

Ralph Nygard, Pastor

July 30, 2017

WELCOME!

(Luke 8:4-8 NIV) While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: {5} "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. {6} Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. {7} Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. {8} Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown." When he said this, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Most people are afraid of failure. In fact, the retirement program in our denomination sends a questionnaire to us in order that we might find out how comfortable we are with risky investments. The thought of the stock market having another blue Monday or black Friday is somewhat scary to me when I think that my "golden years" will depend on my investments.

In our daily lives, the choices we make are closely connected to our feelings about failure. In the passage about the sower and the seed, Jesus makes it very clear that much that is sown falls by the wayside through various obstacles. The farmer is willing for many of the seeds to perish in order that those that fall onto good soil will spring forth abundantly to a harvest that will multiply a hundred times more than he has sown. If we connect this parable to church growth and evangelism, it is important that we sow alot of seeds. We must have outreach programs, special events, music programs, an effective Sunday School, community ministries, children's programs, and weekday Bible studies. The list could go on.

Many people that are in our churches are afraid to risk and afraid to fail. In fact, if we would make a comparison in the manner many are using their resources and abilities to win the world to Christ, it would picture the farmer planting his crop on his hands and knees carefully planting each seed in the ground to insure that no seed is wasted. On the surface, this approach seems to be sound. After all, we must not waste the Lord's resources. Jesus was not speaking about discipleship and spiritual growth in this passage. He was referring to authentic conversion. God is the one who will bring forth the harvest and bless the seeds that are planted. It is sad to discover that many leaders and teachers spend all their time trying to nurture believers that should have grown up years ago. Very few Sunday School Classes have never had a vision to reproduce themselves by starting new classes and training future leaders.

We must be sowing seeds. The thought is plain and simple. We really do not have control over the quality of the soil. If conversion is authentic, God will help young Christians who desire to grow to reach maturity through the power of the implanted Holy Spirit. Let's get busy!! Don't be afraid to fail! Sow some seeds!

Blessings,

PASTOR RAIPH

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Welcome to Eau Gallie First Baptist Church. Our vision is to reach our community by connecting people to the family of God. That includes you! Please take a moment to fill out your Connect Card and place it in the offering basket when it comes around during the service. If you are a guest, we invite you to pick up a "guest packet" in the front lobby or by the West Covered Entrance.

Free Bibles are also available at the information desk! If you have kids, childcare is available in our preschool area for kids: birth-age 5. There is also a cry room available at the NE corner of the worship center. For kids grades 1-6, they are invited to "Energize" kids worship which dismisses during the Contemporary Service. Don't forget to pick them up after the service in the Youth Zone.

Discovering Church Membership Seminar. Sign Up Today !

Sunday, August 13 from 4:00 - 7:30 PM

This Course is offered every 3 months so that people can learn about the history, core values, and beliefs of this church. It also helps people to understand how our church is structured and how we cooperate with other churches to bring the Gospel Message to the World. As the early church was committed and "members of one another" this course will give those who attend an opportunity to join the membership of EGFirst Baptist. **Dinner will be provided. Sign up on your Connect Card. Childcare is available on request.**

Just a Reminder— No Children's Programs this Wednesday

This includes Mission Friends and nursery. All children's programs resume next Wednesday, 8/9.

End of Summer Tea for Ladies and Youth Girls , 7th and Up!

Save the date for Saturday, August 12 at 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

EG First Women's Ministry is holding the tea for women and youth girls 7th grade and up. We ask that you bring a fingerfood of your choice and your favorite cup for tea. Hot tea, drinks and desserts will be provided. Sign up on your Connect Card!

What is Challenge to Build?

You may have noticed that people give to the CTB fund and could be wondering what this fund supports. Back when our church relocated to this property, we asked people to give an "over and above" offering for a period of 3 years. Through this giving we have raised over 2.25 million dollars. Through the challenge of " equal sacrifice, not equal gifts" many people are still giving to help pay down our building debt and for replacement repairs of the building. With more people joining in giving, we can eventually become debt free.

THIS WEEK AT EG FIRST!

Sunday: July 30

Prayer First: 8:30 AM Library Open: 8:45 - 9:15 AM

10:00 - 10:30 AM Youth Leaders Prayer Time: 9:00 AM Revolution United (Youth): 9:15 AM

Tuesday: August 1

Library Open: 9:30 AM

Deacons Meeting: 7:00 PM

Wednesday: August 2

NO CHILDRENS PROGRAMS

Men's Life Group: 1:30 PM Dinner Served: 5:00 - 6:00 PM Library Open: 5:45 PM Bible Study & Prayer: 6:15 PM Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:15 PM Traditional Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 PM Revolution (Fishing & Bible Study @ Ballard)): 6:00 PM

Friday: August 4

Salt S.S. Class: 6:00 PM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 08/06 Karl Mantz, John Hawthorne, Diana Hofbauer
- 08/07 Howard Crisp, Jeanie Lindsey, Hope Kelley, Alaina Still, Danielle Hallsworth, Tyler Raines
- 08/08 Bea Ellis, Richard Hayes, Brooklyn O'Brien, Justin Price
- 08/09 James Teele, Christina Jinright
- 08/10- Mary Higginbotham, Michele Scanlon, Trezden Lucker
- 08/12 David Dingley

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Weekly Memory Verse

Acts 20:24 But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

9:15 AM Sunday Traditional Worship

Welcome Choral Praise: Live in Praise of the Lord Sharing in Fellowship: In the Presence of the Lord Message in Song: I Am Not Alone Worship Through Singing: God of Grace and God of Glory God, Whose Purpose is to Kindle I Will Call Upon the Lord Thy Word You Are My Hiding Place Have Thine Own Way, Lord Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

10:30 AM Sunday Contemporary Worship

Worship Songs Today:

I Saw the Light I'll Fly Away God With Us Overwhelmed First I Am Not Alone Let It Be Known

OUR MISSION:

Love God, Love People, Share Jesus, Reach the World

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