

Objective: to reveal the operation of faith, the release greater finance into the lives of God's people & to inform the congregation of our current status.

25 July 2018
NLBC a.m.

Money, Faith, Our Mission, & The New Sheepshed

Ex. 14:8-16;

Introduction

God leads His people into green pastures of plenty...so that they can be fed and so that they are strong to complete their mission. We see clearly, that God's intent was that 'covenant people,' would not be ordinary, but extraordinary...not superior in attitude, but humble in attitude...blessed, healthy, and conquering in every situation of their lives. As a congregation, we are meant to be that kind of people, by appropriating by faith, all that Christ has given to us, by His finished work.

Our Mission

Our mission, although uniquely expressed through the particular vision we have been given, is that same as every other congregation—to preach the gospel to every creature and to make disciples. Mk. 16:15-18; Matt. 28:19, 20. Parents reproduce and then 'make disciples' of themselves, through wise parenting. Every struggle and challenge that parents face, is mirrored in the mission of the local

church as it seeks to establish disciples. God has challenged us to express His love and power in various ways:

- Sending apostolic mission teams to other nations to strengthen and help establish the work of God there—not to own those works or ‘franchise’ them but to facilitate their own unique expression of grace. Acts 13:1-6.
- Connect with other parts of the Body of Christ, locally and nationally and internationally that the power of unity might be released and Christ revealed. Ps. 133:1-3.
- Train leaders in a local church setting in a way that will enable them to work for a lifetime with other leaders in humility and wisdom and grace. Mk. 3:14; 2 Tim. 2:2; 2 Tim.4:11.
- Restore the ‘ruins’ – the places of dysfunction in families, to wholeness, vitality and great fruitfulness. Isa. 44:26; Isa. 51:3; Isa. 61:4.
- To give our ‘bread’ to those who are literally hungry and those that are spiritually anaemic...locally and internationally. Isa. 58:6-12.
- To establish the culture of the supernatural as a ‘norm’ for everyday living in responding to all of life. Acts 2:22; 2 Cor. 12:12.
- To establish worship as a ‘place of exchange’ – the exaltation of the person of Christ, leading to ‘grace flowing to us and through us,’ to our needy world. Heb. 4:16--The communion of our prayer and worship providing our internal instruction for living and our supernatural grace-giving to others.
- To inspire the next generations to live in godliness, power, wisdom and unwavering character for their own secured ‘Christ.’ (children and youth). Gen. 9:12; Ex. 3:15; Ex. 27:21.
- To change the perceived ‘standard’ for old age living. Isa. 46:4; Ps. 92:12-14.

The New Sheepshed

We have been given notice to vacate our facilities by the end of November. The current sheepshed was given to us through several miracles, both financially and in other ways. We had been quite 'nomadic,' but have enjoyed the stability and continuity of this facility for over 20 years. Now we will move. We require a larger sheepshed to house more sheep and to enable all the programmes that fulfil the vision and mission we have been given. God has led us, just like He led Israel to the Red Sea and His word to us now is: "Move on." We will rise in faith and obey!

Money

Everything that we need comes from God. 2 Cor. 9:8. The mission we have been given is humanly impossible but 'nothing will be impossible for us.' Matt. 17:20. There is an international 'wealth transfer' that occurs in the last days so that the Church can accomplish the mission of preaching the gospel to the whole world and partner with the Saviour in so doing. Israel had but to simply believe that God is The Way in everything—Canaan belonged to them. They 'plundered' the Egyptians. They eventually possessed what was theirs—but only by faith—not overtime, not 'brick-making without straw,' not 'get-rich-quick' schemes, not the lottery, but by 'hearing and obeying' the voice of the Lord. Their faith came by their hearing—hearing the voice. Our faith comes by the same manner—hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit as He echoes His word or gives us some particular instruction that does not violate the principles of the Word of God. Faith is a 'work of the Spirit' – as He speaks, faith rises in our hearts. Faith is not merely knowledge of God's will but His Spirit-spoken will in a 'given moment or situation.'

Faith

Today, God comes by His Spirit to anoint you freshly with the 'oil of joy' and the 'oil of faith' that enable you to dynamically believe and receive the 'rewards of faith.' From today, you will rise to hear Him and move into a new realm of spiritual and natural increase.