

# Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday November 16, 2014

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... 1 John 2:12-14

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

## GROWING IN GRACE

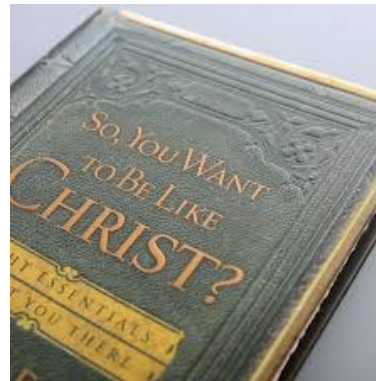
Final Song

Benediction

**“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...”**

**-Ephesians 4:11-15**

## New in the Rosedale Library:



**So You Want to be Like Christ?** – A book by Charles Swindoll. Eight essentials to get you there such as: simplicity, surrender, humility, etc.

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## Families of the Week

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

<b><u>Monday</u></b>	Kirkpatrick, Derek & Melissa
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	Latulippe, Ron & Gloria
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>	Leclerc, Denis
<b><u>Thursday</u></b>	McPherson, Pat
<b><u>Friday</u></b>	Meertins, Cedric
<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	Meinzinger, Julius & Mary

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

## This Week at Rosedale

- Monday: Youth Group – 6:30 pm
- Tuesday: Men’s Bible Study – 9:30 am
- Wednesday: Hopeful Hearts – 12:00 pm  
Prayer and Praise – 7:00 pm
- Saturday: Ladies’ Bible Study – 8:00 am  
Niagara Prayer Group – 9:30 am
- Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:00 am  
Corporate Worship – 10:30 am

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**Women’s Waffle Breakfast:** Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. Cost is just \$5.00. Please sign up today in the foyer and remember to invite a friend!

**Budget Meeting and Pot-Luck:** On Tuesday November 25<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our annual budget & nominations meeting at 7:00pm. All members of Rosedale are encouraged to be present for this important meeting as we look forward to a new year of ministry in 2015. Before the meeting we will enjoy a pot-luck dinner together as a church family at 5:30pm. Please sign up in the foyer.

**Hopeful Hearts:** Rosedale Seniors group will meet this Wednesday at 12pm. This week Pastor John will be sharing some photos from his summer trip to Rome and Ancient Ephesus

**Bible League Journal:** If you would like to order a copy of the 2015 journal/ daily planner from the Bible League please sign up today in the foyer.

## Growing in Grace - 1 John 2:12-14

- After giving 2 tests that help us discern the difference between genuine faith and counterfeit faith (‘Obedience’ Test – 2:3-6; ‘Love’ Test – 2:7-11), John breaks the flow of his argument to reassure the true believers of their standing before God

- Verses 12-14 is a poetical interlude designed to encourage three groups of people within the Church who are at different stages in their spiritual growth:  
1) Children; 2) Young Men; 2) Fathers

### **Stage I: Spiritual Infancy (vv. 12, 13c)**

- 1) Forgiveness of sins
  - a. Every believer in Jesus Christ is a forgiven believer with an equal standing before God. God’s forgiveness is not based on our level of spiritual maturity
  - b. Our sins are forgiven ‘for his name’s sake’ – by grace alone!
- 2) Knowledge of the Father
  - a. Every believer has been given the Spirit of adoption. God’s fatherly love is not based on our level of spiritual maturity.
  - b. The Fatherhood of God is a tremendous source of comfort and security for all of His children, and especially for infants

### **Application:**

- Spiritual infants can take great comfort in the fact that they are totally forgiven and unconditionally loved by God because of Jesus Christ.

- Spiritual infants are particularly vulnerable to attack and need ‘milk’ to begin to grow up in Christ

- Spiritual infants should not be content to remain infants forever. What steps can you take to grow?

## **Stage II: Spiritual Adolescence (vv. 13b, 14b)**

- 1) ‘Young men’ is a figurative description
  - a. Includes both men and women
  - b. Includes a wide variety of ages
- 2) Characterized by Spiritual Strength
  - a. Comes from the knowledge and application of God’s Word
  - b. Results in Spiritual Victory
    - i. Recognizing our own weaknesses
    - ii. Recognizing Satan’s strategies
    - iii. Actively contending for the truth

### **Application:**

- How is your spiritual swordsmanship??

- Are you able to discern truth from error or are you easily blown about and deceived?
- Are you experiencing increasing victory over sin and spiritual strongholds in your life?
- Are you earnestly contending for truth and using your strength for God’s glory?

## **Stage III: Spiritual Parenthood (vv. 13a, 14a)**

- 1) ‘Fathers’ is a figurative description
  - a. Includes both men and women
  - b. Can include a variety of ages, but takes time and experience to achieve
  - c. Maturity is God’s goal for our lives- we were predestined for this purpose!
- 2) Characterized by knowledge of Jesus Christ
  - a. Repeated twice in the text for emphasis
  - b. Growth in the knowledge of Christ is a life-long process – Eph 4:13; 2 Pet 3:18

### **Application:**

- Retirement does not exist in God’s Kingdom!

Spiritual Moms and Dads of Rosedale – how are you helping the ‘kids’ in our church family to grow up?