JESUS: THE GOOD NEWS

"When Jesus Throws a Party", Luke 14:12-24 October 7, 10-11, 2015: Cam Huxford, Senior Pastor

Luke 13:29–30

I. Attend Jesus' Party...It's Great! Amos 8:11-12; Matthew 4:4; John 6:35 NIV; 1 Peter 2:2

Similarities between spiritual hunger and physical hunger:

- Hunger is a sign of health! Matthew 5:6
- Hunger morphs as you become spiritually mature. 1 Corinthians 3:1-2 NLT

Connect, Learn and Grow so strong that you become a self-feeder! Hebrews 5:13-14

- Healthy hunger is satisfied in various ways.
- · Spiritual Health requires a balanced diet.
- Healthy hunger can be damaged. Proverbs 10:3

II. Avoid Lame <u>Excuses</u>...They're Dangerous.

Different excuses that people gave Jesus:

- The "finances first" excuse. Ezekiel 7:19 NIV; Matthew 16:26
- The "<u>fun</u> first" excuse.

Following Jesus is the most fulfilling way to live...but it's not always the most <u>exciting</u> way to live. *Luke* 9:23

• The "family first" excuse.

You decide whether your spiritual life will be average, above average or below average when you pick your <u>spouse</u>! 2 Corinthians 6:14 NIV

Two things you must do if you dream of a spiritually compatible marriage:

- 1. Make a list of the spiritual traits you're looking for in a spouse...list their spiritual character first...don't compromise.
- 2. Keep yourself sexually pure until you marry.

III. Host Jesus' Party by Inviting Everybody!

Two things we should learn about Jesus from this story:

- 1. His party won't stop because someone refuses to come.
- 2. Jesus wants His party filled ... and we can't stop giving invitations until it is!

"And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that My house may be <u>filled</u>."" Luke 14:23

Ministry Opportunities

For more information about these and other events, go to SavannahChristian.com/Events.

REAL Time

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13

Adult Ministry Center across the street

Ladies, join us for a fun evening as we grow in our faith together. Heather Flood will share how God led her and her family to minister to people through education. Come hear this inspirational story of obedience to the call of Christ and be encouraged to step out in faith yourself. Dinner will be served. Purchase your \$8 ticket at SavannahChristian.com or at a Connection Kiosk by Monday, Oct. 12.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection

Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 21, 24 - 25

Change the life of a child by filling a shoebox with toys, games and small gifts. Samaritan's Purse works with churches and ministry partners in over 130 countries worldwide to deliver the boxes and share the Good News of Jesus with children who wouldn't normally receive a Christmas gift. Pick up a shoebox and instructions in the lobby. We'll collect the boxes during services on Oct. 21, 24 and 25.

Step into the Deep Retreat

5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6 - 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7 Epworth by the Sea

Ladies, join us for an overnight retreat as we take time out from the busyness of life and focus on finding our strength in Christ. Take a step deeper in your relationship with Him and refresh your understanding of who He is. We'll focus on the stories of Mary and Martha through teaching from Sarah Huxford, Joy Gill and Perri Baxter. Pay the registration fee at SavannahChristian.com by Friday, Oct. 23.

Toy Collection for the Lighthouse Ministry Through October

Collection Bin in Connecting Point

Our Lighthouse ministry provides food, clothing and guidance to people in need in our community. Through October we are collecting new toys to give as Christmas gifts to each child whose family comes to the Lighthouse. The toys will be used to teach them that the greatest gift ever given was Jesus. Please leave donations in the collection bin in Connecting Point.

Steps of Paul Tour

Oct. 15 - 25, 2016

Join Cam and Sarah as they lead a spiritual pilgrimage that follows the footsteps of Paul through Athens, Philippi, Thessaloniki, Ancient Corinth, the Greek Islands and Ancient Ephesus. The Bible will change from black and white to color as we visit the historical places where Paul traveled and preached. An optional 3-day tour of Rome is offered. For more information, pick up a flyer from Connecting Point.