



◆ The Anchor ◆



A Monthly Publication of Vaughan Baptist Church

Volume 2008 Issue 1

"Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast..." Hebrews 6:19

January 2008



Happy New Year!



From The Pastor's Desk Pastor Bill Adams



As we enter 2008, set before us will be many ways in which we can go. Usually, the choices will be more than just a fork in the road (like with Abraham and Lot). There will be myriad of decisions that will have to be made. We could be moved by emotion, steered by others, piloted by our own wishes, even channelled by chance and circumstance. Or, we can do what Ezra did. He searched for a right way.

"Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance. For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way: because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him. So we fasted and besought our God for this: and he was entreated of us."
Ezra 8:21-23.

I believe we can cause the new year to be an honouring one to God if we follow Ezra's formula.

THE SINCERITY OF THEIR APPEAL

Ezra genuinely and earnestly desired to know God's way. This is seen in the fast that was proclaimed. All participated. All denied themselves and afflicted themselves to demonstrate to God the sincerity of their appeal.



A good way for us to find the right way in 2008 would be to fast and pray.

THE SOURCE OF THEIR ASSISTANCE

They were looking for assistance from above. They faced an earthly enemy but sought

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The children singing a special song during our Mission's Conference.



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heavenly help. We, too, will face earthly enemies in 2008. These will intentionally aim to discourage and disorient us and cause us to have a disappointing year spiritually. Let's look to God for a right way with goals that are good and godly.

THE SURENESS OF THEIR ANSWER

They had faith in God. They believed God and He responded to their confidence in Him. Let us trust the Lord throughout the new year. *"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."* Proverbs 3:5-6.

These were seeking a right way for themselves, their little ones, and their substance. In other words, they wanted God's will with all they had. The new year will be God-honouring for us if we go the right way.

Let us present our lives, our children, and our possessions to the Lord and then follow His direction.



GOOD TIDINGS

FRIEND DAY

Our last Friend Day of 2007 was held on Sunday, October 14th. It was a spiritually challenging day as Pastor Denis Celestine from Grenada preached. The Lord blessed with many at the altar and one precious soul was saved! Afterwards, we enjoyed a great BBQ together which was hosted by Susan Johnston. Pastor Adams has scheduled Brother Celestine to preach for us again in the Fall of 2008.

MISSIONS CONFERENCE

This year's Mission Conference was filled with a lot of emotion. We combined the conference with a farewell dinner for the Seelys who were heading off to Newfoundland. On Saturday evening, Dennis gave a tearful testimony of how God had worked in his life. He thanked the church for all the love and support he had received in making the very difficult decision to leave VBC. Pastor Adams presented him with some book gifts from the church and a plaque. Our folks brought such delicious foods as Susan Johnston hosted a wonderful meal for us. On Sunday, Dennis preached Sunday School and evening service. On Sunday morning, Pastor Adams gave a charge to Dennis. There were many pictures taken and tears shed, but we are excited and proud to have our own in the mission field. We will surely miss Dennis, Vickie, Marcus, Philip, and Josiah! They can be reached at (709) 596-1767 or denandvic@hotmail.com.

CHARACTER PRINCIPLES

Proverbs 25:25 says, *"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country."*

This new year, we should prayerfully endeavour to be the bearers of good tidings and the carriers of good news instead of being depressed, negative carriers of gloom and doom. Life is never perfect, and there are no situations or areas of life that are totally perfect and without problems, but that does not mean that one needs to dwell on those problems and overlook the good things and the blessings that God has placed in their pathway. As our children grow up in our homes, we need to point out the blessings and the good things that God has provided for us and not spend our time griping and moaning and groaning about the things we don't have or the problems that exist. If we would have children who would bring joy to our hearts and happiness to our ears when we're older, we must train them, as youngsters, to look on the bright side of life and to be bearers of good tidings, while they grow up in our homes.

Those who are quick to tell you all of their problems during ordinary conversation, whenever you meet them, have never learned the realities of life and to concentrate on the blessings God has provided for them and the good things they have rather than looking at life in a negative fashion, through shaded glasses. Life is going to have its share of problems, but that does not mean we need to point out all those problems to our children, nor does it mean that one cannot be successful and enjoy the blessings that God has provided for them just because there are some rough spots on the road or there is a little bit of rough weather along the way.

The truth is, as Christians we will have the same problems the world has, and we will experience the same pains, aches, discomforts of life, and tragedies that the world experiences, but we have someone to go through those

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THE VBC PICTURE GALLERY



We had a wonderful time during our Mission's Conference! We are proud to have one of our own on the mission field.



It was the last Sunday we had Pastor Dennis and Vickie Seely with us. We all miss you both and love you very much!





Church Family Game Night
(at the Church)
Friday, January 25th

Marriage Enrichment Seminar
Saturday, February 9th

Dessert Night
(at the Adams')
Friday, February 29th

Berean Bible Baptist Institute
Sundays at 10am

We've had a great time studying "Introduction to Christian Counselling" and now we started a new and exciting lesson on "Dispensationalism". The more we know about the deeper truths of God's Word, the deeper our understanding and love will be for the Lord.

Bible Study and Prayer
Wednesdays at 7pm.
We continue to study the "The Book of Numbers: Living a Life that Counts". We all need to learn how to live a life that counts for the Lord.

New Telephone Directory
Please see Pastor Adams to add your name, e-mail, or any corrections in your address.



THE ANCHOR
A Ministry of
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Would you like to share your testimony? Do you have a special story, event, prayer request or any other information you would like to share with your church family?
Please contact us at the church office by phone or email.



Our Schedule of Services

MINISTRIES ON SUNDAY
Sunday School
for all ages 10:00 am
Morning Worship 11:00 am
Evening Service 6:00 pm
We have fully staffed and supervised nurseries at all services.

MINISTRIES ON WEDNESDAY
Bible Study and
Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm

We are an Independent Fundamental Baptist Church, located in the heart of Woodbridge, Ontario, Canada. The Church is located 10 minutes north of Metropolitan Toronto and 20 minutes from Toronto Pearson International Airport, and only a 40 minute drive from downtown Toronto.
William E. Adams, D.Min.,
Senior Pastor
James Hird, B.Th.,
Youth Pastor

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tragedies and experiences with us that the world does not have, and we have the privilege of knowing that everything is going to turn out alright in the end. If everything in life went wrong for the Christian, because we have eternal life and have the peace of God living within us, we should convey a message of joy, happiness, and love toward those around us, regardless of life's circumstances. There may be some of us who were poor and there were a lot of things that we did not have when we were growing up, but we should be thankful to God for parents who taught us to look on the bright side of life and to praise the Lord for the things we had and for the blessings that He provided for us each day. We should be that kind of parents to our children.

The fact that we are saved and on our way to Heaven is far more than we ever deserved, and any blessings we receive in this life are simply a plus and something we really have no right to expect. We would hope that our children would have the same attitude and that they would be bearers of good tidings through life and not be depressed, defeated grippers along the way. Everyone deserves to have happy, joyous, positive conversation where they live and where they work. If that would be the case where our children are, we must teach them that attitude and that philosophy as they grow up in our homes.

Let's read Proverbs 25:25 over and over again while applying these truths to our own lives and teaching them, both by example and by word.

David Kapauan

