

# Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday March 13, 2016

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... Mark 11:12-21

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

## FRUIT INSPECTION

Final Song

Benediction

### Memory Verses for Junior Church:

#### **Younger Elementary:**

“Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.”  
- Luke 2:11

#### **Middle Elementary:**

“He is Lord of lords and King of kings – and with him will be His called, chosen and faithful followers.”  
- Revelation 17:14b

### Featured in the Rosedale Library:



**War Room (DVD):** A compelling drama with humour and heart that explores the power that prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and every other area of our lives.

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### **Families of the Week**

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

- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b><u>Monday</u></b>    | Morey, Eric         |
| <b><u>Tuesday</u></b>   | Mowat, Bruce & Gail |
| <b><u>Wednesday</u></b> | Muir, Lynne & Alex  |
| <b><u>Thursday</u></b>  | Muir, Stuart        |
| <b><u>Friday</u></b>    | Muir, Muriel        |
| <b><u>Saturday</u></b>  | Muller, Joe         |

# 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

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 – 9:00am  
Corporate Worship – 10:30 am

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**Easter Weekend:** Good Friday service will be held at Bethel Baptist Church in St. Catharines, 10:30am with Pastor John preaching. On Easter Sunday we will be having breakfast before the morning service with Pastor Brent Thomas preaching.

**Euthanasia in Canada:** Dr. Isabel Sarides has prepared a helpful handout explaining current developments in Canadian law that will put vulnerable people at risk and pressure medical professionals to violate their conscience. Please speak out on this important issue, and speak to Isabel or Costa if you have any questions.

**Rose City Kids Fundraising Banquet:** On Saturday April 2 at 5:30pm, you are invited to the annual fundraising banquet for Rose City Kids - a vital youth ministry here in our city. Tickets (\$50) must be purchased in advance by calling Barb – 905-788-9800.

**Plan to Protect Meeting:** Our annual training meeting for 'Plan to Protect' will be happening after the morning service on April 17<sup>th</sup>. All children's ministry workers must attend along with anyone else who is interested in children's ministry here at Rosedale. Speak to Leslie Bellingham for more information.

## Fruit Inspection

Mark 11:12-21

### **I. A Fruitless Tree (vv. 12-14; 20-21)**

- 1) Jesus' Most Controversial Miracle
  - a. One of two 'destructive' miracles in the New Testament Gospels (cf. Mark 5:10-13)
  - b. A question of motives...
    - i. Was Jesus venting 'sinful' anger?
    - ii. Was Jesus abusing His power on an 'innocent' part of creation?
    - iii. Is there a better explanation for this?
- 2) An Enacted Parable of Judgment
  - a. Old Testament Prophets often acted out prophetic messages of Judgment
  - b. Jesus is functioning as a Prophet
    - i. Message of Judgment on Israel's Religious Establishment
    - ii. Enforcement of the 'Covenant Curses' outlined in Deuteronomy 28
- 3) Cursing of the Fig Tree
  - a. From a distance it had the appearance of life and fruitfulness – lots of leaves!
    - i. Mature Figs were normally harvested several months after Passover in the Fall
    - ii. Early green figs (called 'paggim') were eaten in the Spring by locals
  - b. Jesus' curse on the fig tree has deep prophetic significance
    - i. Fig Tree is a symbol of Israel – (Jeremiah 8:13, 29:17; Hosea 9:10,16; Joel 1:7; Micah 7:1-6; Isaiah 34:4)
    - ii. The prophetic connection between this fig tree and Israel is made clear by Mark's arrangement of material here in vv. 12-26

### **II. A Fruitless Temple (vv. 15-19)**

- 1) Display of Righteous Anger
  - a. Probably the second time Jesus has 'cleansed' the Temple (cf. John 2:13-22)
  - b. A display of God's righteous indignation against an unrighteous religious system
- 2) The Reason for the Cleansing
  - a. Abuse of the poor/ Unjust business
    - i. 'Den of Robbers' – immoral interest rates charged by money changers
    - ii. Mention of pigeons (v. 15) suggests the exploitation of the poor by Temple Authorities
  - b. Irreverence for God's House – Temple being used as a shortcut through the city (v. 16)
  - c. Crowding out the Gentiles -Israel was not being faithful to her missionary mandate (Isaiah 56; Psalm 67; Genesis 12:3)
  - d. Dissolution of the Temple
    - i. The Temple stood at the centre of Israel's religious and national identity
    - ii. Jesus was showing the Jewish people that the physical Temple was a temporary shadow pointing to something much greater (cf. John 2:18-22, 4:21; Hebrews 8:13; Ephesians 2:11-18)
    - iii. Foreshadowing of Temple Destruction by the Romans in AD 70 – see Mark 13

### **III. A Fruitless 'Christian'??**

- 1) God's Judgment on Fruitless Israel is a warning for the New Covenant Church – Romans 11:21
  - 2) Genuine Faith → Spiritual Fruit (Matthew 7:16; John 15:8,16; Galatians 5:22-24; James 2:14-26)
- Application:** Is your life/ our Church full of leaves or full of fruit?? God's Spirit always produces fruit!!