



MOUNTAINSTREAMNEWS

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GOOD IDEA, BUT...

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



2 Samuels 7:2-3

[T]he king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." 3 And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you."

David wanted to build a temple to house the Ark of God. Recognizing that God had helped him subdue all his enemies and complete his fabulous palace, David became concerned that his home was so beautiful while the Ark of God was kept in a tent. He informed Nathan the prophet, and his spiritual adviser, of his desire. Nathan immediately encouraged David to proceed with his plans. He didn't have to think about it, let alone spend time consulting with God. After all, who could argue with such a noble desire and commitment? That

would be the crowning construction of David's reign.

Perhaps to both Nathan's and David's surprise, that very night God told Nathan that David was not to build the temple for Him (4-5, 12-13). God was not upset at David for his desire. In fact, it seemed God appreciated David's idea, but God had decided that David's son Solomon would be the one to build the temple. He promised David blessing and prosperity but withheld the honor of building the temple from him (11-17).

This incident is a powerful reminder that not every idea godly people have is God's will. The idea may be noble or good, but God may want someone else to do it, or not have it done at all! It is easy to use human wisdom to argue the merits of a plan. Other wise and godly Christians may even agree with us. But God's ways are different from ours, and His thoughts far above ours (For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are

higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts – Isaiah 55:8-9.) That is why we should always lay our plans before God and seek His guidance and approval. We must be careful to allow time for God to confirm in our hearts or through His word that the path we intend to undertake honors Him. If we are called to give advice or an opinion, we should spend time seeking God first before daring to speak on His behalf.

Sometimes we will get disappointed because God may say to us "Good idea, but... not now, or not you." We need not regard this as any sign of displeasure. We can trust God's sovereignty and wisdom.

What is it that is in your heart to do for God? Take a minute and ensure that that is what God wants you to do.

God bless you,
Pastor James

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

SEP 12

Join us via Zoom video
Please contact Pastor James
for log on information at
rcantio@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM

SEP 15

In-person at church.
For teens
ages 13 and over

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd
SUN @ 6 PM

SEP 17

Join us in-person
at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM

SEP 17

These ministries are
available every Sunday
during the morning service
Kidzone for ages
6-12 yrs. old.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

SEP 17

In-person service and
Livestreaming on Facebook,
Youtube and our webpage.

- The Memorial Service for Justian Kelly is this Friday, September 15th @ 10 am at Mountain Stream. A Military Service and Interment will follow at 60 Indiantown Gap, Annville PA @ 3 pm. Everyone is invited. Refreshments will be served at church around 11 am, before those interested leave for the Interment. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that donations in honor of Justian be made to the church for its ministries.
- Middle Smithfield Street Clean Up is Saturday, Sept 23. Our team will meet at the Park & Ride at 8:30 am. Contact Tom for more details.
- Pregnancy Resources of the Poconos Walk for Life is Saturday, October 7. Registration and Breakfast will be at 8:30 am and the walk starts at 9 am. Please see Lori for sign-up sheets and more details.
- Our church's 15th Anniversary and Friend Day is October 1st. Invite a Friend!
- Sign up at the Information Counter to bring an item for our International Luncheon following our Anniversary and Friend Day Celebration.
- Men's Retreat at New Life Island October 13-14th. See Ted for details.
- Help Needed: If you'd be willing to bring refreshments on a Sunday, speak to Becky or Lori.
- Join us on 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 3:15 at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Bible Reading plans for 2023 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.

QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!