



Careline *newsletter*

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2018, The Year of Passionate Living

A new year always offers new opportunities and possibilities, a chance to start over or begin again. Pastor Dennis exhorts us to use those opportunities to live passionately for the Lord in 2018.

2017 has been a crazy year in the life of Calvary Baptist Church. We have lost loved ones through death, have seen some move away due to employment opportunities, and yet others have fallen away from the church. These different circumstances have left a large hole in the physical and financial workings of our church. Though this can be challenging to our faith, God is still on His throne and knows the needs of his Bride. He is fully capable of meeting those needs. As the New Year stretches before us, I hope you are excited about the opportunities and possibilities the Lord has for us.

Personally, I hope to see a movement of God in our church that cannot be explained by mankind and can only be credited to his mighty hand. We must still do our part and be faithful in giving of our time, talents, and tithes, but if we only do what we have always done, we will continue to see the same results of our efforts. My desire is to

see Calvary Baptist Church working passionately for the Lord by the equipping of the Holy Spirit in 2018.

Passion is a driving force that can be used for the glory of God, the glory of self or by the Devil. It is defined as, "a strong and barely controllable emotion," and can go by several different names. Drive, motivation, zeal, spirit, fervor, intensity, devotion, dedication. Call it what you will, but it is the engine that powers your internal attitude about your job, your Christian walk, relationships, and home. Passion can help lead you down the path to success, but if channeled incorrectly, it can destroy your life. When a person lives passionately, they work hard and put in the hours to accomplish a goal, much of the time behind the scenes and without any appreciation from others. They refuse to give up and are dedicated to their calling, doing whatever is necessary. It is far too common today for people to believe they deserve to be in the top position

Church Events

- 1.2** CBC Offices Reopen
- 1.4** Youth Movie Night
- 1.7** Prayer Night
- 1.13** Champion-Whitehouse Wedding
- 1.14** Family Ministry Lead Meeting; Chili Cook Off
- 1.20** Care Team Party
- 1.21** Discipleship Academy Begins
- 1.27** Women's Ministry Fellowship @ Painting With A Twist

without working for it, earn the top salary without putting in the hours, and receive the same recognition as someone who has done the job for 30 years yet do not have any tenure themselves.

In a 1967 speech to Barrett Junior High School, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stated, "If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well." This is the attitude that we should have, no matter where we find ourselves, whether at home or work or church. We should be and do our very best "as working for the Lord, not men." (Col. 3:23) We should go above and beyond the call of duty or job description. The Lord desires to harness our passion and use it for his Kingdom work. If you are called to be a greeter, be the very best greeter possible. If you are called to teach Sunday School, be the best Sunday School teacher you are able. Do not just feel passionately about your job or calling, but put passion into it. Apply all of your skills and energy into wherever the Lord has placed you.

Can you imagine what would happen if we developed a passion to be and do our best in all these areas? For many of us, our lives, our job or businesses, and the church would look radically different. Our success comes, not so much from our responsibilities and the things we do, but how well we do it. The quality of our

handiwork is a direct reflection of the passion we have for our responsibilities. Dr. King's speech illustrates this point. Regardless of your position, you can be successful if you have passion for what you do and do it well. Genuine passion does not go unseen. People take notice of how you execute your calling and the attitude in which you do it. They see your attitude toward adversity, your stick-to-itiveness and resiliency when things do not go your way or are difficult. They notice your drive and ambition and it informs them on how you would do in other positions, perhaps even in leadership roles. When you walk into an establishment and people have passion for their job, or a lack of it, it is reflected in the service that you receive, whether good or bad. Let's be a church full of people with passion and a zeal for the Lord. Whatever we are doing – let's do it for His glory and honor and let us do our very best!

Living your life passionately requires sacrifice. As a believer, we are called to a radical way of living which

goes against everything that most of us have been taught. We are to die to self on a daily basis and live to glorify God. Part of living a life that is glorifying to Him is being a functioning member of the church Body. Are you a toe or a finger? Are you a kneecap or a vertebra? Maybe the left ventricle or a part of the intestine? To be a part of the Body of Christ requires sacrifices of time, finances, and energy. It's not an easy calling, but if we are passionate about what the Lord is doing and can do through us, we have a different perspective on our role. We no longer bide our time riding the clock at work or make sure that we are doing just enough to meet the minimum standards. We can aim toward and be open to the opportunities that the Lord lays before us. We no longer look for instant and temporary gratification but are satisfied with his blessings.

We lay the groundwork for true success if we use our passion for God's glory. Our passion in this life leaves a legacy, not just for this generation, but for

generations that follow as well. Teaching those who come behind us that success is not built on position alone but by the attitude and actions that bring glory to God is also part of being the Body of Christ. We share the Gospel and make disciples through the Holy Spirit using our zeal, enthusiasm, and dedication to the cause of Christ.

What you feel the Lord leading you to do, do it above and beyond the expectations of others, and do it for the glory of God! Let's live passionately for Him in 2018, fulfilling his calling to spread the Gospel and building up the Body.

Merry Christmas,

Bro. Dennis



1/14, 6 pm

Enter your recipe for a chance to win bragging rights for 2018!

Night of Prayer

Start 2018 off right as the Body by gathering together in prayer.
January 7, 6:00 pm



Discipleship Classes Begin

Sunday, 1/21 @ 6:00 PM

Description of each class offered and sign up sheets are located in the foyer.



Impact Weekend, Feb 9-11

Speaker: Garrett Wagner

Cost: \$50, See Andrew for details



You can check out some great teaching, discipleship courses, or enjoy family friendly entertainment on RightNow Media! We subscribe to this valuable resource, so sign up ASAP. Contact Rosanna.

A Graduated Choir Program for Children Pre K—5th Grade!

Sundays @ 6 PM



MUSIC EXPLORERS
4 yrs.—Kinder, Rm 126

MUSIC MAKERS
1st—3rd, Rm 213

YOUNG MUSICIANS
4th—5th, Rm 220/221

Register online or see Rosanna Haddock for more info

Threads of Love

MEETING 1/8 & 1/22

@ 2:00 PM—in Fellowship Area

A ministry to premature babies and their families.

We meet twice monthly on the first and third Mondays of the month.

For more information contact Diana Owen @ 512-787-8497

FREEDOM FROM HURTS, HABITS AND HANG-UPS

CELEBRATE RECOVERY IT'S A NEW DAY

A Christ-centered recovery program for anyone dealing with Hurts, Habits, or Hang-Ups

Meeting Tuesdays @6:30 PM

(6:00 for Dinner)

All Group Discussion are Confidential

“Celebration Place” is an ongoing program for kids

“The Landing” is an ongoing program for teens.

Visit celebraterecovery@calvarysanmarcos.com or contact Bob Moe @ 512-557-4155



January 27, 10 am-Noon

New Braunfels Location, Cost \$35

Deadline to sign up is January 13

Ladies, join us for a few fun hours of painting! Painting With a Twist is a guided painting class led by an experienced art teacher. No painting skills or experience needed. At the end of the class, you will have a beautiful piece of artwork to take home! Register online through the **CBC website** or **Facebook page**. See Shelby for more details.

A Note from the Finance Team...

Dear Calvary,

Do you notice the lack of commitment in today's world? I believe this is a work of evil that pervades our modern society. The most obvious example is marriage. We see over 50% of marriages ending in divorce, we see a huge percentage of people choosing to live together so that they don't have to make a commitment. Consider for a moment all the other examples of a lack of commitment that you see around you. Unfortunately, there are examples of this in our churches as well.

The Kingdom of God is built on commitment. Before time began, God knew his creation would fall and made a plan to redeem it back to himself. He was so committed to mankind, that He gave his only begotten Son to be the perfect sacrifice for our sin, which paved the way for our redemption. Yes, God committed himself totally to you and me.

Paul mentions two types of commitment in his letter to the Corinthians. In describing the incredible generosity of the Macedonian church, Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 8:5, "...but they **first gave themselves** to the Lord, and **then to us** by the will of God."

We must first give ourselves to the Lord. This is the act of Salvation, whereby we give up on ourselves and accept Jesus and his Word. This is a life changing commitment. Jesus changes everything when we commit to Him and His Word.

The second commitment is to your church (vs. 8:5b, "to us"). When you commit to God, you also commit to His people. You are now his child and part of the Bride of Christ, which is the church worldwide and the local body of believers. This commitment involves your Time, your Talents and your Tithe.

As we enter into another new year, please consider your level of commitment. Does your level of commitment match up with the commitment God has made to you? The answer is no, and it never will. Nevertheless, could you do better? Usually the hardest commitment for us is the commitment of our Tithe. For this local body of believers to be effective in the Kingdom work that lays before us, it takes finances. Consider your own level of tithing. Talk with God about it. Put action to your commitment to Him. We walk by Faith and not by sight, so faithfully commit to your Tithe for the coming year, and let Calvary Baptist Church be the Lighthouse and Refuge for our local community.

Walk in Faith,

John Clarke & the Finance Team

HE IS MAKING
ALL THINGS NEW

ISAIAH 43.18-19

Calvary Events Calendar

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Verna Gee</i> CBC Offices CLOSED	2 CBC Offices Reopen	3 <i>Virginia Nichols</i>	4 <i>Bill Russell</i> Youth Movie Night	5	6
7 Church-Wide Prayer Meeting	8 <i>Elisandro Leos</i> BBA Threads of Love <i>7:00pm Outreach/Visitation</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>Becky Jaimes Shelby Spire</i>	13 <i>Cheryl Bailey Cheri Martin Chris Skruhak</i> Champion-Whitehouse Wedding
14 Family Ministry Lead Meeting CBC Chili Cook Off	15 <i>Brittan Castle Lari Locke</i> <i>7:00pm Outreach/Visitation</i>	16 <i>Hunter Anderson</i>	17	18 <i>Ric Seale</i>	19 Children's Worship University Conference College Ministry Welcome Back Party	20 <i>Jim Owen</i> Men's Breakfast Care Team Party
21 Discipleship Academy Begins	22 Threads of Love <i>7:00pm Outreach/Visitation</i>	23 <i>Hunter Graham</i>	24 <i>Jenna Dull Lynn Riley</i>	25	26	27 Women's Ministry Painting w/ A Twist
28 <i>Zulema Bables Judy Glover</i> PreTeen Camp Deposit #1 Due	29 <i>Rowan Castle Miranda Champion Alyssa Reyes</i> <i>7:00pm Outreach/Visitation</i>	30 <i>Jennifer Candelaria</i>	31 <i>John Clarke</i>			