



The Anchor



A Monthly Publication of Vaughan Baptist Church

Volume 2009 Issue 8

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

August 2009



From The Pastor’s Desk Pastor Bill Adams

For most Christians, life today is extremely busy. Schedules are full. But, in spite of this,

some Christians find/make the time to be actively involved in the work of their local church. In this month’s column, I’d like you to consider the subject, “Spiritual Busyness.”

The Crossroads

The Christian life is a journey of crossroads. Christians face the forks of spiritual life almost every day. For example, do I: obey or disobey (Jeremiah 42:6); grow spiritually or stagnate (2 Peter 3:16-18); move to the meat of the Bible or remain on the milk (Hebrews 5:11-14); attend church regularly or occasionally (Hebrews 10:25); financially give or withhold (Malachi 3:8-10); sow bountifully or sparingly (2 Cor.9:6); etc.

The Choice

Paul illustrated the contrast of choices by two widows: “Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth” (1 Tim.5:5-6). One chose to busy herself with the pleasures offered by this world. The other chose to keep herself occupied with spiritual business (1 Tim.5:10). One was spiritually dead while alive physically; the other was alive both spiritually and physically. Joshua led his family to serve at the crossroads: “And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:15). Paul seemed to surround himself with spiritually busy Christians. In Romans 16, Paul thanks his co-labourers, but makes special note of some: “Greet Mary, who bestowed

much labour on us (v.6); Salute the beloved Persis, which laboured much in the Lord” (v.12).

The Crown

Paul challenged the Corinthian Christians to keep spiritually busy so they could be rewarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ (1 Cor.3:13-15). The bride of Christ, the Church, is portrayed in heaven in Revelation 4:10-11. The rewards for spiritual service, in the form of crowns, are cast at the throne of Jesus. It is a beautiful picture of a Christian, who chose to be busy with spiritual things, being rewarded by the Lord and then casting those crowns back at the feet of Jesus in adoration and worship. The much-ministry Christian has his eye on a crown, something with which he can demonstrate his love for the Lord. Jesus, in His parable of the talents, said the “well done” went to the ones who faithfully used their God-given talents (Matt.25:21).

Mary and Martha both loved the

Lord. They were both busy when Jesus visited them one day. But Jesus, in comparing the activity of the two of them, said to Martha, “Mary hath chosen that good part” (Luke 10:42). At the crossroads of life, let’s be careful about our choices because Jesus will sit in judgment about them. I believe true and timely spiritual busyness is the good part. Today, there are many “musts.” We must work; we must have a family-life. But thank God for those who also find/make time for spiritual business. For sure, the pleasures this world offers are attractive, but remember they are only temporary. Consider what the Psalmist said: “Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore” (Psalm 16:11).

YOUTH CORNER

Pastor James Hird

Contentment

Every day of your lives you see new things come into the world. They are presented in a way to attract your attention. Most of these new items are being marketed to young people. As a young person, you may want to have



that which is the newest and best in the world of gaming, or in world of computers, or in the world of mp3 players. All of your lives there will always be something better than you currently have, and you could spend your lives in pursuit of the next great thing that man has made.

If you do this, you will live your life in great discontent. Paul writes to Timothy in I Timothy 6:9, *"But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition."* If you are going to spend all your time following after the things that you do not have, you will not be happy with the things you do have. Paul wrote in verse six, *"But godliness with contentment is great gain."* God needs to be first in your life. If He has any other place, you will not be content. You must remember that the things of this world are only temporary. Peter wrote in II Peter 3:10, *"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."* How many times do things break and you have to replace them? When the Lord returns, these things that you spend your lives collecting will no longer matter or exist. You need to learn to live the same way that Paul lived. He told the Philippians in chapter 4:11-13, *"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."* If you live like this, then you will have contentment.

A Woman's Window

Mrs. Debbie Adams

Is The Old Passing Away?

There is a remarkable contrast between the diaries of young girls in the 19th and early 20th centuries from those of the later half of the 20th century. Young ladies diaries of the 1800's and early 1900's were very much taken up with thoughts about the perfecting of their characters as well as doing good and kind things for others. However, as the 1900's progressed, girls' diaries were filled with thoughts fixated on perfecting their bodies and on achieving good looks. Isn't it a shame that from one generation to another the proper focus was lost and began to be the same as the world's. Do you think this can happen to those of us ladies who love the Lord?

One thing that concerns me a great deal is that some of the basic things that ought to change first in the church don't seem to be changing in this day and age, whereas in the past, they were the first things to go. And, if these first basic things don't change, I can't see much hope of continuous growth in our Christian walk. If you've been saved for a while, is the old passing away? Are you making a break from it? Basic things must be dealt with. Why? Because the old is not pleasing to God. 2 Cor. 5:17 reminds us that if any man be in Christ, he IS a new creature (creation): old things are passed away; behold, all things become new. Are we in Christ? If so, we are to break away from our old ways, from those things that displease the Lord.

The world says that our bodies are our own to do with as we please. Yet, the verses in the Bible from 1

Cor. 6:19-20 state that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit, we are not our own, but God's and that we were bought with the price of God's only Son. Therefore, say the scriptures, we are to glorify God in our bodies and our spirit which are God's. We are representatives, ambassadors of God's. We are the only "Bible" some people will ever "read."

One area we women have to watch with a keen eye is in how we dress. If you are going out with something short, too tight, too low or even slightly revealing, then that's being immodest. When God called Mary to be the mother of Jesus, do you think He would have used her even if she would have dressed that way in ignorance? I don't think so. I've often thought about Mary and what kind of woman she must have been since God gave her such an amazing role in life. I know she called herself a handmaiden (maid servant) of the Lord (Lk. 1:38,48). Isn't that precious! I think it's safe to say that Mary dressed modestly. How can we? If you have a top that, when you wear it, you have to keep pulling it up, or a skirt that you have to keep tugging down you should get rid of them and go shopping. Choosing modest clothing is part of our spiritual growth just like our time spent with God. My heart aches when some lovely Christian comes to church and I can't help but notice their immodesty, no matter how slight, before I notice their face. The old must pass away.

Here's another one of those basics that must go: cursing. We know from Matt. 26:69-75 that Peter cursed when he denied that he knew the Lord. In the context, Peter was worried about what was going to happen to Jesus and he was hanging around with the folks who were against Christ's message and all He stood for. As he was confronted about knowing Christ, Peter cursed



On Sunday, June 28th, we celebrated another Friend Day and BBQ hosted by Seema. We thank the Lord for His undeserved kindness to us again!

THE VBC PICTURE GALLERY





Announcements and Events

On Sunday, June 28th, we celebrated another Friend Day and BBQ with a very good attendance. In spite of some light rain and some of our folks away because of the Canada Day weekend, God blessed us with a wonderful day. We opened the service by singing "O Canada," the choir sang, a beautiful duet was sung by Justin and Melita, the Lord graciously saved two, we had several more first-time visitors, and the BBQ, hosted by Seema, was full-filling. We thank the Lord for His undeserved kindness to us again!

On Sunday, July 12th, we worshipped the Lord as 4 adults and 1 teenager were baptized. We rejoiced over their decision to follow the Lord in believer's baptism. Four of them were among eight who had been led to the Lord the previous Monday.

Men's Cookout & Fellowship

Friday, August 7th
At Pastor Hird's Home

Men's & Women's Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, August 12th

John & Romans Distribution

Monday, September 14th to
Saturday, September 19th

18th Anniversary Service

Sunday, September 20th

Keep fasting and praying for open doors in our new property search!

We have received over \$13,000 toward our 23 month debt reduction goal of \$100,000. Thank you for your sacrificial offerings! We are praying for a mortgage burning service in Dec 2010.



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 5 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://](http://www.vaughanbaptistchurch.org)

www.vaughanbaptistchurch.org

E-mail:

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.

(Continued from page 2)

and then denied knowing Him. Who do you suppose put those words on the tip of his tongue. Like any temptation, he should have resisted. We KNOW that Peter loved the Lord. We know that he was a fisherman. We know God wanted to use Peter. Jesus had warned him in Lk. 22:31, that satan was out to sift him like wheat and that once he was converted (came back to his former 1st stand), he was to strengthen the brethren (Lk. 22:32). Jesus knew that Peter would break away from the old, putting it off and put on the new. We can say what we need to say without cursing and many Christians and non-Christians find it offensive. The old must pass away.

If you have a leadership position in the church, children, teens and adults look to you as an example. Those who are pastors, pastor's wives, teachers, nursery workers, officers, etc., must strive to be a good example. It seems throughout Scripture that God has high standards for those in leadership. But leader or not, God is looking for the old things to pass out of our lives and the new to shine forth. If you find you've been struggling with these as well as other basic things, like prayer time, Bible reading and faithful church attendance, perhaps too much time is being spent in the world and it's effecting you or most likely, you haven't realized how important it is to God that we all deal with these basic issues. Remember Jesus' words from Matt. 5:14,16: "Ye are the light of the world...let your light so shine before men that they may...glorify your Father which is in heaven." Is the old passing away? I write this, having struggled with these issues as both a new and young Christian. But, as I read the Bible and grew in my relationship with the Lord, I have learned and am still learning that, in order to please Him, the old must pass away.

