

# The Anchor

A Monthly Publication of Vaughan Baptist Church

Volume 2008 Issue 12 "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast..." Hebrews 6:19 December 2008



## From The Pastor's Desk Pastor Bill Adams

Christmas is a season of giving. Normally, in life, when you give, you don't take. But Jesus, when

He gave, took some things from us. In this month's edition, let's consider: **"He Gave Everything."** Our Saviour took three things from us.

### HE TOOK OUR SIN

John the Baptist pointed this out to his disciples, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Paul explained this to the Corinthian Christians, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor.5:21). Isaiah prophesied of this, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities...All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:5-6). He took our sin and gave us forgiveness!

### HE TOOK OUR SENTENCE

Paul preached this truth in Rome, "for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom.6:23); "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our

Lord" (Rom.5:17,21). He took our sentence of death and separation from God and gave us fellowship with God.

### HE TOOK OUR SLAVERY

Paul reminded the Roman Christians, "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you... Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom.6:17-18); "Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God" (Rom.8:21). Peter said, "For of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage" (2 Peter 2:19). Jesus said, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36). The Saviour took our slavery and gave us freedom.

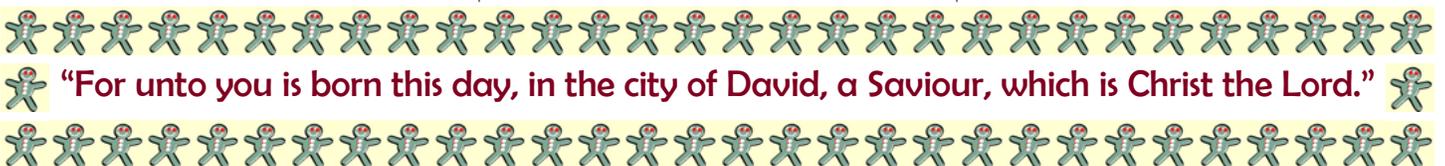
Jesus took everything away that would prevent us from enjoying everlasting life and an abundant earthly life. Theophilus of Antioch commented about the Saviour in the 2nd century A.D., "For in glory He is incomprehensible, in greatness unfathomable, in power incomparable, in wisdom unrivaled, in goodness inimitable, in kindness unutterable." Sir Richard Whitcliffe described the Saviour as, "An infinite, perfectly holy, majestic, awesome God Who is passionately in love with insignificant, sinful, sometimes openly rebellious, frequently indifferent people."



William C. Dix (1837-1898) wrote the well-loved carol, "What Child Is This?" While a successful insurance salesman in Glasgow, Scotland, Dix was stricken with a sudden serious illness at the age of 29. He was confined to bed for an extended period and suffered deep depression until he called out to God. Out of this spiritual experience came this and many other hymns. The words say, "What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping... So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh - come rich and poor, to own Him; the King of kings salvation brings - let loving hearts enthrone Him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing: Haste, haste to bring Him laud - the Babe, the Son of Mary."

He gave everything! In giving, He took. He took our sin, our sentence, and our slavery and gave us forgiveness, fellowship, and freedom. May this Christmas season find us giving and taking. Let's give spiritual gifts to one another - love, peace, forgiveness, support, and encouragement. And let's take everything out of our lives that would hinder us from having such a giving spirit.

What Child is this? This is the Christ of Christmas. May we bring to Him everything that will magnify His precious name.





# GOOD TIDINGS

## 2008 Debt Reduction: Goal - \$39,000

Over \$13,000 has been sacrificially given toward this project. This is the last month for this special offering. May God enable us to meet this goal and repay those who lent us the money interest-free.

### Teens at the Adams'

On Saturday, November 1st, our young people along with the Hirds and Cassidys enjoyed a fun-filled evening of games, food, and fellowship.

### Ladies Craft Night

Our ladies met at the church to make a seasonal craft and enjoy a spiritual time out.



# YOUTH CORNER

Pastor James Hird

## Pondering Christmas

Luke 2:19

***"But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart."***

As Christmas time is now upon us, we are all thinking on the things surrounding this festive time of the year. These may include family, friends, parties, and presents. As we are thinking about these things, we need to bring our focus to what Mary focused on in that first Christmas. The Bible says in Luke 2:19, *"But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart."* The Bible says that Mary took in the events of the first Christmas and meditated on them. Mary could have focused on the long journey that she had just finished. She could have focused on the surroundings in which her Son was born, but she did not focus on any of these.

Instead, Mary put her focus on the events of that first Christmas. The Son of God was born of a virgin birth. The King of Kings was born in a lowly manger. His first visitors were not other kings or royalty, but lowly shepherds. The shepherds did not bring gifts that were worthy of a king, but just the bowing of the knee and worshipping Him.

Mary focused on the angels that proclaimed the Messiah's birth to the shepherds. She looked at the shepherds as they went and told everyone what they had seen



surrounding the Messiah's birth. She "pondered" these things in her heart.

Today, young people, Christmas has become a busy time in which we spend little time "pondering" the true meaning of Christmas. David wrote in Psalm 19:14, *"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer."* Long before Christ was born, His forefather was writing to you to make sure that you focus on things you should. As Christmas approaches, put your focus on Christ. Don't just think about the gifts that you must buy for family. Do like Mary, ponder what Christ has done for you this Christmas.



## TESTIMONY

### A Personal Testament Steve & Seema Satoo

(...continued from last month)  
**Seema's Testimony**

I'm going to share with you a part of my testimony of how God saved me and acted in my life. When I was eleven years old, I accepted Christ as my Saviour. I was brought up by my Christian parents who took us to church from a very young age, but I was not saved. I remember that day in DVBS class, my Sunday school teacher asked me if I was positive that I was going to dwell in the house of the Lord forever when I die? If I believed that Christ died, was buried, and rose again for my salvation? If I had confessed with my mouth and asked Him to save me from my sins? Until that day in Sunday school class, I truly and honestly didn't know for sure if I died if I would go to heaven.

During my teenage years I was caught up

(Continued on page 4)





# THE VBC PICTURE GALLERY





### Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 14th  
at the church

### Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 24th  
6:00-7:00 PM

### New Year's Eve Service

Wednesday, December 31st

### Special Service

Sunday, January 11th 6:00 PM  
Evening Service – Missionary to  
Nicaragua Anthony Sanchez

(Continued from page 2)

with the world and with the wrong kind of friends. I thought I was good, I was not bad. I didn't drink or smoke ever in my life, I listened to my parents but I was not serving the Lord and there was always a void in my life. Nothing seemed to make me happy. God was speaking to my heart, I was so afraid and fearful of God and His judgment in my life. God corrects us because he loves us. I felt like I couldn't really get away with anything. It seemed my unsaved friends could do whatever they pleased, but not me. I knew God was always watching my every move and I had such great conviction in my heart to serve Him. The experience has been good for me. It has drawn me closer to God and taught me to trust God more than I ever did before. When I fall and disappoint myself and God, I get my eyes back on the Lord. He will lift me back up again. Heb 13:5 God promised never to leave us or forsake us, and He has never broken a promise to his children. God works when nothing else works.

During my adult years serving God, I was getting in my comfort zone again. But God had other plans in my life. One year, after I got married, my dad passed away. I was away when he got sick and came back the week he died. My father had a great impact in my Christian life. He loved the Lord and

## 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

A Ministry of  
**Vaughan Baptist Church**  
8274 Islington Avenue  
Woodbridge, ON L4L 1W8  
(905) 851-7100

Web:

[http://ca.geocities.com/  
vaughan.baptist@rogers.com/](http://ca.geocities.com/vaughan.baptist@rogers.com/)  
E-mail:

[info@vaughanbaptistchurch.org](mailto:info@vaughanbaptistchurch.org)

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.

was a wonderful father to his children and a loving husband to my mom. I was devastated and was so hurt and angry inside. I never knew how much I needed God in my life. I learned through good times and bad times that God is good. I do understand from God's perspective nothing touches my life that God does not allow. God knows me better than anyone else. He knows me inside and out and He knows my thoughts. "GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH, A VERY PRESENT HELP IN TROUBLE" (Psalm 46:1) What a great assurance is promised to us in this verse. Our life may not be going smoothly but we should be happy and content serving God.

As a young Christian I was faced with so many obstacles in life. It was hard but I studied God's word and prayed like I never did in my life. I've matured in my Christian life as the years have gone by. I'm not perfect. I make mistakes every day but I thank God for his mercy and forgiveness. God has seen me at my worst and he loved me anyway unconditionally.

This year was another year of trials and testing of my faith in God. My sister Dora was diagnosed with breast cancer. Sometimes I forget all the wonderful things God has done for my life. I still find myself questioning God. How quickly I forget that God is in control of everything. He will show me what I need to know when I need to know it. God has seen Dora through some tough times and praise God she is saved and trusting in God. She has an amazing spirit and testimony which really encourages my heart.

The Word of God can perform healing surgery on us, each time we read it. It will point out our selfishness, worldliness, disobedience, pride and unbelief. We can choose to leave the sin in our lives and let it destroy us, or we can painfully deal with it and remove it. Spend time in the Word and in God's presence. We all need to get to know Him better.

Will you tell others about your God? Will you testify about his love and mercy?

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

