

## Solitude



*picture courtesy Nadine Hafner, Kelowna, BC*

When we look to Jesus as our example we often overlook the many times that he arranged to "get away from it all" by retiring to the solitude of "a desert place". When the twelve returned from the busy activities of preaching and healing they reported "all they had done and taught". They had been under considerable pressure on this their first independent

effort. The pressures continued. "So many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat." Jesus said, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." (Mk.6:30-32).

This attempt to get to a quieter environment was interrupted by the persistence of the multitude that outran them and awaited them on the opposite shore. After feeding the 5000, Jesus tried once more. He sent his disciples away in the boat and "departed into the mountain to pray" (v.46).

If Jesus and his disciples, in the relatively un-rushed society of those times, needed to spend some quiet, "away from it all" time, surely, we, in our "rat race", "pressure cooker" culture should realize the need and wisdom of some solitude. ecp

# Pharaoh's Proposals of Compromise

Wayford Smith

Moses had been in the wilderness of Sinai for forty years. He had married Zipporah, who gave birth to their son. He was settled as a shepherd, tending his father-in-law's flocks. As far as we can tell he was living a contented life until he saw this bush burning, burning but not consumed. Curious about this phenomenon, he came closer. Then the Lord spoke from the bush with this message: "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt.... I am concerned about their suffering... I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt" (Exodus 3:7, 10). A very difficult challenge. No wonder Moses was reluctant, making excuse after excuse. But, God prevailed and Moses went back to appear before Pharaoh.

Moses, with his brother Aaron, went to Pharaoh and said, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel says, 'Let my people go...'" (Exodus 5:1). Not surprisingly, Pharaoh refused. So God brought terrible plagues on Egypt, though the Israelites were spared.

After some of the plagues, Pharaoh offered counter proposals. Each of these proposals required compromise and allowed Pharaoh to keep a hold on the Israelites. Compromise is out of place in any relationship with God. Pharaoh's devices are typical of Satan's dealing with us today. "Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). ". . . resist the devil and he will flee from you" (James 4:7). "In order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes" (2 Corinthians 2:11).

The plagues began with Egypt's water turning to blood. Then followed the plagues of frogs, lice or gnats and flies. After these four plagues, Pharaoh offered a concession. "...Go, sacrifice to your God here in the land" (Exodus 8:25). He was willing to let them go, only not very far. He still wanted them to be under his control. However, in Egypt was the strong influence of idolatry. God wanted his people far away from this influence. Nothing less than complete separation would do. Moses knew the principle of what would later be given as the first two of the Ten Commandments. "You shall have no other gods before me" and "You shall not make for yourself an idol..." (Exodus 20:3,4).

For us today, the Lord wants complete separation from sin. We are to die to sin. "...We died to sin, how can we live in it any longer" (Romans 6:2). "Come out from among them and be separate..." (2 Corinthians 6:17). God is not satisfied with less than total separation. Satan would offer us compromise. "Worship God, but continue here in a little sin, a little immorality for your fun." However, God wants us away from sinful environments as much as possible. And, he doesn't want us to mix pure religion with what is false. "Dear friends do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world" (1 John 4: 1). God did not want the Israelites satisfied to worship him while remaining in Egypt. He does not want us satisfied to worship him while knowingly continuing to be involved in sinful practices.

## *Satan wants us to stay "too close" to where we entered Christianity*

So, Moses refused Pharaoh's offer, which caused Pharaoh to go a step farther. "I will let you go to offer sacrifices to the Lord your God in the desert, but you must not go very far..." (Exodus 8:28). He wanted to make it easy for their return. Later, they would often express a desire to return to Egypt while in the wilderness, but God wanted them far from the influence of the evil country.

Satan offers us the same compromise: "Be a Christian, but don't let it make a fool of you." The Bible says that the message of Jesus is foolishness to the disobedient, (1 Corinthians 1:20-25). In fact, the apostle Paul wrote, "We are fools for Christ..." (1 Corinthians 4:10). A boy, when asked why he had fallen out of bed during the night, replied, "I went to sleep too close to where I got in." Satan wants us to stay "too close" to where we entered Christianity. That does not allow us to grow spiritually, and we easily fall back into our former ways. Peter compares those who have escaped the corruption of the world but are again entangled in it and overcome to a dog returning to its vomit, or a washed sow

going back to wallowing in the mud, (2 Peter 2:20-22).

Four more plagues rocked the land of Egypt. The livestock died, though none of Israel's livestock died. Boils came on both men and animals. A great hail storm destroyed the crops. Moses warned of this plague and the officials of Pharaoh who feared the Lord brought their slaves and animals into Goshen and escaped the plague. What was not destroyed by the hail was wiped out by swarms of locusts. Then Pharaoh offered another compromise, "...Have only the men go; and worship the Lord, since that's what you have been asking for..." (Exodus 10:11). By keeping the wives and children, Pharaoh knew the men would surely return. However, God wanted the children with their God-fearing fathers, and the whole nation separated and free.

Satan's device, "Kids will be kids" leads some parents to say, "When he is old enough, he can make up his own mind," or, "I don't believe in forcing him/her to go to church meetings." Does the same parent force his child not to play in the middle of a busy street? Satan desires to erect barriers between fathers and children that will make the children an easy prey for him. What does God say? "Remember your creator in the days of your youth" (Ecclesiastes 12:1). "Fathers, do not exasperate your children, instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). Someone has said, "When parents do not take their children to God when they are young, they will go to the devil when they are older." God would say, "I want the children too!"

After the plague of darkness over the land, Pharaoh had a last compromise to offer. "Go, worship the Lord. Even your women and children may go with you, only leave your flocks and herds behind" (Exodus 10:24). If he could maintain control over their possessions, Pharaoh knew he would still have power over them. If they would leave behind animals that would help sustain them, it would ensure their return.

Satan's proposal: "Don't let being a Christian interfere with your business or bank account." However, God wants all we  
*(continued page 3)*

# The Golden Rule

Gordon Dennis

If asked to explain the "GOLDEN RULE", I'm sure some would say, "He who has the gold rules", or maybe "He who rules gets the gold". But I'm also sure most of us would say, "That's a teaching of Jesus, that we should treat others as we'd like them to treat us".

Matthew 7:12 records Jesus as saying, "In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the law and the prophets." Luke 6:31-36 gives us the same teaching and then expands on it by explaining that we need to LOVE, be KIND, and be MERCIFUL. Yes, that's how we all want to be treated - therefore, Jesus says, you be loving, be kind and be merciful.

This is really the Law of Sowing and Reaping. We all know the natural law. The spiritual law works just the same. If you plant corn, you harvest corn. If you want to harvest wheat, you don't plant corn.

Whatever you "put out" is what you "get back." There are some harvests we don't want. We don't want to experience people's bitterness, pettiness, anger, therefore we must not treat people any of those ways.

But notice that Jesus taught this principle in the positive or active sense. He said, "DO to others what you WANT them to DO to you." While it's also true in the passive sense, Christianity is to be an ACTIVE way of life. So we are encouraged as Christians to not just refrain from being hurtful, but to "go about DOING good," as it was said of Jesus in Acts 10:38. Life has much more meaning and we'll enjoy it more if we are PROactive rather than REactive. Thus Jesus did not just tell us to refrain from doing harm to others. He said, "In everything, you do good to others." Then he said, "this sums up the law and the prophets." In other words, if you get this right everything else will look after itself.

But there is one more lesson we need to learn about the Golden Rule. Due to a very serious misunderstanding many problems exist in relationships when people think they are living by the Golden Rule but in reality are not.

Yes, in generalities we are to be loving, kind and merciful. However, in applying that principle, we must understand that people are not all the same, with the same likes, dislikes and needs. In specifics, different people need to be treated differently. In all relationships and encounters with others we show our kindness, our compassion and our love, by DISCOVERING and fulfilling the other's needs. You see, we tend to give what we want. But that may not be what they want, and unless we can convince them differently, if we don't fill their need, as they perceive it, we are not treating them the way we'd like them to treat us.

Jesus illustrated this principle when he was approached by a blind beggar in Luke 16:41. Jesus did not immediately heal this man, nor did he give him some money,

either of which would seem to have been appropriate. It says, "Jesus

ASKED him, what do you want me to do for you?" Yes, the Master illustrated the procedure we must follow in living by the Golden Rule.

This principle applies in every relationship, from business, to friends and neighbours, to husband and wife. Do you go back to a store if they have no regard for what you wanted to buy and insist on selling you something you do not want? In the same way, will a husband consider his wife a good cook if she prepares meals that he can't stand, just because she is fond of that food? Or will she consider him to be thoughtful and affectionate when he buys her 'trinkets of gold', when all she really wants is for him to take out the garbage or spend some time with the kids?

Remember, we show our love by DISCOVERING and FULFILLING the other's needs. Isn't this what we wish they would do for us? We know somebody really CARES for us when they say, "What can I do to make your life more enjoyable, how can I make you feel better, how can I help heal your hurts?" Or as Jesus, simply ASK, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Mt. Forest, ON

(continued from page 2)

have to be devoted to him, i.e., brought into our Christianity. We must not be like the rich young ruler and go away sorrowful. "A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15). The proper attitude: "What I have is yours, Lord. Help me use it honestly, wisely, and in a way that pleases and glorifies you."

Satan wants us to compromise with him in so many ways, just like old Pharaoh of ages ago. On the other hand, God reveals his desires for us, "No man can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other..." (Matthew 6:14). "You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God..." (James 4:4). "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." (Romans 12:2).

So, the words of Joshua ring out for every generation. "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve..." (Joshua 24:15).

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## The Prayer of Jabez

Wayne Turner



**A**t first impression, Jabez's prayer seems almost crassly selfish: "Bless me! ... Enlarge my territory ... Let your hand be with me ... keep me free from harm." It sounds like the perfect proof text for those who expound the "health and wealth gospel" that says, "God wants you to

be rich. Pray for more." It should not be surprising that someone would use this prayer as the means to more - to success and fame. Is this really what the Prayer of Jabez by Bruce Wilkinson is all about?

The seemingly runaway success of the book and its many commercial spin-offs certainly gives an interesting image of the "power" of the prayer! The Prayer of Jabez is now available in teen and even children's editions as well as a Journal and Devotional and Bible Study books and also in audio, gift and leather bound editions. The success of the book seems to reinforce the image of something oriented to the material, superficial and shallow. However, as Jesus admonished, we should not judge by appearances, but rather with "righteous judgment." We should know the facts before we form our opinions.

The first nine chapters of 1 Chronicles is mainly genealogies. Occasionally, the writer interrupts the lists of generations to include other information. One such insertion, the story of Jabez, is found in 4:9,10. Verse 9 states that he was more honourable than his brother, and describes the reason for his name. Because she gave birth to him in pain, his mother named him Jabez - "He causes pain." Verse 10 tells of his prayer and God's answer. "Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, 'Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.' And God granted his request." That is all there is to the story.

Reading Wilkinson's ninety page book can certainly raise the thought that the original account has certainly been expanded beyond its original content and purpose. What is written as explanation seems often to stretch more into interpolation, reading into the text.

We can understand why Jabez would ask to be freed from the pain associated with his name. This could even lead us to see how the prayer to be blessed and enlarged would relate to this. It is a request for the visible confirmation of God's blessing so that other people would see.

Instead of making this a model prayer for material blessings and wealth, Wilkinson spiritualizes it. He sees the request for God's blessing as an expression of "radical trust in God's good intentions toward us" which throws us "entirely into the river of His will and power and purposes for us." It is a request to be completely used and consumed by God. For those who might misconstrue the blessing to be material, Wilkinson says this has "nothing in common with the

popular gospel that you should ask God for a Cadillac, a six-figure income, or some other material sign that you have found a way to cash in on your connection with Him."

Wilkinson takes Jabez's request to be enlarged to challenge the reader to "Live Large for God." He reminds us that through the centuries God has worked through people. Instead of settling back in our comfort zones, we need to be praying for God to give us "more influence, more responsibility, and more opportunity to make a mark for... God."

Further, Wilkinson reminds us of the faith, loyalty, and courage a prayer like this requires. This is not the comfortable little form prayer we so easily recite. It is a dangerous prayer, which asks God to explode our private worlds into something powerful and majestic. A prayer like this also dares Satan to try to discourage and dissuade us.

Although we may be somewhat uncomfortable at Wilkinson's interpretive approach, perhaps we should be made even more uncomfortable by his point. We need to move prayer beyond its customary routines and expressions to discover its real meaning, purpose and power. We need to be people of prayer. When was the last time either you, as an individual, or the congregation you meet with, spent more than a few minutes in prayer? Can you remember when there was a real depth of thought, intensity and fervency in prayer? When was the last time someone prayed to be fully consumed by the will of God and used, selflessly, for His glory?

As God's people we need to find the faith and the courage to pray "Lord, use me completely to serve you. Use me to live and fulfill your will. Bless me by enlarging my responsibility and giving me more opportunities. Shake up my life. Stretch me. Challenge me. Move me out of my comfort and into Christ's cross. Let my life totally be yours to be used for your glory. Use me to help and influence others, to share your love with them."

What would happen in the church if this truly became our prayer?

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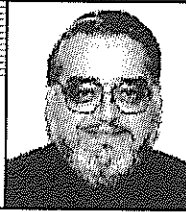
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## Marriage, Divorce, Remarriage - (4)

*Max Craddock*

The major New Testament statement on the matter of divorce and remarriage is given by Jesus in Matthew 19:3 - 12. While there are other statements made (Mark 10:11; Luke 16:18; Matthew 5:31, 32; 1 Corinthians 7:10 -16) the most complete would be this one. This came in answer to a question from the Pharisees, "...Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" (v. 3) The response of Jesus here is to remind them of the plan that God had for marriage from the beginning, "...that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female,...For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh...Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate" (vrs. 4 - 6).

The Pharisees then pointed to the fact that Moses required the giving of a certificate of divorce when a man wanted to divorce his wife. In the last article in this series, it was noted that Jesus tells them that this was done, not because God wanted divorce, but that He had allowed it because of the "hardness of their hearts". This permission to divorce granted in Old Testament times was not granted by Jesus for those who would be his disciples. In his answer, Jesus goes back past the actions that had become all too commonplace, to recognize the will of God for marriage from the beginning of that relationship in Eden. A man takes a wife and they become one flesh for life.

After reminding the Pharisees of God's plan from the beginning, Jesus says, "I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness (NIV) fornication (KJV) immorality (NAS) and marries another woman commits adultery" (v. 9). All of these words: marital unfaithfulness, fornication, and immorality, depending on the translation, speak of a sexual relationship that is outside the marriage bond. Jesus here gives the only

allowable ground on which one could end a marriage and enter another one.

Consider the rationality of this exception. By its very nature, marital unfaithfulness (fornication) is an attack on the very essence of what marriage is all about. The person (husband or wife) who commits this evil is guilty of separating what God has joined together in holiness and purity. The oneness of husband and wife has been violated by the taking of another "mate" into the unity that is expressed in the "one flesh". This sin causes what could be called *de facto* polygamy. If the partner thus sinned against, could not end the marriage, it would force them into living in a polygamous like relationship. Therefore, the reasonableness of this exception is clear.

What is also clear is that Jesus does not permit divorce and remarriage for any other reason. A man who divorces a faithful wife, however imperfect she may be in other ways, only compounds his problems with remarriage. By being married to another he closes the door on the possibility of reconciliation with his wife.

Worthy of note is the fact that, not only is the husband (in the example above) unable to remarry, but also the wife. In the eyes of God, marriage is for life and one is bound to the other (except in the case of marital unfaithfulness) for as long as they live. "...by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man." (Romans 7:2, 3) This may seem hard and unfair when one has been "deserted" by a mate. However, it has been God's will from the beginning.

Even when a divorce, for reasons other than marital unfaithfulness, has been grant-

ed under the laws of a society, the Christian understands there is a higher law to be considered. The society that grants divorce for other reasons is simply an accomplice with Satan in destroying the purity of the home as ordained by God. It is sad that government, which is established for the good of mankind, has joined forces with the evil that would destroy the very fabric of society.

Even more sad than this is that Christians often seem determined to find some way around the teaching of Jesus on this subject. Many reasons (excuses) are given to justify actions that are in direct opposition to the stated will of God. One man who had left his wife and children for another woman said, "God will understand and forgive this sin because my wife was so demanding and hard to please it became impossible to live with her." Other divorced people have used the loneliness of a single life, financial pressures, struggle against sexual temptation, feeling out of place in a couples world, etc. as justification for ignoring the statement of Jesus in Matthew 19:9. While these things are indeed challenges, one needs to remember the promise of God that he will not forsake his people and will give deliverance from temptation. (1 Corinthians 10:13) It may not be easy but it is not impossible.

It is worth considering in conclusion, that, while Jesus does give the exception, he does not say that one must divorce, if his/her mate is found to be unfaithful. The immorality cannot be allowed to continue but the marriage can go on, if both parties love each other and are willing to work at it. In one case a woman left her husband and lived with another man for a while. The husband, because he truly loved his wife, begged her to reconsider and come back home. After some weeks the wife did repent and returned. Their marriage was restored and was even stronger because they both wanted to please God in their marriage. A big key to this success is forgiveness. The husband had to forgive his wife of her sin and the wife had also to forgive herself of her sin.

Marriage is a gift from God to mankind that is worth protecting. Careful and prayerful thought must be given before a life mate is chosen. Continued commitment and devotion by both husband and wife with a common desire to be God's people can make the marriage a blessing. May God bless your marriage daily.



## Finding A Life Mate (part 1)

**D**oes one find a mate for life or does the mate find them? Does it all happen by chance or is it all determined before we are born? Do we play a part in finding our life mate or is it all determined by fate? What expectations should we have of one we might one day marry? Should we have a list of the attributes that we are looking for in a husband or wife, or should we follow our heart?

I must admit a certain discomfort with a shopping list approach to finding a husband or wife. My discomfort comes from some of the shopping lists and expectations I have seen. Many are looking for perfection in the one they hope to marry. Please don't get me wrong! I am equally uncomfortable with the romantic notion that the perfect match for you will one day magically appear, your eyes will meet across a crowded room, you will fall madly in love with one another and know from the first that you are just perfect for one another.

Having witnessed the struggles that many married couples face, I have come up with some items to look for in a future husband or wife. These are simply some issues that you will want to discuss before tying the knot. I will list these as questions that you will want to ask yourselves and each other before you marry. We have 11 questions in all but will look at the first 3 in this month's Youth Page.

(1) Do you share a faith in God?

*"Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of God." (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)* I have lived long enough to see what happens when someone is baptized to please a future spouse and his or her family. The result is often much less than what is hoped for. I have also seen what happens when a believer marries an

unbeliever. In some situations the unbeliever has come to faith in God, but in most they have not. Some couples have learned to co-exist and have a relatively good life together. Others face struggles that make their life together difficult and, sadly, some eventually break up.

2 Corinthians 6:14 has been hotly debated throughout my entire life. Many see it as an absolute prohibition of believers marrying unbelievers, while others are not so sure. Congregations, preachers and elders have been terribly inconsistent on this point. I have seen preachers refuse to marry a couple because one is an unbeliever and then a few months later marry another couple in pretty much the same situation. Congregations and elders have barred couples from using the church building for a wedding because one was an unbeliever and then only months later welcomed a couple that asks to use the church building for a wedding even though one of them is an unbeliever. In recognizing our inconsistent approach to this issue and the hurt feelings it has often caused, many now refuse to even talk about it, treating it as a non-issue or one of little importance.

Time and space do not allow for a complete discussion of this passage, but let me ask this. Recognizing marriage as our most intimate earthly relationship, how wise is it to unite with someone who doesn't share our faith in God?

(2) Do you share a similar commitment to serve God and others?

In any congregation of God's people we find various levels of commitment to service and involvement in church activities. Some want to attend everything and seek to be involved just as much as they possibly can. Some serve passionately in the areas in which God has gifted them. Others do not attend everything and are just not that involved in the life of the church. I am neither justifying nor condemning either approach, but simply recognizing the presence of varying levels of commitment and involvement. When different levels of

commitment are present in a married couple, they can at the very least produce tension and at the very worst produce strife that may threaten the very life of the marriage.

The husband may wish to attend a Sunday evening program at church while his wife would like him to go with her to visit her family. The wife may wish to use a week of her holidays to serve at Vacation Bible School or Christian Camp while the husband has other plans. The potential conflicts are many, so ask yourself, "Do we share a similar commitment to serve God and others?"

(3) Do you respect him or her and is the respect reciprocated?

No relationship exists without mutual respect. Do not marry someone you hope to grow to respect. If you cannot respect who they are at present, you have no real relationship.

Although the following questions may not tell the whole story, they may be good indicators of another's respect for you. Are politeness and courtesy shown towards you and your family? Is the person being considered on time when you plan to go out together? Being late for agreed upon appointments is a sign of disrespect. Is your opinion asked for or is it assumed? Is there evidence of not caring what you think? These may not tell the entire story, but they are good indicators of another's respect for you.

Next month, we will continue to discuss the questions you should ask yourself and the person that you might one day marry and spend your life with.

*Wunnumin Lake*

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# The God Who Sings - Part 3

Richard Kruse

## Why Study The Songs

The first reason is to assist growth in praying. Personal prayers can become shallow, dealing only with surface issues which come to mind, a daily repetition of the same things or focused on self rather than on a relationship with God. Mature prayer is a learned skill based on an awareness of personal experiences and an ability to express a response to God "out of the depths" (Psa 130:1). Even though people are usually aware of the joys, sorrows and challenges of life situations, at times there is a struggle in response to God in knowing "what we ought to pray for" (Rom 8:26). The psalms have been called "a gymnasium of the soul" (Ambrose, Fourth Century). The songs of the Bible have been used continuously for centuries to teach, train and transform the practice of prayer; to guide personal devotions and meditations; to know God more abundantly and self more honestly.

THE SONGS TEACH PEOPLE TO PRAY HONESTLY. "How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?" (Psa 13:1,2). Honest praying can be uncomfortable because honest praying uses the full range of emotions, both positive and negative. God is fully able to handle the honest responses to the struggles of life. Honest praying leads to deeper understandings; mourning can turn into joy, doubt yields to confidence, despair changes into hope, and pain becomes a path to experience God's grace.

The songs help people speak the unspeakable, bringing out deep feelings which cannot be expressed in mere words alone. Jesus honestly prayed from the psalms upon the cross, saying "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Psa 22:1; Matt 27:46). Later, he could also express the prayer of surrender, "Into your hands I commit my spirit" (Psa 31:5; Lk 23:46).

THE SONGS TEACH PEOPLE TO PRAY BROADLY, completely encompassing all of life. "Where can I go from

your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? (Psm 139:7). Real life and real prayer must not exist in separate areas of experience with but few points of contact. The Bible does not call for more prayer, but a life of increasing prayer (1 Thess 5:17). The songs enlarge prayer so that everything is involved in it. Nothing is too large or too small for prayer. Prayer might be as large as praying for the nations (Psa 2) or as individual as feeling discouraged and worn out (Psa 6). The songs encourage thanksgiving for wealth as well as concern for the poor (Psa 112, 113); expressions of praise to God as well as complaints and

## *Poetry speaks to the mind through the heart*

laments; dealing with times when fear is the focus or when personal sin seems overwhelming as well as recognizing the greatness of the Creator and his creation (Psa 3,8, 51,73, 91,103).

THE SONGS TEACH PEOPLE TO CENTRE ON GOD IN PRAYER. "O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water" (Psa 63:1). Often when people pray the centre of their prayer is their needs, desires and concerns, with God simply the supplier and satisfier of their requests. Studying the songs, people can see that even though prayer might begin with self, it ends with God. All but a few of the psalms end in praise to God. The songs help lead people out of themselves and into the majesty of the Almighty God. The songs of the Bible are not the record of people searching for the meaning of life; trying to understand themselves. Rather, they are about the God who is greater than their feelings; greater than even the meaning of life itself. Praying with the songs, people find their concerns, whether important or not, leading them to God. They discover in the middle of the chaos of their lives, God is creating, saving, and redeeming. And they can praise God for it.

A second reason to study the songs is

that in order to know and become like someone we admire and love we need to spend time together with them. In order to understand why and how they respond to us takes time spent in communicating with words and actions as well as through periods of silence. Through song, prayer, study and meditation people spend time in communication with God, enriching their relationship with God.

Prose speaks to the heart through the mind; while poetry speaks to the mind through the heart. Most of the Bible contains the words of God to people or the words of people to other people. Most of the songs are the words of people to God. They present the inner life of the soul. Most of the songs of the Bible are either directed to God or are songs of instruction and edification which encourages hearts to become in tune with God's way of living. Focusing on God brings balance to life, a freedom to be honest with self and God, which transforms people into being more like God.

A third reason is that personal thoughts are not just what people are thinking, the thoughts often indicate who they are and what are the real desires of life. Healthy, consistent thinking is powerful. By their thoughts some people make their future. Unfortunately, most wait for the future to make them.

It is easy for thoughts to be affected by being around certain people, being influenced by their thinking, words and beliefs. That can be good or bad because thinking is truly the driving force of life. The secret of success in life does not rest so much in what people do, as with what they think. Whatever is thought about expands; negative thinking attracts more negative thinking, negative people and negative results; positive thinking attracts positive results. Through study, meditation and praying the songs will help stimulate healthy, positive thinking and relationships.

*There is a choice to be made  
In everything you might do.  
But always keep in your mind  
The choice you make, makes you.*

Toronto, Ontario

# Being An Exampole

J. C. Choate

**Y**ou and I are examples. Each of us are setting examples for those around us whether we realize it or not, whether we like it or not. It is either good or bad, but it is an example. What is an example? It is a pattern, like a set of blueprints of one's life. Others can see our lives, how we are living, hear our speech, and observe our relationships with others. They can observe our attitudes and reactions to people and things. They will be impressed for good or bad by what they see and hear. They may be influenced to do as we are doing. When we think about it like that then we can see the importance of the example we are setting.

If we are going to set a good example for others, then we need a good example to follow ourselves. Again there are people all around us who may influence us for good or bad. If our lives are going to be worthwhile then we need to stay away from bad company, but who can we look to as a good pattern for our lives? To ask that question, if we are familiar with the scriptures, is to point to Jesus as being the best and greatest example of for me, for you, and for all people. The apostle Peter said, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (1 Peter 2:21). Christ came from God, but was subjected to every temptation, even as we are, yet he did not sin. Speaking of Christ, the Hebrew writer said, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15). Christ was godly, pure, unselfish, humble, patient, served his Father, had love for all, and on and on we could go. At any time in our lives where we are not sure as to what we should do, it would be good to ask, what would Jesus do? If we will but ask that question, and then follow his example on that point, we will surely do the right thing.

Especially we who are Christians should be the best examples of all. Since

people are watching what we say or do, even our attitudes toward them, and others, this may very well determine how they will define Christianity. We may bring them to Christ or we may drive them away, depending mainly on our actions. We may say that we are Christians, and we may be quick to preach to those around us, but they will be more influenced by the way we live than by what we say. The question is, are we practicing what we preach?

Remember that we have a vast audience watching us every day. There are the people of the world, but also there are our friends, relatives, even our own children. What are their impressions of us? Do they see us as being honest and sincere, the Christians that we say we are. Or do they

***Remember that we have a vast audience watching us every day.***

see us as fakes, imposters, actors, pretenders, or what? There are members of the church who never attend worship. Others do not bring their children to Bible Study. Still others have money for them-

selves but never have anything for the Lord. If you are guilty of such things, do you think that your children are going to continue to have an interest in the Lord, grow up to obey God, and to be faithful to the Lord? If so, you are sadly mistaken. You are setting an example before them, and it is one that will not lead them to the Lord, but away from him. Think seriously about what you are doing and make the necessary corrections before it is too late for you and for them.

Paul said even to the young preacher, Timothy, "Let no man despise thy youth: but be thou an example to the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). He was saying that even as a young man, and especially as a young believer, that he should so conduct his life that no one could find fault with him on the basis of his age. He even mentions some areas to be concerned about, areas that young people often have problems with. He said that he should be serious about handling the

Lord's word, his speech, that of expressing his love, humility, faith, and manner of life. Young men or women, with these good qualities in their lives, can make a

*(continued on page 10)*



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POINTS BY PERRY:

## Wailing in Africa

points@gospelherald.org



(The author of this article, who was my translator in Zambia in the 1970s, is a school teacher there. He expresses his concern for his people and is asking for

advice. Readers are encouraged to write to him at the address below. Donald Perry, recently returned from a short term mission trip to Zambia, has added the closing comments. ecp)

Maawee...Maawee...Twalumnwe...Twalu-  
minwa...Maawe...Baama...Maawe  
Taata...Maawe Mwanaangu..."

"Oh mother Africa, what have you done to deserve such tragedies?" You have been a victim of both first and second World Wars. Political wars have continued to rob your sons and daughters. Time in memorial, your worst enemy had been witchcraft but not any more. Indeed the fear of witchcraft is still a big terror among your children. The grey haired men and women are accused of being the causers of the high rate of death. That is not true because wizards and witches have always been there. Or should we say these witches and wizards have advanced in their technology? Not at all!

Mourning, wailings, or cries for the beloved ones are heard all over Africa from Cairo to Cape of Good Hope. Nearly every fact you see today is full of sorrow. Every village you visit, you will be greeted by a number of orphans. Most of the widowers and widows live in fear of short life time because this strange disease, AIDS, enjoys taking both spouses and those with whom they had committed adultery.

Today coffin-making industries are booming here and there because more and more people are dying every day. The sad part, though, is that some of those carpenters end up swallowed in their own coffins. Those who have lived twenty years ago would agree with me that death was not much of a scene in Zambia as it is today. One wonders for sure what has tripled the death rate in this decade?

A recent data which I collected at Zyangale school in Kalomo district in January this year shows that 20% of the pupils are orphans. I strongly believe the worse serial killer of our generation is HIV/AIDS. I personally mourn for my dear relatives, friends and brothers and sisters who have died of AIDS. It is very painful. AIDS pandemic is real and will continue to claim more lives of people than before. I want to believe HIV is another nuclear bomb that has been employed to eradicate mankind if not taken care of. It has penetrated even into the "concentrated Refugee Camps." However, for those who are in the Kingdom of God nothing will harm them. (Deut. 33:27; Psa. 18:2).

The biggest worry is not for those that have departed but those that have remained. Our churches and family members are outraged by this vulnerable group. Just what must we do to arrest the situation. I wonder what the outside church is doing in this respect.

Family planning for most Africa is now logical because every family has to accommodate a number of orphans or give support to the widows. I wish to know how the church in other parts of the world view this problem.

In big cities orphans have flooded the streets. It is not their own making for most of them but they are dictated by the situation. Most street kids left school because there was no one to pay for the school fees. For girls they end up marrying as early as 15 years of age.

Some pieces of advice or solutions to this would be appreciated.

Your fellow servant of the Lord, Wilson Siazilo, Kabanga Christian Basic School, P.O. Box 620237, Kalomo, Zambia, Central Africa.

In his article, "Death Stalks a Continent" (title from TIME, February 12, 2001), in the November/December, 2001, issue of DOES GOD EXIST?, pages 10-12, John Clayton addresses this problem in Africa, emphasizing that "Aids is a Lifestyle Disease". We quote selections from his article:

"The spread (of AIDS) in the homosexual, bisexual, and heterosexual communities is totally due to promiscuous activity with multiple partners.

"The Time article (February 12, 2001), does a marvelous job of showing how

widespread destructive sexual practices are in Africa:

- Women are beaten when they demand condom use.
- prostitution is so widespread that a vast percentage of the population engages in it.
- prostitute practices are considered to be the cause of the spread of HIV- dry sex, no use of condoms, town wives, etc.
- teachers expect sex from students as part of succeeding in school

The Time article gives a great summary: 'Casual sex of every kind is commonplace here. Prostitutes are just the ones who admit they do it for cash. Everywhere there's premarital sex, sex as recreation. Obligatory sex and its abusive counterpart, coercing sex. Transactional sex: sex as a gift, sugar-daddy sex, extramarital sex, second families, multiple partners. The nature of AIDS is to feast on promiscuity' (page 42).

Brother Clayton continues, "Much as skeptics may resent God's instructions to man on how to live, they have to admit that, if God's plan were followed, AIDS would not exist in humans. All of the sexual practices which spread AIDS are condemned in the Bible. The rankest atheist has to admit that following the one man-one wife non-extramarital affair lifestyle would stop AIDS dead in its tracks. If someone got AIDS by food or by handling a bleeding animal, it would not spread through the population if God's plan were followed."

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(continued from page 8)

great impression for good on their young friends, and also on the older generations. Not only will a good example have a good influence on others but also it will bring many rich rewards. There is no life like the Christian life.

Christ said that he was the light of the world (John 8:12), but he also said of his disciples that they too were lights of the world (Matthew 5:14). That is, they were to reflect the light of Christ, and they could do that only as they followed him and his example. Jesus illustrated the importance of one's light or example by saying they were like lights of a city set on a hill that could not be hid. In other words, that city would be seen for many miles away because of its lights. He also pointed out that the purpose of a candle is to give light, not that it should be put under something and hidden. Rather, it is lit so that all that are in the house may be

able to see. Likewise, one becomes a Christian to show Christ in his life, not to hide the Lord by sin, improper attitudes, etc. He then said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:15). One is not to do good works, to glory in them, but rather that others might see those good works, and know that they are produced by following Christ, and therefore to honor and glorify the Lord himself.

A good example therefore is a powerful statement for good. What kind of an example are you setting? Is it good or bad? It can be good if you will follow the greatest example of all, Jesus Christ. And what better thing could you do in this life than to live the kind of life that would influence others to do good when following your example?

Mississippi, USA

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by **Walter R. Straker**  
750 Clark Boulevard  
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### ONTARIO

**Ajax:** "A year end congregational dinner, held annually in December was enjoyed by many. Certificates of appreciation were handed out to those who serve notably among the congregation.

**Barrie:** Emily Jackson celebrates her 100th birthday on February 26 at Grove Park Home in Barrie.

**Beamsville:** Donald and Dianne Perry left for Western Christian College in Dauphin, Manitoba in early January. Donald will be teaching courses in the Bible College and Dianne will be doing some work in the library. They expect to return in late March.

"Spring Spiritual Renewal" with Murray Smith and Peggy Stirman is planned for April 19-21.

Don MacKenzie and Vivian McNerny planned to be married January 26. They will be living in St. Catharines.

**Bramalea:** A special Bible class was begun in December for children, aged 1-4, during the preaching service. Kingsley Bonsu, originally from Ghana placed membership. Kwesi Bradford returned from a two year visit to St. Vincent. While home from Harding University, Mark Knutson spoke on January 30 and, Kurt Whittington, home from Oklahoma Christian University, spoke that evening.

On "Taco Tuesdays" those in their twenties, share dinner, enjoy great fellowship and read 8-15 chapters of the Bible together, reading through the Gospels, Acts and the Minor Prophets.

Don MacMullin and Derek Czeban are attending GLBC full-time.

**Brantford, North Park:** Jamie Azzoparde and Paul Vance are attending classes at GLBC in Waterloo. The congregation is looking forward to the return of the young people from Freed Hardeman University in the spring to help spread the gospel. In November 2001, we welcomed Al and Dorothy Watson into the church family as they both were baptized. Clinton Lowe also put on Christ in baptism on December 16. "The Christian Family" is the new topic of study on Wednesday nights. We celebrated the life of our sister, Audrey Cox as she was called home on December 27 after a long battle with cancer. The church family will miss her.

**Grimsby:** The annual youth rally was a success. Brett Cummins led the singing with a passion for serving the Lord; the speaker, Aaron Mize presented messages of hope and strength from the Saviour; Darrin Douglas and Joann Batenburg lead the gentlemen and ladies in their life labs dealing with healthy relationships.

The Great Lakes Chorus sang on Wednesday, November 14.

**Meaford:** On December 7 the young people took a trip to see the Festival of Northern Lights. On December 12, some of the younger couples hosted a dinner in honour and appreciation of the seniors of our congregation. On December 23 the morning worship was lengthened and included what would have normally been part of our annual Sunday School concert as an outreach in our community. On December 30, Nathan Pickard, who was home from A.C.U. Graduate School, spoke during the morning worship. Final preparations are being made for the February 22-24 Youth Rally.

**Newmarket:** Speakers in January were Devon Bennett, Don MacMullin, Bill Russell and Keith Thompson. The ladies class met on January 7 and 21.

**North Bay:** Aaron Alkins was baptized on December 9, Dianne Blais on the 30 and Jessica Kuehl on January 13. Natasha Hacquard underwent surgery on December 12 and is scheduled for heart surgery on January 22. The church family has been affected by the deaths of six individuals in the course of two weeks.

**St. Catharines (Ontario St.):** A family from the community was assisted from the pantry in December. Guy and Tracy Stopard are now a part of this congregation. Iona Garner passed from this life to her eternal home. The funeral was held on January 2.

**Stratford:** December lessons were on "Great Expectation". On Wednesday, December 5, the congregation sang for the senior residents of Anne Hathaway. The ladies met for class on December 4 with Sally Cleary teaching the lesson. The men began a new class which was well attended.

New deacons were to be appointed on January 6. The Sunday lessons in January were on the areas of Priorities, Growth and Purpose. A number of fellowship and social activities took place.

The mother of Marilyn Kippax passed away on December 25.

**Thessalon:** Following a short illness, Ivan Seabrook went to his heavenly home on January 2.

**Toronto (Strathmore Blvd.):** The New Year was welcomed with fellowship, games and a devotional. The ladies enjoyed a luncheon at their year end class and collected items for gift baskets to give to "Meals on Wheels." The Spanish brethren enjoyed a time of fellowship

on December 23 following worship. Cassie Senat was baptized by her uncle, Jean Volcy, on December 19. The Strathmore family has seen an increase of 18 souls this past year. The congregation bid farewell to their sister, Anne Witty, age 79, as she passed from this life to eternal glory on January 7.

**Waterloo:** A "Contagious Christianity" course is held on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. There was a get-together for the widows on December 15.

GLBC has five full-time and 9 part-time students this semester.

**Welland:** "The new year started great with the baptism of David Hughes, following Wednesday night Bible study, on January 2. David has been attending regularly with his small daughter, Carley. The congregation will be celebrating their twentieth anniversary at the end of April. We would like to invite all past members and interested people to be with us. More details will follow. "Tots for Christ" and "Kids for Christ" programs got off to a great start this year in September with the graduation of eight preschoolers from "Tots for Christ," directed by Julie Stuart. This program was added three years ago to accommodate those children from ages two to five. On January 11, we initiated an "Adults for Christ" for parents bringing students, who were interested in a Bible question and answer session. The "Teen group" meets after "Kids for Christ" each month for a variety of activities. Most of these teens are involved as helpers at Kids for Christ" and "Tots for Christ." The congregation is hosting a group of campaigners coming from Searcy, Arkansas during Spring break, March 9-15. They will help with many physical jobs at the church building during the day and church activities and fellowship during the evening. We appreciate your prayers as we look forward to a great year. *Harold Bruggen*

**Windsor (West Side):** A special day entitled "New Beginnings" was planned for January 20. Plans are being made for a meeting with John Bailey, May 3-5, with the theme "Developing a Holy Hunger." Wednesday evening Bible study continues a series on the Conversations on Grace. Joyce Papineau was scheduled for surgery January 14.

### QUEBEC

Yvon Beaudoin reports that tensions are giving up to more peaceful relations. Three have been baptized and two placed membership. Two are from Congo. Bible studies are in process with five visitors.

A new congregation, made up of five members and three teens, has started at Joliette, 200 kilometres from home. Yvon usually goes there for Bible studies on Saturday pm. He writes, "I am very blessed with all the opportunities that

*(continued on page 13)*

# NEWS - WEST -



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## BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Abbotsford:** Two of Norm Weir's Bible Correspondence students were baptized in January. Bonnie Hinson of Shawnigan Lake on Vancouver Island was baptized in Cobble Hill, as well as Trudy Lamont of Langley. Both of these ladies wrote that they discovered their need through a study of the Word after responding to the "Key to the Kingdom" programs.

A Potluck followed the service on January 13th when the Burnaby Youth group joined us for morning worship. After a program of song, they shared their plans for the Youth Rally scheduled for Camp Howdy in Coquitlam on the weekend of April 19-21.

Raymond and Merle Fillion left for their 2-month tour of duty in Haiti with a number of tools, a sewing machine, and household supplies on January 11. They are seeking a sponsoring congregation to insure that the needs of the school can be met.

**Burnaby:** A group of 50 enjoyed a retreat at Manning Park the first three days of the New Year.

The engagement of Joel Ruch to Jessica Sargent, who is from a small town near the Canadian border in New Hampshire, was announced while they were here over the holidays. Both are seniors at ACU, and will be graduating in May with degrees in Missions.

Mike Parker presented highlights of his six weeks in India on January the 11th following an "International Dining Experience" for grades 6-12.

**East Vancouver City:** During a Bible study with several people in a home, a Chinese girl named Cherry broke in on the conversation and asked about baptism. (Cherry's grandfather preaches for a church in China.) I told Cherry that I had wanted to ask her about her baptism, because she had said she had been sprinkled as a child. When I told her that only adults were baptized in the New Testament, she said, "My mother told me when I left home that I might want to be baptized again when I came to Canada." We discussed the meaning and importance of baptism and she said, "Can I be baptized this Sunday?" I told her she could, or Saturday, or even right then. She said, "I want to be baptized right now!" So we went upstairs to her quarters where there was a jacuzzi-style bathtub, and while it was filling, we read more scriptures about the meaning of baptism. Four were present to witness Cherry's baptism at 11:00 p.m. What a thrilling time for me to be

able to serve these young people from the mainland of China, a place I wanted to go to when I was very young, yet was never able to do so. Now when Cherry returns to China after completing her MBA program, she will carry the gospel message to friends and family.

In order to work more efficiently, the City church has set a goal of working for full certification for the Spirit of Life Bible Institute. One step of this procedure was completed last year, when two of us attended the administrator's workshop in Tacoma, Washington. We have sufficient library resources in my home, but we need to find a permanent location for conducting our classes. Currently, it's "have TV, Will travel." This is a unique use of the satellite courses (or maybe Not!) But it works well. We have a 13 inch TV-VCR combo that I pack in the trunk of my car and off we go, to whichever location we are using on this particular day.

**Delta:** Jay Don and Mary Lee Rogers were back from the Ukraine the last week of January. Jay Don gave the congregation a report on their work in Donetsk on the 27th, and was the speaker at a men's Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Surrey church the day before.

Jim and Carolyn Hawkins are in Hawaii this month. Jim is speaking for the congregation on Maui each week at the request of Wendell Broom, who arranges for speakers for the church there.

**Surrey:** We are happy to welcome a new family to our membership. Jan, Michelle and Bryan Heimowski. Our monthly church family gatherings, held in the homes, are well attended and due to the great diversity of nationalities of our members, the food is always a treat.

We are sad to report that Howard and Brenda Hughes and their children Lauren and Parker are leaving us in January, after about 2 1/2 years. Howard's employer has transferred them to California. They will truly leave a great gulf to fill in our congregation.

We are presently settling into the new tasks for the year with more of the members having a part in the various areas of work.

If you are out this way do stop in and worship with us.

*P. McLure for the Surrey church family.*

## ALBERTA

**Calgary:** On December 30 representatives of the leadership presented the vision/plan for 2002.

God has blessed many marriages of this congregation through the His Needs/Her Needs course. There are three new courses being organized in January, 02

The teen group is flourishing. They have had fun activities to draw them close as a group and through effective evangelism they have grown numerically.

**Edmonton:** Edmonton has witnessed the birth of two more souls into the kingdom of God during the month of December. Carol Alcantara and Daryl Erickson both put their Lord on in baptism this past month. We rejoice with the angels in heaven as a result of these

victories over Satan and his camp.

Kevin and Catherine Carson have arrived safely back in Edmonton. They have served as missionaries in the country of Lithuania for the past 4.5 years. They arrived on December 3rd and have taken the month of December to adjust and get settled. It is difficult to leave all of the relationships developed in a congregation that one has had a key part in building. They have purchased a house and are looking forward to getting settled in it. Kevin will begin serving as an evangelist in the Edmonton congregation of the Lord's church at the beginning of January. We are all excited about the Carson's return and the service they have to offer the church here. Kevin Clark from Calgary was our guest speaker on Sunday November 25th, 2001. Kevin encouraged us to work on having better and stronger marriages and families as children of God. Kevin facilitated a workshop/weekend seminar on the weekend of November 23-25 using the His Needs/Her Needs workshop materials. 16 couples attended that weekend. We spent an evening in prayer on December 21st to thank God for the blessings of the past year and also make sure that God is the central focus of all of our plans for the up and coming year. It was an encouraging night for all those who attended. We have been enjoying the holiday season with visitors from different parts of our country and the US.

Kevin Carson began full time service with this congregation of the Lord's church on January 2, 2002. We look forward to the coming years of fellowship with them.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven as another soul has been snatched out of Satan's grasp and added to the kingdom of God. Shawn McNeil confessed Jesus as His Lord and Savior on January 13 and had His sins washed away by the blood of Jesus through baptism. We are looking forward to fellowship with our newest addition to our family in Edmonton.

Scheduled events are: the annual Beat the Winter Blues on the eighth of February; the annual Ladies Retreat scheduled for January 25-27, 2002 at Van Es Camp and Conference Center, (The ladies have invited ladies from the congregations around us to join them on this weekend of spiritual renewal and fellowship); the Edmonton annual Men's retreat also scheduled at Van Es Camp and Conference Center on March 15-17, 2002, (We invite the men of the congregations near us to join us on our weekend of spiritual renewal and practical lessons on what it looks like to be leaders in our homes, in the world around us, and in the body of the Lord's people. Look for your mail out to arrive soon) and our annual Alberta Spring Fellowship on March 29-31, 2002, (Our speaker's will be Jim McGuiggan from Ireland, a former teacher at the Sunset International Bible Institute, and Thaddeus Bruno who is currently leading a strong work in the Caribbean. We invite everyone to join us on this special weekend.).

*(continued on page 13)*

(continued from page 11)

God gives me in the service"

Yvon hopes to make another trip to French Guyana.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK

**Moncton:** Home Bible studies continue in the community. December attendance has seen our small building full on Sundays and three quarters full on Wednesday nights. We were encouraged by several visitors from Quebec, Ontario and Connecticut over the holidays. Following a pot-luck meal on December 16, the ladies and children made crafts to be shared with the children at the Moncton hospital. Twelve young people enjoyed a fellowship evening on December 22 at the home of the Johnsons. Tim and Diana Johnson hosted an open-house for the congregation on December 30.

#### NOVA SCOTIA

**Mill Village (Shubenacadie):** We rejoice at the baptism of Brian Humphreys on November 30. Brian and Natalie Brown will be united in marriage in the month of February. Jack Mackey and David Hallett are sharing the preaching responsibilities.

#### NEW YORK

**North Buffalo:** On November 25 the ladies

exchanged prayer sisters. A collection of new toys was made for needy children in the Buffalo area. Seventeen people from the community joined our community thanksgiving dinner on Sunday afternoon, November 18. A free community pancake breakfast was planned for January 12. Just a few weeks before he passed away, while awaiting a liver transplant, David Short was baptized by his brother, Gene Short.

(continued from page 12)

David Boswell has joined the Edmonton School of Evangelism program that is an extension of the Sunset International Bible Institute. David joins the other three full time students, Jamie Lobert, Glen Ostroski, and Dan McMullin. These men have undertaken this Bible study course with the intention of working full time in the Lord's church.

We are looking forward to the New Year and the expansion of the Kingdom of God through out the world. May God bless His universal church in this endeavor. **HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**

*David Friesen.*

#### MANITOBA

**Carman:** We were very happy to witness three more individuals give their lives to Christ this past fall here in Carman. They were Chris Maxwell, Patrick Scharien, and John Cartman. Praise the Lord!!

A special collection was taken up to help with the disaster victims in New York, and was forwarded to the church in Manhattan.

We were able to help out some people in our community by organizing a clothing give-away which was held at the church building. A number of people came through and we were able to have a brief visit and offer them some coffee and donuts as well.

Also, keep in mind our Annual Lectureship is coming up, March 29-31. This year will be our 50th, so we hope you can attend. For more information call (204) 745-6969

*Brad Winkler*

**Winnipeg:** "We had a great weekend, three of our young people were baptized, plus had a new family move here from Montreal."

*Wayne Turner, November 5, 01*

#### MONTANA

**Three Forks:** Nineteen members and four visitors from Three Forks enjoyed the hospitality of the West Yellowstone congregation for six excellent lessons on the theme, "United We Stand". David Ford organized teen activities on Friday and Saturday evenings and gave the teen lesson on Sunday.

Of the 178 visitors during the year some were travelling Christians but many were from the community and came through invitation and several have become somewhat regular. The focus is to do more effective follow-up in 2002.

### PREACHER / EVANGELIST WANTED

Evangelist sought for Bramalea Church of Christ, Brampton, Ontario, Canada. This well established multicultural congregation is situated near the Toronto Airport, in the Brampton/Mississauga area.

Primarily the candidate will fulfill the duties of pulpit preaching; he will also be part of a team effort of evangelistic outreach and will be a co-worker with Walter Straker. Please send resume to the attention of the elders at 750 Clark Blvd., Brampton, ON L6T 3Y2; (905) 792-2297; Fax: (905) 792-8623; Email: stnf66@aol.com. References should indicate that the candidate demonstrates sound gospel preaching and teaching. A tape of typical sermons would be very helpful.

All applications will be reviewed in strictest confidence and only selected candidates will be contacted.

*Come and join us for our*

**ANNUAL**

*Spring Spiritual Renewal*

**WEEKEND**

*April 19 - 21, 2002*

with

Peggy (Fleming) Stirman, Sugarland, TX  
Murray Smith, St. Catharines

*"No eye has seen, no ear has heard,  
and no mind has imagined  
what God has prepared for those who love him."*

Hosted by Beamsville Church of Christ  
For more information, contact: Don Smith, 905-563-7655

# BOOK REVIEWS

Books to be reviewed in this column should be sent to  
**Keith Thompson**, Editor, 348 Dixon Blvd., Newmarket, ON L3Y 5C4  
(Books may be ordered from the *Gospel Herald*)  
email: [bookreviews@gospelherald.org](mailto:bookreviews@gospelherald.org)



*Christ or the Qur'an?* by Everett L. Huffard, Hester Publications, Henderson, Tn. 130 pages, \$8.95 (US), CD, \$5.00 (US).

Due to recent upheavals we have heard a great deal about the Muslim faith. Many are interested in learning more about it. Everett Huffard is well qualified to give us this information. He has served the Lord in countries where many Muslims reside. He was director of the Middle East Bible Training College in Beirut, Lebanon from 1971 to 1974. He taught Bible at Harding and Freed-Hardeman Universities for 19 years.

Huffard writes, "Most Americans (Canadians too, KT) have a bad attitude toward Muslims because of some extremists who have left a bad impression about them." Also many are totally ignorant about them. Some thought Muslim was a game of chance. Others believed they were a mysterious sect founded in the South by the Ku Klux Klan!

The author traces the history of the Muslim faith, also known as Islam. It is a history that is interesting, exciting and controversial.

Unfortunately there is much conflict among the Muslims and between them and other religions.

The Muslims conquered many nations and sought to unify them into one language (Arabic), one culture and one religion. These nations are now largely under the control of the Muslims.

We learn that "the sacred book of the Muslims, the Qur'an is accepted as the eternal, uncreated, literal Word of God." They believe that there are no discrepancies between the Bible and the Qur'an. Yet they claim that the text of the Bible has been corrupted. The characters in their book are largely from the Old Testament. They claim Abraham as the first Muslim.

This book has many pictures and charts that are of great help in understanding this belief. Some of the chapters are "The Birth and Spread of Islam", "The Five Pillars of Islam", "The Muslim's World View", and "Muslim Women". The final chapter discusses the question, "Why is it so difficult to convert Muslims?"

This is a study book. At the end of each of the 15 chapters, there are 10 questions to be answered.

This timely book gives an excellent introduction to this very significant world faith. All who are interested in the spread of the gospel and in world peace need to read it carefully.

*Radical Restoration* by F. Lagard Smith, 21st Century Christian, 316 pages, \$12.50 U.S.)

The author has many thought-provoking books in the past but this one tops them all! He asks "Are Churches of Christ truly non-denominational?", "Are elders teaching shepherds or a board of directors?", "Are pulpit ministers evangelists or one-man bands?" "Are youth ministries God's gift to teens or opt-out for parents?" "Is the Lord's Supper a memorial meal or a miniaturized substitute?" He writes "The call for radical restoration is a call to throw off the denominational thinking which obscures our historic commitment to biblical restoration, and to consider how wonderfully revitalizing true restoration might be." Smith has previously written or edited "The Narrated Bible", "The Daily Bible", "The Cultural Church" and "Meeting God In Quiet Places" and other books. In this new book he is even so bold as to include "Dissenting Opinions" in which others assert their reasons for disagreement.

This book needs to be read and discussed very carefully. We can very easily drift away from New Testament Christianity without even realizing it.



## Western Christian College

Dauphin, Manitoba, Canada

is a fifty-seven year old Christian school offering High School and College Programs.



### If you:

- are a dedicated member of Churches of Christ committed to our faith and heritage;
  - have a proven record of Christian character and holy living;
  - are interested in training youth and adults for ministry and missions;
  - are flexible to change and adjusting to meet needs;
  - are committed to accomplishing tasks in unity;
  - are dedicated to viewing your work as a ministry;
  - are committed to loving people and especially youth;
  - are teachable and committed to lifelong learning;
- ... then we may be interested in you and you may be interested in exploring one of the following areas to express your ministry.

### Job Opportunities:

#### Vice President

This position works closely with the President and includes two primary roles and some additional roles:

1. Administration of campus life, including hiring, supervision and evaluation of staff, development of mission and vision, building unity and morale, creating policies and updating handbooks, and some public relations.
2. Fundraising and enrollment services.
3. Possibly some teaching.
4. Training leadership and inspiring outreach.

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3. Planning and implementing a comprehensive program for students to educate the whole person.
4. Communication with students, parents, the government, and the broader constituency.
5. General administration of the High School including the High School calendar, the year schedule, time tables, course loads, counseling, curriculum, the registrar, evaluation, transcripts, standards of excellence, co-curricular activities, and health and safety.

**General Applications for potential future faculty and staff positions are invited.** Details of positions are available from the President's Office. Initial and continuous training may be provided.

#### Contact Information:

John McMillan, Western Christian College  
Box 5000, 220 Whitmore Ave W  
Dauphin, Manitoba R7N 2V5

Phone 204 638-8801 Ext 224 Fax 204 638-7054 email: [president@westernchristian.ca](mailto:president@westernchristian.ca)

# OBITUARIES

## ORRIN GONDER

Orrin John Frederick Gonder, one of four children born to Edwin and Mina Gonder, was born November 17, 1928. He passed away suddenly and without suffering on April 2, 2001. He and his wife Jean (nee Davison) had just returned from having spent a good winter in Florida. The night before Orrin and Jean were reunited with their family and spent a loving and joyous evening sharing in a meal and catching up.

Orrin was a hard worker and faithful employee. He dedicated more than thirty-seven years to Bell Telephone; and retired in 1983. He continued to work for the company as a freelance consultant for almost another ten years. Retirement afforded Orrin an opportunity to fulfill his passion for farming and he spent countless hours working for his nephew, Scott Davison, at Fairfield Farms just outside of Meaford.

Orrin is survived by his loving wife, Jean, two sons, Rick (Cindy) and Randy (Heather), one daughter, Jodie (David) Ford, one sister Ruby Pace, and one brother, Morley. He will also be lovingly remembered and sadly missed by nine grandchildren, one great grandchild, his brothers and sisters-in-law and several nieces and nephews. His mother-in-law, Bessie Davison, who has since passed away herself, was also greatly saddened by Orrin's passing. In addition, Orrin leaves behind his brothers and sisters in the Lord and a host of friends, neighbours and other associates. He was predeceased by his parents and one sister, Laverne Roseborough.

Orrin will be remembered as a loving husband, a doting and generous father and grandfather, a beloved brother, both in the flesh and in the Lord, and a caring, sincere friend to many. Several years ago, Orrin suffered a stroke—the consequences of which hindered him from doing some things he would like to have done. However, he did what he could and was an encouragement and support to others.

Harold Byne, a long time friend of the Gonder family, officiated at Orrin's funeral from the Meaford church building. He was assisted by Les Cramp, Peter McDonald, and Randy Morritt. The many people in attendance served as an excellent testimony to the esteem with which Orrin was held.

## BESSIE DAVISON

On Friday, September 21, 2001 Bessie Roberta (Bailey) Davison received the rest and reward she had desired and looked forward to for such a long time. She passed away peacefully at her residence, Summit Place, in Owen Sound with her loving family at her bedside.

Bessie was born May 17, 1908, ninety-three years ago, in Thessalon, Ontario. For many years, she and her late husband, Melville, operated a farm in Griersville, near Meaford, Ontario. Besides being long time residents of the community, Melville and Bessie were faithful hard-working members of the Griersville congregation; and, for years, were pillars and a vital part of its backbone. They were loved and admired for their love for God and his children, their faith, consistency and dedication, their

quiet, unassuming ways, their willing desire to serve, and their open door. Many a person can testify to the warm welcome they received, whether for short or long, and to the wonderful meals and treats lovingly prepared by Bessie's hands. She was a good friend to all with whom she came in contact.

Bessie is survived by her daughter, Jean Gonder, two sons, Don (Marjorie) and Robert (Rachel), a daughter-in-law, Sylvia, and a sister, Myrtyle Vine. Besides her husband, Bessie was predeceased by her youngest son, Bazil, and her son-in-law, Orrin Gonder. She is also sadly missed and lovingly remembered by ten grandchildren, twenty-six great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren; not to mention her "adopted" children, several nieces and nephews, her Christian brothers and sisters, and all her friends.

A worship service of praise and thanksgiving to God for having shared Bessie with us was conducted from the Meaford church building on September 24. Harold Byne, one of Bessie's adopted sons officiated with Randy Morritt assisting. During the funeral, Mark Davison, a grandson, and adopted son, Peter McDonald, each sang one of Bessie's favourite hymns; and two other grandsons, Jim Davison and Randy Gonder, each presented familial fond remembrances in tribute to grandma. To know Bessie was to love her; and loving her, though we miss her, we rejoice in her victory.

## IRMA BUMSTEAD

On October 7, 2001 family and friends gathered at the Meaford Church of Christ to celebrate Irma's life and victory and to bid her a loving and fond farewell.

Irma Juniper was born on July 4, 1926 in Meaford, Ontario; and passed away October 5 after a long illness. She was the loving wife of the late Dorsey Bumstead and dear mother of Donna (Allan) Muzzell, Gary (Sheila), and Connie (Jay) Greavette. She is also sadly missed by her seven grandchildren, two sisters, Hilda (Stan) Thompson and Margaret Allan, and her brother and sister-in-law, Walter and Agnes Bumstead. She is fondly remembered by her brothers and sisters in Christ and her many friends and neighbours.

Irma will be remembered as a devoted wife, a loving mother and grandmother, a dear sister, and a cherished friend. Irma was kind, considerate, and generous. She cared deeply for people and was always ready to help. She was capable and artistic, as many of us who have been the recipients of her handwork can well testify. She was diligent, a dependable hard worker, whether for pay or as a volunteer. Irma was a woman of faith who loved her Lord and her Christian brothers and sisters. She was willing and eager to serve; and set about doing what she could as she was able. She was an encourager, both in word and example.

At the funeral, which was conducted by Max Craddock, a long time friend of Irma and Dorsey, Irma's son, Gary read a tribute on behalf of the family and Peter McDonald led the congregation in singing some of Irma's favourite hymns. Bill Swartz, Brian Thompson, and Randy Morritt also assisted.

## IONA ISABELL GARNER

1907 - 2001

Iona Garner was born to Chester and "Minnie" Stewart in Red Deer, AB on March

23, 1907 and, moved, with her parents back to the "home" farm at Tintern two years later. A brother, Gordon, was born there. The family lived in Vineland for a time and then moved to St. Catharines.

In 1932 she was married to Charles Garner and they had one daughter, Marie, in 1934. Iona has been a widow for 40 years and is also predeceased by her parents and her brother. She worked as a secretary and after retirement served for ten years as a volunteer in the development office at Great Lakes Christian College.

She became a charter resident of the Ina Grafton Gage Home in St. Catharines where she spent her last 18 years. Somewhat unwell since September 2000, she died on December 28, 2001 at the age of 94.

As a member of the Ontario Street church in St. Catharines, she taught Sunday school and was otherwise active in and concerned about the church.

Remaining family, besides her many cousins, are daughter, Marie (Carl) Blanchard of Georgia, granddaughter, Loraine, four great grandchildren, sister-in-law, Aileen (Stewart) Hilchey and nieces, Judy and Heather.

Iona lived a long life of useful service and was an encouragement to many. Three of her Perry cousins conducted the funeral service.

ECP

## ANNE STENHOUSE WITTY

Sister Anne Witty passed away peacefully at the York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill, ON, on January 7, 2002. She was in her 80th year. She was the beloved wife of Roy and they had been married for 55 years. She is also survived by sons Tom, and his wife Janice; Earl, and his wife Wanda; along with four grandchildren, Andrea, Michael, Laura and Christine. Brothers Dan, George, Peter and sister Agnes predeceased her.

Anne was born in 1922 in Bathgate, Scotland to Tom and Helen Banks. When she was four years old the family emigrated to Canada in search of better opportunities for employment. Settled in Toronto, the family became involved in the baking industry and opened their own bakeshops, specializing in Scot baking. Anne joined the family business and, along with her sister Agnes, worked as the sales staff in the bakery.

She and her family attended the Maplewood Church of Christ in Toronto and there she met Roy in 1944. They were married in 1946 and this resulted in major changes for Anne. As her son Earl wrote, "When Anne married Roy she took on not only a husband but a totally new way of life. She moved from Toronto to Concord. She was a city girl used to indoor plumbing and the conveniences that went with city life. She married Roy and moved to the farm and became a farmer's wife. From row houses to outhouses, from running water to breaking the ice in the bucket, from delivered milk to milking a cow, from central heat to who's turn is it to light the fire, from street cars to 'I'll hitch the team Anne.'"

Anne and Roy were part of the group that saw a need for a congregation in Concord and were a part of that work when it began in 1963. They served faithfully there until the congregation closed in 1994. Following that they became members of the congregation at Strathmore Blvd. where she served until her death. Roy

(continued on page 16)

(continued from page 15)  
serves as a Deacon at Strathmore.

One of Anne's special loves was the work of Key to the Kingdom. She and Roy have worked long hours in answering phones, sending out the introductory courses and teaching through this ministry. Her contribution to this work will be greatly missed.

Anne was always thinking of others and served in many ways. She and Roy gave many hours in ministering and serving and we know her works follow her. May Roy and the family all find peace and contentment in memory of her loving self-giving service.

A service in her memory was conducted on Thursday, the 10th of January. Bill MacKay, Blenis Wright and the writer led in the service. May God bless and strengthen all who mourn.

Max Craddock

#### AUDREY COX

On December 27th, 2001, Audrey Cox departed this earthly life after a five year struggle with cancer. Even though Audrey lost her battle with cancer she has gained "the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor. 15:57)

Audrey was born April 3, 1931, in Hamilton to Harold and Lily Walker. Her parents and brother, Arthur, predeceased Audrey. She was raised in a strong Christian home and accepted Christ at an early age at Omagh Bible school.

Audrey married Roy Cox, who hailed from rural Saskatchewan, on May 9, 1953. She was his faithful companion and helpmeet for over 48 years. Roy states that she was a terrific wife, mother and grandmother. Four children were born to this union and they produced fifteen grandchildren. Roy and all these are left to mourn but not as those "who have no hope" (1 Thess. 4:13). They are: Elaine and Mike Gray-Heather, Becky and Matthew of Hamilton; Brian and Bonnie Lee of Wunnumin Lake, Ont. - Jonathan and Sarah; Jeff and Roberta - Joshua, Benjamin, Amanda, Elise, Melissa, Jessica, Daniel, and Alana (born Dec. 3, 2001), of Chalk River, Ont; Michelle and Joel Deyoung - Andrew and Nicole of Vancouver, B.C.

Besides the above, Audrey is survived by sister-in-law, Ella Walker of Vineland, Ont., and in Saskatchewan sister-in-law Betty Cox and brother-in-law Adolph Cox, plus nieces, nephews, other relatives and many brothers and sisters in Christ and friends.

Roy requested that the funeral be a celebration of Audrey's life. Elaine read a poem in tribute to her mother. Brian and Jeff each honored their mother with their loving remembrances. Audrey was a "stay at home mom". She was there for her husband and children and grandchildren. Her favorite Bible verse was: "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are living according to the truth" (John 3:4)

Audrey and Roy were active in the church at the old Sanford congregation and then the Fennel church, both in Hamilton, and recently in the Brantford, Ontario church. Audrey taught Sunday School for over fifty years and was active in many good works. She supported and encouraged Roy as a Bible teacher, elder, and church leader. Together they have been a strengthening and stabilizing influence for Christ in his church.

In my lesson I spoke of Audrey being a worthy woman. I used Dorcas, Priscilla, Lois, and Eunice to highlight some of Audrey's noble

characteristics. The lesson closed with comfort and hope from the scriptures. Jamie Azzoparde, young preacher with the Brantford church, ably assisted in the funeral.

H. Ralph Perry

#### VILMA WHITFIELD

Vilma Whitfield died suddenly of a pulmonary embolism on Sunday, October 28, 2001. She was the loving wife of Don Whitfield and beloved mother of Julie & Walter Cromwell and Jim & Heidi Whitfield. She was also a proud grandmother of four grandchildren; Becki & Jamie Cromwell and Kristen & Emily Whitfield. She was predeceased by both her parents (Andy and Leah McNeill) and three brothers (Jimmie, Bruce and Joe McNeill). She is survived by her only sister (Isabel Welsh), brothers (Bill, Marvin, Russell & Jack McNeill) and numerous in-laws. She was also a dear aunt and friend to nearly 30 nieces and nephews, their spouses and children. She was a great source of wisdom and encouragement to her family and is sorely missed by all of them.

Vilma was born on September 23, 1942 in Sarnia, Ontario. For those who might wonder, she was named by her mother after a sister-in-law; someone Leah admired and loved dearly, Vilma Brown.

Vilma was the oldest daughter of nine children and, as such, held a special position of responsibility and respect in the family circle. She was raised in the Sarnia Church of Christ and baptized at Camp Omagh. These were the beginnings of a life-long commitment to God and his teachings.

Vilma married Don Whitfield on July 29, 1960. Together they enjoyed 41 years of marriage and served the Lord in the cities of Ottawa (1960-1973), Peterborough (1973-1977), St. Catharines (1977-1986) and Toronto (1986-2001). Their home was always open. Vilma made it a point to always leave a meal started in the oven Sunday mornings so that she and Don would be able to reach out to friends or visitors at church and invite them home. Their children were encouraged to bring their friends home rather than go elsewhere and many a student from G.L.C.C. considered the Whitfield house to be their "home away from home". Hospitality was second nature to Vilma. She loved being with people and freely shared her convictions.

Reflecting on some of Vilma's outstanding characteristics, Don Smith (her nephew) wrote, "Vilma took seriously the virtues of God and applied them in her life, at her work and at church. As

Jesus went around doing good, so did Vilma... She was a proficient, professional woman who rose in the ranks of her career. She was respected and admired by her peers in a very difficult job... She expected the best because she gave her best and she gave her best because she knew God was always giving her His best... Vilma's talents were many. In Romans 12 the apostle Paul lists various spiritual talents; serving, teaching, encouraging, contributing to the needs of others, leadership and empathy. Vilma not only embraced all these talents, she practically demonstrated them on a daily basis. Vilma was an exceptional woman."

In the days and weeks that have passed since Vilma's death, Don and his family have been overwhelmed by the many generous expressions of sympathy. This outpouring of love and respect is an impressive tribute to Vilma's life. We thank God for the time we had with her and thank our brothers and sisters in Christ for helping us through this difficult time.

Submitted by Julie Cromwell

Coming...  
April 5-7, 2002  
to  
Ontario Street Church of Christ  
439 Ontario St.  
St. Catharines, ON  
905-935-9581  
MICHAEL TACKETT  
of  
Key to the Kingdom  
watch Michael on Vision TV  
(cable 24) at 12:30 am Sunday nights

## CAMP OMAGH

is seeking applicants for the 2002 Camp Season  
(July 4th - August 26th, 2002) for the following positions:

**Maintenance Person:** *Related experience helpful*

**Lifeguard:** *Must have relevant qualification*

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For information please contact David Jaggard  
jaggard@skyline.net

**Resumes need to be sent to:**

David Jaggard  
13 Paisley Ave. S.  
Hamilton, ON L8S 1T8

*Applications need to be received by February 15, 2002  
All applicants must be 16 years old or older*



THE BRAMALEA CHURCH OF CHRIST INVITES YOU TO ATTEND...



# Jesus: Lord of All Nations

*- A Time of Celebration for His People -*

## *40th Annual Training for Service*

- ◆ Great classes for all ages
- ◆ Compelling worship
- ◆ Fellowship with friends and family
- ◆ Coffee & muffins at Registration

### FEATURED SPEAKERS:

**Dr. Evertt Huffard, Jr.** of Memphis, TN (Adults)

**Michael Blakley** of Milwaukee, WI (Youth)

**FEATURING A MULTICULTURAL, MULTILINGUAL TIME OF WORSHIP!**

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTHFEST 2002

**FRI. MAR. 29 – SAT. MAR. 30**

TIME: 6 PM (Friday) - 5 PM (Saturday)

WHERE: Bramalea church building  
(750 Clark Blvd., Bramalea, ON)

COST: \$10.00

BRING: sleeping bag, pillow, towel, Bible

This will be an extension of our time together at Training for Service. Expect meaningful fellowship, memorable devotionals, and challenges with relevant lessons by Michael Blakley.

*Don't miss out on the fun!!!*

**Friday, March 29, 2002**

**9:00 am - 3:30 pm**

**Cawthra Park  
Secondary School  
1230 Cawthra Rd.  
Mississauga, Ontario  
(south of the QEW)**

Questions? Contact Walter Straker at (905)792-2297



**KINGSTON:** 446 College St., K7L 4M7, Sun 10, 11: Wed 7; (613) 546-5409 (off).

**KITCHENER SOUTH:** Kitchener City Hall (Learning Room), 200 King St. W., Sun. 11:15, 12:30; Wed. 7:30 in homes; Gregory Smith, sec., 480 Drummerhill Cres., N2T 1G4; (519) 884-2449.

**LONDON:** 1750 Huron St., N5V 3A2, (519) 455-6730, Sun. 9:30, 11; Call for mid-week opportunities. Harold Byne, ev., 645-0575; FAX 645-6037

**LONDON (East):** 380 Adelaide North, Tolpuddle Building Common Rm., entrance off of Adelaide at King St. S. Parking in Marshall Street Lot behind building. Sun. 9:45 a.m. Exhortation; 10:05 a.m. Bible Study; 11:00 Worship; Tuesday Afternoon at 1 p.m. in Board Room. Brian V. Sullivan, evangelist 905 892-6247 or bvsprchr@computan.on.ca Web site: <http://www.computan.on.ca/~bvsprchr/>

**MEAFORD:** 113 Nelson St W N4L 1G3; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30; Randy Morrill and Scott Mansfield, evs.; (519) 538-1750, e-mail. [meafordcofc@bmts.com](mailto:meafordcofc@bmts.com).

**NEWMARKET:** 230 Davis Dr. Sun. 9:45, 11, 00, 6:30; Wed 7:30, Box 21581, L3Y 8J1, Clayton McLeod, sec., (905) 473-9447 893-6502 (off)

**NIAGARA FALLS:** 3901 Dorchester Rd. N., L2J 3A8, (905) 356-3412 (turn E. on Thorold Stone Rd. from Q.E. and left on Dorchester Rd.). Sun 10:30, Wed 7:30; Henry Boland, (905) 356-0107 and Darrin Douglas (905) 371-1581, evs

**NORTH BAY:** 73 Gertrude St. E., Sun. 11:15, 10:30; 6:30 in homes (call for information); Wed 7; Box 745, P1B 8J8, (705) 472-7040 (off), David Lock, ev. 78-345 Mulligan St. P1A 3S3, (705) 475-0911, e-mail—big-daver@vianet.on.ca. WebSite—<http://www.geocities.com/Hearthland/Meadows/8939>.

**OMAGH:** 1412 Britannia Road W at 4th line, Milton, L9T 2X8; Sun. 10, 11, Thurs 7:30 in homes, c/o Harold Ellis, Sec. R #3, Campbellville, L0P 1B0, (905) 878-7565; Bryan Meneer, ev. (905) 383-5259, 875-2939 (off)

**OTTAWA:** 1515 Chomley Cres., K1G 0V9, Sun 10, 11, 6, Wed 7, Robert MacRury, ev., 733-2580 (off), 737-0701 (res.)

**OWEN SOUND:** 835 10th Ave. E., N4K 3H8, Sun 9:45, 11, 6, Thurs 7, Brian Thompson, (519) 376-6702 (off), 372-2155 (res.) <[osococ@bmts.com](mailto:osococ@bmts.com)>

**PETERBOROUGH:** Chapel, Rubidge Retirement Residence (Sherbrooke & Rubidge), Sun. 10 and 10:45, Wed 7:30 at 220 Gallagher St.; Peter McPherson, ev phone 705-742-5349 or 876-7104, <[petermc@peterboro.net](mailto:petermc@peterboro.net)>

**PINE ORCHARD:** Sun. 10, 11, Bruce Brandon, sec. 852-5026, RR 2, Uxbridge, L9P 1R2

**PORT COLBORNE:** 700 Steele St., L3K 4Z2, Sun 11, 10, 6:30, Wed 6:30, Pot luck every first Sunday. (905) 834-5775 (off)

**ST. CATHARINES:** 439 Ontario St N., L2N 4M9, Sun 9:30, 10:30, 6, Wed 7:30, Steve Cordle, ev., (905) 934-3862 (res), 935-9581 (off), Email: [churchofchrist@sun.aibn.com](mailto:churchofchrist@sun.aibn.com), WebSite <http://churchofchrist@n3.net>

**ST. CATHARINES (Garden City):** UNF Hall, 77 Facer St., Sun 9, 10, 11, Wed 7, c/o Roy Diestelkamp, ev 1231/2 Keefer Rd., Thorold ON L2V 4N1, ev 227-8336

**ST. THOMAS:** 60 S Edgeware Rd N5P 2H6, Sun 10, 11, Wed 7

**SARNIA:** 796 Errol Rd E., N7V 2G7, Sun 9:30, 10:45, 6:30, Wed 7, Skip Francis, ev., (519)-339-1161 (off) 344-4846 (res.), E-mail: <[sarcofc@etech.net](mailto:sarcofc@etech.net)>. Other contact Vern Hibbard, (519) 383-6700, email <[vhibbard@ebtech.net](mailto:vhibbard@ebtech.net)>

**SAULT STE. MARIE (Eastside):** 99 Melville Rd., P6A 5J6, Sun 10, 11, 7, Wed 7:30, (705) 946-1930

**SAULT STE. MARIE (Pinehill):** 132 Cunningham Rd., P6B 1N4, Sun 9:30, 10:50, call for Sun pm time; Wed 7, Roger Lansdell, ev., (705) 256-1977 (off/res), <[rslansdell@sympatico.ca](mailto:rslansdell@sympatico.ca)>, Rob Whitfield, sec., (705) 949-7612, <[rwhitfield@sympatico.ca](mailto:rwhitfield@sympatico.ca)>

**SELKIRK:** 1/2 km N of village, Sun 10, 11, Wed 7:30; Box 13, N0A 1P0

**SMITHVILLE:** 246 Station St L0R 2A0, Sun 10, 11, 6, Wed 7 Chris Nicholson, ev (905) 957-6039

**SOUTH RIVER:** Jasper St S., off Ottawa St W., Sun 10, 11, 6, Wed. 7:00, Box 549, P0A 1X0; Jim Nicholson, ev (705) 384-5215, church bldg. 386-2551.

**STONE CREEK:** 105 King St. E., L8G 1L1, (905) 664-1130 (off), Sun 9:45, 11; Sun & Tues evenings call for time and place. Darrell Buchanan, ev., (905) 664-7583(res), Robert Priestnall, sec.

**STRATFORD:** 478 Brunswick St., N5A 3N6, Sun 9:30 Assembly; 10:00 Bible Study, Wed 7:30, (519) 273-5280, George Mansfield, ev 272-1714, <[gmansfield@quadro.net](mailto:gmansfield@quadro.net)>. John Brush, 625-1045, Larry Hoover, 271-9545, Joseph Kippax, 744-3439

**SUIDBURY:** 2663 Bancroft Dr P3B 1T7, Sun 10, 11, 6, Wed. 7:00, 566-2898, Wes Bailey, sec. 523-0933

**SUNDRIDGE:** Hwy 11 N., Sun 10, 11, Wed 7, PO Box 927, P0A 1Z0, (705) 384-5214, Steve May, ev 384-0597

**TECUMSEH (North Shore):** St. Clair Beach Community Center, 13731 St. Gregory Rd., Sun 9:15, 10:15, Contact Rick Liebrook, 172 Pheasant Run Dr. RR1 Belle River ON N0R 1A0, (519) 735-0270; Ron Meecham, ev

**THESSALON:** 8 Albert St. off Hwy 17, Sun 10, 11, 7, Wed 7:30, Eric White, RR 2, P0R 1L0 (705) 842-6533, Murray Smith, ev., 842-2741

**THUNDER BAY:** 501 Edward St N (at Redwood), P7C 4R1, Sun 9:45, 11 (call for summer hours), Wed 7, Eric Bailey, ev (807) 473-5353(res.), (807) 577-2213 (off), email <[ebailey@baynet.net](mailto:ebailey@baynet.net)>

**TILLSONBURG:** 1 mi N on Hwy 19, Sun 9:30, Wed 7:00, Box 331, N4G 4H8, 842-7118

**TIMMINS:** 290 Riverside Dr., Sun. 10, 11, Wed. 7:30 Box 1396, P4N 7N2; for more information call Larry Frost, sec./treas., (705) 268-4526

**TINTERN:** R R #1, 4359 Spring Creek Rd., Vineland, ON L0R 2C0, Sun 11:15, 9:45, 6 (call to confirm), Wed 7:00, Jim Holston, ev (905-563-6348 (res), 563-6311 (off)

**TORONTO (Bnyview Ave.):** 1708 Bayview Ave., M4G 3C4 (1 block S of Eglinton), Sun 10, 11, Wed 7:30, Michael Hilborn, 63 Campbell Ave., M6P 3T9, (416) 534-3033; Tony Lewis, ev., (416) 489-7405 (off)

**TORONTO (Harding Ave.):** 47 Harding Ave., M6M 3A3, Sun 10, 11, 7, Wed 8, Dick Forsyth, ev. Beamsville, 563-7874, Aikins Wiredu, sec., 242-8731

**TORONTO (Strathmore Blvd.):** 346 Strathmore Blvd M4C 1N3 (across from Coxwell subway station), Sun 9:45, 11, 6, Wed 7, Marvin Johnson (416) 752-0325, Stephen Gill (416) 265-2496, Peter Dusomoh (416) 462-3616, Jean Voley (416) 267-6820, Elders, Max Craddock (416) 461-7406, e-mail <[maxe@strathmorecofc.ca](mailto:maxe@strathmorecofc.ca)>, FAX (416) 424-1850, Santiago Molina (Spanish) (416) 751-6879, ev. Devon Bennett (English) ev (905) 686-2486, website [www.strathmorecofc.ca](http://www.strathmorecofc.ca)

**TRENTON-BELLEVILLE:** Sun 9:45, 10:45, p.m. in homes; Tues. p.m. in homes; P.O. Box 22049, Trenton Center, Trenton, ON K8V 6S3; M. McDonnell (613) 969-0741, J. Short 965-1079.

**VANDELEUR:** E. off Hwy #10 (2 km S of Markdale) along Artemesia Township sideroad 10 7 km, Sun. 10, 11; Ian Boyce, sec., R.R. #6, Markdale, N0C 1H0; (519) 986-2143 Gordon Dennis, RR3; Mount Forest, Box 274, N0G 2L0; (519) 334-3077

**WATERLOO:** 62 Hickory St. W. (at Hazel), N2L 3J4; (519) 885-6330 (off), Sun. 9:15, 10, 30, and 6:00 (except 4th Sunday), Wed. 7:30, Javier Cuarezma, ev (519) 743-2587 (res.), Bill Schwarz, ev. (519) 571-1047 (res.)

**WELLAND:** 72 Summit Ave., L3C 4G6, 11, 10, 6:30, Wed. 6:30 David Stewart, 834-5652, Harold Bruggen, ev. 732-2465

**WINDSOR (West Side):** 2255 Totten St., N9B 1X6 (E. of Huron Church Rd.), 254-6262 or 945-4851; Sun. 9:45, 11, 5:30, Wed. 7:00; Drew Chapados, ev., 1179 Harrison Ave., N9C 3J4, (519) 250-4407, Chad Celaire, ev., email: [wsidcoec@wincom.net](mailto:wsidcoec@wincom.net), [www.geocities.com/wsidcoec](http://www.geocities.com/wsidcoec)

#### PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

**MONTREAL (French):** 2500 Charland, H1Z 1C5, Sun 10 15, 11 00; Wed. 7:00 (Fr. class), 1st Sat. 6:30 p.m. "Phoebe" women's class, last Sat. 6:00 youth meeting; Silvio Caddeo, ev., 387-6163 (off), 337-9344 (res.), email: <[caddeo@sympatico.ca](mailto:caddeo@sympatico.ca)>

**MONTREAL (English/French/Ashante/Ghanian):** 2401 St. Jacques, Sun. 10, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:30 (English); Fri. 7 (French); PO Box 66 West Mount Station, H3Z 2T1, James Bell, ev. (514) 683-1638 (res), (514) 934-0400 (work)

**MONTREAL (Verdun):** 503-5th Avenue, Verdun, QC H4G 2Z2, (514) 765-8919, (French) Sun 10, 11, Wed 7, Roger Saumur, ev (450) 635-5105, rogersaumur@sympatico.ca, <http://www3.sympatico.ca/rogersaumur/>, (English) Sun. 11, 10, Wed 7

**PLESSISVILLE:** Centre Communautaire, André Côté, CP21, G6L 2Y6, Sun 11, 10, Yvon Beaudoin, (418) 653-3493.

**QUEBEC CITY:** 2980 Verreuil, Ste-Foy (corner Jean-Noel), Sun 9:30, 10:30 (French), Wed. 19:30, C.P. 9041 Ste-Foy, G1V 4A8, Yvon Boaudoin, ev (418) 728-5240

#### PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

**BENGOUGH:** E side Hwy. 34; Sun 10:30, 11:15, Norman Kemp, Box 134, S0C 0K0, (306) 268-4522

**ESTEVAN:** 1302 8th St., S4A 1H6, 634-3116, Sun 10, 11, 7, Wed 7, Tim Pippus, ev., 634-8195, res.

**GRAVELBOURG:** 300-2nd Ave E.; Sun 10:30, Box 507, S0H 1X0, Wendell Bailey, ev (306) 648-3435, Marvin Bandura, Sec 648-3629

**HORSE CREEK:** Sun 10:30 (May-Nov.); 11 (Dec-Apr); Lonnie Goodwin, Box 58, McCord, S0H 2T0, (306) 478-2516

**LLOYDMINSTER:** 56 Ave and 47 St., Box 88, S9V 0X9, Sun 10, 11, (780) 875-4056; email: <[kawed@telusplanet.net](mailto:kawed@telusplanet.net)>

**MOOSE JAW:** 901 James St. S6H 3H5; Sun 10, 11, 2, Wed 7:30 (CST), Ron Hegdahl, ev (306) 693-4064 (off)

**NORTH BATTLEFORD:** 1462-110 St., S9A 2J2, Sun 10-11, Wed 7, Box 804, Wilkie, S0K 4W0, Contact: Owen Davies, (306) 843-2210

**PERRYVILLE:** Meetings in the home of Sheldon Perry, Phone (306) 835-2681, Mail to Box 496, Wynyard, S.

**PRINCE ALBERT:** 264-23rd St W, S6V 4L6; Sun 10, 11, 763-3057 (off), Dean Hotchkiss, ev (306) 763-2218 Contact Bob Jenkins, 764-6187

**RADVILLE:** 714 Beckwell Ave., Sun 10 (Winter 817 Beckwell Ave.), Richard Thuc, sec., Box 532, S0C 2G0, (306) 869-3103 (res.)

**REGINA:** 1825 Rohlwell St S4N 2C3; (306) 757-1825, FAX 757-5727, Please call for times, Ray McMillan, senior min. 949-0969

**SASKATOON:** Hours may vary, Please phone to be certain, Office 343-7922, Bob Parker, ev. 343-7884, location & mail, 134 Cardinal Cres S7L 6H6, Fax 343-1589, e-mail: <[stoncofc@sk.sympatico.ca](mailto:stoncofc@sk.sympatico.ca)>

**SASKATOON (Hub City Church of Christ):** Rm 13, Albert Community Center, Clarence Ave at 11 St. (Use south entrance off parking lot, take elevator to main floor), Sun 2:30 Call ahead for possible changes Taylors, 933-2706, Bastians, 931-8978, Browns, 255-2025

**SWIFT CURRENT:** 400 2nd Ave S E., S9H 3J6, Sun 10, 11, Wed 6:30, Susan Eidem, sec., 773-1185

**WAWOTA:** Hwy 48 W. of town, Sun 10, Mid-week call, Box 454, S0G 5A0, (306) 739-2103 (off), Michael Parker, ev., or contact G Husband, (306) 739-2915 or G. McMillan, (306) 538-4654

**WEYBURN:** 1115 First Ave NE (Hwy 13E), S4H 0N2, Sun 9:30, 10:30, 7, Wed 7, Scott Wade, ev. (306) 842-6424 (off), (306) 848-2032 (res)

**WHITEWOOD:** Legion Hall, 738 Lalonda St., Sun 11, Midweek call, Box 1798 Esterhazy, S0A 0X0, Contact Merle Nelson for more information, (306) 745-2311.

**YORKTON:** 550 Parkview Rd., S3N 2L7, Sun 11:30, 10:15, (306) 783-6877 (bldg), Gilles Guenette, sec (306) 782-2917.

## CALENDAR

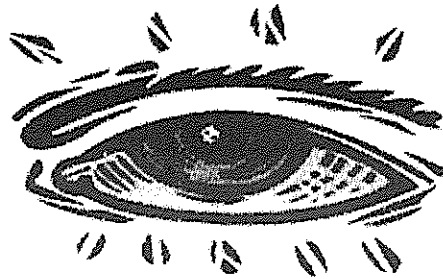
### February

- 22-24** Meaford, ON: Youth Rally April
- March**
- 9-15** Welland, ON: Campaigners from Searcy, AR
- 15-17** Edmonton, AB: Alberta Spring Fellowship with Jim McGuiggan and Thaddeus Bruno
- Carman, MB: Lectureship**
- April**
- 19-21** Beamsville, ON: Spring Spiritual Renewal

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT

# *Vision Canada 2002*

conference  
theme  
evangelism



the fields are  
white unto  
harvest

Will be held:

Tuesday June 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2002

On the Campus of

**The Kings  
University College**

Edmonton Alberta Canada

Further information and reservation details will be available early in 2002

All inquiries must be addressed to:

Charles E. Limb 13015 - 116 Avenue Edmonton Alberta T5M 3C9

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*The above program is sponsored by the Edmonton Church of Christ, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*