

Scott's Thoughts by Scott Deneen, Pastor to Youth and Families

Have you ever felt like you didn't get what you deserved? Have you ever been slighted? Have you ever gone above and beyond the 'call of duty' only to see your labors ignored? (Or the wages/benefits of your work go to someone else?) You're not alone.

Most of us have failed to get what we think we deserve - whether in school by a teacher or coach, or in the work-force by a boss or human resources. Whatever our personal situation or experience, we all know the feeling of seeing our labor go unrewarded.

However, sometimes being 'slighted' is a good thing. Sometimes, when we work real hard, it is good to be ignored. Why? Because sometimes our work/labor actually does us harm. I don't know about you, but I've messed things up at work before. Once, when working at a Interior Design firm, a fabric cubicle was delivered by UPS but had a small hole in the cardboard shipping box. Before signing the receipt, I had to inspect the merchandise - a \$300 panel (and this was 1984!). I took a razor knife and cut right through that box... and right through that panel! Yikes!! The panel had no other marks, scratches, etc from UPS but had a nice, clean cut from Scott's razor knife. Good grief!!

In that moment, do I want what I deserve? Do I want my boss to fire me? Dock my pay? No, I don't want the fruit of my labor! Rather, I hope for mercy and grace. I want exactly the opposite of what my labor merits.

This true story is an illustration of where we stand with God because of our Sin. We have worked really hard throughout our lives and have built up a war-chest of guilt, shame, and transgressions. Do we really want the pay-out? Do we really want the Lord to look our way and repay us according to our deeds? I sure don't! Rather, I need/want Him to look my way with mercy/compassion... with forgiveness and love.

And this is what He does for us in Christ. Listen to Psalm 103:10, "He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities." God doesn't give us what He could - punishment - instead, He gives us something else - the righteousness of Christ. In fact, God gave to Jesus on the cross everything we deserve as sinners - Divine wrath - but gave to us everything Jesus earned throughout His life - the favor of God, eternal life, inheritance, glory, etc..

Boy, am I glad I don't get what I deserve but get something else instead!!

Hoping you don't get what you deserve either... but something far better and more satisfying!

Pastor Scott

PS: My employer didn't fire me or dock my pay. He showed me mercy... oh sweet mercy!

*Sometimes
being 'slighted'
is a good thing*

Upcoming Youth Events

Youth Group

Middle & High School

Sunday Night

Bible Study
6:00 - 7:30pm

Wednesday Night

Open Gym, Dining Out, etc.
6:30 - 8:00pm

Sr. High Beach Retreat

Panama City Beach, Fl.
July 7 - 12

Children's Ministry

Imagebearers

1st - 5th grade
Sundays 6:00 - 7:30pm

Easter Egg Hunt

Ages 3 - 5th grade
Saturday, March 22nd
10:30 - 11:30am
Bible Story & Refreshments, too!



What Now?

Dear Parents -

Throughout the season, your coach has led devotions and prayer time with the team, teaching the players about Jesus. At our Finale, everyone will be given an opportunity to respond to what they've heard. What would it mean for you should your child make a commitment to Christ? As parents, we all want the best for our child. We are here to help. Come and join us Wednesday, March 12th, from 6:30 - 8:00pm and find out how you can promote healthy spiritual growth for your child.

Pizza and child care for all ages provided!

No Reservations Required!

Contact the church office for more info.

Important Dates

Season Finale

Friday, March 7th

Division III Finale 7pm - 9pm

Saturday, March 8th

Division I Finale 9am - 11am

Division II Finale 2pm - 4pm

Finale Events

- Round-Robin Style Tournament
- Keynote Speaker
- Trophy Presentation
- Bible Verse Presentation

*“A hug is a perfect gift
because one size fits all
and nobody minds if you
give it back”*

When words seem to be inadequate and you want to show your children how much you cherish them, reach out and enfold them in your arms. This will help convince them of their importance to you.



FPC Youth Soccer

☺ Registration is Sat., March 15th
10:30am - 12:00pm

☺ Ages 4.5 - 11

Division I Ages 4.5 - 6

Division II Ages 7 - 8

Division III Ages 9 - 11

☺ Registration Forms available at the Church Office or visit us online at www.fpcstanley.org

☺ Registration Fee is \$35

☺ Season runs through May 24th



Kasey Rhyne

NC STATE WOLFPACK
Defensive Specialist

Finale Keynote Speaker



Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

Sunday Morning

8:30 Worship Service

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship Service

Sunday Evening

6:00 Care Groups

Image Bearers

Youth Group

Call us at 704.263.4275

Visit us online at

www.fpcstanley.org

Team Rosters

Game Schedule