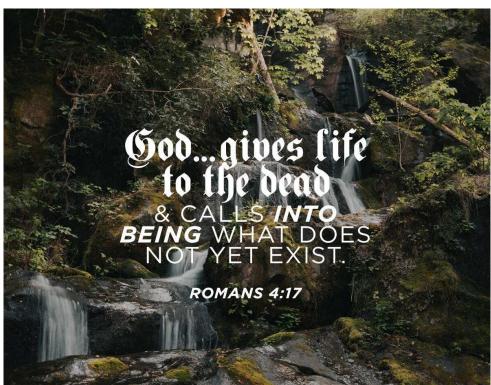
The Forecast Hilton Baptist Church. 101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601 HiltonBaptistChurch.org / (757)595-3300



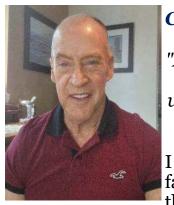
The familiar creation story in which God created the universe, reduced to the essence of the Hebrew language would read or sound something simple like this: Day 1- God says "Light Be!" "Light was," Day One. The truth that God "calls into being things that were not" is expressed various ways in various translations: God "calleth those things which be not as though they were" (KJV), "calls into existence the things that do not exist" (ESV), "calls into being that which does not exist" (NASB), and "summons the things that do not yet exist as though they already do" (NET).

It is even possible to understand the last part of Romans 4:17 as meaning that God has the ability to create "ex nihilo," or better understood as totally "out of nothing. This idea is brought out in translations that say that God "creates new things out of nothing" (NLT) or simply "creates new things" (CEV).

As God's children, we also have the potential and power of speaking much of our worlds into existence. God is pleased when we exercise this faith, to simply speak of things that do not exist as if they do exist. We speak of healing over the sickness, even though symptoms may remain. And we speak of believing for financial supply and provision being made before the bills are paid – That's how God does it, and He calls us to do the same!

Join us this Sunday as HBC & JC join together our 2 church families for one exciting combined Worship experience.

Plan to be there and bring your family and friends!



Calling Things Into Existence...

"As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed-the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were" (Romans 4:17)

I love Abraham, the Father of all who have faith. so much. He faced this reality for 75 years before receiving a promise from God that he would be a father. The promise wasn't just that he'd have

a son, as it was so much more than that: the world would be blessed through him and his descendants (Gen. 13:3).

Can you imagine waiting 25 years of trusting in a promise before you even see a hint of it happening? That's the hard thing about promises coming by faith (Rom. 4:16), they're guaranteed, but when we don't experience them right away, it's easy to talk ourselves out of them by thinking it's not God's will for us. In these next verses, Abraham shows us how to unlock God's promises.

The first critical step is that Abraham believed God. This sounds so simple, yet it is hard when that reliant trust has to wait quietly in the background year after year. It looks passive and hopeless, and speaking from experience, people won't understand and they'll do their best to sway you from that trust. I image Abraham experienced this, too.

What helped Abraham endure 25 years of waiting? Simply this, he believed God. That answer sounds so simple, and yet this can be one of the hardest things to do—simply believe God when circumstances and situations are vastly different than what we are believing and hoping for.

But let's be realistic as this belief is not passive. In fact, a few verses later states that Abraham was fully persuaded that God would do what He promised (Rom. 4:21). So there is something in having to prepare ourselves to be able to believe God and then fully persuade ourselves, but there is something we need to know about God in order to do this. We need to know God can create life where none exists, and this has to be more than an intellectual knowledge, this means there's practice involved!

Here's a profound statement: "The God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were." Take a moment to think about this scripture. God gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were. God started calling Abraham a father when He made this promise to him. Sounds silly to call someone a father who is not. But God went so far as changing Abram name to Abraham, meaning "Father of Many." All of this happened while he was still childless. What a powerful statement of faith and encouragement that was, and still is today!

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor June 18, 2024

Budget \$2599.00

Cash in Cash out-RR Doors In memory of Denise Vassar \$500.00

Cash in Cash out-Lackey Clinic \$100.00

Food Pantry \$100.00

Total Deposit \$3599.00

VBS-August 5th-9th

6:00pm—8:30pm Dinner will be served!

Ages 4-12 years old!

There are fliers in the Connection Center. Please hand some out and invite Kids!

Volunteers are still needed. See Dreama!



Lock up/ Hall Monitor 6/23 Lisa and David Falls

Counter 6/24 Margaret Upole 7/1 Joe Wircenske

Kids Church 6/23 Nadine Stephenson 6/30 TBD

Grass Cutting – 6/29 Joe Caskie/ Don Moore 7/13 Pam and Roger Cooke

Happy Birthday in June

6/18/ Lloyd Ware

6/19 Tommie Wheeler

6/22 Jean Parker

6/23 Bill Duke

6/27 Doug Miller

6/27 Pat Simmons



Food Pantry /Food Bank Help

If you can help with the Food Pantry /Bank on Tuesday and Thursdays for Food Distribution or on Fridays to bag Veggies, please let the church office know. We need to add people to our team. No experience is necessary! Come and see if you would like to work with us!

Serve the City-Special Request

For Big Serve Week coming up, Serve the City is in need of new and used flower pots. If you have any you would like to donate, please bring them to church by Sunday, June 23rd and place them in the Mission Outreach corner.

<u>Calendar</u>

<u>Tuesday, June 18th</u>

12pm-1pm Food Distribution 6:30pm VBS Meeting

Wednesday, June 19th

7pm Bible Study in person and online

Thursday, June 20th

12pm-1pm Food Distribution

Friday, June 21th

6:30pm Karaoke

<u>Saturday, June 22nd</u>

9:00 am Church Clean up Day

Sunday, June 23rd

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Live Worship

Combined Service with

Journey Church in their area

10:00am Sonshine Kids

Tuesday, June 25th

12pm—1pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, June 26th

7pm Bible Study in person and online

Thursday, June 27th

12pm-1pm Food Distribution

Friday, June 28th

5:30pm-6:30 Community Dinner

6:15pm Food Distribution

7:00pm Sonshine Kids Girls Sleepover

Sunday, June 30th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Live Worship at HBC

10:00am Sonshine Kids

Food Bank Distribution after morning worship.

Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226

Aluminum Cans

Recycle your cans at HBC and help Support missions! Bring them to HBC and <u>place</u> them in the <u>gym</u> or the church office. All money collected goes to missions.

Pray for our Missionaries

DH, RM (Asian Pacific Rim People) HE, LW (Central Asian People) Hannah Hill (European People) ZD (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) MH (South Asian People) Jennifer Kane (NV) Aaron Cockrum (NH) Sudhir Basumartary (Ontario)

<u>Serve the City</u>

There are many opportunities to serve. See www.stcpeninsula.com or Pam Cooke and she will send you in the right direction. *BIG SERVE WEEK June 25–29th* Save the Date– More information is available on the website. There are many ways you can serve!

Community Dinner-Friday, June 28th

Thanks to all who helped make the Community Dinner and the Food Giveaway a great success at our last community dinner. Our next Community Dinner is Friday, June 28th from 5:30-6:30pm with the food giveaway immediately following. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be served. If you can help please contact the church office.

WMU Project for June

The Mission Project for this month is Lackey Free Clinic. Lackey requests monetary support. Lackey helps those who do not have insurance. It is a wonderful clinic helping with the health, vision, eye and spiritual help of their patients. The clinic is Christ centered. Please pray for this important ministry. Mark your check or envelope.

<u>Item's needed for the Food Pantry</u>

The Food Pantry is in real need of the following: Hamburger Helper, Pancake Syrup, cereal and Pasta. We do take monetary donations for the items that we need to purchase. Just mark your envelope or check. Thank you to all who support this important ministry.





How Much Can You Imagine?

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen..." Ephesians 3:20, 21

When you think about it, being able to use our imagination is a wonderful thing. I have often thought that our ability to

imagine is one of the things that best shows we are created in God's image.

Though imagination can often be used as an escape from our present reality, it can also be creative. enriching our minds to think about what could be. The reality is that the ability to imagine is closely related to hope and faith. Hebrews 11:1 states, "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

What are the things you are believing for and imagining for in your life? Are you believing for transient and material blessings or for things which have lasting and eternal values.? Is the focus of you faith and believing simply upon yourself or does it manifest a care and concern for the things of God and for other people?

The vast majority of folks seem to vastly under estimate the power of their imagination, especially when it come to the things of God. Paul emphasizes that God is greater and can do more —immeasurably more—than all we can begin to imagine. Imagine that! There are no limits to what God can do. In fact, God can do far more than we might ask of him. God is good, and God is great!

As Paul offers these words of praise, he again refers to the Lord's "power that is at work within us." This is a core message of Ephesians. God's power within us works right along with our imagination and gives substance to faith and obedience. And our faith and obedience show the world how God's power is at work within us.

Our thoughts give rise to our realities, "As a man thinks in his heart, so he is...". Our imaginations are our guided thoughts. Likewise, corporately, as a church thinks, or a world thinks, so it is. Can you see the importance and power of our imaginations to create the world that we want to live in?

That power is to God's glory and is expressed "in the church and in Christ Jesus." That power is for "all generations," including us today and into eternity, even "for ever and ever."

Taken all together, what an amazing display of God's divine grace and power this is. Imagine!

Get A Grip On Your Griping!

"'Do everything without complaining...'" Philippians 2:14

Isn't complaining really just about words? No, it's much more than that!

First, complaining hands your power over to the people and circumstances you complain about, making you feel like their victim. It diminishes your ability to think of solutions, conditions your mind negatively and blunts your ability to receive creative ideas from God.

Positive outcomes don't grow in negative soil! You can't complain and create simultaneously. "Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring...can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs?..." (James 3:11-12)

Complaints are verbal expressions of negative beliefs. They cancel positive intentions and confessions, rendering you powerless to reap the gains God offers. Complaining focuses on a past you can't change. It keeps you scavenging in yesterday's debris, searching for evidence about "who did what" and "when" and "why," while your present slips fruitlessly away.

Second, complaining is toxic to your relationships. "...Do you not know...a little l eaven leavens the whole lump?' (1 Corinthians 5:6) Complaining invites others to complain. Injected poison toxifies every part of the body. Subtly, your relationship, your family, your workplace, your church and your environment become polluted. Complaining polarizes relationships. People who don't like stress, anxiety and negativity begin to distance themselves from you.

"The tongue has the power of life and death..." (Proverbs 18:21) — your life and death, and the life and death of others. So pray, "Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord...' (Psalm 141:3); help me to avoid complaining.

The Last Impression

A middle-aged man was waiting for the bus. While he waited, he watched a young boy eat five candy bars, one right after the other. He said to the boy, "Eating all that candy is bad for your health and can rot your teeth."



The boy replied, "Mister, my grandfather lived to be 97 years old!"

The man said, "I'll bet he didn't eat five candy bars in a row."

The boy answered, "No, but he sure knew how to mind his own business!"



Are You In God's Will...Is He In Yours?

God Word commands us, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust does corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust does corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor

steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:19-21).

By planning ahead in writing your will and choosing to leave part of your estate to the ongoing work of God's Church, you can continue to fulfill God's purpose even after your death. Sometimes I like to ask, "You want to be in God's will... Shouldn't He be in yours?"

Your Last Will and Testament can stand as a final act of good stewardship. Oftentimes a designation of the tithe, or simply one-tenth of your estate will far exceed beyond many tithes and offerings given at their present value. When we specify a portion of our inheritance to God first, we honor not only Him but our family and friends as well.

God Himself has told us that everything belongs to Him: "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" (Psa. 24:1). As good stewards, we must seek God's will in deciding what we do with His gifts. We know that God accomplishes His purpose through those who seek to do His will, and that He has "has put in [our] hearts to fulfill His will" even after we are gone! (Rev. 17:17).

God is doing some exciting new and powerful things through the faithful people of God at HBC...

Please remember your commitments and giving and be part of the miracle!

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WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO CONSOLIDATE SOME OF THESE