



Great Swamp Baptist Church
May 14, 2023

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Hymn 546 "Love Lifted Me"

Invocation

Mack Pope

Mother's day recognitions

Hymn 217 "Oh How I Love Jesus"

Praise & Worship

Richard Waitt

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer
Worship by Giving
Offertory Special by Joyce Gamo

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery
Help Needed

Children's
CHURCH

Helpers:
Emily Johnson



DEACON OF THE WEEK:
Today:
Mack Pope: 843-540-6636

Next Week:
Keith Gamo: 843-986-8525



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Failing to do the Task **(I Cor 3:1-23)**

Introduction:

In our current set of verses the Apostle Paul reminds the Corinthian believers that they are believers because God used him as well as Apollos to point them to the saving gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the task God gave them to do, and because they did, it resulted in their salvation.

Sadly, however, the Corinthian believers themselves, unlike Paul and Apollos, were not fulfilling the task that God had assigned for them to do. As a matter of fact it appears as though that in practically every way they were completely failing their mission and their God given task.

In this message I want us to examine why they were failing to do their tasks. And the reason why I want us to is because so many in the church today are not fulfilling their God given task and I'm convinced they are not for the same reason the Corinthian believers weren't. So my message is simply called failing to do the task.

I. First, Paul tells us that the Corinthian believers were failing to do their task because they hadn't grown spiritually (vs 1, 2)

Paul flat out tells them that their spiritual growth had gone nowhere since they had been saved because they were mere infants, and even still required to be fed nothing but milk only.

Now what do we know about infants? What are they capable of doing? Well, let's see, they can eat, sleep, cry, and well, you know the rest. But what you can't do with an infant is give them a task to carry out, because they are vastly too immature to do so.

So it is in the church today we can't get people to help serve or carry out their God given tasks because they are too spiritually immature to be able to do so.

However the good news is that with the same verses that Paul points out the problem, we also discover the solution to the spiritual immaturity of then and now. For when he said that he could give them only milk and not meat what exactly was he referring to? Well, it could only be one thing for when Paul or Apollos preached they always used the Word of God to do so. Therefore, Paul is saying that the pathway to spiritual growth is through the milk and meat of God's word. So if they wanted to grow spiritually then they must dive into God's Holy Word. They do this by private Bible study, church attendance, Sunday School, and the many Biblical tools available such as commentaries. So let me challenge us all to grow up so we can accomplish our God given task.

II. Second, Paul tells us that the Corinthian believers were failing to do their tasks because they were acting worldly (vs 3, 4)

So Paul tells us that their lack of spiritual growth caused them to be worldly in their actions and he tells them that their worldly behavior was loud and clear so to speak. For they were displaying in their church meetings signs of jealousy, periods of quarreling, and fighting with one another which led to division within their church body.

Now Paul said that these kinds of behaviors made them look like mere men. Well, indeed they were men and women. But what Paul was implying was that while they were men and women, they were more as well because they also were children of God. Thus, because they were children of God then their behavior should not be as mere men but as those that belong to Jesus.

In the Book of Philippians Paul told the Philippian believers to “Do everything without complaining or arguing” (Phil 2:14). He also told two ladies in the Church at Philippi to stop arguing and start agreeing and working together for the cause of Christ (Phil 4:2, 3). So Paul was also telling these ladies to stop acting like they were women and start acting like children of God. Because when we are acting like mere men we are incapable of accomplishing the task God has assigned us to. But when we remember that we are more, that we are children of God also, then by the strength of our God we will be able to act that way.

III. Third, Paul tell us that the Corinthian believers were failing to do these tasks because they forgot their priority (vs 5-23)

Because the Corinthian believers were mere infants in their spiritual growth which led them to have very immature behavior, like that of mere men instead of being children of God, then their focus and priorities were very self-centered

So if they were going to fulfill their God given tasks like Paul and Apollos then they were going to have to re-capture what their true priority was all about and Paul leave us no doubt as to what that was. It as a focus to bring glory and honor unto the name of Jesus.

Now we know that the Corinthian believers were acting like infants because they were dividing over different church leaders. Some claimed that they belong to Paul and followed him. Others claimed to follow Apollos and others Peter and so on. The result of this is that men were praised and exalted instead of Christ. So their selfishness, pride, and worship of men completely caused them to lose focus.

Paul therefore reminded them that he, Apollos, Peter, and any other men they mentioned to follow whom God had used in their midst were just human-beings being used by God to present the message, but it was God Himself through Christ Jesus our Lord who actually caused the message to take root in our lives that brought our eternal salvation. As Paul said, “So then no more boasting about men! All things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world of life or death or the present or the future, all are yours, and you are of Christ, and Christ is of God.” (vs 21-23)

So let us refocus and make that old hymn our priority, to God be the glory great things He has done.

IV. Fourth, Paul tells us that the Corinthian believers were failing to do their task because they forgot about their accountability (vs 8-15)

Paul reminds us in these verses that all believers will one day have to give an account of our actions before our blessed Lord. And if our actions are that of a mere spiritual infant who have not matured, whose behavior is that of a mere man and not that of a child of God then our rewards will be consumed in the presence of our Holy Lord and we will have nothing to very little to offer in praise to Him for all that He did for us.

So let us pray and ask our Lord to instill in our heart a heartfelt desire to honor Him with our lives so that we can receive rewards that will pass the test which we can then lay at His feet and give Him the praise for them all.

Conclusion:

There are so many place of ministry in our church where we need people to step up and yet they aren't. So let's ask ourselves why"? And the answers may be that we need to start growing and behaving in a manner that we are seen to be not just mere men but men and women who belong to God. And then we will be able to carry out or task.

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



*A gift of \$50.00 has been given
to the cemetery maintenance fund in
memory of Dot Nettles
by Patricia Malphrus.*



*A gift of \$50.00 has been given
to the cemetery maintenance fund
in memory of Dot Nettles by the Dorothy
Smart Trust.*



Please note the upcoming end
of school year events!

May 17th - Baccalaureate in the Sanctuary
at 7:00 p.m.

May 18th - SFCA Sports Banquet in the
Multi-Purpose Building at 6:00 p.m.

May 19th - K5 Graduation in the SFCA
Gym at 7:00 p.m.

May 20th - Senior Graduation in the SFCA
Gym at 4:00 p.m.





Operation Christmas Child

New items being collected for May! See the list below and please help out if you can. 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!

May:

Stuffed Animals
Barbies
Matchbox Cars
Any Assorted Toys

Yo-yos
Puzzles
Balls
Jump Ropes


Remember: NO liquids, glass, or military items. You can also give a monetary donation instead of buying the items. No donation is too small!





<i>Monday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>Amy Mobley</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>17th</i>	<i>Chesney Thames</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Calvin Bryan</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Courtney Thames</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>20th</i>	<i>Travis Amason</i>





Happy Anniversary

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs."

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Tuesday, May 16th:
Gregory & Nicole
Mariocourt

~ and ~

Saturday, May 20th:
Gary & Alice Way



Business Meeting
Wednesday, June 14th
at 7:00 p.m.



Deacons' Meeting
Monday, June 12th
at 6:00 p.m.



Grandmothers' Group
Monday, June 5th
at 11:30 a.m.
All grandmothers welcome!



**No More until
September!!**



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.

****PLEASE NOTE:
This last Sunday
morning breakfast
will be Sunday, May
21st until start up in
September****

Sunday School Classes

@ 9:15am

CAMO CLASS - Room 406 - Bobby Smith

GLEANERS CLASS - Room 401 - Darlene Bollack

VISIONARIES CLASS - Building 3, Old Social Hall
Leader - Greg Mariocourt/Diane Thames

SOJOURNERS CLASS - Room 417 - Mack Pope

YOUTH - Youth Annex Leader - Amanda Hodges

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES - Room 415 -
April Malphrus

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

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-Wallace Malphrus & Fred Stanley

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



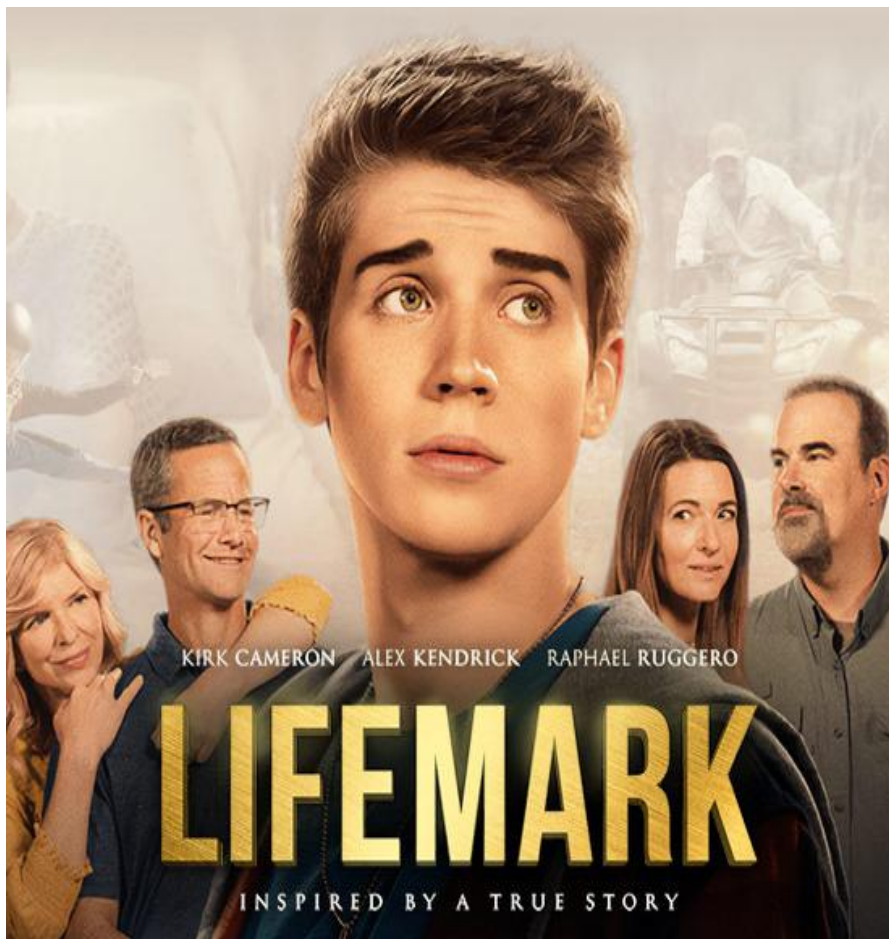
VBS 2023

Donations are greatly needed for the meals for VBS. We have begun advertising around the town about our VBS and hope to have many children attend. They will have supper each night of VBS. As everyone knows food prices have gone up, therefore, we desperately need monetary donations for the food so we can feed each and every child. If you can give something, anything, it would be greatly appreciated it.

We are feeding these children's' minds, hearts, and bellies and need help doing it!!

We are still taking donations for tissue rolls and river rocks! Please bring some in if you can. The rocks need to be 2 inches to 5 or 6 inches in length. Any questions, please ask.

If you would like to help with VBS but did not sign up, please call Nicole Mariocourt at 843-726-2211, Saylor Olivas at 843-812-8879, or Jennifer Meador at 843-726-3631. We would love to have more help for VBS. It is coming up very quickly!!



MOVIE NIGHT!!!

Movie of the night is Lifemark, which is based on an incredible true story—you don't want to miss this one!!

**Sunday, May 21st
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.**

**Please bring finger foods to share!
Tea and Popcorn provided.**

Come Enjoy A Great Wholesome Family Movie!

Annual Baccalaureate Class of 2023

The church will be having its annual baccalaureate service on Wednesday, May 17th at 7:00 p.m. We need food for the event. If you are able, please bring a shareable finger food (for example: chicken nuggets, mini sandwiches, fruit trays, veggie trays, chips and dip, lemon bars, brownies, peanut butter balls, chewies, etc.)

Please see the sign up sheet on the back wall and sign up accordingly! Food will need to be at the church **no later than 7:00 p.m.** Thank you!!



Graduation Recognition Service

Sunday, May 21st

During regular service

If you want to recognize a graduate, please fill out the insert provided in this bulletin and return it to the church office. If you do not have an insert or will not be here in the coming Sundays to fill one out, please contact Jennifer at 843-726-3631 and give her the information regarding the graduate to be recognized.

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

*Tex Lowther
Keith Gamo
Pinky Rushing - Beaufort
Memorial - Back Surgery*

Nursing Centers

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

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

Cancer/Treatments

*Pat Headley
Leigh Laycock
Joyce Garbade
Ann Blocker
Tex Lowther*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of Dot Nettles
Family of CJ Bain*

Other Health Needs

*Mary Kay Cade
Barry DeMay
Tristan Simmons
Marie Coleman
James Williamson
Glenn Scott
Rhonda Stones
Debbie Hale
Virginia Byles
Gene Price
Mark Simpson*

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>Kenny Smith</i>	<i>Thomas & Erma Cooler</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	<i>Marie Malphrus</i>
	<i>Dot Smart</i>

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, Jrjehu27@gmail.com

Music Director: Richard Waittwaittfamily83@gmail.com

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis

Pianist: Michelle Waitt waittfamily83@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Meadorgreatswampbaptist@hargray.com
843-726-3631

School Administrator: Donna Carterdcarter@hargray.com

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$3,699.00	\$ 5,012.49	\$-.49
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$150.00</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Office Supplies</i>	<i>\$83.00</i>	*****	<i>\$447.70</i>
<i>Adult Senior Trip 2023</i>	<i>\$284.00</i>	*****	<i>\$3,459.94</i>
<i>Annie Armstrong</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>	*****	<i>\$100.00</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	<i>\$95.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,321.48</i>
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	<i>\$130.00</i>	*****	<i>\$-340.88</i>
<i>VBS</i>	<i>\$15.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,601.11</i>
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	<i>\$15.00</i>	*****	<i>\$723.86</i>
<i>Cemetery Maintenance</i>	<i>\$100.00</i>	*****	<i>\$536.10</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