

Great Swamp Baptist Church
September 15, 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 Wall

Next Sunday 9/22:
Mike Davis

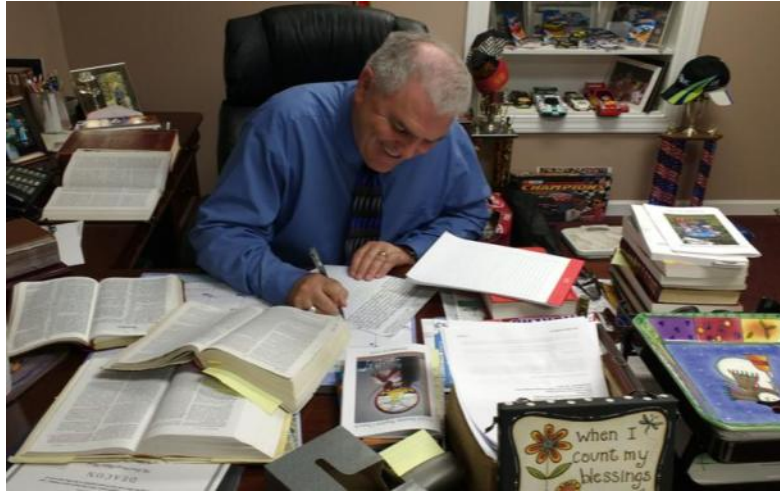
DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Keith Gamo



Phone: 843-986-8525

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



The Prayer Life of Two Men that Changed the World
Acts 10:1-48

Introduction:

This message is about the power of prayer. Specifically it's about the prayer life of two men which changed the world. Now of course we all realize that it's really God who changes the world. However one of the most powerful ways He chooses to do that is through our prayer lives.

So my prayer is that the example of these two men, Cornelius and the apostle Peter, will inspire us to focus upon our prayer lives so that we can all become world changers.

I. First, let's notice that their prayer lives were regular and established prayer lives (vs 1-4, 9, 30-33)

Now these verses chosen for this particular point gives us a very clear picture of the prayer life of these two men, and without a doubt both men had prayer lives that were extremely established prayer lives. As a matter of fact they tell us directly that Cornelius prayed regularly, and then we are told that Peter goes up on the roof at noon time to pray which is a Jewish regular time of prayer.

So what's obvious is that both men were using the Jewish specific time of prayer. The Jews set aside three times a day for their people to pray. There was a morning prayer, a noon time or mid-day prayer, and an afternoon prayer time.

Now God has not specifically told us as believers in His church that our manner of praying must be done at these specific times during the day. As a matter of fact we are encouraged to pray at all times. But it certainly doesn't hurt to also have a specific time in which we focus more on our praying. Jesus when teaching the Lord's prayer said, "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door to your Father, who is unseen." (Matt 6:6). This instruction from Jesus seems to indicate a specific time devoted to prayer. Jesus Himself of course is our prime example. "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed." (Mark 1:35). So may it be said of us that we are a praying people, because we have devoted time to it.

II. Second, let's notice that their prayer lives allowed God the opportunity to encounter them (vs 1-22)

In other words what I'm referring to is that through their prayer lives they not only were able to communicate to God but with God. In their prayers God was able to speak to them and instruct them.

While Cornelius was praying God used a vision to instruct Cornelius to send for Peter who would tell him what he needed to hear. On the other end God used Peter's prayer time to also give him a vision which ultimately caused Peter to go to Cornelius to give him the message God wanted him to hear.

Now today God doesn't use vision and dreams in the way He did with the early church, but when we are spending time in prayer with God it will allow God to open up our understanding of God's holy word and that's the primary way in which God speaks to us today. So if we want God to interact with our lives then we need to be a people of prayer.

III. Third, let's notice that their prayer lives promoted the priorities in their lives (vs 4-6, 19-23).

Each of these two men had very different priorities for their lives. Yet each of these two men's priorities were what the other person needed to be able to fulfill their priorities. Cornelius's priority was that he needed to be saved through the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The apostle Peter's priority was to share the gospel message of the saving grace of Christ by which he himself had been saved to those who weren't saved. And of course at the beginning of the chapter before Peter and Cornelius come together Cornelius was in need of salvation. So by sending Peter to Cornelius God was leading Peter to fulfill the priority that He had called Peter to and as well as to all of us.

So when we are spending time with our God in prayer it will be a motivating feature that God uses to help those who need to be saved to seek out God and those who are saved to share the saving grace of our God. Beside without God's strength, wisdom, guidance, and word we wouldn't be able to fulfill His priorities in our lives but by prayer God releases those things in our lives.

IV. Fourth, let's notice that their prayer lives broke down barriers and created unity (vs 23-35)

When God gave Cornelius a vision during his prayer time the message was for him to send for the apostle Peter to come and tell him what he needed to do. Now the problem with that was this Cornelius was a Gentile and Peter was a Jew, and at that time the Jews had nothing to do with the Gentiles, and often the Gentiles had nothing to do with the Jews.

Well, it was in their prayer times that God spoke to each of them showing them that they needed to drop any prejudices that they had toward a person of a different people group and understand that God's grace went beyond just their own particular people groups and reached out to all other people groups within the human race.

As a matter of fact this was the first time that a Jewish believer, being the apostle Peter, preached and shared the gospel message of the saving grace of our God Jesus Christ specifically to a Gentile audience. "Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism, but accepts from every nation the one who fears Him and does what is right.'" (vs 34, 35).

So if we want to see unity within our church and if we want to break down barriers and unite us regardless of the color of our skin or where we come from or many other differences then we need to pray much and let it bring us together through our Lord Jesus Christ. Where there are divisions you can count on it there's probably not much praying. Because when you are praying for one another it's a whole lot harder to be angry and upset with one another.

Conclusion:

Well, I opened up in our introduction and in my title with the fact that the prayer lives of these two men changed the world. Well, they did because in their prayer lives God brought, as already noted, the lives of two very different persons, people groups, and nations together. And from this point on the Gospel spread beyond just within the Jewish family to now the rest of the world. |

So keep praying and watch how God can change your world through those prayer.

Jesus Loves You,
Ralph Lee

Please continue to give to the Janie Chapman State Missions. This offering helps us to carry out the great commission in the state of South Carolina. It uses various ministries to take the gospel to as many people as it possibly can.

"We are better together." Acts 2:42-47

Please help us reach our church goal of \$800!!



Operation Christmas Child



SEPTEMBER NEEDS

Listed below, with amounts, what is still needed to start packing boxes later this month. Monetary donations can be made.

Thank you for your donations.

Any questions please ask Dorthie.

Pencils - 863
Glue Sticks - 456
Girl Combs/Brushes - 203
Baby dolls - 46
(You can get them at Dollar Tree)

Crayons - 70
Scissors - 184
Pencil Sharpeners - 162
Tooth Brushes - 161
Boys (age 2-4) Socks - 22
Girls (age 2-4) Socks - 80



A special thanks to all the ladies who signed up to help serve in the nursery. We are excited for your commitment to this ministry and it is a big help as several new babies have been born in our congregation recently. Plus, a good nursery is a good draw-in for young families looking for a church home. Tammy has created a rotation schedule, but if anyone else feels called to help, we can gladly add you to that rotation! Please see the church office or Tammy Lee if you want to help with the nursery. Thank you again!!



Wednesday Night Supper

Meals served from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
every Wednesday night.

\$5.00 per person or \$15.00 per family
of four or more.

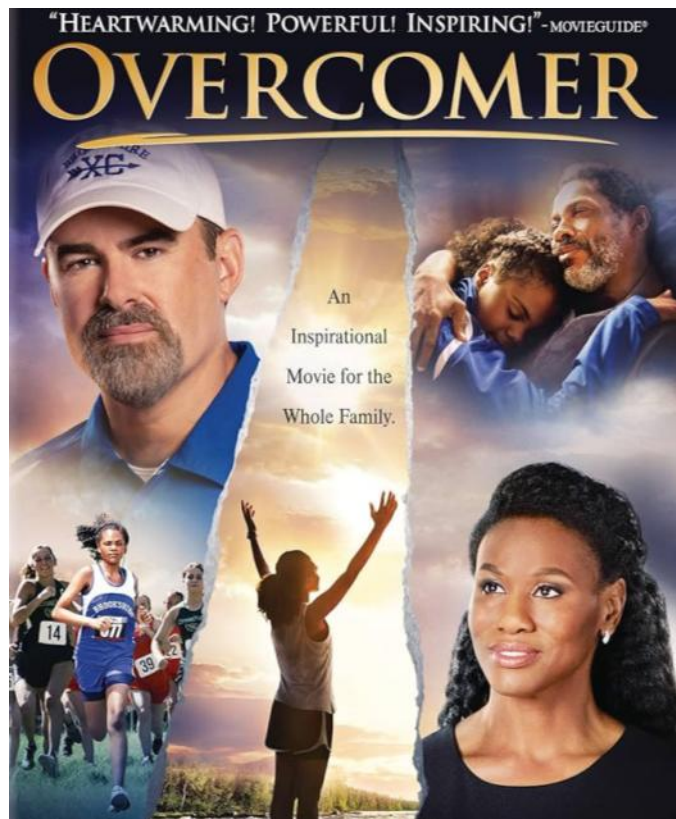
No Meal Deliveries.



Sunday Morning Breakfast

Breakfast will be served
from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

\$5.00 per person or \$15.00
per family of four or more.



MOVIE NIGHT!!

Showing: Overcomer
TONIGHT!

Sunday, September 15th
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts at 6:45 p.m.



****PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN MOVIE TIME****



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



Come watch an amazing
movie with us!

Celebration of Life for Winnie Altman

Saturday, September 21st at 4:00 p.m.

Located in the GSBC Main Sanctuary/Multi-Purpose Building

Come celebrate the wonderful life of Winnie Altman and share the love for Winnie with her family and friends.

The church is asking that church members provide a side dish and/or dessert for the celebration of life. Please have your food to the church no later than 3:30 p.m. on the 21st.

PLEASE NOTE Kairos Ministry will be having a meeting in the MPB that morning, but you can drop off your dish in the church office on Jennifer's desk or through the back door of the kitchen. Please just put it to the side if you take it to the kitchen. Kairos will be made aware that people will be coming to drop off food. Any questions, please call Jennifer.



5th Sunday Sing
Church "Open Mic Night"
Sunday, Sept 29th
7:00 pm MPB Building
Hosted by Lloyd Freeman

Come and sing some of your favorite hymns! Open to everyone of any age or singing level!

Sign up sheet is on the back wall for those interested in singing or you can just show up :)



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



When: October 7th at 11:30 a.m.

Where: Youth House

Bring: A Covered Dish and/or Dessert



Men's
Multi-Church Fellowship
Thursday, Sept. 19 7:00 pm
Family Bible Fellowship
354 Ridgecut Rd, Early Branch

For more information contact
Wilbur Daley at (843) 305-0110



MEN'S
Fellowship



<i>Monday</i>	<i>16th</i>	<i>Doby Cleland</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Eric Chapman</i>



Monday, September 16th:
 Krey & Faye Lowther
Thursday, September 19th:
 Matt & Sherri Scott

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

Kadence Abney (little girl -
collapsed lung)
Heather Anthony & Babies

Surgery/Recovery

Vera Floyd - Encompass
Mary Kay Cade - Encompass

Cancer/Treatments

Revel Crosby - 4 years old
(Leukemia)
Ken Lawler
Rachel Vaughn
Ella Gourlay - 10 years old
(Leukemia)

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)
Earl Dean Pope
Joseph Walters, III
Shannon Morgan (MS)
Arlette Jones (Back- pinched
nerve)

Nursing Centers

Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Tommy & Erma Cooler - Ridgeland Nursing Home
David Sauls - Florence Place Assisted Living
Doby Cleland - Life Care Center of HHI

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 *scarolina1961@gmail.com*

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

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

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$8,390.00	\$4,923.33	\$-796.33
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$50.00		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances
Janie Chapman Offering	\$248.00	*****	\$248.00
Sunday Morning Breakfast	\$100.00	*****	\$990.38
Operation Christmas Child	\$10.00	*****	\$468.92



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