

The Encourager



A Stewardship Ministry Monthly Publication

January 2014

Rev. Dr. Charlie E. York - Senior Pastor

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Fulfillment Hour

Sundays at 9:45 A.M.

January 2014 Lessons

January 5th

A Fight You Can't Win By Yourself Romans 7:14-8:2

January 12th

A Life You Can't Live On Your Own Romans 8:8-17, 26-27

January 19th

Is Every Life Sacred? Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

January 26th

How Can I Be Sure God Exists? Psalm 19:1-14

Sis. Geraldine Turner Superintendent

Sis. Nina Hayes Assistant Superintendent



What are some ways I can spend my time that will honor God and help me grow spiritually?

I'm "Going the Extra Mile" in 2014 with my <u>Time</u>, <u>Talents</u>, and <u>Treasures</u> - Will You Walk with Me?

The Stewardship Ministry Team is encouraging all Highpoint members to intentionally and prayerfully commit to "Going the Extra Mile in 2014" with their Time, Talents, and Treasures. This theme comes from Matthew 5:41 - "And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain."

During the time of Christ, the Roman Empire was in control. Any Jew could be compelled to serve a Roman soldier or official by carrying a burden or load. Roman law required them to comply and go 1,000 paces (a Roman mile). After that, they could go about their own business. But Jesus taught that although they had a right to stop at one mile, they could choose to go on farther and do more than what was required of them. This is where we get the common phrase of "going the extra mile".

What the Lord was talking about was not to be the exception among believers, but to be the norm. All of us should strive to be known as "Extra Milers"!





Matthew 5:41

"And
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Going the "Extra Mile" in Our Service

How would you evaluate <u>your</u> service to God? Do you serve <u>sometimes</u> <u>but not consistently</u>? Do you serve <u>whole-heartedly</u> or <u>half-heartedly</u>? We represent Christ and Highpoint Baptist Church in our realms of influence. People consider us and evaluate our church and our Lord by what <u>we</u> do. Our representation needs to be above and beyond the norm. What do we say to others about our love for God and His church by <u>our</u> actions?

If we are going to have a positive impact on those around us for the cause of Christ, we need to be known as <u>committed Christians</u>. We must be willing to go the "extra mile" in our service/time and become active participants in the ministries at Highpoint.



THE HOLY BIBLE

Wednesday Nights 6:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

January 8th - II Kings/I and II Chronicles

January 15th - Ezra/Nehemiah January 22nd - Esther

January 29th - Job

alents

How can I utilize my talents/spiritual gifts to honor God and bless the membership?

Going the "Extra Mile" in Utilizing our Spiritual Gifts

Each member is encouraged to go the "extra mile" in utilizing their spiritual gifts. God has given each of us spiritual gifts to use at Highpoint. The Bible does not lock us into tight restrictions as to the number of spiritual gifts we receive. The four major lists of gifts are found in Romans Ch. 12, I Corinthians Ch.12, Ephesians Ch. 4, and I Peter Ch. 4. All the gifts are given to help the church fulfill its purposes. Do not neglect your gift! Trust God and go the "extra mile" in doing what He created you to do at Highpoint.

Highpoint's Ministry Fair Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014 11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

If you are willing to go the "extra mile" in utilizing your spiritual gifts, please come to our Ministry Fair on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014, in our gymnasium. The purpose of the fair is to generate awareness, enthusiasm, and involvement in the work of the church among members and ministries. The fair is also a celebration of the work of God and is a wonderful way for members to ask questions, discern their gifts and talents and learn how they can share their gifts with various ministries.



What are some ways I can utilize my God-given treasures to honor God and bless the Highpoint Ministries?

Tithing

II Corinthians 8:3-4 - Give sacrificially!

"They gave as much as they were able and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service." People ask, "What if I can't afford to tithe?" The answer is, "You can't afford not to." If you want God's blessing on your finances, you need to give. You need to obey what God has said.

Tithing (10% of your income) gives God a chance to prove He exists and wants to bless you. Start tithing and watch what happens!

Sacrificial Promises

What are Sacrificial Promises? A prayed upon sacrificial amount <u>above</u> tithes and regular offerings resulting in consistent funds for capital improvement projects throughout the Highpoint property.

Stewardship Ministry Team

Senior Pastor - Dr. Charlie E. York Ministry Leader - Phaedra Fox Assistant Ministry Leader - Clotelia White Church Treasurer Alisha Banks

Deacon John Patterson Deacon Shelton Perry
Trustee Alvin Presnell Deacon Herman Towner

Going the "Extra Mile" with our Giving

Each member is encouraged to commit to going the "extra mile" in their tithes, offerings and sacrificial giving in 2014. Giving is an expression of love - not just our love for others, but also our love for God! To have a positive impact on the world around us and upon those whom we desire to minister, we need to go the "extra mile" in the area of giving. Il Corinthians 9:6-7 says it this way:

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."

One who is an "Extra Miler" in giving is one who sows bountifully. The "Extra Miler" cheerfully gives from the heart. The result is that the "Extra Miler" will also reap bountifully.

The Stewardship Ministry Team's theme is **"Going the Extra Mile"** in 2014 with our <u>Time</u>, <u>Talents</u>, and <u>Treasures</u> ... **Will you <u>prayerfully make a commitment</u>** to walk with us?