

V3

OKA- SONS



Summer 2019



WELCOME TO CALVARY!

We're glad you're reading this and we're excited to share with you how God is moving in our church in amazing ways.

This season will be a memorable one here at Calvary, because it marks the one-year anniversary of Vision 2023. Last September our church was invited to get in the story and be part of a powerful movement to double the number of disciples in our region. In this edition of *Seasons*, you'll get to see a snapshot of what has happened through our eight project teams.

Suzanne and I would like to invite you to enjoy community here at Calvary throughout the summer. We are looking forward to some incredible events like Youth Encounter, our fall classes, a conference with Dr. Juli Slattery, a Calvary Men chili cook-off, the Women's Gathering, and the continuation of "Origins," our summer series through the Book of Genesis. We'll also begin a study through the Book of Galatians.

It's our prayer you'll experience refreshment and find moments of rest in the Lord as He speaks to you in this season.

In Christ,

Doug and Suzanne Sauder



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We saw eternal destinies change forever as thousands of people came to celebrate Jesus' resurrection at all our campuses. And as a result, many people began to take their first steps of faith! Here are just a few of the highlights and God-stories that took place on this memorable weekend.

I went to the gym Saturday morning. Usually, I put on a headset to get in the zone, but I didn't have any music with me that day. So, I started talking to this guy next to me. He told me he just moved from California. As he was telling the story of his life, you could see the pain in his heart. So, I told him, 'You need to come to Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale on Easter Sunday; it will change your life.' I didn't tell him I am a pastor here. While I was at the 11am service in the Banquet Hall, during the altar call the first person who popped up out his seat was the guy from the gym! Later, he told me he wants to get baptized.

—Steve



37,985
PEOPLE
(average week attendance is 16-18,000)

189
SALVATIONS AND
REDEDICATIONS



For 18 years, we've invited the people in our neighborhood to come to our home during Christmas. And every year, our next-door neighbor would come. But for the first time, she came to Easter Sunday service and brought her 90-year-old mom with her. And after all these years of praying, we saw these two women come forward and dedicate their lives to Christ. —Michele

I confess, I am a traditionalist around the holidays. Every Easter, I search the web for a church service that features the song, 'Christ the Lord Has Risen.' This year, after spending hours on YouTube listening to various choirs singing it, I turned to my home church, who not only featured this song, but had the youngest choir leading it. Not only is this a song to be remembered, but a legacy to be passed on to the youth. So, it is with tears of joy that I truly say thank you. —Melodie

We've been praying for the Broward Transitional Center, a detainee facility in Pompano Beach. They granted us the opportunity to have Good Friday and Easter Sunday services, and we had an audience of about 600 people. On Good Friday, after the message was presented, 50 people came forward and accepted Christ into their hearts. On Easter Sunday, 16 men and 15 ladies came forward! —Mendel, assistant pastor

A man who grew up Hindu his whole life just moved here from India. His wife came to know Jesus and started dragging him to our church. She told him, 'I'm going to Calvary, so you have to come.' So, he agreed. At his first opportunity on Easter Sunday, he walked forward. 'This is what I've been looking for. There's nothing like this in the Hindu faith,' he said as he entered the New Believers Room. —David

THE POWER OF A BACKPACK

Meghan and her family went from being jobless, homeless, paralyzed by addiction, and in a broken marriage to saved, baptized, set free of addictions, and restored!

After losing her job, her home, and struggling to save her husband from addiction, Meghan had hit rock bottom and felt completely hopeless. She, her husband, and her three kids had no other choice but to move into a 700 square-foot apartment. School was about to start and they had no money for food, school supplies, or clothes. That's when Meghan received an invitation to church, along with a promise to receive a backpack for her 5th grade daughter for the upcoming school year. By the end of service, she ran up to receive Christ during the altar call.

From that day on her entire life changed!

A month later, her husband got saved and entered Calvary House. Through that program, they learned to build a relationship with Christ and rebuild their marriage. They were both baptized and Meghan went on to work the next 10 years in ministry helping children and families in need.

Her daughter (through a generous and anonymous donor) received the opportunity to attend CCA for one year. After that year, Meghan and her husband were able to continue sending her daughter to CCA on their own, and in 2018 she graduated and was accepted to a fantastic college out of state!

And it all started with a simple backpack. Are you ready to get in the story?



2019 Backpack Outreach!

Our annual backpack outreach consists of two key opportunities: 1) donating backpacks filled with supplies or money for backpacks and 2) distributing the backpacks to families in need through individual meetings, larger community partnerships, and outreach events.

Last year, you helped provide over **2,000 backpacks** to students in our community—backpacks filled with the basic school supplies needed for a successful start to the new school year. Additionally, we were able to **share the gospel with over 1,500 people** at our community events. Let's do even better this year!

Collecting backpacks happens throughout July, and our community outreaches are happening in early-to-mid August. For full details – including dropoff locations, visit our website listed below.

3 Ways to Give!



Donate Online

Every \$25 will provide a backpack filled with supplies for a student in need.



Drop Off Backpack

Get a list of needed school supplies, fill a backpack, and then drop it off.



Volunteer to Help

Share hope with families through this outreach.

For more information, visit
CalvaryFTL.org/Backpack.

FEATURED EVENTS

YE 2019

YOUTH ENCOUNTER 2019: ABANDON

Thursday, July 25–Saturday, July 27
Fort Lauderdale Campus | Cost \$139/Person

Middle and high school students, invite your friends to be part of YE, the biggest event of the summer! This three-day summer experience will feature world renowned author and teacher David Nasser, great worship, breakouts, fun activities, and much more!

To register or to donate to the scholarship fund, visit YESF.info.



SUMMER

ACTIVITIES

CHURCH WORKDAY

Saturday, July 13, 7:30am–12pm | All Campuses
Free Breakfast

If you like working with your hands then come be part of our church workday! Fellowship and make new friends as you volunteer to help out with landscaping, maintenance, vehicle detailing, and light custodial tasks. Breakfast will be provided. Registration is required.

For more info, visit
CalvaryFTL.org/ChurchWorkday.



BEACH BAPTISM

Saturday, August 17, Starts at 8:30am and
Every Half-Hour
(1 Block South of the Pompano Pier on A1A)

If you've made the decision to follow Jesus, getting baptized is the next step in your journey. Bring your Bible and towel. We also encourage you to invite family and friends to be part of this special moment.

For more details, or to find answers to the most commonly asked questions on baptism, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Baptism.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Parents, looking for something for your kids to do this summer where they can have fun, make a difference, develop useful skills, and grow in their faith? Trying to find some great activities for the whole family? We've got you covered! This year, we have a variety of great summer camps (day, athletics, Ramp48, STEM/robotics, and fine arts), Calvary Kids events, youth hangs, events for young adults, family outreaches, and more!

Check out all the fun things we're doing this summer at CalvaryFTL.org/Summer.

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"Abraham answered, 'God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.' And the two of them went on together."
—Genesis 22:8 (NIV)

ORIGINS

PART 2: THE PROMISE

Now–August 18

This summer, journey with us as we see God's plan of redemption take shape through the story of Abraham, the father of faith and friend of God.

To find out more, or to catch up on this powerful series, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Genesis.

Three-Week Topical Teaching Series

Sex & The Gospel

Starts August 24

What we think about and do with our body and our sexuality matters—and it matters to God. This is the major idea of this series as we seek to provide clarity, hope, and restoration as we learn and re-learn how God intended these gifts for us.

To find out more about this series and related special events, see pages 40-41 of this issue of Seasons!



Seven-Week Book Study

Galatians

Starts September 21

Come along with us this fall as we explore one of the most powerful books of the New Testament.

To find out more about this series, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Galatians.

YouVersion Live Events

Follow along with us and take notes during weekend services on YouVersion! To find our notebook, open the YouVersion Bible app, click “More,” then “Events,” and select your campus.





Space is limited in each class, so register (required) today to secure your spot! For a full list of classes, detailed descriptions of each class by campus, and to register, visit [**CalvaryFTL.org/Classes.**](https://CalvaryFTL.org/Classes)

FALL CLASSES

Starts Wednesday, September 11
Times, Dates & Locations Vary by Campus

This September and October, take a class that will empower you in one of the following key areas—**personal growth**, **family**, or **finances**. These classes are for everyone—whether you're a new believer, a parent, looking to expand your horizons, get help with finances, or grow spiritually and disciple others, there's a class for you!

PERSONAL GROWTH

Apologetics

This class will provide you with a deeper understanding of your faith and equip you to answer many of the most relevant and difficult questions about Christianity.

Calvary Women: LEAD

Learn how to practice spiritual leadership in your areas of influence.

Connect Experience

Four-week, on-campus journey designed to help you build relationships, grow in your faith, and find your fit at Calvary.

Essentials of the Christian Faith

Discover the basics of Christianity through interactive teaching and discussion.

Everyday Evangelism (English, Spanish, and Portuguese)

An interactive training designed to equip you to share the gospel in your everyday life.

Evidence for Creation

Discover the scriptural and scientific evidence for creation.

Experiencing God

Learn to hear when and how He speaks, discover how God working in and around you, and find out how you can join Him in what He's doing.

Group Leadership and Discipleship

Discover how easy and fulfilling it is to lead a group and engage in discipleship.

Guard Your Heart

Learn key biblical tools to help you build healthy, Christ-centered relationships as you discover what real love is and set standards based on His Word.

Redemption

Class to help you experience God's transforming love in the midst of life's deepest needs and most difficult trials.

Search for Significance

Discover your true worth through God's eyes as we dismantle the lies that trigger self-doubt and rob us from true joy in life.

Spiritual Gifts (English and Spanish)

Discover your spiritual gifts and learn how to best use them for God's glory.

FAMILY

Blended Families

This class provides biblically-based resources, wisdom, and encouragement to strengthen step-families.

Circle for Moms:

Learn to identify and nurture spiritual, emotional, and social milestones in your child's life while enjoying encouragement and valuable lessons together with other moms.

Parenting: The Early Years

Class for couples wanting to start a family or parents with children up to three years old.

Premarital

Learn how to build a successful marriage before you tie the knot.

Parenting: Passing on the Legacy of Faith (English and Spanish)

Class for parents with children ages 4–18, teaching God's perspective on raising a family.

Solo Parenting

Discover how you can thrive in your solo parenting not just survive the day.

FINANCES

Financial Peace University

A class that teaches you how to make the right decisions with your money.

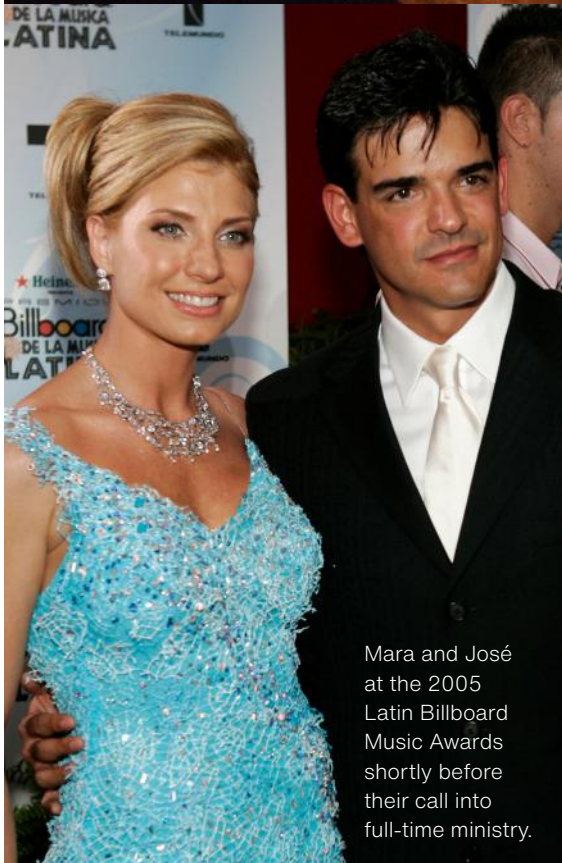
Whole-Life Generosity

Be inspired to release your time, talents, and treasure as you learn how to implement the joy of generosity in every area of your life.

To view a full list of classes at your campus, visit ***CalvaryFTL.org/Classes***.

DIOS EQUIPA AL QUE LLAMA

(THE LORD EQUIPS
THE CALLED)



Mara and José
at the 2005
Latin Billboard
Music Awards
shortly before
their call into
full-time ministry.

José and his wife Mara were both actors who met in a television studio. They got married, did telenovelas together, and in 2009, God touched their hearts and asked them to leave that world behind and enter into ministry at Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale.



José Llamas was ordained on December 8, 2018 as a new Calvary Chapel pastor.

Before then, he'd been teaching *La Palabra* (God's Word) to a growing Spanish-speaking multitude.

It's something to see him on a stage again. This is the same man that stood where an X marked his spot before studio cameras as he played leading roles in Spanish telenovelas (soap operas) since the 90s. Nearly two decades later, he stands on a pulpit proclaiming God's Word. His dramatic side is still very much a part of his character. And so, it is with an imposing passion, sonorous voice, and hand gestures, which are such an integral part of Spanish communication, that he delivers the message of the gospel, retaining that power to captivate an audience's ear and imagination.

“My wife Mara and I had been praying for months, ‘God, where do you want us to be?’” said Llamas. “We felt like Nehemiah, with a big burden for the Latin community.”

Mara is from Puerto Rico and José is from Mexico. Their hearts ached for the Spanish speakers in church, who because of culture and barrier of language, might not be connecting to our church family. Then, the Lord gave Pastor Doug Sauder a vision. He shared the idea to start a Spanish fellowship as part of a multi-cultural church, which shows that we are one church, one body—*una sola familia*. “Mara and I had prayed about this for so many months, so this was answered prayer,” said Llamas.

It's been a year since *Compartiendo La Palabra*, the Spanish Fellowship, started. It's held on the first Saturday of every month, providing an oasis for those in the Spanish-speaking community that are thirsty for a church with true doctrine, practice, and sentiment that says, *mi casa es tu casa* (my house is your house).

Since connecting is a big part of our church's vision, Pastor José and Mara began a plan to connect Broward's Latin community. On April 6, over 300 Spanish-speaking people came together under one roof, packing both the North and South Banquet Halls. Last December, Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale held its first Spanish Christmas service, which Llamas taught.

As a by-product of *Compartiendo La Palabra*, we now offer six classes all taught in Spanish, like *Diseño de Discipulado* (Discipleship Design)—a popular, 36-week course which has 55 people attending!

Last March, Llamas led the launch of the Brazilian Fellowship, opening our doors to the Portuguese-speaking community, and since then new classes in Portuguese have started.

“We live in South Florida, such a diverse and multi-cultural area,” concluded Llamas. “That's why we've created a multi-cultural ministry to reach people right here and in their own language.” ☀️

6 WAYS SMALL GROUPS HELP YOU GROW

I think we can all agree there is a gap between who we are today and who we want to become. For believers, our goal should be to grow closer to the Lord and become more like Jesus.

Even the apostle Paul understood and sought after this with all his heart. That's why in Philippians 3:12 (NIV) he said, "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me."

Did you know one of the primary places where growth occurs is within a small group? Here are a few reasons why being part of a group will help you grow as a follower of Jesus and as a person.

01 Jesus' Way of Life Is Most Effectively Learned in Community

Hebrews 10:24-25

Jesus' teachings fall into two categories: how to love God and how to love people. Neither of these can be truly learned alone. They require people who can provide insight, advice, and encouragement. A small group is a tried-and-true place to experience this and to learn how to practically live as Jesus did.

02 Community Builds Our Sense of Belonging

Romans 12:5

We all want to feel like we belong, like we're accepted and truly loved. God gives us the gift of each other as a way to meet our earthly needs for

belonging and acceptance. Groups are an amazing opportunity to build deep, lasting relationships with others, to walk through the triumphs and tragedies of life, to support and bear one another's burdens, and to experience the joy of true friendship!

03 Community Cultivates Gifts and Talents

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

In a Christ-centered community, we have the opportunity to discover, develop, and operate in our gifts and talents, to use them to serve the Lord, and to bless others through them. As the body of Christ comes together to grow in Him and serve one another, our unique roles in the body can be used to glorify God to the fullest.

04 Mission Happens in Community

1 Corinthians 1:10

One powerful way Christians grow through small groups is by working toward shared goals and common causes, whether that's providing housing for a homeless person, supporting a missionary, or making meals for foster families. Or maybe they might band together to serve a group member with a serious health issue, personal struggle, or unexpected tragedy. When a community of like-minded people unite to accomplish a meaningful mission, growth is the natural result.

05 Accountability, Confession, and Healing Happen in Community

Galatians 6:1-5

Isolation is dangerous. Imagine a lone lion struggling to fight off a pack of 20 hyenas, but then another lion shows up—the hyenas will scatter. If you really seek it, there is safety in community because you have people who will speak truth into your life and help keep you accountable, resist temptation, and spur you on to love and good works. True community requires transparency, authenticity, and confession . . . all of which can help bring us to a place of healing.

06 Community Helps Take Church Beyond the Four Walls

Acts 2:46

In community, we can get down into the nitty gritty of how to practically live out Scripture in the day-to-day. People can share revelation, experiences, wisdom, and bounce ideas off of one another. Community brings church into real life.

Visit JoinAGroup.org to find a group in your area.



GROUP LEADER AND DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

*First Saturday of Each Month
3-5:30pm
Fort Lauderdale Campus*

Sign up at **JoinAGroup.org**.

RAISING UP CALVARY KIDS

Joanna D'Antonio, a Calvary Kids volunteer who serves in the two-year-old area and was recently recognized at a Calvary Crew Rally for her exceptional work and partnership in the Education Project Team for Vision 2023, said, "My favorite part about serving in Calvary Kids is being able to watch the little ones praise Jesus during worship! It's so precious watching them get excited as they sing and dance along during the Wiggles & Worship time! Sometimes, I even catch them dancing before we start. It's the most awesome thing to watch."

Can you imagine having trouble getting just one child to clean up or quiet down, let alone a dozen or more? Not for D'Antonio. She's been coming to Calvary since she was a kid, and having experienced God use others to disciple and pour love into her life, she now sees Calvary Kids as an opportunity to pass it on and help raise up world changers for Christ.

"God wants us to raise up new disciples," she said. "It's kind of a domino effect. Even though these little ones are only two years old, I love planting seeds in their lives, because that's what happened with me."

This summer will mark two years since she started volunteering in Calvary Kids. The once shy girl who felt like an outcast in a middle school small group, recalls how her mentors, Ann and Evelyn, reached out and pulled her back in. Today, she thinks of them often, especially as she recalls the song "Reckless Love" which depicts Jesus leaving the 99 to go after the one.

It was that small group experience that inspired her passion to work with kids. She came to church one Wednesday night, not thinking about anything in particular, when a friend suggested she ought to serve in Calvary Kids. "Orientation is this Sunday, why don't



you come?" her friend asked. And she said, "Sure!" Inexplicably, as soon as orientation started, she felt the two-year-old area pulling at her heartstrings. So, she signed up and showed up that next Wednesday, ready to serve.

D'Antonio remembers how she immediately connected with the leaders and all the kids set apart in that warm, colorful space designed for our youngest disciples. "It was so much fun!" she said. "God really led me to that specific place because as soon as I walked in, I heard people saying they were short volunteers in the two-year-old area. And God just led me there. It's exactly where I needed to be. I connect really well with the little ones, and even though they're little, they understand when you say, 'We love you, and Jesus loves you more!'" 🌞

"My favorite part about serving in Calvary Kids is being able to watch the little ones praise Jesus during worship."

GIVING IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP



Giving is not simply dropping off a tithe check; it's about stewarding everything the Lord has blessed us with. . . time, talent, and resources.

Everything you steward is an act of worship. The question is, "If you're not stewarding it for the Lord, then who are you worshipping?"

That's how Wade and Lynn Walcott summarized last fall's Whole-Life Generosity seminar conducted at the Plantation campus: "Giving is not simply dropping off a tithe check; it's about stewarding everything the Lord has blessed us with—time, talent, and treasure. It's really taking responsibility for all the Lord has given us and using it properly."

The Whole-Life Generosity seminar was eye-opening for the Walcotts, and it expanded their vision for what the Lord wanted them to do through their church and family. They walked away with an increased sense of freedom and understanding that everything they have is God's. Wade shared, "And since we can't out-give Him, and we can trust He's going to provide, then clearly the question should become, 'How would God have us use our blessings more tangibly?'"

The seminar made Wade reflect on the parable of the rich man, where Jesus talks about a man who built more barns to store up all of his stuff. The point Wade drew from it was that Jesus didn't rebuke the man for being wealthy, but for storing everything up for himself.

Lately, the idea that, "What you would do for all, do for one," has become very much a part of Wade's vocabulary. ☀️

We want to be known as a generous church. For more information on whole-life generosity, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Generous.

2017 BIRTHDAY GIFT TO JESUS



How Washing Clothes Can Have an Eternal Impact

Wash. Rinse. Spin . . . Repeat.

It's something you probably do every week. And for some, maybe several times a day. Being able to simply wash and dry our clothes (for most of us, out of the convenience of our own homes) is just an ordinary part our weekly routine. But 6,530 miles away, in refugee camps all over Lebanon, being able to do laundry is a bridge—a door, a gateway, an opportunity—to be and share the love of Jesus in a tangible way.

More Than a Laundry Service

Did you know 1.5 million refugees currently reside in Lebanon?

"We emphatically see this devastating circumstance as a divine opportunity from which we can share God's Word with people in dire need of a sustainable hope," said Ronnie Bassous, New Heights executive director.

So, what is the Made Clean Project exactly? It's an initiative aimed at providing a laundry service to Syrian refugees, while simultaneously running a gospel-centered children's program.

Located in Lebanon, and taking place all over the country within different refugee settlement camps, it utilizes two mobile laundry vans. The team visits 12 new settlement camps each quarter, servicing each camp a total of 12 times throughout a three-month cycle.

"We have been able to provide laundry service to families who would otherwise not have access to this resource. In doing so, we have created a space to spiritually engage the children and families we encounter, giving them a chance to discover the message of God's love," said Elie Hayek, Made Clean manager.

For Syrians By Syrians

Each weekday, the team prepares the vans at their ministry headquarters in Beirut. Daily ministry takes place in two parts—during the mornings, the team does their rotation visits,



and during the afternoons, they visit camps they have already serviced in order to provide consistent and ongoing ministry.

When they arrive at the camp, they set up the laundry system and wait for families to bring their laundry. As they do their laundry, they have an incredible opportunity to spend time building relationships with them.

"A unique quality about Made Clean is that it is put on for Syrians by Syrians. All of our team members are Syrian, which give them the unique ability to relate to the people here through their heart language," said Elie Hayek.

Simultaneously, the team puts on an interactive biblical children's program for all kids who want to participate! There are 12 lessons taught, based on life anecdotes much like what these children have experienced, and complemented with biblical stories they are able to relate to. The highlight of the program is the short-film *Not Alone*, which tells the story of a Syrian refugee family who has endured significant tragedy but also discovers great hope. This allows the team to engage in conversations about the gospel with those who have never been exposed to a Christian message before!

How You Can Make an Impact

Please pray for the Made Clean team—that God would continue to open doors in the refugee camps they currently serve in and provide opportunities to reach more. Also, for the protection of the children and families at the camps.

If you would like to help us continue with global outreaches, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Give (select "Global Outreach").



2018 BIRTHDAY GIFT TO JESUS

IJM ANDEAN REGION PROJECT



Defending Women and Children from Violence

Did you know that Columbia, Peru, and Bolivia (the Andean Region) are among the top 20 countries in the world for gender based violent crimes? Millions of women and children are victims of sexual violence, intimate partner violence, and femicide (the intentional killing of women or girls because of their gender).

In 2018, you responded to this heartbreaking reality by giving \$100,000 during our Christmas birthday gift to Jesus. As a result, we've partnered with International Justice Mission (IJM) to provide rescue and healing for these vulnerable women and children.

21

A Look Back

- In December 2017, **you generously gave \$100,000** for the Made Clean Project, which has provided support for the monthly upkeep of two vans over approximately two years. However, that support is almost up. Your giving to the Made Clean Project can help us continue to share the love of Christ in Lebanon!
- In 2018, we were able to wash laundry for **1,872 families**. That's a total of **7,132 loads of laundry!**
- **Over 9,000 children and youth were reached** with the gospel message last year.

There are certain projects that just make my heart beat a little bit faster—and this is one of them. This is the passion of God. In Proverbs 22:22-23 (NIV) it says, "Do not exploit the poor because they are poor and do not crush the needy in court, for the Lord will take up their case." Think about God as your attorney, think about God as the one who fights for you and defends you!

We are called the body of Christ, the family of God, and we are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus—which means we can bring that voice of advocacy and protection."

—Pastor Doug Sauder



IJM

To learn more and give to this project, visit **IJM.org/Calvary**.

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, CITIES, AND THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

We are called to reach people to show them there is a God who loves them. Here are just a few ways you can make an impact both locally and globally for the gospel and be part of the work God is doing in and through the people of our church.

*"For even the son of man did not come to be served,
but to serve, and give His life as a ransom for many."*

—Mark 10:45 (NIV)

LOCAL OUTREACH

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

BENEVOLENCE CARE

Our Benevolence Care team is here to help you with both your spiritual and physical needs.

Benevolence@CalvaryFTL.org

CONVALESCENT MINISTRY

Help bring the hope and love of Jesus to those who are in nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, and adult care centers in our communities.

Convalescence@CalvaryFTL.org

PRISON MINISTRY

Help share the hope and healing of Christ Jesus with those who are incarcerated.

Men: Mendel@CalvaryFTL.org

Women: Madeline@CalvaryFTL.org

THE REFUGE

Sundays, 8:45am-12:30pm

LifeNet4Families Building

Join us as we provide food and share hope with homeless people and those in need.

JohnMo@CalvaryFTL.org

MISSION TRIPS

Take a step of faith and allow God to use you to impact people with the tangible love of Jesus Christ!

Sign Up:

CalvaryFTL.org/MissionTrips

YOUTH OUTREACHES

Youth Backpack Outreach

Saturday, August 10, 8:30am-12pm

HSM Convalescent Home Outreach

Saturday, September 14, 8:30am-12pm

Sign Up: CalvaryFTL.org/HSM

Contact: JonC@CalvaryFTL.org

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR OUTREACHES

Third Saturday of Each Month, July 20,

August 17, September 21

Join us as we seek to share the love of Jesus with our neighbors through various forms of outreach. All are welcome to light up South Florida with us!

- On July 20 we're partnering with CCA Hollywood.
- On August 10 we're doing a backpack giveaway with BSO in Pompano Beach.
- On September 21 we're partnering with Ramp48 for their Back to the Streets outreach.

CalvaryFTL.org/Outreach

BOCA RATON CAMPUS

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Third Saturday of Each Month, 8pm

Free Event

Be part of this fun, community-building experience as we show love and watch a family-friendly movie. This is a great opportunity to invite someone who normally wouldn't come to church.

SOCCER FELLOWSHIP

Sundays, 3:30pm | Free Event

The Soccer Fellowship invites everyone who has a passion for soccer, or just wants to get out and exercise, to a friendly pick-up game. Kids and adult games will be available. All ages are welcome to play. Meet us at the grass lot behind the church. Don't forget to bring a water bottle and cleats or athletic sneakers!

BOYNTON BEACH CAMPUS

CONVALESCENCE OUTREACH

Saturdays, 10am-12pm

Visit a convalescent home at either Discovery Village or Hamlin Place of Boynton Beach.

561-304-1449

NORTH LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

CONVALESCENCE OUTREACH

Second and Fourth Saturday of Each Month, 10-11:30am

Margate Manor

Come with us to Margate Manor as we spend time with the residents, worship together, and engage in a Bible study.

954-708-5260

PLANTATION CAMPUS

CONVALESCENCE OUTREACH

First and Fourth Saturday of Each Month, 10am

Second Saturday of Each Month, 9:45am

Second Sunday of Each Month, 2:30pm

Help bring the hope and love of Jesus to those who are in nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, and adult care centers in our communities.

954-905-5000

HOMELESS OUTREACH

First and Third Saturday of Each Month,

7:30am | Christ Community Church

in Pompano

Join us as we provide food and share hope with homeless people and those in need.

954-905-5000



*For details on all of our outreach opportunities, visit **CalvaryFTL.org/Outreach**.*



VISION 2023

STORY

GET IN THE



VISION 2023 UPDATE

We set out last year with a burning possibility imprinted on our hearts: Imagine our city filled with the hope of Jesus . . . because you prayed and gave, lives were changed forever!

Imagine schools, businesses, neighborhoods, families, entire communities walking with Jesus, loving one another, living generously, and radiating the truth of the gospel. Imagine South Florida full of people who are connected to God, one another, and those in need!



MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PROJECT TEAM



DID YOU KNOW?

16% of couples are separated or divorced in Miami Dade, 16% in Broward, and 14% in Palm Beach.

- Over 1200 couples participated in Adventures in Marriage, including 500 at the 2018 Married Couples Retreat
- Trained 30 new marriage coaches
- 195 volunteers
- Over 160 couples went through premarital—71 couples were married through Calvary
- Launched 11 new married couples' small groups (33 total) with about 384 people attending

Do you want to get in the story?

Do you have a heart for healthy marriages? Are you burdened by the startling divorce rates? Help couples grow in their marriage and be the foundation for healthy families!

Sign up for this project team at
CalvaryFTL.org/Vision2023/MarriageAndFamily.



EDUCATION PROJECT TEAM

- Partnered with nine new schools and four new external organizations
- Trained 69 new volunteers (adults and students) involved with ongoing programs including mentoring/tutoring
- 150 volunteers engaged in special projects or special events
- Launched Calvary Christian Academy Hollywood impacting over 300 student disciples

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Broward School District is the sixth largest in the country with **270,000+ students** and has the largest number of employees (36,000 full/part-time/temp employees).
- Almost **50% of our schools** (146 out of 300) are designated as "Title 1" schools serving economically disadvantaged children.

Do you want to get in the story?

Are you looking for ways to invest in the lives of students, teachers, and administrators in order to make disciples? You can help students thrive while also making an impact in both public and private education!

Sign up for this project team at
CalvaryFTL.org/Vision2023/Education.

NEXT GENERATION PROJECT TEAM

28

- 184 new adult volunteers and 87 student volunteers since July 2018
- 55 engaged and involved mentors
- Over 200 new student salvations, rededications, and baptisms
- 69 student small groups
- 185 parents trained and educated on child sexual abuse prevention
- Partnerships with 19 schools, universities, organizations, rehabs, and convalescent homes
- 16 new students and four adult volunteers for college ministry
- Four college small groups
- Developing a partnership with Campus Crusade (FAU) to create more opportunities of engagement on college campuses

DID YOU KNOW?

- **78% of students are abandoning their faith** when they go to college and 35 million will abandon their faith by 2050.
- **63% of people ages 18-29** seldom or never participate in prayer, Scripture study, or religious education of any kind.

Do you want to get in the story?

Are you burdened by the alarming statistic that close to 78% of kids are abandoning their faith and leaving the church? You can help young people, from kindergarten through post-college, stay engaged in their faith.

Sign up for this project team at
CalvaryFTL.org/Vision2023/NextGen.



5 WAYS TO INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION

Jesus didn't leave buildings or money. Instead, He left a clear mission and 11 equipped and empowered disciples who were filled with the Holy Spirit to go out and change the world! After His three years of ministry with them, teaching and equipping them, He said, "Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these" (John 14:12–14 NIV).

As believers, we've been given the same charge to make disciples. As Jesus did with His disciples, He is now looking to us to come alongside the next generation and empower them to take the baton. Maybe you're thinking, *I'm not John or Peter or Paul, what can I offer? Or I'm not a Bible scholar. I don't know where to start. I don't know how to disciple someone. I don't have someone to disciple.*

You don't have to be a Bible scholar or expert disciple-maker—you have more to offer than you even realize. Your story is powerful, your life experiences are valuable, and your walk with Jesus can change the trajectory of someone else's life!

Here are a few ways you can invest in the next generation . . .

MEET THEM WHERE THEY'RE AT

If you want to invest in the next generation, you have to GO where the next generation is! Consider signing up as a volunteer coach at a local community center or youth league, participate in an afterschool program, get plugged in to middle school, high school, and college clubs like First Priority or CRU, or volunteer with Elkon, HSM, Six78, or Calvary Kids. There are countless opportunities all around you!

SERVE TOGETHER

Do you serve in a ministry here at Calvary? Connect with our youth and young adult ministries and ask them if there is a student who could serve with you! Maybe you're a greeter. We can help you find a student with the gift of hospitality to partner with you. As you train, equip, empower, and share responsibilities with him or her, you'll also be able to have great conversation and pour into his or her life.

DO LIFE TOGETHER

A common obstacle for many is the idea of adding something else to your schedule when your schedule is already jam packed. But it doesn't always have to be like that—you can bring your mentee into your life. Need to go grocery shopping? Get your oil changed? Take your kids to their game? Bring your disciple with you. Not only will they hear you talk about living a Christian life, but they'll also get to see it in action as you interact with others.

TEACH THEM SKILLS

You can also use what you know to teach them both practical life lessons and share biblical truths. Many young people are looking to learn useful skills that you are well-versed in. Tying a tie, changing a tire, cooking, finances (taxes, budgeting, investing), sewing, and anything else you find useful in your life that could be useful to them!

SAVE A SEAT

I recently heard a story of a family that always kept a seat open at their dinner table and made enough food so they could invite someone over for dinner any time. Whether it's a co-worker, someone you met at the store, or someone from church, this is an opportunity to invest in someone during a time that's already part of your schedule. This is also a cool way for your kids to get involved by inviting a friend from school, a club, or sport's team. By doing this, you'll be partnering with them to make disciples!

Please know that you're never too old to pour into younger people, and you're never too young to start. And don't assume that younger generations hate you and don't want to talk to you. Not true! They may not always show it or ask for it, but people desire and welcome it. Take the step. If there's someone you know who could benefit from discipleship and mentorship, reach out to them. If you don't, we'll help you find someone! ☀️

For resources and more information on how to understand and connect with the next generation, visit CalvaryParenting.org.

FOSTER CARE PROJECT TEAM

30



DID YOU KNOW?

- On average, **132 children were removed from their homes every month in** Broward and Palm Beach counties since Vision 2023 launched.

- 4KIDS had to **turn away an average of 55 children a month** in Broward and Palm Beach Counties, on average, simply because foster homes were not available. The Foster Care Project Team hopes to provide a home for every child by licensing new families to foster children and help support current foster families so they can continue fostering children.

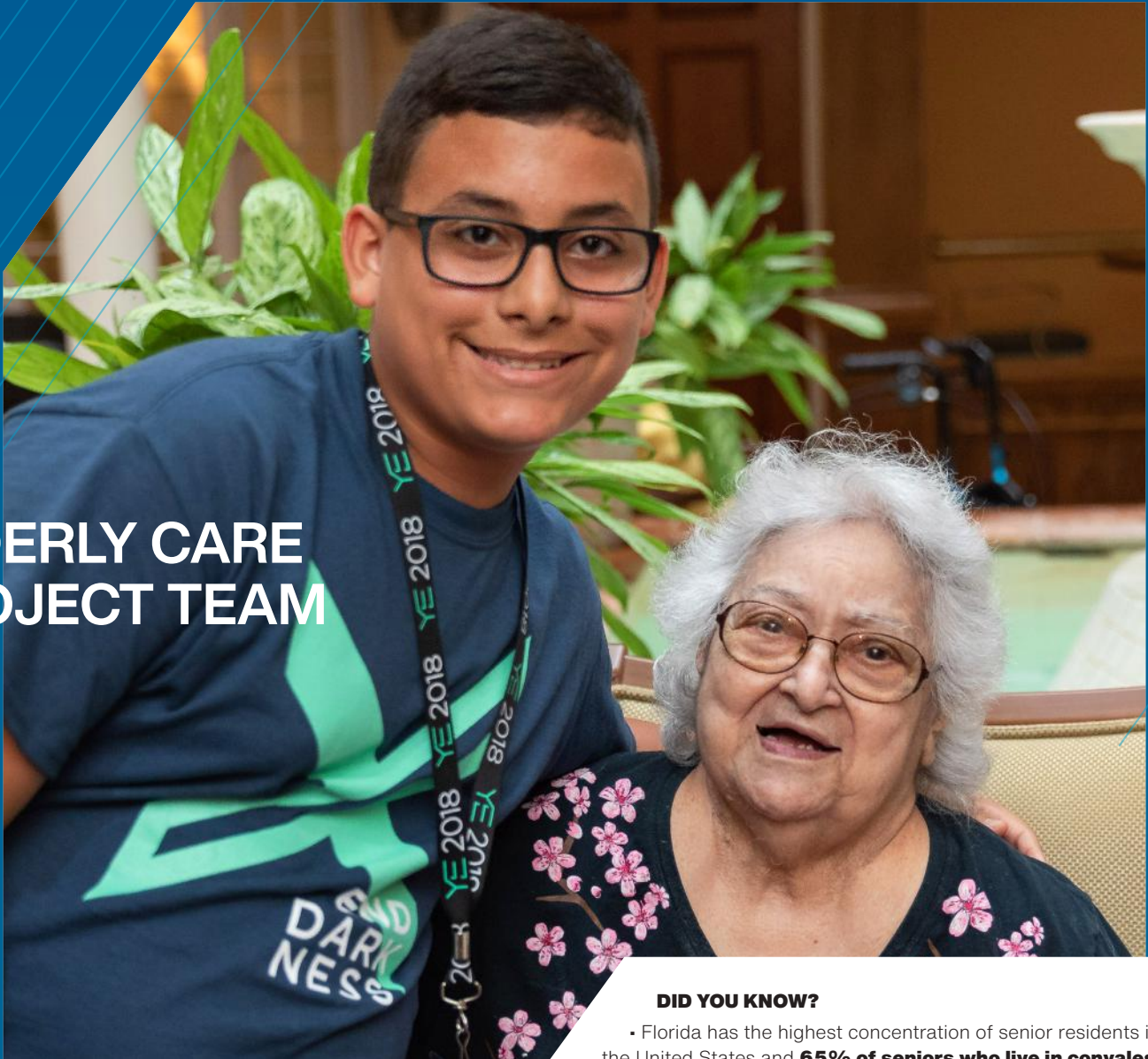
- 40 families attended foster care training, 18 have become licensed homes, 27 kids have been placed in those homes
- 165 volunteers are advocating and helping support foster families
- 31 FAM teams have been formed. (Family Advocacy Ministry or "FAM" provides wrap-around support to foster families by connecting volunteer teams from the church to a foster family in their area.)
- Over 2,000 attended the 4KIDS Night of Advocacy with Nick Vujicic at Calvary
- Orphan Weekend was May 18 & 19. 4KIDS, our ministry partner, was present at all our campuses. Almost 300 people asked to receive more information, 90 of which showed an interest in fostering.

Do you want to get in the story?

*Do you have a heart for children in crisis?
You can help advocate and provide a loving home for a child in crisis!*

*Sign up for this project team at
CalvaryFTL.org/Vision2023/FosterCare.*

ELDERLY CARE PROJECT TEAM



DID YOU KNOW?

- Florida has the highest concentration of senior residents in the United States and **65% of seniors who live in convalescent homes do not receive visits from family or friends.**

- Broward County is the fastest growing 85+ population in the states and is projected to **grow 31% over the next 12 years.**

- Visiting 10 new convalescent homes in Broward and Palm Beach counties, bringing the total number of homes visited to 31
- 385 residents ministered to per week
- 78 residents received Jesus, four baptized, and 125 Bibles given
- 200 new trained volunteers
- Starting new Bible studies for seniors in senior adult communities, such as Wynmoor Village
- Partnering with other churches to adopt local facilities

Do you want to get in the story?

Do you have a heart for the elderly community? Do you want to encourage those living in care facilities? You can help equip the elderly community to deepen their faith and engage in discipleship!

Sign up for this project team at
CalvaryFTL.org/Vision2023/ElderlyCare.

ADDICTION PROJECT TEAM

- 77 active volunteers
- 297 people received Jesus
- Launched four new groups (eight total)
- Trained 43 new leaders
- Celebrated 78 beach baptisms
- Partnered with eight new rehab centers and two churches
- To launch The Landing in August 2019—a program through Celebrate Recovery for teens struggling with life issues, such as depression, anxiety, gender identity, sexual identity, and same sex attraction

DID YOU KNOW?

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Florida had the **17th highest rate of drug overdose deaths in the nation** in 2017, a 17 percent increase from the previous year. That's 25.1 deaths for every 100,000 people. Current projections estimate this will grow to 59 deaths per every 100,000 people by 2025.
- Substance abuse impacts the whole family. Over the past three years, the state has removed children from addicted parents in more than 4,000 cases in our area. In Palm Beach County, there was a **42% increase in cases linked to drug abuse** from January to July 2018, as compared to the same period in 2017.

Do you want to get in the story?

Do you have a desire to bring hope to those struggling with addiction? You can help impact a life and help inspire lasting change!

Sign up for this project team at
CalvaryFTL.org/Vision2023/Addiction.



FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

*It's up to us to lead them to the
Light—the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

—Steven Rosensteel



Steven Rosensteel thought he was like everybody else. From a very young age, even though he lived in a Christian home and his parents always taught him right from wrong, he surrounded himself with people who were moving in the wrong direction.

For many years, he was a functioning alcoholic, often showing up to work feeling so awful he would go into the restroom and cry. Still, he continued with his normal routine, thinking he could get through it somehow. Somewhere along the way, he met his wife and together they began to build a family, as well as business. He thought having a family and changing geographic locations, from Los Angeles to South Florida, would somehow quickly change him, but it didn't.

Once in South Florida, he was introduced to Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale. "I didn't know what to do when I started coming to church," he said. "There were these huge feelings and emotions inside of me whenever I listened to the teaching. I was moved by the people around me who would get up and give their lives to Christ, and yet, I found myself in total misery."

Then, on May 23, 2001, Rosensteel walked forward and gave his life to Christ. "After receiving Christ, I thought I could control my life and do better, but it was still one failed attempt after another," he recalled as he went through eight more years of high and lows. The death of his best friend, a person who could always try to keep him within some sort of balance, sent him off the rails.

Although he knew he couldn't continue the same story, he found himself telling his wife and kids the same lies. One day, they all came in the bedroom and shut the door. "We've

had enough," they told him. "We love you, we care about you, but you have to go get help or you need to leave."

Rosensteel agreed and went to a treatment center for sixty days. One night, he attended a Celebrate Recovery (CR) meeting Calvary Chapel held there once a week. And that's when, for the first time in his life, he began to have something he'd never had before—a real relationship with God.

"As a youngster, I knew who God was, and I thought I knew what it meant to be a Christian. But when I visited CR, I got in the Word, read it, and let God come into my heart and change me," he said. After he got out of the treatment center, he went through the entire CR 12-step program, and his life was radically changed.

Last year, together with another CR member, Rosensteel began conducting Bible studies at the treatment center, taking the Light into a very dark place. During that time, he went on a CR mission trip to Guatemala, not really knowing what to expect. This door-to-door, street-to-street evangelism was out of his comfort zone, but God used this experience to prepare him to reach his community through Calvary's Plantation campus, his home church.

Since then, he's been helping men as they go through the Celebrate Recovery study. "This is really what Vision 2023 is all about, reaching out into the community and helping people in need," said Rosensteel. "The recovery community is on the frontline. They're broken, hurting, and desperately searching for answers. So, it's up to us to lead them to the Light—the gospel of Jesus Christ." ☀️



DID YOU KNOW?

- Every year, approximately **4,000 churches are planted** in the U.S. and about **3,700 churches close**.
- Around **70% of people have no meaningful church relationships**.
- In the U.S., **43%** of members at successful church plants were **previously unchurched**.

- Planted two new churches: Parkland and North Miami
- North Miami service launch had 30 volunteers, 250 total attendees, 5 salvations
- Parkland service launch had 70 volunteers, 400 total attendees, 1 salvation, 10 rededications
- Spanish and Brazilian fellowships have an average of 280 and 130 people attending per month
- Trained over 40 Alpha group leaders (Alpha focuses on exploring the Christian faith. Each session looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation.)
- Launched over 38 Alpha groups

Do you want to get in the story?

Do you want to see the gospel spread throughout our city? You can help plan and support the launch of new gospel-focused churches!

*Sign up for this project team at **CalvaryFTL.org/Vision2023/ChurchPlanting**.*

BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT PROJECT TEAM



DID YOU KNOW?

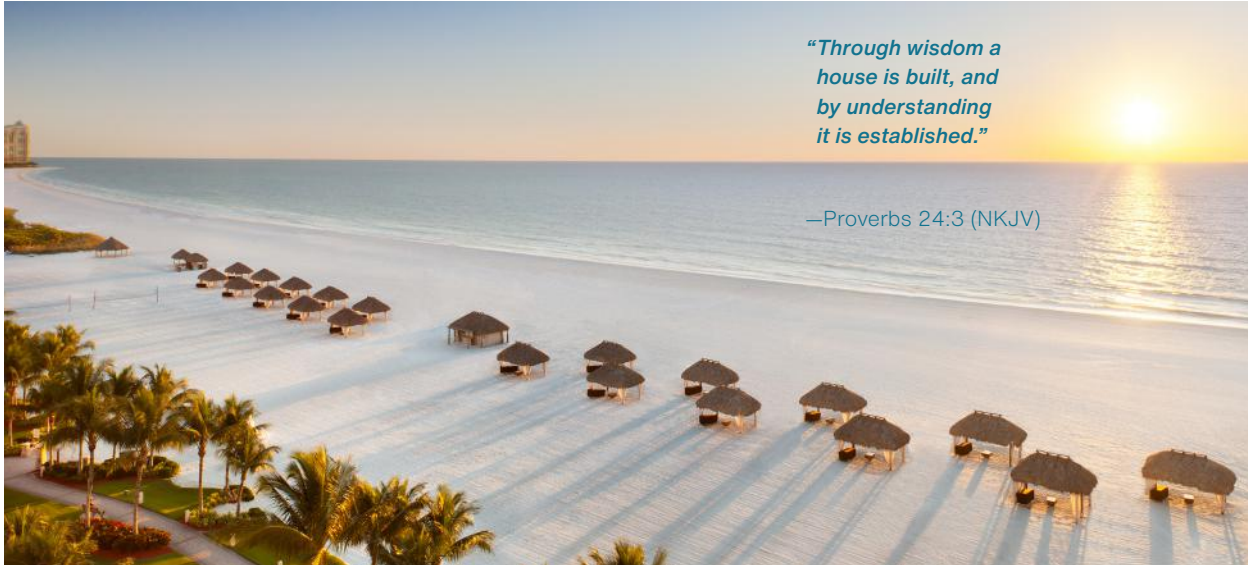
Miami-Broward was number one in the rating of business owners in the U.S., with **94 business owners for every 1,000 adults** (this is over twice as high as the lowest U.S. metro with 39). However, in terms of business survival, Miami ranked among the bottom five, with the majority failing within five years.

- Recruited over 400 volunteers, including successful business owners, entrepreneurs, CEOs, CFOs, and others
- Equipping business leaders to have conversations about their faith and start Bible studies in their workplaces
- Seen approximately 850 people attend LeaderShare, a monthly event where business leaders hear and discuss topics around leadership, communication, and entrepreneurship

Do you want to get in the story?

Are you looking for ways to engage people and create opportunities to spread the gospel in our community? You can help kingdom-based principles, training, and transformational connections in businesses!

Sign up for this project team at
CalvaryFTL.org/Vision2023/Business.



*"Through wisdom a
house is built, and
by understanding
it is established."*

—Proverbs 24:3 (NKJV)

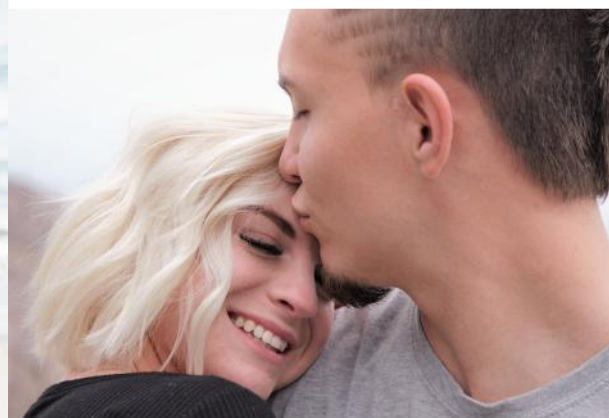
SAVE THE DATE

2020 MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT

August 28–30, 2020

JW Marriott Marco Island
Registration is now open!

CalvaryFTL.org/CouplesRetreat



5 TIPS FOR A HEALTHY MARRIAGE



“Know how to say sorry, even when you’re right.”

“Never be bored with each other.”

“Lavish each other with love.”

Some experts would say that while these random tips sound good, there is no clear-cut answer to what the key to a healthy marriage is in today’s culture.

If you were to look up the phrase “healthy marriage” online, Google will provide you with over 66,800,000 results. Countless books and blogs have been written on the subject, and even Hollywood has its own take on what that long road to “death do us part” commitment looks like.

Professional marriage counselors provide their advice, for a fee. Some say you should treat marriage like a long-distance running race, where you can’t leave the track. While others stick to a more general rule, stating love, kindness, honesty, trust, respect, patience, sharing, togetherness, quality sex, fighting fair, good communication, and solid finances are part of a formula.

We asked five Christian couples to share one tip or an important key to maintaining a happy and lasting marriage. And, here’s what they had to say . . .

01—GET AWAY TOGETHER!

By Michelle and Hector Rodriguez

Hector and I have been married for 31 years. We have four adult children, and by the time we were in our late twenties all of them were born. With God’s guidance, we made the decision that he’d work while I stayed home to raise our children, but this left us with little money and less time to spend together. As our children grew and required less of our time, it opened up doors for us to get away together, especially during our anniversary week. Sometimes for a week, other times for a night or weekend. Our time away rekindles our love for each other and reminds us why we fell in love.

02—HAVE GOOD COMMUNICATION

By Josh and Maria Edelstein

Maria and I both were in prior marriages, and we now are a blended family with four boys ages 23, 13, 11, and 7. Without complete communication, we would be in big trouble. We made a promise to each other that we would share everything that has happened to us in our lives so there would be no secrets in our marriage. For us, part of communicating well is making time to sit and “catch up,” even if we don’t have the time for a “date night.”

03—BE A TEAM!

By Sam and Cyndi Dorvil

With hard work and clear communication, you can accomplish more together than you can individually. And, when life hands you losses, whether financially, physically, emotionally, etc., it’s important to come up with a new game plan together. In every situation, ask for specific ways you can meet your partner’s needs. Whatever happens to one of you, happens to both of you, and you should always be open to discuss the hard stuff with each other. It’s also important to celebrate all wins! You don’t need to share in all the same passions, but you should share in the joy each passion brings you as individuals. If you always operate as a team, you’ll have many more wins than losses.

04—BE HONEST WITH EACH OTHER

By Seth and Dawn Sauder

Always be honest with each other. Since the beginning of our marriage, this is how we have responded to each other—modeling the example we saw lived out by both our parents.

05—SERVE JESUS TOGETHER

By Aaron and Katy Mills

Aaron and I have been married for 16 years and we have 3 kids. Over the years, serving together at church, leading small groups and missions trips as a team, or even opening our home to someone in need, being on mission for Christ as a couple has been the glue in our relationship. When you serve Jesus with your spouse, He reminds you of why He put you with that person and how you are truly better able to impact the world together.



Now more than ever, Christian men need one another. The media and culture have some very misguided, and at times downright twisted, views of manhood and masculinity. That's why we need to look to the Word of God and the support of our brothers as we seek to honor Jesus, become more like Him, and be world-changing, disciple-making men. The best way to do that is through community!

This summer we encourage you to either start or join a men's group. Receive wisdom, support, and accountability, be challenged and inspired, and make some awesome friends as you discover together what Christ-honoring, biblical manhood is all about. There are men's groups all over Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties, each with their own unique flavor and purpose.

A men's group can be a great support when you're going through a tough time and need encouragement. It's also a place where you can celebrate the blessings in your life with great people and explore the amazing possibilities God has in store for you. Ultimately, a men's group will challenge you to be who you are in Christ without hesitation, reservation, or shame so you can be a man who is free, fulfilled, and full of energy to serve the world.

To get in a group, visit JoinAGroup.org.



**Calvary Men Kick-Off:
Chili Cook-Off**

*Thursday, August 22, 7-10pm
HSM Room
(Fort Lauderdale Campus)
Free Event*

Join us as we kick off the fall season with some football and a chili cook-off! We'll sample some awesome food, hang out, watch some preseason football as Miami takes on Jacksonville, play games, and hear more about upcoming Calvary Men opportunities.

If you'd like to compete in the chili competition, contact Tony Davis at TonyD@CalvaryFTL.org.

To find out all the great studies and events Calvary Men is doing at all our campuses this season, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Men.



THE GATHERING

**A PLACE WHERE GIRLS OF
ALL GENERATIONS GATHER
TO GROW AND GO.**

*Friday, August 23, 7pm
Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale
Free Event*

About 5,000 times a day we are bombarded with messages that tell us who we should, could, and ought to be as women. When it comes to defining our womanhood, our culture has a lot of definitions that are far from the truth.

You're invited to our next gathering, an event where we'll hear from special guest Dr. Juli Slattery, president and co-founder of Authentic Intimacy, about biblical womanhood and what it means to be a woman who leads confidently in every aspect of her life whether it's in the playroom with her little ones, a classroom at school, in the boardroom, or in a season of retirement.

The Gathering the front door to what's happening through women in the kingdom. It's a time of celebration! Bring your best gal pals, your daughters, and a new friend! Everyone is welcome.

**Register online at
CalvaryFTL.org/Women.**

SNEAK PEAK!

LEAD Course

Begins Wednesday, September 11

Launching this fall, Calvary Women will be offering a development and coaching track for all women currently serving in our church (in Hospitality, Outreach, Calvary Kids, and more!) and looking to expand their leadership skills and grow in their gifts.

ALL CAMPUSES INVITED!

**Sign up at
CalvaryFTL.org/Classes.**

An Honest Talk About Sex

Q&A with Pastor Doug Sauder and Dr. Juli Slattery

"Christians desire to authentically pursue what is true based on God's Word and character," said Dr. Juli Slattery, clinical psychologist, speaker, president/co-founder of Authentic Intimacy, and the author of *Let's Talk About Sex*. "The heart of who we are is *what we choose*."

On August 24-25, Slattery will be chatting with Pastor Doug Sauder from the pulpit about God's design for sexuality, and how whether single or married, we can all consider our commitment to sexual integrity. Meanwhile, here's a preview to their upcoming conversation . . .

What is the world's definition of authentic intimacy and how does it differ from God's design for sexuality?

DS: If love is authentic, it will last a lifetime. If I say "I will love you forever" and circumstances change my love, then my love is revealed as something less than authentic. I think often we are "in love" with the idea of love and so we chase feelings, and as our feelings change (and they will) we end up chasing the wind. As for intimacy, it is much more than a physical act, but a mingling of souls. Like the painting of a masterpiece or the writing of a best-selling novel, intimacy cannot be rushed. It takes time to experience intimacy—to be fully known and fully loved. This is the essence of God's unconditional acceptance of us. As we trust God's love and acceptance for us, that's when we experience true intimacy with Him . . . and that's when our relationships can experience life-giving intimacy.

JS: "Authentic Intimacy" combines two words that our culture and God would define differently.

On *Authentic*: What's the most authentic or important thing about you? Culture

tells you it is based on how you feel and your experiences. To be authentic means to freely express whatever you think and feel without shame. This means that I might authentically love someone now but authentically despise them a year from now, based on how they treat me or make me feel. The Bible has a different definition of authentic. Basketball legend John Wooden put it best when he said, "Ultimately being true to our Creator gives us the purest form of integrity." Christians should authentically pursue what is true based on God's Word and character. The heart of who we are is what we choose.

On *Intimacy*: This means closeness, vulnerability, and experiencing each other's presence in a profound and meaningful way. Intimacy requires safety and trust. The Bible says we were created for intimacy with God and others. That intimacy can take the form of close friendships, spiritual kinship, co-laboring for the Lord, and family relationships. Marriage is a unique form of intimacy. It is set apart as a covenant representing Christ and His bride, the Church. God has created sex as a way to mark and celebrate that covenant promise.

The world tends to minimize most forms of true intimacy. Relationships are superficial, transient, and "me centered" rather than based on longstanding connection and commitment. Even marriage is often founded on feelings of being in love, not a life-long promise. As a result, loneliness is at an all-time high. Sex is used by our world as a substitute for true connection.

Our church is looking for new ways to talk about sexuality. So, what are some things we should talk about so believers understand and apply God's design for sexuality?

DS: It is clear in our world that we are not going to win the argument on the streets by being the morality police. Our greatest apologetic is living out what we say we believe. Christian couples should have the best marriages, the closest friendships, and the best sex lives. Christian singles should enjoy their devotion to Jesus and their community of friends as they live in purity and build the kingdom of God. This way of living is so counter cultural and so distinct that it should attract nonbelievers to the Christian community out of a deep curiosity. If we teach the biblical sexual ethic without modeling it ourselves, our words will seem empty to those we are trying to reach.

Dr. Juli Slattery speaking at our 2016 Women's event.

Want to go deeper on topics such as this? Check out CalvaryFTL.org/Seasons for this complete article.

Sex And The Gospel

3-Week Topical Teaching Series

August 24-25: Weekend Services with Dr. Juli Slatterly and Doug Sauder

August 31- September 1: Weekend Topical Teaching with Doug Sauder

September 7-8: Weekend Services with Guest Speaker and Author Christopher Yuan and Doug Sauder

What we think about and do with our body and our sexuality matters—and it matters to God. This is the major idea of our 3-week teaching and special events at the end of August and beginning of September. We will focus on these often sensitive but always important subjects to provide clarity, hope, and restoration as we learn and re-learn how God intended these gifts for us.

Rethinking Sexuality: God's Design and Why It Matters with Dr. Juli Slatterly

**Saturday, August 24,
8:30am–12:30pm
Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale**

This free special event will be a four-session event with live Q&A at the end. While the event is designed for adults, parents are advised to use their discretion for their teens 16 and over.

CalvaryFTL.org/Events

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JS: Even the most seasoned Christians have difficulty articulating God's design for sexuality. Growing up in church, we probably learned a list of rules related to sex, but we never learned God's heart. Why did He create us as sexual people? Is it just so we can get married and have babies?

Before we talk about any sexual issue, we have to get to the heart of the underlying narrative. Our narrative explains the why. Frankly, culture presents a compelling narrative that describes the purpose of sexuality. In contrast, the church's traditional teaching on sexuality has been quite one-dimensional, focused on saving sex for marriage. Over the past several years of study, I've discovered that the Bible presents an amazing, powerful narrative that helps us make sense of all of our sexual desires, struggles, and temptations. God's purpose for sex isn't limited to "just hang on until you get married." Sexuality is a holy metaphor created to show us the spiritual reality of God's covenant love.

Christians are not winning the argument about sexual morality in a lost world, so how do we reach the broken and capture human hearts?

DS: We will win the moral argument by being distinct. There will be refugees from the sexual revolution taking place and they will be looking for something to fill the void. We know that void is spiritual and can only be filled by Jesus, but our way of life is what they will see first. Tim Keller describes the attraction of the early church in a broken sexual culture this way: "The early church was strikingly different from the culture around it in this way—the pagan society was stingy with its money and promiscuous with its body. A pagan gave nobody their money and practically everybody their body. And the Christians came along and gave nobody their body and practically everybody their money."

JS: We need to make a distinction between the conversations we have with fellow Christians and those we have with non-believers around sexuality. Christ-followers need to be disciplined in how to live out their faith in every area of their lives, sexuality included. However, people who don't know God are unlikely to be drawn to Him because of our ability to win an argument about gay marriage or any other sexual issue. They don't need biblical sexual morality. They need the Lord.

While we should have robust conversations within the body of Christ about what it means to honor God with our sexuality, I don't believe those discussions often belong outside the church walls. In fact, they can be a deterrent to the real conversation we need to be having: Who is Jesus Christ to you?

We have lost our ability to share hope with the world not because we don't know what to say about sexual issues, but because we have forgotten how to live and love as Christ loves us.

Jesus told us to be light in a dark world. We should live differently than everyone else in our culture. We are aliens who don't belong here. Our sexual beliefs, actions, and attitudes should appear strange to a watching world. This is our witness and what will cause people to wonder why we make different decisions about every area of our lives, including our sexuality.

The "do whatever you want" narrative of our world will not ultimately satisfy the deep longings of the human heart for connection. To some extent, we have all experienced the emptiness of seeking romance and sexual fulfillment apart from the intimacy it was intended to represent. God's design for covenant and sexuality is wired within our bodies. When what the world offers doesn't satisfy, we should be prepared to give an answer for the hope within us. That answer is not a list of rules, but the invitation for Jesus to become Healer, Redeemer, and Lord. 🙏

Fall Guest Speaker Info & Topical Resources



Dr. Juli Slatterly

Website:
AuthenticIntimacy.com

Books:
Rethinking Sexuality

Sex & The Single Girl

25 Questions You're Afraid to Ask About Love, Sex, and Intimacy



Christopher Yuan

Website:
ChristopherYuan.com

Books:
Holy Sexuality and the Gospel

Out of a Far Country

Giving a Voice to the Voiceless



CALVARY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

A BRIGHT FUTURE IS BUILT ON A STRONG FOUNDATION

42

Give your child the tools he or she needs to thrive spiritually, academically, and socially, by partnering with Calvary Christian Academy.

Our two Pre-K-12th grade campuses in Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale provide unique learning experiences in Christ-centered environments.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.
—Matthew 28:18-19 (NKJV)

Find out which campus is for you
at CCA Eagles.org/Campuses





HIGHER EDUCATION AT A DISCOUNTED COST

Are you interested in pursuing a bachelor's or graduate degree at a recognizable Christian university? Calvary is partnering with Trinity International University (TIU) to bring Christian education to our church family.

As we seek to influence people through Vision 2023, we believe that through this partnership we can raise up strong leaders in areas such as education, counseling, and business.

By offering a 25% discount on tuition rates for degrees in Christian ministries, criminal justice, organizational leadership, and counseling psychology, among others, we hope to encourage you to consider pursuing a Christian education. Classes are located at the Fort Lauderdale campus and offered at night for working professionals.

To apply, visit **Florida.TIU.edu**. For more information about the program and rates, contact **AdmissionsFlorida@TIU.edu** or **954-382-6400**.



The partnership with Calvary and TIU has been a blessing. The curriculum provides a deeper understanding of the Lord, while the professors reflect the character of Christ. The ability to take courses for a psychology degree with a biblical worldview has provided me with a richer understanding of people, society, and God. It's given me a greater way to understand, care, and love the people God has entrusted to the Recovery Ministry.

— Christine

CHURCH WORKDAY

Saturday, July 13 | 7:30am-12pm
All Campuses

For more info, visit **CalvaryFTL.org/ChurchWorkday**.



COMMUNITY AT CALVARY

From Bible studies at skateparks and assisted living facilities to support groups that meet a variety of needs; from weekly studies for men, women, and couples to activities for senior adults, sports lovers, and parents, Calvary has something for everyone!

For a full list of everything going on around all our campuses, visit **CalvaryFTL.org/Events**.

CALVARY MEN

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Thursdays, 7pm

Note: Calvary Men in Fort Lauderdale will take a break in July and resume on August 1.

BOCA RATON CAMPUS

Mondays, 7-9pm

BOYNTON BEACH CAMPUS

Mondays, 7pm

First Saturday of Each Month, 8am

HOLLYWOOD CAMPUS

Thursdays, 7pm

NORTH LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Tuesdays, 7pm

PLANTATION CAMPUS

Thursdays, 6:30pm

WEST BOCA CAMPUS

Third Thursday of Each Month, 6:30pm

CALVARY WOMEN

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

The Gathering: August, 23, 7pm

Calvary Women Circles:
Various Times and Locations.

Women's Fitness:
Various Days and Times

For info, visit
CalvaryFTL.org/Women

BOCA RATON CAMPUS

Thursdays, 9:30am & 7pm

HOLLYWOOD CAMPUS

Second Thursday of Each Month, 7pm

NORTH LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Tuesdays, 7pm

Spanish: Fridays, July 12 & September 13,
8-10pm

PLANTATION CAMPUS

Tuesdays, Starting September 10, 6:30pm

WEST BOCA CAMPUS

Second Monday of Each Month, 7pm

MARRIAGE & FAMILY

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Circle for Moms

Second Wednesday of Each Month, 6:30pm

Bible Study for Dads

Fridays, 8am

BOCA CAMPUS

Mom's Connect

Third Saturday of Each Month, 10:30am

BOYNTON BEACH CAMPUS

Married Couples Event

Third Saturday of Each Month, 6-9pm

HOLLYWOOD CAMPUS

Married Couples Game Night

Third Friday of Every Other Month, 7-9pm

WEST BOCA CAMPUS

Mom's Connect

Second Wednesday of Each Month,
6:30-8:30pm

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

American Heritage Girls (AHG)

(1st Grade through High School)

Thursdays, 6:30-8pm

Information meeting August 29

For more info, e-mail

CalvaryAmericanHeritageGirls@gmail.com

Boy Scouts (Boys 11-17-Year-Olds)

Thursdays, 7-8:30pm

Information meeting September 5

For more info, e-mail

CalvaryTroop208FTL@gmail.com

Cub Scouts (Boys 6-10-Year-Olds)

Thursdays, 7-8pm

Information meeting August 29

For more info, e-mail

Cubmaster@CalvaryPack208.org

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT CONTINUED

Middle School Student Groups
Wednesdays, 6:30pm

Six78 Girls Night
Friday, September 13

Six78 Guys Night
Friday, September 27

Team 20 Student Leadership
First and Third Sunday of Each
Month, 1pm

For more info, e-mail
JavanS@CalvaryFTL.org

Eikon Nights (18-29-Year-Olds)
Fourth Friday of Each Month, 7-10pm

**Eikon Sports Nights
(18-29-Year-Olds)**
Tuesdays, 7pm (July only)

BOCA RATON CAMPUS

Rooted: Grade 5 Discipleship
Friday, September 13, 6-8:30pm
Six78 Room

Equip: Grades 9 & 10 Discipleship
Saturday, September 21, 10am-1pm

Teleios: Grades 11 Discipleship
Sunday, September 22, 1:30-3:30pm
HSM

BOYNTON BEACH CAMPUS

Echo: High School Girls Small Group
First and Third Saturday of Each
Month, 5pm
Visit JoinAGroup.org

Middle School Have Fun Event
Last Saturday of the Month, 6-9pm

NORTH LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Youth Night
First and Third Friday of Each Month,
7-9pm

PLANTATION CAMPUS

Awana
Mondays, 6:15pm

HSM Saturday Night Thing
First Saturday of Each Month,
6:30-9pm

Eikon (18-29-Year-Olds)
Saturdays, 8pm

Eikon (18-29-Year-Olds) Outreach
First Monday of Each Month
Visit MyEikon.com for info

WEST BOCA CAMPUS

Young Men's Discipleship Group
Fourth Friday of Each Month, 6:30pm

Young Women's Discipleship Group
Second Friday of Each Month,
6:30-8:30pm

SENIOR ADULT

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

First and Third Tuesday of Each Month,
10am-12pm

Potluck
First Tuesday of Each Month, 7pm

BOYNTON BEACH CAMPUS

Second Saturday of Each Month, 1-3pm

PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Awake: Missions Prayer Meeting
First Sunday of Each Month, 8am

Prayer Meeting
Fridays, 7-9pm

Ramp48 Bible Study
Tuesdays, 7pm

Spanish Fellowship
First Saturday of Each Month, 8pm

Brazilian Fellowship
Fourth Saturday of Each Month, 8pm

Creole Bible Study
Fridays, 7pm

BOCA RATON CAMPUS

Focus: Singles Community
First Friday of Each Month, 7pm

Intercessory Prayer
Sundays, 8:45am

BOYNTON CAMPUS

Prodigal Prayer Group
Sundays, 11am

Women's Prayer Group
Second Saturday of Each Month,
10am

All Nations Women's Bible Study
First Saturday of Each Month, 10am

HOLLYWOOD CAMPUS

Prayer Meeting
First Monday of Each Month, 7pm

NORTH LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Sunday Morning Prayer
Sundays, 9am

Intercessory Prayer
Mondays, 7pm

Weekly Creole Bible Study
Sundays, 7pm

Weekly Spanish Bible Study
Saturdays, 7pm

Weekly Women's Bible Study
Tuesdays, 7-9pm

**Day of Fasting & Night of Prayer
and Worship**
First Wednesday of Each Month,
6:45-8:45pm

PLANTATION CAMPUS

Saturday Night of Prayer
First Saturday of Each Month, 8pm

Sunday Night of Prayer
Third Sunday of Each Month, 5pm

Missionary Support Prayer
Wednesdays, After Service

WEST BOCA CAMPUS

Prayer and Worship
Fridays, 7pm

SUPPORT GROUPS

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Cancer Care

Thursdays, 7pm

Celebrate Recovery:

A Christ-centered, 12-step program.

Fridays, 6pm

Choosing Joy: For those with chronic illness, depression, and/or anxiety.

Second Tuesday of Each Month, 7pm

Divorce Care

Wednesdays, Begins August 21,

6:30pm

GriefShare

Saturdays, 3pm

GriefShare for Widows

Saturdays, 6pm

Jay's Group: For those with or affected by Alzheimer's or dementia.

Third Saturday of Each Month, 3pm

Oasis: For those infected or affected by AIDS/HIV.

Friday, September 27, 7pm

Parkinson's Support Group:

For those afflicted or affected by Parkinson's disease.

First and Third Thursday of Each Month, 7pm

S.A.F.E. Group: For men battling lust and pornography.

Fridays, 7am & Saturdays, 4pm

BOCA CAMPUS

Camp 127: Bible study and mentorship for kids during Moms Connect meeting.

Third Saturday of Each Month, 10am

Divorce Care

Tuesdays, 6:30–8:30pm | Cost \$20

(For Materials)

GriefShare

Wednesdays, 6:45–8:15pm | Cost \$15

(For Materials)

Mom's Connect: A ministry for single moms.

Third Saturday of Each Month, 10am

Trees of Hope: Support for women who have experienced sexual abuse.

Various Thursdays, 6:30–8:30pm

Note: For specific dates, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Boca.

PLANTATION CAMPUS

Bond4Life: Bible study for single, foster, and adoptive parents.

Second Friday of Each Month, 7–9pm

Camp 127: Bible study and mentorship for kids during Bond4Life meeting.

Second Friday of Each Month, 7–9pm

Trees of Hope: Support for women who have experienced sexual abuse.

Tuesdays, 6:30–8:30pm

WEST BOCA CAMPUS

Mom's Connect: A ministry for single moms.

Second Wednesday of Each Month, 6:30–8:30pm

Celebrate Recovery

Mondays, 6pm



CALVARY VOLUNTEER AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



BE PART OF THE CALVARY CREW!

As part of the Calvary Crew, not only will you make a difference in people's lives, but you'll also be enriched by serving. Most importantly, you'll glorify Jesus and help others see Him more clearly as you live out a key component of whole-life generosity!

We have a variety of amazing opportunities for you to be blessed as you bless others through your time and talent in the following areas:

- Audio/Visual
- Benevolence/Biblical Counseling
- Calvary Kids
- Calvary Youth
- Facilities/Event Setup
- The Grill/Food Service/Bookstore
- Graphic Design
- Hospitality
- IT Technical Support
- Media/Video
- Memorial Service Support
- New Believer/Altar Ministry Support
- Photography
- Premarital/Wedding
- Gatekeepers/Security
- Social Media
- Video Editing
- Worship/Musicians and Singers
- Communications/Writing

If you'd like to become part of the Calvary Crew and want to learn more about our volunteer orientation dates, visit **CalvaryFTL.org/Volunteer**.



BE PART OF THE CALVARY STAFF!

Have you felt God calling you into full-time ministry? Looking for an awesome place to grow in your gifts, cultivate community, and make an impact? Calvary might be just the place for you!

We have a variety of amazing opportunities for you to be blessed as you bless others through your time and talent in the following areas:

- Accounting
- Communications
- IT
- Family Ministry
- Facilities
- Human Resources
- Security
- The Grill
- . . .and more!

To learn more about our open positions, visit **CalvaryFTL.org/Jobs**.



SEEN AND HEARD BY GOD

Rebecca Jean Baptiste's Story

Rebecca Jean Baptiste once wondered if God was real. And if He was, she thought, *Does He see me, does He hear me?*

Her journey of discovery started in January of 2013, with a series of events that changed her life forever. God led her to His Caring Place, which led her to Calvary, where she got saved. A month later, she gave birth to her son, Brandon. And a month after, she got baptized.

“Calvary has been my family since then,” said Baptiste. “God used this place, this family, to bring so much healing, community, and purpose to my life. I’ve often wondered what it would have been like if I hadn’t come here . . . and I’m just so incredibly grateful that I’m not on this journey alone.”

And here I was, deep in conversation with a man by the name of Matthew, who asked how he could pray for me.

That sense of wonder and gratitude has never left her, not even in tough times. As a single mother, it’s not easy sometimes. She’s had to face real challenges, like mastering the art of doing more with less and carrying living costs alone.

A couple of months ago, she was having a really rough day. Earlier in the day, she’d prayed, “Lord, I’m going to be faithful in tithing and in my giving. I’m not going to allow circumstances to keep me from being obedient.” So, right before work, she rushed to the Calvary church office to drop in her tithe check. She continued to pray, asking God to let her know if He saw her, because she was trying so hard with what she had.

Shortly after she finished praying, she got a call from Calvary.

“At first, I was alarmed,” she said, as she recalls running outside her office to take the call. “I’d never received a call from Calvary before. And here I was, deep in conversation with a man by the name of Matthew, who asked how he could pray for me.” She was floored. But in a split second, she found herself sharing her living situation and how she needed God to provide.

God has answered me! she thought, as Matthew’s words of prayer enveloped her like a sweet aroma, lifting up her heavy heart. In that moment, she knew, “I was seen and heard by God.” ☀️

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUL

AUG



**Sizzlin' Summer Nights
Wet N' Wild**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, July 6, 7:30pm



**Sizzlin' Summer Nights
Movie Night**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, July 13, 7:30pm



Brazilian Fellowship
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, July 27, 8-9pm



Spanish Fellowship
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, July 6, 8-9pm



**Kids New Volunteer
Orientation**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Sunday, July 14, 1-3pm



Baby Dedication
Boca and Plantation Campuses
Sunday, July 28, 1:30-3pm



**Group Leader and
Discipleship Training**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, July 6, 3-5:30pm



**Sizzlin' Summer Nights
Balloon + Bubble Night**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, July 20, 7:30pm



**Youth Church United
Presents "Pain≠Suicide"**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Sunday, July 28, 4pm-6pm



Group Leader Training
Plantation Campus
Sunday, July 7, 9:15-10:15am



Moms Connect / Camp 127
Boca Campus
Saturday, July 20, 10:30am-1pm



**Kids New Volunteer
Orientation**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Wednesday, July 31, 6:30-8pm



Bond4Life/Camp 127
Plantation Campus
Friday, July 12, 7-9pm



Family Movie Night
Boca Campus
Saturday, July 20, 8-10:30pm



**Kids Salvation and Baptism
Class**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, August 3, 6pm



**Chosen: HSM Girls
Discipleship**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Friday, July 12, 6:30pm



Love Your Neighbor
Fort Lauderdale Campus
*Saturday, July 20
(3rd Saturday of Each Month)*



**Group Leader and
Discipleship Training**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, August 3, 3-5:30pm



Church Workday
All Campuses
Saturday, July 13, 7:30am-12pm



**Youth Encounter
South Florida**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Thursday-Saturday, July 25-27



Spanish Fellowship
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, August 3, 8-9pm

For more info on these and other events, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Events.

AUG



Group Leader Training
Plantation Campus
Sunday, August 4, 9:15-10:15am



Love Your Neighbor
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, August 17 (3rd Saturday of Each Month)



Adventures in Marriage Conference
Boynton Beach Campus
Friday, August 23, 6-9:30pm & Saturday, August 24, 9am-4pm



Family Ministry Parent Meetings
Boca Campus
Thursday, August 8, 1:30-2:30pm



Back-to-School Bash
North Miami Campus
Saturday, August 17, 12-4pm



Rethinking Sexuality: God's Design and Why It Matters with Dr. Juli Slattery
Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale
Saturday, August 24, 8:30am-12:30pm



Youth Apologetics Conference
Boca Campus
*Thursday, August 8, 8am-8pm
Friday, August 9, 8am-9pm
Saturday, August 10, 8am-12pm*



Beach Baptism
Pompano Beach where Atlantic meets A1A
Saturday, August 17, 8:30-10am



Brazilian Fellowship
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, August 24, 8-9pm



Bond4Life/Camp 127
Plantation Campus
Friday, August 9, 7-9pm



Moms Connect / Camp 127
Boca Campus
Saturday, August 17, 10:30am-1pm



Baby Dedication
Boca and Plantation Campuses
Sunday, August 25, 1:30-3pm



Kids and Youth Back-to-School Bash
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday and Sunday, August 10 & 11, After services



Family Movie Night
Boca Campus
Saturday, August 17, 8-10:30pm



Family Ministry Parent Meetings
Boca Campus
Sunday, August 25, 1:30-2:30pm



Sizzlin' Summer Nights Slime Night
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, August 10, 7:30pm



Wills and Trusts Seminar
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Sunday, August 18, 11am-12:30p



Kids New Volunteer Orientation
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Wednesday, August 28, 6:30-8pm



Kids New Volunteer Orientation
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Sunday, August 11, 1-3pm



Calvary Women: The Gathering
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Friday, August 23, 7-10pm



Fellowship Breakfast (Special Needs Families)
Plantation Campus
Friday, August 30, 9-10:30am

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPT

SPECIAL EVENT



Group Leader Training
Plantation Campus
*Sunday, September 1,
9:15-10:15am*



Fall Classes Begin
Various Campus
*Wednesday, September 11,
During Services*



Kids Night Out
Fort Lauderdale Campus
*Saturday, September 20,
6pm-9pm*



Campus Closed (Labor Day)
All Campuses
Monday, September 2



**LeaderShare
(Leaders Sharing Success)**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
*Thursday, September 12,
5:45-9:30pm*



Moms Connect / Camp 127
Boca Campus
*Saturday, September 21,
10:30am-1pm*



Men's Conference
Boynton Beach Campus
*Friday, September 6, 5-9pm
& Saturday, September 7,
8am-12pm*



Bond4Life/Camp 127
Plantation Campus
Friday, September 13, 7-9pm



Love Your Neighbor
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday September 21



Adventures in Marriage
Fort Lauderdale Campus
*Friday, September 6, 6-9:30pm
Saturday, September 7,
9am-3:30pm*



**Chosen: HSM Girls
Discipleship**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Friday, September 13, 6:30pm



VISION 2023 WEEKEND

ALL CAMPUSES
*Saturday & Sunday,
September 21 & 22
During Services*



**Group Leader and
Discipleship Training**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
*Saturday, September 7,
3-5:30pm*



VISION 2023 WEEKEND

ALL CAMPUSES
*Saturday & Sunday,
September 14 & 15
During Services*



Spanish Fellowship
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, September 7, 8-9pm



**Kids New Volunteer
Orientation**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
*Wednesday, September 25,
6:30-8pm*



**Kids New Volunteer
Orientation**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Sunday, September 8, 1-3pm



LeaderShare
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Tuesday, September 17, 6-10pm



**Calvary Kids Family
Experience**
Fort Lauderdale Campus
*Friday, September 27,
6:30-8:30pm*

For more info on these and other events, visit CalvaryFTL.org/Events.



Six78 Guys Night
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Friday, September 27,
6:30-8:30pm



**Married Couples Connect:
Tail Gate Kickoff**
Boca Campus
Friday, September 27, 7-9pm



Adventures in Marriage
Plantation Campus
Friday, September 27,
6-9:30pm and
Saturday, September 28,
9am-4pm



Brazilian Fellowship
Fort Lauderdale Campus
Saturday, September 28,
8-9pm



Have you ever seen a really deep tree root system? It's pretty impressive! Studies have found numerous trees with growing roots of over 33 feet, and one report cited a tree that grew roots to a depth of 174 feet. That's more than half the length of a football field! It's safe to say that nothing is going to uproot a tree that's planted that firmly and deeply into the earth.

In Galatians 5:1, the apostle Paul gives us one of the most powerful and beautiful exhortations in the entire Bible . . . an exhortation that, if truly taken to heart, can radically change the way you live. He says, "Plant your feet firmly therefore within the freedom that Christ has won for us."

Now look at what theologian John Gill says we've been freed from: "The dominion, guilt, and damning power of sin; from the captivity and tyranny of Satan, from the law and all its burdensome rites and institutions . . . from a covenant of works . . . and from the curse and condemnation of it."

How amazing is that? Jesus has set us free from shame, guilt, the chains of sin and death, and from the burden of the law. He won our freedom for us! How? By giving His life for us on the cross! By His wounds, we are healed, by His blood, we are set free!

Today, we encourage you to walk in the power of the gospel and the freedom we have in Christ so you may experience the fullness of His promises and His presence in your life. You may be wondering, ***How do I do that? How can I plant my feet firmly within the freedom that Christ has won for me? How can I guard my freedom so I never find myself back in chains?***

By "keeping your eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of your faith," the One who broke the yoke of slavery from your neck so you can walk with your head held high. By abiding in Him and in His Word every single day. By living out the exhortation of Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT), which says, "And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."

"Plant your feet firmly therefore within the freedom that Christ has won for us."

—Galatians 5:1 (PHILLIPS)



ROOTED IN FREEDOM



CalvaryFTL.org/SEASONS