

# Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday June 2, 2013

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Junior Church

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... Acts 8:4-25

Message.....Pastor John Bellingham

## “THE SURPRISING WORK OF GOD”

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Closing Song

Benediction

*Into the world to live and witness for the Lord*

### Memory Verses for Junior Church:

#### **Younger Elementary:**

Review: Matthew 5:16; Philippians 2:13;  
Ephesians 2:8-10; John 3:30; Titus 3:4-5a

#### **Middle Elementary:**

Review: Jeremiah 31:33b; John 15:5; 2 Corinthians  
5:17; Revelation 5:9b; Acts 13:38, 16:30-31, 20:24;  
1 Peter 3:15

# Mission of the Week

## **Elisha House**

Elisha House furthers the mission of Christ in Welland by providing assistance for the physical, social, mental and spiritual needs of families who are challenged by a crisis pregnancy. Elisha House offers biblical counseling for those seeking God in the redirection of their lives

- Participate in ‘Change for Life’ campaign and consider attending the Fall Fundraising Banquet (Contact Sue StAmour for info)
- Pray for the counselors, volunteers and participants at Elisha House who are making a difference “one life at a time”

*“Rescue those being taken away to death.”*

*Proverbs 24:11*

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# Families of the Week

Please remember to encourage and pray for the following families this week.

**Monday** Goulet, Don

**Tuesday** Grilo, Lina

**Wednesday** Gyugyei, Andy & Hilda

**Thursday** Holmes, Jeff

**Friday** Jean, Dorothy

**Saturday** John, Aileen

# Rosedale Baptist Church



**Reaching up....**

**Reaching in....**

**Reaching out...**

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Welland, ON L3B 1J2  
905-735-0788

Pastor: John C. Bellingham

[www.rosedalebaptistwelland.com](http://www.rosedalebaptistwelland.com)

## This Week at Rosedale

Tuesday: Men's Bible Study – 9:30am

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting – 7:00pm

Friday: College and Careers – 6:30pm

Saturday: -Men's Bible Study – 8:00am  
(Pastor John's house)  
-Roger and Natasha Gilbert's Vow  
Renewal Service – 11:00am

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**Vacation Bible School:** We will be hosting a morning VBS from July 22- July 26 for children ages 4-12. If you would like to register or volunteer please speak with Leslie Bellingham.

**Rosedale's Root'n Toot'n Round-up:** Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup>, 11am- 2pm. We need everyone's help for our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary community outreach! Start bringing items for the Garage Sale and any Western themed items you have at home after June 10<sup>th</sup>. Sign up sheet in foyer.

**Blue Jays Social:** College and Careers is organizing a trip to Toronto on June 22. Everyone from the Church is invited. RSVP to Esther Denis so we can arrange rides.

**Junior Church Schedule:** The summer schedule for leaders is now posted on the bulletin board.

## The Surprising Work of God

Acts 8:4-25

The eighth chapter of Acts contains three different surprises which remind us of the inclusive nature of Biblical Christianity, the terrible hazard of false conversion and the freedom of the Spirit in accomplishing the work of salvation.

### I. A Surprising Revival (vv. 4-8)

- 1) Power of God is displayed in verbal proclamation of His Word
  - a. Preaching (*euagelizomai*) – v. 4
  - b. Proclamation (*kerusso*) – v. 5
- 2) Philip's scandalous ministry in Samaria
  - a. Samaritans were hated by the Jews
  - b. Philip's gospel ministry illustrates the inclusive nature of God's Covenant
  - c. Philip's gospel ministry resulted in joy!
- 3) Are we proclaiming the Word as we go and trusting in its power to save the lost and to bring great joy to our city?

### II. A Surprising 'Conversion' (vv. 9-13, 18-25)

- 1) Simon the Magician (aka. Simon Magnus)
  - a. Described by Luke as a 'magician' (v. 9)
  - b. Claimed to be divine (vv. 9-10)
  - c. Early Church Fathers considered him to be the founder of a false religion called 'Gnosticism'
- 2) Outward Evidence of Simon's 'Conversion'
  - a. He believed Philip's message
  - b. He was baptized in water
  - c. He pursued discipleship with Philip

- 3) Internal State of Simon's Heart
  - a. His faith was rooted in signs and wonders rather than in Jesus Christ and the gospel
  - b. His heart was full of greed and ambition
  - c. His repentance was not genuine
- 4) The Real Danger of False Conversion
  - a. Intellectual affirmation of the gospel is not enough
  - b. Baptism in water is no guarantee of salvation
  - c. Genuine conversion is shown by its fruit!

### III. A Surprising Spirit Baptism (vv. 14-17)

- 1) Baptism of the Holy Spirit in Chapter 8 does not seem to correspond with Acts 2:38
  - a. **Acts 2:** Repent → Baptized → Holy Spirit
  - b. **Acts 8:** Repent → Baptized → Laying on of Apostles' Hands → Holy Spirit
- 2) Why was the gift of the Spirit delayed in Acts 8?
  - a. **Answer #1:** God normally saves people in two distinct stages (Pentecostal/ Methodist)  
**Problem:** Contradicts other Scriptures
  - b. **Answer #2:** The initial conversion of the Samaritans was not genuine  
**Problem:** No clear evidence from the text
  - c. **Answer # 3:** The initial conversion of the Samaritans was genuine, but the outward manifestation of the Spirit was delayed  
**Problem:** No clear evidence from the text
  - d. **Best Answer:** The unique cultural situation in Samaria required a unique solution from God in order to avoid a racially/culturally segregated Church!
- 3) Acts 8 reminds us of the freedom of our sovereign God and His wisdom in accomplishing the miracle of salvation!