

Word from A Pastor: Bisig

Oh how far has the meaning of busy evolved! The English word 'busy' originated from Old English *bisig* which meant careful and anxious. In our society today, the notion of being occupied has almost become synonymous of being productive, valuable, and virtuous. Especially among the younger generations today, the most common response to the typical greeting "How are you?" tends to include some notion of "busyness" in their lives. If you are not busy or tired, then you seem to not live life to the fullness.

This trend even seeps into many of our church lives into a form of virtue ethics. Whether we agree to it or not, we subconsciously associate the health of our faith with the quantity of roles or tasks in which we serve. The more we are occupied with serving role(s), the more "spiritual" we perceive ourselves to be. Ironically, this tends to be the same response that many people use to deflect a more intimate relationship with Jesus:

"I am so busy lately because I have to serve in _____. How can I have time to deepen my relationship with God."

Jesus's famous response "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one" from the Story of Mary and Martha is a warning to which we subscribe but rarely abide (Luke 10:42). I cannot deny that assignments need to be completed, work needs to be done, mouths need to be fed. (What would Jesus have eaten if Martha didn't cook him food?) Yet, our busyness indirectly conveys where our heart and needs lie. We become bisig, anxious of letting go of security that come from the values and measures of success in this world. Sometimes, being in Christ requires us to put a rest from these anxieties and live uncertain, insecure, "unproductive" lives. So instead of being busy, let us be bisig in being attentive to the things that matter eternally in our lives.

--Pastor Brian

Prayer Items

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

-- John 13: 34-35

Church family

- Praise the Lord for Pastor Don and Sue's faithful service at VCBC for the past 3.5 years. Pray that God will grant them a smooth move and drive to Phoenix, and joy and excitement as they will settle into their new church.

Pray for:

- God's guidance and wisdom to Pastor Gilbert, Pastor Brian, the ECLT, the rest of VCBC during this transitional period.
- The upcoming Summer Conference, for Connie Cavanaugh (the speaker) to have

wisdom and sensitivity to the Holy Spirit as she prepares to speak to us at Summer Con this year. Pray she would be given insight into the word and into our needs so she can speak to our hearts.

Youth Ministry

Pray for:

- The upcoming SYC, specifically those who are involved in planning and leading SYC to be spiritually prepared for the camp, and all the youths who plan on going will grow in their spiritual walk during the camp.
- The youths to balance between last stretch of summer school and rest and preparation before school resumes.
- The Tsawout team and small group leaders to continue prayerfully in preparation for their upcoming trip.



Sunday Worship at VCBC

6 August 2017

9:30AM English
Worship Service

www.vcbc.bc.ca/English



Order of Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalms 89:1-18

Praise & Worship

Magnificent,

Love Like Fire,

I Give You My Heart

Sharing of Community Life

Sharing by Elizabeth Lowe

Tithes & Offering

Knowing You

Scripture Passage &
Message

Jonah 1:1-16

"The Golden Age of Bailing"

Pastor Brian Lee

Response

Cornerstone

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 Discussion Questions

Jonah 1:1-16 | "The Golden Age of Bailing" | Pastor Brian Lee

1. In what ways may you also be ghosting from God?
2. What would be the equivalent to the sailors in your life setting?
3. How can we ground ourselves so that we seek God's righteousness rather than our sense of fairness?

Events This Week For You To Be Involved

Sunday (today)

1. Prayer Group at 8:45am; Contact Betty at pcs@vcbc.bc.ca
2. Worship
3. Tsawout training at 11:30am
4. Pursue. 7pm in the sanctuary

Wednesday

1. Dayspring Ladies Bible Study; (1st & 3rd Wed at 10:00am); VCBC Boardroom; Contact Cindy at 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!)

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
2. Prayer Group at 7:45pm (1st Friday); VCBC W2; Contact Winnie at pcs@vcbc.bc.ca

Saturday

1. Journey Young Adult Fellowship. 7:30pm in VCBC room B3-5. Please contact 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)

Announcements

1. **Appreciation from Pastor Don & Sue:** Again, we want to thank you for our time together over these years and the gracious/touching send-off of this past Sunday afternoon. It reflects a sensitivity and caring that we have experienced often within our VCBC family. We will look forward to hearing from you in the future about how the Father has continued to guide and bless your service to His purpose even as we keep a space open for you to visit us in our new location of service at First Chinese Baptist Church of Phoenix. May God guide your footsteps as you lean on His direction.
2. **Pursue. Today at 7pm** we will gather for Pursue - An evening of intimate worship, prayer and sharing that provides an encouraging atmosphere for newcomers and long-time members alike.
3. **Church Office** - Will be closed tomorrow for the B.C. Day stat holiday, and will resume normal office hours on Tuesday.
4. **Summer Conference 2017. September 2-4** at Cedar Springs Christian Retreat Center, Sumas, Washington. Keep these dates free for **Summer Conference 2017!** Take note that **today** is the last day for Early Bird registration! Take advantage of that and be sure to register **today** in the church basement! Our special guest speaker will be Connie Cavanaugh. <http://www.conniecavanaugh.com>
This year's theme: Following God One Yes At A Time. Gain insight about God's dream for you, be challenged to deal with the main barriers to following God's dream, learn to recognize proofs – called "chocolates on your trail", and discover how to walk by faith! Invite your friends and family, and anyone you know who may be interested in attending!
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.