

# Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday June 4, 2017

Welcome & Announcements

Musical Praise & Worship

Family Prayer

Scripture ..... 1 Corinthians 4:6-21

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

## SMUG SPIRITUALITY

Lord's Table

Final Song

Benediction

"In virtually every preindustrial culture – sons were expected to 'imitate' their fathers. Vocationally, if the father was a baker, the son would likely become a baker; if the father was a sheep farmer, that is what the son would almost certainly become. The son was expected to carry on family values, family heritage, family name. With that cultural expectation controlling his analogy, Paul argues that if he became the 'father' to the Corinthians, they ought to imitate him... He does not expect them to suffer in exactly the same way he does; he does not demand that they all become apostles or plant churches in distant lands. What he does expect of them is that they will imitate his values, his stance with respect to the world, his priorities, and his valuation of the exclusive centrality of the gospel of the crucified Messiah."

- D.A. Carson

# Missionary of the Week

## Christian Salvage Mission

Thank you from Accra Ghana: "Dear CSM, we are very grateful for the container of Bibles and literature you sent us for the furtherance of the gospel. Many institutions who have received their portion of the distribution say more grace to CSM and all staff. Presently, we have finished with the distribution and praying that they will be used to further the gospel proclamation to the glory of God. 900 individual Christians received packages of materials and other partially blind schools, orphanages and nursing training schools all benefited from your material. May the Lord reward you all bountifully and may CSM continue to survive despite all odds in the global crisis. Amen. David Maxwell Owoo."

*If you have Bibles or other Christian books that are Biblically and theologically sound please bring them to Pastor John and we will deliver them to CSM.*

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## Families of the Week

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

- Monday** Bertin, Jeanne
- Tuesday** Blanchard, Terry & Pam
- Wednesday** Cerone, Richard & Carole  
Jeremy, Johnathan, Tiffany
- Thursday** Denis, David
- Friday** Denis, Gaston & Kim
- Saturday** Denis, Esther

# ROSEDALE BAPTIST CHURCH



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

11 Rosedale Place  
Welland, ON L3B 1J2  
905-735-0788

Pastor: Rev. John C. Bellingham

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

## This Week at Rosedale

Tuesday: Men's Bible Study – 9:30 am

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Thursday: International Café – 7:00 pm

Friday: Youth Group – 7:00 pm

Saturday: Men's Bible Study – 8:00 am  
Spring Cleaning Day – 9:30 am

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

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**Worship on the Water:** The Evangelical Churches of Welland are once again partnering in a city-wide Church service that will take place at 6pm on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you have a talent for singing and would like to be part of a mass choir please email Charmaine Stulp at stulps422@gmail.com.

**Spring Cleaning:** Esther Denis is organizing a Cleaning Day for Rosedale which will take place on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>. We will begin at 9:30am and conclude with a Pizza Lunch around noon. Please sign up in the foyer if you are available to help.

**Days in the Park:** Rosedale Baptist will be participating in the Rose Festival Days in the Park on June 17-18. If you would like to be part of this this community outreach opportunity please sign up in the foyer for a time slot.

**Open Arms Collection:** For the month of June we will be collecting Pasta Sauce for the ministry of Open Arms.

## Smug Spirituality

1 Corinthians 4:6-21

### **I. Paul's Apostolic Rebuke – vv. 6-13**

- 1) A 'Superiority Complex' – vv. 6-7
  - a. Trespassing Biblical Boundaries
    - i. Their boasting in leaders was unbiblical
    - ii. Their criticism of leaders was unbiblical
    - iii. Paul warns them not to go 'beyond what was written' (cf. 1:19-20, 31; 2:19-21)
  - b. Forgetting God's Grace
    - i. The Corinthians were acting as though they were superior to one another
    - ii. Paul reminds them that a Christian has nothing apart from God's grace!

#### **Application:**

- There is no room for boasting and arrogance within the Church. If we truly understand the depth of our sinfulness and the immensity of God's grace we will boast in the cross of Christ and in nothing else.

- 2) Smug Self-Satisfaction – vv. 8-13
  - a. The Corinthian Church had embraced an '*over-realized eschatology*'
    - i. They were acting as though the Kingdom of God had fully arrived when in fact it had not!
    - ii. Paul reminds them that we live in an age of tension between the 'now' of God's Kingdom and the 'not yet' of God's Kingdom
      - Triumphalism vs. Suffering
      - Arrogance vs. Humility
  - b. The Corinthians had become self-satisfied and blind to their spiritual poverty (cf. Rev 3:14-22)

#### **Application:**

- Unbiblical triumphalism remains a problem in the Church today: Prosperity Theology, Faith Healing, Sinless Perfectionism, 'Higher Life' teaching etc.

- We must learn to embrace suffering, tribulation and persecution as part of the normal Christian life. As Christians we should not foster a 'martyr complex' but neither should we expect to live a trouble-free life.

- Because the Western Church enjoys tremendous affluence and political protection we are particularly vulnerable to the Corinthian error. There is much we North Americans can learn from our impoverished and persecuted brethren around the world.

- Any Church that becomes spiritually smug and self-satisfied is ripe for the discipline of God

### **II. Paul's Fatherly Warning – vv. 14-21**

- 1) Paul loves the Corinthians as their Father
  - a. He was a 'father' in the sense that many had come to faith in Christ through his preaching
  - b. Paul's words may seem harsh, but his motive is loving – a loving father warns his wayward children whenever they are in danger!
- 2) Paul wants the Corinthians to imitate his example
  - a. In Paul's culture a son was expected to follow in the footsteps of his father
  - b. Paul has been walking the road of humility and suffering and wants his Corinthian children to do the same (cf. 3 John 1:4)
- 3) Paul will use corrective discipline if necessary
  - a. He has already dispatched Timothy to Corinth
  - b. He plans to visit the Church in person
    - i. Paul is not afraid to confront troublemakers
    - ii. Paul will assess their spiritual maturity
    - iii. Paul does not want to use discipline, but he will spank the Corinthians if needed!

#### **Application:**

- Discipline in the home and in the Church is a reflection of God's Fatherly love (cf. Hebrews 12:6). Discipline is never pleasant, but sometimes it is the most loving and constructive thing that can be done.