

 *"You became imitators of us and of the Lord... and so you became a model to all believers."* [1 Thessalonians 1:7]

Do You Know The Bible?

The Reverend Thomas Lewis told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you all understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark, chapter 17."



The following Sunday, as Thomas prepared to deliver his sermon; he asked for a show of hands; he wanted to know how many people had read Mark 17. Almost every hand went up. Thomas smiled and said, "Mark only has 16 chapters. I will know proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."



Letter to God...

The Sunday school teacher for grades 1 & 2 had asked her students to write a letter to God giving Him thanks for their families. This was one little girl's response.

*Dear God,
Thank you so much for the little baby brother that you gave to my family this past week. My Mommy and Daddy are so happy and tell me I'm a 'big sister' and will have lots of fun when he gets older. Just so you haven't forgotten...
I ASKED YOU FOR A PUPPY!
Love,
Joyce*

**SIGN
FROM
GOD**



Where Christ is cherished, family is loved and everyone is family!



**GETTING
CONNECTED**

Publication of...
Mt. Brydges Baptist Church
Mt Brydges, Ontario N0L 1W0 519-317-8659
mtbrydgesbaptist.ca, Edited by Pastor Dave Adams



His Unfailing Presence

Another year I enter
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its paths alone!
But I have heard a whisper,
I know I shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

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What will the New Year bring me?
I may not, must not know;
Will it be love and rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;
I surely shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

--Unknown Author



New Year's Resolution...

Love Christ, love others love yourself.

Join us each Sunday for Worship...
3 p.m. worship and praise

22243 Allan Road (@Adelaide Road) South of Mt Brydges

Thot: "Don't let anyone label you contrary to what God has deemed you." — Anonymous

Clever Ways to See Christian faith...

- Under same management for over 2,000 years.
- Soul food served daily!
- Beat the Christmas rush, start coming to church every Sunday.
- Best vitamin for Christian – B1!
- You can give without loving but you can't love without giving.
- Don't give up – Moses was once a basket case.
- Our character is like a fence – never strengthened by whitewash.



Bible Misunderstood...

- Lot's wife was the salt of the community by day but was a real ball of fire by night.
- Summary of Genesis: Adam and Eve were created in the apple tree, Noah's wife was Joan of the Ark; Noah built the Ark and the animals came on in pears.



Something to Think About...

"Should you then seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them." [Jeremiah 45:5]

Each New Year people pledge to make their lives different; they make "New Year's resolutions" in hope that this year will be different from last year – they'll lose weight, pay off their bills, drink less alcohol, quit smoking, stop biting nails, or some other sort of a promise to do an act of self-improvement or something slightly nice, such as opening doors for people beginning from New Year's Day. Perhaps it's a commitment to think positive, laugh more often, get the most out of life, or improve their career through better performance in their current job or by getting a better job. Even our youth have bought into the plan for resolutions committing to doing better at school, making new friends, treating others better. As Christians we can often fall into the same trap saying we're going to pray more, get closer to God, do more devotions, or be more spiritual.

Yet year after year success is elusive. Often participants fail their New Years' resolutions because they set unrealistic goals. Several lack the commitment to keep track of their progress and many simply forget about the commitment. In a 2007 study by Richard Wiseman from the University of Bristol involving 3,000 people it was found that 88%

of the study's participants failed even though more than half (52%) were initially quite confident. There has to be a better way!

Thankfully, there is. Jesus taught, "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

[Matthew 6:33] Clothes – including whether you'll fit in to the size you want, what to eat, where to live, and anxiety over your career can all have meaning and direction if we're willing to put God first.

Jesus means just what He says. We're called to seek the things of God as our priority over the temporal things of the world. First, we're to pursue salvation, found only in Jesus and inherent in the kingdom of God - far better and longer lasting than the best the world has to offer us. Does that mean we neglect our health, our education, and our careers? Does that mean we care not for our daily duties and responsibilities? Certainly not! But as Christians, there's a different attitude we bring toward those responsibilities and duties. As we place priority on taking care of God's business, seeking His salvation, living in obedience to Him, sharing the good news of the kingdom with others, and caring for others' needs above our own, we have the confidence God takes care of our business just as He has promised – and if that's the lens we see our lives lived out within, then what's there to worry about? Matthew Henry wrote, "There is scarcely any sin against which our Lord Jesus more warns his disciples, than disquieting, distracting, distrustful cares about the things of this life." But how do we know if we're truly seeking God's kingdom first and not following the way of the world? The old adage is, "When you're up to your neck in alligators, it's hard to remember the original aim was to drain the swamp." To ensure our perspective is sound, let's then begin by asking ourselves the tough question, "Where's my priority, my focus in life?" Is God first? Is all my time, my money, and energy spent pursuing goods and activities that certainly perish, or in

Mark your Calendar...

Sunday Jan 3rd – Communion

Sunday Series: *A Fresh Start*

Bible Study: Mondays at 8771 Parkhouse (starts Jan 11th)

- Lenten Series starts January 25th

the services of God—the results of which live on for eternity?"

Matthew 6:33 is not a formula for gaining wealth. It is a description of how God works. Have we confidence that "God will meet all our needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus"?

[Philippians 4:19]