

Towers Baptist

A caring community bound by covenant on mission with God.

Pastor's Report January 2009

WHAT GOD IS DOING

I am very thankful for God's faithfulness in our first six months together. I have been very encouraged with seeing how God is working in our church. My first priority was to help us hear God's voice and know when the Spirit is leading and working.

Last fall we had over 30 people go through the *Experiencing God* study and it opened the eyes of many to see where God was at work. Bryce had a coworker walk up to him and say he had read the Bible the previous weekend. Bryce started a Bible study with Rick and Rick has committed his life to Christ. Pam and Shylynn were led by the Spirit to invite a mother at Shylynn's school to come on Thanksgiving and a group of mothers expressed a desire to start

studying the Bible with Pam. Richard asked God to show him where He was at work and a Muslim government worker who came to his business began asking questions about his faith and Christianity. George asked the same question sitting in a restaurant and a woman approached him asking spiritual questions. Kandis wanted to share with a coworker and thinking about asking her out to lunch, but before she got a chance the coworker began to ask what it meant to be born again. Alexa began asking her Mom about God and Heather got a chance to lead her to the Lord. Bruce called the church wanting to understand more about the Baptist faith of his fiancée and ended up discovering God's love for him and was baptized in December.

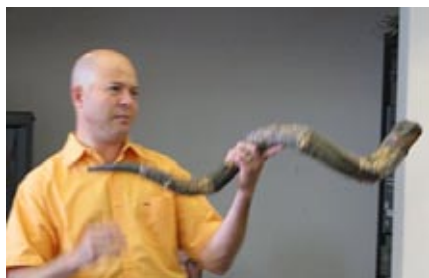


Bryce & Kristen dedicate Christopher

Parents of grown children have been praying for them to come to know the Lord and those children suddenly had coworkers or old friends who were Christians sharing with them.

God is working all around us. The *Experiencing God* study has helped us to recognize where God is working in people's lives and we have begun to come alongside those people to help them understand what God is doing in their lives.

WHATS COMING IN 2009



Richard rallies the church

This year we are planning a **marriage class** in February and cooperating with RCBC in September doing a weekend **parenting seminar** to help struggling families in our community with practical answers from the Bible.

This year our focus as a church will be

will be on **Being a Caring Community: Being a Family**. In Luke 6 Jesus teaches how we are to love others, even our enemies. Jesus is asking us to love every person around us as if they were part of our own family. God wants to make our church a glimpse of heaven on earth.

I believe God will help us grow deeper in our love for one another as we spend time together in **small groups** praying together, helping one another, and working together to reach out to others outside our church family. For us to grow closer as a church family and reach others,

the next step for us is to make time weekly (or bi-weekly) outside of Sunday morning when we pray together and get off our knees to go together to impact lives in our community and in other parts of the world (Acts 2:42). As we devote ourselves to praying together this year, I guarantee God will do things we can't even think of or imagine right now (Eph. 3:14-21). Out of our times of praying together, we will discover how we can help and encourage one another. As we pray for friends and neighbours around us in our community, God will open doors for us to reach out and lead others to Christ (Col. 4:2-6).

2009 PLANNING MEETING

In January, we had our first church planning meeting with over half the church present to share what we sensed God wanted to do through



Mitchell calls the meeting to order

Towers in 2009. There were many things shared, but two stood out.

The strongest sense by many present was that God was leading us to launch a **youth & young adult outreach** especially to 2nd generation children of immigrant families. We sense God has placed us right behind McNair secondary school for a purpose of reaching out to youth and young adults. Many ideas were shared including cooperating with

other churches to develop a youth ministry, using websites to connect, seminars on hot issues, opening the church during lunch time, and setting up a refreshment stand during the summer to reach out to people using the fields behind us.

Another direction that many sensed was to start planning a **mission trip**, possibly to Mexico in the fall 2010. Please be praying about this and how God wants you to be involved.

APPOINTING DEACONS

My second priority was to lay a foundation for growth by multiplying leaders to care for the people that God will be drawing into the church. In November we began the process of selecting deacons with a nominating team identifying many who met the Biblical qualifications. I interviewed all of them and some felt that the timing was not right for them to serve. I am grateful that four couples;

the Blackaby's, Crombies, Eccles and Miller's accepted nomination to serve as deacons. These couples will help care for the needs of the members of our church family and will begin to help develop small groups and ministry teams.

On February 1st, the church will confirm who God is leading to serve as deacons.



Men's BBQ last summer

WELCOME TO GOD'S FAMILY

In December, we celebrated the three baptisms of Alexa Inouye, Sarah Colebank, and Bruce Hawkins. We are also excited to be welcoming Bruce Hawkins, his fiancée Peggy and Meliza Sopena who have come forward to join the Towers Baptist Church family. They are starting a new member's class in January and will be presented at the March 2009 business meeting to be received into membership. We also welcomed Kyla Crombie, Abigail Gibbs, and Shaun Lacey as they were born into our church family last year.



Welcome Kyla

■ PEACEMAKING

Our next Sunday School Bible study will start on March 1st - **Peacemaking: How to Resolve Conflict Biblically**. An essential tool for leading, developing healthy relationships and deeper trust. Sign up today church in foyer for a practical study on how to deal with conflict. Study books will be \$6 each or \$10 for a couple.

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