



Calendar of Events:

- 1 —New Year's Day -Bryan Cobley preaching
- 2 —New Year's Day observed (office closed)
- 8—Guest Minister from New Mexico—Potluck following morning service
- * 9—Board Meeting, 6:30pm
- * 21-Work Day, 8:30am
- * 22-Missions Meeting
- 24—W@C Valentine's card making, 6:30pm
- * 30-Elders Meeting, 6:30pm

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

| JIM KAISER | 1/02 |
|-----------------|------|
| MERLE PEARSON | 1/04 |
| PRESLEY LIPPERT | 1/12 |
| KANDACE MCBRIDE | 1/13 |
| SUSAN VARGAS | 1/17 |
| CHRIS STARK | 1/18 |
| JAMIE BROWN | 1/23 |
| PAIGE HENSON | 1/27 |
| PETE AGUILAR | 1/28 |
| SCOTT LAWSON | 1/31 |
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For the Love of Tacos

So many of you know I love to read. Reading to kids is one of my favorite things. I love their innocence, their joy, their honesty (well most of the time, haha), their hanging on my every word. It's a pretty cool thing. Lately I've done a few home visits to some of my pals to help them out and if I'm honest because I dig it.

While I'm reading I often try to tie the book into an educational theme or biblical principal, which can be a little difficult when you're using cutsie voices, crazy hand motions, or when the book is just plain silly. Like

"Dragons Love Tacos"...for some reason this is a favorite among the littles; it's frequently requested. And well why not? It's fun, the illustrations are fabulous, and HELLO? who doesn't love tacos?

If you haven't read the book, let me give you a brief overview. From the title I'm sure you've gathered that dragons love tacos, all kinds of tacos. Dragons also like parties, all kinds of parties; so it's a given that dragons love taco parties. One thing to keep in mind is, although dragons love tacos, they DO NOT like anything spicy (I know some



of you are thinking tacos and no spice, that's like an oxymoron, I feel ya, but bear with me). If they eat anything spicy, well they're dragons so you know.... breathing fire and all that jazz.

While in the quiet of my own space I reread the book again, having my Bible handy for inspiration into a "Dragons Love Tacos" devotion. God imparted these two verses:

Romans 3:23 For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

1 Corinthians 15:57 But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.

So sometimes when we have breathed fire/sinned, God gives us grace through Jesus. Praise God!! *SPOILER!* It's awesome to know that when the house burns down because spicy salsa was had, God is not only there to forgive you, He's there to help you rebuild. A little too far-fetched? Fire-breathing dragons and God's forgiveness? Hey never underestimate when and where God will speak to you, even while reading a silly book to kids! God bless.

P.S. If you'd like to borrow my "Dragons Love Tacos" book, let me know. I'd be happy to share.

In His Love,

Brandy Stark

Woman at Crossroads (W@C) Article Contributor



Don't Conform-Transform

By Greg Laurie

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.—Romans 12:2

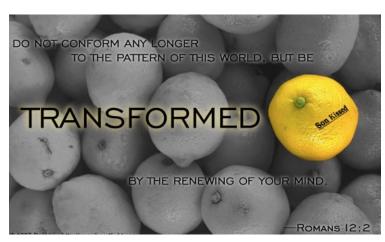
A recent survey revealed that America's youth now spend, on average, over sevenand-a-half hours each day involved in electronic media. And that number doesn't include the amount of time spent texting or talking on cell phones. The problem is that a lot of that time spent in front of media screens will influence them in the wrong way.

The Bible tells us to fill our minds with the things of God. Philippians 4:8 says, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things."

Romans 12:2 tells us, "Do not be conformed to this world. . . . " As the J. B. Phillips translation puts it, "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold." The word "conformed" refers to the act of assuming an outward appearance that does not accurately reflect that which is within. Of course, we all just want to fit in. We don't want to be thought of as dorks, nerds, fools, or idiots. We don't want to be classified as uncool. So we will do things that we think others want us to do. But let's not try to appear to be of this world when we are not.

By "this world," Romans 12:2 means a culture, a mentality, a way of thinking that is largely hostile to God. As 1 John 2:16 tells us, "For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world."

Remember, God's will is better than our own. His will is good and acceptable and perfect.



Crossroads Christian Church

Church Secretary: Brandy Stark

Phone: 831 444 9104

Office Hours: 9am-2pm, Monday - Friday

crossroadschurch@sbcglobal.net

Like us on Crossroads Christian Church Salinas

Elders:

Jerry Lemmon Alan Stark Lyn White

Current Groups/Classes

Sunday Morning

Please join us for one of our Bible studies.

Plan to arrive early and join us for coffee and pastries.

<u>9am</u>

Nursery thru Adult Kids Korner (Ages 4 years thru 5th grade) - see schedule <u>Class - Leader</u> Adult - Jerry Lemmon Men - Perry Vargas Women - Ginger Stark (12 Women of the Bible)

Pre/Early Teen - Alan Stark

10:30am - See schedules Nursery/Toddlers Pre-K K-5th grades

Sunday Evening - 5:30pm @ CCC

Alan Stark

Wednesday Morning - 9:30am @ CCC

Women's Bible Study Chronological Walk through the Bible See Susan Vargas or Tonna Henson with any questions

Wednesday Evening - 6:30pm in Gonzales

Taking a break

Thursday Evening - 6:00pm @ CCC

Women's Bible Study 12 Women of the Bible Becky Cromer Our Vision
GLORIFY GOD

Our Mission
Grow in Christ
Serve in Love
Bring others to Jesus