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M N I id

MAKING MUCH OF JESUS

with Pastor Jason Teal

I wonder if you could identify some painful areas in your life right now. What's causing you some discomfort currently?

ask that question because we (the Teal family) have been facing Covid this past week. Quite honestly, I am exhausted by this sickness and the struggle and pain that it has caused so many people not only in our community but around the world. Even right now, we are asking the Lord for healing in the lives of so many still stricken by this ugly disease.

Maybe you are dealing with some other difficulty. Maybe you are facing the chaos of cancer, the destruction of divorce, or even maybe the feeling of loneliness. Whatever you find your battle to be, identifying that struggle is just the beginning. How do you typically respond to pain and the difficult circumstances that you face?

Notice the words of God, written by the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 1:3-7:

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort. who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort."

It takes courage to face these battles day by day. I hope you noticed that in these 5, short versus that Paul used the words comfort/comforted 9 times. As you study the Word of God there are times that you will see a word repeated like this. When you do, pay close attention because it is important. We need comfort. Did you know that when you offer comfort to someone in their time of trouble you are actually becoming a conduit in which God's comfort can flow.

It is quite literally this kind of comfort that has sustained my family during difficult times. My prayer for our church is that we continue to be the conduit by which the comfort of Christ flows throughout our church, our city, and our country.

In his most encouraging way, Pastor Tony Evans says, "When you encounter a seemingly hopeless situation, it opens your eyes to the reality that you cannot depend on and deliver yourself." This indeed is tough to handle. It is hard to realize that you simply cannot fix every problem you face. As a "fixer" myself, it is incredibly discouraging knowing that I cannot help myself or my friends in every situation. However, I can be a vessel by which the comfort of God can flow. Dr. Evans goes on to say, "Allow personal brokenness that strips you of your self-sufficiency to move you to a deeper level of trust in and dependence on our all-sufficient God."

Family, let's continue to help each other in our times of need by sharing the comfort that only Christ commands. Where will your help come from? It will come from the Lord. How will it come? It will come by the compassion and genuineness of His people. This will take a family effort led by the head of the family, JESUS. WE GET TO DO THIS!

Much Love and Many Blessings, Pastor Jason

Generations Following Update with Steven Bacon, Chair

As highlighted in our last update, Pellicano, INC. was selected as the contractor for the new Student/Young Adult Building. Our Generations Following Construction, Planning, and Design Teams continue to interact with both Pellicano, INC and Todd Albritton to identify various cost saving opportunities. An onsite visit was made by Messenger AVL. This is the audio/visual company that will be designing and building our sound, video, and lighting.

I know many are anticipating the start date of construction. You may have noticed protective and silt fencing that has already been placed in the building site area. We are currently planning on an official groundbreaking ceremony on February 20th with our church family. Details of that day will be shared with the church family during the next two Sundays. Pellicano will begin immediately after the groundbreaking. What we can share with you regarding the ceremony is that we would like for everyone who comes to church that day to bring a shovel. Our desire is that every person in our family has the opportunity to help set the foundation as we Respect Our Past and Embrace Our Future.

Thank you for continuing to pray over all the tasks, decisions, and discussions regarding this God-given mission.

Steven Bacon Generations Following Team Leader

FBC Kids

CentriKid Camp will be from June 13-17: At Gardner Webb University | Boiling Springs, North Carolina

Camp Cost: \$350, includes all meals Important Deadlines: FEB 9 - \$75 initial deposits due, APRIL 29 - Last day to cancel camp plans, MAY 23 - Final payment due



Driven Students

Yield Worship: Join us on Wednesdays at 6:30p for student worship. We are continuing our study through the book of John.

Cheese dip! Students, join us on FEB 11 for a fun night of community and fellowship. \$20 covers dinner and all the snacks!



Thrive Young Adults

Life Groups: The Thrive College/Young Adult ministry is excited about our "Life Groups" that will be launched during the month of February. These groups will provide another opportunity for believers to gather in community for a season in order to foster spiritual growth and encouragement. It also provides a wonderful opportunity for outreach. Please be praying for these groups and their leaders.



upcoming church events + info

Deacon's Meeting: Sunday, February 6 at 6:30p in the sanctuary

Grief Share: Join us on Sundays from 5:30p to 7:30p in the Martha Classroom.

Special Called Church Conference: Wednesday, February 23 at 6:30p in the sanctuary. The purpose for the called conference is the church approval of Job Description Updates as presented by the FBC Personnel Team.

Discovery 201 Class: This class will focus on the four basic habits every Christian needs to develop in order to grow in spiritual maturity. Discovery 201 will equip you with the skills you need to begin these habits and explain the tools you need to continue these habits. Sunday, February 27 from 6:30-8p. Register online at www.fbcbarnesville.com/discoveryclasses

BUDGET UPDATES

Lottie Moon Offering: \$20,321.15