

Sermon Note

Trinity United Methodist Church

October 23, 2005

“A Place of Inner Calm”

Dr. Dan Johnson, preaching
Exodus 15:22-27; I Peter 4:7-11

All of us need to come to Elim
12 springs and 70 palm trees
and camp there by the waters.

A place of Emotional and Spiritual health -

1. That comes from knowing you and God have done something together that you could never have done by yourself, for the task itself is much too big for you alone.

Exodus 14 - Red Sea - Trinity has some huge visions - Long Range Planning and our Task Forces - Visions that are so big they require the Power of God.

“If you listen, listen obediently to how God tells you to live in his presence, obeying his commandments...” Exodus 15:26 (*The Message*)

2. A place where “Springs & Palm Trees” grow - Emotional and Spiritual Health

“We are near the end of all things now (1) and you should therefore be calm, self-controlled, people of prayer. (2) Above everything else be sure that you have real deep love for one another, (3) remembering that love can cover a multitude of sins.” Be hospitable to one another without secretly wishing you hadn't got to be.

Be generous with the things God gave you, (4) passing them around so all get in on it. If words, let it be God's words, if help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and he'll get all the credit as the One mighty in everything - Amen.” I Peter 4:7-11 (J.B. Phillips & *The Message*)

(1) Stephen Covey - “Begin with the end in mind” - Clarity of Perception

(2) Calm, Controlled, Connected

(3) Real deep love - (love that comes from God) that is genuine.

(4) Be generous with the things God gave you. Stewardship Emphasis is a call to be generous. That's easy for some – just comes naturally; not easy for others. There are lots of reasons – background, how raised, attitude. In the church, if we do this right, we feel encouraged to be generous as Peter says above.