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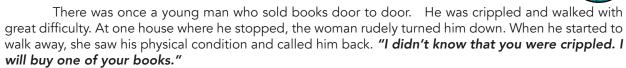
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MARCH 7, 2020 | DOORS OPEN AT 8A COME EXPERIENCE ISRAEL NOW WITH REV. ANDY COOK! BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WILL BE SERVED. THIS IS A FREE EVENT! CALL OR REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.FBCBARNESVILLE.COM/BEW2020/

W VOL 54 | FEB 2020 | NO. 02 The Witness

# From the Shepherd's Heart

with Pastor Garth Forster



But the young man wasn't selling sympathy, he was selling books and he let her know it. "But," she said, "doesn't being lame color your life?" The young man replied, "Yes, it does, but thank God that I am the one who chooses the colors." We choose the colors of our lives, too.

It is a truism in life that we make our choices, then our choices make us. That is especially applicable when it comes to the series, I am presently preaching called **THE BEATITUDES: HAPPINESS IS A CHOICE.** In the eight Beatitudes found in Matthew 5:1-12, Jesus shares the attitudes that are necessary for a truly happy life.

The word that Jesus used for "blessed" in the Beatitudes refers to happiness in its fullest sense. It is the Greek word <u>makarios</u> and the true meaning of the word can be seen in the way that the Greeks used it. They called the Island of Cyprus <u>he makaria</u> which means "The Happly Isle." They did so because they believed that Cyprus was so beautiful, so rich in resources, and so fertile that it contained within itself everything necessary for perfect happiness.

And so the Beatitudes teach us that we have to find happiness within ourselves – within our own hearts and minds. But Jesus doesn't leave us clueless when it comes to finding happiness. He shares with us eight spiritual attitudes that, if we appropriate them for our lives, will help us discover that happiness does not depend on our outward circumstances but on our inward character.

January has been a good month with 374 in Bible Study. January also marked a change in our Sunday morning schedule. We went from two Sunday Schools back to one, and from three worship services back to two. Our nine o'clock service, called our **Classic Service**, has really benefited from this change. The fullness of the church house, along with the strong spirit of the service, has been inspiring to us all. Our **Contemporary Service**, now at 11:20, also continues to do well. And everyone tells me they enjoy us being back in one Sunday School!

February has some great events waiting for you:

- Our **24th ANNUAL BARNESVILLE GAME & FISH BANQUET** is scheduled for **Tuesday night, February 11th**. Seminars will take place from 6:00 to 6:55, with the banquet beginning at 7:00 P.M. Our banquet speaker is legendary professional bass fisherman, **Hank Parker**. This year, due to an overwhelming response, **we have sold out of tickets!** If you have purchased a table and have a few empty seats and would be willing to let a single purchase ticket holder sit at your table, please contact the church office.
- The **UPWARD CELEBRATION** is scheduled for **Sunday night**, **February 23rd at 6:30 in our gym**. Magician Joe Turner will be our featured speaker as we celebrate the players, cheerleaders, coaches and all who have helped us have another great Upward season!
- THE CANOPY, a worship event for all women, will take place on Tuesday night, February 25th with doors opening at 6:30. Thanks to *Honey Teal* and her helpers, this has become an inspiring, must go to event for women in our community.

February is going to be a great month! Come EXPECTANTLY! I Love You, Garth

# Upcoming Events / Good to Know

### **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

Tuesday, FEB 4 at 10:30a in the Annex, with Karen Pace, Consultant with the Georgia Baptist Mission Board Women's Ministry and Missions Consultant

#### CENTRIKID

\$60 deposits for the trip are due on Wednesday, FEB 12. \$300 balance due June 12.

#### YOUNG AT HEART

Massee Lane Gardens Trip on FEB 25.

## Thrive Young Adults

**NEW!** Join us for Common Ground on Wednesdays at 8p. On FEB 5, we will begin our new series in Psalm 119!

**Great Exchange:** At Gordon State on FEB 12 from 10a-2p.



# BIBLE EMPHASIS WEEKEND 2020 (MARCH 7-8)

We will post the various breakout sessions soon! Be sure to check out www.fbcbarnesville.com/bew2020/ We will post breakout session and other main session info there. We look forward to hosting Andy Cook from Experience Israel Now again this year! You do not want to miss this opportunity to take a virtual tour of Israel! If you'd like more information about Andy visit, www.experienceisraelnow.com

#### A LOOK AHEAD

Save the date: On Sunday, March 22 we will have a Generations Following "Follow Up" Day. We will celebrate all that God has done so far during this season of our church. He truly has blessed us! Our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will be from April 5-26! Every year we look forward to learning about North American Missions. We have the opportunity to impact so many churches in our nation!

#WeGetToDoThis

## Driven Students

**NEW!** We will begin a new teaching series called *ELEMENTAL* on FEB 5. The series is about students being equipped with what they need in an ever-changing world.





GENERATIONS

\$52,788.13 Given in December

\$918,788.13 Given in total

#WeGetToDoThi

Dear FBC Family,

I hope that everyone had a great start to 2020. As you can see we have been truly blessed with giving to the *Generations Following* campaign in 2019. It was a wonderful year, and we will soon be to our ground breaking target. We are excited about what God has in store for our congregation and the impact this initiative will have on His kingdom. "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." -Proverbs 16:9. We are thankful God has established our path. Please continue to pray for all those involved in supporting the *Generations Following* activities.

Thanks for serving Him, Steven