First Baptist Church of West College Hill – From the Pastor's Desk Page 1 June 18, 2017

## **ALL IN TO BUILD FOR OUR FUTURE**

"The God of heaven Himself will prosper us: therefore we His servants will arise and build...So we built...for the people had a mind to work. A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children..." Nehemiah 2:20; 4:6; Proverbs 13:22

(NKJV)



This Week's Thought – June 18, 2017 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

"When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus." Matthew 17:6-8 (NIV)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters (certainly to all the Fathers on this day); the world can get us down, but God gets us up. The cares of this world can choke out our motivation to move forward, but Christ is close by to release the pressure and resuscitate our resolve. What has you down? Finances? Faith? Family? Foes? Is it a deal gone south or a relationship that has gone away? Whatever has you down, the Lord can lift you up!

"But you are a shield around me, O LORD; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head." (Psalm 3:3)

We bow down in humility and reverence to Almighty God, so we can get up full of grace to go on our way in quiet confidence. It's humble worship and praise that brings us back to the foot of the cross in gratitude to God for the gift of His only son Jesus. We kneel at the cross, overwhelmed by the forgiveness of our Savior Jesus and we get up forgiven.

"But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." (John 12:32)

If fear has you down, get up and walk by faith. If regret has you down, get up and go make restitution. If a relationship has you down, get up and initiate interest. If your job has you down, get up and go after excellence. If misunderstanding has you down, get up and clarify your concerns. If life, in general, has you down, get up and love a life for God. First Baptist Church of West College Hill – From the Pastor's Desk Page 2 June 18, 2017

Jesus gently admonishes us to lift our eyes off our circumstances and onto Him. So, first get up and go to God in trusting determination. Ask Him for directions and He will lead you in the way you should go. How do you get to your next destination in life? Ask the Lord. How do you solve your most pressing problem? Ask the dispenser of wisdom, holy God. It's from your humble posture in the low place that He lifts you up to see His face.

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up." (James 4:10)

<u>Prayer of reflection you might pray this week:</u> "Heavenly Father, give me the courage to get up, and get my focus off my circumstances and back on Christ. Bless those fathers who have taken upon themselves, the responsibility of parenting. Bless those who have lost a spouse to death or divorce, who are parenting their children alone. Strengthen them by Your love that they may be and become the loving, caring persons they are meant to be. Guide them to be good role models and loving to all their children. Help them to be a father like You are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way. Bless these men that they may find strength as fathers, and let the example of their faith and love shine forth. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, AMEN!"

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King