



# TRUE LIGHT

Baptist Church

NOVEMBER 2011



## ***A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR***

### **THERE WILL BE STORMS”**

*“and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house. . .”*

(Matthew 7:25, NKJV)



There are only two builders in this parable (the wise and the foolish); and only two alternatives (building on either rock or sand). In like manner, when it comes to matters of ultimate truth, there are really only two options. The world would have us believe otherwise. The world says we have a myriad of options. According to the Bible, there are only two choices – Christ and everything else. One way leads to life; the other leads to death. The foundation upon which you build our lives will determine whether we stand or fall, endure or be overcome, ride out or be overwhelmed by the storms of life.

**There Are No Storm-Free Zones!** This is a parable about foundations, not avoiding the weather. The idea of a foundation is so critical. From a human standpoint, building your life on anything other than what Jesus taught is to “mess-up” the foundation. It is to allow fault lines and cracks to form at pressure points of life. Just as every solid building has a foundation; every life, every home, every marriage has a foundation on which it is built. What does your foundation consist of? That is Jesus’ point. No matter what the building materials atop may be; the foundation is the most important element.

**Houses Built On Sandy Foundations Will Fall** (vs. 26, 27). The man who built his house on the sand did a lot of things right. For instance, he was evidently diligent, energetic, and a hard worker. It is no easy thing to put up a house, and especially not in those days, with no power tools or Home Depot. He had to carry stone, and cut wood, and form bricks out of clay. It probably took him weeks and months of backbreaking labor. He did not quit; he persevered until the structure was complete. Yet in the end, all his hard work was for nothing.

We often confuse activity with godliness. We assume that if someone is hard working and energetic, they must be a sincere Christian. They must be close to God if they are

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doing so much “for the Lord.” However, it is possible to accomplish a great deal in this world without Christ. However, eventually, a storm will come along which can bring it all tumbling down. You may not realize it, but you are building today. You are laying a foundation with every decision you make in life. What you invest in, what you give you time, talents, and treasures to in many ways, establishes the foundation of your faith, trust, beliefs, values and illustrates what you ultimately believe.

**Are You A Sand Builder?** There are different kinds of sand. *First*, there is the *shifting sand of the next new thing*. Every day we are told there is a new way of thinking, a new way of doing, a new way to become what we want to become. There is a newer faster, more entertaining something to grab our attention, to distract us from the consideration of the important and essential things of life. **Don’t build on that!** *Second*, there is the *shallow sand of entertainment*. Trying to get your reality from reality shows is sand. Their reality is not your reality. **Don’t build on that!** *Third*, there is the *quicksand of self-righteousness*. Seeking an organized religion as your faith rather than the teachings of Jesus, and following after the Word of God is sand. **Don’t build on that!** *Fourth*, there is the *sinking sand of self-reliance*. If you build your financial future on earthly investments, if you think, the real supply of your income is your job, or even if you think what you have accumulated in the bank and investments will sustain you, you are building on sand. **Don’t build on that!**

Jesus said the house built upon the sand fell, and in addition, he said, “*And great was its fall.*” There was a great level of disappointment because the foolish man thought he had done everything necessary to ensure a good quality construction. He was in utter awe at how easily what he had built was destroyed. Here Jesus is speaking of the absolute necessity of building your life on the right kind of foundation. Because the foundation is what holds everything up, it is what

holds everything together. For some people, the storm never comes along in this life. They have little or no interest in religion, and yet they do things, and have things, and enjoy life and go to their grave happy. For them, the storm that finally destroys everything, including their souls, will be the final judgment. And when that judgment comes, the only thing that will matter to you or me is whether we are in Christ; whether by faith we have received his forgiveness and his righteousness. If you have, then you will stand. If not, then you will be swept away into everlasting punishment and destruction, along with everything you have ever done. And as with the foolish man’s house, great will be your fall.



# Storms in Life

The storms in our life are difficult to bear, Troubled seas of sorrow around us roll; Winds of affliction may bring us to despair, Then a soft breeze calms the weary soul. Dark clouds drift across our blue sky,

Waves of anger may cross our stormy sea; It is then, we pause to wonder "why"...We tremble and cry, "Jesus, please pilot me."

Troubles arise in many forms of disguise, Shadows of trust across the mind may dart; Tears fall as heavy rain to dim the eyes, Calm streams then soothe our fearful heart.

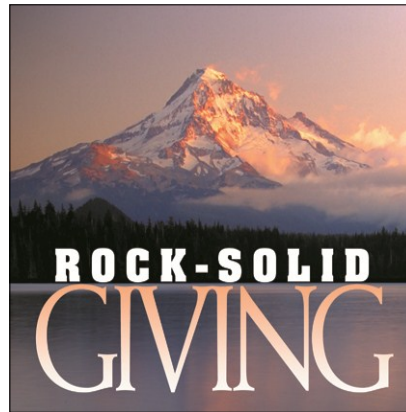
While the storm rages... let Jesus take control, He protects us from seen and un-seen harms; He is Faithful and the Keeper of our soul, He holds us tenderly in His Everlasting Arms.

He safely guards each weary step we take, He is patient, kind, loving and true; Trust Him in the darkness and when we awake, He leads, guides and directs us 'til life is through.

When the storm passes by... give Him praise, Our anchor in Him will buoy us on with hope for our goal. He keeps us safe... by His marvelous Grace, We will rest steadfast and secure with a haven for our soul.

-Leona I. Miller





## Financial Success Starts With The Tithe

Financial success in God's Kingdom begins with bringing the tithe to Him. The scripture says, *"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and test me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows."* Malachi 3:10.

For Christians to realize that the tithe is the key foundational principle for giving in God's Kingdom, God has ordained that the tithe is the beginning point for building a prosperous lifestyle. If we expect to be blessed financially, we must come to terms with the fact that the tithe belongs to the Lord.

The word "tithe" means "tenth." The principle and practice of tithing, first mentioned in Genesis 14:20, is found in both the Old and New Testaments. The tithe was very special because it was sanctified, or set apart, unto God. God instructed His people to bring the first tenth of their crops, produce or income to Him: *"Thus all the tithe of the land, of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's it is holy to the Lord"* (Leviticus 27:30). It belonged to the Lord. It was holy. Man had no right or claim to it.

How can God command and demand that we give Him the tithe? It's simple. He is our Creator and Redeemer. Everything we have belongs to Him in the first place. He alone is worthy of our worship and adoration. When we acknowledge God's lordship in our lives by bringing the tithe unto Him, we acknowledge Him as our source and provider.

By inviting His people to bring the tithe, God challenged them to prove, or test Him. If you bring the whole tithe, He said, watch me, and I will open the windows of heaven and pour out for you an overflowing blessing. Unfortunately, heaven's windows are closed to many people today. But they don't have to be. God says they will open up and blessing will cascade down on you if you become a tither and giver. God always keeps His promises.

**GIVE AS GOD GIVES**

# Up-Coming Events in November

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## Harvest Sunday

November 13, 2011

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



## Worship Services

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## Miracle Sunday

November 20, 2011

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



## Worship Services

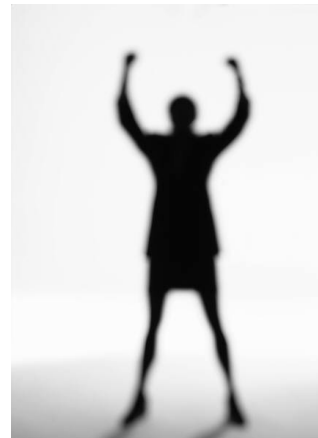
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## Victory Sunday

November 27, 2011

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

## Worship Services



# *A December to Remember...*

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## **True Light's Drama Ministry Presents....**

*"A Victorious Christmas"*

Sunday, December 4, 2011

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Worship Services

## **Children's Christmas Program**

Sunday, December 11, 2011

4:00 p.m.

## **Senior Christmas Party**

Wednesday, December 14, 2011

12:00 p.m.

## **Youth Christmas Party**

Wednesday, December 14, 2011

6:30 p.m.

## **True Light's Puppet Ministry Presents...**

*"The Truth About Christmas"*

Saturday, December 17, 2011

## **"A Night Out At The Christmas Café"**

Friday, December 23, 2011

6:30 p.m.

## **Christmas Day**

\*One Service\*

Sunday, December 25, 2011

## **Office Closed**

Monday, December 26 - Friday, December 30

## **WATCH NIGHT SERVICE**

Saturday, December 31

10:00 p.m.

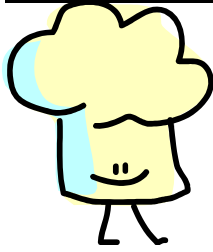
## **New Years Day**

\*One Service\*

Sunday, January 1, 2012

10:00 a.m.





## BONNE'S KITCHEN CORNER

### Classic Peanut Butter Cookies

#### Ingredients

- 1 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup crunchy peanut butter
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda



#### Directions

- ⇒ Cream together butter, peanut butter and sugars. Beat in eggs.
- ⇒ In a separate bowl, sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Stir into batter. Put batter in refrigerator for 1 hour.
- ⇒ Roll into 1 inch balls and put on baking sheets. Flatten each ball with a fork, making a criss-cross pattern. Bake in a preheated 375 degrees F oven for about 10 minutes or until cookies begin to brown. Do not over-bake.

### Church Calendar Highlights



#### KEEP CONNECTED!

Active members of True Light who are sick, shut-in, elderly, or others who are physically unable to attend church may request a CD or DVD of the Pastor's sermons. Please contact a member of your Family Ministry Team or the office for further details.

#### November 2011

Nov 6 (SUN) Harvest Sunday

Nov 13 (SUN) Miracle Sunday

Nov 20 (SUN) Victory Sunday

Nov 27(SUN) Mission Sunday

Thanksgiving 24—25 Office Closed

#### December 2011

Dec 4 (SUN) Christmas Drama

Dec 11 (SUN) Children's Holiday Program

Dec 14 (WED) Senior's Holiday Party  
Youth Holiday Party

Dec 17 (SAT) Christmas Puppet Show

Dec 23 (FRI) Christmas in the Café

Dec 25 (SUN) Christmas Day Service

### After Hours Prayer Line

*"Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."*

Matthew 18:19-20 (NIV)

### **After Hours Prayer Line Phone Number**

## **(303) 375-0754 Ext: 109**

- ◆ Call for prayer and leave a recorded message. Our Intercessory Prayer Team regularly monitors this line.
- ◆ If you leave contact information, a member of the Intercessory Prayer Team will call and pray with you.
- ◆ Your Intercessory Prayer Team wants to pray with you and for you.



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