



◆ The Anchor ◆



A Monthly Publication of Vaughan Baptist Church

Volume 2008 Issue 9 "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast..." Hebrews 6:19 September 2008



HAPPY 17TH ANNIVERSARY!!



From The Pastor's Desk Pastor Bill Adams

This month, VBC celebrates its 17th Anniversary! In view of this, I want to write about 3 benchmarks that we have tried to establish here over the years.

A HOME

Home is a place where you can be yourself. You feel comfortable. This is how I think a church ought to be. Throughout the years, VBC has been home to people from all over the world. Our people have come from over 50 different nations of the world. They have come out from cults and just about every religious denomination while others were reared in atheistic countries. Some have grown up in mud huts, while others lived in mansions. Some are well educated, while others have had no such opportunities. Age has been no barrier: the first soul saved in this ministry was Janna Burgsma, in her 50's, from Holland; as of this writing, the latest soul saved was a 20 year old young lady from Ecuador. Jesus warned in Mark 3:25: "And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand." Though we may be diverse, we are not divided. Neither age nor ability should separate us; neither nationality nor ethnicity should disconnect us. From the beginning, VBC has been home to any and to all who come. We celebrate the diversity in our congregation and our unity in Christ!

A HAVEN

Church ought to be a haven where you are accepted. We are all sinners. From relationship breakdowns, to addictions, to spiritual failures, we all have fallen short of the glory of God. VBC has tried to be a haven to those suffering from the trauma and anguish of life. We want to be a congregation of comforters and encouragers. For this reason, most likely, you will find at VBC people who have wounded and weakened spirits. The Captain of our salvation has navigated our spiritual ships to be anchored in the harbour here (Hebrews 2:9-11). It is the place where we are refurbished and refreshed. I hope our church will always remain a refuge, a retreat, a rescue shelter to minister to the prodigals who, like me, ended up in the pig pens of life (Luke 15:11-24).

A HARD HAT AREA

Active construction sites require all workers to wear hard hats. A church ought to be an active construction site. The demolition of old lives and the construction of new ones should be an on-going project 24x7. VBC should be a place of workers willing to labour long hours, under rigorous conditions, for righteous causes. It should be a place where things get done for the Lord. Some people look for a church where they can hide (come in and out unnoticed), be entertained, just fellowship, and be spiritually fed. VBC is looking for

labourers. Take a moment and review Paul's job description and resume' to the church at Corinth (2 Cor.11:23-28). By the way, wear steel-toed shoes at church, so when people step on your toes, it won't bother you!

Our Shepherd-God has faithfully sustained us throughout the years. As we enter year 18, may VBC continue as a home, a haven, and a hard hat area. Because of the God-sent labourers through the years, our Lord has established a testimony for Himself in this part of Metro Toronto. I can think of no greater pleasure or purpose than to serve the Lord in a mission work in a major world class city like Toronto. My sincerest appreciation, prayers, and praise to God is for those who have helped with the Lord's church here over the years. Someday, in heaven, we will glorify His name together as we think back on the part each of us played here at VBC in establishing a testimony of His grace and goodness!



GOOD TIDINGS

Friend Day

On Sunday, August 17th, we enjoyed a great crowd and good food. Seema hosted a very satisfying feast. To bring the day to a splashing success, Richard Rogers was baptized (and almost boiled) in the evening!

Preacher For A Day

We've received a double blessing as
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Blair Cassidy has stirred our hearts twice on recent Sunday evenings. Frank Baccari is scheduled to preach on Sunday evening, September 28th and David Kapauan on Sunday evening, October 5th.

2008 Debt Reduction: Goal - \$39,000

Almost \$10,000 has been sacrificially given toward this project so far. Keep praying and giving as there are only four months remaining!



YOUTH CORNER

Pastor James Hird

Attitude

When I was a teenager, my pastor would constantly quote this saying to me, "It is your attitude, not your aptitude, that determines your altitude in life." I do not remember him ever attributing this saying to anyone, but this quote holds just as much truth for me today. It holds even greater truth for the youth of today. So much emphasis is placed on doing the best you can in school. Parents want you to get the best grades that are possible. This is important, but if in the end our attitude stinks, the good grades will not help you. This little saying is telling us that if want to get ahead in life, it will be determined by your attitude.

One of the best illustrations in the Bible of this principle is Saul and Jonathan. When you first meet Saul, he seemed to be a humble man, obedient to his father. Once he is crowned king, Saul changes. He forgot that God brought him to that place. He began disobeying God because he possibly thought that he was smarter than God. He soon lost the kingdom because his attitude was wrong. Not long after, Jonathan comes unto the scene. He was Saul's oldest son, and would have been next in line to king. Not once does Jonathan complain to his father about losing the kingdom. In fact, Jonathan becomes the best of friends with David, who was to be the next

king. Jonathan understood that pride and force would not get him ahead, but that he needed a right attitude.

Paul writes in Romans 12:3, "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

If you, as a teenager, take this attitude of humility, you will rise to heights in your life that you have never dreamed of. If you follow what Paul writes in verse sixteen of this same chapter, "Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits." Paul is stressing to you the golden rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

You need to have the right attitude in your dealings with others. Paul also wrote in II Corinthians 4:18 "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

Teenager, put your focus on God first, and your attitude will be right, your aptitude will be high, and your life will go to altitudes that you have never dreamed of.

TESTIMONY

A Personal Testament

Peter & Melita Fillon

Peter's Testimony

I got saved and baptized when I was only a young boy, about 8-10 years of age. A missionary who was a relative of mine from the U.S. came to start the Lord's work in our town. My parents were Roman Catholics and my mom used to bring me to attend mass with her. There was no Sunday School for children so I had to sit with her until the mass was over. I never learned the Bible going to mass. When the missionary came and conducted a Bible study in our house, it was there that I heard the

Word of God and started to get a clearer understanding of the Bible. I heard about God, sin, heaven, hell and other things taught in the Bible. I didn't know a lot about the Bible then but I did know I was a stubborn and naughty boy. So when I heard about sin and hell, it scared me to death. Thank God there's a way to deal with this awful state of death in sin and the horrible place called hell. By repenting of my sins and accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour, the burden of spending my eternity in hell was lifted! Joy and peace in my heart replaced the guilt and burden of sin and I became a child of God and was now destined for heaven.

Even as a young boy, I was so happy to share this good news in school. I soon realized though that not all people are happy to hear the Gospel and others even mocked and ridiculed what I tried to tell them.

In my college years, I went away from God. I was no longer attending church services and I ended up with the wrong friends. I began to do the things my friends did - worldly things like drinking, smoking, partying, and other things. My parents sent me to university thinking I was there to study and to get myself a good degree. But in reality and without their knowledge, I was just spending their money on vain and sinful things.

My parents were hard working people and I depended on them for all my needs. My dad had his own trucking business and I thought all things would go well with our finances. However, when the worst came financially, I began to realize my life wouldn't always be as "carefree" as before. I began to think about God and His promises again. I asked for forgiveness and started going to church. I pleaded God to help me get rid of my vices. I had to battle a lot of temptation, my own flesh, the world and the direct attack of Satan in my mind. It was tough but by yielding myself to Christ through prayer and Bible reading day by day, God helped me to become victorious. My life changed noticeably after that.

I knew God had a purpose and plan for my life. By His grace and mercy, He restored and led me to the path of righteousness for His glory. It was through a closer walk with the Lord that I learned to depend on Him more

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THE VBC PICTURE GALLERY



On Sunday, August 17th Friend Day, we enjoyed a great crowd and good food. Seema hosted a very satisfying feast.





17th Anniversary Service
 Sunday, September 14

Missionary Pastor Dennis Seely
 Wednesday, September 17
 Sunday, September 21

Men's Fellowship at Pastor Hird's
 Friday, September 26

Teen Soccer
 Saturday, September 27

Missionary Pastor Mark Alcock
 Sunday, September 28

Teen Laser Tag
 Saturday, October 4

Missions Conference with Pastor Denis Celestine Grenada, West Indies
 Sunday, October 19

Children's Harvest Party
 Saturday, October 25



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 and more. I began to long for fellowship with other believers. I attended fellowship gatherings of Bible believing churches in my town and it was in one of these gatherings that I met a lovely lady that later became my wife.

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

THE ANCHOR

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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.

Testimony continued...



"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD." Proverbs 18:22. God has blessed us with a son.

As I ponder life, I know God has given me a choice to either live life without Him, void and futile, or to live life with Him, full of joy, peace and meaning. I am so glad I chose the latter! God Bless!!

Melita's Testimony

It was the influence of my grandfather on my mother's side that I got saved. He used to bring me to church to hear the Gospel story. Even as a child, about 10-11 years of age, I realized that I was a sinner and needed a Saviour. It was then that I repented of my sins and received Jesus by faith in my heart. Growing up as a Christian, I encountered many trials and temptations. I was a bit stubborn at times but by the grace and mercy of my Lord, He always brought me back to his fold.

I know in this life, one has to put faith in someone or something. Even atheists put their faith in the belief that there is no God. I am so glad that I put my faith in Christ for my soul's salvation. He is the great provider and sustainer of my needs. He is my ever present help in time of trouble. God Bless!!

