

## A Pastor's Heart

### Encouragement from Pastor McGill

#### Safe at home

**Proverbs: 18:10** *The name of the LORD [is] a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe*

Growing up in a small town in the country, we had to be very creative about providing our own entertainment and games. We had no computers, no internet and only 3 channels on the television. My children are convinced we were not too distant from the time of the caveman. Most of our days were spent outdoors with the other children in the neighborhood playing many games that we would make up. One game in particular that I was very good at and enjoyed playing will be used today as an object lesson. The game was called "Freeze Tag." The game consisted of two teams. One team was the home team and the other team was in the field. (The enemy). The home team had a home base and various safe places (usually trees) within the perimeter of the field we played in. We had to leave home base and run to the safe place without being tagged by the other team. The object of the game was to make it from one safe place to the other without being tagged. Once tagged you were frozen and had to wait on your teammate to come and tag you to unfreeze you. If all of your teammates got tagged, your team was out and the enemy in the field would come and invade your home. As I thought about this innocent game we played as children, I realized that this game is played out everyday in the lives of adults we know today. How many of our friends are getting tagged in the world today because they are either not in the safe place or they have left the safe place? As a child, I can remember running and eluding enemies with only one thing in mind, "If I can just make it to home base, I'll be safe." It was a wonderful feeling once I made it home safe and the enemy couldn't do anything to harm me. I was safe at home.

Since the beginning of time God has always provided a safe place for his children. He had Noah build the ark. He had Moses build the tabernacle. He had Solomon build the temple. Whenever God's people needed to be protected, they would go to the safe place. The Hebrew word for the ark that Noah constructed is Tebah it denotes a type of basket or vessel. The word is a feminine noun. That ark in fact was a type of womb that carried God's purpose and at the appointed time would give birth. When the water broke, Noah, his family and all the animals proceeded forth out of the ark to continue God's purpose.

Where is our Ark of safety today? The safe place is found in the middle of the will of God. The church is the will of God. We must be sure that we are in THE church that Jesus spoke of in Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. This church belongs to Him and He has promised to protect it. It still amazes me how men will try to find safety in every thing and in every place but where safety really is. Unlike the game we played as children, this is a place that we never have to leave. We can stay safe at home until Jesus comes. Make it a great day, be safe.

#### Blessings and Peace

*Pastor McGill*