

PASSING THE
FAITH
To the Next Generation



Small Group Questions

Message: "The Sanctified Life"

Speaker: Pastor Bob

Series: *Passing the Faith*

Date: 4/19/26

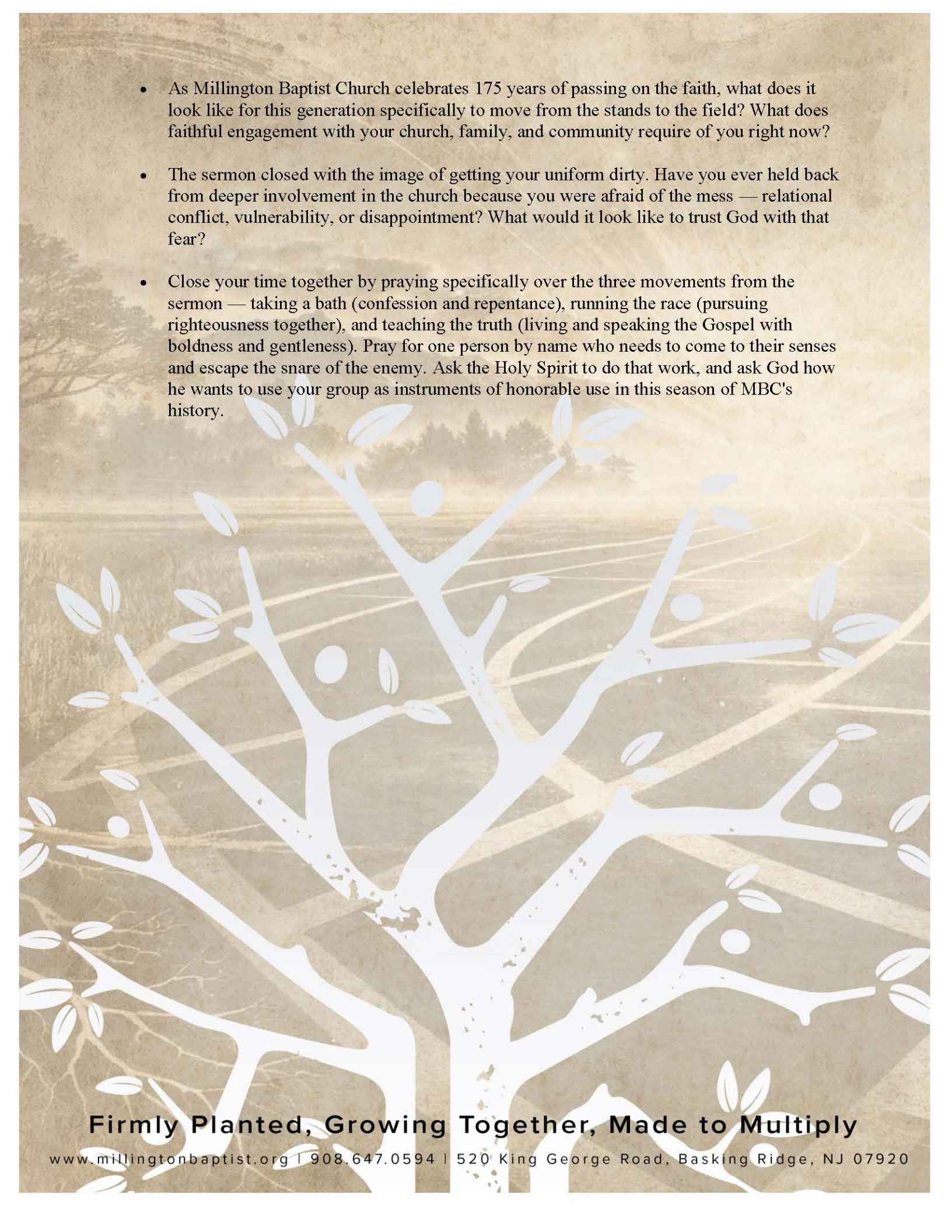
Text: 2 Timothy 2:20-26

Questions:

- Think about a time when you were a spectator in something you could have been more involved in — a hobby, a relationship, a team. What finally got you off the bench and into the game?
- In 2 Timothy 2:20-21, Paul uses the illustration of vessels in a great house — some for honorable use, some dishonorable. What do you think it means practically for a Christian to "cleanse themselves from what is dishonorable," and how does that differ from earning God's favor?
- Pastor Bob described ongoing confession and repentance as non-negotiable for the sanctified life. How does a Biblical understanding of grace — that we are saved by Christ's work, not our own — actually free us to confess more honestly rather than less?
- Paul commands Timothy to both flee and pursue in verse 22. What is one "youthful passion" — whether a sinful habit, a quarrelsome tendency, or a distracting ambition — that God may be calling you to flee right now? What virtue is he calling you to pursue in its place?
- The sermon pointed out that "youthful passions" extend beyond sexual sin to include a love of controversy and division. Where do you see that kind of quarrelsome spirit most tempting in your own life — social media, church disagreements, family conflict?
- Paul tells Timothy in verses 24-25 that the Lord's servant must be "kind to everyone, patiently enduring evil, correcting opponents with gentleness." In our current cultural moment, how do we hold together bold truth-telling and genuine gentleness without sacrificing either?
- Verse 26 reveals the sobering stakes — people can be "captured by the devil to do his will." Think of someone in your life who fits that description. How does this verse change the way you pray for them or engage with them?

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- As Millington Baptist Church celebrates 175 years of passing on the faith, what does it look like for this generation specifically to move from the stands to the field? What does faithful engagement with your church, family, and community require of you right now?
 - The sermon closed with the image of getting your uniform dirty. Have you ever held back from deeper involvement in the church because you were afraid of the mess — relational conflict, vulnerability, or disappointment? What would it look like to trust God with that fear?
 - Close your time together by praying specifically over the three movements from the sermon — taking a bath (confession and repentance), running the race (pursuing righteousness together), and teaching the truth (living and speaking the Gospel with boldness and gentleness). Pray for one person by name who needs to come to their senses and escape the snare of the enemy. Ask the Holy Spirit to do that work, and ask God how he wants to use your group as instruments of honorable use in this season of MBC's history.

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