2025 Church Theme:

"Christians: Letting Go of the Past to Embrace the Present" (Isaiah 43:18-19)

10:00 A.M. Order of Service

Devotion First Baptist Church of Perris Deacons

•	Minister e to Worship
Welcome	Minister Deacon Averell Coleman ute Fellowship
Tithes, Offering & Benevole	nce Minister
	First Baptist Male Chours
Altar Call	Minister
Selection	First Baptist Male Chorus
Message	Pastor-Teacher Terry L. Wells
Call to Discipleship	Minister
Remarks	Deaconess Juandretta Murphy
Benediction	Pastor-Teacher Terry L. Wells

Sermon Outline Notes

Let's Get Back to Church Psalm 122:1 (KJV) A Message by: Pastor-Teacher Terry L. Wells

Scripture Reading "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." — Psalm 122:1

Introduction

Psalm 122, one of the Songs of Ascents sung by pilgrims on the way to Jerusalem, expresses anticipation of worship and unity in God's presence.

Main Point 1: The Joy of Going to Church

- Biblical Text: Psalm 122:1 "I was glad when they said unto me..."
- Definition: "Glad" means to rejoice greatly, a spontaneous joyful expression.
- Explanation: The psalmist's heart leaps with joy at the invitation to worship. This joy reflects love for God and fellowship with His people.
- Practical Steps:
 - a. Prepare your heart for worship weekly with prayer and spiritual expectation.
 - b. Cultivate a longing for God's presence and community.
 - c. Prioritize church attendance as a joyful occasion, not a duty.
- Illustration: Like a family reunion, the joy is not in the place but in the relationships and memories shared.
- Reality Check: Barriers such as unresolved conflict, past hurt, or spiritual dryness can block joy. Acknowledge and pray for healing in these areas.
- Encouragement: Even in struggles, church provides a place for support and prayer. (Matthew 18:19)

Main Point 2: The Joy of Inviting Guests to Church — The Sacred Space of God's Presence

- Biblical Text: Psalm 122:1 "Let us go into the house of the Lord."
- Definition: "Let us go" means to travel or proceed together—pilgrimage with purpose.
- Explanation: Worship journeys were physically and spiritually demanding pilgrimages to sacred space. Fellowship encouraged believers.
- Practical Steps:
 - a. Invite others to join you—worship is best together.
 - b. Engage fully in worship heart, soul, and mind.
 - c. Build community to strengthen faith and resilience.

Additional Notes

Illustration: A single coal alone cools quickly, but together coals burn brightly.

Barriers to Overcome: Busyness, doubts, social anxiety, judgment, and past disappointments.

Call to Action: Extend grace, seek reconciliation, and prioritize worship and fellowship.

Main Point 3: The Joy of Going to God's Church

Biblical Text: Psalm 122:1 "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

Definition: The "house of the Lord" is the temple or any gathering where God dwells and meets His people.

Explanation: Worship connects us to God's presence, renewal, and community unity.

David's Example: Despite sin, David's heart sought God's presence with joyful worship (Psalm 51, Psalm 122).

Practical Steps:

Leave behind past failures—worship welcomes repentant hearts.

Participate sincerely in praise, prayer, and hearing the Word.

Foster church unity, peace, and love.

Spiritual Realities of Worship:

God's presence fills the place (2 Chronicles 7:1-3)

Prayer is powerful (1 Kings 8:28)

Healing and forgiveness happen (Hebrews 10:22)

Boldness and empowerment for mission (Acts 4:31)

Names of God Represented in Worship: Jehovah Shammah (The LORD is There), Emmanuel (God with Us), Jehovah Rapha (The LORD That Heals), and others.

The Joy of Going to God's Church

Let us embrace joyful anticipation, extend invitations, overcome barriers, and walk boldly into the house of the Lord—where transformation happen and God's presence reigns.

Additional Notes

Weekly Reflection Guide

Monday — Reflect on the Joy of Worship

Meditate on Psalm 122:1. Pray for a glad heart that eagerly anticipates worship. What spiritual barriers might you need to surrender this week?

Tuesday — Reflect on Inviting Others

Consider whom you can invite to join you in worship. Pray for courage and wisdom to reach out. How can you help others experience the joy of God's house?

Wednesday — Reflect on Community
Think about your role in the church family. How can you strengthen unity
and encourage fellow believers toward faith and forgiveness?

Thursday — Reflect on God's Presence Meditate on the names of God revealed in His house (Jehovah Shammah, Emmanuel, Jehovah Rapha). How have you experienced God's presence and healing through worship?

Friday — Reflect on Your Personal Worship Evaluate how fully you engage in worship (praise, prayer, listening). Commit to deepening your participation and letting worship transform your week.



First Baptist Church Members focus on reaping the benefits of God's Word, with the goal of cultivating spiritual fruit in our character, conduct, and actions that lead others to Christ. We aspire to be a beacon of positivity towards Jesus Christ, embracing our Church, Community, Co-Workers, City, and Country through the principles encapsulated in the acronym F.R.E.S.H. & V.A.L.U.E.

FRESH

F - Forget the Past (Isaiah 43:18)

R - Repent Immediately (1 John 1:9)

E – Embrace Change (Isaiah 43:19)

S - Study the Scriptures (2 Timothy 2:15)

H - Happy Giver (2 Corinthians 9:6-9)

VALUE

V - Vigilant of People Harmful Actions (3 John 9)

A - Avoid Those Who Do Evil (3 John 10)

L - Lead by Following What is Good (3 John 11)

U - Unite by Supporting Those Who Act Righteously (3 John 11)

E – Exemplify Good Behavior from Others (3 John 11)