

## **SERMON**

**DATE: Saturday - Sunday, November 16-17, 2019**

**SERMON TITLE: A Checklist for Living Close to God**

### **Ephesians 1:3-11**

[3] Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

[4] For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love

[5] he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will -

[6] to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

[7] In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

[8] that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,

[9] he<sup>[e]</sup> made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,

[10] to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment - to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

[11] In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,

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**Title: A Checklist for Living Close to God**

**1. Acknowledge God above all.**

- *Matthew 6:33* But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
- *James 4:8* Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
- Acknowledge His gifts and His goodness.

**2. Let God steer.**

- You were not created to live without God.

**3. Do something dangerous.**

- Seek holiness and righteousness.
- Seek to become like Christ.
- Something wonderful happens when it's just you and God.

**4. Constantly check your progress.**

# Lagniappe

Today we welcome Adam and Laura Watson and their family to First Baptist Church.

Adam is leading worship in all three worship services in view of a call to be the Worship Pastor of FBC. He is coming to us from First Baptist Church of Tomball, Texas, where he has served in a similar capacity since 2010. Prior to that time, he served six years on the staff of Champion Forest Baptist Church in Houston. He has a church music degree from Baylor University.

Adam and Laura have been married seventeen years. They have four children Annabelle, William, Elizabeth, and Emma (two sets of twins) ages 9 and 5.

Adam led us in worship several weeks ago and had the opportunity to meet with a number of people in the choir, orchestra, bands, and tech teams. He has also met with the Personnel Team. The Personnel Team will recommend him to be called as Worship Pastor at our congregational meeting Wednesday night - November 20, at 6:30 PM in Central Hall.

If elected at that time, Adam will begin responsibilities with us January 1, 2020.

As Worship Pastor, Adam will work on our music team alongside our Minister of Music David Logan. Adam will have primary leadership for the 6:00 PM Saturday and 11:00 AM Sunday services.

Please take the opportunity to welcome the Watson family to First Baptist Church Covington.