



Great Swamp Baptist Church

August 21, 2022

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Call To Worship

Invocation

Keith Gamo

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/Gideon Mobley/Emily Johnson



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today:

Keith Gamo: 843-986-8525

Next Week:

Bjo Mills: 843-726-4344



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



We Don't Lose Heart

(2 Cor. 4:1—18)

Intro: When I came to Great Swamp Baptist Church, I spent much of my first two years creating a better relationship between the church and the school as both entities were looking at each other as two completely separate entities. This way of looking at each other only created division and disharmony.

However, I reminded each of them that they are not two separate entities, rather the school is a ministry of Great Swamp Baptist Church. Thus, the church should celebrate the fact that Step of Faith is one of our ministries and Step of Faith should celebrate the fact that they belong to Great Swamp Baptist Church and exist to help the church carry out its mission and ministry of promoting the gospel of Jesus Christ. As we honored our teachers and staff of our school this past Sunday by praying over them, I reminded everyone once again that that Step of Faith is not a school on its own, rather a ministry of our church.

Now I've said all of that to say this: Because our school is a ministry of our church and because God has called His people (the church) to carry out His ministry and minister in the world for the cause of Christ, we will face an uphill battle against a wicked and perverse world.

Unfortunately, carrying out the work of ministry can be difficult and we often tend to want to lose heart and give up. However, in our present set of verses for this message, we are encouraged to not lose heart and to never give up. This is because God has provided a means and way to stay the course and finish the race. Thus, the title of my message is simply "we don't lose heart."

I. First, we don't lose heart because our ministry is from our Potentate, (vs. 1).

We often look at doing ministry as something we do because it's expected of us, but we are reluctant in our attitude of doing so. Plus once we encounter the first amount of resistance, we often say it isn't worth it and are ready to quit.

However, according to the verse, we are to examine our attitude toward the ministry that God gave to us. It should be one of celebration and thanksgiving that He, in His mercy and grace, has included us in His will and work in the world today.

In other words, instead of losing heart and giving up when it gets tough, we should be praising God, because He has allowed us the privilege of working with Him and were it not for His grace and mercy, we would be excluded from both salvation and service. Therefore, press on, Children of God, in your ministry and do so joyously because your work is of God and His mercy.

II. Second, we do not lose heart because our ministry has a purpose (vs. 2-6, 15).

Now, the Apostle Paul is quite clear in these verses that our purpose is to promote Jesus Christ as Lord. It's only through promoting Jesus Christ as Lord that we can help a lost and dying world come out of the darkness of sin into His growing light. You don't have to chose to lose heart and give up because you absolutely have no idea what ministry is all about. God has already given it to us.

There is also more good news to this point for why we should not lose heart. For God not only gave us a purpose, but He also gave us the means by which we fulfill that purpose. That means we are to promote the straight forward truth of God's Holy Word and when we do that Jesus will be exalted as Lord. Listen to Jesus as He chides a couple of His disciples for being so reluctant in understanding that the scriptures are all about Him. "He said to them how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter His glory? And beginning with Moses and the prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the scriptures concerning himself." (Luke 24:25-27). So don't lose heart because you have a God given purpose and He also gives you the means by which you fulfill that purpose.

In our verses Paul also encourages by reminding us that we are not responsible for how people react to the purpose He has given us to carry out. As a matter of fact, Paul plainly tells us that sadly many will not believe because Satan has blinded their eyes from the truth.

So be faithful to stay the course and not lose heart even though many won't accept our message, as Paul assures us that there will be others that will hear and believe. So we do what God's called us to do and leave the results in His hands, that's His responsibility.

Children of God, keep on keeping on with your ministry because God has graciously given you a purpose to fulfill.

III. Third, we don't lose heart because our ministry has a power (vs 7-12).

One of the many consequences of sin in the world is that our bodies will grow weak and ultimately will die. Not only are we weak and frail in our bodies, but we also face opposition for our preaching and exalting of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior alone. As a matter of fact, he plainly states that not only do we face death because our bodies are weak and frail, but we also face death by those who oppose what we are doing.

Due to this weakness in of our bodies and because of the opposition of our purpose, we need a power far greater than we can muster from our physical strength. Paul answers us that there is a power greater than all other power combined to raise us to the tasks in spite of our many weaknesses.

Of course, we know and understand that that power is the power of God Himself working in us and through us. His power is stated here in the "all-surpassing power...." So we can't use the excuse for giving up that we lack the strength to do the work. For when God calls us to ministry regardless of how weak we may be, He will give us the strength to rise to the occasion.

So plow on, keep on, don't lose heart and never give up for He will strengthen you with His power.

IV. Fourth, we don't lose heart because our ministry comes with a promise (vs 13-18).

In our last point we noted the fact that our bodies are weak and frail and that because of our purpose we face strong opponents. So we might say, why stay the course if there's so much pain and suffering by doing so? If we are already weak and frail, why add to it by remaining faithful to the purpose?

Well, that could be answered in many ways, for example by the points already stated. However, there is another great reason to not lose heart even though it's tough to do so and that reason is that God has given us a promise that a better day is coming. A day when Jesus will resurrect our dead bodies out of the grave and transform them into glorified bodies that will not have the weaknesses of our present ones. He then will take us to glory to spend eternity with Him.

So we keep going by not focusing upon the present hardship, but rather by focusing upon the future promise of a better day when we go to be with Jesus. As Paul said, our present troubles are only light and momentary compared to all the amazing things God has in store for us in glory. Amen.

V. Fifth, we don't lose heart because our ministry will result in praise (vs 13-15).

Paul is telling us that by doing the ministry that God has called us to do and allowing Him to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others through us will result in people coming to faith in Jesus Christ for their eternal salvation. As the result of people coming to salvation through the Gospel message, Paul tells us that great thanksgiving will take place by the people being saved and as well by those who shared the Gospel with them. We also know that the Bible tells us that there is rejoicing in Heaven as well when a sinner repents.

So all of this is going to result in God getting praise, honor, and glory because of His grace that has made it possible for sinners to come to eternal salvation. We will all point our fingers to heaven and give God all the praise. We are merely the messengers but Jesus is the message and the means. So don't lose heart because your ministry will help bring praise to our awesome and amazing God.

Concl.: Sadly, there have been many that started strong but didn't stay strong, but if we will keep these points to heart we will be able to not only start strong but stay strong. So don't lose heart.

*Jesus Loves You,
Ralph Lee*



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>Stephen & Amy Mobley</i>
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<i>Monday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Ralph Lee, Jr.</i>
		<i>Charles Malphrus</i>
		<i>Mike MIngledorff</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Faye Lowther</i>





Movie Night

Sunday, August 28th

Concessions: 6:00 p.m.

Movie: 6:30 p.m.

Popcorn and Tea Provided

Please Bring Finger Foods to Share!

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

Calvin Bryan

Lloyd Freeman

Keith Gamo

Ronald Malphrus

Gentry Thames



*A gift of \$ 250.00 has been given to the General Budget
in Memory of Larry Malphrus
By Samuel McCachern.*

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

Leigh Laycock

Cancer / Treatments

*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:
Gail Sims
Jennifer Mazzocchi*

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
Wendy Gray*

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 + / -
	\$ 6,390.00	\$ 4,982.47	+\$ 1,407.53
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Senior Trip (2022)</i>	\$ 578.00	*****	\$ 7,830.86
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$ 99.00	*****	\$ 99.00
<i>Bathroom Renovations</i>	\$ 100.00	*****	\$ 100.00
<i>Office</i>	\$ 100.00	*****	\$ 61.95
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	\$ 20.00	*****	\$ 2,039.94



Grandmother's Group

Monday, September 12th

11:00 am

MPB



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