



Kingdom Partners
Philippians 1:3-7

The ENCOURAGER

April 2025

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOLMES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Encourage - Equip - Engage

Homecoming Service

Pleasant Valley Baptist Church will have their Homecoming on Sunday, April 6th @ 10am. Bro. Phil McMillian will bring the message and The Smith Family from Pensacola will bring the special music. Lunch to follow. Everyone welcome!

VISION & VICTORY Mid Year SERVICE

AND SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HOLMES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



TUESDAY, APRIL 8
6:30 PM



Guest Speaker:
Dr. Stephen Rummage
Exec. Dir. / Treasurer
Florida Baptist Convention

Join us as we celebrate the Visions and Victories of our Churches and supporting ministries.

There will be a Finger Food Fellowship to follow the service. Bring a dish to share and join us for this annual event.



West Pittman Baptist Church
1603 Bradley Rd., Westville

JOIN US FOR AN Easter Eggstravaganza



April 19, 2025
10 a.m. - Noon
Prosperity Park
1996 Dan M Padgett Road
Westville, FL 32464

Hosted by:
Hickory Hill Baptist
Leonia Baptist
Pleasant Ridge Baptist
Reedy Assembly of God
New hope Baptist
West Pittman Baptist

HOSTED BY **GULLY SPRINGS**
2824 HWY 90
BONIFAY, FL 32425

5 APRIL 2025 04:00 PM DOORS OPEN
04:30 PM EVENT STARTS

Outdoorsman Feast & Fellowship

FREE ENTRY DOOR PRIZES

FAMILY EVENT

RTE WRSHP
Gully Springs Church

EDDIE WATSON
Clay Hill Christian Retreat

GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY
12 Gauge Shotgun
Sponsored by McCoy's Outdoors

WILD GAME SUPPER
LIVE AUCTION
Proceeds to support GSBC Kids' Ministry

EVENT SPONSORS
SRM CONCRETE, BUSH PAINT, MCCOY'S OUTDOORS, BONIFAY READY-MIX, GULLY PAD ADVENTURES

BRIAN LEMIEUX FAMILY

EASTER SERVICES—April 20th

- ◆ Pleasant Ridge—Worship 11am; Lunch to follow and egg hunt for all ages
- ◆ West Pittman—Sunrise Service 7am; Breakfast 8am; Sunday School 9am; Worship 10am; No evening service



RANDYm THOUGHTS....

Randy Torrance, Mission Strategist - Holmes Baptist Association

‘Doing A Good Work’

April 2025

Nehemiah has always been one of my favorite books of the Bible. One that I turn to when in need of encouragement. In Nehemiah 6:9, an encouraging word is found in Nehemiah's prayer: "Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands." This verse reminds us to trust in God's strength, even when facing opposition and discouragement, and to persevere in our work for Him.

Nehemiah 6 describes the challenges and opposition Nehemiah and the people faced while rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. His enemies, and those that opposed his efforts tried to intimidate and discourage them, hoping to stop the project.

Notice the Enemy's Strategy: They used various tactics, including spreading rumors, making false accusations, and even trying to lure Nehemiah away from his work under false pretenses.

Consider Nehemiah's Response: Instead of submitting to fear or discouragement, Nehemiah turned to God in prayer, asking for strength and perseverance.

Hear Nehemiah's Prayer: "Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands." This prayer highlights Nehemiah's dependence on God's power and his unwavering faith in God's ability to see them through the challenges.

This verse serves as a powerful reminder that we too can face challenges and opposition in our lives, but we can find strength and encouragement in prayer and in trusting in God's power.

Nehemiah's example teaches us:

- **Persevere:** Don't give up when things get difficult.
- **Trusting in God:** Rely on God's strength and guidance, not our own.
- **Pray:** Seek God's strength and guidance through prayer.
- **Discernment:** Be aware of the tactics of the enemy and don't be swayed by lies or false promises.

A key verse for me in ministry is found a little earlier in this chapter. Verse 2 of chapter 6 says **"I am doing a great work; and I cannot come down..."**. Notice that Nehemiah did not say, "I am doing a great JOB, but that he said he was doing a great WORK.

Nehemiah's words highlight the significance of the task he is undertaking, emphasizing that it is a "great work". This can be an encouragement to those who feel their work is insignificant or unimportant, reminding them that they are engaged in something worthwhile and divinely ordained.

Nehemiah's refusal to leave his work demonstrates his unwavering dedication and focus, even in the face of opposition. This is a powerful message for those who struggle with distractions or feel pressured to abandon their goals.

Nehemiah's unwavering commitment to his work serves as a model for believers to remain dedicated to their God-given missions, even when facing challenges. Nehemiah's response to his adversaries is strategic and wise. By sending messengers, he maintains a level of diplomacy and avoids direct confrontation, which could lead to unnecessary conflict.

Nehemiah's words, "why should the work cease while I leave it and come down to you?" emphasize the importance of staying focused on the task at hand and not allowing distractions to derail the work. In Nehemiah 6:9, we see Nehemiah praying, "Now strengthen my hands". This highlights the need for reliance on God's strength and guidance in times of difficulty.

May we find encouragement in these words as we work in the ministry that God has called us to.



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