



# 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 2015



## From The Pastor's Desk Pastor Bill Adams



**L**uke 11:1-3 says, "And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray,

as John also taught his disciples. And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread." Luke records a conversation that Jesus had with one of His disciples over prayer. Our Lord's instruction here on prayer is commonly referred to as "The Lord's Prayer." But it is really a model, tutoring us how to pray and what things to pray about. In this quarter's edition, I want to write about one of those matters: **"Daily Bread."**

From verse 3, I would like you to see 4 points that should help us to pray this prayer.

### THE PROVIDING

Jesus taught them to pray to God for their food. The disciples needed to

learn that God is the provider of such things, not man. Man gets the money to buy food because God, in His grace and goodness, provides man with work: "But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth..." (Deut.8:18).

Paul taught the Philippian Christians that as they were faithful to the Lord, He would provide for all their needs: "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil.4:19). God reminded Job of Who it was that provided for the raven: "Who provideth for the raven his food? when his young ones cry unto God, they wander for lack of meat" (Job 38:41). David said in Psalm 37:25 "I have been young, and now am old;

yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Haggai's message to the children of Israel was to be faithful to the Lord and consider your ways because God can take away just as fast as He can provide: "Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house" (Haggai 1:6-7, 9).

### THE PERSONALIZING

We pray to the Lord for our daily food because only He truly knows us. We don't know ourselves like He does; nor do we know what is ahead, like He does. He knows personally and



intimately what we can handle and what we can't. David commented about God's knowledge of us: "O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it" (Psalm 139:1-6).

We must believe as Agur did, that God will provide to us that which is exactly what we need: "Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die: Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient (ample; appropriate) for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain" (Prov.30:7-9).

### THE PORTIONING

Whatever the size of the portion God bestows, receive it with thanksgiving: "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thes.5:18).

We should not covet what He gives to others, but be content with what He deems best for us. As the writer to the Hebrews said, "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Heb.13:5). The prophet Joel records, "Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith..." (Joel 2:19). Jesus said, "Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15).

A few Sunday nights ago in my sermon, I quoted a Puritan who, sitting

down to a dinner consisting of a cup of water and a morsel of bread said, "All this and Jesus too!" Solomon wisely said, "Behold that which I have seen: it is good and comely for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour that he taketh under the sun all the days of his life, which God giveth him: for it is his portion. Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God" (Ecc.5:18-19).

### THE PETIONING

Jesus instructs them to petition God day by day. They were not to ask for a week's amount but just that amount that they would need to endure the day. It was daily food they were to ask for. We are not to worry, fret, or be anxious about tomorrow. As Jesus said, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" (Matt.6:33-34).

The children of Israel were fed manna on a daily basis (Exodus 16). David proclaimed in Psalm 68:19, "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah." Christians are exhorted throughout the Scriptures to focus their time and attention on a daily basis: Paul, "I die daily" (1 Cor.15:31); "But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day" (Heb.3:13); "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23).

After listening to Jesus praying, the disciple asked Jesus to teach them all to pray. It's like he was saying, "Jesus, none of us pray like you do!" May we pray like Jesus prayed and follow this model in asking for our daily bread. In leaving our earthly needs to Jesus' attention, we can

then clearly prioritize our lives on the kingdom of God! As Jesus said in John 6:27, "Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed." Remember what David said in Psalm 23, "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want."

He is the Great Shepherd Who will guide and provide whatever His sheep need. He'll lead us to the right pastures and feed us with what He deems best. Trust Him. May God help us to pray day by day for our daily food and to pray just like Jesus taught us.

## YOUTH CORNER

Pastor James Hird

### Spring Cleaning

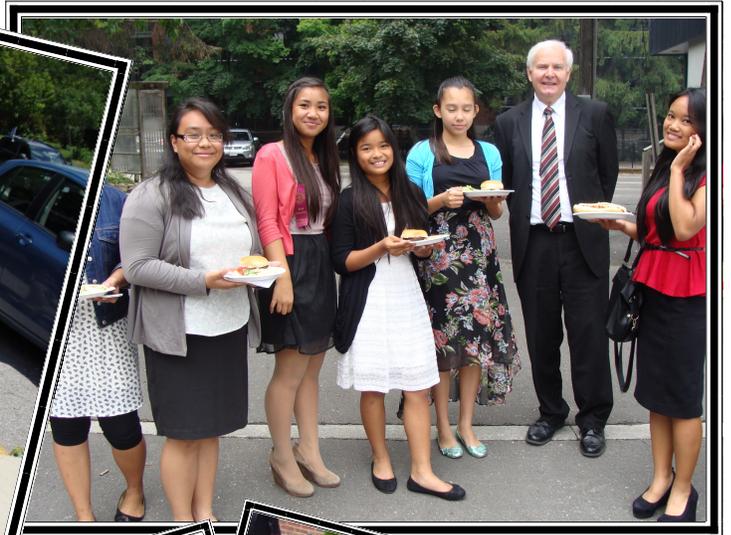
Mops, brooms, sponges, a dust cloth... what do we use these things for? We use them when we clean house. In my house, we all have a part to play in cleaning. There are times that my children think that the house looks just fine, but I want it to be spic and span. How do you know when it's time to clean house? Well here are some signs that will definitely let you to know that it is time to clean house. It is time to clean house when your feet stick to the floor when you walk through the kitchen. It is time to clean house when you can't find your way to the door in your room. It is time to clean house when the kids in the neighborhood use their fingers to write "wash me" in the dirt on your windows. It is time to clean house when there are more dishes in the kitchen sink than there are in the cabinets. It is time to clean house when you have enough dust bunnies under your bed to start a bunny farm. Well, I think you get the idea! I know that your house never gets THAT dirty, but the truth of the matter is, we all need to do a little house cleaning at times.

It is not much different in our Christian

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# MEMORIES OF



# 2014





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lives. When we accept Christ as our Saviour, we are washed by the blood of the Lamb. Revelation 1:5c says this, *“Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.”* We have eternal security in the knowledge that we are going to heaven because we have accepted Christ as our Saviour. We must understand, however, that we still sin. We are not yet perfected. Because of this, we must keep our lives clean. James 1:21 says this, *“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.”* When James speaks of filthiness here, he is speaking of all impure and holy affections which pollute the soul. The next term that he uses, “superfluity of naughtiness,” speaks to the overflowing of wickedness. James is telling us that we need to get rid of all of the dirt in our lives. It affects our ability to receive and understand the Word.

How do we clean our lives? We must consider our uncleanliness. David writes in Psalm 51:2-4, *“Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.”* David is taking an inward look himself. He is seeing and showing God and us the things that he needs to change.

David then confesses his faults before God. In verse six he writes, *“Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.”* He tells God the truth about his sin. In verse seven, David says, *“Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.”* David looks for forgiveness. Confession brings forgiveness from God. I John 1:9 says, *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* This is what David

was looking for, and what we need to look for in the cleansing of our lives.

This spring, examine your life. Look to clean it. Consider the sin in your life, and then confess it. You will be forgiven, and you will be as II Timothy 2:21 says, *“If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.”*

## **A Woman's Window**

**Mrs. Debbie Adams**

### **That I May Know Him**

I recently met with a dear lady who was heading out to visit loved ones overseas. It was a delightful visit. As we talked, she shared how the Lord was working in her life and how He was encouraging her. One of the things she said has stayed within my heart and I have found myself dwelling on it at times. She said, *“When you are near to Jesus, you become like him.”* How simple and real a truth it is. This is her goal.

We know as Christian women we should read the Bible and pray. Yet, so often, it can become a duty that we check off. We remain in the same state, unchanged, and head off to our daily life and our time with the Lord has done nothing within our hearts in a significant way. Christ is not seen in us.

Reading our Bibles requires thinking, meditating, asking God questions about the passage and relying on God to show us Himself through the words on the pages. God will speak to us when we come to the Bible this way. Then, when we take the time to pray, we are speaking to God. Being specific in our prayers and listing



them keeps us on track. It helps us not to be vague. We will be amazed at how God will be seen more clearly in our life when we are specific in our prayers and when we search to know God through the pages of Scriptures.

Are we like Jesus? If not, the remedy is to find a time in our schedule when we can completely spend time with Him. To the best of our ability and with dependence on God, all distractions need to be set aside for that little while. A mom with little ones will need to pray and think and plan and God will truly help her in her desire to grow and follow Him. He will show her how. And, not just her, but He will help all the busy ladies with so many responsibilities who want to be like Mary and sit at Jesus' feet.

## **Foundations In Education**

**Daniel Bousquet**

**VBCA Principal**

In the last Anchor edition, we examined the fourth piece of spiritual armour: the shield of faith. Ephesians 6:17a announces the fifth piece of armour by imploring the believer to *“take the helmet of salvation.”*

Most likely, the physical helmet that Paul was making a spiritual application to was the kind worn by Roman soldiers. The helmet of a Roman soldier was usually fashioned either out of heavy, moulded metal or out of thick leather which was then covered with metal plates. Both designs were intended to help protect the soldier from blows to the head, especially from a broadsword—a thick, double-sided blade of three to four feet in length often swung to split a skull or decapitate an enemy.

Let's consider how this kind of helmet could be similar to our salvation. We know that Paul was directing this whole passage to believers, people who had already made Christ their personal Saviour. From this fact, it seems that he is not referring to the act of getting saved or of some notion that we must

“earn” or “keep” our salvation, which is not of works (Ephesians 2:8-9) and cannot be lost (John 10:28-29). Rather, he is referring to the protection of the mind, or head, that comes from being saved, that comes from the hope and enlivening that salvation brings.

A similar verse, 1 Thessalonians 5:8, reinforces this understanding: *“But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.”* The helmet of salvation is that great hope of our final salvation that gives us confidence and assurance that our present struggle with this sinful world, our restlessly wicked flesh, and the persistent forces of evil will not last forever. We will be victorious through Christ in the end. We know the Victor! We know Who conquered the grave! We know our salvation is nearer than when we



**Announcements and Events**

**VAUGHAN BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

This September, by the grace of God, we begin the third year of the VBCA. This is an exciting chapter in the school’s brief history because the academy moves into its new facility. We have purchased the building next door to our church facilities which has been utilized by a Montessori school for the past twenty plus years. We take possession in July and there is a whirlwind of activity going on as we make preparations to transition the VBCA over there. We will also utilize the property for church classrooms, offices, and a chapel. The oversized kitchen will be a blessing for the VBCA as well as the church. We already use the parking lot.

Three of our older students and two of our homeschoolers participated in the annual Christian school convention in Ajax, Ontario a few weeks ago. Many schools from across Ontario attended the two days of competition in academics, music, speech, sports, etc.

Principal Daniel Bousquet and the teaching staff are just coming off March break and are preparing for the end of the semester. The VBCA is now enrolling students for grades 1 – 8 for September’s classes. For more information, you can check the VBCA website at [www.vaughanbaptistacademy.org](http://www.vaughanbaptistacademy.org)



**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.

believed! This hope of salvation is a protection for the mind—a helmet, if you will. When Satan wields his double-sided broadsword of doubt and discouragement, attacking the mind of the believer, the helmet of salvation is a ready and reliable defence, a resilient reminder that God is on the throne and we are not forgotten. Eternity is sure! Victory is won!

What a wonderful defence God has given His children! At VBCA, we desire for each of our students to come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and then to live with great confidence in the hope of God’s salvation.

**Inspiring Teenagers**

**Kristine Cabacungan**

**Easter Symbols**

**B**unnies, flowers, and chocolate eggs, these are some of the things people usually associate with Easter. As Christians, we know that Easter is a time of celebration, not for bunnies or chocolate eggs, but for our risen Saviour! In Luke 24:5-6 the angel says *“...Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen...”* This is the real reason for Easter.

Unfortunately, the world has deceived many into thinking that Easter is all about a bunny who delivers eggs instead of the Man who shed His blood for the salvation of sinful man. Even if the fable of an Easter bunny may be fun, it should not be the reason we celebrate the holiday.

Easter should be the time we sit down with our families and loved ones to rejoice in the fact that the stone was rolled away, the fact that our Saviour is risen and alive! This Easter, let us remember that the holiday is not about how many eggs you can find, but about Jesus Christ who rose from the grave on the third day and we serve a God who lives!

