

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

I think when I was a kid there was a movie that came out called 2010. I can't even tell you what happened in the I don't think that there is much argument on the fact that Scripture teaches that believers are called to serve somehow and somewhere. I have been thinking for a while about how God might want to plant that quality in us as a church. One of the directions I've encouraged us to explore serving has been through ministries like Operation Christmas Child or serving at the Food Pantry in Mifflintown. Those are two of many different ministries that could benefit from the gifts we find within this body.

We have ministry opportunities here at church as well. For the past month or so, there has been a list of ministry opportunities provided for you in the bulletins. I hope you will consider them and pray about each of them.

I read of a study that was done in regards to the giving of monies and time and came up with the 80/20 statistic. It says that 80% of all giving (time & monies) are given by 20% of the church. What does that teach us? It teaches us that the church around the world is perhaps not maximizing its potential for service.

For us at Good News Church, I want to encourage us to be a church that serves. 1st Peter 4:10 says, *"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."* I mentioned before that one way I've been trying to encourage all of you was through ministries like Operation Christmas Child. Before I close, I want to suggest another way to serve.

Proverbs 22:6 says, *"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."* Let's pass on to our children the gift of serving in Jesus' name. I want to encourage us as a church to think about ways to have our children and teens regularly serve at the church. I'm not suggesting that this isn't happening now but how great would it be if it happened more?

If you have a great idea for a way in which children can serve at Good News, please share it with me.

Blessings,
Pastor Mark

WHAT'S THE PASTOR PREACHING ON?



On February 7th, we will conclude our SOS series by looking at Colossians chapter 3. My hope is that we see the need to have the sinful ways removed from our lives. Through the leading of God, the cleansing of Jesus and the choices we make, this can occur. My hope is that we are encouraged to ask God to begin that work in our lives.

A year ago, I wanted to do a series on love and marriage but for whatever reason, it didn't happen. The second Sunday in February is Valentine's Day so it seems like a fitting time to start a series on marriage. Marriages are constantly under attack and my hope is that we can encourage and equip those who are married and those who aren't married in the ways of God. One of the challenges in my mind in doing this series is that not everyone is married so as we study this topic for two weeks, I hope that all of us find these sermons applicable to every relationship we have.

I don't think two weeks is enough to cover all that there is to talk about marriage. When I was thinking about what to preach on I would not include anything in regards to communication or growing in marriage but tried to stick to two important areas. Hopefully, in the future, we can address some other areas as well.

February 14th—Ephesians 4:31-5:2: Forgiveness is essential in any relationship and it's paramount in marriage. Our world speaks often of conditional forgiveness and overlooks the unconditional forgiveness of Jesus. God's heart is that in all relationships we would forgive as He does.

February 21st—Our goal in any relationship should be to have them free from painful and sinful experiences. This morning we will be studying 1st Corinthians 10:11-13 to challenge us to stand firm to the parasites that want to destroy our lives.

Also, on the 21st there will be a special service at Good News at 7pm sponsored by a number of local churches. This service is intended to be a preparation for our hearts with the start of the Lenten season.

In the weeks following, I will preach through a number of passages that prepare us for Easter Sunday. These passages all give us different reactions from different people in Scripture to who Jesus is and what He was doing. My hope is that each week we examine ourselves and how we respond to what Jesus is doing in our lives. We begin on February 28th with Matthew 16:21-23 and see Jesus' response to Peter after Peter rebuked Jesus.

Midweek Bible Studies

Women's Study:

On Wednesday, March 10th, the women will begin an 11-week study on Kay Arthur's book: **Lord is it Warfare**. Class will be led by Jeannie Landis.

Men's Study:

Watch for more information to come regarding this study.



Community Lenten Service

Sunday, February 21st
At 7pm



Good News Church

Please bring cookies or bars for fellowship following the service.



FEBRUARY FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Swimming at Laubach's Pool House

Friday, February 26th
7-9pm

Suggested Donation:
\$3 per person

MARK YOUR

Epictivities

Sunday, February 7th

Annual Church Meeting

Sunday, February 7th—5pm

Super Bowl Party at the Watts'

Monday, February 8th—7pm

Camp on the Road Leadership Meeting

Tuesday, February 9th

Sub Orders Delivered

Wednesday, February 10th—8:30pm

Elder Board Meeting

February 12th-15th

Winter Weekend @ Tuscarora

Saturday, February 13th—7am

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, February 21st—7pm

Community Lenten Service @ Good News

Friday, February 26th—7pm