

## Word from Pastor Don: Are You a Blessing or a Pain to Others?

Under House Arrest in Rome, Paul wrote to the small church at Philippi. Please don't "evaluate these words" but let them speak to your actions as we review ourselves. Just slow down a moment and be spiritually hungry for the Holy Spirit to guide:

Phil 1:9-11 "And thus I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgement; that you may approve things that are excellent; that you may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness." (Do you relate to others in our church out of love? Sincerely care?)

Phil 2:3-4 "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Do we serve the church for our credit or selfish reasons or with a desire to be a blessing and encouragement to others?)

Phil. 2:7 "He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness." (Do we take church responsibilities to serve or for the position?)

Phil. 2:14 Do everything without grumbling or arguing..." (Do we hear people in our church that always "pour water on others' fire? Can't we learn encouragement?)

Phil. 2:15 "...Because blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a

warped and crooked generation." (We know our world is "warped," why do we want to be like it?)

Phil 3:8b "...I have lost all the things and positions that I had but I consider them as dung that I may gain Christ instead." (Do I really value my testimony and service to Christ as more important than anything else? Does my walk with Christ guide my behaviour?)

Phil. 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again, I say Rejoice!" (Do my words, to brothers and sisters, show "joy" or something else? Do people see Christ in me? Why?)

Phil. 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Do you ever push too hard? Do you have ambition for your own reputation to grow? Is prayer a normal approach for you?)

Phil. 4:8 "Finally, brothers/sisters, whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, praiseworthy—think about these things!" (If our church is to be healthy, and impact our world, we must have these qualities living in YOU! Are there any changes we need to make to have this happen?)

\*\*\*Let us choose to be a loving church of support, blessing, and outreach...In His Name!

## Prayer Items

*You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature, rather, serve one another in love. If the entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbour as yourself." Gal 5:13-14*

1. Gloria Ng—Chemotherapy has improved her blood count. Pray for patience, stamina, and strength to resume school soon.
2. Nathan Mah—Pray for an uplifted spirit while patiently trusting God for miracle and healing.
3. Sunday School Teachers (Life Groups)—Praise for their service to bring God's messages so our brothers and sisters may all fall in love with His words.
4. Congregational Unity—May the love of Christ abound in us even when differences exist.
5. Young People—God's guidance and wisdom in determining their career paths.
6. Missionary Friends—Elizabeth Lowe, Edith Watt, Lesley Wong, Yvonne Yau, & Christy Lew; and upcoming Guatemala and Tsawout trips
7. EC & CC Retreat Planning—Speakers & Content will be in His hands!
8. Pastoral Team—Pastor Don, Pastor Sam, Pastor John, Pastor Rita, and our new Pastor Gilbert (starting May 16, 2015) all need God's guidance and joy while shepherding VCBC.
9. Pastoral Search Team—God's wisdom and guidance in seeking a potential CC pastor.
10. Leaders in Pioneer Clubs—God will provide them with joy and strength to teach and finish this year triumphantly
11. May 30 Prayer Retreat—Pray for the planning and content preparation
12. French Alps Airplane Crash—Comfort and healing for the families involved.

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sunday  
worship  
at **vcbc**

12 April 2015

9:30AM English Service

[www.vcbc.bc.ca/english](http://www.vcbc.bc.ca/english)



Photo credit: Chris Cheung

## Order of Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship

*1 Peter 1:23-25a*

Praise & Worship

*Who Am I?,  
Lead Me to the Cross*

Celebration of the  
Lord's Supper

*Hear O Lord*

Community Prayer

Offering

*Come Thou Fount*

Scripture Passage &  
Message

*Revelation 18-19:5*

**Earth Weeps and  
Heaven Rejoices!**

*Rev. Don Gardner*

Invitation/Response

*Forever (We Sing Hallelujah)*

Closing Prayer

Doxology

Please feel free to stand or sit as we sing.  
Friendly reminder for parents of  
preschoolers and kindergarteners: please  
pick up your children downstairs at 10:45.

## Sermon Outline

**Earth Weeps and Heaven Rejoices! | Revelation 18-19:5 | Rev. Don Gardner**

- I. Warning & Clarification from Heaven (18:1-8)
  
- II. "Sorry We Got Caught in our Sin" (18:9-19)
  
- III. "It is Finished....Rejoice!" (18:20-19:5)

\*Take Home Blessing: "Hold On for the Whole Ride and the Ride Will Be Great!"

\*Thought Question: What can we learn from the Political and Economic Fall of Babylon that will help us to understand that God is fair and has prepared a great future for His church?

## Sunday L.I.F.E. Groups

\* Our Sunday L.I.F.E. Groups start from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. For class listings, please see the bulletin board in the basement (outside rm B1-2).

## Events This Week For YOU To Be Involved

### Sunday (today)

1. Prayer Group at 8:45am; Contact Betty at [pcs@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:pcs@vcbc.bc.ca)
2. Worship
3. L.I.F.E. Groups & Bible Study.  
See bulletin board in the basement (outside rm B1-2).

### Monday

Small group discussion.  
Young adults, young couples welcome.  
Contact Henry at [henryhwcheung@msn.com](mailto:henryhwcheung@msn.com)

### Tuesday

Toonie Tues. Badminton; Sep-June from 8-10pm at Moberly School (\$2 drop-in); Contact Heman at [heman@gmail.com](mailto:heman@gmail.com)

### Wednesday

1. Small Group Study & Prayer. All ages welcome. Contact Naomi at [naomikuan@gmail.com](mailto:naomikuan@gmail.com)
2. Church-wide Prayer Meeting; Weekly at 7:30pm in VCBC basement; All welcome (primarily Cantonese but we'll translate as needed!)

### Thursday

1. "Experiencing Forgiveness" Women's Bible Study; (3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs at 7:30pm); VCBC E1; Contact Winnie Lai-Fong or Cindy So.
2. Dayspring Ladies Bible Study; (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs at 10am); VCBC rm B1-2; Contact Carolyn Yip at [carolnyip1949@gmail.com](mailto:carolnyip1949@gmail.com)

### Friday

1. Prayer Group at 7:45pm (1<sup>st</sup> Friday); VCBC W2; Contact Monica at [pcs@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:pcs@vcbc.bc.ca)
2. EDGe youth fellowships for grades 6-12; Oct-Jul from 7:30-9:30PM at VCBC; Contact Alfred at [alfredlu@gmail.com](mailto:alfredlu@gmail.com)
3. Pioneer Clubs. 7:30pm at VCBC. Contact Rosita at [children@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:children@vcbc.bc.ca)

### Saturday

1. Journey Young Adult Fellowship. 7:30pm in VCBC rm B3-5.  
Contact Chris at [ChrisChCheung@hotmail.com](mailto:ChrisChCheung@hotmail.com) or ask for a Journeyer to get introduced today!
2. Peer Tutoring Club. For Gr. 7 to Gr. 12. 3-6pm in room B14-15. Contact Josiah at [vcbc.ptclub@gmail.com](mailto:vcbc.ptclub@gmail.com)

## Announcements

1. **"Christ in the Passover" Presentation** - Next Sunday, a missionary from Jews For Jesus will lead us in sermon with a presentation of "Christ in the Passover". Everyone is welcome to bring your friends (Jewish friends anyone?). There will be a collection during the presentation as a way of helping this world-wide ministry to bring the Jewish people to Christ. This is a free-will donation, and all donors will receive a tax receipt in the mail if you provide them with your name and address (please make cheques payable to "Jews For Jesus"). If you'd like to know more about this ministry, a literature table has been set up in the foyer with more information about their mission and work, please feel free to check it out.
2. A reminder that there is a meeting today at 1:00 pm in the church basement for the **Guatemala missions team**. Lunch provided.
3. **Tsawout Mission Trip from August 9-14**. A trip to the Tsawout First Nation

main village where VCBC will partner with the Tsawout Assembly of Praise Church and the Tsawout community to run a week-long VBS. To learn more about the background, logistics and purpose of this trip, and/or to receive an application form, email Josiah @ [vcbctsaout@gmail.com](mailto:vcbctsaout@gmail.com).

4. **Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting** - 7:30pm in the basement. We'll have a time of sharing and prayers.
5. Celebrating 150 years of God's faithfulness! In 1865 Dr. Hudson Taylor founded the China Inland Mission, which later became **OMF International**. The current OMF Director, Dr. Patrick Fung, will be marking this historic event this Saturday at 7:00 pm, at Fraserview Mennonite Brethren Church, 11295 Mellis Drive, Richmond, BC. All are invited to join in this special event.
6. **Offering receipts for income tax purpose** - are ready for pick up at the church office.

## Upcoming Preaching Schedule for April-June

Today: **EC - Pastor Don**;  
CC - Pastor Sam

April 19: **EC - Susan Perlman**;  
CC - Susan Perlman (Jews for Jesus)

April 26: **EC - Pastor Sam**;  
CC-Pastor Don

May 3: **EC - Pastor Don**;  
CC - Pastor Sam

May 10: **EC - Pastor Don**;  
CC - Pastor Sam

May 17: **EC - Jacob Li**; CC - Pastor Don

May 24: **EC - Pastor Sam**;  
CC - Rev. Benny Wong

May 31: **EC - Alfred Lu**; CC - Pastor John

June 7: **EC - Pastor Don**; CC - Pastor Sam

June 14: **EC - Pastor Don**; CC - Pastor Sam

June 21: **EC - Pastor John**;  
CC - Pastor Don

June 28: **EC - Tawa Anderson**;  
CC - Pastor Berechiah Lee

\*CC Retreat (June 26-28) Pastor Sam & Pastor Don