



# The Anchor



A Monthly Publication of Vaughan Baptist Church

Volume 2010 Issue 1 "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast..." Hebrews 6:19

January 2010



## Happy NEW YEAR!!



### From The Pastor's Desk Pastor Bill Adams

As many people know, I truly enjoy setting goals. I need them I habitually write down daily and weekly goals and carry them with me on a clipboard. To some this may be unnecessary or seem like torture, but it keeps me on track. Maybe it's because my nature is lazy and undisciplined. Now this doesn't mean I keep them all! But it provides a target for me every day. I know me and I know I accomplish more with them than without them. So, as a new year is upon us, resolutions come to mind.

I remember encouraging my children to set goals for themselves every new year. I like to challenge the ministry team around me to set goals. As pastor, I set goals for our church. But many times, goals or resolutions turn out to be just pipe dreams or pie-in-the-sky impossibilities. It is not long into the new year that those resolutions, like every year, succumb to the brutal, barrage of attacks from our spiritual enemies. God-honouring change is difficult. As Jesus said, "the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26:41). Many of our resolutions can go under. In this month's column, I want you to consider: "Don't Let Your Goals Go Under in 2010," by looking at 3 "unders."

#### Understanding

As you set some resolutions this year, to prevent the same ones from going under again, take a moment to contemplate and understand why they failed last year. What didn't work. Were they too high? Were there too many? What did I assume wrongly. What did I not take into account. Learn from your mistakes or misunderstandings. Job said, "Cause me to understand wherein I have erred" (Job 6:24). Solomon said, "The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way" (Proverbs 14:8). Understand yourself and establish some good and God-honouring goals that challenge your spiritual walk with the Lord and encompass His will for you in the new year: "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding



what the will of the Lord is" (Ephesians 5:17). If you don't understand, 2010 may look the same as 2009.

#### Undertaking

Goal-setting is easy compared to going after those goals. Don't let anyone or anything deter you from undertaking and attacking them with a vengeance. God-honouring goals have determined enemies. These adversaries will go all out to stop you at the very beginning of 2010. By year's end, you will feel as

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though you've been in a war. Paul described old, sinful habits, that needed to be broken, as "strongholds" and identified the struggles as a "warfare" (2 Corinthians 10:4). He charged the Corinthian Christians to be ready to revenge all that was trying to keep them captive in the old ways (2 Cor.10:5-6). Earlier, in his letter, Paul, in the context of giving, challenged them to perform that for which there was a will to do: "And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago. Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have" (2 Cor.8:10-11). Planning is easy; performing is hard.

### Underestimating

Don't underestimate the value of one year. A lot can be accomplished in one year by one person wholly committed to a set of good and Godly goals. Don't underestimate how the power of God will underwrite all your spiritual resolutions (2 Cor.10:4). Satan underestimated how the power and presence of God can help a Christian overcome all obstacles (Job 1:8-11). Goliath underestimated how a Christian with a Godly cause can accomplish gigantic things (1 Samuel 17:41-47). Don't underestimate the worth of spiritual resolutions. Don't underestimate what you AND GOD can do in 2010.

Don't let your goals go under this year. Don't settle for anything less than your best for your Lord. Whether it's personal spiritual goals, relationship goals, or goals related to the church, make them so that when 2011 comes, you'll look back and be able, like Paul, to say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7). A good year will not just happen on its own. Pray, plan, prepare, perform, and persevere for your goals, and you'll find yourself on top, not under, in 2010.

## YOUTH CORNER

Pastor James Hird

Step Into The Water  
Joshua 3:13-17

The Israelites were finally on the way into the Promised Land. They had one huge step of faith that they had to take. Between them and the Promise Land stood the River Jordan. By all accounts, the Jordan River flowed in rapid, rugged, tortuous course. To cross this river, the Israelites would have needed a bridge. There was no bridge to be found, nor was there time to build a bridge. God told Joshua the way that the Israelites were to cross. God said in Joshua 3:3, "And thou shalt command the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan." This verse is telling Joshua that the priests were to step into the waters of the Jordan River. The Israelites already knew of the great thing that God did at the Red Sea. Maybe this would not have taken much faith for them to do. Nonetheless, God asked the Israelites to "step into the water".

As we come into this New Year, I believe that now is the time for us to "step into the water." As young people, you have a great opportunity to do great things for God. Your youth gives you the greatest opportunity to allow God full control of your life. These people of Israel would have all been of the younger generation. God had taken their parents because of their lack of faith. They were not willing to step in behind God and follow Him wherever He would lead. You have that opportunity. As you begin this New Year, I want you think about a few of the verses that Moses shared with these same Israelites in preparing them for the Promised Land. In Deuteronomy 8:6, Moses says this, "Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him." Moses continues on in Deuteronomy 10:12, "And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul." As Moses brings his message to a conclusion, he says this to Israel in Deuteronomy 28:9, "The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways."

As you enter this New Year, it is time for each of you to stand up and step out and walk after God. Do not wait for others. Do not wait until you are older. Many years later, Joshua makes it clear to the Israelites that they have a choice to make. He says in Joshua 24:15, "choose you this day whom ye will serve". Each of you need to make a choice. Will you "step into the water", or will you continue in the steps that you are taking today?

## A Woman's Window

Mrs. Debbie Adams

### Soup and Service

To me, there is nothing like a hot bowl of soup on a cold winter's day! That bowl of soup is so satisfying as you sit warmly inside while all the blustery winds and snow are carrying on outside. The ingredients added to the pot of water such as chopped vegetables, meats, bouillon, and spices make it just right. All those things together complete a perfect dish.

At church, apart from the most important thing of preaching God's Word, it is people that add the "flavour" and make it a satisfying place to be. Ladies, we can come to church and like water in a pot, just sit and not much will happen. But let us find out what our gifts and talents are and begin to use them to serve God at church and we'll feel a sense of purpose. We are helping the Lord's work doing what we are able to do, just like Mary, Susanna, and Joanna in Luke 8:2-3. I love their examples! God means for all of us to chip in and do something around the church. One passage in the Scriptures about this is in Eph. 4:11-12. I know it can be awkward getting started but I want to encourage you if you didn't realize these truths. Women already have much to do. There's no doubt about that. There will always be some need somewhere in our lives with those we live with, those we work with, etc. But serving God regularly and faithfully is something God will give us the strength for. It's a spiritual thing. Challenge yourself to come when the doors are open to the best of your ability and you will see a huge difference in your growth in the Lord. Your faith will be stronger and you'll find you are better able to help others

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# THE VBC PICTURE GALLERY





**Announcements and Events**

On Saturday, November 28th, the largest number of families ever attended the open house at the Adams'.

On Sunday, December 6th, with almost 40 young people participating and nearly 200 people in attendance, we celebrated our annual Christmas Cantata. It was truly a team effort and set the stage for a spiritual Christmas season.

On Sunday, December 13th, Missionary to Malta Anson Van de Kemp ministered to our spiritual needs through a visual presentation and the preaching of God's Word. He challenged us with the great spiritual vacuum that exists in this Bible island.

On Thursday evening, December 24th, many in our church family gathered on Christmas Eve to prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Saviour.

**Lord's Supper & Baptisms**  
Sunday, January 3rd

**Officers Meeting, 5pm**  
**Pastor Hird Preaching, 6pm**  
Sunday, January 10th

**Blair Cassidy Preaching, 6pm**  
**Send off for Natalie**  
Sunday, January 17th

**David Kapauan Preaching, 6pm**  
Sunday, January 24th

**Church Business Meeting, 6pm**  
Sunday, January 31st

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

We have received just under \$25,000 toward our 23 month debt reduction goal of \$100,000. Thank you for your sacrificial offerings! We are praying for a mortgage burning service December 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 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.

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with what God is teaching you. We do need to come to hear the preaching and teaching but, if you are coming to all the services or most, serving the Lord in a church ministry once a week during one of the services would bless others and help the church to better meet needs.

There are so many things a lady can choose to do at church. Seek an answer from God as you pray to see where you might enjoy serving, and feel best suited for. To name a few possibilities; there is teaching, choir, nursery duty, teacher's helpers, heading up a ladies craft night, overseeing dinners, BBQ's, dessert fellowships, decorating, organizing the kitchen or some other room if you see the need, and even yard work is needed from time to time. Usually, you can start right away. Sometimes, Pastor might teach a few courses to help willing members get started, such as teaching Sunday school. The possibilities are endless. None of us are very good at everything so it's a help when we each do what we can in the church. Let Pastor know where you'd like to serve. He will get you started and what a blessing you'd be to the church and what a satisfying thing it will be to know that spiritual needs are being taken care of inside the Lord's house. When you help out, it is like adding all the right ingredients to the soup.

