

Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday March 12, 2017

Welcome & Announcements

Musical Praise & Worship

Family Prayer

Scripture 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

MAINTAINING UNITY - PART II

Final Song

Benediction

“In order to work together in a ministry context, Christians need to agree about the gospel. How are we saved? What are we saved from? What is the basis of our right standing before God? If Christians disagree about the gospel itself, no true cooperation in matters of ministry is possible. Beyond that, the amount of theological agreement Christians should have will vary depending on what work they intend to do. In order to be in the same local church, Christians will need to agree about issues like the proper subjects of baptism and the biblical form of church government. At the same time, there are many ways Christians who don't belong to the same church can practically work together for the good of the broader church, including partnering for evangelistic work, preaching and teaching in one another's churches, and so on. Such work outside the local church will require less agreement, particularly in peripheral matters. For instance, there is no reason a Baptist and Presbyterian cannot do evangelism together.”

- 9Marks/ Mark Dever

Featured in the Rosedale Library:



Do You Believe? (DVD): When a local Pastor is shaken to the core by a old street-corner Preacher, he is reminded that true belief always requires action.

Families of the Week

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

- Monday** Warankie, Diane
Peyton, Broderick
- Tuesday** Warankie, Pat & Danielle
- Wednesday** Ynema, Ron & Willie
- Thursday** Arnold, Nelson & Heather
Grace, Michael, Elizabeth
- Friday** Arthurs, Gary & Bonnie
- Saturday** Bellingham, John & Leslie
Daniel, Christina, Carey

ROSEDALE BAPTIST CHURCH



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

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Pastor: John C. Bellingham

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This Week at Rosedale

Tuesday: Men's Bible Study – 9:30 am

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Friday: Youth Group – 7:00 pm

Saturday: Men's Bible Study – 8:00 am

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

Welcome Visitors: If you are new to Rosedale or just stopping by for a visit, please take a moment to fill out the visitor card in the pew and place it in the offering plate. Pastor John would be happy to connect with you and answer any questions you may have about our Church.

FEB Central Conference: The FEB Central Regional Conference will be held on April 3 & 4 at City Centre Baptist Church in Mississauga. The theme for the conference is 'Recharge' and Dr. Scotty Smith will be the Keynote speaker. Cost for the Conference is \$35. If you would like to register please speak with Pastor John.

Garage Sale: Rosedale is organizing a Garage Sale to benefit Open Arms Mission on Saturday April 29th. Please take note of this date as you do spring cleaning and plan to begin bringing your items during the month of April.

Promise Keepers: Bethany Community Church will be hosting a Promise Keepers Men's Conference on April 8th. The cost to register before \$50 (before March 21st). If you would like to register please speak to Pastor John.

Maintaining Unity - 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

I. God's Desire - v. 10

- 1) The Warmth of Paul's Appeal
 - a. Christians are 'brothers' - part of same family
 - b. Christians belong to the same Lord
- 2) The Content of Paul's Appeal
 - a. Stated Positively – “that all of you agree” (literally – ‘say the same thing’)
 - b. Stated Negatively – “that there be no divisions” ('divisions' = *schismata* = schism/ tear)
- 3) The Biblical Limits of Paul's Appeal
 - a. Paul is NOT teaching that all Christians must share the same opinions about everything (cf. Romans 14; 1 Corinthians 8)
 - b. Paul is NOT teaching that Christians should set aside doctrinal truth for the sake of visible unity (cf. Romans 16:17; Titus 3:10)
 - c. Paul is NOT teaching that we should never confront or divide over a doctrinal issue (cf. Galatians 2:11-14)
 - d. Paul is NOT teaching that we should avoid subjects simply because they are difficult to understand or controversial (cf. Romans 9-11)
- 4) The Basis for Christian Unity
 - a. Unity is created by God and maintained by man (cf. 1 Cor 12:27; Ephesians 4:1-3)
 - b. Unity is governed by the Apostolic body of teaching contained in God's Inspired Word (cf. Acts 2:42; Romans 16:17; Galatians 1:8-9)

Application:

- We must understand the difference between a primary issue, a secondary issue and a personal opinion.
- Paul expects all Christians to be completely unified on the primary doctrines of the Christian faith. There should be no disunity when it comes to matters of central importance such as the Deity of Jesus Christ, the Triune nature of God, the Authority of Scripture,

Salvation by Grace alone through Faith etc. On these issues we must take an uncompromising stand.
- There are some theological issues where genuine Christians will continue to disagree (ie. Age of the Earth, Infant vs. Believer's Baptism, Church Governance, Timing of Christ's Return, Role of Israel in God's Plan, Divine Sovereignty and Human Freedom; Use of Tongues/ Prophecy, etc.) It is possible to disagree on these types of issues and still to maintain Christian Unity. Sometimes disagreements on these types of issues will mean that we seek fellowship in different Churches or Denominations for the sake of peace.
- It is a tragedy when Christians divide and quarrel over personal opinions and preferences (ie. Bible Versions, Clothing, Food and Drink, Music Styles etc.)

II. The Corinthian Dysfunction - vv. 11-17

- 1) Personality Cults and 'Cliques'
 - a. Paul, Apollos and Peter were of one mind on matters of Christian doctrine/ theology
 - b. Unlike the personality 'cliques' in Corinth, some modern distinctions are rooted in legitimate, ongoing theological differences (ie. Calvinism, Arminianism, Lutheranism, Wesleyanism etc.)
- 2) Misuse of Baptism
 - a. In Corinth, Baptism had become a sign of party loyalty rather than a sign of union with Christ
 - b. Paul does not deprecate Baptism or suggest that it's optional – he's rebuking sinful pride
 - c. The Corinthians were wrongly elevating Baptism above the preaching of God's Word

Application:

- Carefully evaluate your loyalty and your motives – are you more eager to be identified Jesus Christ or with your favorite Bible teacher or Denomination?
- Quarrelling/ Dividing over non-essential matters dishonours Christ, contradicts our profession of faith, and ruins our gospel witness to the unsaved world.