

Words of Faith

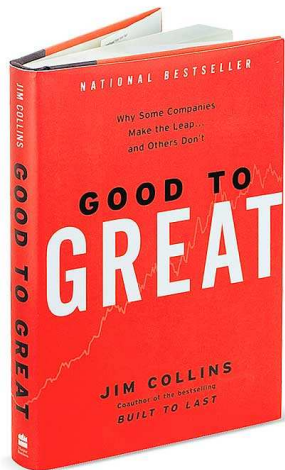
Faith United Methodist Church



Good is the enemy of Great

by Pastor Richard

One of my favorite books is *Good to Great* by Jim Collins. The main idea is that if we spend all our time and energy on good things, we will never do great things. If we want to be great, we need to say “no” to good things and focus our time and energy on great things.



As follower of Christ, we have the ability to decide between good and great things. Great things will last for all eternity. After your physical death what will remain? At the final judgment God separates the wheat from the chaff (the good from the great) by burning away the chaff. What will remain from your life? God has made the answer known: what will remain are

relationships based in the eternal life of Christ. The only thing you can take with you to heaven is your life in Christ. The only gift you can give your loved ones that will last into heaven is their life in Christ. Life comes only from God. Eternal life is that life that we have from God through Christ.

Making money is good, but making disciples of Jesus Christ is great! Many of our human drives, to work, to get a job, to do business is centered mostly around making money. When you are dead and gone, you will not be remembered for the money you made – we don’t know the richest 3 people when we were in elementary School. You’ll be remembered for the people you made – we all remember our best 3 teachers when we were in elementary school. Greatness requires consciously helping people, making people better, contributing something to peoples lives adding value. Even Bill Gates retired from making money to making people, he’s focusing on Education, on Health and other people oriented issues. He knows he wont be remembered for his money, but investing in people is a memorial that

continued on page two

New Member Classes November 1, 8 and 15

At Faith, we believe that membership has benefits and responsibilities. We believe that membership is a covenant with one another in which we encourage one another to live passionately for Christ. Being a member of the church might not be for everyone, but we want you to know that you are welcome and valued just the way you are, baggage and all. We would like to encourage you on your journey of being a follower of Jesus Christ. Together we are capable of being used by God to touch lives and see the transformation of our community. God is living and active and at work through Faith.

Coming to the class does not assume you will join the church formally, but it will be a chance to find out more and meet some new friends.



New Member Class

Membership Class will meet on Sunday Nov. 1, 8 and 15 at noon till 1:00 pm in the parlor of the church. We will provide a light meal, so you can stay and enjoy the company of others. Child care will be provided, but we will need to plan in advance to make sure we have the right people to care for the children, so please call the office at 837-2343 and let us know that if you have a child who will be coming.



Good is the enemy of Great

Continued from page one

will last. When Jesus approached his disciples, he told them follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. When he finished he could go rest assured that he had duplicated himself in an inner circle of twelve people, who have expanded to the world.

Faith UMC needs to move from being good to being great. **We need to say “no” to good events and programs**, and focus our time and energy on great things. The Vision Team has the task of evaluating what we did in 2009 that was just good, and what was great. We all need to encourage the Vision Team to make the tough choices to stop doing what is “good” so we can focus our time and energy on doing great things with God’s help. So if you hear a good thing has been dropped ask yourself if it was a great thing. Did it effectively make disciples of Jesus Christ. If you have an idea to do a great thing, tell pastor Richard.

Being a great church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ **begins with each member making choices to be great** disciples of Jesus. Do you hunger and thirst for being in the presence of God? God reveals Himself to His people primarily through the Bible. God’s Word is an opportunity to experience God in fresh and exciting ways. Currently we have about 12 adult members who come to Sunday morning groups that experience God through the Bible, and another 10 who gather on Monday evenings. *This means that we have 120 adults who are not regularly in the presence of Christ and growing in their understanding of God.* We will not move from good to great until each member is growing closer to Christ through Bible study.

Being a great disciple means that you choose to share God’s love with people in need, the poor. We may have 10 people who each week see the eyes of someone in need and share God’s love with them. *This means that we have 130 adults who are not regularly sharing God’s love with people whom God loves.* I have been inside a prison about 400 times since joining Faith, and only once has a member of the congregation come with me. When you want to see the eyes of the poor and share God’s love with them, we have an opportunity for you this week.

It’s a good thing to gather in worship, have the doors of the church open, and maintain a presence in our community, but it is not a great thing. For Faith to be great we need to say “yes” to doing great things. Saying “yes” to breathing in God’s grace in small groups that study the Bible and learn to trust one another with our weaknesses. Saying “yes” to breathing out God’s grace in regular, long term relationships with the poor. Christ is counting on us!

Birthdays

Oct. 2	Nancy Beery
Oct. 3	Mary Lynn Bardocz
Oct. 5	Byron Russell
Oct. 9	Hazel Childers
Oct. 11	Richard Boone
Oct. 13	Pauline Stemen
Oct. 14	Cyndi Murphy
Oct. 20	Lucille Marshall
Oct. 21	Nikki Hoffman
Oct. 22	Jan Smith
Oct. 24	Tyler Wald

You know what the difference is between a good habit and a bad habit? A bad habit is a good habit you took too far.

The important thing is this: To be able at any moment to sacrifice what we are for what we could become – Charles Dubois

Making money is good, but making disciples of Jesus Christ is great!

Faith UMC needs to move from being good to being great. We need to say “no” to good events and programs, and focus our time and energy on great things.

Being a great church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ begins with each member making choices to be great disciples of Jesus.



Tools of recovery

In the Dominican Republic, Hurricane Noel left more than 80 people dead, destroyed more than 700 homes, and damaged 16,000 more.

In La Bombita and other severely affected communities in the west and southwest,

Church World Service (CWS) and partners provided water, food including canned meat, medical care, CWS Hygiene and School Kits, and lightweight, water-resistant CWS Blankets, as well as other supplies from local Dominican churches and individuals.

With CWS support, local partners continue to respond to the effects of Hurricane Noel in La Bombita and 24 other affected communities, helping approximately 35 families with the construction of new housing and 120 families to repair their homes. Some 450 families received seeds, tools, and agricultural supplies to revitalize their crops and food production.

“Residents lost many possessions and even friends and relatives, but many now express a sense of hope for the future,” reports Julia Jones, a CWS staffer who visited families in the affected area.

That’s what the **Blankets+** offering is all about. Please give generously.



Simona and her family in La Bombita, received CWS Blankets while staying at a nearby shelter—and recovery assistance when they returned home. Photo: Julia Jones/CWS

BLANKET SUNDAY November 8

For a donation of five dollars each you can provide a blanket to people in crisis across the world. After a hurricane, tsunami, flood, or draught, your love can be felt in a practical, and tangible way. Nothing is more comforting than a warm blanket after your life has been shattered.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) partners with Church World Service to purchase and ship blankets worldwide and within the U.S. and to support a variety of self-help development projects through its partner agencies. Because UMCOR buys in large quantities, it can provide a good wool or cotton blend blanket for a modest \$5. When possible, blankets are purchased closer to the scene of a disaster, to speed delivery and to spur local economies.

Our goal this year is to provide for 100 blankets and tools. Each week we average 100 people in worship so this just one blanket per person. Your participation is needed to reach the goal.

Checks should be made out to Faith UMC and marked “Blankets”



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKETS+

Regional Office toll-free 888-297-2767
www.churchworldservice.org

This is a monthly publication of Faith United Methodist Church— 15 West Columbus St., Canal Winchester, OH 43110.

Contact the church office at 837-2343 to update your mailing address or have your name removed from the mailing list.

Sunday October 25th

**Come ready to put Faith
into action.**



MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

NATIONAL DAY OF DOING GOOD

**We will gather at 10:30 am for
prayer in the sanctuary and then
divide up into different groups to
provide acts of compassion to our
village and world. Some groups will
be serving in the fellowship hall.**



Faith United Methodist Church

15 W. Columbus Street

Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110

Church Phone: 614-837-2343

E-mail: richardboone@insight.rr.com

*Faith UMC is at the heart of the village,
at the corner of Columbus and High St.*

Check out our web site
www.winchesterfaith.org

