

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BOB

Sunday, January 31, 2010

Good morning and welcome to Abundant Life! I am glad that you are here; I consider it an honor to worship the Lord together today. If this is your first time to worship with us please take a minute to complete one of our Welcome Cards located in the guest packet. If you did not receive a guest packet you can get one at the Information Center in the lobby. Once you complete the card either drop it in the basket during the offering or leave it at the Information Center. Again, I am glad that you are here today!

I just came back from a quick trip to the grocery store, not the big super center, just the regular old grocery store. But even there a sense of panic was noticeable. Everyone in a hurry, the employees flustered, all of the shopping carts either in use or in the parking lot (I grabbed the last one on my way in) the bread aisle “trashed,” and so on. Even the traffic on the roads seemed to be even more frazzled than the usual Friday afternoon.

Not to complain, my quick trip went smoothly and rather uneventfully, no road rage or even temptation to be rude or angered. But as I returned to the church office I began to think, “If people are this stressed about a snow storm, how would they be if they knew that Jesus was about to return and life as we know it was going to go through cataclysmic change? Think about that one for a moment...I did!

We get “stressed out” by the things of life, snow storms, sickness, traffic jams, being late for an appointment – but yet we can be so low keyed about spiritual issues – is my heart pure, are my hands clean, am I living a life of integrity, am I living daily looking for Jesus’ return? These are the issues of life that we need to be concerned about because they are the ones with eternal implications.

Yes we live in this world and Jesus said that “in this world there would be tribulations – storms, power outages, traffic jams, sickness and even death. But He didn’t stop with the warning but declared a promise for you and me – “don’t be afraid because I have overcome the world.” I can almost hear Jesus say, “now don’t stress over this little snow storm, don’t let this sickness overcome your faith, don’t get frustrated over the promotion you didn’t get or the job you lost – see I have conquered it all and because I have conquered it all so can you. I stress, get anxious and overwhelmed at times but it is always so reassuring and comforting to hear my Savior’s words, “be of good cheer I have overcome this world.”

So as we face whatever comes about with the snowstorm and whatever complications arise from life we have the assurance of the Lord’s presence, His peace, His comfort and His power to overcome it all. Blessings as you overcome!

Pastor Bob

Winter Weather and Church Closing – In the event of winter weather, snow, sleet or ice a decision will be made to cancel church services by 7:30AM and the closing will be announced in the following ways:

- Local TV stations – WBTV, WSOC
- Church website: www.livingabundantly.org
- Email notification
- A phone calling plan will be placed into effect to call every home in the church

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

Wednesday Night Connection – New service time 6:30PM – Join us as Pastor Bob leads a study entitled **Rebuilding the Real You** – a study from the Book of Nehemiah.

Ladies Bible Study – A Woman’s Heart, by Beth Moore

Beginning Tuesday, February 2 from 7-8:30PM

At Jen Staring’s home – 157 Foursquare Road

(4 houses beyond the church on the left)

See Jen Staring or Melodie Smith with questions

Childcare in the church fellowship hall

Super Bowl Fellowship

Sunday, February 7 beginning at 6PM in the Fellowship Hall

Fun, Fellowship, Food and Football on the BIG Screen

Bring your favorite snacks & soft drinks and let’s have a great time together whether you are a football fan or not. Games and fun for those not interested in the ball game will also be taking place. Come for a little while or stay until the game is over! Everyone is invited!!!

Valentine’s Fun Night

Sunday, February 14, 5:30-8:00PM, in the Fellowship Hall

What to expect: Food, Friendly Servers, Kids Watch with Movie (after our meal) and Exciting Games!

Age for Kids Watch: Birth to 5th Grade

What to Bring: See the sign-up sheet at the Information Center for attendance and specific food needs

What you get to take Home: Smiles, laughter, fun, great memories and new relationships with others!

Deadline to Signup: January 31, 2010. We hope to see you there!

PRAYER REQUESTS / NEEDS

- **The Nation of Haiti** – devastating earthquake
- **Danielle Harris** – recuperating from surgery, healing of cancer
- **Madison** – 9 year old cousin of Shannon Covington, healing of cancer
- **Jenny** – Shannon Covington’s aunt – healing of cancer
- **Matt Staring’s cousin’s family in Georgia**, house fire, serious injury to husband and the loss of their baby in the fire.
- Remember those in our church and community who have lost jobs and those who are struggling financially

February Events

7 – Super Bowl Fellowship 6PM

9 – A.L.O.F.T. – Ladies Ministry Meeting – 6:30 PM

14 – Valentine’s Fun Night – 5:30PM

19-20 – Ladies Retreat at Grace Covenant, Cornelius, NC

21 – Church Council Meeting @ 4PM

21 – The LEADing Edge – 6PM, *Doing Church as a Team*

26 – Pancake Supper - Fundraiser for Ladies Softball Team, Fellowship Hall @ 6PM