



## Pastor's Perspective — A Good Day

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

Sometimes I'll hear someone asking another, "Are you having a good day?" In my experience, it's not uncommon for the reply to be given, "It all depends on what you mean by 'good.' If you mean, have things gone as well as I had hoped or expected, then no, I've not had a good day. It's been a bad day."

The believers to whom Peter addressed his first letter were going through some pretty difficult days and things were about to get worse. But he was careful to tell them that what may appear to be "bad days" to the unbelieving world can be "good days" for a Christian, if they will only meet certain conditions. His counsel is in 1 Peter 3:10-12.

First, they must deliberately decide to love life. This is an act of the will: "He who wills to love life." It's an attitude of faith that sees the best in every situation. Second, they must control their tongues. Many of the problems of life are caused by the wrong words, spoken in the wrong spirit. Third, they must do good and hate evil. They need both the positive and the negative. Finally, they must seek and pursue peace. If

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they go out and seek trouble, they'll find it; but if they seek peace, they can find that as well—even if there are those who are seeking to make life difficult for them, for the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.

Peter quoted these statements from Psalm 34:12-16, so it would be profitable for you to read the entire psalm. It describes what God means by "good days."

They are not necessarily days free from problems, for the psalmist wrote about fears (v4), troubles (vv6, 17), afflictions (v19) and even a broken heart (v18). A "good day" for the believer who loves life is not one in which they experience the Lord's help and blessing because of life's problems and trials. It is a day in which they magnify the Lord (vv1-3), experience His answers to prayer (vv4-7), taste the goodness of the Lord (v8) and sense His nearness (v18).

The next time you think you are having a "bad day," and you hate life, read Psalm 34 and you may discover you are really having a "good day" to the glory

## Ministry to Word of Life Bible Institute—Philippines

Pastor Lindholm will be traveling to the Philippines this month with another opportunity to minister at the Word of Life Bible Institute in Calauan Laguna, Philippines. This will be Pastor's third trip to the school, where he will be a guest lecturer from November 4 to the 19th. He taught for the first time in September of 2009, and the school has also asked him to come a fourth time in February/March of 2012 to teach more classes.

While he is there he will be teaching Hermeneutics I (a 20-hour classroom instruction over a two-week period for about 25 students) and I Peter (a 10-hour course, for again about 25 students) over the same time period. In addition to teaching, Pastor Lindholm will most likely preach in a local church and once or twice in the school's chapel during the week. Free time while there is mostly spent ministering to the students in conversation and giving counsel to students and staff.

The Word of Life Bible Institute has two distinct programs: A one-year program that gives students a high-quality course work in Bible in order to live lives



with maximum effectiveness for the Lord, no matter what profession, trade or ministry they move on to. And a three-year program that can be taken after the first year's, to help build and strengthen those young men and women who are preparing for full-time Christian ministry in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Students attend from Korea, Japan, India, Indonesia, Iran, China, US, Germany, New Zealand, Malaysia, Cambodia and Papua New Guinea, but the majority of the students are Filipino men and women between the ages of 18 and 30.

The Word of Life Bible Institute began in 1981, under the leadership of Rev. Joe Mauk, with nine students. Over the past seven years, the Institute has averaged over 60 students. Last year the gospel was presented to over 60,000 people through the combined efforts of the staff and students through projects that include a work at the University of the Philippines in Los Banos and at Trace College in San Pablo City, along with other ministries including a Bible basketball project, puppet ministries and open air evangelism.

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The classes to prepare the students for ministry are all taught in English, with the material in English. The resources available to students are extremely limited. This means that the material the students receive while attending the Bible Institute will comprise most of what they will have available when they graduate and are on the mission field. Pastor Lindholm researched, wrote and edited the courses, had the curriculum printed and bound and will be delivering them into the hands of the students taking the courses.

So please pray for our pastor: Pray for safety in traveling to and while in the Philippines, pray for strength as he deals with the time change and travel fatigue issues and works hard there teaching so many hours for so many consecutive days; pray that the hearts of the students will be prepared by the Holy Spirit to receive the teaching that is coming to them; pray that Pastor Lindholm, himself, will be ministered to by the Lord for this act of service; and please pray for Neita, as she sacrificially lives here without her husband, that she will have peace and joy while she does the work here God has for her.

**Women's Ministries** is again sponsoring "Operation Christmas Child," through which shoe boxes are filled with items for needy children around the world. There will be flyers in the church foyer with detailed instructions for participation in this project. There will be some shoe boxes in the foyer for people to use if they wish (while the supply lasts). Everyone is encouraged to help out! The deadline is Nov. 20.

## Money Matters

Once again in October, as in previous months, our weekly giving to the General Fund was well short of our budgeted need. This trend, unabated, will likely require significant budget cuts in 2012.

October Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$4,092
Weekly Need	\$5,291
Year-to-Date General Fund Giving	\$211,832
Year-to-Date General Fund Need	\$232,798
Year-to-Date "Together We Build"	\$7,349

## Fellowship Baptist Church

5936 Rolling Road  
Springfield, VA 22152

## God Answers Prayers

Fellowship Baptist Church members have been praying for some time about the need Nathan and Dawn Patefield and their family will have when they return to this area in September. The family was looking for a house for September through April and had a limited budget to use. The Lord richly answered that prayer with a house that has been provided for them in the Engleside area of Fairfax County. The house belongs to former members of the Engleside Baptist Church, the Patefields' sending church, who now live in the Midwest. Rejoice with them over God's faithful provision and His answered prayer!



## Give Thanks!

*Psalm 95:1-2* Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

A Thanksgiving Eve service will be held in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday evening, November 23. Please plan to join us as we celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness, expressing our gratitude to the Lord through the singing of songs, reading of Scripture, and sharing of personal testimonies of thanks. Light refreshments will be provided.



**November Memory Challenge**  
Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;  
His love endures forever.  
Let the redeemed of the LORD say this.  
Psalm 107:1-2

## Calendar

Nov. 4	Women's Ministries Game Night (7:00 PM)
Nov. 8	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
Nov. 16	Missions Prayer Meeting (7:30 PM)
Nov. 19	Church Workday (8:00 AM)
Nov. 19	Ladies' Tea at Silas Burke House (11:00 AM)
Nov. 20	Shoebox Deadline
Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Eve Service (7:30 PM)
Dec. 9-10	Men's Retreat

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