



# FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

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NEWSLETTER

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## NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW

PASTOR ANDY

JACK PATRICK STARTED SCHOOL THREE WEEKS AGO AND LIKE MANY OF THE KINDERGARTENERS THAT WE SAW THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, HE WAS EMOTIONAL. (AND SO WERE HIS PARENTS.) GOING TO SCHOOL WAS SOMETHING THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO DO. HE HAD BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO THE LIFE OF GOING TO CHURCH, THE ZOO, THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, GROCERY SHOPPING WITH MAMA AT TRADER JOES, PLAYING TRUCKS IN THE DRIVEWAY, PUTTING ON EVERY SOLDIER COSTUME HE HAS, AND GOING TO ROMEO ON FRIDAYS WITH THE GUYS. SCHOOL WAS NOT SOMETHING ON HIS AGENDA, BUT AS WE ALL KNOW, IT IS A NECESSARY PROCESS IN HIS DEVELOPMENT FOR LIFE.

THIS IS THE SAME FOR THOSE GOING TO JUNIOR HIGH, HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE, FIRST JOB, BUYING A HOUSE, SECOND JOB, RETIREMENT, OR TRYING ANYTHING ELSE FOR THE FIRST TIME. IT IS NERVE RACKING AND UNEASY – THERE ARE TOO MANY SITUATIONS THAT ARE UNEXPECTED.

WHEN DOES THIS STOP? WHEN DO WE STOP PLACING OURSELVES IN POSITION TO GROW AND LEARN SOMETHING NEW?

WHEN THE DISCIPLES (16-30 YEARS OLD) WERE ASKED TO CAST THEIR NETS TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BOAT, THEY GAVE AN EXCUSE AT FIRST, BECAUSE THEY "SOMEHOW" KNEW BETTER (LUKE 5:4).

WHEN JONAH (MAYBE 40-45) WAS ASKED TO GO TO NINEVEH HE FLED 2500 MILES IN THE OTHER DIRECTION.

WHEN MOSES (80 YEARS OLD) WAS ASKED TO SPEAK FOR GOD HE GAVE SEVEN EXCUSES TO TRY AND NOT GO (EXODUS 3-4:23).

WHEN ABRAHAM (100 YEARS OLD) AND SARAH (90 YEARS OLD) WERE TOLD THEY WOULD BE PARENTS HE FELL TO HIS FACE AND LAUGHED (GENESIS 17:17).

I'M NOT SURE IT DOES STOP. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT GOD ALWAYS HAS SOMETHING FOR US TO LEARN AND DO NO MATTER OUR AGE. IT SEEMS THAT GOD KNOWS WHO HE WANTS TO USE. IT SEEMS THAT EXCUSES DON'T WORK WELL. AND IT SEEMS GOD'S WAYS TEND TO BE OUTSTANDING.

MAY WE BE A CHURCH THAT DOESN'T HAVE RELUCTANCE AND EXCUSES WHEN ASKED TO TRY SOMETHING NEW, BUT A DESIRE TO SEE WHAT GOD CAN DO.