



Owosso Church of the Nazarene

*Our mission is to attract and lead people to Christ,
develop them toward maturity in Christ,
equip them for ministry, and empower them through
the Holy Spirit for a life mission in the world.*

May 5, 2008

Dear Family & Friends,

The children's church director tried to make the spiritual application at the end of her lesson about Noah's Ark. She asked, "Boys and girls, what does this story tell us about Noah?" The preacher's kid in the third row blurted out, "I know! Noah was just like my Mom. It took him 40 days to find a parking spot!"

It's always exciting when people apply biblical situations to their own lives. It was said of Jesus, "The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law" (Mark 1:22). His teaching style reached more than the ears of His listeners; it touched their hearts. He invested His life in the lives of those He taught.

Matthew 28:19-20 is known as the Great Commission. Here Jesus says, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." This week's sermon will focus on how to enrich your life spiritually and fulfill the Great Commission at the same time! See you Sunday!

Yours for Christ,

Pastor Rodger D. De Vore

Hearing From God Question:

Why am I sometimes reluctant to believe You mean exactly what you say?

Rodger D. De Vore, Lead Pastor
Marlene Webster, Community & Family Formation Pastor
Murphy Gill, Worship Arts Pastor
Craig Moore, Student Life Pastor
Deidre Marks, Office Manager
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“His Grace, Our Reality”

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“Tell Your Story”

Preparing Our Hearts

As we begin to embark on a wonderful journey with God, we may start to feel the devil begin to put the squeeze on us. He is not happy with our decision to spend more time with God. As we become more focused on God, Satan does everything he can to sabotage our efforts.

When we were first contacted to be part of the Leadership meetings, I could feel the devil start working on me. After the very first meeting, he started putting doubts in my head...“You’re not righteous or good enough to be part of this”; “The other people are closer to God than you are”; “You need to quit now, so they can find someone else to take your place.” He had convinced me that I was unworthy and not good enough to serve God. I decided to quit. I planned on talking to Lori to tell her as soon as I got home from work.

God had other plans. When I got home from work, God directed me to sit down and pick up the Leadership Journal I had been avoiding. I began to read about Peter. Peter was a born leader. He always had a “can do” attitude, and was often in leadership positions.

I started to see a parallel between myself and my endeavors and Peter. I have always been one to take charge. I gladly step into a leadership position, and am not afraid to voice my opinions and stand up to anyone for what I believe in. And, just like Peter, I often think I can do it alone. Peter was ready to give it all up and go back to fishing because his good intentions often met with disappointing results, because he unknowingly rejected God’s plan.

As I sat reading this section in the Journal, God said, “Shut up and listen.” (*He has to be direct with me to get my attention.*) He began to open my eyes and my heart and I realized that God was calling me to a new challenge. I have been called to “step back into my box” and shut up and listen to others. When Pastor and Lori encouraged others to “step out of the box”, I am learning to stay in the box, and let others speak. As God directed Peter, He is also directing me. I can’t go it alone. I need God. I need to be quiet and listen as He speaks to my heart, and guides me down the path of righteousness.

Janet Pierson



Janet Pierson is our Middle High (7th & 8th Grade) Sunday School leader with husband, Tom. They are very involved in our IGNITE Student Ministries & Kids First Ministries with their two children, Katie & Noah.

Campaign Calendar Dates

24-Hour Prayer Vigil

May 23rd & 24th

Begins Friday at 5 PM and ends Saturday at 5 PM

All-Church Vision Banquet

Friday, May 30th

7 PM in Community Center (catered meal)

Celebration Sunday

June 8th

Firstfruits Sundays

1st Sunday of the Month for 3 years

Join one of our Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays or an ABIDE Small Group Opportunities held at various homes & times related to the Campaign

NEW! Online Giving Program

Sign up on our church home page at www.owossonazarene.com