

SERIES: NEXT STEP

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, January 20-21, 2024

SERMON: Quit Believing Lies

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 46:3-11 NIV

[3] "Listen to me, you descendants of Jacob, all the remnant of the people of Israel, you whom I have upheld since your birth, and have carried since you were born.

[4] Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

[5] "With whom will you compare me or count me equal? To whom will you liken me that we may be compared?

[6] Some pour out gold from their bags and weigh out silver on the scales; they hire a goldsmith to make it into a god, and they bow down and worship it.

[7] They lift it to their shoulders and carry it; they set it up in its place, and there it stands. From that spot it cannot move. Even though someone cries out to it, it cannot answer; it cannot save them from their troubles.

[8] "Remember this, keep it in mind, take it to heart, you rebels.

[9] Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

[10] I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'

[11] From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do.

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The First Next Step: Quit Believing Lies - What are these lies?

1. You can be your _____.

- **Genesis 3:4-5** *"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*
- Isaiah 46: gods that can't _____, _____, _____, or _____.

2. You can have a life of no _____.

- **Proverbs 17:13** *Evil will never leave the house of one who pays back evil for good.*

3. You can live well _____.

- God wants _____ in your life.
- God wants your _____.
- **Jeremiah 2:13** *"My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.*
- You become like the _____.
- **Jeremiah 2:5** *This is what the LORD says: "What fault did your ancestors find in me, that they strayed so far from me? They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves.*

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The First Next Step: Quit Believing Lies - What are these lies?

1. You can be your own god.

- **Genesis 3:4-5** *"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*
- Isaiah 46: gods that can't move, speak, hear, or answer.

2. You can have a life of no consequences.

- **Proverbs 17:13** *Evil will never leave the house of one who pays back evil for good.*

3. You can live well without God.

- God wants the best in your life.
- God wants your holiness.
- **Jeremiah 2:13** *"My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.*
- You become like the god you worship.
- **Jeremiah 2:5** *This is what the LORD says: "What fault did your ancestors find in me, that they strayed so far from me? They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves.*

Lagniappe

How was the year 2023 at FBC?

I am thankful for your interest in the ministry of First Baptist Covington. Last week at our first congregational meeting of 2024 I gave a brief report about measurable results for the church.

Here are three areas- *worship attendance, Connect Groups, and giving* - which are quite measurable: 2023 was a record year for attendance in worship and connect groups, and we exceeded our adopted budget in giving. I want to thank you for your faithfulness in all these areas.

Below, we have provided instructions for printing your **2023 Giving Statement** using your CCB profile username (email address) and password.

To access your giving statement:

1. Go to <https://fbccov.ccbchurch.com>
2. Sign in with your username (email address) and password.
3. Once signed in, on the left-hand side of the screen, click "My Giving".
4. Click "Giving Statement".
5. Choose which type (Family) and date range (January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023)
6. Under Tax Deductible, select "Both Deductible & Non-Deductible".
7. Select "Show pledges on giving statement" if you would like your **ANCHORED** pledge included on your statement.
8. Click "Run Report".

Now, your statement is ready to view or print.

ALSO - Anna and Gloria will be available in the church office on **Sunday, January 28th**, and **Sunday, February 4th**, from **9:00 – 12:00** if you need to pick up a physical copy of your FBC statement.

We thank you for your faithful and generous giving to First Baptist Church Covington throughout the year.

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