



Great Swamp Baptist Church

August 14, 2022

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Teacher Recognition

Announcements

Call To Worship

Invocation

Freddie Malphrus

Pray for Our Nation

Selections of Praise & Worship

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer
Worship by Giving
Offertory Special

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Nursery Workers

Today: Vanessa Smoak
Helpers Needed; See Vanessa



Sunday Mornings

Following

The Song Service

Children's Church

Today: Olivia Stanley/Mason Losgar/Amelia Johnson



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-726-3905

Next Week:

Keith Gamo: 843-986-8525



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Don't Say I Am Only A Child

(Jeremiah 1:4-19)

Intro: This past Sunday when we had the up and coming graduating class of Step of Faith Christian Academy attending our worship service so that our church could pray over them as they begin their Senior year, I asked them a question and that question was, how old is old enough to start thinking about what God wants you to do with your life?

To go along with that question, I asked a similar question. Actually this question is just another way of asking the previous one. Are you old enough now to begin thinking about what God wants you to do with your life?

In our present set of verses, a young man was going about his life in the general, typical fashion of his day for any young person of his time when he received a call from God to become a prophet to the nation of Israel.

Now, this young man, of course, was Jeremiah and he wasn't a bull frog. He was a young Jewish male. But we aren't exactly sure of his age at the time of his calling, but, we do know for sure that he was young, and the reason we know that he was young was because he objected to this calling on his life because he was but a child. As a child, he said he wouldn't know how or what to say.

So, the question we have to ask ourselves is what age group did he mean by the word child? Well, the word in Scripture seems to have a broad meaning. It can refer to an infant but it can refer to young man, older teenager, early adulthood. Most likely Jeremiah was somewhere in his teenage years.

So, what this tells us is that though you may be young and inexperienced, you are never too young to start living for Jesus when He calls.

As a matter of fact, God said to Jeremiah, “don’t say I am only a child...” (vs. 7). God is saying to Jeremiah, you can’t use your age as an excuse to get out of His call and purpose for your life.

Now, let us apply this same thought to all of us. There are some of you who might or actually do say I am too old to serve; or I am too uneducated; or I am not talented enough; and the list could go on and on. But God is saying when I put a calling on your life, don’t use an excuse why you can’t. For with God you are never too young, too old, too uneducated, too disabled and too what ever else to carry out God’s calling on your life.

Now, to encourage young Jeremiah to move forward in the calling, God appointed him to, God gave him many reasons why not to say I am only a child which we will examine in these set of verses describing God’s calling on his life. These same reasons should also cause us as well to move forward with God’s calling upon our lives. Thus my message is called, “Don’t say I am only a child.”

I. First, don’t say I am only a child because of the knowledge of God. (vs. 4-5).

In these two verses, God was saying to Jeremiah, Hey your birth didn’t come as a surprise to me. I didn’t find out about you until after you were born. I knew you not only before you were born but even before you were conceived. Because I am God, I had intimate and personal knowledge of you in eternity past, and that is when I called you.

So, God is saying to Jeremiah that regardless of his age and inexperience, he must pursue God’s calling on his life because his appointment to be a prophet is an eternal one. It came long, long before he was ever even thought of.

So, with God’s eternal knowledge of us and His appointment to us even before our conception, why hesitate? Why use an excuse since God has known from eternity past? His knowledge certainly ought to count for something. Of course, it ought to count for everything. As the old TV show says, Father Knows Best. Well, our Heavenly Father knows best even for all eternity. So, what are you waiting for you’ve already been called?

II. Second, don’t say I am only a child because of the creation of God. (vs. 4-5).

These two verses are certainly one of the strongest set of pro-life verses in all of the Word of God. For as my first point pointed out, God already knew us even in eternity past and with that knowledge, He saw us as a human being even then because He knew us intimately.

However, He also told Jeremiah that as He said, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.” God formed Jeremiah in the womb and He said to Jeremiah it was you I formed. In other words, with the personal pronoun “you” God was acknowledging that Jeremiah was a person in the womb even as he was being fashioned. Thus God’s people need to unashamedly be pro-life when it comes to the abortion issue.

However, for meaning of our particular subject, we are addressing, we must not use excuses for not serving our Lord because God is the One who made us and therefore has the right to determine what our lives should be used for.

There are many Scripture references that refer to the Work of the Potter. These references all point to the fact that God is the Potter and we are the clay. It is He who forms us into the vessels that are to be used for the Potter's purpose. So let us not contend with the Maker of our lives but rather let us be what He formed us to be.

III. Third, don't say I am only a child because of the command of God. (vs. 7-8).

In these verses God directly said to Jeremiah, "You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you..." (vs. 7). So, God was not giving Jeremiah a suggestion, or a possibility, or if you so decide. No, He was flat out saying to Jeremiah, this is what you must do.

There are so many things in life that we as human beings say to one another, this and that is what you must do and often we succumb to the demand. Yet when God says you do this or that, there is often a hesitation.

We must stop using excuses when it comes to God's calling on our lives because He is God and He has every right to command to us where to go, and what to do, and what to say. Even if you are a child or a senior adult and the list goes on and on.

Now there is one thing we need to remember and God reminded Jeremiah that He will never command us to do something that He didn't mean, or us being able to accomplish through His leadership.

IV. Fourth, don't say I am only a child because of the presence of God. (vs. 6-8,16-19).

This point helps to make the last point possible. As a matter of fact, it not only helps but one hundred percent makes all of God's commands and appointments double.

After God commanded Jeremiah to go wherever He commanded him to go and say whatever He commanded him to say, He immediately followed up with how he will be able to fulfill His command. " 'Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,' declares the Lord." (vs. 8).

" 'They will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you and will rescue you,' declares the Lord." (vs.19).

So, god told Jeremiah you can do what I called you to do though you are but a child because I will be with you and I will rescue you. He was saying to Jeremiah, it is not about your age, skills, abilities or experience. Rather it is about Me and My skills and My power and presence. We will fulfill what God appointed us to do because He will be with us to enable us to do so.

V. Fifth, don't say I am only a child because of the Word of God. (vs. 9-12).

From the beginning of this discussion, Jeremiah's main objection to carrying out God's calling on his life was that because of his young age and lack of experience, he didn't know how to speak.

Well, God fixed that problem for him. First, by touching Jeremiah's mouth and placing His words in Jeremiah's mouth. So, God was saying to Jeremiah, I'll fix your speaking problem you don't have to worry about that because I am going to give you the words to say. You are not responsible to figure out what you have got to preach, teach or say that will all come from Me.

I am so grateful as a preacher that God didn't say to me when it comes to what I am to preach or teach that you figure it out on your own. You come up with what the people ought to hear. No, thank our God that He has given to us His Holy, inspired Word which contains everything that God desires for us to know in this life, and really the one to come.

When the Apostle Paul gave young Timothy instructions for doing his ministry, he told him to "Preach the Word..." (II Tim. 4:2). Now, of course, we all know that he meant for Timothy to preach the Word of God, the Bible, the Scriptures. Paul also told young Timothy to preach the Word because, "All Scripture is God-breathed..." in other words, God breathed His Word into existence through the lives, lips and writings of the prophets so that no other word is necessary.

Second, God told Jeremiah that not only will He put His Word in his mouth but that word would be extremely effective. For it would as He said, uproot and tear down; it would destroy and overthrow; it would build and plant. In other words, God's Word would bring judgment to some and redemption to others. The Word of God is powerful as Paul told young Timothy to preach the Word of God not only because it was inspired of God but it also was effective for change. "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (II Tim. 3:16-17).

Finally, not only does God give us the words to speak and it is inspired of Him and not only is that word effective for changing lives but God told Jeremiah that, "I am watching to see that my Word is fulfilled." (vs. 12). In other words, what I am going to give you to say I will make sure it is accomplished and fulfilled.

Now, since God has worked out for His Word to be accomplished what is holding you back?

Concl. July 15, 1975, at a revival meeting at Rocky Hill Baptist Church, my home church, I surrendered to God's calling on my life to become a preacher of His Word. Once I came forward and said that they already knew that God had called me, they were just waiting on me to figure it out.

Now, it certainly wasn't because of my educational knowledge that convinced them or me of my calling and appointment. It certainly wasn't my experience that convinced them or me because I was only 18 years old.

There was only one reason why they and myself believed that I could accomplish what God had set me aside for and that was because of God Himself.

When Jesus got ready to ascend back to Heaven after His Resurrection, He met with His followers on a certain mountain where He gave them His concluding instruction which also apply to us today. Before, however, He gave them the instructions He wanted them to follow. He reminded them who He was. He was the One who had been given all authority in Heaven and on earth. Then after reminding them He told them what they were to do.

He then concluded by telling them that as they go and do His commands, He will always be with them everywhere all the time. (Matt. 28:16-20).

So, what if you are a child, or a senior adult or uneducated or whatever it may be, it is not about who you are, it is all about who He is. Let's get going.

Jesus Loves You

Ralph Lee, Jr.



Announcement

Position Available

The personnel committee of GSBC is now taking applications for the position of Administrative Assistant. Applicant must be knowledgeable in Bookkeeping and Microsoft Office. Please give resume to Mack Pope, Sam Mock or Wallace Malphrus or turn into or e-mail to greatswampbc@gmail.com.



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>14th</i>	<i>Bobby & Judy Smith</i>
		<i>Irwin & Pat Malphrus</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>16th</i>	<i>Charlie & Tammy Morton</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>17th</i>	<i>Nathan & Saylor Olivas</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Richard & Michelle Waitt</i>



<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>9th</i>	<i>Juliette Daring</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>12th</i>	<i>Vicky Buchanan</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>Vera Floyd</i>
		<i>Debra Hale</i>
		<i>Wanda Davis</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>17th</i>	<i>Thomas Cooler</i>
		<i>Richard Scanlon</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>18th</i>	<i>Iola Daring</i>

Sunday School Classes

@

9:15am

CAMO CLASS *Room 406* **Leader– Bobby Smith**
.....

GLEANERS CLASS *Room 401* **Leader-Darlene Bollack**
.....

VISIONARIES CLASS *Building 3, Old Social Hall*
Leader– Diane Thames
.....

SOJOURNERS CLASS *Room 417* **Leader-Mack Pope**
.....

YOUTH *Youth Annex* **Leader-Amanda Hodges**

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7pm

WORSHIP SERVICE *Multi-Purpose Building*
Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

YOUTH GROUP *Youth Annex*
Leader-Michelle Waitt

R.A.'S (Royal Ambassadors) *Room 417*
Leader-Pat Mason

G.A.'S (GIRLS IN ACTION) *Room 415*
Leader-Carol Davis/Diane Thames



This month is the official kick-off for Operation Christmas Child.

Three ways to give:

- **From list below**
- **Monetary donations**
- **From the Angel Tree**

Take an angel from the tree on the back is an item needed with the amount.
Bring the angel back with your donation.

School supplies needed for August:

Crayons

Pencils

Pencil Sharpeners

Erasers (Long and pencil top type)

Scissors

Colored Pencils

Ink Pens

Notebook Paper

Glue Sticks

Construction Paper

Pencil Pouches

*We need donation of T-Shirts
to make jump ropes for the shoeboxes.
Clean with no holes or stains.
Put them in the donation box.*

Thank You

**This is the covenant that our Deacons adopted for their
ministry at Great Swamp Baptist Church
Read it, Encourage your Deacons, and stay in prayer for them.**

The Deacon Covenant

We will be accountable to God and to each other. We will ask the hard questions about faith and ministry to this church and will provide honest answers.

We must be men of peace. We will strive to allow the Spirit of Christ to rule in our relationships with our families, with each other, and with the members of our church.

We will be shepherds of the Family of God that worships at Great Swamp Baptist Church. We will be servants in the model of Jesus who tenderly watched over his sheep.

We will be vigilant in our personal life. We will put on the whole armor of God as a necessity to help guard against the attacks of Satan.

We will seek an intimate relationship with God through His Son Jesus. We will try to live a life that is above reproach in speech, love, faith, and purity.

We will support the ministries of this church with our finances, our influence and with our prayers.

We will partner with the pastor of this good church to meet the spiritual needs of all of our members, our guests and the community as God leads us.

Announcement

Any man 18 years and older who has been a member of Great Swamp for a year or more and does not want their name on the Deacon Election List please contact the church office @ 843-726-3631 or a current Deacon and have it removed.

Voting by secret ballot will take place on Sunday morning, August 28th following Morning Worship Service.

Deacon Selection List

<i>Tom Benton</i>	<i>Pat Mason</i>
<i>Calvin Bryan</i>	<i>David Meador</i>
<i>Lloyd Freeman</i>	<i>Sam Mock</i>
<i>Keith Gamo</i>	<i>Matt Scott</i>
<i>Ronald Malphrus</i>	<i>Gentry Thames</i>
<i>Wallace Malphrus</i>	



*A gift of \$ 100.00 has been given to the MPB Fees
in Memory of Mary Cope
By Altman/Vaigneur Family Reunion.*

*A gift of \$ 50.00 has been given to the Kitchen Supplies
in Memory of Mary Cope
By Altman/Vaigneur Family Reunion.*

*A gift of \$ 100.00 has been given to the Kitchen Supplies
in Honor of Timmy Sauls
By Sam & Chyleen Mock.*

GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership
*President / Vice President of the
United States of America*

Hospitals

Surgery / Recovery

*Skylar Saygen
Michelle Rooks
Judy Rogers
Louise McAlhaney
Chance Tracey
Ed Sheehan*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Bobby Mohn-Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur-Assist.
Dot Nettles-NHC*

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

<i>Shirley Malphrus</i>	<i>Tom Hinely</i>
<i>Rose Boyles</i>	<i>Ann Blocker</i>
<i>Judy Smith</i>	<i>Doby Cleland</i>
<i>Vera Floyd</i>	<i>Lucille & Ron Degler</i>
<i>Barbara Mills</i>	<i>Red & Helen Malphrus</i>
<i>Alice & Gary Way</i>	<i>Dot Smart</i>
<i>Kenny Smith</i>	
<i>Carol Bradham</i>	
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

Cancer / Treatments

*Gail Sims
Skip Brooks
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Denita Linton
David Linton
Lloyd Freeman
Lisa Chandler
Ralph Lee, Jr.
Pat Headley*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of
Larry Malphrus
Keffe Blatchley*

Other Health Needs

*Loony Jones
(Jeffrey Stanley's Grandfather)
Tracey Lake
Pinky Rushing
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Marie Malphrus
Mary Kay Cade
Ellen Nettles
Donna Roberts
Jennifer Pitts Key
Tim Roberts
Myra Malphrus
Chris Blanchard
Mel Toland
Iola Daring
Ron Davis
Jeffrey Stanley
Jane Himes' Nephew
Keith Gamo
Doug & Melanie Hamm
Randy Smoak*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton-Deployed
Matthew Mills-US Marines
Jericho Malphrus-Sp. Agent / Air Force
Washington, D.C.
Michael Sottile - Ret.
Tristan Blanton-San Diego/ SWCC
Andrea C. Daring-Charleston, SC*

Church Staff

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

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$ 3,833.00	\$ 4,982.47	- \$ 1,049.47
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$ 100.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Senior Trip (2022)</i>	\$ 1,030.00	*****	\$ 7,252.86
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$ 73.00	*****	\$ 290.00
<i>George Pepper Scholarship Fund</i>	\$ 3.00	*****	\$ 1,910.63
<i>Bathroom Renovations</i>	\$ 120.00	*****	\$ 923.17
<i>MPB Fees</i>	\$ 100.00	*****	\$ 100.00
<i>Kitchen Supplies</i>	\$ 150.00	*****	\$ 124.24



Tomorrow
Monday
August 15th



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

Sunday School.....9:15AM
Morning Worship.....10:30AM
Wednesday Night Service.....7:00PM

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