

Pastor's Ramblings for June/July 2005
(A willful decision to follow Christ)

Isn't it fascinating... Summer! The warmth, the family activities, the lake, golf, ...the church fun!!! Come on Pastor Bob, we get a break remember! Of course I remember, but I miss you nonetheless. Your church family misses you as well. Let me begin this brief rambling by saying have a great summer, come when and as often as you can, and remember the much needed *spiritual gift* of stewardship. It is a telling story how difficult it can be to keep the finances of the church on the up and up during the dog days of summer. So, Rejoice in Him and we will see you as often as you can and please to send us a note now and again.

On another vein, each day we are faced with the decision that grows with urgency each passing day: Will we leave our own designed journeys and venture forth to follow our Lord into the world of faith and become a pilgrim of the heart? Will we place Him as the center of our passions and will we look and examine our lives with the question of where is the Lord in our lives? Have we been deceived by the Adversary into thinking what we are is enough or have we so compartmentalized Christ that he fits only in the small confined spaces we allow. Is our God a "God in a box" or are we ready to journey into a wild ride with Him; a ride that calls for dependence, allegiance, and discipleship. Are we ready or willing to give the time and the energy needed to be His disciple? I hope so! I know so!! With this in mind, I wanted to tell you that this summer, the staff is going to work diligently to provide this fall a schedule that will challenge, grow, and reform our lives for the Lord. So plan to attend, just set your wills and minds to this next year being the year for the Lord to grow in our personal journeys. Every great journey starts with a desire and a leap of challenge. So it is that I challenge you to make the life and work and walk of Christ a priority in your lives. Fathers, bless your children. Hold them and realize that you are the key to their self-concepts. Mothers, provide the nurture needed to grow these little ones in the Lord. Families spend the summer in the beauty of nature and to always remember that the Creator is the Author and we must remind ourselves and our crew that He is the reason for all that we have...money, talents, the adventures of summer...ALL! Let our desire for more and our desire to know God haunt us like Indian summer, where the last lavish banquet of gold's and yellows and reds stirs our deepest joy and sadness, even as the thoughts of summer past reminds us that it will return. Remember this, the deep desire to follow Christ is always masked and followed by a deep ambivalence. We must decide by decision of the will that this year we will know the Lord. So, start now and welcome to the journey of a joy, for joy is only found truly in Him, the Truth that sets us free!

Have a great summer. See you at ten on Sundays as you can to join us in a blended, delightful romance with Christ!

Shalom and Selah!! Pastor Bob