



2020 DUNKLIN MEMORIAL CHURCH REGENERATION PROGRAM LEADERSHIP GATHERING



"Those who wait upon the Lord will renew their strength..."

-Isaiah 40:31

Last week was that time of the year again when we have leaders, domestically and internationally, converge upon Dunklin for a cherished time of waiting on the Lord. Twenty-four different ministries were represented with the purpose of placing our focus on Christ, binding together with His Spirit, and allowing Him to refresh our souls. Isaiah mentions the struggle we have with the discipline of 'waiting' in chapter 30, verse 15, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength. But you would not...."

We all have a tendency to get "distracted" with the lesser things and become consumed with the busy-ness of ministry or life in general. Scripture is adamant about the vital necessity of waiting on Him in Psalm 27:14, which stresses the key to victory, "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!"

We greatly appreciate all of the leaders who sacrificed their time and schedules to make the trip to Dunklin. All of them made the decision to place Him first above all else, and trust that as they wait on Him, that He will work for them. This has turned out to be one of our most cherished times during the year as we get refreshed in the Spirit, and we also enjoy good fellowship with like-minded brothers and sisters in the Lord. We love you all and are thankful for each one of you.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

A PLACE OF RESTORATION | CAMPMENTO BERACA DUNKLIN | COURAGEOUS HOUSE | CROSS TRAINING MINISTRIES
AGAPE HOME | EVANS MEMORIAL | GFCC | HOPE LIFE | JOSHUA'S PROMISE | LIBERTY LODGE | LIVING FREE MINISTRIES
LOGOS LODGE | MARY'S HOUSE | MORE 2 LIFE MINISTRIES | FREEDOM FARMS REGNERATION | RESTORING THE FOUNDATION
THE F.A.R.M. | SOUTH GEORGIA HOUSE OF HOPE | THE JERICHO HOUSE | THE REFUGE RANCH | VILLAGE OF HOPE - CANADA
VILLAGE OF HOPE - ESTONIA | FAITH FARM | SAMARIA CENTERS - ESTONIA | GLORY SHINERS MINISTRIES | OPEN HOMES



CAMPFIRE
Special Edition
MARCH 2020

"There He makes the hungry dwell, that they may establish a city for a dwelling place.... He also blesses them, and they multiply greatly....and He makes their families like a flock"

- Psalm 107:36, 38, 40

The most concise way to measure the effects of drug abuse and alcoholism in a man's life is to intently look at his relationships. Typically, a person in the throes of addiction finds himself alone and without any healthy connections whatsoever; we have severed anything meaningful due to our own selfishness and lack of love displayed through our actions. We have chosen ourselves and all of our whims and fleshly desires over others, and this leaves us in a place of relational desolation. We enter Dunklin having devastated our lives and the people around us who love us the most. I, personally, had to navigate through this, as I had pushed everyone who cared about me away. Doors were shut on me, literally, as those who knew me had enough of my shenanigans, and they grew tired of the pain that came with being associated with me. It is difficult to love and be around what or who cannot be trusted.

Thank the Lord that He is in the business of healing us relationally. He loves the process of reconciliation; He draws us to Himself initially, and from that point, He begins to piece back the relationships that we destructed. Sometimes this is a long journey, and we have to hold onto the promise of healing that He whispers to us. At the same time, He places new "brothers and sisters" in our lives that become more valuable than what we ever anticipated. I can remember my first day at Dunklin, and I believed the people that I was meeting were not 'my type of people.' How wrong was that assessment; since being here, the relational connections that I have acquired have become most valuable. I cannot imagine my life without the people that He has gifted me with. My relationships have proven to be the most valuable piece of who I am.

Not only has He given me back my family that endured my addiction, but He has also added more friendships to my life than I can count. The scripture above is true – He blesses us and He makes our families like a flock. Not only has He blessed me with my own family, but He has given me a much bigger "family" than I could have ever imagined. I am grateful for the numerous individuals that He has placed in my life. I came from a place where I could count on one hand the people who were still hanging around, and am now at a number that is too numerous to grasp.

Relationships are vital as we learn to forgive, love, and apply the gospel. This past weekend we celebrated our 58th Annual Homecoming. The reason men and their families make the journey back home to Dunklin is to glorify Him and share our gratitude, but to also reconnect with people whom have helped change and shape our lives. He brings us from being relationally destitute to being relationally rich with limitless possibilities. The pictures enclosed represent exactly what I am speaking of. 'He has blessed us with one another and multiplied us greatly.'

Grateful for you,

Nick

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Dunklin
Memorial Church Inc

City of Refuge
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