

20 JANUARY 2013

ambassador|baptistchurch



Be ye reconciled to God  
2 Corinthians 5:20

# be ye *reconciled* to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

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from the pastor's heart

## BE AT PEACE WITH MEN



### today's program

the **news**

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opening **prayer**

**hymn** |

**hymn** |

**offertory**

**hymn** |

**exhortation** | pastor johnny

**invitation** and closing

 Pastor Johnny Tan ([johnny@ambassador-baptist.org](mailto:johnny@ambassador-baptist.org))

 Courtesy Alan Turkus, Flickr

*If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.*

### **Romans 12:18**

When Adam and Eve were created, there was world peace. There was only two of them; they were one with

each other and they were one with God. Everything they did was in unison and harmony and there was no strife, dissension and problem. However when they sinned against God, the unity was broken and strife entered into this world. Yet, through the death of the Lord Jesus and His resurrection and with

the power in us to have the peace of God in our hearts and the ability to preserve the peace God intended, Paul instructed the believers in Rome and the world over to live peaceably with all men. There are enough conflict situations in this world to warrant a clear

continued on page 2

teaching of scripture on this for churches, families and all social situations.

**Notice firstly, this peace is only a possibility.** To say we will have peace in all situations as we act is to be idealistic and wrong. There will be conflicts, even among family and brethren. Even if we ourselves want to do the right thing, it takes two hands to clap so that peace can be maintained. When one aims to do right but the other in pride resists, then peace cannot be assured.

**Notice secondly, the point for peace begins with the believer.** When we become Christians, there is always still the possibility of strife but when at all possible, let not the strife begin or originate with us. As much as we have control over the situation or to any point, Paul's instruction is to do all we can to prevent if possible a conflict. It is written that we be always be endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3). If there is a power, a possibility, as much as you are in control of the situation, be at peace, be calm with every man. It must never be in the character of Christians to initiate strife and contention because the Bible says that only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom (Proverbs 13:10).

**Notice thirdly, we are to live at peace with all men.** This includes our family, church friends, school friends and others. We are to ensure that we are able to be quick to maintain harmonious and good relationships with all men, without compromising Bible truth. Yes, this passage means even our enemies. It is God's will when He sent His son to establish peace on earth that when a man's ways please the Lord, He can live even at peace with His enemies (Proverbs 16:7)

Dear friend, is there strife in your heart or with men? May we live peaceably with all men, doing all we can to ensure that peace is maintained for the glory of God and the serenity of men.

thought of the week

...the happiness or blessedness of believers in a future life will be greater or less in proportion to the service of Christ in this life. Those who love little, do little; and those who do little, enjoy less.

memory verse

Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Zechariah 4:6

*Sunday Worship Service  
20 January 2013  
"The Hope of Heaven"*

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 5: 1 - 9**

**Genesis 1:7 - 8** And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

**Psalms 19:1** The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

**Isaiah 66:1** Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

**1 Corinthians 2:9** But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

**Philippians 1:23** For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

**2 Corinthians 5:8** We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

**Hebrews 11:10** For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

**Matthew 17:2 - 3** And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him

**Luke 16:23** And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

**Philippians 3:20** For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Sunday Worship Service  
20 January 2013  
"The Hope of Heaven"

Passage \_\_\_\_\_

## introduction

I. Heaven in the bible has three meanings:

A. \_\_\_\_\_ heavens

B. \_\_\_\_\_ heavens

C. \_\_\_\_\_ heaven

## four things about Paul's hope of heaven

I. Paul knows and earnestly desires for the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ body when this \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ is dissolved

II. Paul's intention was not to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of this life but to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven

III. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ in Heaven is \_\_\_\_\_ by GOD

A. This \_\_\_\_\_ is given by the \_\_\_\_\_

B. This \_\_\_\_\_ is received by \_\_\_\_\_

# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

## NORTHLAND STUDENTS RAPPING “JESUS LOVES ME”



The following is excerpted from “Northland Students Perform New ‘Jesus Loves Me,’” In Defense of the Gospel blog, Sept. 21, 2012 -- “In his November 2010 Open Letter Northland International University (NIU) president Dr. Matt Olson declared that in the area of music philosophy, ‘NIU is unchanged!’ We have in past articles seen video evidence that NIU has changed drastically in the area of music performance. Matt Olson wrote that the goal of NIU will be to, ‘make sure Northland’s practice of music ... is built principally on clear teachings from the Bible...’ Today, I am presenting a new video recording that challenges the claim that NIU’s music philosophy is ‘unchanged’ and that clear teachings from the Bible are behind the practice of music at NIU. The video was recorded this semester at the home of current NIU Academic Chair for Communications, Mr. Brock Miller. Communication professors Lydia Stewart and Rachel Trach were also at this gathering. The occasion of the video was a fellowship for Communications department students. The participants in the video were described by students on their FaceBook pages as students who are proud to display their, ‘rapping skills, beatboxing skills, attempting to

harmonize ... Yeah, Communications majors have it all!’ Had this been a one-time matter, there would be real disappointment. The video is, however, much like the behavior in NIU’s chapel with the song/dance routine to ‘What is This Feeling’ from the Broadway play WICKED. Do the sensual chants of RAP measure up to our

mandate to sing and make melody to the Lord? You have just seen students, at the home and under the supervision of NIU faculty, disparaging the name of Jesus. Can anyone honestly say that the conduct of the students in this video is ‘God-focused?’” The rapping video can be seen at <http://indefenseofthegospel.blogspot.com/2012/09/northland-students-perform-new-jesus.html>.

## PASTOR FORCED TO WITHDRAW FROM DELIVERING OBAMA’S INAUGURAL BENEDICTION FOR OPPOSING HOMOSEXUALITY

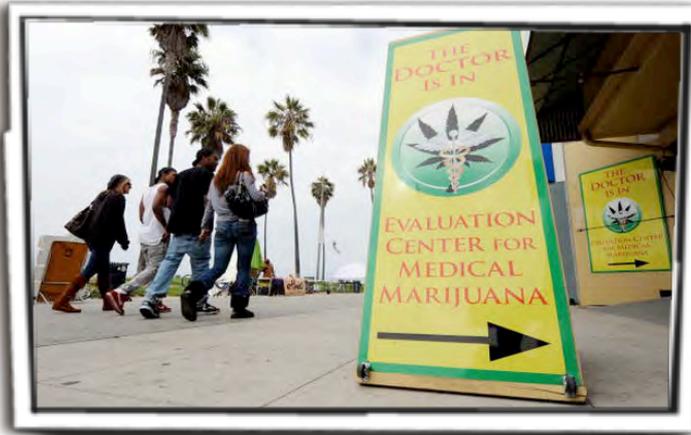
Pastor Louie Giglio was forced to withdraw from delivering the benediction at President Obama’s inaugural swearing-in ceremony because of his opposition to homosexuality. In a sermon preached in the 1990s entitled “A Christian Response to Homosexuality,” Giglio said: “Homosexuality is not an alternate lifestyle. Homosexuality is not just a sexual preference. Homosexuality is not gay. Homosexuality is sin. It is sin in the eyes of God and it is sin according to the word of God.” Giglio also said that same-sex “marriage” would “run the risk of undermining the whole order of society.” Because of these true words, Bible-hating homosexual activists demanded that he not deliver the address at the presidential inauguration, and Obama obviously agreed, because the inaugural committee withdraw its invitation. The growing power of the homosexual movement is evident in that four years ago they were not able to stop Rick Warren from speaking at Obama’s first inauguration, though they tried for the same reason that they opposed Giglio. Neither Giglio nor Warren are staunch Bible believers, or they would not have received such an invitation in the first place, but the vicious opposition even to rock & roll, ecumenical preachers such as

these reveals the irrationality and intolerance of the homosexual agenda. And why are the enemies of truth so empowered today? Because of preachers in the pulpits who do not preach the fear of God in a scriptural fashion and therefore have filled the land with a nominal Christianity that has placed the nation under God’s curse. The solution is for God’s believing people to pay undivided attention to their individual lives, families, and churches so that for our sake God will bless instead of curse. We need to forget the politicking and get serious about obeying God’s Word. “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land” (2 Chron. 7:14).



*Louie Giglio*

# IS MARIJUANA A HARMLESS DRUG?



The following information is sobering in light of the fact that in the November election Colorado and Washington became the first states in America to legalize the possession and sale of marijuana for “recreational use” and a USA Today poll recently found that 70% of Americans age 30 and older oppose enforcement of existing federal laws against marijuana use. My personal deep experimentation with drugs such as marijuana before I was converted confirm its danger in my own mind. The following report doesn’t address the drug’s spiritual dangers. This is excerpted from “Science Suggests Smoking Pot,” Melanie Haiken, Forbes, Sept. 10, 2012: “Here in California, marijuana is now treated as a minimal vice, with legalization inevitable and decriminalization for possession amounting to a tap on the hand. Medical marijuana cards are so easy to obtain, they’re the butts of endless popular jokes. On the famed

Venice Beach boardwalk, booths tout on-the-spot ‘evaluations’ and customers walk out the door with newly minted photo ID cards in under an hour. High schools across the country celebrate April 20th as ‘420 Day,’ a fact I know because my daughter’s high school, San Rafael High, is nationally famous (or infamous, depending on your perspective) as the birthplace of the term 420. (Coined, supposedly, because 4:20 pm was the time at which kids would meet after school to light up.) ... Is it really relatively harmless for young men--and women--to get high? Today’s headline was pretty bold: ‘Smoking pot leads to double the risk of developing testicular cancer.’ ... Those who smoked pot recreationally were twice as likely to develop testicular germ cell tumors, or nonseminomas, the most common kind in men under 35, says a study in Cancer. Nonseminomas are faster growing and harder to treat--a deadly combination--say researchers at the University of Southern California. This study, though small, is actually the third study to link nonseminomas to pot use; the first two were also published in Cancer. ... Last week’s headline was at least as alarming as this week’s. Researchers followed a group of youngsters from age 13 to age 38, and found that the IQs of regular pot smokers fell up to 8 points during the 25-year period, compared with the IQs of those who didn’t smoke pot, which stayed the same. ... In a German study that followed a group of teenagers for ten years, those who smoked pot at least 5 times were more than twice as likely to develop schizophrenia. ... The health risks of marijuana for women are much less well known, as of yet. But what is known is that pot smoking decreases fertility for both men and women, and appears to have the potential for genetic damage to future children.”

## PLANNED PARENTHOOD PROUD OF DESTROYING AN UNBORN BABY EVERY 94 SECONDS

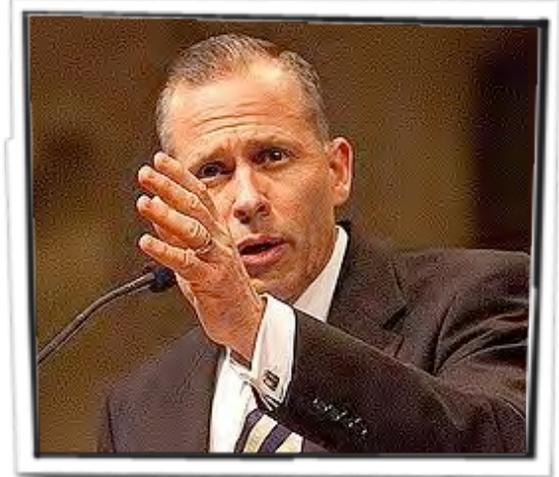
The following is excerpted from “Planned Parent’s New Annual Report,” CNSNews, January 7, 2013: “Planned Parenthood Federation of America’s latest annual report for 2011-2012 says that its affiliated clinics performed 333,964 abortions in fiscal 2011. That works out to an average of one abortion every 94 seconds. The 333,964 abortion Planned Parenthood did in fiscal 2011 is an increase of 4,519 from the 329,445 abortions it did in 2010, according to a fact sheet that Planned Parenthood published last year. Over two years, Planned Parenthood says, it has aborted 663,409. The 2011-2012 report states that Planned Parenthood received \$542.4 million in ‘government health services grants and reimbursements,’ which it states includes ‘payments from Medicaid managed care plans.’ The report also shows that Planned Parenthood’s total assets top \$1 billion dollars, specifically \$1,244.7 billion. ‘We are so proud of the year’s many successes, and deeply grateful for all the partners, sponsors, volunteers, staff and friends who

helped make them possible,’ states the report’s introductory letter, signed by PPA president Cecile Richards and Cecelia Boone, chairwoman of the organization.”



## SCHAAP BLAMES AFFAIR WITH TEENAGE GIRL ON STRESS

In a memorandum filed by his attorney, Jack Schaap argues that he committed an affair with a 16-year-old girl because of stress. In September 2012, Schaap, former pastor of First Baptist Church of Hammond, Indiana, pleaded guilty to the charge of transporting a minor across state lines for sexual relations, and he is currently in jail awaiting sentencing. The minimum sentence for this federal offence is 10 years in prison, but it could be more, and Schaap is asking for the minimum, arguing that he had been “regularly working 100-hour weeks,” struggling to raise more money for the church, being forced to lay off staff, and handing additional counseling responsibilities. The filing was accompanied by 140 letters of support, including those from pastors. Sentencing was supposed to be given on January 15, but an assistant U.S. attorney has asked the judge for a continuance and it has apparently been moved to March 12. In his guilty plea, Schaap admitted that his action was “sinful and wrong.” (The free eBook *The Hyles Effect* documents the moral debauchery that has plagued First Baptist Church since the days of Jack Hyles.)



## SYRIAN MUSLIM REBELS INTEND TO ESTABLISH THE NEW ISLAMIC CALIPHATE



The Muslim rebels who are fighting to overthrow Assad in Syria and who might have been involved in the murder of the U.S. ambassador and other U.S. government personnel, said in an interview that their objective is to build a new Islamic Caliphate (“Syrian Rebel Founding ‘Robin Hood Brigade,’” MEMRI TV, Dec. 6, 2012). They said, “When, Allah willing, we cleanse Syria, we won’t stop there.” Next they will attack Israel (“all the way to Jerusalem”), Iran, Iraq (“where there is still some filth”), Spain, and Turkey. They called Iran, Istanbul, and Spain by their ancient names of Persia, Constantinople, and Andalusia. They concluded, “Now that we have weapons, we don’t intend to ever lay them down.” The reason this won’t happen is that it is not described in Bible prophecy. The antichrist will not be a

Muslim (contrary to a new view that has some growing support), but he might be associated with an Islamic prophet of some sort and at the dawn of his career he will be the most dynamic peacemaker the world has even seen. He will seemingly solve the simmering “Middle East problem” and even make it possible for Israel to build her Third Temple, a temple that he will eventually defile with his own idolatry and blasphemy.

## KNOWLEDGE SHALL INCREASE

About 2,500 years ago, during the Persian Empire, an angel told the prophet Daniel, “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased” (Daniel 12:4). We are seeing a dramatic fulfillment of this in our day. Recent inventions include the following: **(1) An IBM team has taken photographs of single molecules that show the details of the bonding of individual atoms** (“Atomic bond types discernible,” BBC News, Sept. 13, 2012). The photography uses atomic force microscopy (AFM). The technique requires complete



isolation from any kind of vibration coming from the surroundings and the cooling of the apparatus to -268C. **(2) A British team is developing a car that it hopes will break the land speed record by traveling at 1,000mph** (“Training to break the world land speed record,” BBC News, Sept. 13, 2012). The rocket-powered Bloodhound Supersonic Car, driven by RAF fighter pilot Andy Green, will produce 133,000 horsepower and travel 12 miles in less than

two minutes or faster than the muzzle velocity of a bullet fired from a .357 magnum handgun. **(3) Ultra-thin electronics that dissolve inside the body have been invented by U.S. scientists** (“Melt in the Body’ Electronics,” BBC News, Sept. 27, 2012). The technology, part of a field of research called “transient electronics,” involve the use of super-thin sheets of silicon encased in a silk shell that controls the timing of the dissolution.

## THE PELICAN

The pelican is another one of God’s amazing creatures. It is a large waterfowl that comes in seven or eight varieties. It has webbed feet, large wings, a long bill, and a bag of skin below its beak called a gular pouch. It varies in size from about six pounds to 30. Its skeleton weighs less than 10% of its body weight. Pelicans live in every continent except Antarctica and build their nests in colonies. The brown pelican fishes by plunge-diving headfirst into the water. This is the type of pelican that we captured in the accompanying photo from a bridge in Florida. It’s sharp eyes can see the fish from 60-70 feet in the air, in spite of the glare of the water, and it has the amazing ability to time its plunge and judge its angle perfectly to capture prey. It has air sacs under the skin to cushion the impact and help it swim back to the surface. The most distinctive feature is its pouch. It can hold about three gallons of water and the bird uses it as a net to catch fish. After scooping up its prey, it contracts the pouch to empty the water, then jerks its head back to slide the prey down its throat. A hook at the end of its upper bill helps it grip slippery food. The pelican’s bill is sensitive and helps the bird locate fish in murky water. The opening and closing of the pouch is controlled by a complex set of tongue muscles. By

contracting and relaxing the muscles, the bird can flutter its pouch at a rate of 200 times a minute as a cooling mechanism. The pelican sleeps by turning its head backwards and laying its long beak on its back. During courtship the pelican’s bill and pouch becomes multi-colored, part bright salmon pink, part yellow, part cobalt blue, with a black diagonal strip appearing from base to tip of the bill. The eggs are incubated on the parents’ feet, and the unborn chicks communicate with their mothers as to whether they are too hot or cold.



photo by David Cloud

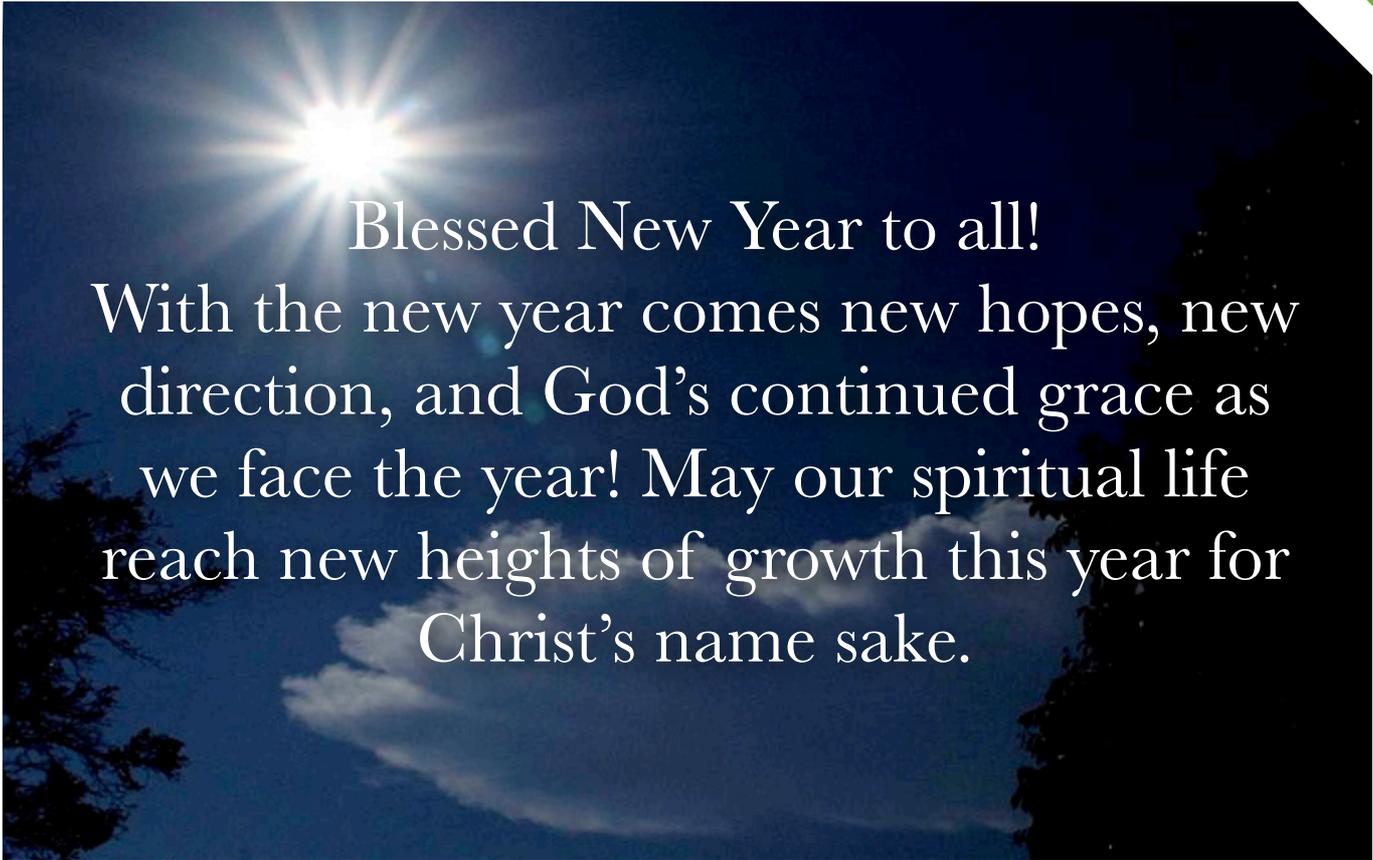
**CONCLUSION:** The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature’s Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God’s will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord’s coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof” (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).

IV. Paul's overall motivation for his service besides the \_\_\_\_\_ of God is so that His work may be \_\_\_\_\_ by Christ

personal reflection and application

**1 Corinthians 9:24 - 27 ¶** Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

**2 Timothy 2:5** And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.



Blessed New Year to all!  
With the new year comes new hopes, new direction, and God's continued grace as we face the year! May our spiritual life reach new heights of growth this year for Christ's name sake.

## THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

*"To win the north of Singapore for Christ and a thousand souls for Christ in five years."*

COMING UP • CHINESE MINISTRY

### Chinese New Year Dinner

The Chinese New Year is a traditional Chinese festival to commemorate the start of the new traditional lunar year. Families typically gather for meals during visits and other gatherings with each other.

Ambassador will use the festive season to share the love of Christ with friends and family with a special Chinese New Year Dinner on 17 February. Mark your calendars and join us! More details to be released.

### **"Chinese New Year Dinner"**

17 February 2013

*There will be a Mandarin translation of the message on 10 February.*

**28** more days...

**20 - 26 JANUARY 2013**

ambassador**baptistchurch**



"...we are reconciled to God"  
1 Corinthians 5:20

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
Faith Bible Institute	Outreach Efforts (SEM)	Outreach Efforts (YIS)		Rivers in a Dry Place	ABC Youth	Sunday Worship Service Mandarin Service

"FBI has resumed."

get in touch!

We'd love to hear from you, be it feedback about this bulletin, requests for material, or just about any other query you may have about Christ, His Kingdom, and Ambassador. Contact us by:

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[www.facebook.com/ambassador.baptist.church.SG](http://www.facebook.com/ambassador.baptist.church.SG)

**Twitter:** @abc\_singapore

weekly activities

**Sunday Services**

Children's Bible Hour 09:30AM  
Sunday Bible Hour 09:30AM  
Mandarin Service 03:30PM  
English Worship Service 11:00AM

**Routine Weekly Activities**

Faith Bible Institute  
Mondays, 07:45PM

"Rivers in a Dry Place"  
Fridays, 08:00PM

Ambassador Youth  
Saturdays, 10:30AM

For more information on our weekly activities, visit our website at [www.ambassador-baptist.org](http://www.ambassador-baptist.org)

**Outreach Efforts**

SEMBAWANG  
Person-in-Charge: Bro. Robert  
Tuesdays, 08:15PM

YISHUN  
Person-in-Charge: *We need one.*  
Wednesdays, 08:15PM

prayer requests

- **For wisdom as we prepare to move to our new facility**
- The various ministries
- **For God's leadership in the transition of Ambassador Baptist Church to a Discipleship church**
- For direction and unity in the training of Discipleship Group Leaders and other areas of training
- Souls to be saved, baptized and added to the church in 2013
- Bro. Terry's palliative care.
- ABC Biblical doctrines manual

the new testament in 4 months

- 20 JAN** Romans 8-9
- 21 JAN** Romans 10-13
- 22 JAN** Romans 14-16
- 23 JAN** 1 Cor 1-4
- 24 JAN** 1 Cor 5-8
- 25 JAN** 1 Cor 9-11
- 26 JAN** 1 Cor 12-14