

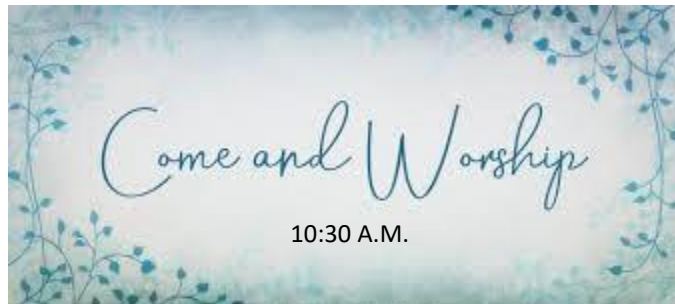
He came to His own, and His own people did not accept Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.

John 1:11-12



Great Swamp Baptist Church
May 25, 2025

**Great
Swamp
Baptist
Church**



Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee

Call to Worship

Invocation

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Church Staff

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

*Sunday School Director: **Mike Davis**greatswampbc@gmail.com*

*Administrative Assistant: **June Bess**greatswampbc@gmail.com*

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

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery Workers

For Today:
Tammy & Juliette

Next Sunday 06/01
Sophia & Pat



In the school
office building

Teacher:
Olivia Stanley



Greeters for Today:
Juliette & Mike

Next Sunday 06/01:
Mike D.

DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Keith Gamo



Phone: (843) 812-8244

**NEXT WEEK'S
DEACON:**
Lloyd Freeman



*From
the
Pastor's
desk:*



Knowledge that guided the ministry of John the Baptist.

John 1:1-35

Introduction: In my very last, fully attended chapel service as pastor of the school I felt led to discuss what I believe that my main roll has been with them for nearly eighteen years. The Biblical example that I used to describe my roll and purpose among them, was the roll and purpose of John the Baptist. His example is not only an example that I should attempt to exemplify but one that we all should attempt to do so.

Now the specific thing that I want us to examine about Johns ministry is the knowledge that he had that guided his ministry along. And if we will grasp this same knowledge that John the Baptist had then we will have the motivation and ability to carry out the work that Gods called us to do.

I. The first knowledge that guided Johns ministry was knowing just who he himself was. Vs 19-23; 6-8. John was specifically asked this question by the religious leaders of the day. He answered their questions by primarily telling them who he was not. He answered them that he wasn't Elijah come back to life, or any of the other Old Testament prophets of old.

However the most definite, loudest and clearest answer of who he was not, was that he was not the Messiah. "I am not the Messiah" (v s 20). As a matter of fact John expresses the fact that he's not even worthy of untying the sandals on the feet to Jesus the Messiah.

So if John the Baptist is not Elijah, or one of the other prophets, or the Messiah, then just who is he? Well John answers that question by revealing not whose son he is or where he came from, or who he 's kin to but rather by what he 's been sent to do. And what he is sent to do, he 's absolutely assured of. To begin with the Apostle John who wrote the books of John, tells us who John is by what he was sent to do. *"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through Him all might believe, He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light."* (vs 6-8)

Then John the Baptist himself declares just who he is with words similar to what Apostle John wrote about him. Just after he declared that Jesus Christ was the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, he said, *"...the reason I came, baptizing with water was that He might be revealed to Israel."*(vs 31) Thus the apostle John and John the Baptist tell us that John is the one called to bare witness to the fact that Jesus is the Messiah.

So the important thing about this is that John holds a humble view of who he is. This helped him to be able to do his job amazingly well because it wasn' t about him but rather about the Messiah he was called to bare witness to. So it is with us as Christians, we too are called to have a humble view of who we are so we focus on the one we've been called to bare witness to. Do you know just who you,

yourself is? Its imperative to the work God's called us to.

II. The Second knowledge that guided Johns ministry was knowing just who Jesus is. Vs. 5-8: 20-31. In another set of verses in his gospel, the Apostle John shares the statement of what the people of Israel were saying about John the Baptist. “ *Then Jesus went back across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing in the early days. There He stayed, and many people came to him. They said, ‘though John never performed a sign, all that John said about this man was true’* . (John 10: 40-41). So since everything that John the Baptist said about Jesus was true, it behooves us to pay close attention to everything that John said about Jesus, especially Just who He is.

There are numerous things that John declares about our Jesus. John declares that Jesus Christ is the eternal one and at the same time the Supreme one. “ *John testified concerning Him. He cried out, saying, “this is the one I spoke about when I said, He who comes after me has surpassed me because He was before me.”* (vs 15).

So how could John who was born before Jesus, declare that Jesus surpassed him and was before him? Because John was declaring that Jesus has always been, for He ’ s the everlasting, eternal Messiah, the glorious Son of God!

John also knew and declared that Jesus was and is the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed and Chosen by God the Father to carry out the work of redemption for the nation of Israel and for the world. He readily declared that he wasn ’ t the Messiah because he knew beyond a shadow of doubt that Jesus was. “ I have seen and testify that this is God ’ s chosen one. ” (vs.34)

Also over and over John knew and declared that Jesus was the Lamb of God. “ *the next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'look the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'*” (vs. 29-35)

Another thing John knew about Jesus was that although he baptized with water, Jesus was going to baptize people with the Holy Spirit. “ *And I myself did not know Him, but the One who sent me to baptize with water told me the man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.* ” (vs. 29,35) .

Like John the Baptist, you will never be able to be a servant of Jesus Christ until, like John, you have a clear understanding of just who Jesus Christ is. But once you have that knowledge both in your heart and mind like John then you will be both equipped and motivated to do the work that God has called you to do.

III. The third knowledge that guided John 's ministry was knowing what he had to do. Vs 6-8, 22-23. So when John considered all the knowledge about Jesus that had been revealed to him then there was no doubt whatsoever in Johns heart and mind, about what he had been called to do. And simply put; that was to declare everything that had been revealed to him concerning just who Jesus is. As a matter of fact all the knowledge that he had received on the person of Jesus not only drove him to understand what his purpose and roll was, but was doing it for, and because of the amazing benefits that I meant for those that he declared the message to. “ *To this John replied, a person can receive only what is given them from heaven. You yourself can testify that I said, I am not the Messiah, but am sent ahead of Him. The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The*

Friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens to Him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegrooms voice. That joy is mine, and now is complete. He must become greater and I must become less. ” (John3:27-30)

Conclusion: I pray that we all come to a full and complete knowledge of just who Jesus is and like John we choose to joyfully declare that message to our lost and dying world. That is what God has called us to do.

Jesus Love You!
Ralph Lee



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..and may the Lord cause you to increase and overflow in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you.

I Thessalonians 4:9 NASB



**The Committee would like to let everyone know
they will be meeting with Kevin Crosby Tuesday,
June 27th at 6:00 P.M.**

Titus 1:9

Happy Birthday!
Happy Birthday!

Kim Malphrus: Sunday, May 25th
Jake Holland: Saturday, May 31st.

Swamp Kids
Moving-up ceremony

Will be held June 18th





Coming soon!
Sunday, June 22nd
Thru
Wednesday, June 25th



You could make a difference for eternity!

**Did you know that 77% of Christians made that decision
before they were 18 years old? (Barna Research)*

*Go on a mission trip and still sleep in your own bed every
night!*

It's fun and rewarding! Please write your name
on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board at the back, OR
talk to Nicole Mauriocourt at 843-726-2211.



**Operation
Christmas Child**
A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

May items needed:

- *Ziploc bags in quart and gallon size****
- *Socks, socks, socks and more socks for all age groups.***
- *Small dolls, plastic animal sets, games, puzzles, hair bows....***

For any questions ask Dorthie



Graduate Recognition Service

Sunday, June 22nd

Great Swamp Baptist Church would like to recognize all of our graduates on that Sunday. Please fill out a form in the lobby, for any family members who are graduating any field of study this year, and leave it with June.



There will not be a meeting in June.

NOTES

Sunday School Classes

Starting at 9:15 am

CAMO CLASS: *Room 406 -- Leader: Bobby Smith*

GLEANERS CLASS: *Room 411 -- Leader: Darlene Bollack*

VISIONARIES CLASS: *Room 413 - Leader: Greg Mariocourt*

SOJOURNERS CLASS: *Room 417 -- Leader: Mack Pope*

YOUTH: *Youth Annex*

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES:
Room 412 -- Leader: Nicole Mauriocourt

RAINBOW KIDS - 3RD GRADE AND OLDER -- Room 415

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Tuesday Morning Prayer Meeting

Breakfast begins at 9:00 am

Followed by the Prayer Meeting

Located in the Multi-Purpose Building

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Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

WORSHIP SERVICE *Multi-Purpose Building*
Leader - Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

YOUTH GROUP *Youth Annex*

SWAMP KIDS *Nursery Hall*
Leader – Kim Malphrus

GSBC Prayer Page

***FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED
IN MY NAME, I AM THERE IN THEIR MIDST.***

MATTHEW 18:20 (NASB)

Church Leadership

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Deacons
Pastor Search Team
Youth Program
Worship team
VBS Leaders and Teachers*

Leadership

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

Bereavement

*Family of Erma Cooler

Family of David Daring*

Unspoken

*Vacation Bible School will be
flooded with new children.*

Pastor Search Committee

Nursing Centers

*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at
South Pointe

Tommy Cooler - Ridgeland
Nursing Home

David Sauls - Florence Place
Assisted Living

Doby Cleland - Life Care
Center of HHI*

Homebound

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

Health Needs

*Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Arthur Pearson
Earl Dean Pope
Rachel Mixon
Marie Cole's Brother
Phoebe Ferguson
Drew Jeffries
Donnie Smith
Holly Malphrus
Sadie O'Connor
Earl Pope Sr.
Vera Miles
Ann Blocker
Beth Owens
Debbie Hale*

Cancer

*Ralph Lee
Revel Crosby - 4 yrs old
Ken Lawler
Rachel Vaughn
Ella Gourlay - 10 yrs old
David Boyles
Paul Holmes
Randy Floyd*

In Hospital

Michelle Ashley- Trident

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed
Matthew Mills, USMC- Okinawa, Japan
Jericho Malphrus, Sp. Agent/USAF -
Pinehurst, NC.
Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC
Schuyler Johnson - USMC Basic Training*

**Wednesday June
11th, at 7:00 p.m.**



Traveling out of town for the week-end? Don't miss a minute of Sunday morning at Great Swamp Baptist Church - Join us by LIVESTREAM on our YouTube channel. You can even watch services from Sundays past!

@greatswampbaptistchurch8998



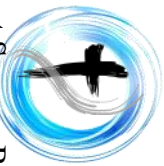
Or on FaceBook at **Great-Swamp Baptist Church**



BUT ... It would be best of all to see you here!

Stewardship

TITHES	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus / Deficit
	\$3923.00	\$5,172.63	\$1249.63
Online Offerings	\$50.00		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances



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