



Teacher

DEDICATION

FOR EVERY
lesson
YOU'VE PREPARED
THE *love of God*
HAS BEEN
shared

Great Swamp Baptist Church
August 18, 2024

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee

Call to Worship

Invocation

Keith Gamo

Praise & Worship

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery



Teacher:
Olivia Stanley



greeters

Greeters for Today:
Juliette & Mike W.

Next Sunday 8/25:
Mike D.

DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Keith Gamo



Phone: 843-986-8525

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



ARE YOU READY?

(I Cor 13:1-13)

Introduction:

Well, as we celebrate the moving up of our new class of seniors for Step of Faith Christian Academy, our church school, I need to ask the seniors, and all of us really, are you ready? So this leads to another question, are you ready for what?

Well, the answer to the question is, are you ready to grow up? Are you ready to become a man or a woman? Are you ready to become an adult? Your senior year is not just about wrapping up your high school education, but it's also about getting you ready to move on into adulthood. So, once again, are you ready to grow up?

In our chosen chapter for this message the apostle Paul said, "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." (vs 11 KJV).

So as these students step up to the role of seniors I pray that our God will give you the wisdom and strength to grow up this year to begin becoming the kind of adult that pleases God. Thus we will examine from these verses, particularly the last six, to see how we can be ready, ready to grow up.

I. First, let's notice that you grow up by the means of pursuing (vs 8-10)

In these verses Paul is saying that we have not yet reached that final state of perfection which will only take place when we finally reach our final home in heaven in the presence of our Lord.

Now in a message I preached a couple of weeks ago, I gave what I called the Biblical view of progression. The reason for that message was because of the ungodly demonstration that took place during the opening ceremony of the Olympics. Paris, France and the Olympic committee were demonstrating how progressive that they had become.

However, God's word clearly teaches that the world's view of progression is really perversion. Instead the word of God teaches that the progression that God has for us is that He's going to ultimately conform us into the image of Christ. However we aren't there yet. As a matter of fact, we are far from it, but by the grace, strength, and wisdom of our blessed Lord we are even now to be pursuing a life that's progressing more and more into the image of Christ.

So it's not a time to say, well, I'm a senior now, so I can sit back and coast along. No, if you're ready to grow up and become the adult God wants you to be then you must, with His help, pursue it because you aren't there yet.

II. Second, let's notice that you grow up by the means of God's proclamation (vs 8-10)

We are blessed that our amazing God has continuously spoken to His people from the very beginning of creation. As the writer of Hebrews says, "In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe." (Hebrews 1:1,2 NIV)

However, according to our present set of verses, there will come a day when God Himself will bring to close the various ways that He has spoken to us. As Paul says here, "Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears." (vs 8-10 NIV).

So these verses tell us that a day will come when these means of God speaking to us will cease. And that will happen, as we've already pointed out, when we go to be with our Lord. Then we won't need all these means that God has spoken to us with because we will then have the mind of Christ, thus knowing it all things that Christ knows.

However until that day comes we still need to hear the voice of God speaking to us to give us the wisdom to grow up to become the people that God wants us to be. And the way that God speaks to us today is through His final and complete inspired word of God, the Bible. We need to listen to Godly parents, pastors, Bible study teachers, and our own school teachers as they open God's word to us. We also need to dive ourselves through our own personal study of His Holy word.

In my first point, I said that if we were going to grow up we must pursue it. Well, it is impossible to grow to spiritual maturity without pursuing the word of God. So are you ready to grow up? Then pursue God's word. It is the milk and meat of spiritual growth.

III. Third, let's notice that you grow up by the means of God's passion (vs 1-13)

Now, obviously, the theme of this chapter is all about love and not just any old type of love but rather the supreme type of love and the supreme type of love is what's called agape love. It's the type of love demonstrated by God Almighty when He chose to send His only begotten Son into the world to die on the old rugged cross to pay for and be penalized for the sins which we had committed against His perfect holiness.

As you read through the entire chapter, you first discover that without love we are nothing. Then you discover what love looks like. It's patient, kind, not envious, nor boastful and proud, not selfish, not disrespectful, not easily angered, doesn't keep a list of wrongdoings, and it rejoices in the truth. It always protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres.

Now as you read all of those definitions and descriptions of love, you should come to one conclusion and that conclusion is that it perfectly demonstrates who Jesus was when He walked in our midst, who He is now in the present, and who He will be in the future and forevermore.

The closing section of this chapter is that when all else is going to cease, there's one thing for sure that never will and that, of course, is love. So if we are going to grow up, then we must pray that our blessed God of love will demonstrate His love to others through our lives. And may our lives demonstrate to one another and to the world that our lives are committed fully to the God of love. You are never more grown up than when you are showing God's love to others. If you are not demonstrating love, then you're not growing up.

Conclusion:

So you're now a senior. Well, the next step is adulthood, like it or not. The question is, will your adulthood be one that demonstrates the love of Christ to the world? It can if we chose to pursue it and if we chose to let God guide us through His proclamation, His Holy word, and finally, if we chose to allow Him to demonstrate His passion and His love through us.

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



MOVIE NIGHT!!

Showing: I Can
TONIGHT!! Sunday, August 18th
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.



Please bring finger foods for your family
and more to share with all!
Tea and Popcorn provided.



Come watch an amazing
movie with us!





<i>Sunday</i>	<i>18th</i>	<i>Iola Daring</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Ralph Lee</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Charles Malphrus</i>



Wednesday, August 21st:
 Stephen & Amy Mobley

W O M E N
O N
M I S S I L E
(formerly Grandmothers' Group)



SPECIAL GUEST: DAVID MEARS
YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!!!

When: **RESCHEDULED. NEW DATE**
September 9th at 11:30 a.m.

Where: The Multi-Purpose Building

Bring: A Covered Dish and/or Dessert



SFCA TEACHERS & OFFICE STAFF FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Church Family, please join us in praying for each of our amazing school staff members as they begin a new school year. We know, without a shadow of a doubt, that God has placed each of them here at SFCA for a reason and we know He will work through them, just as He does year after year. Please pray for the students and their parents/guardians as well, that God would reach them through SFCA. Thank you, again, teachers for answering that call to serve, to teach, and to reach and to do it with love, grace, patience, and humility. It is a testimony much bigger than you realize and we are ever so grateful for you.

Mrs. Carter - Principal	Mrs. Mixson - 5th Grade
Mrs. Gray - Finance Dir.	Dr. Gillian - 6th Grade
Mrs. Simmons - Secretary	Mrs. Stones - High School
Mrs. Smoak - K-3	Mrs. Cramer - High School
Mrs. Keiffer - K-4	Mrs. Spikes - High School
Mrs. Scherger - K-5	Mrs. Smith - High School
Mrs. Scott - 1st Grade	Mrs. Creech - High School
Mrs. McDaniel - 2nd Grade	Mrs. Herlong - Library
Mrs. May - 3rd Grade	Mr. Huskey - HS PE
Mrs. Ballinger - 4th Grade	Ms. Daniels - Elem. PE
Ms. Rose - Tutoring	Ms. Stanley - Aftercare

SAVE ^{THE} DATE

*Welch Creek
Baptist Church*

**ANNUAL LADIES
MEETING**

*"A Proverbs 31 Woman in
Today's Society"*

Special Speaker: Mrs. Tristan Zorn

September 14th, 2024

11:00am - 1:00pm

536 Welch Creek Rd.

Walterboro, SC 29488

Lunch will be provided

Please register on:

welhcreekbaptistchurch.com



Operation Christmas Child



AUGUST NEEDS

Kick off for OCC shoeboxes. This month donations will be school supplies. Three ways to donate: 1) from the list below; 2) monetary donations; 3) get an angel off the tree, which has an item on the back. Bring the angel back with your donation.

Pencils	Crayons
Colored Pencils	Scissors
Construction Paper	Spiral Notebooks
Glue Sticks	Pencil Sharpeners

Also need monetary donations for buying the shoeboxes. 600 boxes = \$500.00.

Any questions please ask Dorthie.

Deacon Candidates:

Richard Roberts

Fred Stanley

Mike Wall

Mack Pope

Chuck Scoggins

Bjo Mills

Calvin Bryan

GSBC Prayer Page

Church Leadership

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries
Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Deacons*

Leadership

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

Bereavement

Unspoken

Hospitals

Surgery/Recovery

Nursing Centers

*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Tommy & Erma Cooler - Ridgeland Nursing Home
David Sauls - Morrell Nursing Center
Doby Cleland - Life Care Center of HHI*

Cancer/Treatments

*Revel Crosby - 4 years old
(Leukemia)
Ken Lawler
Rachel Vaughn
Buzz Bonds*

Other Health Needs

*Mary Kay Cade
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Kathy Breland
Grace Hetrick
Arthur Pearson
Sage Lanier (2 week old
baby with seizures)
Dean Daley
Earl Dean Pope
Cindy Price (Vicki
Archuleta's sister)
Joseph Walters, III
Mike Davis (test)*

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

*Rose Boyles
Judy Smith
Vera Floyd
Barbara Mills
Kenny Smith
Tom Hinely
Ann Blocker
Red & Helen Malphrus
Diane Hannah
Ann Long
Shirley Malphrus*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed
Matthew Mills - US Marines -
Okinawa, Japan
Jericho Malphrus - Sp. Agent/Air Force -
Pinehurst, NC.
Michael Sottile - Ret.
Tristan Blanton - Louisiana
Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC*

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr *jehu27@gmail.com*

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis

Pianist: Michelle Waitt *waittfamily83@gmail.com*

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Meador *greatswampbc@gmail.com*
843-726-3631

School Administrator: Donna Carter *dcarter@sfcaweb.org*



**Please Note: We will be voting on the new
deacons after church Sunday, September 1st.**

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$3,323.00	\$4,923.33	\$-1,600.33
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$50.00		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances
Gleaners SS Class	\$46.00	*****	\$1,326.06
MPB Fees	10.00	*****	\$254.97



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