

SUNDAY 09/18/16

677 Luda Street, Elgin | www.jccelgin.org

**MISSIONS
FUNDRAISER**



GARAGE SALE

Thank you for your donations
and your help!

**LOVE
ELGIN
DAY**



SATURDAY, SEPT 24 9 AM—2 PM

AT 5 NEIGHBORING CHURCHES IN DOWNTOWN ELGIN
BEGIN AT 220 DIVISION ST.

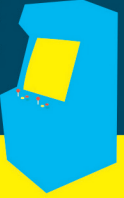
REGISTRATION REQUIRED for volunteers. Sign up now at:
www.LoveElginDay.org

Grapple Group

Underground Retrocade Event

1:00–4:00 p.m. (lunch will be provided)

**DON'T
MISS
IT!**



SUN, SEPTEMBER 25

**Spirit LIFE
CONFERENCE**

GROWING A CHURCH FROM 15 TO 5,000

October 5-7, 2016 / Alsip, IL

ACADEMICS / ADMINISTRATION
ARTS / PASTORAL

Pastor Dan Willis

with **Benny Hinn**

Dog the Bounty Hunter

Bebe Winans



BIBLE STUDY (OFF CAMPUS)

If you are interested in attending
the Bible Study at Kimberly's, please contact her.
There are two sessions in September: 22 and
29—all are Thursday evenings.

CONNECTION CARDS

in order to "MEASURE" our church in five key areas. There will be a summary
report each week in the bulletin that identifies those five key metrics.

Please turn in your card each week. Members,
leaders and guests will be asked to turn these in.

Each week everyone will be
asked to fill out a Connection Card

CONNECTION CARD

Name: _____ Date: _____

Small picture: _____

What you want: _____

Other: _____

I Believe in Blessing

Sept 04 » A Closer Look at Blessing
 Sept 11 » The Power of Decrees
 Sept 18 » The Blessing of Identity
 Sept 25 » The Blessing of Destiny



PRAYER REQUESTS

▶ THINKING - OF - YOU PRAYER

Breanna V. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lily M. ▶ Dementia	<input type="checkbox"/>
Annabelle G. ▶ Lung Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Noe F. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth S. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kenny D. ▶ Neurological	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trevor W. ▶ Afghanistan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Danny L. ▶ Peace Corps	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ralph H. ▶ Fluid in the brain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moe M. ▶ Lung Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Suzie S. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lotz Family ▶ Family Grief	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barb D. ▶ Bone Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Phyllis L. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donald S. ▶ Addictions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer M. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>

▶ URGENT PRAYER

Peggy H. ▶ Arthritis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni R. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mary S. ▶ Recovery	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer M. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paul S. ▶ Chemotherapy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Peggy K. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barb S. ▶ Cardiac Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emma G. ▶ Health Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Mary Ellen H. ▶ Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/>

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"We should stop giving people so much power over our lives. Their opinions don't affect our destiny or purpose." -T.D.Jakes

09/11/16

METRICS ▶ THAT MATTER

34

ATTENDANCE

\$1,380

GIVING

0

GUESTS

10

VOLUNTEERS

0

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST

I Believe in Blessing

THE BLESSING OF IDENTITY

The Back story

Bethel was the place where God met Jacob while fleeing from his brother Esau. God instructs him to return to Bethel. At Bethel the following things take place:

- ◆ Jacob asks for his family and servants to purify themselves—to give him the foreign gods and to give him all their jewelry (because it had idolatrous connections).
- ◆ Jacob builds an altar to the Lord at Bethel. It was a place of revelation.
- ◆ Deborah's nurse and Rebekah's maid died at Bethel and was buried there.
- ◆ Jacob's name is changed—from "Jacob" to "Israel". The blessings of Bethel are repeated—that he would be a great nation—a great company of nations.
- ◆ As they left this altar-building event, Jacob's life would be changed forever.

The Death of Rachel

As the caravan left Bethel, Rachel went into hard labor. It was this, that set the stage for an unusual story. ¹⁶ Then they moved on from Bethel. While they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel began to give birth and had great difficulty. ¹⁷ And as she was having great difficulty in childbirth, the midwife said to her, "Don't despair, for you have another son." ¹⁸ As she breathed her last—for she was dying—she named her son Ben-Oni.

But his father named him Benjamin. *Genesis 35:16-18*

- ◆ Rachel had a history of barrenness.
- ◆ She bore two sons to Jacob: Joseph and Benjamin.
- ◆ There were few resources to assist her. She did have a midwife who encouraged her.
- ◆ Rachel was overwhelmed by the odds and the difficulty of childbearing, both genetically and historically.

The Name Matters

In Old Testament times, a name stood for a person's **reputation, their fame and their glory**. Parents often gave children names that described the parent's hopes and future expectations.

- ◇ It was during this life-death struggle that the midwife announced it was a boy. Rachel proceeded to name him, Bon-Oni, *Son of Sorrow*.
- ◇ Jacob would be largely responsible for his care once Rachel was gone.
- ◇ He would have none of it. He vetoed the name, *Bon-Oni* and named him Benjamin, *Son of My Right Hand*.

Your Branding

Would you want your name to be a constant reminder that you are the reason for your mother's death? You were so difficult to deliver that you caused trauma to your mother.

- ◇ Jacob stepped up. Jacob cancelled the lifetime reminder.
- ◇ Jacob insisted that his son would be called *Son of My Tender Affection; Son of My Delight*.
- ◇ Jacob refused to mark his son with the link to bereavement.
- ◇ Benjamin is here to enjoy life and for us to enjoy him. He is not a cause of sadness or grief. He is a cause of joy.
- ◇ Jacob prophesied a lifetime of blessing.
- ◇ The Tribe of Benjamin became one of the strongest tribes in Israel.
- ◇ The Tribe of Benjamin was loyal to Judah and consistently supportive of Jerusalem.
- ◇ Here is the final blessing of Jacob over Benjamin:
⁷ "Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, in the evening he divides the plunder." **Genesis 49:7**