



# The Planter

"The seed is the word of God", Luke 8:11



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## God & The Boogie Man Cory Waddell

The date was December 21, 1993. For most of the world it was a typical holiday-rushed day as people prepared for the imminent Christmas celebrations. Yet, flying below the radar, an event was taking place that would impact the lives of countless Christian children, for this was the day that a talking cucumber and tomato bounced onto their TVs and introduced them to the magical world of VeggieTales. Even today, it's hard for this 41-year-old kid to not stop and sing along with the "Bom-Bom-Bom-Bom" of Larry's tuba. These talking vegetables were created to communicate simple Biblical truths to young hearts that were building faith in God. That first story on December 21, asked the question, "Where is God When I'm S-Scared?" In the episode, a young Jr. Asparagus is frightened by a scary movie (Frankencelery) and finds himself seeing all kinds of spooky things in his dark bedroom. Bob and Larry show up with a fabulous song teaching Junior that "God is Bigger Than the Boogie Man" and he is always watching out for you and me.

In adulthood I have realized that the Boogie Man does not go away just because I have gotten older. He does not take the shape of a literal monster in my closet or under the bed, but rather the form of other fears that plague many adults. Fears of not having enough money to pay the bills. Fears of what the future is going to bring to my children. Fears of whether I am adequate to do the job I have been hired to do. The list could go on and on.

The Psalmists knew of fear and Boogie Men quite well. All throughout the book, they poured their hearts out to God when darkness crowded their hearts. Long before VeggieTales, they understood that God was greater than any

enemy, real or imaginary, they might face. Consider these excerpts from Psalm 27.

1 - The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

5 - For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

7 - Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

8 - You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."

14 - Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; Wait for the LORD!

Do you have a Boogie Man? Is there something hiding in the closet of your heart that, from time to time, creates a moment of panic or fear for you or someone you love? That is okay. We all have them. The difference between us and the rest of the world is that we do not have to be paralyzed by our fears. We can face them, and we can hand them over to the Lord. We can do this because regardless of what yours may be, the tomato and cucumber are still right...God IS bigger than the Boogie Man.

January 19, 2025

Sunday Morning  
Opening Prayer Adam Cordell  
Closing Prayer Joey Jones

Scripture Reading Rhyan Dishroom

Sunday Evening  
Opening Prayer Dan Logan  
Closing Prayer Jon Dyke

### Remember in prayer:

**Max Hollis** is doing well; he will begin in-home therapy on Monday.

Liz Jones, Zach Vaughn, Heidi Street, Don Duncan, Randall Glaze, Joe Chambers, Bill and Billie Nolen, Carrie Price, Stefan Hoglund

**Oak View Nursing Home:** Betty Floyd, Jane Bishop, Jane York.

**Larry Tapp**, who has been attending here on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, has a brain tumor. He will be consulting surgeons soon.

Pray for **Mark and Pauli Posey** in the passing of Mark's mother **Iris Posey**. Mark's address is: 265 Heritage Park, Guin, AL 35563

The **Baby Shower** for **Kaitlyn Payne** will be today following the Bible classes.

Thanks to your generous fifth Sunday contribution in December. We can donate \$1400 to the Pacific Isles Misson work of Rocco and Debbie Pierce.

There will be an Elders and Deacons meeting today at 3:30

Please check **The Challenge** supplies list on the bulletin board.

Record for the week of January 19, 2024  
3:00 pm 4:00 pm Wed. Contribution  
75 68 79 \$3197.76

### Weekly Assemblies

#### Sunday:

Morning Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Study: 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship: 5:00 p.m.  
First Sunday 1:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

**Why Believe in God? The Origin of Right and Wrong**  
Tyler King

One of the most difficult arguments to refute concerning the existence of God is the observation of objective right and wrong. There are events and actions that take place within this life that all humanity can categorize as wrong. Murdering, stealing, cheating, lying, injustice, and the list continues. In any culture and in any part of the world, mankind has buried within them a moral compass.

The question that the atheist and agnostic must answer is where did mankind inherit such a standard of morals? The premise is as follows: If mankind has objective morals, then there must be a lawmaker, therefore God as the Creator of all humanity provides moral law. For the atheist/evolutionist, we are merely advanced animals. But why have we formed a conscience? For it serves no purpose toward natural selection, advancement, and adaptation.

Most who attempt to fight this argument utilize the view of "moral relativism," saying events such as the 9/11 attacks or the holocaust were simply an expression of radical idealism, and it is only to the victims that the events seem horrific. This point of view is not only delusional and disturbing, but also erroneous. Such heinous actions develop just consequences and invoke the moral compass within many individuals to demand a condemnation.

Furthermore, Biblical passages such as Leviticus 19:18 and Matthew 7:12 instruct individuals to treat others as they would like to be treated (namely with love). Moral relativism fails on many levels, but one simple failure is shown when the one carrying out the wicked deeds retracts when those same deeds are committed to themselves. Hitler feared death and terrorist extremists fought back when we engaged in war. When the wicked deed is reversed on the one executing such actions, they retaliate. Moral relativism is only occupied until the roles are reversed.

Additionally, scripture even speaks of those who have never heard the gospel or know about God. "For when Gentiles who do not have the Law naturally do the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they demonstrate the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them..." (Rom. 2:14,15 LSB). When we look at humanity collectively, we find a human race who acknowledges "right" and "wrong," and we know the One who gives that awareness.