

Answer The Call: Resident Sunday

05.15.2022

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***Don't you just love old scrapbooks***

For those of you under 30

These are from back in the olden days

When pictures came from the drugstore

And phones were used for talking

And you'd take those pictures

From the drugstore

And put them in books

***And they would make this sound***

And they all had a specific smell

I don't know if the scrapbooks came with that smell from the store?

Or maybe the drugstore put it *in* the pictures?

IDK

***But it does***

And sometimes

On like a Friday night  
Families would gather around these books  
Lots of them  
A whole living room full of books  
And look at old pictures

And kids would be confused  
Because grandma was like 17... in the picture

Let's just put this over here  
We'll get to that in a minute

Today's a special day  
You may not have realized it  
When you rolled out of bed this morning  
But today is a special day

Today marks the beginning  
Of a significant period of time  
In the history of our church

And maybe  
If you'll make it a priority

Maybe  
A significant period

In your life

We'll get to that in a minute

First, let me tell you a famous story

From the Old Testament part

Of the Bible

***Tell story of Elimilek & Naomi & 2 sons***

***Elimilek & sons die***

***Naomi sends her daughters-in-law back home***

**Ruth 1:16 - But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.**

But that's not how it was read in your wedding

In weddings, this verse is always in the King James Version

**Ruth 1:16 (KJV) - And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:**

OK – show of hands

How many of you ever heard that old song?

Based on this verse?

Show of hands

True story

I was working on this

And pulled up this verse

And then for the next hour

I had that old wedding song in my head on repeat

Some of you will now too

You're welcome

So, Ruth remains faithful to Naomi

Ruth stays in her life

And God remains faithful to them both

And blesses their life

Because they remained faithful to Him

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OK, I'm getting ready to bring out our residents

And they're nervous

I mean, how would you feel coming out right now

Nervous, right?

So, Carly has been around some all semester

Hannah has dropped in a few times

But this is Gabe's first week

And this all their first Sunday

As full-time residents  
So, they're nervous

And I'm drawing this out

So right now

They're backstage holding their stools  
Sweating it

***Cause they don't know how long I'm going to take***

So, they're nervous

So, I need you to help me

Help them  
Feel welcome

Can you do that?

**All right – let's bring out our 2022 residents**

**Our first question is for Carly**

Carly, take a minute to introduce yourself

...

Carly's great – you're going to love her

Carly, our question for you today:

**One the amazing things about being in ministry is how the legacy of one minister begins the journey for another. Who is someone in ministry that influenced you and why?**

...

**Our second question is for Gabe**

Gabe, take a minute to introduce yourself

...

Gabe's great – you're going to love him

Gabe, our question for you today:

**What area of ministry are you serving in for the residency and why?**

...

**Our last question is for Hannah**

Hannah, take a minute to introduce yourself

...

Hannah's great – you're going to love her

Hannah, our question for you today:

**You have a fresh perspective and youth on your side. As people who will be influencing churches for this next generation, what is a hope you have for the local church?**

...

**This is a special bunch**

They are devoting their lives  
To serving God  
And serving the local church  
And they deserve our respect  
And they deserve our honor  
Would you make a down payment on that honor?  
Right... now?

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So why did I come out here  
With a scrapbook?  
And why did I come out here  
Talking about Ruth & Naomi?

Let me show you

**So, Ruth – Naomi's daughter in law**

Married a guy named Boaz

And they had a son

**And named him Obed**

**Ruth 4:16-17 - Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him...**

**He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.**

And then the book ends

With David's genealogy

Because David became the greatest king of Israel

And David's line

Later produced the Messiah, Jesus

**Most scholars think**

That the book of Ruth

Was only written because of David

Ruth's great-grandson

Naomi's great-great grandson

It is possible

That the only reason you've heard of Ruth

The only reason you've heard of Naomi

The only reason you've heard someone sing

Whither thou goest

Is because of Ruth's great grandson

It is quite possible

That the most important thing Ruth ever did

Was not take care of Naomi



But take care of her son Obed  
Who took care of his son Jesse  
Who took care of his son David  
  
Maybe the most important thing Ruth did  
Was give the world David

And maybe the most important thing  
We'll do this year  
Is give the world Carly or Gabe or Hannah

It's possible that the most important thing  
From history's vantage point  
The most important thing WellSpring ever does  
We don't know this side of Heaven

Naomi probably never met David  
This side of Heaven

It's possible the most important thing  
WellSpring ever does  
Is give the world  
Carly or Gabe or Hannah

I want us to invest in them

Love them

Support them

It will bless them

It will bless you

And it may be the most important thing

We ever do

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**Live your life for more than this moment**

If we would live our life

For more than this moment

We would invest in our kids

With our great-great-grandkids in mind

If we would live our life

For more than this moment

We would invest in these three amazing young leaders

Knowing that one of them may change the world

If we would live our life

For more than this moment

We would invest in WellSpring's kids & students

Knowing that one of them may change the world

If we would live our life

For more than this moment

We would get our own spiritual houses in order

Knowing that any moment the end may come

For the world

Or for us

The Bible teaches us that Jesus lived

For more than the moment

**Hebrews 12:1-2 - fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**

The world needs us to

Not grow weary

The world needs us to

Not lose heart

And the world needs us to fix our eyes on Jesus

The most important person to have ever lived

If you don't know Him

If you're not walking with Him in your life

Let us introduce you

Today

I'll be over in the corner

Would love to talk with you

And pray with you