New Hope Ministries

Issue#3

"Sow your praise"

"Hearts of children"

"A king or the king of Kings"

New Hope School of Ministries

Ways to Connect

Heart to Heart

All the King's Men

A Letter from Pastor Grant & Susan

Welcome to Summer 2013! Thank you for picking up this issue of the NHM Magazine. Here at New Hope Ministries, summer time is always a time of excitement and busyness. This summer we have many good things taking place. We challenge you to try something new. Get involved in something this summer! Find new opportunities to serve and go deeper into your calling.

We love leading you,
Pastor Grant and Susan Thigpen

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- Provide the tools for in - depth Biblical studies

By Design:

NHSM is designed for the body of Christ at large, those from denominational, as well as non-denominational backgrounds, who desire a deeper commitment to God's Word and applying that Word to serving in the local church or wherever God directs them.

Our Mandate:

NHSM's Scriptural mandate is found in Ephesians 4:11-12

"Caring for the Hearts of our Children"

BY Pastor Steve McGraw, Children's Pastor

The first responsibility of the Children's Ministry is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all born sinners and in need of a Savior, and that includes children. Some people consider the innocence of a child and then neglect to teach the salvation message because of the innocence. Even though they are young and inexperienced, they still need the Savior. It is a beautiful thing to see the Lord draw a child to Himself -- first convicting them of their sin and helping them to see their own needy condition and then providing forgiveness and acceptance through Christ. They sit there, eyes wide and earnest, the Spirit of the Lord revealing to them that they, too, are a sinner. They need forgiveness -- they need Jesus.

Recently on a Sunday, my wife had the children bow their heads after the lesson and asked them to show her by raising their hands that they wanted to receive Jesus as their Savior, but no one moved. She could have left it at that, and continued with the class, but felt that they needed another opportunity to respond. So even though she hadn't seen any hands raised, she told them that if they had raised their hand and wanted to accept Christ they could now walk to the back of the room and the teachers there would show them from the Bible how they could be saved. One little boy started to stand, but as he did, he realized he was alone and quickly sat back down. She told him it was OK to be the only one. She was trying to encourage him by letting him know that everyone who has accepted the Lord has done something similar, when suddenly a little girl on the other side of the room bolted out of her seat, down the aisle and to the back of the room. I guess her apprehensions could hold her no longer! There were others the Lord had been drawing, and as they watched her, they took courage and followed, including the little boy she had been talking to. By the grace of God they had crossed that first divide of fear and were now on their way to the waiting arms of the Lord Jesus!

Once these children accept Christ we want to help them to grow in their faith. So in each lesson we teach, there is a growth lesson that is specifically addressed to them. They are now children of God and the Holy Spirit is helping them to understand the Word of God. He is giving them victory over sin in their lives, and changing them into the image of Christ. They need to know how they can please the Lord and that is through simple obedience to the Word of God. Though we do our best to help the children learn how to live for the Lord, we only have them three hours a week at most. Of course the most influential people in a child's life are their parents. They are anointed by God to teach their children to follow Jesus and those who choose to spend time at home studying the Bible and praying with their family will see lasting benefits in their children's lives – and that's GUARANTEED by the Word of God: *Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)* So to encourage and help our parents instruct and lead their children spiritually, we have changed things around recently. Now all of our elementary aged children will be learning the same memory verses and lessons. We are also sending home with the parents a Family Study Guide with the memory verse, the lesson that was taught and some questions that they can discuss with their children. God has designed the family to be the spiritual foundation of His church and we are praying that our Children's Ministry will be a blessing and a strong support to our families.

Thank you for trusting us with your children,

Pastor Steve McGraw
Children's Pastor
stevemcgraw@newhopeministries.org

NEW HOPE MINISTRIES

4th Annual Fishing Banquet

July 13, 2013 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.

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"Sow Your Praise"

By Pastor Heath Jarvis

As I write this, I've been on staff for exactly 9 months – and if you ask me, our spiritual momentum is as great as it has ever been, if not greater. What powerful moves of the Spirit we have been experiencing during worship lately! God continues to move in powerful ways every single week. People are beginning to step out in faith during praise and worship, and express their praise to God in more powerful ways. Our choir and band members are going places in the Spirit that we've rarely if ever been. For example, one of our horn players, Tracy Gauthier (who has played flute professionally for years), is beginning to play out under the unction of the Spirit during praise and worship. Before I came here, Tracy told me that she had never improvised on her flute, let alone improvised in front of an audience. Now she's prophesying on her instrument fairly regularly during worship – without any prompting from me. One Sunday night recently, the Lord gave her the interpretation of her own playing, speaking to her prophetically about a personal situation that her family was going through.

"Prophesying??? She interpreted her own playing???" you may be asking, "Give me chapter and verse for that!" Ok, glad you asked. In 2 Kings 3, the Prophet Elijah asked for a minstrel (an instrumental musician) to play for him. When the minstrel played, the Word of the Lord came to Elijah and he began to prophesy. Tracy simply managed to play both the part of the minstrel *and* the prophet in her case. What a powerful experience! A lot of powerful things happen when we praise the Lord. A lot of promises are availed to us when we make the choice to glorify Him through song. Colossians 3:16 says that the Word of God can dwell in us more richly when we express the Word through song. That's why we sing so many songs that talk about faith, healing, the blessing of God, the goodness of God, and the promises in God's Word. We're teaching people the Word, and using music to allow that Word to dwell in us more richly. In the case of Elijah, music ministry enabled him to prophesy more powerfully. In several instances in 1 Samuel, David's music ministry drove away evil spirits that had been attacking King Saul.

In 2 Chronicles 20, the music, singing, and praises of God's people confused their enemies on the battlefield, to the point that their enemies turned on each other and killed each other – to the very last man! What powerful things are happening in the Spirit while *you* are participating in praise and worship? I Corinthians 14:26 says, "How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification." Notice that it says we all *have* a psalm, *have* a teaching, *have* a tongue, *have* a revelation, and *have* an interpretation. So many of us, in our modern-day, Americanized, consumer-based mentality, come to church with an attitude that says, "What can I get?" We want to hear a song, hear a teaching, hear a tongue, hear a revelation, and hear an interpretation. But Paul said we should be bringing these things with us to church because we already have them. Don't come to church saying, "Well, I'll participate in worship if they play the music I like." Or "I'll praise Him after my emotions get worked up and I feel like it." Those are selfish, self-serving, fleshly, consumer-based attitudes. On the contrary, Paul said we should bring our praise with us to church.

Here's my challenge to you: Come to church with the mindset of "What can I bring to church?" rather than "What can I receive from church?" You see, in giving we receive. It's called the Law of Sowing and Reaping – and it applies to every area of our lives – yes, even our praise and worship services. Let's bring our praise with us to every service, and let's continue to watch God move in more and more powerful ways every single week. Sow your praise, and watch God give you a bountiful harvest!

Believing God to take us deeper as a church,
Pastor Heath Jarvis
Worship Pastor
heathjarvis@newhopeministries.org

"Thank you so very much to all who have given to YEX summer camp this year through both prayer and financial giving. We are able to send over 35 people because of your generous gifts of love. The theme this year is 'Rise Up'. We are believing God to raise up a generation to take this world by storm for the kingdom of God."

- Pastor Jason & Danielle Justice

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JUNE 26TH - AUGUST 14TH, 2013

AT NEW HOPE MINISTRIES

"A King or...the King of Kings..."

Devotion by: Brittany Hughes

"And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the Lord will not answer you in that day." But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, "Obey their voice and make them a king." Samuel then said to the men of Israel, "Go every man to his city." I Samuel 8:18-22

Up until this point God had fought the battles for Israel and gained continual victory. Israel no longer wanted the Lord to be their warrior; replacing him with a human king was the desire of Israel. Even though God and Samuel had warned the people that they would regret this decision and that God would not answer their cry, they still insisted and God granted them their desire. Note that in verse 20 it says, *"that we also may be like all the nations."* God had separated Israel from all other people and nations, but their desire was to be the same.

When I relate this to my life, my call and our world, I first recognize where God had set them apart; yet they wanted to be like all others. And furthermore they rejected God's way and insisted on man's way, who we further realize rejects God's way also. In I Samuel 14:9, *"So Saul said to the priest. 'Withdraw your hand."* This was Saul commanding the priest to stop the inquiry of the will of the Lord. How many times has the will of God become too timely or too costly, so we shut the hand and mouth of our Lord to satisfy something that will only bring us back to the ONLY ONE who satisfies? The most fearful part of it all is that God will not answer our desires if we refuse to align with the one who is the way, the truth and the life. I believe in the end I will thank God more for the prayers He didn't answer than for the ones He did.

Prayer for the day: God grant me the capacity to endure the long-suffering that sometimes comes with Your will and to trust that your timing is impeccable. I will wait and trust in You, Lord.

Reflection:

1. Where have you compromised the Holy Spirit's leading in your life for the comfort of your desires?

2. What have been some of the blessings you have received by waiting on God's timing versus rushing things your way?

For more daily devotions: http://brittsburdens.blogspot.com/

The Marion Zirkle Children's Foundation (a ministry of Living Water Teaching) is asking us to donate to Operation Shoebox- 2013.

There are a couple ways for you to help:

- If you would like to purchase a toy, please bring it to the church & place it in the boxes marked "Operation Shoebox- 2013."
- If you would like to give a donation, please make your check payable to New Hope Ministries and indicate "Operation Shoebox 2013" on the memo line.

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Testimony from Jack & Dee Gerah

On May 8, 2013 Dee underwent a nuclear stress test at the urgent request of her cardiologist as she was experiencing some discomfort while walking. Dee kept saying "I"m fine". While on the treadmill, she was walking in an extremely elevated angle to the point where the tech and the doctor had to hold her on the treadmill to prevent her from falling off. They said, "oh oh" but that's all they said. It was an extreme elevation but it showed a severe blockage of her left anterior descending artery. It's called the "widows" because most don't get a second chance as the first attack is usually fatal. The cardiologist called the house within 2 hours of this test and after meeting with him May 10, wanted to get into her heart ASAP to determine the extent of the blockage. So a heart catherization was scheduled for Monday, May 13. On Sunday, May 12, Mother's Day in fact, at communion, held the second and fourth Sundays, Pansy Brown announced she sensed an anointing and if anyone wanted prayer she would lay hands on them. So after communion Dee was prayed for. When Pansy completed her prayer, Dee and I said together, " We believed we received the healing of her heart,thank you Jesus". On May 13, the next day Dee underwent a heart catherization at NCH. At 9am the doctor came out to inform me that he found NO BLOCKAGE, PRAISE THE LORD, but inserted a stent in her left kidney. He attributed the stress test as flawed, but I said silently "baloney". She remained at NCH overnight and was released the next day. We are truly rejoicing at His touch and do so continually. On May 16, Dee had an appointment with her neurologist for another matter and I reminded him of his earlier statement that we rarely see miracles, I pointed out the result of the stress test.

New Hope ministries

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Summer '13