



Pastor's Perspective – Are You Ready?

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

Fire! The alarm screams, jolting the firehouse into action. As the firefighters scramble, blankets fly off those catching some shuteye. A half-eaten candy bar drops on the table. A newspaper flutters to the ground.

And then...confusion.

"Has anyone seen my boots?"

"The strap is missing from my helmet. I can't wear this!"

"Does anyone know where Elm Street is? I can't find it on the map."

"All right, who took my boots?"

"I think this hose has a hole in it."

"Uh-oh, I forgot to fill the truck with gas."

"Where are my boots!"

Can you imagine firefighters so unprepared? Of course not. Because when they're not putting out fires, they're getting ready to put out fires. They test their equipment, train for special situations and tone up their bodies to meet the rigors of the job. Only when they finish all their

preparations do they rest. And even then, as long as they're on the job, they're on the alert. Because at any moment the alarm may ring.

**"...make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him."
(2 Peter 3:14)**

Similarly, the Bible teaches that at any moment Christ may come again (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Peter 3:10). How well are you keeping on the alert (2 Peter 3:11-16)?

Moreover, the Bible tells us to expect things to get worse rather than better before His coming (2 Peter 3:3).

With those things in mind, when was the last time your commitment to Christ was tested? How well-trained are you in God's Word? Is your spiritual life a little out of shape?

Firefighters aren't on the alert unless they are fully prepared. What do you need to do to better prepare for Christ's return?

It's been about two thousand years since the promise of Christ's return—and we're still waiting for His alarm. It may be another two thousand years before it rings, but, then again, this could be the day. Are you ready?

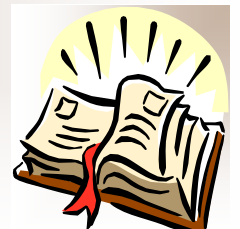
Easter Breakfast

Please make plans to spend Easter morning having breakfast with your church family at 8:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and tea will be provided. There is a sign-up genius list that you may use to volunteer to bring a dish to share. Visit the church Facebook Page, or call Mary Ann Monk for more details.



April Memory Verse

***May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
Galatians 6:14***



Global Outreach-- How to Teach Children to Have a Heart for the Nations

April is Awana's Global Outreach Month...when those ministering in Awana talk to clubbers about the world's need for Christ, missions and missionaries. Families in Fellowship might find these suggestions helpful in raising children with a desire to reach the unreached for Him, provided by Awana's Brian Rhodes:

- Practice the gospel at home. Explain the gospel in language kids understand. Sing songs, read and memorize the Bible together. Let them know about sin, Jesus, the cross, salvation, redemption, eternity, Heaven and Hell.
- Play "Show and Tell." Get a globe or hang a map. Point out countries they are curious about. Read books. Listen to multicultural music. Cook ethnic food. Remember they watch you interact with your world from conversations with cashiers to mumbled asides during rush hour traffic.
- Respond to questions by engaging imaginations. When they ask, "Is it cold in Russia?" invite them to think by asking "Do you think it's cold in Russia? What would people wear? Can we learn about it together?" Kids will ask larger, life-defining questions about God after they learn other questions are safe.



- Be honest. Don't shrink back from telling painful truth. It's alright for them to know there are kids around the world who don't have enough to eat. The fact that the gospel can bring life and light into painful realities is a powerful and practical truth for kids.
- Be a good neighbor. One of the most convincing ways to give kids a heart for the nations is to give them a heart for neighbors down the street. Mission starts when God's people recognize the need for the gospel where they've been placed. Pray for neighbors at dinnertime. Have conversations with those whom no one else talks to. Learn more. Love more.
- Be transparent about finances. A heart for the nations is a posture of selflessness: the ability to freely give yourself, your time and your resources for those in need. Talk to your kids about your giving.
- Take them with you anywhere and everywhere. Get them around other people: people who are like them and people who are different from them. Engaging their world in small ways will give them confidence to impact their world in big ways.

Money Matters

March Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$4,372
Weekly Need	\$5,015
Year-to-Date General Fund Giving	\$58,539
Year-to-Date General Fund Need	\$65,195

April Calendar

April 11	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
April 16	Easter Breakfast (8:30 AM)
April 17	Youth Paint Ball
April 22	Church Work Day (8:00 AM)
April 26	Quarterly Business Meeting (7:30 PM)

We Now Offer Three Convenient Ways to Give to Fellowship...



Cash or Check when the offering plate is passed. Offering envelopes can be obtained from the church office, if desired.

Online via Credit Card or eCheck, one-time or recurring giving. Use our website and click on "Give", or go directly to www.easytithe.com/fbcva. You can also download the EasyTithe mobile app.

Text your desired gift amount to 703-270-0277 (credit card only). Text "help" for more info, or text "funds" to see a list.

Fellowship Baptist Church

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