



July Newsletter

Grace Community Church

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Confidence Psalm 27:1-3 In this Psalm David expresses an amazing amount of confidence. He says that even if a mighty army surrounds him he will not be afraid. Can he really feel this way?

Let us look at his reasons for having this confidence. He says that the Lord is his fortress. His lack of fear is not based on his own power and resources but rather on the fact that this threatening army will have to break through a mighty fortress which is the Lord. He does not believe that is going to happen. His heart is not afraid. Even if they attack he says that he will remain confident.

How much more might we accomplish, how much more joy might we experience if we had this level of trust in the Lord? How do we develop confidence? Here is the secret. In order to be confident you have to think confident. Notice where his confidence lives: "my heart will not be afraid".

The heart is that inner world where we do all of our thinking, planning and hoping. And, "as a man thinks in his heart, so is he." If the thoughts in our hearts are full of fear, doubt, misgivings, failure, an overpowering army of problems then we can talk about confidence all we want, but we will not have it.

Now, it is not easy to change the tone and content of our thought-life. It is hard. It will require discipline, focus and persistence. As hard as that is, however, is it not better than living with fear and doubt?

Jesus does not want us to live in fear. He wants us to have confidence and faith. When he calmed the stormy sea, He looked at the disciples with an intense love, and said, "why are you so afraid?"

To have the fearlessness and confidence of David describes here is a tall order. But wouldn't you like to move closer to that place of confidence? Then, with God's help get to work on these thoughts. He is your fortress, He protects us from danger, He will cause our enemies to stumble and fall, He will never leave us or forsake us.

Try this: make a commitment to think only confident thoughts for one full hour everyday for a week. See if you do not start looking forward to that hour of peace and hope. Then, think of what could happen if more and more this became the way you normally think.

I believe we can learn to have more faith, to practice greater faith. And as we do, things are going to happen.

I am so blessed to be your Pastor

SETTING AT THE GATE (THE ELDERS REPORT)

We left you last month with the excitement of a wonderful Quarterly Celebration. AND it was just that!! Listening to everyone give their reports as to what GOD had been doing in their "bailiwick" was just outstanding! Then we ended it with the Financial report and how HE had Blessed this Congregation for being diligent to HIS Leading, WONDERFUL simply WONDERFUL!!!

Now we go to July and in July we have, Celebration, Celebration, Celebration!! The 4th of July Picnics with all the wonderful food, most of which we aren't to have due to health reasons, Fireworks galore, warm nights and hot days! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! You just gotta get involved in the festivities, somewhere, somehow, and ENJOY, ENJOY, ENJOY! And just think Patty (remember Pastor John, his wife) has invited each and every one of us to their house to enjoy GREAT FOOD, SWIMMING POOL, GAMES and FUN of all Kinds!!

Enough light heartedness... this is a parcel from the Elder Board and should be very proper, believe the correct word is somber, although our Elders do appreciate a bit of humor as well! (Well some of them!!) On a more serious note, We do wish each and every one of you a very Happy 241st Birthday, if you are joining in on the festivities celebrating our Freedom or just a bystander watching the day go by!!

When we think of Freedom we are extremely Thankful for that small brave group of men that took their very life in their hands, Prayed to GOD above for direction and through HIS guidance soundly beat the Greatest Armed Forces of the world in their day, wrestled our Freedom from their hands walked away following GOD's lead in and to the greatest experiment EVER taken!!! Personally I Pray we do not give up on that experiment in my lifetime or my Children's, even though it has existed for 241 years. A most critical part of those Freedoms is the Freedom of Religion! A great number of learned people feel and have voiced the opinion that if the Freedom of Religion is taken away the other Freedoms will very quickly go away. Please keep the Prayers going upward many times during each day that we will continue to enjoy Freedom of Religion.



4th of July Party at the Tuffs - See details to the right.

Wednesday evenings in July - The Tuff's house for Ice Cream. Bring your favorite flavor or a topping to share. 7:00 pm

Week of July 10th - 5 Day Club for the kids.

July 22nd - Men's Breakfast

Movie Night - Friday, August 4th at the church.

John Tuff and Friends at Beyond the Sea

Thursdays, July 13th and August 10th

Notes from the North...

I haven't heard a lot recently from our friends from the North but I know that the Cairns family is in need of prayer for their Josiah Hamernick who was seriously injured in an accident.



4th of July

Noon - ?

(We will start eating at 2:00)

Enjoy food, fun and friends

311 Boundary Blvd

Please Bring a dish to pass



It's almost here! See Nada if you are available to help!

To help people develop a thriving relationship with Jesus Christ by serving God and serving others...This is the Mission of GCC.

If you have something to share in the newsletter, please send it to Patty at johnandpattytuff@yahoo.com by the 25th of every month. Thank you!