

Family Information

Today's Sermon Title

When The Heart Speaks

Theme Passage

An Overview of the Psalms

Thoughts to Consider

- 1) How has God blessed you this week?
- 2) What trials and hardships have you endured this week?
- 3) How do you relate to God in the midst of darkness?

August Challenge: Say 3 specific prayers each day. One for yourself, one for others, and one for the Northland church.

School Supplies

We will offer school supplies again this year – to the neighbor children who come for Bible classes, to regular Clothing Closet shoppers who inquire, and to any members who have a need and let us know. We still have 20 backpacks from last year and so are not asking for those

The supplies needed this year are:

24 pack crayons
 #2 Pencils / pencil sharpeners
 Glue sticks (not bottles)
 Pink erasers
 Pocket folders
 Loose leaf wide ruled notebook paper
 Colored pencils
 Blunt tip scissors
 Pencil bags

**These items are listed in relative order of need. We expect to serve possibly 30 children; and so asking for whatever you are able/willing to contribute. The collection tub will be set up in the foyer, or you may give directly to: Vicki Cowans or Robbie McVicker. Thank you Northland Family for your generosity and support.

Calendar

August

16 TGIF At Building
 25 Canoeing at Trapper Johns After Church

Baby Shower

Ladies of Northland, join us Sunday, August 11th for Micah Evans baby shower at 2:00 p.m. in room E41 & E42! She is registered at Target, Buy Buy Baby, and Amazon.

Hospitality Closet

There is a need for spatulas and dessert servers for the hospitality closet. If you have extra you would like to donate, please give them to Tara Bell or Robbie McVicker.

For The Month of August

Invitation/ Responses: Jim Robbins
Foyer Duty: Josh Evans
Greeters: Jack and Barbara Evans
Announcements: Perry Coate

Communion Servers

Perry Coate	Jack Evans
Josh Evans	Michael Evans
Mike Evans	Bobby Graham Jr.
William Nixon	Paul Silva

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$5069	\$5189
Designated:	\$120	\$169



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When We Are Weak....

When We Are Weak, Then We Are Strong

(How Not To Turn Into A Rhinoceros)

I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. - 2 Corinthians 12:7-9

Paul faced many disappointments, physical pains, and sorrows, and at least one of these pierced him so deeply that he pleaded for God to take it away altogether. So God gently reminds Paul to let his grace, his presence, and his promises be sufficient for him. Our Heavenly Father also reassures us that when we recognize our weaknesses and walk humbly before him, he will give us the strength and understanding we need to endure this world's difficult times.

In 1959, dramatist Eugène Ionesco wrote an unusual play about human nature titled "Rhinoceros". Some rhinoceroses are seen running amok through the streets of a French town, so some people panic, yet most of them try to handle the situation by debating about which species of rhinoceros they are, how many horns they have, and how many rhinos they have seen. Likewise, it is human nature to avoid dealing with the most important things; it is human nature to try to appear to be in control of things. Yet God calls us to recognize our weaknesses so that he may strengthen us, to realize how little we know so he may write his eternal truths on our hearts - *God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things - and the things that are not - to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus. - 1 Corinthians 1:27-30*

Soon the characters realize that some of the townspeople are turning into rhinoceroses. In a key scene a prominent citizen, Jean, is criticizing his timid friend Berenger, and predicts that Berenger's weakness will soon lead him to become a rhinoceros. Jean says that he himself is far too strong to change into a rhinoceros. Yet even as Jean speaks, he transforms into a rhino, as he begins to speak admiringly of their power and their ability to do as they please.

One-by-one, the other townspeople become rhinoceroses, some out of conformity, some out of fear, some out of the desire to be powerful. In the end, only the 'weak' Berenger remains human, for he alone has accepted his weaknesses and the sorrows that come from caring for others. Being human means accepting our dependence on God, realizing that we are too weak to save ourselves, and praising God for his un-failing love for us and the ways he sustains us every moment - *Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me . . . For when I am weak, then I am strong. - 2 Corinthians 12:9-10*

God is so understanding, he is so gracious and so patient with us, and it is good to praise him all day long.

- Mark Garner

Services

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am
 Sunday Ghana Bible Study 9:30 am
 Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am
 Sunday Ghana Worship Service 10:30 am
 Sunday Spanish Worship 3:00 pm
 Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm

Minister: Caleb Dillinger
Elders: Roy Estep, Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins
Deacons: Lynn Champney, Perry Coate, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, Jack Evans, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva
Spanish Ministry: Elmer Renderos

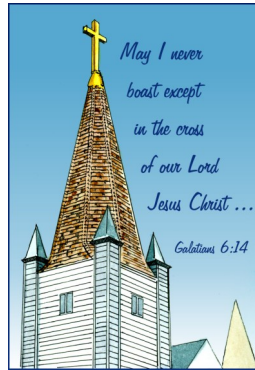
The Beauty Of Creation

Let us glorify the Master Craftsman for all that has been done wisely and skillfully, and from the beauty of the visible things let us form an idea of him who is more than beautiful.

And from the greatness of these perceptible and circumscribed bodies, let us conceive of him who is infinite and immense, and who surpasses all understanding in the plenitude of his power.

For even if we are ignorant of things made, yet at least that which comes under our observation is so wonderful, that even the most acute mind is shown to be at a loss as regards the least of the things in the world – either in the ability to explain it worthily, or to render due praise to the Creator, to whom be all glory, honor and power forever.

- Basil of Caesarea (AD 330-379)



Thou Tender, Gracious Father

Thou tender, gracious Father,
Who watches over me,
How shall I ever praise Thee,
How love and honor Thee?
Thou guidest me with caution
From every secret snare,
And 'neath Thy wings a refuge
I find in my despair.

Thy heart is all compassion,
With love it overflows;
Whate'er of ill betide me,
Thou knowest, and my woes.
Thou dost not sleep nor slumber,
By night nor thru the days;
Thine arms, almighty Father,
Enfold all time and space.

- Lina Sandell, 1859

From The Northland Archives

This article was written by Linda Garner, and it appeared in the Northland bulletin on April 8, 1990. Linda was baptized at Northland in 1985, and has taught children's classes for many years. She and Mark were married in 1989.

A Peace Treaty

Jesus uses parables to teach many important ideas. They are designed to be very powerful and very personal. One parable that I have over the years studied and restudied, with myself and others, is the parable in Luke 14:25-31 . . . For me this parable is best understood by looking at the second part of the parable first (Luke 14:31-33). In this part Jesus talks about a king with 10,000 men who goes against a king with 20,000 men.

Jesus tells how the first king realizes that he would be defeated, and decides to send out a delegation to ask for a peace treaty. The king knows there is no way he can be victorious, no way he can make it on his own. In the parable we are the first king. For most of us, before we became Christians, realized that we could not make it in this world. No matter how hard we tried in the past, we found ourselves not in control. Many of us found no true fulfillment or happiness in this world. We also found no other way, except Jesus, to rid ourselves of the horrible sins that we had committed.

Just like the king, we sent for a peace treaty. The problem is that we often do not accept Jesus' terms of the peace treaty. The terms are very explicit; they are stated in the first part of the parable (Luke 14:25). Jesus says that if you want to be his disciple, if you want you have your sins forgiven, then you need to put him first. You need to give up your life and live for Jesus. Jesus further stresses the importance of this by telling us to understand the cost before you enter into the peace treaty.

I can still remember back to the first time I studied this parable . . . I remember thinking to myself this does not seem fair (that is, the terms of the peace treaty). I realized that I was lost without Jesus, that on my own I would never be truly victorious . . . Viewing Jesus from a godly point of view needs to be our goal (2 Corinthians 5:15-16). If we truly understand what Jesus did for us on the cross, then we will be motivated to do whatever he asks. Then the parable in Luke 14 will be so much easier to accept and live.

Understanding Jesus from a godly point of view will make the terms of the peace treaty same just and fair. I have all also come to realize that this is the only fulfilling or true way to be a Christian (John 8:31-32). And Jesus knew this. Jesus knew that you can't truly be a disciple if you don't put God before anything and everything in this world. It is impossible, you just can't serve two masters (Matthew 6:24) . . . Let us encourage each other to accept and live by Jesus' terms.

- Linda Garner (abridged)