

Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday April 26th, 2015

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... Mark 1:1-11

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

BACK TO THE WILDERNESS

Final Song

Benediction

Memory Verses for Junior Church:

Younger Elementary:

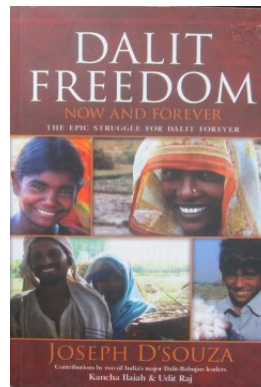
“For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.”

Philippians 2:13

Middle Elementary:

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:5

New in the Rosedale Library:



Dalit Freedom: A book about the epic struggle for Dalit emancipation. “I believe the issue of Dalit freedom is one of the greatest challenges facing the church around the world at this time.” – George Verwer

Families of the Week

Please remember to pray for and to encourage the following people this week

<u>Monday</u>	Meinzinger, Julius & Mary
<u>Tuesday</u>	Metcalf, Kris & Michelle Keegan, Oliver, Jonas, Rael
<u>Wednesday</u>	Miller, Russell & Wendy
<u>Thursday</u>	Morey, Eric
<u>Friday</u>	Morgan, Terry
<u>Saturday</u>	Morog, Matt & Pauline

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 Bible Study – 9:30 am

Wednesday: Prayer and Praise – 7:00 pm

Saturday: Men's Bible Study – 8:00 am

Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:00 am
Corporate Worship – 10:30 am
Membership Class – 6:30 pm

Memorial Service for Aleda Johnston: A memorial service celebrating the life of our sister Aleda Johnston will be held here at Rosedale next Saturday at 11:00am (May 2) with a luncheon to follow.

'Veil of Tears' Movie & Dinner: Friday May 22. One of our Ladies' studies is organizing a dinner to raise awareness, and to help purchase sewing machines for women in India who are in need of a source of income. Cost of dinner will be \$10 for Adults and \$2 for Children. Sign up in the foyer

Spring Clean-up: Thank you to everyone who helped out yesterday with our spring clean-up. Was wonderful to see the church family serving together.

Summer Kids Club: Our summer VBS is scheduled for July 13th to 17th during the morning. This is a great opportunity for gospel outreach here in our community. Please speak with Leslie Bellingham if you would like to volunteer.

Open Arms Collection: For the month of May we will be collecting canned fruit for Open Arms

Back to the Wilderness - Mark 1:1-8

I. A Cry in the Wilderness (vv. 2-3)

- 1) Prophetic Anticipation: Isaiah and Malachi
 - a. A New Exodus from Captivity (Isaiah 40:1-5)
 - i. Partially fulfilled (539 BC) when Israel was delivered from Babylon
 - ii. Israel was still experiencing the pain of 'exile' back in their land – 400 years of enemy occupation and silence from God
 - iii. John's cry in the wilderness signalled that a New Exodus was about to begin!
 - b. A New Messenger (Malachi 3:1-4)
 - i. Expectation of a Prophet who would prepare the way for Israel's King
 - ii. Expectation that Elijah would return shortly before the Messiah (Malachi 4:5-6)
- 2) Prophetic Fulfillment: John the Baptist
 - a. Gospels declare John's ministry to be the fulfillment of Isaiah 40:1-5
 - b. Gospels present John as the fulfillment of Malachi's prophecy about Elijah
 - i. Although John was not literally Elijah (John 1:21), he came in the 'spirit and power' of Elijah (Luke 1:17), and fulfilled Malachi's prophecy (Matthew 17:12-13)
 - ii. John's unusual dress and diet confirm his identity as the new Elijah (cf. 2 Kings 1:8)
 - c. John was immensely popular (v. 5)

II. A Cleansing in the Wilderness (vv. 4-8)

The Significance of John's Baptism in the Jordan

- a. A Symbol of Repentance and Forgiveness
 - i. Water cleans us up on the outside
 - ii. Only God can make us clean within!

- b. A Sign to Israel – New Exodus from Captivity!
 - i. Most likely based on the Jewish practice of baptizing Gentile converts
 - ii. John's baptism indicated that Jewish people needed to be converted too!
 - iii. John was calling his Jewish brethren to come back to the wilderness and to cross the Jordan a second time – A New Exodus for a New Covenant
- c. The Precursor of Christian Baptism
 - i. Baptism of believers – not of infants
 - ii. Full immersion in water (cf. John 3:23)
 - iii. Physical sign of the spiritual reality – Spirit Baptism!

Application: John's call for Israel to repent and be baptized reminds us that nobody is saved by physical birth or by the faith of our parents – we must come to God as individuals who acknowledge our sin and look to Him for salvation

III. A Coronation in the Wilderness (vv. 9-11)

- 1) An Unlikely Baptismal Candidate – Jesus Christ!
 - a. John recognized his inferior role – v. 7
 - b. Like many of us, John was confused by Jesus' request to be baptized - Matt 3:14-15
- 2) Reasons for Jesus' Baptism
 - a. Identification with sinful humanity
 - b. Starting point of Jesus' ministry (Acts 1:21-22)
 - c. Coronation Ceremony for Israel's King!
 - i. Tearing open of the heavens – Isaiah 64:1
 - ii. Father's testimony to the Son – Psalm 2:7
 - iii. Empowerment of the Spirit – Isaiah 11:2

Application: Who do you believe that Jesus is? A good man? An enlightened teacher? Mark wants us to know and to believe that He is the Son of God!