. Mistakes aren't allowed. Performance is the only thing that really matters. You've only got a couple of chances and then you're out. We live in a "no second chance" kind of world.

King David knew all about striking out. Out on the roof, relaxing in the evening, he lusted after another man's wife. (Strike One!) He committed adultery with her and she became pregnant. (Strike Two!) He then had her husband murdered in battle to cover-up the first two strikes! (Strike Three!)

David, you're out of there. Hang it up. You're done. That's the human way of responding to failure, isn't it?

I, for one, am certainly glad that we don't have a "three strikes and you're out" God. Psalm 103:10-12 says, "He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His loving kindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed OUR transgressions from us,"

King David wrote those words after the Bathsheba incident. He had to live with the consequences of his sin, but when he repented, God forgave Him. Perhaps there is someone reading this today who needs to know that there is nothing, absolutely nothing, that God can't forgive when we truly repent. And He'll never, ever throw it back in your face!