



On the Same Page

“Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.” (Matthew 7:15 NAS95)

A Developing Direction

Forever-Family Fellowship

We will teach and practice truth-and-love relationships with brothers-sisters in Christ that must survive/thrive in the present because we believe that these relationships will last forever

All-Week-Long Worship

As the local body of believers gathers each Sunday for worship, **we will inspire a worship experience for all age groups that will travel with you all week long.** What we do on Sunday will assist you in your singing, in your praying, in your devotion, and in your witness.

Conversely, it is as you worship all-week-long that you will be prepared to enter into gathered worship on Sunday.

Day-to-Day Discipleship

As followers of Christ, we are disciples every single day. Respect for and commitment to Scripture is essential. **We will show you how to interact with and respond to God’s Word, both as individuals, and in groups.**

Moment-by-Moment Mission

God, the Architect of the world and of our lives arranges appointments and interruptions. Each of us is called to represent His Son for the glory of His Name. **We will cultivate a mind-set for moment-by-moment mission, whether close to home, or far away.**

Fake Everything

Sunday, July 9, 2017

We have heard a lot about fake news lately, and I am sure that some of it is true, on every side. Especially the weather. They seem not to have a clue. But that doesn’t stop the forecasting. But “fake” doesn’t stop at the news.

We live in a society that eats fake food. Do you disagree? Then tell me, what exactly is a gummy bear? Where does it grow? or, Where is it raised? Neither. It is manufactured. You may as well eat ball bearings. The manufacturers must say in their meetings, “Put enough sugar in it, and they’ll eat anything.” If it’s not real food, then it’s fake.

Or we try and supplement the fake food with nutritional pills - vitamin whatever. But studies show (if they are not fake) that what the supplements promise, they are not able to deliver. The nutrient might be there, but it doesn’t process properly; it doesn’t take. And so, it’s fake nutrition.

We send our kids to school to get a fake education. The ability to use and manipulate numbers and letters, let alone history, is down. The spending on sports is up. There is lots of sex education (fake-ly so-called), and seminars on bullying and self-control. But what exactly are the kids equipped to do, or more importantly, to think, by the time they graduate? They have a real diploma certifying an ephemeral education.

And then we see signs of fake faith. That is, faith espoused that is not lived; preaching that is not practiced. Religious practices that are done merely for show are evidences of a fake faith. Religious rites that are performed merely to make me feel better about myself are signs of a faith fake. Real faith believes in absolute truths, resulting in concrete behaviors that guide believers away from what God hates, and into what God loves. And God loves sacrificial service.

And fake faith is fed by fake preaching. It includes those messages that merely “tickle the ears;” that are in fashion and relevant. It is the preaching that elevates individuals rather than God, drawing a response of humility from individuals. It is the pitch that is designed to assemble the most people and collect the most dollars.

We are real people living in a real world with real souls. But with all the fakery that we produce, we find that, in the end, we have nothing that we can trust; no one upon whom we can lean. Jesus invited by saying, in contrast, “I am (that which is) true.”

Martin Luther, and his “Preface to the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans” (1522, and revised in 1546), helping us to properly define “law.”

“The little word “law” you must here not take in human fashion as a teaching about what works are to done or not done... God judges according to what is in the depths of the heart. For this reason, his law too makes its demands on the inmost heart; it cannot be satisfied with works, but rather punishes as hypocrisy and lies the works not done from the bottom of the heart. Hence all men are called liars, because no one keeps or can keep God’s law from the bottom of the heart. For everyone finds in himself displeasure in what is good and pleasure in what is bad. If, now, there is no willing pleasure in the good, then the inmost heart is not set on the law of God. Then, too, there is surely sin, and God’s wrath is deserved, even though outwardly there seem to be many good deeds and an honorable life.”

Martin Luther’s Basic Theological Writings. Augsburg Fortress, 2005, p. 99.


News and Notes

Prayer Time: Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., at the Milford Tim Hortons; Sundays, 9 a.m., in the sanctuary

This Sunday, July 9, is our monthly American House service, 3 p.m.

Men of Action breakfast meeting and church facility work session is Sat., July 22, 7:30 a.m.

Please note the church’s new phone number: 248-717-3564



Jesus’ Plain Preaching: Luke 6:20-49

Summer Sermon Series, 2017
Sundays, 11 a.m.

Milford Baptist
at the corner of Detroit and
N. Main
<http://milfordbaptist.org>

Weekly Worship @ 11:00 a.m.

This Sunday, June 25, we continue “Jesus’ Plain Preaching”, from his Sermon on the Plain. Having introduced Luke’s alternation between blessing and woes, we are taking each of the 4 pairs in detail, and consider the surprising contrast between the hungry and the well-fed (vv. 21,25), **in a message entitled “The Problem of Plenty.”**

Last Sunday, July 2, 11 a.m., we remembered Jason Nightingale’s ministry, and Jesus’ ministry, with our own local Scripture memorization, application, and Lord’s Table.

Sunday School resume this this Sunday morning, 9:30 a.m. Our adult class is studying subjects related to the morning message; the youth are tackling a series on Biblical answers to tough questions; the children’s class is learning the Lord’s Prayer.

[Milford Baptist Website](http://milfordbaptist.org)

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