



Rejoice in the Lord

Pensacola, FL 32523-9160 • U.S.A.

a ministry of **PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE**

The Wonders of the Deep

— A Word from Pastor Jeff Redlin —

I can remember when I first began learning to snorkel. It started by playing around with a snorkel in a pool or on the shore of a lake when I was a child. It was a lot of fun! Then, I can remember the first time I snorkeled along the shore of the ocean. What a difference. I eventually graduated to some actual snorkeling trips where we would explore some crystal-clear caves in very cold, spring-fed rivers. However, some of my most thrilling snorkeling experiences have involved deep water. One such experience was in the Atlantic Ocean. There, I saw incredible aquatic life while snorkeling around live coral. Then, as I swam to deeper water, I saw fascinating fish, incredible ocean life, and even watched as a large barracuda swam by. It was, to say the least, exciting in many ways!

The thrill of swimming outside of the protection of a pool and beyond the sand of a friendly beach often parallels the progression of the Christian life. While many believers enjoy the relative safety of staying close to the “shore” of their spiritual life, they also miss much of the wonders of God by not venturing past the realm of spiritual safety. C. H. Spurgeon wrote:

“He whose life is one even and smooth path will see but little of the glory of the Lord, for he has few occasions of self-emptying, and hence, little fitness for being filled with the revelation of God. They who navigate little streams and shallow creeks know little of the God of tempests; but they who ‘do business in great waters,’ these see his ‘wonders in the deep.’”

Psalm 107:23-24 tells us that “They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; these see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep.” It may be that God is challenging you to take your spiritual snorkel out of the pool and begin to experience the “wonders of the deep.”

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"Gospel music has always played a vital part in my life, and the music from your program causes me to sing along out loud. You may someday even hear me in Pensacola. The music in Heaven may not be any different than what God has produced from you dear folks." —Pennsylvania

"A few years ago, I had back-to-back surgeries and was unable to attend church, so I found your sermon on YouTube. I love Pastor Redlin! I love the way he preaches straight from the Bible and adds real world applications so that you understand. I have learned so much. Thank you for sharing your service and may GOD bless you!" —Internet

"Thank you for *Rejoice in the Lord*. I love everyone there as Christ loves us." —New Brunswick, Canada

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