

What's Your Platform?

We are very pleased to have Tim Hiller with us as our guest speaker in worship **this Sunday, February 26 at our 9:15 and 11:11 services**. He will also be conversing with **middle and high school students (grades 5-12) at a special breakfast at 8:15 in the Fellowship Hall**.

I hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to hear from one of our own who graduated from Orrville HS and who has experienced some amazing things already in his life. Even more so, I hope you will invite your friends to join you in your pew or your row. Maybe go out to eat before or after the service and connect. Ask them what they thought about what they heard.



One of the reasons that people might be drawn to hear from someone like Tim is that **he has a special platform on which to speak**. Of course, football is the king of sports in our country (as an even bigger baseball fan, it pains me to say that). As someone who has experienced a great deal of success as a leader and football quarterback in high school, college, and even into the pros, people are eager to hear from someone like Tim, and it is exciting to see how he is making the most of that opportunity by sharing his faith in Christ with people. By the way, you can find out more about Tim's ministry at www.timhiller.com.

What is a platform, anyway? A platform is a raised level surface on which people or things can stand. We find platforms at train stations and at the front of theaters, for example. They are also a type of shoe. In any of those cases, the purpose of a platform is to raise something up, to give it a solid foundation, and to make it more visible.

So what is your platform? What is the thing in your life that allows you to share your faith with others? Hopefully, like that platform, you have a solid foundation of faith on which you can stand with confidence. I find that for the most part, people really respect others who hold solid and well-thought out convictions. What are yours? And how has Jesus shaped those convictions in your life? I believe that for every one of us, there is something appealing about our lives (our platform), that will draw at least a few people in to hear more of what we have to say. And that's true for you.

If this all sounds too flashy of self-serving, don't worry. When you step on your platform, it's really the Jesus in you that people see, not you. Now I agree - not all of us will have the opportunity to speak to large crowds of people, as a football player might be able to do. But, we may be able to speak into the life of one person or a few people in very meaningful ways. So, where does your platform exist? Maybe it's in your workplace or your home. Who is ready to hear from you because of your life's experience or relationship with them? Maybe it's time to step up on your platform and speak into their lives. You never know who's listening!

Pastor David

February 23, 2017