



Great Swamp Baptist Church

September 25, 2022

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Call To Worship

Hymn #27 "All Creatures of Our God and King"

Invocation

Freddie Malphrus

Selections of Praise & Worship

"Majesty"

"I Worship You, Almighty God"

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

"The Wonderful Cross"

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer
Worship by Giving
Offertory Special by Mended

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

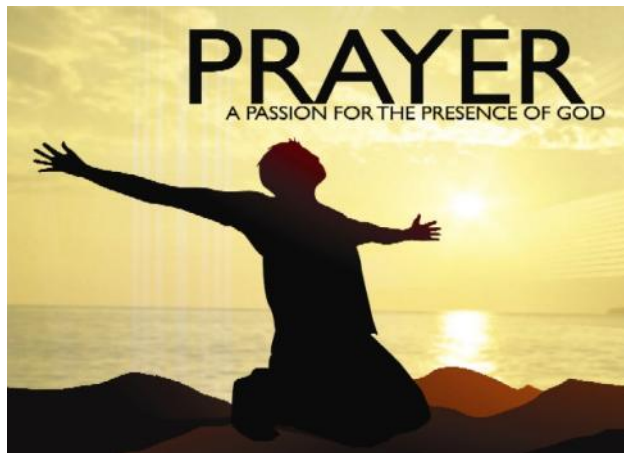
Benediction Prayer

Nursery Workers
Help Needed



Sunday Mornings
Following
The Song Service

Prayer Group
Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am
All Welcome



DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Today:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-726-3905

Next Week:

Bjo Mills: 843-726-4344



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Only One Thing is Needed

(Luke 10:38-42)

***Intro:** Prior to this message for at least three Sundays we've looked at the need of our people finding a place of service in our church, as well as in our community. Those messages were meant to inspire us to step up to the plate and be counted among those helping with the various ministries we do here or be willing to start a new one.*

However, I don't want us to make a mistake while we are challenging people to serve of thinking that their service is the most important aspect of their walk with Jesus. Of course, it is absolutely important to serve Him, and we certainly believe that every church member should in some capacity or another.

Unfortunately, what can happen is that we can come to a place where our business of serving can overshadow the most important thing that all of us as Christians should do and that's exactly what our present set of verses is going to do. It's going to show how that one person contributed their business of service to be more important than what another person was doing. While the other individual was simply doing what she believed to be the best thing she could do for her spiritual growth.

Now, of course, these two we are looking at are the two sisters Mary and Martha. Their story will illustrate for us that there's really only one thing that's needed and that one thing is what we need to focus on the most. As we do, it will actually help us to do better service for our Lord. So let's launch in and discover what this one thing is that's needed above everything else.

I. First, let's notice that Martha didn't grasp the only one thing that's needed.

Before we look at the negative side of Martha in this story, I want us to see that there were a couple of good things that Martha did on this occasion. Then we will look at where she lost sight of the one thing that was necessary. To cover these aspects of Martha, we will look at four things that she did on this occasion that will show us where she did right and where she drifted away.

A. First, let's notice that Martha gave an invitation (vs 38).

This, to me, is an important point in the events of that day that often get overlooked and that point is that Martha of her own volition invited Jesus and His disciples into her home.

We will soon get around to the fact that Mary indeed did grasp the one thing that was needed. However, because Martha invited Jesus into her home, which was the same home her sister Mary lived in, it made it possible for Mary to do the one thing that was needed.

So let us at least commend Martha for opening up her home to our Lord Jesus Christ along with His disciples that made it possible for Mary to do the right thing.

What this teaches us is that opening up our hearts and our homes to Jesus Christ our Lord is where the journey begins, which hopefully will lead us to focus on the one thing that is needed. So have you opened up your heart and your home to Jesus yet?

B. Second, let's notice that Martha made a decision (vs 40).

Now the decision that I am referring to is the decision to not only invite Jesus and His disciples into her home but she also decided to provide a meal for them. Now, again, Martha has chosen to do another good thing. Jesus was, is, and will ever be the glorious Son of God. However, when the Son of God decided to leave His home in heaven and step into the world of humanity He took upon Himself human flesh. So because He wrapped Himself up in human flesh like the rest of us He would require food to eat to survive. So Martha was doing a good thing, because she was seeking to take care of the physical needs that Jesus and His disciples had.

It's never a bad thing to want to help take care of the physical needs and concerns of others. As a matter of fact, the Bible commands us on many occasions to feed the hungry, cloth the naked, and other physical needs.

However, while we reach out to the physical concern of others we need to remember that there is a greater need than the physical. There is also, and actually more importantly, the spiritual needs of others. When in our lives we focus upon the one thing needed, it will help us to better meet both the physical and spiritual needs of others.

C. Third, let's notice that Martha experienced aggravation

(vs 40).

Now this is where Martha's choices, attitude, and actions began to drift from the good choices she made to the bad decisions she made. For as she was preparing the meal, she began to get aggravated because her sister Mary was not in the kitchen so to speak to help her prepare the meal. The more she worked the more frustrated and furious she became. As she did she lost her focus upon who she was doing this for and more importantly lost focus on what should be her main priority.

You see, it wasn't that most likely Mary didn't want to help Martha. Rather it was just the fact that Mary understood what was of greater value and chose to do that instead, which as we will find out turned out to be the better thing.

Tragically, as Martha focused upon the lesser important she became distracted, worried, frustrated, aggravated, and angry. So let us learn from Martha and Mary to get our priorities in order if we want to avoid the aggravation of life. For as we will see next that Martha's aggravation turned into something even worse.

D. Fourth, let's notice that Martha made accusations (vs 40).

Because Martha became aggravated, she became self-centered and immature which caused her to burst into the presence of Jesus as He was teaching His disciples and others that were present, and blurt out to Him an accusation concerning her sister not helping her.

However, the accusation was really aimed more at Jesus than her sister. She was accusing Jesus of not caring about her plight of having to prepare the meal by herself.

Now before we are critical of Martha, let us be honest and admit that we ourselves have often made the same accusations to the Lord when things don't go our way.

However, Martha's accusation against our Lord as well as our own accusations that He doesn't care about us was and is absolutely false. For regardless of our present circumstances, it is what our Lord has done and will do for us that assures us no matter what He loves and cares for His people. For the Word of God says, "You see at the right time when we were still powerless Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:6-8).

So before we begin to make accusations, let's remember that the actions of our Lord going to the cross on our behalf clearly demonstrated for all to see trumps whatever battles we may presently be facing.

II. Second, let's notice that Mary did grasp the only thing that's needed.

There are three different points that I want us to view concerning Mary and her grasp of the one thing that is needed. Our prayer should be that like Mary we too grasp the one thing that's needed.

A. First, let's notice Mary's choice (vs 39).

Now clearly we are told Mary chose to sit at the feet of Jesus and listened to Him as He obviously was teaching the Word of God to them. By doing so Mary was showing that the more important thing was to be fed spiritual food by the Master Himself than to receive physical food from the kitchen table.

So Mary properly understood that the priority of our lives must be to spend time with Jesus being enriched by His Word before you fill your stomach with food that will only bring temporary benefits. Mary was showing respect to the Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Word when she sat at His feet and with the next point we will see that he choice paid off.

B. Second, let's notice Mary's compliment.

Mary's choice led to a powerful compliment from Jesus Himself. He said that Mary had made the better choice because she chose the one thing that really matters, spending time with Jesus and listening to His Holy Word.

So if we want to do the thing that pleases Him the most, and will cause Him to defend our choice and actions then we must sit at His feet listening to what He says. We do this by diving into His Holy Word. Spending time with Him will bring compliments instead of condemnations; maturity instead of immaturity; rest instead of restlessness; fulfillment instead of frustration.

C. Third, let's notice Mary's continuation (vs 42).

The Lord told Martha that not only had Mary made the better choice, but also that He would not take this choice and blessing away from her. So basically the Lord was saying to Martha that Mary is not only doing the better thing, the one thing needed, but I also our encouraging her to keep on doing that. He is always hungry for His people to spend time with Him and He's always there available for them to spend time with Him. He is always open for business so will you or are you taking advantage of His open policy?

Concl: *The Bible always put priority on putting our Lord and His Word above all else. The first chapter of the longest book in the Bible, the Book of Psalm, is about those who delight in God's Word. The longest chapter in in the Bible, Psalm 119, is all about God's Word and it's benefit.*

Whenever we find Jesus feeding the thousands of people we discover that He does so only after He has first fed them His Word. Finally, we must be reminded of our Lord's temptations. He was first tempted in the area of hunger. He had fasted for forty days and nights. Satan tempted Him to turn the stones into bread. But even as hungry as He had to be, He expressed the very sentiments of our present set of verses by saying, "It is written: A man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

So which table are you sitting at the most? Are you sitting mostly at the kitchen or dining room table or at the feet of Jesus?

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee





HARVEST FESTIVAL



Saturday, October 29th
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Trunk or Treat
Hay Bale Maze
Bounce House
Cake Walk
Bingo
Chili Cook Off
Corn Hole
Pumpkin Decorating
Hot Dogs
Snow Cones
Live Music

**Please see Keith if you are
interested in helping with
Harvest Fest or would like to
have a trunk/booth set up.





<i>Monday</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Emily Carter</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Ron Malphrus</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>28th</i>	<i>Tom Benton</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>28th</i>	<i>Dalton Chapman</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>29th</i>	<i>Patrick Malphrus</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>30th</i>	<i>Chris Scherger</i>

****Help Needed****

Wednesday Supper

We need cooks! Please let us know if you are able to help with Wednesday night supper.

Sunday Morning Nursery

Helpers needed in the nursery, if/when there are babies and toddlers in the nursery. Please let us know if you are able to help.

If you cannot physically help, please help by praying that these needs be met.



Nursery





Donations for September Needed:

Toothbrushes

Wash Clothes

Soap

Combs - Boys

Combs/Hair Brush - Girls

Headbands/Hair Ties

Stuffed Animals

Assorted Toys - Boys & Girls All Ages

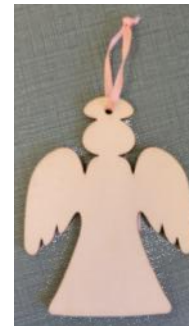
You can donate these items or give a monetary donation.

No war or military items. Also no liquids.

Any questions please see Ms. Dorthie.

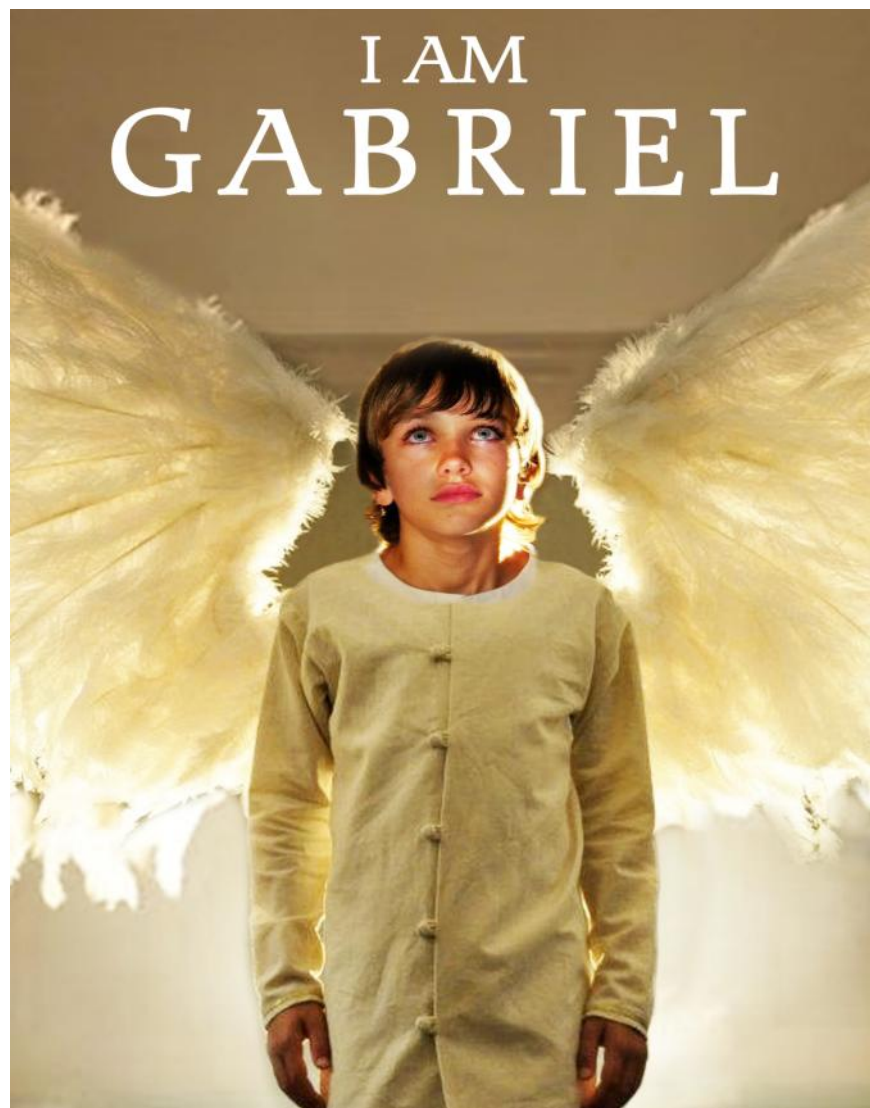


**Take an angel from the tree,
flip it over, and you will find an
item we need for the Operation
Christmas Child shoeboxes.
Please note, the cost of such desired
item is listed next to it.**



**Please bring the angel back to us
along with your donation.**

Thank you!



Movie Night

Tonight, September 25th

Concessions: 6:00 p.m.

Movie: 6:30 p.m.

Popcorn and Tea Provided

Please Bring Finger Foods to Share!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deacon's Meeting:

This meeting has been canceled for the month of October due to the senior trip coinciding. So please take note that the deacon meeting on October 10th has been cancelled.



Grandmother's Group

Cancelled for October due to senior trip. Will resume in November.



Sunday Morning Breakfast

Begins at 8:00 a.m.
\$5.00 each or \$15.00
for a family of 4
or more



BREAKFAST TIME!

*Men's Quarterly
Meeting and Supper*

*Thursday, October 20th @ 7:00pm
Gillisonville Baptist Church*

More information to follow soon



****Janie Chapman Mission offering
due by September 30th.****

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/Greg Mariocourt
.....

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



**Beginning at 6:00 p.m.
Service to follow at 7:00 p.m.**

**Menu for Wednesday: Hamburgers, hot
dogs, tater tots, baked beans, and
dessert**

**Come out and have dinner
and fellowship with us!**

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

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

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>Thomas & Erma Cooler</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	<i>Mel Toland</i>

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

Leigh Laycock

Cancer / Treatments

*Skip Brooks
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Lloyd Freeman
Lisa Chandler
Pat Headley*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of:
Melvin Cooler
D. P. Lowther*

Other Health Needs

*Tracey Lake
Pinky Rushing
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Marie Malphrus
Mary Kay Cade
Ellen Nettles
Donna Roberts
Jennifer Pitts Key
Tim Roberts
Chris Blanchard
Jane Himes' Nephew
Keith Gamo
Doug & Melanie Hamm
Randy Smoak
Dean Daley
Laurie Norman
Rex Norman
Rose Sheehan*

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: Jennifer Meador *greatswamp@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 + / -
	<i>\$ 5,974.00</i>	<i>\$ 4,982.47</i>	<i>+\$ 2,739.03</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$1,747.50</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Senior Trip (2022)</i>	<i>\$2,605.00</i>	*****	<i>\$ 5,656.86</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	<i>\$ 87.00</i>	*****	<i>\$ 403.27</i>
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	<i>\$215.00</i>	*****	<i>\$2,001.65</i>
<i>Dot Lee Scholarship</i>	<i>\$997.50</i>	*****	<i>\$1,049.70</i>



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