

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BOB

Sunday, February 14, 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!

Welcome to Valentine's Day 2010! I hope that you remembered to get your "special someone" a valentine's gift, if not Wal-Mart may still have a few picked over cards by time church is over! Why does it always seem to be the men at the card racks at the last minute on these special days?

It is amazing the number of cards, flowers and candy that is given away each year on February 14 as we are trying to let the special people in our lives know that we love them.

Have you ever noticed how much the Bible talks about love? Nowhere in its pages do I read about the love that is so often shown in the world around us. The love that the Bible teaches about is unconditional, never failing and always has the best interest of others in mind. Jesus teaches that the greatest demonstration of love is that we would lay down our life for another and that we are to love our neighbor as our self and who can forget that Jesus tells us to love God with all of our being.

Then there is the famous 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians, known as the love chapter, in which Paul gets down to the basics of what love is all about. Here are a few of his words, try them on for size:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres. Love never fails.

It may not be the stuff of greeting cards but it is the real love, the same kind that Jesus demonstrated as He gave His life on the cross for our sin! Be blessed as we celebrate and practice the love that God's Word celebrates.

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

Valentine's Fun Night

TONIGHT!!! 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!

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

The LEADING Edge

Sunday, February 21 @ 6:00PM in the Sanctuary

Doing Church As A Team (video conference)

Dr. Wayne Cordeiro, *New Hope Church, Hawaii*

For all church leaders and those interested in learning more about being a leader! Childcare is provided!

OUTREACH REMINDERS

- It is time to turn in your baby bottles filled with change for the Community Pregnancy Center. If you don't have them today please return the bottles as soon as possible
- Sunday, February 21 we will be receiving a special missions offering for relief ministry for Haiti

PRAYER REQUESTS / NEEDS

- **Remember the family of Wayne & Vickey Stowe, Jerry & Sara Cline and Darin and Sunny Cooke** as Vickey's mother and Sara and Sunny's grandmother, Ruby Edminston passed from this life into eternity late Wednesday night.
- **The Nation of Haiti** – devastating earthquake
- **Danielle Harris** – recuperating from surgery, healing of cancer
- **Glenda Erwin** – Pastor Bob's aunt, pancreatic cancer
- **Madison** – 9 year old cousin of Shannon Covington, healing of cancer
- **Jenny** – Shannon Covington's aunt – healing of cancer
- Remember those in our church and community who have lost jobs and those who are struggling financially

February Events

- 14 – Valentine's Fun Night – 5:30PM
- 19-20 – Ladies Retreat at Grace Covenant, Cornelius, NC – *registration deadline extended*
- 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

Nobel Prize, Alfred Nobel – mistaken obituary – merchant of death –so troubled that he spent the rest of life trying to change that legacy and now millions of dollars are given away annually to those who help preserve and improve life...