

## Word from A Pastor: A 10-year Lesson

August 1, 2007 is a very important date to me, because that was the day when I became a Pastor at VCBC! Fast forward 10 years, next week will be my 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of serving at this church! A decade, that's like over 5 million minutes, full of blessings! To me, the mere fact that I am still serving here after a decade is a blessing in itself! What's more, the acceptance and love the brothers and sisters have for me has also been my constant motivation to serve even more.

In reality, the road to serving God is not necessarily a wide open road; the last decade has proven to be quite challenging indeed. What I have learned over the decade is that serving God was not just about "performing", but more so about "being transformed". It means that humility and plasticity in character formation are necessary ingredients of being God's

servant. Increase in experience could lead to stubbornly sticking to a set of rules, and increase in knowledge could lead to pride. The fact is that experience must constantly be renewed, and knowledge should lead us evermore to marvel at the great mystery of God's Truth! In fact, the more we serve God, the more we should see it as purely His Grace.

Pastoring a church is a really humbling experience. There are just too many things to care for, which always lead me to wish for more time and greater ability. However, I must acknowledge that serving God has also brought me much joy! Yes it could be exhausting at times, but it's never painful. It could also be demanding at times, but never meaningless. Stepping into my next 10 years of service, I pray that God will continue to help our church to strive for His Glory!

-- Pastor Sam Wong

## Prayer Items

*"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."* -- 2 Corinthians 12:9

### Praise God for:

- A smooth Provincial election in May. May God use the new Government to uphold His Kingdom so that our province can be prospered.
- Those who serve in the nursery and Sunday school while we are at service. May God bless them.
- The worship team who faithfully serve. May God comfort and uplift the spirit of our congregation through the hymns they led.

### Pray for:

- The devastating situation of the forest fire happening all over BC. May the fire be quickly under control and the homeless are being looked after with God's mercy.
- Jennifer Au as she is recovering from a brain surgery. Pray that her recovery is progressing well without complication. May God continue to sustain and comfort Rosita, Alfred and Melanie.
- Wisdom and guidance as Pastor Don and Sue are busy preparing their journey back to the States.
- Each member of our pastoral staff. May we encourage and show our appreciation to them at every opportunity.
- Restoration of strained relationship with family members and friends. As God forgives us, let us forgive others also.
- A disciplined heart to set aside time for prayer and devotion despite our busyness. They are the centrepiece of our spiritual life.

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# Sunday Worship at VCBC

23 July 2017

9:30AM English  
Worship Service

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



Register for Summer Conference 2017 today. Summer Conference is from September 2-4. Photo credit: Chris Cheung

## Order of Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship  
*Psalms 96:1-4*

Praise & Worship  
*This is Amazing Grace,  
I Stand Amazed (My Saviour's  
Love)*

Sharing of Community  
Life

Tithes & Offering  
*I Will Go*

Guatemala Team  
Sharing

Response

*Reign in Us,  
Shout to the North*

Closing Prayer

Doxology

In the spirit of unity and family, please sit closer together towards the front and centre of the sanctuary. Feel free to stand or sit as we sing.

We welcome parents with infants, and parents of preschoolers and kindergarteners to sit in the classroom behind the sanctuary. Please pick up your children from their classes downstairs at 10:50.

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## Sermon Outline

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

It is clear that when Jesus gave his disciples this instruction, the option to sit on the sidelines and watch others do this wasn't on his mind. He wanted them all to be involved. So, in obedience to Jesus, how are we going to be involved in missions today? Let me suggest five ways you can be involved.

1. **A goer.** You go into all the world. You feel called to leave your home, family and the culture you know to cross boundaries with the good news of Jesus Christ.

## 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. Tsawout training at 11:30am
4. A/V Workshop, 1-3 pm in the sanctuary
5. “Pursue” Praise and Prayer Event. First Sunday of each month. Contact Aaron at [bonkowskiart@gmail.com](mailto:bonkowskiart@gmail.com)

### Wednesday

1. Dayspring Ladies Bible Study; (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed at 10:00am); VCBC Boardroom; Contact Cindy at [cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca)
2. Church-wide Prayer Meeting; Weekly at 7:30pm in VCBC basement; All welcome (primarily Cantonese but we'll translate as needed!)

2. **A welcomer.** As the world comes to our doorstep, we can actively seek out newcomers and welcome them. You can demonstrate the love of Jesus through caring actions and attitudes.

3. **An intercessor.** You can pray. Pray for those who are doing other parts of the task. Pray for a specific people group or a country.

4. **A mobilizer.** A mobilizer desires to see others identified, trained and sent out for ministry. A mobilizer is aware of needs and opportunities and tells others about them with the goal of opening their eyes to see how God can use them.

5. **A sender.** A sender develops and deploys resources of all kinds for the mission. As God raises up people to go, He also needs some to send.

### Friday

1. EDGe youth fellowships for grades 6-12; Oct-June from 7:30-9:30pm at VCBC; Contact Pastor Brian Lee at [vcbcedge@gmail.com](mailto:vcbcedge@gmail.com)
2. Prayer Group at 7:45pm (1<sup>st</sup> Friday); VCBC W2; Contact Winnie at [pcs@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:pcs@vcbc.bc.ca)

### Saturday

1. Journey Young Adult Fellowship. 7:30pm in VCBC room B3-5. Please contact [ChrisChCheung@hotmail.com](mailto:ChrisChCheung@hotmail.com) or ask for a Journeyer to get introduced today!

\*Homebuilders small groups. For family & couples. Various times. Contact Cindy ([cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca))

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## Announcements

1. **Farewell Reception for Pastor & Mrs. Gardner** - Will be held next Sunday, **July 30**, at 12:45 downstairs. There will be cake-cutting and light refreshment. Everyone is invited! Please join us in showing our appreciation for their faithful service in the Lord for the past three-and-a-half years, and leading us through the church's most difficult time. And please remember them in your prayers as they return to the States to wait upon the Lord.
2. **Summer Conference 2017. September 2-4** – Keep these dates free for **Summer Conference 2017!** Registration continues **today**. Our special guest speaker will be Connie Cavanaugh. Please see insert for more details.
3. Are you curious about how the sound system works? Are you interested in making music sound good? Come learn about it at the **A/V Workshop today, 1-3 pm in the sanctuary!** No prior experience required, but we hope you will consider serving with the A/V team in the future! Sign up at the church office, or send us an email: [EC\\_chloe\\_chan\\_79@hotmail.com](mailto:EC_chloe_chan_79@hotmail.com), [CC\\_petersjoh@shaw.ca](mailto:CC_petersjoh@shaw.ca)
4. **Registration for SYC (Summer Youth Celebration).** If you are between grades 7 and 12, join us from **August 27 to September 1** as we experience Jesus together at Gardom Lake Bible Camp. For Youths, the cost is \$330 until today. For leaders, the cost is \$230. To register, please talk to Pastor Brian Lee or visit <http://sycbc.weebly.com> for more details.
5. **Passenger Loading/Unloading Spot** - Starting in **August**, the *Traffic Safety Committee* will designate the **No. 6** parking spot (i.e. close to the Church Office entrance) for passenger loading and unloading only, especially those with elderly folks, young children, and/or physically challenged. After loading/unloading, drivers are asked to drive away as soon as possible to let the next car in. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.