Church Announcements and Events:

Calendar of Events for the Month of July 2018:

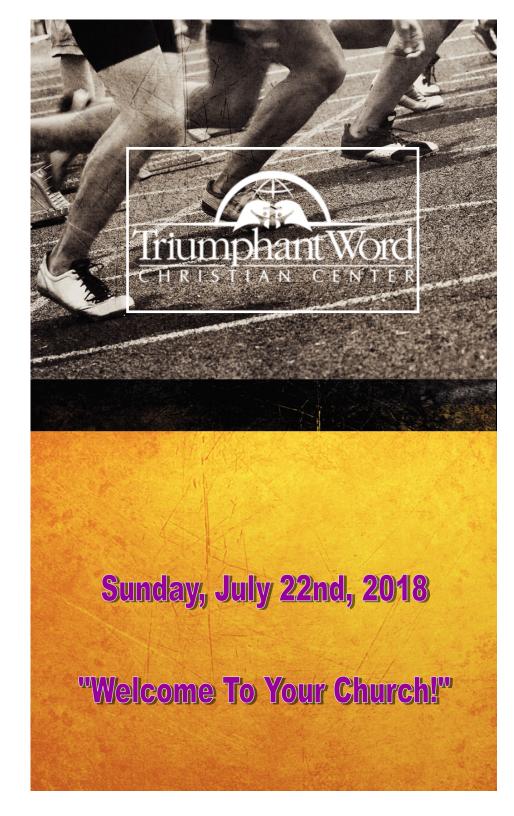
- ⇒ <u>Wednesdays</u>: "The Holy Spirit 101" (The Person and Power of the Holy Spirit...e.g. The Ministry and Help of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Believer; etc.) <u>Special Announcements</u>:
- ⇒ 7/1 7/21 GRACE FOCUS: Read 1 Day of Devotional "21 Days of Grace for the Pace" every day for 21 days.
- <u>BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY</u>: 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 <u>Yellow Connection Card</u> and RSVP on CCB.
- Water Baptism Sunday Sunday, August 19th, 2018 Sign-up to be baptized in water in obedience to Christ's commands.
- <u>Local Ladies Retreat Women's Conference</u> 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).
- <u>Built to Last Men's Conference</u> (Friday, September 14th & Saturday, September 15th, 2018) Eagle Mountain International Church (EMIC), Fort Worth, TX (see CCB or Pastor Ed for details).





Friday & Saturday eptember 14th & 15th

7042 Alamo Downs Parkway
Suite 600, San Antonio, TX 78238
Tel: (210) 530-4122; Web: www.twcc-sa.org



SERMON NOTES FOR SUNDAY, July 22nd, 2018

SERMON SERIES: "Stay In Your Lane!"

SERMON TITLE: "Finish Your Race With Joy!"

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

Galatians 5:22 – 23 (NKJV) – "²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, <u>joy</u>, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."

- JOY IS SIMPLY A PART OF THE LIFE OF FAITH AS A CHRISTIAN BELIEVER.
- As we've said before, 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!

 It is important to _____ with JOY and ____ with JOY our respective God-given ____ that He sets before us.
- AS WE SAID BEFORE, THIS SUPERNATURAL JOY AND STRENGTH WILL GIVE YOU STAYING POW-ER WHEN EVERYTHING AROUND YOU FALLS APART. <u>Nehemiah 8:10b (AMPC)</u> – "And be not grieved and depressed, for the joy of the Lord is your strength and stronghold."
- YOU CAN REJOICE 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! Acts 13:52
 (AMPC) "And the disciples were continually filled [throughout their souls] with joy and the Holy Spir-

FINISH STRONG: Acts 20:24 (NKJV) – "But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."

- It is imperative that we learn to demonstrate supernatural ______ in your life daily by rejoicing, smiling, singing, thanking God, praising the Lord and laughing. Remember, joy irritates the devil. He likes to hang out in places of depression, grief, and sorrow, but where there is _____ in the presence and glory of God will come in and run the devil off!
 When the Holy Spirit is moving and manifesting _____ in your life, _____ your life and
- watch God turn your life around!

 Some successful Christian leaders who were avid runners and marathon participants compare the physical and mental training process they undergo to the *CHRISTIAN*

your heart, there will be a demonstration of JOY. Yield to Him, respond to Him and

- One runner, Zale Tabakman, said this: "The skills required for success and the skills required for running a successful marathon are one and the same. Successful runners focus on a goal, are patient and realize everything takes time. We plan our training, we make sure we maintain our motivation and we gather people around us to help us." Hebrews 12:2 (AMPC) "Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. He, for the joy [of obtaining the prize] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising and ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of
- FOCUS ON THE GOAL: Both the Apostles Paul and Peter, by the Holy Spirit, encourage us to focus on
 the ______, the _____ or the hope and inheritance. This _____ kept them going
 when things got very hard. It's like runners in a race. They don't look down, they don't look back, but set
 their eyes on short goals, always remembering the final prize.
- In the same way, Peter encouraged the church not to forget the goal the end of their faith. They were being persecuted and some were even killed, but this was no time to quit! 1 Peter 1:3 – 4, 6 – 9 (NKJV)
- WHEN YOU THINK THINGS LOOK IMPOSSIBLE AND YOU'RE GOING THROUGH A GREAT TRIAL OF YOUR FAITH, KEEP ON BELIEVING, SPEAKING, AND REJOICING! Read Hebrews 12:1 – 3 (KJV & AMPC)
- Jesus was seeing you and me. He was seeing the Father saying, "Well done!" He was practicing what He told His disciples in <u>John 16:33</u> "...in the world you shall have tribulation; but <u>be of good cheer</u>. I have overcome the world." Aren't we so glad Jesus endured and didn't quit!

•	Jesus' course took Him through the dark valley of death and seemed like a place of defeat. However, with as His strength, He has become our great example of how to <i>FINISH YOUR COURSE WITH</i> JOY. He kept his focus with the help of! You and I can't do the same.

SERMON NOTES (CONTINUED...)

SER	MON TITLE: "Finish Your Race With Joy!"
WHA	AT IF LIFE WAS A FOOTBALL GAME?: Paul repeatedly used as a metaphor. He recog-
nize	d sports was a natural to convey truth.
•	1 Corinthians 9:27 (NKJV) – "But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have
	preached to others, I myself should become disqualified." The background in a lot of NT Scripture were
	"sports metaphors" used by Paul to begin to impact people's lives.
•	The Apostle Paul, by the Holy Spirit, is describing here a; an Olympic <i>RACE</i> ; a <i>RACE</i> where
	people ran. Why do people run? Because there is a Why do people run? Because there is
	a for people to run for. Paul, by the Holy Spirit, then grounds our perspectives into an eternal
	focus, verses a temporary focus. We, not for and because of an <i>EARTHLY</i> crown, but for an
	, incorruptible crown.
•	THE FOOTBALL GAME OF LIFE: They are 4 Quarters (Each is required)
•	1st Quarter: You don't get to play in the first quarter unless you practice, You don't get to play unless you have been practicing. You don't get playing time unless you've been faithful over time. 1 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV) – "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,"
•	Faith is when you can trust God. Faithfulness is when God can trust Typically, <u>FAITH</u> is what we talk most about in Church, but is what God talks about most in the Epistles (letters to the Churches) in the NT. Our Heavenly Father God wants you to be faithful with three (3) things: (1) <u>Time</u> (2) <u>Talent (3) Treasure</u>
•	2 nd Quarter: You don't get to play in the 2 nd quarter unless you, 1 Corinthians 9:26 – 27
	(MSG) – "I don't know about you, but I'm running hard for the finish line. I'm giving it everything I've got. No sloppy living for mel I'm staying alert and in top condition. I'm not going to get caught napping, telling everyone else all about it and then missing out myself." There is no Bible illustrations of someone "coasting" to the finish line. Friends remember we cannot "retire" or "retreat" or "relax" from the of God in our lives. People will ask sometimes" When is good, good enough"?
•	HALFTIME IS WHERE YOU MAKE ADJUSTMENTS: You won't make it past halftime unless you
	to be perfect. <u>Hebrews 13:21 (AMPC)</u> – " <i>Strengthen</i> (complete, perfect) and make you what you ought to be and equip you with everything good that you may carry out His will; [while He Himself] works in you and accomplishes that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ (the Messiah); to Whom be the glory forever and ever (to the ages of the ages). Amen (so be it)."
•	3rd Quarter: In the 3rd quarter, figure out what and do it. You've got to be who you has God made you? has God made you to do it?
•	4th Quarter: The 4th Quarter isn't about sitting down, it is about 1 Acts 20:24 (NKJV) – But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."
NOT	<u>ES:</u>