

Richmond Hill Baptist Church
July 21, 2011, Heroes of the Faith: Philip & Billy Graham

Prelude & Prayer Time
Call to Worship: *Majestic*

Welcome: Welcome to Richmond Hill. It is good to see. If you are a guest please fill out a Connect Card. Let's greet one another.

Sing: *Forever, Our Great God, Jesus Paid it All, Here I am to Worship*

Children's Corner:

Announcements:

1. Church Camp Out – Labour Day Weekend, Dinosaur Provincial Park, Sign Up
2. Fall Kick Off Sunday, September 11, Lunch
3. Connect Classes Resume on September 18
4. *Not a Fan* church wide series begins September 18

Offering & Offertory:

Sermon: **Heroes of the Faith: Philip & Billy Graham**

I want say thank you to Pat DeFoe and Amanda Porter for filling in for me while I was gone. I continue to hear some really encouraging comments about our summer series: Heroes of the Faith.

It is good to be back from holidays. Marisa and I took the kids camping in Southern AB, BC, and northern Montana. We had a great time playing, resting, and enjoying God's great outdoors.

The boys got to use their Spider-Man swim goggles at the various and lakes and rivers we were at. I was struggling with the connection between Spiderman and the water when Spider-Man is more into Walls than Water. Then I got to thinking there are water spiders in this world. They are quite fascinating. Then I got to thinking about Spider-Man's story:

Peter Parker is a orphaned high school science whiz kid living in New York city with his Uncle Ben and Aunt May. High school student Peter Parker is a science whiz. He is also an orphan living with his Uncle Ben and Aunt May. Uncle Ben would tell Peter: "With great power there must also come—great responsibility!"

You know the story: Peter Parker is bitten by a radioactive spider at a science exhibit and he "acquires the agility and proportionate strength of an arachnid." Along with super strength, he gains the ability to adhere to walls and ceilings. Through his

native knack for science, he develops a gadget that lets him fire adhesive webbing of his own design through small, wrist-mounted barrels. Initially seeking to capitalize on his new abilities, he dons a costume and, as "Spider-Man", becomes a novelty television star. However, "He blithely ignores the chance to stop a fleeing thief, and his indifference ironically catches up with him when the same criminal later robs and kills his Uncle Ben." Spider-Man tracks and subdues the killer and learns, in the story's next-to-last caption, "With great power there must also come—great responsibility!"

Those who have trusted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour have been touched by God and His Spirit now lives in us. The Bible describes us as:

1. New Creation (1 Corinthians 5:17)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2. New Power (Colossians 1:28-29)

We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.

3. New Responsibility (Acts 1:8)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Spider-Man reminds us that: "With great power there must also come—great responsibility!" We have a great responsibility.

Would you please read with me our guiding passage **Psalm 11:7**: *For the LORD is righteous, he loves justice; upright men (women) will see his face.*

In our series so far we have talked about: Esther & Corrie Ten Boom, James & George Muller, Paul & William Carey, Moses & William Wilberforce and today we are going to pick up with Philip from the Scriptures and Billy Graham from .

Today we will consider **Philip**, from Scripture and **Billy Graham** from history.

Philip was one of the first of seven deacons chosen to care for the widows in Jerusalem. He was considered a great evangelist for his work in Samaria and his impact on Simon Magus. Philip was instrumental helping Christianity take root in Ethiopia through his witness to the Eunuch on the road to Gaza.

Profile of Philip the Evangelist

- Philip the Evangelist is not to be confused with Philip the Disciple of Christ that we read about in the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John).
- We are introduced to Philip the Evangelist in the book of Acts, the story of the early church.
- In Acts 6 he was chosen as one of the first seven deacons of the church.
- These seven were men known to be filled with God's Spirit and wisdom.
- These seven men were known as servants.
- They served widows in the daily distribution of food and brought unity between the Greek and Hebraic Jews.
- Philip fled Jerusalem when Stephen was stoned and the persecution against the church broke out.
- Philip went to Samaria where he proclaimed the good news about Christ.
- Revival broke out in Samaria.
- Through an angel God redirected Philip from Samaria to the Gaza Road.
- On the Gaza Road road Philip met an official from Ethiopia reading from Isaiah.
- When God's Spirit told Philip to go to the Ethiopians Chariot – he ran to it!
- Philip used the passage in Isaiah as a starting place to share the good news of Christ with the Ethiopian.
- Philip baptized the Ethiopian.
- Through Philip's witness the Gospel went into Africa and this is believed to be the start of the Christian Church in Ethiopia.
- Philip was suddenly taken from the Ethiopian and he appeared in Azotus where preached to the folks along the Mediterranean. This area is where the Philistines lived.
- Philip ends up in Caesarea where he his visited by the Apostle Paul on his second missionary journey.
- The last thing we read about Philip is that he has 4 unmarried daughters who prophesied when Paul comes to his home.

Key Passages:

Acts 8:26: Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."

Acts 8:35: Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

Acts 21:8-9: Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and stayed at the house of Philip the evangelist, one of the Seven. He had four unmarried daughters who prophesied.

William Franklin “Billy” Graham, Jr. (born November 7, 1918) the American Evangelist has preached the Gospel to more people than any other person in history. More than 2.5 million people accepted Christ through his ministry. He has spent personal time with each of the United States presidents from Harry S. Truman to Barak Obama.

Profile of Billy Graham

- Born November 7, 1918, four days before the Armistice ended World War I, Mr. Graham was reared on a dairy farm in Charlotte, North Carolina.
- He rode the bus to school and his school bus driver recalls that Billy used to get off the bus and reach under it and turn the fuel switch to off and the would go 100 yards and sputter out of gas.
- In the fall of 1934, at age 16, Mr. Graham made a personal commitment to Christ through the ministry of a traveling evangelist Mordecai Ham.

Sunday **School Teacher:** **Edward Kimball**, D.L. Moody, J. Wilbur Chapman, Billy Sunday, Mordecai Ham, Billy Graham

- Graham was ordained in 1939 by a Southern Baptist’s church.
- He attended Florida Bible Institute (now Trinity College in Florida).
- In 1943 he graduated from Wheaton College in Illinois and married fellow student **Ruth McCue Bell**, daughter of a missionary surgeon, who spent the first 17 years of her life in China.
- Graham pastored the First Baptist Church in Western Springs, Illinois.
- Graham joined Youth for Christ, an organization founded for ministry to youth and servicemen during World War II. He preached throughout the United States and in Europe in the immediate post war era, emerging as a rising young evangelist.
- The Los Angeles crusade in 1949 launched Mr. Graham into international prominence.
- Graham founded the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) in 1950 which was headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, until relocating to Charlotte, North Carolina in 2003.
- He conducts his ministry through the BGEA, including:
 - “Hour of Decision” weekly radio program broadcast around the world on Sundays for over 50 years.
 - television specials featuring Billy Graham Crusades and Franklin Graham Festivals which are broadcast in prime time on an average of 150 stations across the United States and Canada five to seven times annually.

- a syndicated newspaper column, "My Answer," which is carried by newspapers both nationally and internationally.
 - "Decision" magazine, the official publication of the Association, which has a circulation of more than 600,000.
 - World Wide Pictures which has produced and distributed over 125 productions, making it one of the foremost producers of evangelistic films in the world. Films have been translated into 38 languages and viewed by more than 250 million people worldwide and are available for showing in prisons and correctional facilities nationwide.
- Graham has written 27 books, many of which have become top sellers. His memoirs, "Just As I Am," published in 1997, achieved a "triple crown," appearing simultaneously on the three bestseller lists in one week.
 - Considered America's pastor.
 - Awarded numerous honorary doctorates and awards including the Congressional Gold medal in 1996 and the honorary knighthood by the British Empire in 2001.
 - Graham is regularly listed by the Gallup organization as one of the "Ten Most Admired Men in the World," whom it described as the dominant figure in that poll since 1948.
 - Graham has three daughters, two sons, 19 grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.
 - His children, Franklin & Anne, and grandson, Will, continue in his legacy of sharing Christ.
 - He is 93 still living mountains of western North Carolina.
 - Book: I am not a great preacher, and I don't claim to be a great preacher...
 - "My one purpose in life is to help people find a personal relationship with God, which, I believe, comes through knowing Christ." --Billy Graham

Denver Crusade 1987: I heard Billy Graham in 1987, as a grade 12 student, at Mile High Stadium in Denver Colorado.

How many of you have personally heard Billy Graham?

How many of you were saved under his ministry?

How many of you have participated in one of his or children's ministries?

Imelda Fergel, Bob Spears, Gene & Willa Kosasih volunteer with the BGEA TV/Telephone Ministry. They have had countless opportunities to share the gospel through the this ministry. We have more from our church than any other in town.

Following they will be in the foyer at the table with more information opportunities for you and they would be glad to more about this great ministry.

Four Take Away's

1. The good news about Jesus Christ is the greatest thing you can ever receive.
2. The good news about Jesus Christ is the greatest thing you can ever share.
3. Your witness will be the most effective when you are sensitive to God's leadership and where others are at.
4. Your greatest witness and influence begins at home.

Steps to Peace with God by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

Billy Graham TV Telephone Ministry 1(800) 293-3717, billygraham.ca

Response: *Just As I AM* is sung as a song of commitment at most Graham Crusades.

Response:

Commitment to Receive Christ
Commitment to Share Christ

Staff & Deacons are here to assist & pray with you!

Thank You to Amanda Porter

1. Resigning as our Director of Outreach
2. Redirected to Student Ministry at Mt. Royal
3. Ultimately China
4. Gift

Postlude: *Majestic*

Heroes of the Faith: Philip & Billy Graham

"With great power there must also come—great responsibility!"
Uncle Ben to Peter Parker (Spider-Man)

Psalm 11:7: For the LORD is righteous, he loves justice; upright men (women) will see his face.

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