

Baptism Sunday --- On November 13, we will celebrate with those who have responded to God's call to follow Jesus through the gift of baptism. Immersion baptisms will take place following the 11:00 worship services. Many have already signed up, and perhaps God has been nudging your heart to be baptized as well. For more information, please contact Dr. Neil Epler (nepler@frazer.church) or fill out your Connection Card.

**Frazer Students' Impact – The Tailgate** --- Frazer Students are excited about September's Impact Service this coming Wednesday, September 28 from 6-7:30 pm in the East Sanctuary. The theme for this month is "The Tailgate." This event is for any 6th-12th graders. So make plans to join us. Come decked out in your favorite team gear for a great night of worship, fellowship, and challenge from God's Word.

**Celebrate Jesus-7 Days of Prayer** --- Join in praying for how God is moving through the Frazer Family, Oct. 10-16 at 6:30 am in the Sanctuary. Come to the Sanctuary for a 30-minute time of prayer or join in through live streaming. Let's unite in calling out to our Heavenly Father and surrendering our lives for His glory.

College Ministry Passion 2017 Trip --- Frazer College Students ages 18-25 are invited to attend Passion 2017 in the Georgia Dome, Jan. 2-4. The cost of this trip is \$250, which covers the conference fee, lodging, breakfast, and travel. We will be blessed from speakers like Louie Giglio, Christine Caine, Beth Moore, Francis Chan, and Levi Lusko. Worship will be lead by Passion Band, Chris Tomlin, David Crowder, Matt Redman, and Hillsong United. Deadlines: \$100 deposit is due by Oct. 9; final balance is due Nov. 27. Please email Chase Faulk at cfaulk@frazer.church for registration details and questions.

**Save the Date!** --- See contemporary Christian music singer and songwriter Kari Jobe in concert in Frazer's Wesley Hall, Wednesday, November 16. Details to come!

**Donate Food & Hygiene Items** --- Hygiene Ministries will collect non-perishable food and personal care items in the donation carts Oct. 2 in the Atrium. Items can also be dropped off in the Community Ministries office Monday-Thursday mornings.

Meals on Wheels --- Please help this outreach ministry to shut-ins by donating coffee bricks this fall. Look for the Community Ministries Donations carts in the atrium. Thank you! For more information contact Robin Vandermey at robin@frazerumc.org.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

## 4<sup>TH</sup> AND LONG

HOW GOD BREAKS THROUGH YOUR IMPOSSIBLE SITUATIONS

WEEK 1: DOWN AT THE HALF

WEEK 2: HAIL MARY

**WEEK 3: GAME OVER** 

WEEK 4: REBUILDING YEAR

## 4<sup>th</sup> and Long Week 3—Game Over

- We experience suffering with God.
  - o He understands our pain.
  - He is the source of all compassion.
  - o He is sufficient for all comfort.

"Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. Romans 8:35-37

"I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from Satan to torment me and keep me from becoming proud. Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

2 Corinthians 12:7b-10

- We extend comfort from God.
  - o He can use suffering for our growth.
  - o He can use suffering for others' good.
  - He can use suffering for His glory.

"All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."

Romans 8:28

- We exult in the glory of God.
  - He is our victory.
  - He is our deliverer.
  - o He is our reward.

"For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." Philippians 1:21

"We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves. We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies. Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be evident in our dying bodies. So we live in the face of death, but this has resulted in eternal life for you. But we continue to preach because we have the same kind of faith the psalmist had when he said, "I believed in God, so I spoke." We know that God, who raised the Lord Jesus, will also raise us with Jesus and present us to himself together with you. All of this is for your benefit. And as God's grace reaches more and more people, there will be great thanksgiving, and God will receive more and more glory. That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever." 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

## Go Deeper:

- Some unanswered prayers never get resolved by something better in this life—like the untimely death of a loved one, or a relationship that is broken and never restored. Do you think we can still find meaning and purpose in those sufferings? If so, how?
- Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "if you've got nothing worth dying for, you've got nothing worth living for." How does having a mission or purpose in life affect how you go through suffering?
- Take a few minutes to read through Romans 8:18-39 to yourself. Share with the group any insights you see from God on how to respond to suffering.

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