

Great Swamp
BAPTIST CHURCH

— ✦ —
SANCTITY
OF
LIFE



SUNDAY

January 20, 2019

Great Swamp Baptist Church

January 20, 2019

Sunday Morning Worship
11:00 AM

Prelude *Wayne Cooler*
The Welcome
Announcements *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*
Call to Worship
Hymn # 43 "This Is My Father's World"
Invocation *Duane Armstrong*
The Gideons International *Albert Sauls*
Selections of Praise & Worship
Hymn # 592 "Jesus Loves the Little Children"
Children's Story Time
Hymn # 344 "Jesus Loves Me"
We Pray for Special Needs
Pastoral & Offertory Prayer *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*
Offertory
Offertory Special *GSBC Praise Band*
Message *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*
Invitation
Benediction

The Gideons International

We are pleased to have representatives of the Gideons International with us in our service this morning. The Gideons distribute Scripture in 107 languages, and in 199 countries, around the world. They also place Bibles in hotels, motels, medical offices and hospitals. If you wish to make a donation to support this work, representatives of the Gideons will be at the exit doors as you leave the sanctuary this morning. Please make all checks payable to :The Gideons International."



Greeters

Today: Betty Robertson / Krey Lowther
Next Week: Mike Mingledorff / Krey Lowther

Nursery Workers

Today: Latrelle Steedly / Kim Malphrus

Next Week: Vicky Roberts / Emma



Children's Church Helpers

Today: Kaylee Standard / Emma Mingledorff

Next Week: Olivia Stanley / Angel Cole

DEACON OF THE WEEK :



Today: Duane Armstrong

843-726-6795

Next Week: Wilbur Daley

843-305-0110

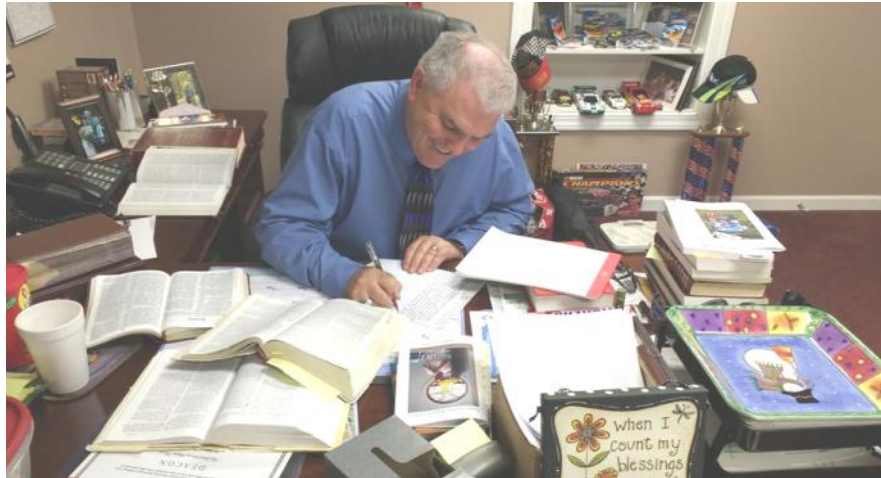


Toll Committee

For the month of January

Alice Way

Pat Malphrus



From Pastor Ralph's Desk:

God's Dealing With Elijah's Depression

(I Kings 19:1-21)

Intro: Since I didn't preach this last Sunday, I wanted to take the time this week to share a portion of what we are examining on Wednesday nights in the adult Bible Study. We have been looking at the life and works of the Prophet Elijah. One of the things about Elijah that we spent a few Wednesday nights examining was the depression that Elijah faced.

Now this depression that he faced took place almost immediately after he had experienced his greatest high ever. Of course, most of us know exactly what this high was that Elijah experienced. It took place when Elijah challenged the prophets of the false god and religion referred to as Baal. The challenge was to prove once and for all whose God was real. The God of the Bible, Jehovah God, or Baal the so-called god of the Phoenician people.

King Ahab and his wife Jezebel was trying to get the nation of Israel to forsake Jehovah and instead turn to the false god Baal. Elijah led by the Lord challenged eight hundred and fifty prophets of the fake god to prove to the nation of Israel that there was only one true God and that that God was, is and ever will be Jehovah God of the Bible.

Now the challenge was to build an altar and call upon each god to consume the sacrifice upon the altar, which ever god consumed the sacrifice without man's interference would be declared God over Israel. Of course, we know how it turned out. The prophets of Baal cried out to their god Baal all morning long and nothing happened. They even danced before their god and nothing happened and finally they cut themselves before their so-called god but still nothing happened.

Next was Elijah's turn. He built his altar and put his sacrifice on it and also watered the whole thing down several times. Then Elijah called upon the Lord to consume the sacrifice upon the altar. From that one prayer, God not only consumed the sacrifice but the altar as well along with everything around the altar. Then the people cried out that Jehovah was the God of Israel. The next step Elijah took was to get the people to help him slaughter the prophets of Baal and they did. Not one of the evil prophets was spared.

Now the result of this was that instead of the king and queen declaring that Jehovah is God, they buckled down in their false religion and they determined to kill Elijah for what he had done to their false prophets. Once Elijah realized that he had failed to convert the king and queen and they were seeking to kill him, he became both afraid and depressed. He became so depressed he just wanted God to go ahead and take his life.

The good news is that God didn't take his life but rather He patiently and gently guided Elijah out of his deep depression. I want us to examine the way God deals with Elijah's depression for we all will experience depression and God is our answer out of it. It also helps us to see how we can be God's tool in helping others to come out of their depression.

I. First, let us notice that God deals with Elijah's depression by providing constant companionship.

The point I am making here is simply that God was with Elijah when he was on the mountain top and He was with Elijah when he was in the valley of depression. As a matter of fact, God was the only one with him through the entire experience. For Elijah had gone out into the wilderness where no one else was but God followed him there. God will never leave or forsake His people. This truth and promise of God will always be an enormous help in raising us up above our depression, just knowing that God is always with us. In psalm 139, King David declared that he had discovered that there was absolutely no place where he could get away from the Lord, which is an amazing thing. Let us remember that we too can help people rebound by letting them know that we are there for them. Sometimes that is all they need to know.

II. Second, let us notice that God deals with Elijah's depression by not giving him criticism.

Not one time during these days of deep depression did God ever criticize, condemn or confront Elijah for being depressed. He never scolded him. He never told him to grow up and get over it. He never told him to go to his room until he could come back out in a better attitude. Rather, God worked gently and patiently giving Elijah the time he needed to get through this.

This is important for us to remember as well. Because Satan works overtime to find ways to criticize us. This is his number one tool he carries around in his bag. Particularly, he is looking for ways to criticize us when we are already down. When that happens just remember God is not, and He's the One that really matters.

When people are depressed, they need to be encouraged, comforted and challenged in a positive manner. Blessed be the name of our Lord that His people no longer condemns His people.

III. Third, let us notice that God deals with Elijah's depression by providing him with compassionate care.

While Elijah was on the run, God didn't say will you are on your own. Rather God came along not only with His eternal presence but also with compassionate care. We are told that an Angel of the Lord woke Elijah up twice and when he woke up the angel pointed out to him food and water that God had provided for him.

When people are depressed they often don't take care of themselves like they need to and we need to be God's instruments by coming along side of them and providing tender care to help them get through their depression.

Let me point out that one of the most stated things about our Lord is that He is a compassionate and caring person. Many, many examples are provide in the Gospels as Jesus walked among men. However, let me share these amazing words of Paul. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with comfort we ourselves have received from God." Oh, thank God for His compassionate comfort.

IV. Fourth, let us notice that God deals with Elijah's depression by providing for his communication.

God never stopped speaking to Elijah. During his depression God speaks to him in many different ways. Sometimes God spoke to him through an angel. Sometimes God spoke directly to him. However, one of the ways God spoke was by asking Elijah a question. By doing so He was also giving Elijah the chance to communicate back to Him. He allows Elijah the chance to voice what is happening to him and what he is feeling.

For sometimes this is all a person needs to get out of their depression, just to know that someone cares enough to communicate with them and allow them to communicate back. You can communicate with God anytime, anywhere. God has opened that door through His glorious Son Jesus Christ and as a matter of fact through Christ He asks us to come boldly to His throne of Grace in our time of need. He will listen to us and He will answer us as we read and study His Word. Lord, will you help us to listen and speak with those depressed in a caring fashion to help them line up and move forward.

V. Fifth, let us notice that God deals with Elijah's depression by giving him a command.

Now, the command that God gives to Elijah was a command to get up and go do some things for Him that needed to be done. What this command did was to give Elijah a new purpose for carrying on. In other words, God was saying to Elijah don't give up, I still need you. There are things that I need you to do. All people need a lot of times to keep going is just to know that they are needed that there is a reason for them sticking around. Purpose gets our juices running because it causes us to realize that I am needed and therefore I must wake up and get going. It is such a pleasure to know that God needs us to fulfill and carry out His missions and ministry in the world and that makes us feel special just knowing He wants to use us. Let us keep moving forward with God's purposes and let us keep helping others to see that God wants to use them as well. This will help people to rise up and march on.

VI. Sixth and last, let us notice that God deals with Elijah's depression by providing clarity.

Now what God cleared up made a huge difference for Elijah because it was after he got this clarity that he got up and began doing what God asked him to do.

What God cleared up for him was that he wasn't the last person left who was serving Him. He informed Elijah that there were 7,000 others who had not bowed their knees down to the fake god of Baal. It helps to know that you are not in the battle alone, that there are others who are also out there beating the bush for God as well.

You see not knowing things or not understanding things can really depress a person. However, when those things are made clear to us, then we can respond much better. So, you ask where are we going to get clarity like that and the answer is from God's Holy Word. It will certainly make things clear because it will give you the truth and the truth will set you free. Sometimes that is all we need to do to help people get over their depression, just make sure that they know and understand what their depression is blocking them from seeing. We do this by sharing God's Holy Word with them.

Concl. Thank God that through His Holy Spirit, He saw fit to share not only Elijah's victories and miracles, but also his difficulties and his deep depression so that we could benefit from how He pulled him up out of it. Lord help us to be your instrument of healing to the down and out to help raise them back up to your great purpose and will.

*Jesus Love You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*

Fill a bottle, save a life!



Baby Bottle Boomerang



Wednesday Night SUPPER



Vegetable Soup
Rice / Cornbread
Corn Dogs
Dessert
Tea & Coffee
Youth Cooking Team

\$5.00 each or \$15.00 for a family of
4 or more

Announcements

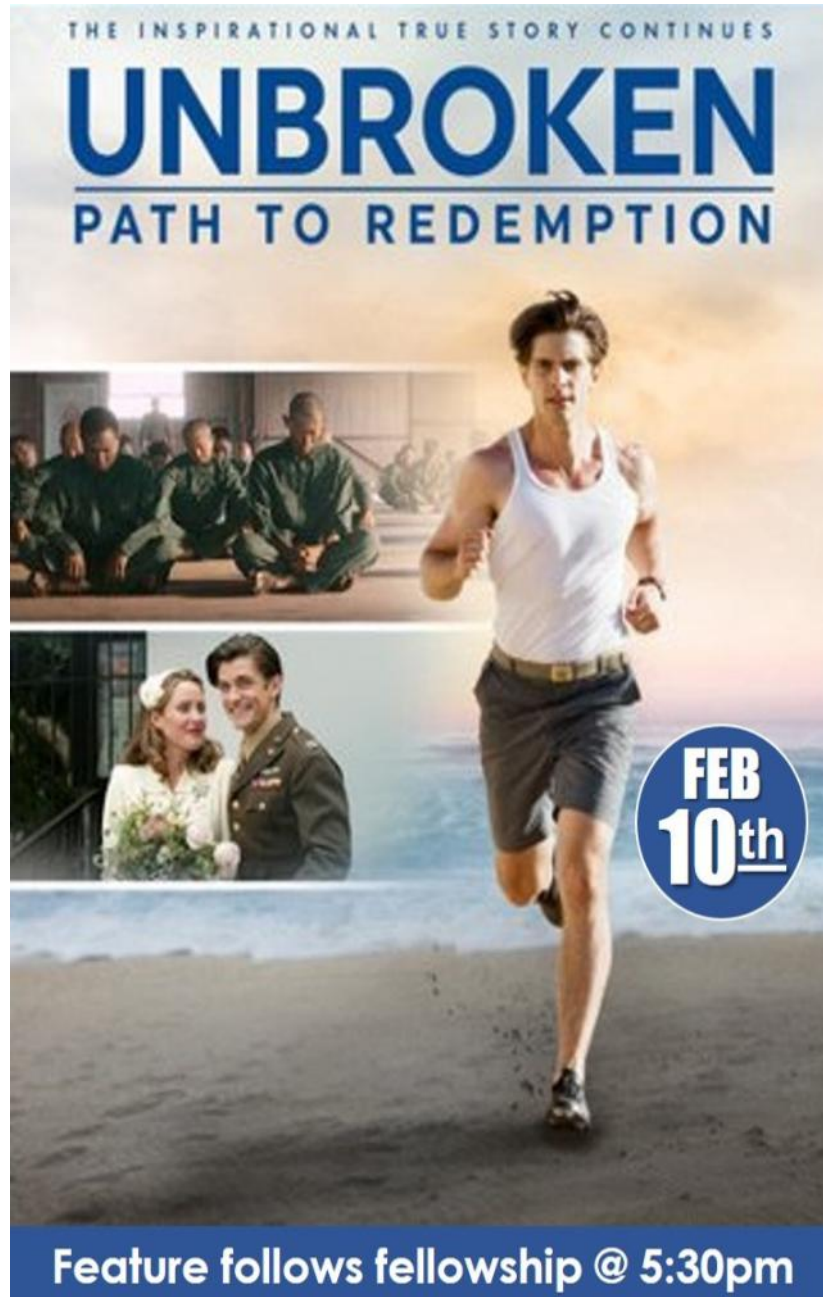


Office Closed
Monday, January 21st

Quilting Club
Thursday, January 24th



<i>January 20th</i>	<i>Evelyn Bradley</i>
<i>January 22nd</i>	<i>Evan Anderson</i>
<i>January 23rd</i>	<i>Tex Lowther</i>
<i>January 24th</i>	<i>Bernice Malphrus</i> <i>Helen Malphrus</i>
<i>January 25th</i>	<i>Jim Madison</i>



Everyone is asked to bring their favorite finger foods and desserts.

GSBC Prayer Pages January 20, 2019

*Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Richard Waitt- Music Director
Deacons*

Leadership
*President Donald Trump
United States of America*

Hospitals
*Mackenzie Cooler-TN
Mike Hodge-Sav.*

Surgery / Recovery
Mike Mingledorff (12/7)

Nursing Centers
*Elaine Degler-RNC
Doris Blackmon-Morningside
Thelma Ashing-RNC
Maureen Malphrus-RNC
Becky Jones-Anderson*

Special Requests
Robert O'Dell-Job

Church Needs
*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Dev. Ministries*

Unspoken
*Tim Cramer Family
Mandy Drew
Olivia & Juan Garcia*

Spiritual Guidance
*Trip Fogle
Enriqueta Torres
David Peacock
John Woodly
Mary Lou Torres
Emerald Trujillo*

Cancer / Treatments
*Mitzi Cramer (12/1)
Jane Chapman (12/1)
Becky Broxton (12/1)
Jeanie Raven (12/1)
Jimmy Mixson (12/1)
Pam Stanley (12/1)
Heidi Crosby (12/26)
Bill Martin (12/30)*

Called to Ministry
Chris Carter & Family

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
Lottie Moon Offering*

Bereavement
*Family of
Hyrtle Sauls Brewer*

Other Health Needs
*E.L. Ambrose (12/1)
Bobby Mohn (1/10)
Ann Blocker (1/10)
Lyman Malphrus (12/4)
Pinkie Rushing (12/4)
Lanell Smith (12/31)
Patricia Malphrus (1/10)
Briar Tracey (1/17)*

Expecting / Births
*Amanda Bowen
Victoria Keiffer*

Please Continue To Remember

*Ricky Cleland
Mike Hodge
Shirley Malphrus
Rose Boyles
Mary Cope
Judy Smith
Jeffrey Stanley
Joyce Sutler
Redden Tuten
Vera Floyd*

*Dot Nettles
Tom Hinely
Olivia Stanley
Lois Bootle
Grace Boyles
Patricia Malphrus
Scott Boyles
Dot Dean
Ellen Langford
Alice Way*

*Gary Way
Christy Gagel
Vera Miles
Barbara Mills(Knee)
Rodney Malphrus, Sr.
Lanell Smith
Brian Freeman
Dot Tindal
Pam Stanley
Nadine Smoak
Vanessa Smoak*



Pray For Our Military

*Jared Blanton-Fort Benning
Isaac Martin Malphrus
Cape May, NJ / Coast Guard
Matthew Mills-Va-US Marines
Jericho Malphrus-Sp. Agent / Air Force /
Oklahoma City. OK
Michael Sottile - Deployed
Owen White-Fort Bragg
Tristan Blanton-San Diego/ Navy Seals*



Intercessory Prayer Today's Prayer Team

*Timmy Sauls
Gail Malphrus*

For Prayer Needs

*You may access by calling the church at
843-726-3631*



Operation Christmas Child 2019 is collecting shoeboxes in January & February. We are also accepting donations for wash cloths and soap.

Great Swamp Baptist Church goal for 2019 is 400 boxes. Thank you for all your help.

Dorthie Armstrong



VALENTINE'S Day
Luncheon

For our

Seniors

Thursday, February 14th

Details coming Soon

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Ralph Lee, Jr.....*jehu27@gmail.com*
Music Director: Richard Waitt.....*waittfamily83@gmail.com*
Sunday School Director: Wallace Malphrus.....*Josie6@embarqmail.com*
Pianist: Michelle Waitt.....*waittfamily83@gmail.com*
Administrative Assistant: Sybil Reynolds.....*greatswampbc@gmail.com*
School Administrator: Donna Carter.....*dcarter@hargray.com*
Custodian: Ann Malphrus.....*ramalphrus@hargray.com*
Landscaper: Wallace Malphrus.....*Josie6@embarqmail.com*
Finance Director: Timmy Sauls.....*greatswampbc@gmail.com*

Stewardship

Budget Offerings	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
<i>Tithes & General Budget</i>	<i>\$2,976.00</i>	<i>\$4,982.79</i>	<i>-\$1,982.82</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$23.97</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Lottie Moon Offering</i>	<i>\$240.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,890.25</i>
<i>SMB</i>	<i>\$67.00</i>	*****	<i>\$315.64</i>
<i>WNS</i>	<i>\$177.00</i>	*****	<i>\$274.34</i>
<i>Concert (Jacobs Brothers)</i>	<i>\$827.00</i>	*****	<i>\$827.00</i>

Celebrating  **175 years of God's Faithfulness**

and the journey will continue until God returns...

Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Taboro Rd.
PO Box 446
Ridgeland, SC 29936

Sunday Morning Breakfast 8:30AM
Sunday School 9:45AM
Morning Worship 11:00AM
Evening Worship 6:00PM
Wednesday Night Supper 6:00PM
Wednesday Night Service 7:00PM
Saturday Watchman Prayer 8:00AM

Email: greatswampbc@gmail.com
Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com
Church Office: (843) 726-3631