

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

July 18, 2012

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FROM THE PASTOR

"If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask

him!" (Mt. 7:11)

I opened my devotional book this morning, "My Utmost for His Highest" by Oswald Chambers, and this is the title that greeted me: **The Notion of Divine Control**. The first thing I did was turn to my Bible to understand the context of this single verse of Scripture and realized that it is part of Matthew's account of Jesus' **Sermon on the Mount**. Here Jesus lays out rules of conduct for our lives and urges us to keep our mind filled with the idea that God is in control of everything. Chambers says this "means that the disciple must maintain an attitude of perfect trust and an eagerness to ask and seek." I have to admit that I am guilty of not always trusting God and this confession leads me to this writing today.

Perfect trust in God means recognizing that no matter what happens in our lives God knows about it, God loves me, and I need not worry. It does not mean we will never face difficulties or challenges or deep darkness...We will. If we can keep our minds constantly in synch with this trust in God, whenever something bad happens "it's as easy as breathing to remember – Why, my Father knows all about it!" What an amazing comfort it is to know that God is completely aware of our particular situation and that everything is being worked out according to God's perfect plan.

Our tendency these days is to turn to all sorts of other things when we are faced with stress. Some people drink; some do drugs; others seek comfort from friends who may have hidden agendas. We seem to want to turn to anyone and anything – except God. This shows our lack of trust. We need to let God be in control and be patient while God works out the plan.

In Sunday's message I talked about God's judgment

and how it should be anticipated with joy because it would mark the time of our eternal reward. I also said that I did not believe we could earn God's favor or work our way onto a bigger, better "cloud" in heaven. What we can be sure of, however, is that we have the option of choosing whether we will allow God to take control of the way we live and whether we will pay attention to God's will for us. If we truly recognize God's divine control, then we will have confidence that whatever is going on in our lives is still open to God's will to work in and through it. I do not believe that God punishes us by sending bad things into our way; I do believe that God finds ways to work within whatever circumstances we encounter to move toward His perfect will.

On my way to the church this morning I heard this song on the radio: **TURN AROUND** by Matt Maher. Part of the chorus goes like this:

"If you're scared that you don't matter,
If you're lost and need to be found,
If you're looking for a Savior,
All you gotta do is turn around"

The word "repent" literally means "turn around." The idea is that we turn away from our sin, the ways of this world and we literally turn our lives around to look toward God instead of looking toward our culture. This turning around may be one of the most difficult things we will ever do. It involves courage, sacrifice, and prayer. Prayer is something I think we all need more of – we simply cannot get enough of it. Oswald Chambers writes: "Prayer is not only asking, but an attitude of mind which produces the atmosphere in which asking is perfectly natural." Jesus tells us to ask, seek, and knock. He also tells us to wait.

Shalom,
Pastor Don

Vacation Bible School



It's Next Week!!! Are you signed up?

Child Share Needs

Welcome Boxes

UMW is challenging Sunday School classes, individuals and other church groups to make a welcome box or basket for a foster child with Child Share. There are different age groups such as *Newborn to 1 years, 2-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-11, 12-14 and 15-17 years old*. The list of possible items for the boxes can be found on the Welcome Desk. When your group decides what age group, let Judy Bullard (241-6890) or Tracey in the office (245-5955) know so we can be sure all groups are covered. The boxes will be delivered to Child Share the week of August 12th. So please have them to the church by the 12th.

Thanks for Caring!

Nursery Workers Needed

We need one part time employee and we need lots of volunteers that could be here on an *as needed* basis. If you would be interested or know someone who might be, please contact a Staff Parish member or Tracey in the office- 918-245-5955.

Call Tracey in the office to sign up for VBS today! 918-245-5955

Mission Morsels

Would you like to be involved in a mission opportunity? Whether you are interested in serving locally for a few hours or regionally overnight for several days, we have opportunities for you. Our next missions meeting will be Sunday, July 29th at 1:30 p.m. in the parlor. Come and learn where you can be of service in sharing God's love. We will be setting dates to serve at local not-for-profits as well as finalizing our mission trip location so that our registration can be turned in and the trip planning can begin. Hope to see you there! Have questions? Call 918.246.0359. Thanks!



Miss Cathy and the Kingdom Kids did a great job on the bells yesterday! We are looking forward to the next time they will play for us.

VBS starts Sunday! Can you believe it? We will give out t-shirts after Small groups this Sunday. So parents, please make sure to pick up your child's shirt before you leave. The children did a great job creating decorations for VBS in SS yesterday.

We will be collecting basic school supplies for our VBS mission project this year. Some things we need are: No. 2 pencils, washable markers, bottles of glue and glue sticks, rulers, notebook paper, and scissors. We will collect supplies through August 11th. The congregation can join in the project with us in this project. We'll have tubs at the registration desk to collect donations.

Kids, keep working on learning the books of the Bible. Congratulations to Hallye and Trey for learning all the books of the Bible. We are continuing our travels through Psalm 23.

See you Sunday!

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers July 22

Visitors Center & Coffee-CIA/Pathfinders
Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
Lay Reader-8:30 a.m.-Karen Wilder
Lay Reader-11:00 a.m.-Jonathan Dobbs
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Janet Parker
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Marty David
Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids 11:00 a.m.-
Debbie Schmidt
Counters-Sondra Bogert & Dick Ford
Youth Dinner for Wednesday-No youth Dinners-Summer

Sunday Volunteers July 29

Visitors Center & Coffee-CIA/Pathfinders
Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
Lay Reader-8:30 a.m.-Amy Miller
Lay Reader-11:00 a.m.-Jewel Williams
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Cathy Gifford
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Cathy Gifford
(Kingdom Kids)
8:30 a.m. Children's Church-Kingdom Kids 11 a.m.-
Katherine Reeves & Julie Ferguson
Counters-Sheree Buttler & Jami Warkentin
Youth Dinner for Wednesday-No youth dinners-Summer

Please Keep In Prayer

Walter Speed, Wilbur & Jewel Williams, Mel Jones, Ryder Herring, Ruth Weaver, Jo Nan Allen, Virginia Vice, Martha Scudder, Don Baldrige, Earl & Lora Cervantez, Donna Woodruff, Bishop Hayes, Pat Cheek, Phil Cearley, Linda McCormick, Jan Dickerson, Buster Hall, Cathy Hula, Rose Lair, and all un-spoken requests

Acknowledgements

A Great Big Thank You!

Thank you for all the love you showed my dad. The dinner was wonderful.

Yukie Carter (Gene Watson's Daughter)

Thank you for putting me on the prayer chain. Thanks for the prayers, food, cards, and phone calls. I am much better. Bless you all!

Morene Baker

Please add to your Calendar-Missions Meeting, Sunday, July 29 at 1:30 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, July 18

7:30 a.m.-M/W Breakfast—Crescent Café

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC

11:30 a.m.-SIA Potluck-Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m.-NO Youth

6:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice

7:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Choir

Thursday, July 19

4:15 & 5:30 p.m.-Weight Watchers— F. Hall

Friday, July 20

12:00 p.m.-Weight Watchers

Saturday, July 21

No Activities

Sunday, July 22

8:30 a.m.-Modern Worship

10:00 a.m.-Sunday School

11:00 a.m.-Classic Worship

1:00 p.m.-Finance Meeting

6:15 p.m.-VBS

Monday, July 23

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC

6:15 p.m.-VBS

7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts 101-FLC

Tuesday, July 24

6:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Bell Practice

6:15 p.m.-VBS

Wednesday, July 25

7:30 p.m.-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC

6:15 p.m.-VBS

6:30 p.m.-The Awakening-Youth

6:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice

7:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Choir

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Estate Planning Thoughts

Permanent endowments are gifts that keep on giving. If the endowment agreement states that the principal shall never be invaded and that income is paid out to support a designated cause through your church, then your gift is "forever."

Return Service Requested

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