



# The Anchor



A Publication of Vaughan Baptist Church

Easter Issue

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

April 2012



## Happy Easter!!



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



In this quarter's column, I want to write to parents and future parents. This is a status or standing in life that is solely assigned by God at His will. He is the Author of life

and a child entrusted to any couple is the gift of God: "Lo, children are a heritage of the LORD; and the fruit of the womb is his reward" (Psalm 127:3). It has been written that Martin Luther would not perform a wedding ceremony for a couple unless he had personally conducted premarital counselling with them. Incorporated into his sessions were lessons on child rearing because he wanted couples prepared for this potentially sudden and solemn responsibility. I've entitled my article: **"The Pledge Of Parenthood."**

#### THE PREPARATION

Before the baby arrives, and for each successive arrow that God adds to the quiver (Psalm 127:4-5), parents must prepare themselves. They must be in such a spiritual state that they are ready and equipped for the gift God may bless and entrust to them. Thus, parenting actually starts before the child

arrives. As a father, be like Job: Job 1:1 "that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil"; v.5, speaking of his 10 children, "Job sanctified them, rose up early in the morning and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all...it may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their heart." The virtuous woman portrays motherhood: "She looketh well to the ways of her household; and eateth not the bread of idleness; her children rise up and

call her blessed" (Proverbs 31:27-28); "Favour is deceitful and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised" (Proverbs 31:30). Parental preparation, focusing upon their own walk with the Lord, is a key that opens a child's heart for reception of the Redeemer.

Spiritually prepared parents discern the magnitude and urgency of providing their child a spiritual upbringing. Paul commented on Timothy's spiritual nourishing: "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15). The word "child" specifically speaks of



infancy and young childhood. God assigns this duty to parents: *“And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up (rear up) in the nurture (training, tutoring, education) and admonition (rebuke, warning) of the Lord”* (Ephesians 6:4). It is the parents who should be ensuring that the children are being spiritually nurtured through personal devotional times in the Scriptures at home and, as well, at church (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 11:26; Colossians 2:6-7).

Maximize the opportunities at church to further instruct your children in the things of the Lord: Sunday school, Junior church, Sunday and Wednesday evening children classes. If you are able, spiritually solidify your children even more by providing a Christian day school education for them – I know of a good one coming! Let me encourage you, take this pledge of allegiance to God and your child.

### THE PRESENTATION

As crucial as your example is, your children will not be saved by it. They will not be saved because you brought them to church. They will not be saved because you prayed for their salvation. They will not be saved because you love them. Parents must present the gospel to them. This means you must tell your precious little ones that they are sinners. You must talk to them about the Lord when you lie down and when you rise up and as they walk in the day Deuteronomy 6:7). Parents must tell and compel them. You must warn them, ward off the enemies to their soul and water the seeds of salvation. You will shed tears and spend anxious days as they delay their decision. You will have no rest until they come in from the darkness and out of the reach of the gates and grasp of hell. Parents cannot let themselves get distracted or detoured from this most solemn presentation. Parents, make a pledge to faithfully present the gospel to your children at every opportunity.

### THE POSSESSION

As much as we parents do for our

children, they do not belong to us. When Esau met his brother Jacob after a long absence, the Bible says: *“He lifted up his eyes, and he saw the women and the children; and said, Who are those with thee? And he said, the children which God hath graciously given thy servant”* (Genesis 33:5).

Children are gracious gifts from the hand of the Lord, lent to us. In 1 Samuel 1:27-28, Hannah brought her son Samuel to Eli the priest and said: *“For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him; Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord.”* Hannah gave back to the Giver that which had been given to her (a son Samuel). Children are not the possession of the parents. They are only the caretakers. Parents must relinquish control, wean them onto the Lord and give Him full custody of them. In so doing, parents allow God to have full control of their lives. They are then free to follow His will. Parents, may we make this solemn pledge concerning the ownership of our children.

Jesus taught His disciples how He felt about children: *“Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven”*; *“Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish”* (Matthew 18:10, 14). Ezra considered them worthy of his fasting: *“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”* (Ezra 8:21). May we parents be reminded that these little grace gifts that come into our lives are to be treated with the upmost Christian care because they are sent from the Father above. May we renew a solemn pledge to be parents who understand the preparation, presentation, and possession as it relates to the little ones living in our

homes. God has already made His pledge to us: *“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it”* (Proverbs 22:6).

## YOUTH CORNER

Pastor James Hird

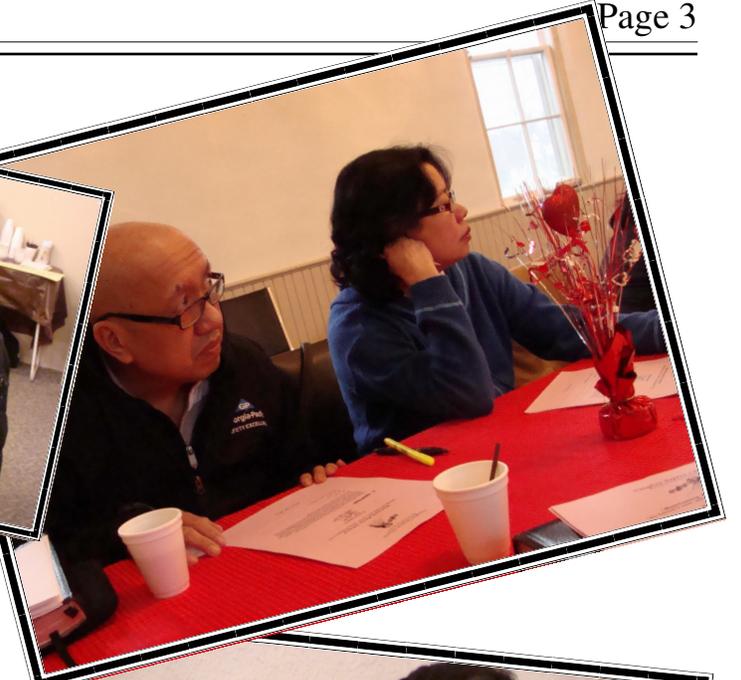
### Drifting Away

As we think back to this time almost 2000 years ago, our thoughts turn to what Christ did for us on the cross. We know the description of the events that took place. Over time, however, these events and Christ’s miraculous resurrection have been dimmed. They do not stand out the same way. It did not take long through history for men to begin to put their own twist on the salvation that is provided by Christ. How soon we and others have forgotten what Christ said John 14:6, *“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”*

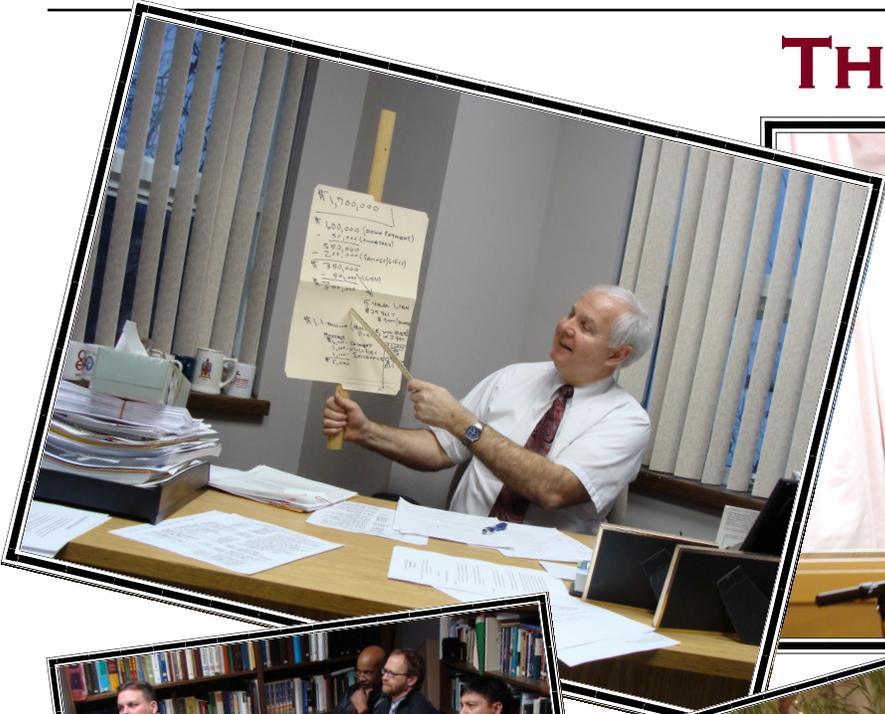
We find as early as Galatians that men tried to change what Christ’s work on the cross was. Men began to add in the keeping of the law as part of salvation. Paul tells the Galatians in chapter three verse twenty-six, *“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”* It is through faith in Christ that we have a home in Heaven. James goes on to tell us in James 2:10, *“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”* It is impossible for us to keep the whole law. Many of the world’s religions are based in works. Even in the Old Testament we see the false religions around Israel offering their children to these gods in order to curry favour.

Among many of the so called Christian denominations, works is preached alongside salvation as the way to gain entrance into heaven. Human effort is a must. They forget what Romans 3:23 says, *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”* The Bible teaches us completely the opposite. Paul continues in Romans

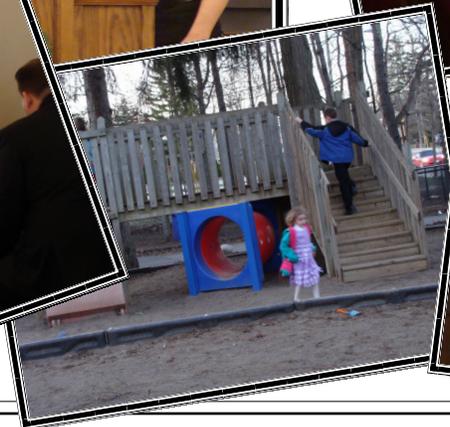
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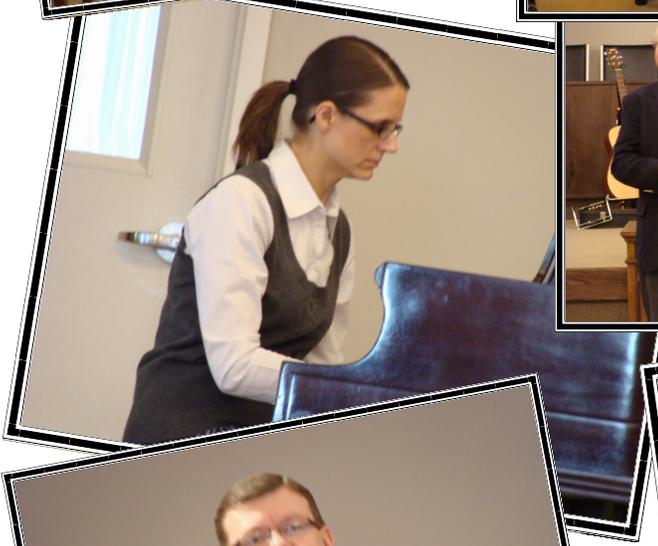


# THE VBC PICTURE



# GALLERY





(Continued from page 2)

3:24, "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." There is no price for our redemption. Jesus paid it in full. All we can do with our tiny human effort is to drift further and further away from God's grace. Instead of focussing on what our part of salvation is, we need to put our focus on what the Saviour did for us. Paul writes in Galatians 2:16, "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." Paul knew the both supposed ways to salvation. He knew that keeping the law was a dead end. He knew that true salvation could only be found through Christ and His work on the cross.

Often we forget what the writer of Proverbs 14:12 says, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Only One can save us and give us real rest, and that One is not us. Matthew 11:28 says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

This Easter, as we contemplate the death, burial, and resurrection of our Saviour, let us not drift away into all the things that we had to do to gain our salvation. We need to keep our focus on the wonderful gift that has been given to us. Paul says in Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." If we remember this, we will appreciate what our Saviour did for us much more.

## **A Woman's Window**

**Mrs. Debbie Adams**

### **The Only Way to Fly**

I recently heard from someone how a brother in Christ compared trusting God to his experience as a pilot. It reminded me of an article I read years ago by Gloria Okes Perkins. The

article was entitled "Fly By the Instruments." Gloria compares times of trial and emotional instability in the believer's life with the clouds, fog and air turbulence that an airplane pilot experiences. When difficulties come into our lives, and stability disappears, pilots and believers alike will eventually have to fly by the instruments.

As the pilot flies, a heavy fog may overtake him. He must watch his instrument panel closely in order to be certain of his direction. When flying through a thunderstorm and tossed by turbulence, he might be confused. He may feel as though he is flying down, or up, or that he is turning. He must not trust his feelings! He must only trust the instruments. So, the pilot must hang on to the controls and discipline his mind to keep focused on the instruments while he flies through the storm.

Undisciplined feelings, in the life of a believer while in troubled times, can cause a crash unless he keeps himself secure by the facts of the Word of God. Every promise in the Bible is like an instrument giving information to stabilize him in a specific situation. With daily practice we learn not to panic but to believe a specific truth from the Bible fitted for our own unique circumstances. By experience, one learns to turn from feelings to the instrument panel of the Word of God. If you hang on in the worst of the turbulence, no matter how disrupting, your mind and heart are steadied by the great truths of Scriptures. With eyes firmly fixed on God Himself, one will eventually break through the storm and soar once more into the clear blue sky. This is how you gain emotional stability no matter what your situation.

I am learning and have found that flying this way will give me a first class seat near the Captain of my soul.

*"When I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me"* (Micah 7:8).

## **TESTIMONY**

### **A Personal Testament**

**David Kapauan**

I was born May 8, 1961 in San Juan, a small city near Manila, in the Philippines. My parents, at that time, were living with a relative. My parents then moved to live with my grandmother in Manila (my grandfather died during World War II). After a few years, we moved to our own house in Quezon City, a major metropolitan area adjacent to the City of Manila. This is where I grew up and lived until I left the Philippines.

My parents were both chemists and had very strong academic backgrounds, getting their Doctorates in the University of Southern California. Therefore I was raised strongly influenced by the "Darwinian" crowd and as a result became a practical atheist in my teenage years, even though I grew up as a Roman Catholic. Although my parents would not admit to it, I believe they were also practical atheists at that time.

By the time I got into my teenage years I believed that death would be the end of my existence, nothing would follow. Somehow though, in spite of what I believed, the thought of death bothered me very much. I couldn't really explain why - I thought "fear of the unknown" was the reason for my discomfort. When something bothers me, I like to face it and not hide from it and looking back, in my heart, I was searching for an answer. When I was younger (around 10 years old), I saw the remains of my great grand parents who were being transferred to a church crypt. I remember looking into a small box containing what looked like soil and a few fragments of bones. I also remember distinctly asking in myself, "I wonder where they are right now?" Then I asked myself, "Where will I be one hundred years from now when I'm dead?" I didn't know and that really frightened me. When I was in high school, a friend of mine died going scuba diving. I went to his funeral, sat on the front pew oblivious to everyone else, and I remember sweating great drops of sweat just thinking that it could have been me (I was also an avid scuba diver)! And the question running in my mind again and again was "Where would I be if I was the one who died?" I still didn't know the answer.

The Christmas after that event was one of the worst Christmases for me I can ever remember. For some reason I was under

**Announcements and Events**

I am humbled and happy to announce to you that the congregation of the Vaughan Baptist Church has been led by the Lord to begin a Christian school ministry. We undertake this move with godly fear and sobriety! It has been a prayer and burden of our church family for a number of years and we believe that the Lord's timing has arrived. As a ministry of our church, this traditional school will seek to evangelize, edify, and equip students to be God-honouring servants of the Lord Jesus Christ. In reaching out into our surrounding communities, we will endeavour to prepare young people spiritually, scholastically, and socially to live out their lives in the will of God to His good pleasure.

Brother Daniel Bousquet has been hired as the Principal of VBCA and will arrive here this summer. The school will start in September, 2013 and this will give Brother Bousquet a year to make all the necessary preparations. God has blessed and prepared him both academically and practically. He has a B.A. in English and a Master's degree in Christian School Administration from Pensacola Christian College (PCC). After working as a teacher for several years at Liberty Baptist Christian Academy (LBCA) in Florida, he became the Principal there where he has served in that role the past five years. The school has a current enrolment of 490. His wife is my daughter Jennifer and she has a Master's degree in English from PCC and teaches at LBCA.

We covet your prayers as we are already very busy with preliminary matters related to the school. If you have children who you would prayerfully consider placing in the school, please let us know. Though it is very early, we will be making a list of interested parents so they can be kept informed as things progress.

**Easter Service**

Sunday, April 8th, 10 and 11am  
Singspiration at 6:00pm

**Toronto Waterfront Walk**

Sunday following the Evening Service  
May 20th

**Bible Conference**

With Evangelist Max Alderman  
Thursday to Sunday  
June 7th to June 10th

**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**

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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.

heavy conviction. I tried to do all things that were required of a good Roman Catholic but nothing seemed to settle my troubled thoughts. Although I wasn't sure why, I knew that what "good" things I did could never outweigh all the "bad" that I had done, and if hell was real (I tried to think it wasn't) then I'd be going there. My atheism or scientific beliefs weren't any relief either.

One day, a classmate of mine called and dropped a bombshell on me. Without saying hello or any sort of greeting, he asked "If Jesus were to come back today, would you be ready?" The question threw me off guard but I answered honestly and said "No." He then invited me to a Bible study that afternoon saying if I wanted to get ready, I'd better go. So I went and a young church worker preached to about a dozen teenagers in my friend's basement about Jesus and the gift of eternal life. I couldn't wait to get saved!! In fact, I wanted the preacher to stop preaching so I could pray and get saved. I was afraid I'd die and go to hell before the preaching was over! After I asked Jesus to save me, I was so happy and so relieved! It was just unbelievable, like a great weight was taken off me. That happened in the summer of 1979, right after graduating high school.

I got baptized and joined a local Baptist Church soon after. I've had many other challenges with my family and personally and experienced numerous back-slidings over the years, but none of these could compare to the uncertainty before I got saved when I wasn't sure where I'd go when I died. I know, regardless of what happens now, that I am a child of God. By His grace, I have gotten up each time I've stumbled — but no one can take away my salvation!! — *"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."* John 10:27-29

