

August 2017



 Omega Baptist Church

A circle of believers with Christ at the center.

BEACON

“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

Unmasking the Lies Continues

This is part of my God given duty: “We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” 2 Corinthians 10:5. Lies that we are told take on great importance when they are against the knowledge of God. It is impossible to compromise with those lies. We need to demolish them. Here are some factors that make it difficult.

Most of the lies we encounter are disguised or camouflaged to some degree. Liars disguise their motives as well. Few of us have training in critical thinking. We voluntarily subject ourselves to influences that train our brains to have short and divided attention spans. But regardless of how challenging it is, we need to learn how to identify and demolish arguments and pretensions aimed at us, especially those with eternal consequences.

Coming up in August I plan to tackle two very important areas; the cross of Jesus and the meaning of life. I would encourage you

to consider inviting someone to attend with you who may also benefit from reflecting on these things. Who doesn't need to think about the cross and the meaning of life?

As Jesus prayed to the Heavenly Father for his followers just a few hours before he went to the cross, “Sanctify them (make them holy, set them apart) by the truth. Your word is truth.” John 17:17. The truth of God's word is what we need to free us from all that is opposed to the knowledge of God.

In His Joy, for His Kingdom,

Pastor Rodney

AUGUST SERMON SCHEDULE

- 6 Truths about the Cross of Jesus**
- 13 Guest Speaker - Don Rhody**
- 20 Guest Speaker - Don Stolhammer**
- 27 This Is in the Bible? Ecclesiastes**



YOUTH MINISTRY



So I was thinking...

What has fear stopped you from doing? I don't know who said this first or even where I heard it first, but I love this, "If you want to walk on water you've got to get out of the boat!" (That's also why I picked up the book with the same title by John Ortberg.) How many times does fear stop us from getting out of the boat? Better yet, what's your boat? As a mom of boys and a wife of a very adventurous husband, I realize that my fears try to stop them from being who they were designed to be...guys! They always want to go off the trail, climb the waterfall, jump from the rock and I'm always standing on the edge telling them all that could go wrong. It's not to nag or to be a fun-sucker, it's my fear. My fear that something could go wrong and one of them will get hurt. I want to protect them and if I'm honest I don't want to feel the pain of them being hurt. Sometimes the fear gets a pretty good hold on me and my attitude shows it. But what is my fear telling them? What message am I sending? I don't want my message to them to be, "When you feel fear, stop!" Yes, please think it through and be careful, seek help or guidance and maybe don't tell me, but don't let fear stop you from trying. I don't want them to miss the opportunity to get out of the boat because mom taught them stop when fear strikes.

Over the years, I have often thought about the story in Matthew 14:22-33 of the one and only true water-walker. Out of all the disciples in the boat that night, why was Peter the only one to get out of the boat? Why did only one of them have the experience of feeling the water under his feet? Oh, what an experience that had to be! Can you imagine it? I'd like to think that this experience changed Peter. It had to! I believe it grew his faith as only a "water-walking" experience can. And yes, his fear did get the best of him at one point and he sunk, but it was because he let the fear win and he took his eyes off Jesus! I can only imagine what that failure taught him! For one it should have taught him that when you fail, Jesus picks you up! (For him...literally!) His willingness to risk the walk gave him an opportunity that no one else has ever received. I wonder if the guys left in the boat ever regretted not getting to experience water walking. There's no way they ridiculed him for the failure because he could say to them, "At least I got out of the boat!"

I think sometimes (besides fear of failure) fear of what others might say might be our biggest obstacle to water walking. It's not the wind or the waves or even the fear of drowning. It's what others might say. I don't know what your boat is, but to help you identify it think of it as whatever represents safety and security to you (not counting God). It's whatever makes you comfortable and what you are tempted to put your trust in. Ask yourself, what is it that produces fear in me – especially when I think of leaving it behind and stepping out in faith? (Taken from John Ortberg.) Sit with that question for a while. The answer might surprise you.

The boat may feel safe and secure and you might have good rational explanations as to why you can't step out of it. The waves are definitely high and I'm guessing the winds are hurricane force. But I believe there is more to just sitting in the boat. Stepping out of the boat is how you find your calling! It is God given. And no one on earth can stop you from finding it, except you. Stepping out of the boat is how you grow your faith and how you learn to depend on God. The one thing I've started to learn is that you won't grow if you stay in the boat. At the end of your life, don't you want to be able to say, "I stepped out of the boat?"

...until next time.

Rebecca Anderson

Heaven - Don't Miss It For The World!

"For JESUS is the One ... There is salvation in no one else!
God has given no other name under heaven
by which we must be saved." Acts 4:11-12

"... Whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me
has eternal life ... " - Jesus, in John 5:24

"My home is in Heaven. I'm just traveling through this world."
- Billy Graham

"The fact that our hearts yearn for something earth can't supply is
proof that Heaven must be our home." - C.S. Lewis

"For this world is not our permanent home;
we are looking forward to a home yet to come."
Hebrews 13:14

"But we are citizens of Heaven
where the Lord Jesus Christ lives."
Philippians 3:20a

"Remember, Earth is not Heaven." - Rick Warren

"The more of Heaven there is in our lives,
the less of Earth we shall covet." - Charles Spurgeon

"He who lays up treasures in Heaven looks forward to eternity."
- Randy Alcorn

"Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory
He will reveal to us later." Romans 8:18

"Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal."

"One drop of the sweetness of heaven is enough to take away all the
sourness & bitterness of all the afflictions in the world."
- Jeremiah Burroughs

"I would not give one moment of Heaven
for all the joy & riches of the world." - Martin Luther

"My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would
I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?"

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back
and take you to be with Me, that you also may be where I am.

You know the way to the place where I am going. ...

I am the way, the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through Me."

-Jesus, in John 14:2-6

"Jesus is preparing your Heavenly home for you.

He knows exactly what you love. He knows exactly what thrills your heart,
and He's preparing it for you ...

Heaven is beautiful in that it's a prepared place."

- Anne Graham Lotz

OBC Quarterly Business Meeting Sunday, August 20, 7:00 p.m.

Small Group Leadership Training Sunday, August 27, 12 noon

All skill levels welcome
-junior high age to adult-
to join us for



Ultimate Frisbee

At the Ogema Elementary School Ballfield

Friday evenings throughout the summer
6:30-8:30

August Birthdays

- 2 Terrie Grapa, Darrin Polzin
- 3 Karolyn Erickson, Ashley Berg
- 4 Carrie Ulrich
- 7 Chris Blomberg, Landon Blomberg,
Teague Shoup, Violet Jesunas
- 8 Harold Buzan, Michelle Nelson, Alisha Olson,
Vytales Jesunas
- 9 Mindi Wolsky
- 10 Julia Blomberg
- 12 Kari Swan, Thorson Gustafson
- 13 Scott Hueckman, Mike Ulrich
- 15 Tina Cattanaach
- 16 Manny Espinoza
- 17 Hagan Isaacson
- 18 Levi Gedde, Angelica Ezpinoza
- 19 Duane Heldstab
- 20 Andrea Blomberg, Deb Bosserman,
Katie Carlson, Emma Blomberg
- 21 Debbie Gustafson, Christopher Gedde,
Fallon Blomberg
- 22 Heidi Loomis
- 23 Molly Andreae, Justin Ulrich
- 24 Lloyd Johnson, Nikki Heikkinen
- 25 Nathan Lind, Carolyn Bauer
- 26 Noah Ulrich, Lance Gustafson, Lance Meier
- 27 Chuck Selander, Keith Erickson,
Richard Ziegler
- 28 Joan Gasser
- 29 Donna Woodie
- 31 Calvin Blomberg



Something Special for Ladies of All Ages!

Titus 2

Summer Evening Get-togethers

Mondays, August 14 & 28, 6:30 p.m.

Worship Music & Testimony

at Janet Blomberg's home - W2990 Ring School Road, Ogema

For an early start and more fellowship,

meet at 5:30 next door at Pattie Swan's - W3954 Ring School Rd.

OGEMA BAPTIST CHURCH

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- You have an address change
- You no longer want to be on our Beacon mailing list
- You would rather receive your Beacon by email

Email: info@ogemabaptistchurch.org

Sunday School for all ages – 9:00 am
Sunday Worship – 10:15 am
Wednesday Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Missionary Spotlight

Dr. Pat, News Service 2000 A Ministry to Persecuted Christians



In our ministry to the Persecuted Church, we meet with many who have been imprisoned, tortured, and faced death simply for standing for their faith in Jesus Christ.

They have so much to teach us about perseverance in the midst of suffering, hope for the eternal, and about boldness and joy in the face of persecution. God has filled them with joy, because they have dedicated themselves totally to God's service.

In all the years that I've traveled to visit and encourage the Persecuted Church, the first thing the Christians always ask for is prayer, and the second thing is Bibles. Not once in 35 some years have they asked us to pray that the persecution end! But, they do ask that we pray that they will remain faithful.

You can learn from them even if you can't go to them. Their stories, their examples can come to you through www.newsservice2000.com. And you can help them in a very tangible way, through your prayers and support.

Hebrews 13:3 says **"Remember those who are in prison as if you were in prison with them, and those who are suffering since you also are in the Body."**

I encourage you to get to know the Persecuted Church in a very personal way, by meeting those who are persecuted. They are standing in the gap for us, doing the work that we cannot do, reaching their fellow countrymen with the Good News about Jesus Christ.

In His glad service, Dr. Pat, President & Founder of News Service 2000

