

January 2019



 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

When Fighting is the Right Thing

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 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 10:3-5

Strongholds in people’s thinking that keep them trapped and arguments and pretensions that are against the knowledge of God are to be demolished. It is the right thing to fight against those things. But sometimes demolition isn’t pretty, nice or polite. It is, however, necessary.

You were born into a world at war. The spiritual conflict that has been underway for thousands of years is still being fought. Your heart and soul is the prize that the combatants are seeking. We come into this world as subjects of the “dominion of darkness” and need to be rescued. When we put our trust in Jesus for eternal life, turning to him in repentance and faith, we are brought into the kingdom of the Son (Colossians 1:13). We have switched sides in the battle of the ages.

One of the changes that takes place is how we wage war in this battle. We now are to use different weapons, ones that have divine power. One of the divinely empowered weapons we use

is prayer. By using it properly we can advance the Kingdom and advance personally in our walk of faith.

I have never met anyone, including myself, who thinks that they are excellent prayer warriors. A quote from motivational speaker Zig Ziglar may help you at this point. He said, “If something is worth doing, it is worth doing poorly until you can learn to do it well.” Don’t believe the lie of the enemy that unless you can pray great prayers, you shouldn’t even bother. Prayer is not as much about our technique as it is about the awesomeness of the One to whom we are praying. Prayer is worth doing, even if you’re just learning how to get started. Let us pray.

In His Strength,

Pastor Rodney



JANUARY SERMON SCHEDULE

- | | |
|----|---|
| 6 | “Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing” |
| 13 | Luke 17:1-10 “Instructions for Jesus’ Followers” |
| 20 | Luke 17:11-19 “Are You the 1 out of 10?” |
| 27 | Luke 17:20-37 “The Revelation of Jesus” |



YOUTH-MINISTRY



So I was thinking... it's the start of a new year, what have you reflected on?

In Ground Zero we have a theme of being under construction and in the weeks leading up to our Christmas Party we focused on relationships. Relationships with parents, peers and romance. I find it humbling and a little funny that more often than not, I learn from or am impacted by the lessons we share with students. I often find myself recognizing my story and struggles either from the past or from current situations in our lessons. And while I don't always get to be present when someone else speaks, our recent talk on relationships with parents really struck me. More so as a parent than about my past as someone's child.

The speaker that night had the Ground Zero students write out one thing they wished their parents knew and then she read them out loud. I'm not going to give you examples here, but if you Google, "Things Teens Wish Their Parents Knew," you will find their answers. And guess what, they are the same desires we would have had as teenagers.

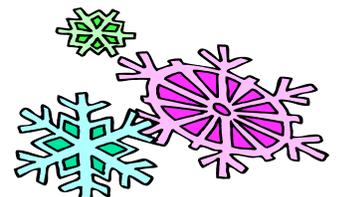
Have you ever thought about how you were raised and the thing that drove you nuts about your parents? Chances are you vowed, "When I have kids, I will never do/say _____." You'll have to fill in the blank because I know all of us said something. And maybe you even followed through with whatever you said you wouldn't do, but guess what? They are making their own statement about what you do or don't do. Can you believe that?!

Parenting is hard. It's also frustrating, beautiful, exhausting, and fulfilling! All rolled up with pain and joy. Our kid's hurts are our hurts and our kid's joy are our joys. I think that's why it is so hard sometimes for us, the parents. We don't like to feel pain any more than our kids do and because we hurt when our kids hurt, we want to spare ourselves the pain. Don't get me wrong, we also want to spare them the pain, but let's be real. Our own fear of pain can sometimes take the wheel in our decision making or reactions to situations.

One of the hardest seasons of my life has been learning to give my kids over to God. To trust that He has a plan I don't understand and that He loves my kids just as much as I do, and even more. I had to use a book called "Praying for Your Prodigal" in order to even get to the point where I could pray and give God my child. But I committed myself to 30 days of specific prayers just for him. It helped me get to a point that I could say, "Do what needs to be done, let him experience what he needs to experience to turn him back to YOU, God." Even saying that now, causes butterflies in my chest and tears in my eyes. It is so hard!! But after praying through that book, God gave me peace and put us in a place where things are good and I can love him and let him go at the same time.

The verse, "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6), is a proverb. Not a promise. You can't control them or their choices once they leave your house any more than your parents could control yours. For me, I hold onto the knowledge of where I was as a teenager and where I am now and I know that if God can change my heart, He can change the heart of my child. And that goes for you and yours too. And stealing the words from our speaker that night, "We are all sinners, raising sinners." Don't forget that. It will not be perfect and it will be hard. But the bottom line is...your kids love you. They watch you, they actually do listen to you. Remember, pulling away is part of growing up. Keep praying for them, in fact step it up and find others to pray for them too, and find other parents you trust to talk to about the struggles. Keep learning about how to be a Godly parent and no matter what they do or say, make sure they know you love them!! Especially when they are in a stage you don't like very much. And don't forget that some of their biggest fears include disappointing you or giving you more than you can handle. Did you know that?

*...until next time,
Rebecca Anderson*



Moms' Night Out!

Saturday, January 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

FREE Project:
 Profession quality frosted cookies with
 expert Annika (Swan) Hites

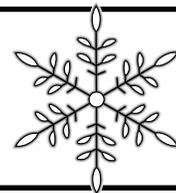


Discussion:
 Growing your Friendships



Please invite the moms in your life that could use
 an evening of fun, friendship & encouragement!

“Wash me,
 and I will be
 whiter than snow.”
 Psalm 51:7b



Ground Zero
Pizza Sales deadline Jan. 2
 Cheese \$6, Pepperoni or Sausage \$8



Pizzas will be made January 12th
 and all proceeds will go to fund the
 2020 Haiti Summer Mission Trip

Prayer

“Dear friends, when we are tempted
 and desire to overcome,
 the best weapon is prayer.”
 ~Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)
 from *Spurgeon's Sermons*, pub. 1863



“If you call on God for deliverance
 and for victory over sin and every evil,
 God isn't going to turn a deaf ear to your call ...
 God will hear your prayer, and answer ...
 Only be sincere, and God will hear your cry.”
 ~D.L. Moody (1837-1899)
 from *Moody's Latest Sermons*, pub. 1900

“This ministry of intercession is a glorious and a
 mighty ministry, and we can all have part in it.
 The man or the woman who is shut away from the
 public meetings by sickness can have part in it;
 the busy mother; the woman who has to
 take in washing for a living;
 the man of business can have part in it
 praying as he hurries from duty to duty.
 But of course we must, if we would maintain
 this spirit of constant prayer,
 take time—and plenty of it—when we shall
 shut ourselves up in the secret place
 alone with God for nothing but prayer.”
 ~R.A. Torrey (1856-1928)
 from *How to Pray*, pub. 1900

“In the morning, O LORD, You hear my voice;
 in the morning I lay my requests before You
 and wait in expectation.”
 Psalm 5:3

“Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain
 you; He will never let the righteous fall.”
 Psalm 55:22

“Call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding
 ... For the Lord gives wisdom, and from His mouth
 come knowledge and understanding.
 He holds victory in store for the upright,
 He is a shield to those whose walk is blameless,
 for He guards the course of the just
 and protects the way of His faithful ones.”
 Proverbs 2:3, 6-8

“If any of you lacks wisdom,
 he should ask God, who gives generously to all
 without finding fault,
 and it will be given to him.”
 James 1:5



January Birthdays

- 1 Cory Sorenson
- 3 Rick Davis
- 4 Maia Reissner, Maxwell Monroe
- 5 Nancy Bruner
- 6 Aimee Blomberg
- 7 Josh Isaacson, Heather Rustick, Sarah Rhody
- 8 Bobbie Adams, Lisa Rhody
- 10 Bill Ulrich
- 11 Marvene Bruner, Tonisha Hora
- 12 Jedediah Hallstrand, Adam Smugala, Emma Bauer
- 13 Joel Blomberg, Leah Lord
- 14 Kaitlyn Erickson, Zoe Price
- 16 Robin Scott, Cindy Mattson, Pastor Paul VanCamp
- 17 Alise Swan, Tony Smugala
- 18 Rachel Bauer
- 19 Pat Huber, Luke Stolhammer
- 20 Rich Blomberg, Eric Smugala
- 21 Delbert Gustafson, Lane Meier
- 22 Jerry Esterholm, Mandy Blomberg
- 24 Indya Mann
- 25 Adam Dielschneider, Paul VanCamp, Harry Gladwin
- 26 Bill Conrad, Martha Darosci
- 27 Vienna Jesunas, Bill Conrad
- 28 Barrick Jones
- 31 Stacy Smith



Happy Birthday!

Please contact us if:

- You or someone in your family has 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

OGEMA BAPTIST CHURCH

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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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OGEMA, WI
54459
PERMIT NO. 5



Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am
Sunday Worship - 10:15 am
Wednesday Student & Ladies' Ministries - 6:30 pm
Wednesday Adult Prayer Meeting - 7:00 pm



Whatever your age or stage in life,
YOU are WELCOME here!

“Who shall separate us from
the LOVE of CHRIST?

Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or
famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than
conquerors through Him who loved us!”

Romans 8:35 & 37

Missionary Spotlight Emilie Blomberg

Adventures in Missions – 11 countries in 11 months

Emilie Blomberg leaves January 3rd for the World Race, an 11-month mission trip to 11 different countries. She will be serving in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, India, Nepal, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Romania, and Portugal.



“My squad is made up of 40 people between the ages of 21 and 30. We are placed in teams of 6 or 7. We also have a mentor, coaches, and alumni leaders who will travel with us for part of the trip.

I have been given the role of logistics leader for my squad, so I will help plan transportation and accommodations for my squad. I am honored to have the opportunity to use my gifts of organization and responsibility to serve my squadmates and leaders.

Each month we will serve alongside a local church or ministry. During month one of the trip, my entire squad will be partnering with Ciudad Refugio (City of Refuge) in Medellin, Colombia. City of Refuge is an inner-city ministry that was founded in 1993 by an American missionary. Today its programs include street outreach, men's and women's rehabilitation and discipleship, men's homeless shelter, ChildCry feeding programs, church services, Sunday School, counseling, skills training and work projects, a dental/orthodontics assistance program, youth programs and Christian homeschool, and micro-enterprise opportunities including a bakery and poultry farm.

Thank you, Ogema Baptist Church, for your support of my life on mission this year. I'm excited to share with you stories of what God is doing in hearts around the world. Please keep my squad in your prayers, especially for unity, spiritual growth, boldness, and safety. Above all, pray for kingdom growth.”

It would mean a lot to Emilie to receive encouragement during the next year. You can follow along on her blog, emilieblomberg.theworldrace.org, or send her an email at ehblomberg@gmail.com.