

14 APRIL 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

find.it

from the pastor's heart

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from the pastor's heart

CONSISTENCY



today's program

the **news**

hymn | *come, Thou almighty King!*

opening **prayer**

hymn | *what a friend we have in
Jesus*

hymn | *come to the Saviour*


offertory

hymn | *Jesus i come*

exhortation | *pastor Johnny*

invitation and closing

 Pastor Johnny Tan (johnny@ambassador-baptist.org)

 Courtesy Hiroto, Flickr

And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

Romans 14:23

It is important to note that this passage refers to issues of non-spiritual consequence (i.e. If we do it, we are not more spiritual; if we do not do it, we

are not less spiritual.) Food and days do not commend us to God, if we observe them or not. The more important principle portrayed here is the keeping of a pure conscience and love for the brethren. When we do something that we believe to be right but with which the Bible says is inconsequential, such as food and days, and it offends or stumbles a brother of weaker faith, then we are acting uncharitably; we are not acting

in love for the brethren. This is an important point to reinforce because we live in a very self-centred society and our rights are often very important. Yet, Paul teaches that we ought to live rightly and in love to our brethren with our actions.

After teaching the Roman Christians that refraining from certain foods or importance

continued on page 2

placed on days for the sake of another's conscience is acting in love, Paul next teaches the need to act consistently with Christian principles and the Word of God. He teaches clearly that when we perform an act, being not fully convinced about its virtue and truthfulness and against our consciences, we will live in guilt and condemnation because we are not acting truthfully in line with the principles we believe in. Paul reasons that this happens because the action is inconsistent with the belief of the individual. So, whatever that is done, not of proper conviction and what we stand for but of convenience or some other lesser reason, is sin against God and against ourselves in our consciences. Therefore, we are to note the following:

We need to be fully persuaded in our minds. In Romans 14:5, it is the responsibility of individual Christians to be fully persuaded in their own convictions regarding matters of non-issues and how they will act publicly. This requires study, learning and enquiring with the idea of arriving at a conclusion for our conscience and conviction.

We need to remember to act without doubt consistently with what we know and believe. We need to ask the Lord for the courage to do the right thing, the wisdom how to do the right thing and the knowledge that we are doing the right thing. Anything less than this principle leads to sinning against the Lord Jesus and we are avoid that for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

We need to differentiate between morality and issues of non-consequence when being fully

persuaded. Some may argue, "We are fully persuaded that this is the right," when referring to issues of morality such as stealing, telling white lies, non-commitment to the Lord and his Word and work. When there is an issue of non-consequence, we are to act consistently with our belief, faith and conviction. However, when an issue of morality such as worldliness, purity of heart and life, doctrine and clear teaching of Scripture is in question, our only proper course of action is obedience to the Word of God. Even when there is doubt as to its virtue, it is always wise to err on the side of caution. In other words, if in doubt, don't. We are commanded in 1 Thessalonians 5:22 not to allow the entrance of any act, thought or situation that has the potential for sin.

We need to act consistently with love to the brethren. Just because we think it is right does not give us to the freedom the act if it will hint at causing a brother or sister in Christ to stumble.

Dear believer, is your life consistent with what you know to be right, or are you acting contrary to your convictions? Do you act consistently with care and concern that your brethren are not stumbled by your decisions and manner of life?

May our lives and our service be consistent with our intentions and our convictions, as it is reflected in the word of GOD, and taught by the Holy Spirit.

thought of the week

He who loves Jesus
consecrates to him all that he
has, and feels it a delight that
he may lay anything at the
feet of him who laid down his
life for us

Spurgeon

memory verse

My sheep hear my voice, and I
know them, and they follow me:
And I give unto them eternal life;
and they shall never perish,
neither shall any man pluck them
out of my hand.

John 10:27 – 28

Sunday Worship Service
14 April 2013
"The Heart of Giving"

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 8:7 - 15**

Proverbs 3:9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

1 John 3:16 - 17 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

Matthew 20:28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Philippians 2:6 - 8 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Philippians 4:15 - 19 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Sunday Worship Service
14 April 2013
"The Heart of Giving"

Passage: _____

introduction

What does it mean to give? The word give means to transfer of _____ to.

Carnality is by its very nature S _____ .

Spirituality is by its very nature G _____ .

To be spiritual is to be S _____ .

God wants every Christian to have the _____ of _____

how do we have the heart of giving?

I. By _____

II. By _____ from _____

III. By realizing giving is _____ of the _____ of our _____

IV. By the _____ of Christ

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

NORTHLAND ROCKERS OUT OF THE CLOSET



Northland Baptist University has been on the slippery slope of compromise for a long time, as Lou Martuneac and others have documented, but the leaders have been claiming, all too typically, that there is no change: no change in regard to ecclesiastical separation, no change in regard to Calvinism, no change in music, etc. In the 1990s, Northland's music was beautiful and truly sacred by

design. There was no hint of the world then, but that is long gone. The school's "Pizza and Praise" night is no holds barred rock & roll performed by the school's very own contemporary praise band, Redeemed. An advertisement for Northland's Redeemed was recently posted at the school's web site. On April 4, 2013, Lou Martuneac described this advertisement as follows: "The singers are being recorded in the basement of the Jacquot Educational Building, which houses the library, several classrooms, and the recording studio. Merideth Sullivan is the daughter of Peter Sullivan, hired the fall of 2010. Also in the video are Pete and Lisa Wehrey (former Dean of women), Matt Olson, the Sullivans (Merideth's parents), Mike and Sandy Glanzer (Admissions), Antone Goyak (VP for Academics), Kevin and Laurie Priest (Registrar; daughter of Ken Hay)." The Redeemed advertisement can be seen at - <http://indefenseofthegospel.blogspot.com/2013/04/the-real-unchanged-niu-comes-forward.html>



Redeemed performing at Cup of Joy

CO-CREATOR OF "THE BIBLE" MINI-SERIES CALLS POPE FRANCIS THE "POPE OF HOPE"



Roma Downey, the Roman Catholic co-creator (with her husband) of the History Channel's popular "The Bible" miniseries, says Pope Francis is "a new pope of hope" ("Roma Downey," *Christian Post*, April 4, 2013). Downey, famous for her role as "the angel Monica" in the new-agey TV series "Touched by an Angel," plays the part of Mary in "The Bible" miniseries. She says the example of Pope Francis will cause "the seeds of hope to flourish in people's hearts and people's lives." In an earlier interview, Downey said, "I have prayed to Mary and loved her my whole life" ("The Bible: An Epic Mini-Series," *Catholiclane.com*, Feb. 28, 2013). Roma is attending the University of Santa Monica "founded by New Age spiritual and self-help guru John-Roger" ("Roma Downey Happy Out of Spotlight," *Beck/Smith Hollywood*, April 23, 2013). She says that she listens to books on tape by New Age guru Eckhart Tolle, who teaches the divinity of man. (See our book *The New Age Tower of Babel* for documentation.) The creators of "The Bible" miniseries have not been afraid to add to and change God's Word. For example, they



Roma Downey and husband

EMPTY WORDS FROM LIBERAL BAPTISTS

Leaders of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention (DCBC) have issued a statement pledging to work together in spite of disagreements on the issue of “gay marriage.” The statement says, “[W]e gather on the values and principles for which we do agree, most especially the lordship of Jesus Christ, and lovingly and respectfully disagree on issues like same-sex marriage” (“DC Baptists agree to differ on gay marriage,” Associated Baptist Press, Mar. 28, 2013). Some members of congregations affiliated with the DCBC have gathered at the Supreme Court building to support “gay marriage.” The Baptist convention’s statement is a mishmash of empty words. It is impossible to honor “the lordship of Jesus Christ” while dishonoring His teaching. It is impossible to biblically “respect” those who name the name of Christ but who blatantly disobey the Bible. “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away” (2 Tim. 3:5).

Pope Francis The “Pope of Hope”

-continued from previous page

depict Abraham arguing with God about the command to sacrifice Isaac, angels defending Lot with swords and martial arts moves, Jeremiah fearfully fleeing and escaping undetected from the Babylonian army, the wise men visiting the infant Jesus at the same time as the shepherds, John the Baptist arrested for preaching that the Messiah would deliver the Jews from Rome, the devil tempting Jesus to jump off of a cliff, and Paul being “baptized” by water poured on his head. And “Jesus” is the typical long-haired hippy of popular mythical imagination.

JESUS AND HOMOSEXUAL “MARRIAGE”

The argument for “same-sex marriage” often includes the myth that Jesus didn’t say anything against homosexuality, and his alleged silence on the issue is taken as support. This idea could only be proposed successfully among people who are ignorant of the Jesus of the Bible and who are committed to an imaginary “Jesus” created in their own image. It is an idea that resonates with a generation that is in love with the false christ of *The*

Shack. The Jesus of the Bible upheld the covenant of Genesis 2, which is foundational to the Bible’s teaching on marriage and to the entire issue of biblical morality. When asked about His position on divorce, Jesus replied: “Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they

are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder” (Matthew 19:4-6). Jesus, therefore, emphatically upheld “traditional” one man/one woman marriage. In reality, those clamoring for “same-sex marriage” aren’t opposed merely to a few “hard-nosed” Christians, they are opposed to Jesus himself, at whose name “every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and ... every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:10).



THE NEW POPE'S COMMITMENT TO INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

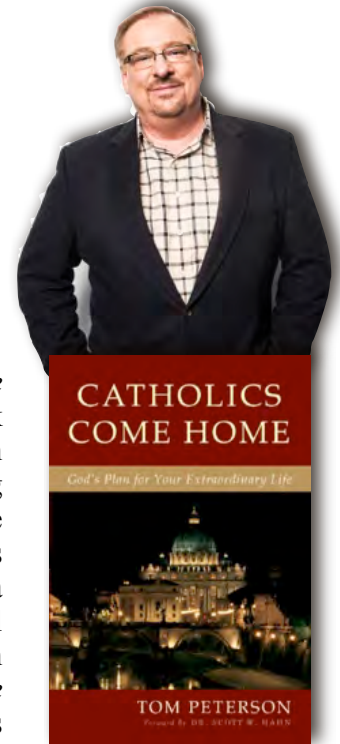
The following is from Roger Oakland's *News in Review*, April 2, 2013: "The most interesting thing about Argentine Pope Francis may be not just that he's the first Latin American to head the Vatican, but also that he may become the Church's biggest champion of interfaith dialogue ever. I just read his book *About Heaven and Earth*, which he co-authored in 2010 with Argentine Rabbi Abraham Skorka, and I was struck by the new pope's commitment to not only talk about interfaith dialogue, but to do something about it. In his book, a dialogue with Skorka about religion, the Holocaust, politics and everyday life issues, Bergoglio proudly recalls his efforts to build bridges with other religious leaders during his years as archbishop of Buenos Aires. In addition to being a frequent guest at Jewish synagogues and inviting rabbis to Catholic Masses, hosting a TV show with Skorka and participating in ceremonies honoring the victims of the Holocaust, Bergoglio changed the protocol at official Te Deum ceremonies to acknowledge the presence of leaders of other religions."

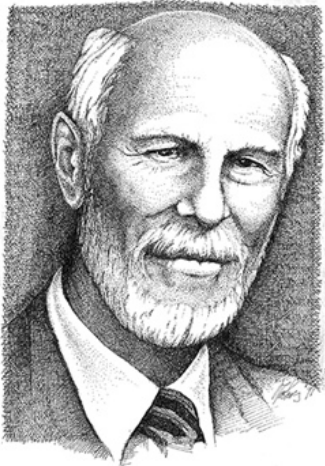


Experts believe that Bergoglio, who took the name Francis as pope, will be an example of inter-religious relations. (AP Photo/NCI-Emanu El)

RICK WARREN ENDORSES CATHOLIC EVANGELISM

Southern Baptist pastor Rick Warren of *Purpose Driven Life* fame has endorsed the 2013 book *Catholics Come Home*, which promotes the program of bringing "lapsed" Catholics back into the arms of Rome. Warren's endorsement, as follows, reflects a frightful level of spiritual blindness: "The mission of Tom Peterson and *Catholics Come Home* to bring souls home to Jesus and the church is critically important during this challenging time in our history. I fully support this new evangelization project." In truth, Catholic Evangelization is not about bringing souls to Jesus; it is about bringing them into bondage to a false gospel and a false christ. This is why the term "evangelization" is used rather than "evangelism." This program sees Catholic baptism as salvation, and it is more about Mary than Jesus. I was at the North American Congress on the Holy Spirit & World Evangelization in 1987 with media credentials when the Catholic Evangelization 2000 program was announced. The head of that program, Catholic priest Tom Forrest, headquartered in Rome, was the keynote speaker. He said that he was thankful for purgatory because it is essential for salvation. In his book *Be Holy*, which I purchased at that conference, he gave the following clear statement of Rome's false gospel of sacramentalism: "This river [of the Holy Spirit and salvation] **begans its flow with our Baptism**, and then again with the grace of our Confirmation. This was our first 'renewal' in the Holy Spirit, **these sacraments of initiation making us new creatures, new sons of God.** ... [The charismatic experience] is not a second baptism, some new sacramental grace, but rather the renewing of those sacramental graces of Baptism, Confirmation and priestly Ordination that have already made the Holy Spirit present within us" (Forrest, *Be Holy*, pp. 32, 59). (For an illustrated eye-witness report on the massive, historic, and influential North American Congress on the Holy Spirit & World Evangelization and for more about Catholic Evangelization, see the free eBook *Charismatic Confusion* at www.wayoflife.org.)





—In loving memory—

DAVE HUNT
1926 - 2013

*Precious in the sight of the
LORD is the death of his saints.*
— Psalm 116:15

DAVE HUNT WITH THE LORD

Dave Hunt, founder of the Berean Call ministry, died on April 5, 2013, at age 85. Though I didn't see eye-to-eye with him on some important issues, I appreciate the man as a warrior for the truth of God in an apostate age and I often benefited from his diligent and careful research. His full name was David Charles Haddon Hunt. His ministry reports that at least four million of his books have been sold. The thing I admired about him the most was that he did not draw back from speaking and writing on unpopular subjects and that he was more passionate about speaking the whole truth as he saw it than about having a big ministry. In a compromising, cowardly age, Dave was outspoken, though always gracious. Many of his books were very controversial in "evangelical" circles and doors were closed to him through the years, both in pulpits and in bookstores. I particularly appreciated *The Seduction of Christianity*, *A Woman Rides the Beast*, and *What Love Is This?*

THE BEE DANCE

Foraging honeybees use a complex dance to point other bees to a source of nectar. Through a figure 8 dance they can give both direction and distance. They also communicate the type and quality of nectar. The direction is indicated by the angle of the dance in reference to the sun (which the bee senses through its ability to detect the polarization pattern of the sky), and if the foraging bee has been in the hive for a length of time, it is able to adjust the angle of its dance to accommodate the changing direction of the sun. The distance, which can be up to 10 miles from the hive, is indicated by a series of straight moves called the waggle run during which the bee waggles its body and buzzes. After each straight waggle run the bee returns to the beginning point of the dance by circling back, first one way, then the other, thus forming the figure 8. The distance communicated reflects not only actual spacial distance but also the expenditure of flight energy due to such factors as a head wind. The dancing bees also release chemicals that assist in communication. The bees observing the dance can use a squeaking sound to make the dancer pause and give them a taste of the nectar.



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.

V. By _____ with our past decisions v 10 - 11

VI. By realizing the heart of giving is the _____ v12

VII. By realising that as we give, it will be given to us in _____ v13 - 15

personal reflection and application

I. What is the Lord asking us to give to Him today? _____

II. Am I willing to give my best in this area? _____

*Leftovers are such humble things,
We would not serve to a guest,
And yet we serve them to our Lord
Who deserve the very best.
We give to Him leftover time,
Stray minutes here and there.
Leftover cash we give to Him,
Such few coins as we can spare.
We give our youth unto the world,
To hatred, lust and strife;
Then in declining years we give
To him the remnant of our life.*

*O Christian assembly, give to the Lord your
best
For He gave His best at the Cross
That We might have Eternal Rest
And be saved from eternal loss
Let time and money be for His use
And strength and effort and plan
That this world's unsaved may know His
salvation
And we be blessed by His Hand*

Author Unknown

welcome to ambassador

Ambassador Baptist Church welcomes you! We are thankful for that the Lord Jesus has brought you and we believe He has something wonderful for you. May our spiritual life reach new heights of growth this year for Christ's name sake.

IN BRIEF

Books for the library



You may deposit books you wish to add in the box next to the children's room.

The book intake ends late April.

New facility



Be in prayer for the new facility as the church works to satisfy the Urban Redevelopment Authority's requirements.

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 • CHURCH EVENTS

Parent Support Group

UNDERSTANDING THE
**21ST
CENTURY
CHILD**

4 MAY 2013

Courtesy Adam Haranghy

15 - 21 APRIL 2013

ambassador **baptist** church



"Be 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

"All activities running normally"

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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Facebook:
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

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
- Souls to be saved, baptized and added to the church in 2013
- Bro. Terry's palliative care.
- **Sis Kym's parents**
- **Sis Lydia's parents**

the new testament in 4 months

- APR 15** Acts 1-2
- APR 16** Acts 3-4
- APR 17** Acts 5-6
- APR 18** Acts 7
- APR 19** Acts 8-9
- APR 20** Acts 10
- APR 21** Acts 11-12