PRAYER LIST

- **CHURCH PROPERTY – ₱ 150k advance rent, ₱ 1M funds for bldg. construction, and documents to put paperwork in order**
- **Air-conditioning Unit (2.0 hp)**
- **Church Vehicle**
- **Electric Piano**
- **Worship Team**
- **Creative Team – Church Calendar**
- **Men's Fellowship**
- **Ladies Group**
- **Youth Ministry**
- **Mission Works (Manaoag, Dinagat, Taytay, Palawan)**
- **Pastors and Churches (LBBC, IBBC, Diadem BBC, BMP)**
- **Gerald Chan (H-Star Ent)**
- **Lulu Teng (Diamond Motors)**

Our Weekly Report

February 5-8, 2012

Sunday Morning

Adults	**30**
Young People	**14**
Children	**11**
Total	**55**
Offerings	**₱ 10,566**

Wednesday Prayer Meeting

Adults	**9**
YP and Children	**8**
Total	**17**

Announcements

- Belated happy birthday to **Rommel Serrato** (Feb. 3), **Dorothy Barcelona** (Feb. 7), and **Venus Cervantes, Yumi Santos and Gwyneth Lumibao** (Feb. 11). God bless you always ☺
- Let us be in prayer for our **Recognition Day** on **March 31!** All our members are encouraged to invite students (graduating, with honors & others) and especially **parents** to attend this special event.
- **Family** Church **Camp** (April 2,3 and 4, at Camp Capinpin). Camp fee is at ₱ 750 and includes transpo (₱ 150), accommodation and food for 3 days and 2 nights (except for breakfast and lunch on the 1st day, which should be packed by each camper). More details to follow ☺

Love Brings Obedience

He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him. *(John 14:21)*

Obedience to God's commands comes from your heart. When you begin struggling to obey God, that is a clear indication that your heart has shifted away from Him. Loving God but disobeying Him in certain areas of our life is a virtual impossibility. If I were to ask you, "Do you love God?" you might easily respond, "Yes!" However, if I were to ask you, "Are you obeying God?" would you answer yes as quickly? Yet I would be asking you the same question! Genuine love for God leads to wholehearted obedience. If you told your spouse that you loved her at certain times but that you struggled to love her at others, your relationship would be in jeopardy. Yet we assume that God is satisfied with occasional love or partial obedience. He is not. Love is the discipline. God looks beyond your godly habits, beyond your moral lifestyle, and beyond your church involvement and focuses His penetrating gaze upon your heart.

Has your worship become empty and routine? Have you lost your motivation to read God's Word? Are you experiencing spiritual lethargy? Is your prayer life reduced to a ritual? These are symptoms of a heart that has shifted away from God. Return to your first love. Love is the greatest motivation for a relationship with God and for serving Him.

-Blackaby Devotionals

The Gospel Light

A Weekly Publication of the Riverbanks Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church

Rev. Gerry D. Ballesteros, Senior Pastor **February 12, 2012**

Vol. II, 2012, No. 2 **For Prayer/Counseling, pls call or text (0918)9350615**

Summary of Last Week's Message

The Stewardship of Giving

Scripture Reading: Psalm 86:15 and 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

Things We Should Consider

1. **God's Character**, compared to the character of the world *(Ps. 86:15, Ps. 86:5, Exodus 34:6-7, Jonah 4:2)* – compassionate, gracious, long-suffering, merciful, slow to anger, truthful. God's character is revealed in 3 ways through His kingdom – (a) in creation; (b) in God's Word; and (c) in Jesus.
   The Law of Generosity *(Ps. 19:1-2, 2 Cor. 9:6)* is God's primary character.
2. **Stewardship** *(Matt 25:14-30; Luke 16:1-13)* - A steward is a person who has been given the responsibility of looking after something that belongs to somebody else. Spiritual stewardship is based on a conviction that everything we have in this life has been given specifically to benefit others, advance the kingdom of God, and glorify the Lord. Stewardship is the entering into a partnership with God. Stewardship is a partnership with God, where the ownership is with God and the stewardship is with us. The key that releases a believer into the full responsibilities of stewardship is SURRENDER - the unreserved giving of one's entire life and purpose into God's hands. It is only when we give OURSELVES that we learn what it means to give of what we have. Barriers to surrender are (a) self-centeredness; and (b) fear. Surrender is the gateway into everything God has planned for us. Like stewardship, however, it should not be an act of duty, but of love
3. **Guides to Giving**
   a. **We must choose between earthly and heavenly wealth.** *(Luke 12:33-34)*
   b. **We should not give for the sake of reward** *(Matthew 6:2-3)*
   c. **Our giving pleases God only when it is genuine** *(Mark 12:41-44)*
   d. **Our giving determines our receiving** *(Luke 6:38)*

The practice of the early church can be our example *(Acts 2:44-45 and 4:32)*. God wants us to approach our giving willingly, generously, cheerfully, secretly, and like Jesus. Our giving consists of our hospitality, alms, tithes, offerings, sacrificial and firstfruits giving.

4. **Principles of Harvest**

Six Basic Facts About a Natural Harvest

   a. **The harvest is according to the sowing.** *(Galatians 6:7-8)*
   b. **The harvest is determined by the kind of seed sown** *(Genesis 1:11-12)*
   c. **We reap in a different season than we sow** *(Ecclesiastes 11:1, Galatians 6:9)*
   d. **The harvest is in proportion to the sowing** *(Matthew 7:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6)*
   e. **We reap in more than we have sown** *(Luke 6:38)* – Every good thing we do for the Lord is multiplied many times and returned to us. It is simply a principle that is in continuous operation.
   f. **Our future harvest can be determined now** *(Luke 6:38)*

To reap a harvest of finance and material goods, one must sow not only money but also a pure motive - a selfless love for others and for the Lord (1 Corinthians 13:3-5). God will then bring an increase that is not an end in itself, but an opportunity to give more.