

Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday April 27, 2014

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Junior Church

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... Judges 7:1-25

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

TOO BIG FOR GOD TO USE

Final Song

Benediction

Memory Work for Junior Church:

Younger Elementary

“How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.” Psalm 119:9-10

Middle Elementary

Review: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Mission of the Week

New Life Associates – Joseph & Marie Kishore

Praise God that the Kingdom in our state is growing by leaps and bounds! The churches are growing in numbers day by day. In the last two months, I have preached to no less than 10,000 people. At every place people attended in large numbers and were touched with the grace of the cross and the power of the Holy Spirit. Literally hundreds have turned to Christ, chains of sin broken and mighty healings of body, spirit and soul have taken place. The viewership of our television outreach has now risen to 4 million every week globally.

Families of the Week

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

<u>Monday</u>	Barrick, DeAnna
<u>Tuesday</u>	Bertin, Jeanne
<u>Wednesday</u>	Cao, Rock
<u>Thursday</u>	Cerone, Richard & Carole Jeremy, Tiffany, Jonathan
<u>Friday</u>	Christian, Marguerite
<u>Saturday</u>	Cimato, Dave & Stephanie Malyssa, Lauren, David

Rosedale Baptist Church



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

11 Rosedale Place
Welland, ON L3B 1J2
905-735-0788
Pastor: John C. Bellingham

www.rosedalebaptistwelland.com

This Week at Rosedale

Tuesday: Men's Study – 9:30am
Youth Group – 6:30pm
Ladies' Study – 8:30pm

Wednesday: Prayer and Praise – 7:00 pm

Friday: Young Adults – 6:30 pm

Saturday: Men's Study – 8:00 am

Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:00 am
Lord's Supper – 10:30 am

Christianity Explored: If you are curious about what Christians believe or want an opportunity to ask questions about faith in a non-threatening environment consider coming to 'Christianity Explored'. Email Pastor John if interested and we will try to get a group going soon:
john.c.bellingham@gmail.com

Calendars: Please remember to pick up a copy of the May Calendar on your way out this morning.

Summer VBS: Dates for Vacation Bible School this summer will be July 14th -18th. If you are available to volunteer during the morning, please speak with Leslie Bellingham. Consider spending a portion of your summer vacation serving the Lord!

Benevolent Offering: Thank you to everyone who has been giving generously toward our benevolent fund! Reminder that next Sunday we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper and taking a benevolent offering.

Too Big for God to Use

Judges 7

- Last time we studied God's call of Gideon in chapter 6, and noted his fearfulness and reluctance to obey
- In chapter 7 Gideon is transformed from a Coward into a Conqueror
- We discover the truth this morning that nobody is too small for God to use, but sometimes we may be too big for God to use!

I. Faith Tested (vv. 1-8)

- 1) In Chapter 6 Gideon puts God to the Test
 - a. Fire from heaven (6:17-22)
 - b. Laying out the fleece (6:36-40)
- 2) In Chapter 7 God puts Gideon to the Test
 - a. An impossible situation
 - i. 32,000 Israelites vs. 135,000 Midianites (v. 12, cf. 8:10)
 - ii. Gideon thinks there are too few to win
 - iii. God thinks there are too many to win! (v. 2)
 - b. An impossible situation made worse!
 - i. Reduction #1 - Cowards are sent home (v. 3, cf. Deut 20:8)
 - ii. Reduction #2 - 'Kneelers' and 'Lappers'
 - iii. 99% reduction in size of Gideon's army – Gideon and his 300 man army must either fight in faith or flee in fear.
 - iv. "Give me a hundred men who fear nothing but sin and love nothing but God, and I will shake the gates of hell." – John Wesley

Application:

- We can never be too small for God to use, but there is a very real danger of being too big!
- The greatest spiritual danger is the belief that we can save ourselves – Tim Keller

II. Faith Strengthened (vv. 9-18)

- 1) God's will for Gideon to defeat Midian has now been confirmed 5 times! (6:14, 16, 21, 38, 40)
 - a. Gideon's faith in God is weak, but yet is commended! (Hebrews 11:32-34)
 - b. Gideon is unwilling to go into battle unless the presence of God goes with Him
- 2) One Final Sign to instill Faith
 - a. The Midianite Dream (vv. 13-14)
 - b. A display of God's sovereignty and grace
- 3) Gideon's Transformation (vv. 15-18)
 - a. Sincere worship of the Lord – "Before we can become successful warriors, we must first become sincere worshippers." – W. Wiersbe
 - b. Renewed Courage and Leadership

Application:

- God knows our frame (Psalm 103:14) and is kind and gentle in accommodating our weakness
- God has appointed various 'means of grace', by which our faith can be strengthened (God's Word, God's people, Prayer, Lord's Supper etc.)

III. Faith Vindicated (vv. 19-25)

- 1) Gideon's faith in God leads to a remarkable victory over the enemy
 - a. Through the eyes of faith the things that stand opposed to us are not nearly as strong as they appear
 - b. The story of Gideon begins with a coward at a winepress (6:11), and ends with a conqueror at a winepress (7:25)
- 2) God's victory through Gideon foreshadows Jesus
 - a. Satan was disarmed and defeated by the cross
 - b. The ultimate defeat of Satan's kingdom is described (Revelation 20:7-10) using the battle language of Judges 7