

# Church Announcements and Events:

## Calendar of Events for the Month of July 2018:

- ⇒ **Wednesdays:** "The Holy Spirit 101" (The Person and Power of the Holy Spirit...e.g. The Ministry and Help of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Believer; etc.)
- Special Announcements:**
- ⇒ **7/1 - 7/21 - GRACE FOCUS:** Read 1 Day of Devotional "21 Days of Grace for the Pace" every day for 21 days.
- **BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY:** Need to take the next step of faith in following Christ by being Baptized? Do you wish to be Re-Baptized? Sign-up for our Baptism Class and Sunday, August 12th and Back-to-School Block Party. (See picture below). Sign-up by completing a Yellow Connection Card and RSVP on CCB.
  - **Water Baptism Sunday** - Sunday, August 19th, 2018 - Sign-up to be baptized in water in obedience to Christ's commands.
  - **Local Ladies Retreat - Women's Conference** in Fredericksburg, TX - Monday through Wednesday, August 6th - 8th @ the Inn on Baron's Creek, 308 S. Washington Street, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 (See Pastor Cynthia for details).
  - **Built to Last - Men's Conference** (Friday, September 14th & Saturday, September 15th, 2018) - Eagle Mountain International Church (EMIC), Fort Worth, TX - (see CCB or Pastor Ed for details).



Friday & Saturday  
September 14th & 15th

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SERMON SERIES: "Stay In Your Lane!"

SERMON TITLE: "Faith Laughs at Impossibilities"

Psalms 100:2a (NKJV) - "Serve the LORD with gladness..."

Psalms 100:1-2 (MSG) - "On your feet now—applaud God! Bring a gift of laughter; sing yourselves into His presence."

Romans 14:17-18 (NKJV) - "For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men."

Philippians 4:4 AMPC - "Rejoice in the Lord always [delight, gladden yourselves in Him]; again I say, Rejoice!"

- REJOICE = (Greek - "chairō" which means (1) to be cheerful (2) to be glad (3) joy (4) rekindle/stir up the joy by rejoicing exceedingly (5) re-joying/refilling your joy).
THE HOLY SPIRIT PROMPTS US TO REJOICE SO WE CAN BE FILLED WITH HIM. WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE CONTINUALLY FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT? BECAUSE YOU LEAK!
Like oil in your car, the "oil of joy" in our lives gets low or needs changing for a fresh supply; your joy needs to be replenished or refilled.
We require a continuous refilling, refueling so to speak. Everyone acts different when they are filled with the Holy Spirit.
Nehemiah 8:10 (MSG) - "This day is holy to God. Don't feel bad. The joy of God is your strength!"
IF YOU HAVE NO JOY, YOU HAVE NO STRENGTH; IF YOU HAVE NO STRENGTH, YOU CAN'T RESIST SIN, SATAN, SICKNESS OR SORROW. IF YOU CAN'T RESIST YOU DON'T WIN!

LAUGHTER - THE BEST MEDICINE: Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV) - "A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones."

- Bible in Basic English - "A glad heart makes a healthy body..."
The Jerusalem Bible - "A glad heart is excellent medicine, a spirit depressed wastes the bones away."
A merry heart really does good like a \_\_\_\_\_ and a broken spirit does make one sick. Just naturally speaking, laughter, happy emotions, and expressions of joy release endorphins that relieve pain. I like to say that some people's endorphins haven't been out for so long, that if they did come out, they would be dressed eighties' style!
Even psychologists say laughter is the best way to deal with stress and its mental and physical effects.
LAUGHTER IMPROVES OUR \_\_\_\_\_, HELPING OUR IMMUNE SYSTEM FIGHT DISEASE, LOWERING OUR BLOOD PRESSURE, AND FIGHTING HEART DISEASE.
According to Dr. Gjerdingen, a family physician and professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School, humor promotes good health. He states that "The positive emotions associated with laughter and humor involves the dopamine system of the brain. When one laughs, various muscle groups are activated, but the period after the laugh is characterized by general muscle relaxation, which can last up to 45 minutes. Greater relaxation is seen with true laughter, compared to simulated to laugher.
I suppose as children of God - made in His image - we all have the capacity for laughter. Joy, however, is a fruit of the spirit and originates from a different place - not from your mind or circumstances, but your newborn, recreated human spirit.
Heavenly, triumphant joy springs out of truth that you know in your heart. It's the truth that if God be for you, then who can be against you (Romans 8:31) - the truth that if you are in Christ, then old things are passed away and everything is new (2 Corinthians 5:17) every day is a brand new day IN CHRIST! Truth that greater in He Who is you than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4).
Even in times when it seems you have lost everything and you're flat on your back, you can look up to Jesus and let that laughter bubble up out of your heart.
YOU CAN \_\_\_\_\_ IN THE LORD AND TAKE HIS STRENGTH, WHICH IS HIS JOY! Nehemiah 8:10 (MSG) - "This day is holy to God. Don't feel bad. The joy of God is your strength!" Ha, ha, ha!
THIS SUPERNATURAL JOY AND STRENGTH WILL GIVE YOU STAYING \_\_\_\_\_ WHEN EVERYTHING AROUND YOU FALLS APART. Nehemiah 8:10b (AMPC) - "And be not grieved and depressed, for the joy of the Lord is your strength and stronghold."
LAUGHTER RELEASES RESURRECTION \_\_\_\_\_ THAT MELTS DOWN DISEASE. So laugh at disease, laugh at torment, laugh at lack by faith in Jesus' Name!
Romans 8:11 (NKJV) - "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."
Resurrection power \_\_\_\_\_ in every believer because of the Holy Spirit's indwelling power! It is released by faith. Faith is believing and speaking; and the language of faith can sound like laughter. Yes, I'm suggesting and telling you sometimes you have to give a "Faith Laugh" not a "Fake Laugh". Laughter that comes from your spirit and is targeted at an impossible situation, will direct a flow of resurrection power that will give life to your body. It can turn impossible situations into a testimony of God's grace! Job 5:22 (NKJV) - "You shall laugh at destruction and famine..." Whatever your situation is today, do as Job did, and laugh at destruction and famine.

SERMON TITLE: "Faith Laughs at Impossibilities"

Psalm 126 (NKJV) - "When the LORD brought back the captivity of Zion, we were like those who dream. 2Then our mouth was filled with laughter; and our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." 3The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad. 4Bring back our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the South. 5Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. 6He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

- God specializes in turning \_\_\_\_\_ around! It is time to leave the devil with an overwhelming sense of failure by laughing, dancing and shouting! That's what happens when believers get together to celebrate Christ's victory! Psalm 126:2 says that their "mouths were filled with laughter and tongues with singing!" Remember, T.D. Jakes said "If we don't rejoice, the devil will think he's winning."
When you see the great \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ on the cross and the resurrection, it will make you laugh! God got the last laugh when He raised Jesus from the dead! The Holy Spirit will prompt you at times, to \_\_\_\_\_ in derision at the enemy's plans to steal, kill or destroy you. IN CHRIST, you share in His victory procession, 2 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV) - "Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place." And, your laugh of \_\_\_\_\_ is a sweet smell of victory to Christians and at the same time, defeat to the enemy. Laughing at your enemies such as sickness, poverty, and fear is one way to enforce the authority Jesus gave you.
YOUR \_\_\_\_\_ AND REJOICING IS A SIGN TO THE UNSEEN IN HEAVEN AND HELL, THAT WHAT GOD HAS PLANNED WILL ALL COME TO PASS. "YOUR CELEBRATION IS A DEMONSTRATION OF YOUR EXPECTATION." John 16:24 (NKJV) - "Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." (NLT) - "...you will have abundant joy." (TLB) - "... your cup of joy will overflow." Luke 12:32 (NKJV) - "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." This verse explains that it is the Father's good please to give you the Kingdom. HE WANTS YOU TO HAVE FULL JOY. So when you pray to the Father in Jesus' Name, get your dancing shoes on and begin to act like you've got it! That's your faith in action! Get ready for a turnaround! IF YOU CAN'T DANCE, JUST SCOOT - Psalms 30:11 (NKJV) - "You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness."

NOTES:

Blank lines for taking notes.