



**God is with  
you even on  
your hardest  
days.**

(Isaiah 66:13)

*Great Swamp Baptist Church*

*February 19, 2023*

# *Great Swamp Baptist Church*

*Sunday Morning Worship*

*10:30 AM*

**Announcements**

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

**Call to Worship**

*“Blessed Assurance”*

**Invocation**

*Bjo Mills*

**Praise & Worship**

*“In Christ Alone”  
“Living Hope”*

*Joyce Gamo*

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer  
Worship by Giving  
Offertory Special by Courtney Williams

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

**Message**

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

**Invitation**

**Benediction Prayer**

*Sunday Mornings*  
*Following The Song Service:*



**Nursery**  
**\*Help Needed\***



**Helpers:**  
**Emily Johnson**



**DEACON OF THE WEEK:**

Today:

**Bjo Mills: 843-726-4344**

Next Week:

**Bjo Mills: 843-726-4344**



*From  
Pastor  
Ralph's  
Desk:*



## **Jesus' Witness to the Woman at the Well** **(John 4:7-30)**

### **Introduction:**

Last Sunday we looked at this same event in Jesus' life for the purpose of discovering a couple of Jesus' priorities. What we discovered is that Jesus displayed at least two priorities. The first one was to take advantage of the opportunities at hand. The second one was to do the will of God. Of course those two go hand in hand. For Jesus took advantage of the opportunity to speak to the woman who came to the well about her need for eternal salvation because it was God's will for Him to do so.

However what we didn't do was to actually look closely at the conversation that Jesus had with the woman. In this message that's what we are going to do so that we can see the necessary elements needed to actually present the Gospel message to someone. As a matter of fact it is truly one of the best examples found in all of God's word on how to carry out a conversation with a lost person who needs Jesus.

**I. First, let's notice that Jesus began His conversation with the purpose for which the woman came to the well (vs 7-9)**

The Samaritan woman had only one purpose for going to the well, and that was to get water. Jesus was there because they had been traveling for quite some time and He was weary and needed to rest. At the same time Jesus was also thirsty, so he asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water.

Now I would like for us to consider why did Jesus ask her for water? Did He ask her merely to get some water to drink? Or did He ask her so that He could start a conversation with her? Well, I believe it was both. It's true that He was thirsty and needed something to drink.

However, back then Jewish men didn't talk to women out in public and particularly not a Samaritan women. Even more specifically they didn't talk to them if they lived what appeared to be a very openly loose immoral life as this Samaritan woman appeared to. Most men would have waited for a man to come along with the means to draw water to ask for a drink.

However Jesus was quite thirsty and the woman had come to draw water. Jesus, therefore, saw this as an opportunity to quench His thirst, but more importantly to began a conversation with her in order to win her over to salvation. And the subject of water is a great topic to use when attempting to witness to someone.

There are a couple of things that we learn from this. First, we should learn that our everyday experiences open doors for witnessing. We need to constantly be alert to those opportunities at hand as we carry on our everyday lives.

The second thing that we learn is that the activities of others around us opens doors for opportunities of witnessing. Particularly as we observe others around us and listen to them we can find things that they are dealing with that can open the door for us to chime in and eventually share the message of salvation with them. In Jesus' case, He started with the woman where she was and with what she was doing. Thus, let us follow suit and do the same. Start with people where they are and with what they are doing.

**II. Second, let's notice that Jesus pointed to the potential available for the woman at the well (vs 9-15)**

The Samaritan woman was totally caught off guard when Jesus asked her for a drink. So she asked Him how it was that a Jewish man would ask her, a Samaritan woman, for something to drink?

This question opens the door for Jesus to share with her that there was something better and greater for her to experience than drawing water from this famous well. Rather she could have living water, powerful water, and even eternal water welling up within her very being.

The water that the Samaritan woman drew from the well was life giving for her physical being. It also was cool and refreshing to her body as well. Without this water she obviously couldn't live, not physically anyway.

However the water that Jesus offered the Samaritan woman was so much better because it offered life, not just for the body, but for her soul, and spirit as well. Jesus had come so that she, and us as well, might have that life that is both abundant and eternal. Our message therefore to those that we are witnessing to is that there in Christ a life so much better.

**III. Third, let's notice that Jesus revealed the problem of the woman who came to the well (vs 16-18)**

The problem that I'm referring to is revealed when Jesus asked her to go and get her husband and bring him back. Now Jesus actually already knew of her marital status, but He asked her anyway so that He could point out to her that her lifestyle was a problem. It was a problem that caused her to come short of the glory of God.

Now we all know that this problem was a sin problem. It's a problem that we all are born with and struggle with. It's a problem that has caused not just this Samaritan woman to fall short of God's glory but all of us. As Paul said, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

Jesus points the woman's problem out to her because before she can experience the living water referred to in the previous point she is going to have to deal with her sin problem.

So it is that when we are witnessing to people we have to help them to see that they have a sin problem that keeps them from experiencing the eternal life God wants them to have. There is much in God's word that reveals this truth. Romans chapter one through three reveals in detail this point. So let us make ourselves familiar with these scriptures in order to help people understand that they have a sin problem.

Thanks be unto our God that convicting a person of their sin problem is not our responsibility. That's the work of the precious Holy Spirit. But we are responsible to share with them that God teaches that we all have this problem from birth, and that the problem keeps us from experiencing the life God wants us to have.

#### **IV. Fourth, let's notice that Jesus presents the provision necessary for the woman at the well (vs 19-28)**

So in the previous point we noticed that Jesus revealed to the woman at the well that she has a problem. It's a sin problem that was keeping her from all the wonderful things that God had available to her. Most importantly, of course, was eternal life.

However thanks to our Lord that His conversation didn't end at the point at which our precious Lord revealed to her that she had a problem. No, praise be to our Lord that Jesus continued the conversation revealing to the Samaritan woman that a provision had been made that would fix her sin problem so that she could experience the living water He had to offer to her.

So the question obviously is what was the provision that He revealed to her that would give her eternal, living water, welling up within her? And the answer is Himself.

When Jesus confronted her with her sin problem she turned the conversation to a theological discussion. The theological discussion was about the proper place for worship. Jesus of course reveals to her that true worship is not about a place, but rather to be done in spirit and truth.

The Samaritan woman just finally says in the midst of the theological discussion, well, when the messiah comes He'll show us everything. It was at that point that Jesus revealed to her that he was the Messiah.

It was at this point that the Samaritan woman left her water jar and hurried off to town to tell everybody there about her experience with Jesus and she then asked the towns people, could He be the Messiah?

So Jesus convinced her and also the towns people that He was the Messiah. And because He was He alone could fix their sin problem, forgive them, and give to them eternal life.

**Conclusion:**

Let us be ready to take advantage of the opportunities God opens up for us as we carry on our lives. And in these opportunities let us witness boldly because God has made the provision by which the lost can experience the living water that Jesus offered this woman. Of course, that is Jesus Himself, our glorious Messiah who is Himself the living water.

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



SFCA Drama Department Presents.....

NIGHT AT THE  
**WAX** MUSEUM  

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THE MUSICAL

Friday, March 24th @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 25th @ 7:00 p.m.

SFCA Gymnasium  
9009 Tarboro Road  
Ridgeland, SC 29936

Ticket Prices:

Student - \$8.00

Senior - \$8.00

Adults - \$12.00

Concession stand will be open.



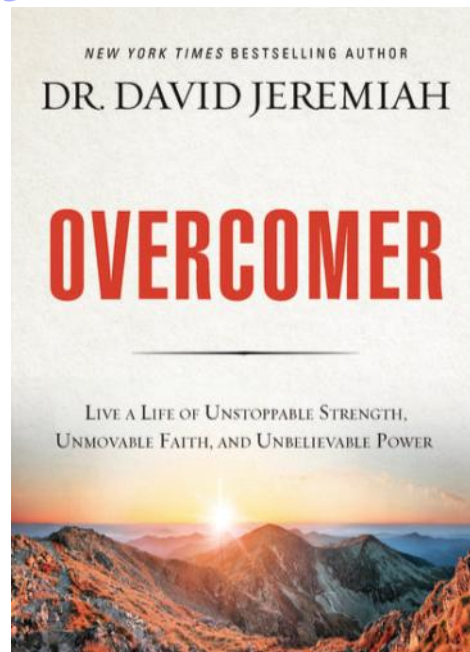
**SFCA Blood Drive**  
**Thursday, March 2nd**  
**GSBC Multi-Purpose Building**  
**12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Sign up *online* now to reserve a spot!  
Walk-ins are welcome as well!



# Visionaries Sunday School Class

**Let's  
overcome our  
difficulties  
together with  
God!**



**Sundays at  
9:15 a.m.  
Building #3  
School office  
building**

Come join us for a new Bible study called “Overcomer” by David Jeremiah. This is an amazing Bible study from a trusted pastor. We all face difficulties today such as anxiety, fear, temptation, confusion, etc. and we have to choose how we respond to those. This study will help teach you to how to overcome them all. We will meet Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in building 3 (school office building).  
Hope to see you there!

\*If you have children, April Malphrus will be teaching the children’s Sunday school class.

Grandmother's Group  
**Paparazzi Party**

Guest: "Dianne Hemmings \$5.00 Bling"

Come join us on March 6, 2023  
at 11:30 a.m. until ??

Please bring a dish or dessert for  
everyone to enjoy! Fried chicken and  
drinks provided.

Ladies of ALL ages are welcome!!

*Blessed*  
*by God*  
*Spoiled*  
*by*   
  
paparazzi

Also, bring some  
extra \$\$ to purchase  
Mrs. Dianne's items!!!

For more info:

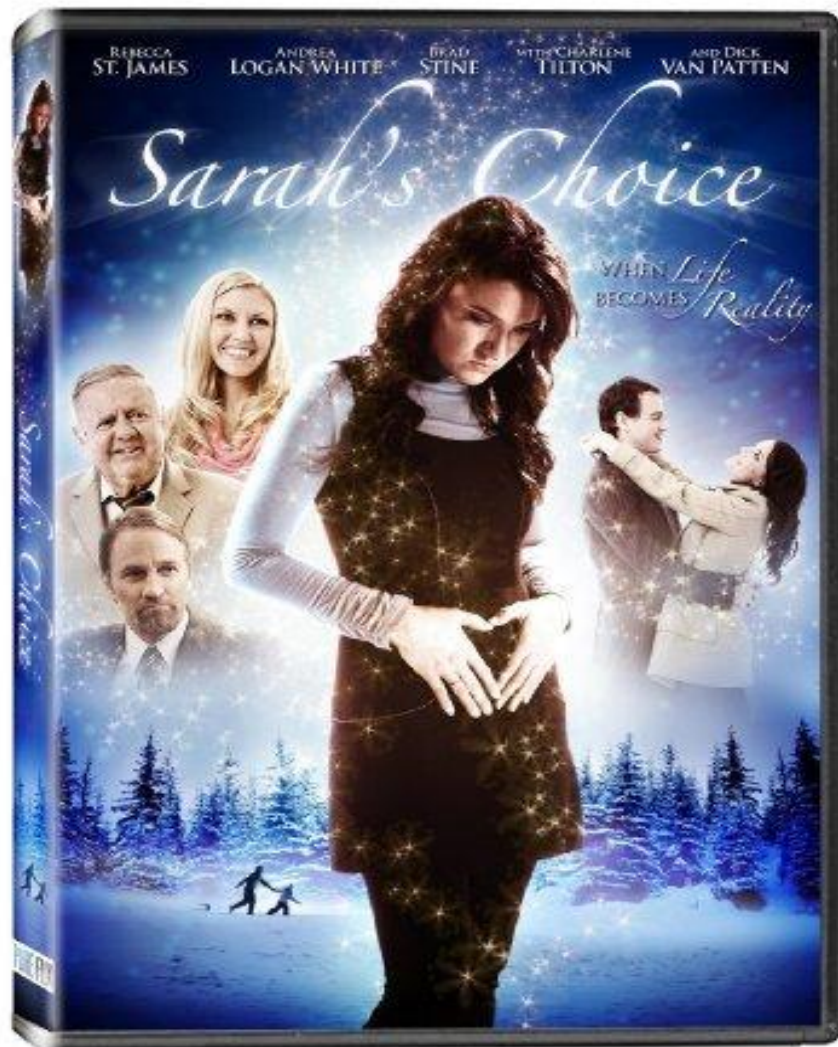
Debbie Hale

843-368-5436

~ Or ~!

Jennifer

843-726-3631



## **MOVIE NIGHT!**

Tonight, February 19th  
Concessions start 6:00 p.m.  
Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.  
Popcorn and Tea Provided.

Come see an amazing movie!!!



## Operation Christmas Child

Time to start gearing up for another year of Operation Christmas Child! We will start this year off collecting hygiene items for boys and girls. The more you can donate, the more boxes we can fill, hence the more children receive boxes. So let's all bring in some hygiene items!

### February:

Wash Cloths	Toothbrushes
Comb/Brushes (Boys & Girls)	
Pony tail holders	Head bands
Hair Barrettes	





<i>Sunday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Vera Miles</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Pat Azzarelli</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>24th</i>	<i>Christofter Waïtt</i>

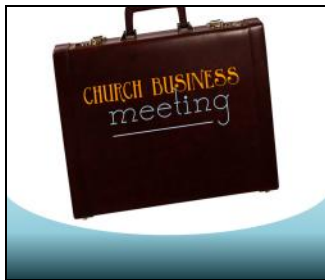


**Wednesday, February 22nd:**

**Ron & Lucille Degler**

~ and ~

♥ **Ronnie & Ann** ♥  
**Nettles**

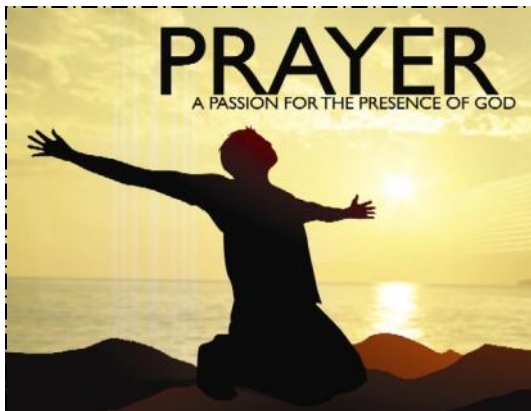


**Business Meeting**  
Wednesday, March 8th  
at 7:00 p.m.



**Deacons  
Called  
To Serve**

**Deacons' Meeting**  
Monday, March 13th  
at 6:00 p.m.



**PRAYER**  
A PASSION FOR THE PRESENCE OF GOD

**Prayer Group  
Tuesday  
Mornings @  
9:00am**





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

**Team Keith will be cooking!  
Come out and have dinner  
and fellowship with us!**

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

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**Sunday Morning  
Breakfast**

Begins at 8:00 a.m.  
Ends at 9:00 a.m.  
\$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*

## **Church Needs**

*Sunday School  
SFCA-Donna Carter  
Child Development  
Ministries*

*Ministries  
Outreach Ministry  
In reach Ministry*

## **Bereavement**

*LD Thomas Family*

## **Unspoken**

## **Hospitals**

*Jane Garbade—MUSC*

## **Other Health Needs**

*Pinky Rushing  
Sara Davis  
Bob Cramer  
Mary Kay Cade  
Ellen Nettles  
Jennifer Pitts Key  
Chris Blanchard  
Doug & Melanie Hamm  
Rose Sheehan  
Steve Bailey  
Kayla Malphrus  
Stephanie Crowe  
Saylor Olivas  
Dorthie Armstrong  
Lewis Hughes  
Rose David  
Robert O'Dell's Mother  
Karen Malphrus  
Barry DeMay*

## **Surgery/Recovery**

## **Cancer/Treatments**

*Regina Bouye  
Kaiaya Alston  
Pat Headley  
Leigh Laycock*

## **Nursing Centers**

*Elaine Degler - RNC  
Bobby Mohn - Indigo Pines HHI  
Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe  
Dot Nettles - NHC*

## **Please Continue To Remember**

### **Homebound**

*Shirley Malphrus      Tom Hinely  
Rose Boyles          Ann Blocker  
Judy Smith            Doby Cleland  
Vera Floyd            Lucille & Ron Degler  
Barbara Mills        Red & Helen Malphrus  
Alice & Gary Way    Thomas & Erma Cooler  
Kenny Smith          Marie Malphrus  
Diane Hannah        Margaret Nelson  
                                  Melanie Williams*

### **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* .....*greatswampbaptist@hargray.com*  
843-726-3631

*School Administrator: Donna Carter* .....*dcarter@hargray.com*



Please note the church office will be closed Monday, February 20th in observance of the federal holiday, President's Day.

## Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$2,908.00	\$ 5,012.49	-\$2,054.49
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$50.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Office Supplies</i>	\$82.00	*****	\$358.47
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$130.00	*****	\$725.50
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	\$137.00	*****	\$409.44



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](mailto:greatswampbc@gmail.com)  
Website: [greatswampbaptistchurch.com](http://greatswampbaptistchurch.com)  
Church Office: (843) 726-3631