

# A Word from Our Preaching Pastor:

Sunday, March 1, 2009

*He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:5*

I can't think of more joyful words a person can say than to cry out with great conviction, "*He saved us!*" unless it is to declare with deep gratitude, "*He saved me!*" (Psalm 116:6). Is that your confident declaration this morning? That the great saving God of the Bible has indeed saved you? How I pray that it is – or if not, how I desire before God that it soon will be!

There's a lot of religion going around, but we're not really interested in religion. There's a lot of things to pray about these days, but we're not too concerned about prayer for it's own sake. What we're excited to see is that God seems to be up to something – drawing people to Himself! Just this week I know of at least three persons in our congregation who have been brought under conviction and concern for the state of their souls, and then found the grace of God to rest their hope securely in Jesus by faith alone to find an assurance of His salvation. Could this be just the beginning? How I pray that it is!

In 1737 Jonathan Edwards wrote a pamphlet telling of the sudden and surprising number of conversions God had brought to His Northampton Church. It began, not because Edwards came up with a new and marketable plan, but because God, for His own Sovereign purposes, decided to show up in a special way and empower the ordinary preaching of the Gospel and the praying of God's people to an extraordinary extent. You see, that's what *revival* is – *God's extraordinary use of ordinary means to bring about His saving purposes to an extraordinary degree!* And so while I am not yet ready to say that we are experiencing revival – *far from it* – I am hopeful that God will be pleased to use our small efforts to bring great praise to His Name! Keep praying church! Keep trusting! Keep believing and sharing God's Gospel, and we will see His glory. *Resting in Him. Hoping to See His Glory!*

*Pastor Scott!*