

Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday March 23, 2014

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Junior Church

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... Judges 3:7-31

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

UNLIKELY SAVIOURS

Final Song

Benediction

Memory Work for Junior Church:

Younger Elementary

“Come, follow me.’ Jesus said, ‘and I will made you fishers of men.’” Matthew 4:19

Middle Elementary

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.” Luke 12:32

Mission of the Week

Teen Challenge – Robert Renaud

“During the 12-month program students take part in spiritual education, vocation and recreational activities. Robert is in the classroom in the morning and is learning to apply biblical principles to his daily life. Recently, he has been learning the importance of diligence. For ‘work detail’, he has had a variety of assignments and received an award for his dedication and strong work ethic. During free time, Robert likes to catch up on sleep or write letters to family and friends.”

Please continue to pray for Robert as he completes the second half of his stay at Teen Challenge. See our Missions Board in the Overflow room for recent pictures and updates.

Families of the Week

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

- Monday** Muir, Muriel
- Tuesday** Muir, Lynne
- Wednesday** Muir, Stuart
- Thursday** Muller, Joe
- Friday** Nagy, Joe & Anita
- Saturday** Neufeld, Gertrude

Rosedale Baptist Church



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

11 Rosedale Place
Welland, ON L3B 1J2
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Pastor: John C. Bellingham

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This Week at Rosedale

Tuesday: Men's Study – 9:30 am
Youth Group – 6:15 pm

Wednesday: Prayer and Praise – 7:00 pm

Friday: Young Adults – 6:30 pm

Saturday: Ladies' Fellowship – 12:00 pm

Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:00 am
Corporate Worship – 10:30 am

Ladies' Fellowship: A ladies luncheon will be held on March 29th, 12pm here at Rosedale. Theme is "Letters, Books and Poems". Cost is \$10 and lunch will be catered by the Mandarin. Today is the final day to sign up!

Men's Study: Tuesday morning Men's Study has started a new series in the book of Ezekiel. New members are welcome!

'City-Sized' Youth Event: Please note that Youth Group will be meeting on Tuesday March 25th at 6:15pm. We will be driving to St. Catharines to participate in 'City-Sized' in partnership with Church by the Canal and Harbour Fellowship.

Outreach Committee: Pastor John will be heading up an Outreach Committee for 2014. If you have a passion for Evangelism and ideas about how you'd like to see Rosedale reach out into our Community, please contact John. We will begin meeting soon to plan for the summer.

Unlikely Saviours - Judges 3:7-31

- Now that the **cycle of apostasy** has been outlined (Chapter 2), the author moves us into the main body of the book which illustrates this pattern through 7 'Major Judges' (Othniel, Ehud, Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech, Jephthah, Samson) and 6 'Minor Judges' (Shamgar, Tola, Jair, Ibzan, Elon, Abdon)
- The opening 'cycles' in Chapter 3 reminds us that God uses unlikely people to accomplish His sovereign purposes in salvation

I. Othniel: A Gentile Judge (3:7-11)

- 1) A 'Kenizzite' (cf. Gen 15:19; Num 32:12)
 - a. Descended from Esau (Gen 15:19, 36:9-12)
 - b. Related to Caleb (cf. 1:13)
 - c. Those Kenizzites who embraced the Covenant were joined to the tribe of Judah
- 2) A 'Forgettable' Judge
 - a. Less is said about Othniel than about any other 'major' Judge
 - b. The Othniel 'cycle' is more complete than any other of the cycles in this book
 - i. The better the judge, the more complete the 'apostasy cycle' is
 - ii. The better the judge, the less that is said about him/her
 - iii. Othniel is the 'ideal' judge and Samson is the most deeply flawed judge
 - c. Emphasis on the Saving Activity of God
 - i. God sells them into the hand of the enemy (Cushan-rishathaim - means 'dark, doubly wicked')
 - ii. God raises up the Deliverer
 - iii. God equips Othniel with the Spirit
 - iv. God delivers the enemy into his hand

Application – He must increase, and I must decrease!
"May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win. And may they forget the channel, seeing only Him." – Kate B. Wilkinson

II. Ehud: A Disabled Judge (3:12-30)

- 1) Left-handed
 - a. Hebrew indicates that he may have suffered from a physical deformity or paralysis
 - b. Ironic since he is a Benjamite ('son of my right hand')
- 2) Cunning and Brutal
 - a. Ehud is God's chosen agent of deliverance, but Ehud's method is Canaanite
 - b. Compared with Othniel, the author's silence about God's role in Ehud's devious plan is deafening! Did God approve of the method?
- 3) Old Testament Satire
 - a. Eglon means "calf" and sounds like the Hebrew word for "round/ rotund" – he is presented as a calf fattened for slaughter
 - b. Ehud escapes while Eglon's men foolishly wait around for him to come out of the bathroom!

Application – God delights in using 'left-handed' people like us to accomplish His purposes (cf. 1 Cor 1:26-29); Jesus came as a 'left-handed' Saviour who was not recognized as the promised Messiah.

III. Shamgar: A Poorly Armed Judge (3:31)

- 1) Man of Mystery
 - a. Gentile name with Canaanite overtones
 - b. Delivers Israel with a common farming tool!
 - c. He is presented as the ideal 'minor' Judge

Application: God's marvelous triumph over Satan comes through a plain wooden cross