

CGI Canada Newsletter

***WHAT IS NEXT...
FOR YOU?***

**Watch, Wait,
and Stand Fast**

The Octopus Strategy

Pathway to the future

**Sabbath Service
info for December**



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EDITOR'S NOTE



Welcome to the December edition.

I'm trusting you all enjoyed a blessed Feast of Tabernacles, and returned to your homes with a renewed and strengthened resolve to keep the faith, and strive for God's coming Kingdom. This time of year can be depressing for some, but allow me to encourage you to let that light within you shine brightly and let others see Jesus in you. Use these colder months wisely to bring love and warmth to those around you!

In our featured article Elder Horane Smith asks the question - **What is Next... for you?** Then Dean Roberts encourages us to be strong in **Watch, Wait, and Stand Fast**. David Townson's Blog post **The Octopus Strategy** looks at the situation in Israel, and Infuse article, **Pathway to the future** by Lauren Chamberlain, speaks to the importance of planning. Be sure to read the **Vision 2030 Update** by Elder Murray Palmatier. Enjoy our **Member Spotlight** as well as pics and info about our **Young Achievers**, and a **Helpful Scripture** by Sandee Wilshaw.

If you have an interest in providing Content for the monthly newsletter please contact me at the email below. I'd love to hear from you!

Jude 1:3 *"Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints."*



Maria McLaughlin

Editor
CgiC Newsletter
mariamclaughlin@cgitoronto.org





Each day, week, month, or year that passes, one is left to wonder what is next for planet Earth.

Of course, the wonderment comes against the background of what is occurring in our troubled world. When it's not political turmoil, governments in crisis financially, morally, or socially, it's war, social unrest, famine, energy issues, climate matters, natural disasters creating havoc, family breakdowns, horrible crimes, drug abuse, human trafficking, and the list goes on.

What comes next? What is the next or new challenge for humanity to survive as a species? It's a fair question. After all, aren't we survivors when we rise from our slumber to face a new day?

We take for granted the food that we eat, the air that we breathe, our homes, our jobs, and our families. We take for granted that the sun will rise tomorrow, and it will. But I must hasten to add this question: Will the sun be rising for all eternity? Will there be a day when the sun will not rise in the east and set in the west – a day when the moon will no longer make its scheduled appearance? A day when the stars will glitter no more?

Human beings tend to live as if life is permanent, that we will live forever. How often do we stop or pause from our busy schedule to “think on these things.” Yet these things are our reality; they are not pipe dreams or fantasies. They govern every aspect of our lives, and because they do, we cannot ignore them.

We live in a sphere of uncertainty for every second that we breathe. In other words, we live for the moment, because we don't know what is next. The word of God says, James 4:13-14 *Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”— 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.*

Isaiah describes life as grass – temporary. *The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field: 7 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. 8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.* Isa. 40:6-8.

Other scriptures point to the futility of life – life is temporary, we are dust. That reality is facing us as physical beings who are here today and gone tomorrow. As a result, we need to ask the question: What is next for YOU as a human being? What is next for planet Earth? (continued on the next page)



What is next... for you?

Elder Horane Smith

The great King Solomon, a man of wisdom, saw the futility of life. We can learn from him. *Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment. 9 Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun. 10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest. 11 I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.* Ecc. 9:8 -11.

The Creator of the Universe, the God of the Holy Bible, has a plan for humanity. He created every human being for a purpose. It's up to us to find and choose that purpose. He's calling many sons and daughters to learn more about His plans for His creation. What comes next in our lives is uncertain, but one thing we do know God knows what the future holds for humanity. Jesus, the Christ, will return soon to establish His kingdom on Earth, a Kingdom with no end. And the good news is this kingdom will replace all human kingdoms – free from corruption, political turmoil, and all the shortcomings associated with human rule.

Acts 2:38. And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 3:9. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Unlike human governments, Jesus will fulfill every promise He has ever made. He promises utopia – a time will come when there will be no more death, sorrow, pain, suffering, and injustice. That's the upcoming enormous and awesome item on humanity's calendar. To achieve that Jesus, the Christ must return to Earth to establish His kingdom first. That is next. Are you ready for this next event which is going to be the most significant in human history? Ω

For more on this subject, click this title: [How You Can Enter The Kingdom Of God](#) for our FREE booklet.



Watch, Wait, and Stand Fast

By Dean Roberts

“But know this, that in the last days, perilous times will come.”

At no time in history has this verse been truer. With terrorism rampant throughout the world, hunger and disease affecting many countries, and immorality infecting all society, we know we are in the last days. Paul’s second letter to Timothy contains warnings of future events to come, things we are seeing today. If we as Christians aren’t careful, we also can be carried away in the hysteria of fear and turmoil as we watch world events unfold, bringing us ever closer to the beast system and finally to the return of Christ. We must, however, watch, wait, and stand fast, if we are to share in that wonderful inheritance waiting for our big Brother, Jesus Christ.

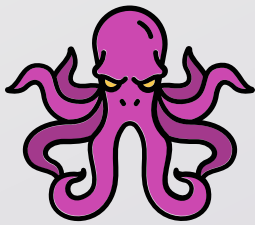
The first thing we must do is watch. Paul, writing to the church in Thessalonica, described the world in which we live today. First Thessalonians 5:1-11 exhorts us to watch and be sober (self-controlled). We must be aware of world events, noting calmly how each event fits into place. Each event has its purpose, and if we can have the proper understanding, we can help others through these perilous times. Jesus also warns us to watch in Matthew 24:42-44. We cannot go about life ignoring what is happening around us. To do that would invite disaster–failure. Jesus states in Matthew 26:41 that we must watch and pray else we enter into temptation. Worldliness and its effects can cloud our judgment and cause us to fall into lethargy and despair, doubting whether Christ is really coming back or not. We must stay focused on Christ and not let down our guard.

The second thing we must do is wait. Waiting is hard, for as humans, we usually want all the good stuff now without having to put up with any bad. However, we all know it doesn’t work like that. Just as the first-century Christians waited in the upper room “for the promise of the Father,” we must wait patiently throughout our lifetime for the rewards that come, frequently after suffering. Paul shows us in Romans 8 that even the creation groans in travail waiting for redemption. So for us to wait a few years is nothing compared to what the whole universe has suffered because of sin.

Lastly, we must stand fast. We must not be moved, but be planted firmly in God’s Word. Passages such as Ephesians 6, Philippians 1, 1 Thessalonians 3, and 2 Thessalonians 2 describe how to stand against Satan, who is the perpetrator of all things evil. He is our enemy, the one who would keep us from our reward if possible. Our goal, as put by Paul in Colossians 4:12, is to labor fervently—and stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

The will of God is that we become full and complete children, in the same measure and stature of His firstborn son. The way we do that is watch, wait, and stand fast. Ω

For more thoughts click here: [Things to do While Waiting for Jesus to Return](#)



THE OCTOPUS STRATEGY

A BLOG POST BY DAVID TOWNSON

Ever since the attack of Hamas into Israel on October 7, 2023, the Israeli government has been pursuing a strategy to deal with its enemies.

The first was an attack on Hamas in Gaza. This is a continuing action involving the removal of the leaders, the soldiers and the resources. This has taken some time because of the hostages and the tunnels they use.

The Israelis realized that the most dangerous of the proxies of Iran is Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

The first action was an attack on the pagers used by their fighters to communicate (after they discovered cell phones were vulnerable.) They placed explosives in the pagers and all were set off at the same time disabling several thousand fighters.

The Israelis followed up with an attack on walky-talkies they used. Then they set out methodically to eliminate the work of the leadership structure.

The final step was to invade southern Lebanon to find the depots where the rockets are stored. The goal is to take over the territory up to the Litani River so that the short range rockets cannot reach northern Israel.

This strategy is the Octopus strategy- cutting off the tentacles one by one.

So far not much has been done to deal with the west bank and the Houthis in Yemen except for the occasional air attack on the Houthis' resources.

Iran has intervened twice on Israel with missile attacks. The Israeli air force has responded with the destruction of the anti-aircraft defences and an attack on the missile construction factory and also an attack on nuclear facilities.

Iran is now vulnerable to further attacks and is weighing up its options!

Its oilfields are vulnerable to attacks. Oil is what keeps the regime going. Also the regime is not popular with the people of Iran and too much damage could lead to the overthrow of their regime.

Trump is coming- a more hostile USA to Iran. Trump is already having an effect in the area in that Qatar – a supporter of Hamas is kicking out the Hamas leaders.

It does not want to become a target of the USA anger!

Let us remember what Jacob said in Genesis 49:8-9: *“Judah shall be on the neck of their enemies and shall be like a lion”* and Moses in Deuteronomy 33:7 said that *“God would help Judah”*. Ω



Pathway to the Future



By Loren Chamberlain

Thinking about the future and what you are going to do with your life can be scary! First of all, in that place we call the future anything is possible. Bad things can happen as well as good things. How can you know ahead of time how to avoid the bad things in that place called the future? Well, no one knows exactly what the future holds for him/herself. But you can do certain things now to insure your success and safety in this life and the life to come, like making Jesus your best friend and companion.

How can you know ahead of time how to avoid the bad things in that place called the future?

Many people think they must have their lives totally together before they turn to God. They think they need to make themselves worthy of Jesus' friendship. The problem is nobody will ever be worthy of what God is offering. That's a surprising part of God's truth, which is sometimes difficult to accept. It is Satan the enemy who wants people to believe they somehow have to earn God's favour. By causing people

to believe this he keeps people from making the first step toward the Kingdom of God. "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out" (John 6:37).

A few years ago I stood at the top of the Olympic ski run in Utah and watched the skiers practice their downhill routine. They seemed to simply float through the air as they arched their bodies forward into the wind trying to gain as much air time and distance as possible. Other skiers were practicing every twist, turn and flip known to man, and then landing in a swimming pool. Just by looking down the slope my stomach was doing its own flip-flops.

I decided in about one second this was something I would never do. The thrill of victory can be intoxicating, but the agony of defeat was not going to be a part of my life experience. Then it came to me, these young athletes did not suddenly decide to be skiers. They grew up skiing, and one learning step at a time became very proficient in this thrilling sport. If you walk with Jesus you too can approach life one step at a time and one prayer at a time to become proficient at living life. Thinking about life in

the future without the friendship of Jesus can be like huddling fearfully at the top of a ski run having made no preparation for the trip down. It wouldn't be so bad if you'd done it before. But without any training or experience, and trying to go it alone, the trip could be disastrous and very frightening to say the least.

However, in a way, you have been planning or not planning for the future for some time. In school you have either chosen classes with your future in mind or you didn't. You worked hard in class or you didn't. Whatever you did in school will certainly have an impact on your life.

The friends that you hangout with will probably influence your life as much as the skills you have and the interests you have developed. So why not hangout with Jesus, and make Him your best friend? "If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that it may abide with you forever, the spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees it nor knows it; but you know it, for it dwells (continued on next page)

with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you” (John 14:15–18).

Most likely you still have time to make Jesus your partner before you jump off into life all alone. It might be a few months or years. Nevertheless, it is never too late to work out a strategy or a plan that will not leave you stranded, looking down the pathway of life into a fearful future with more questions on your mind than available answers.

When you put your faith in God’s Son, His Spirit becomes a part of your life. God knew you would need His Spirit to help you live the way He wants you to live. You can let God’s Spirit choose the road you’re going to take. Living that way pleases God. In order for your mind to be ruled by His Spirit, you’ve got to stay tight with God.

Spend time in prayer, in worship, and in His word. If you make these disciplines a part of your life, then you’ll know when the Spirit is leading you, and you’ll be able to follow. Ω

SIDELIGHT: While looking at the stars on a clear night, thank God for a way He has shown His love for you. Think of a way for each star you see.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Why do you quote from the Old Testament in establishing doctrine for Christians? Shouldn’t Christians get their beliefs from the New Testament alone, especially from the epistles of Paul?

A: Listen carefully to what the apostle Paul says about the so called “Old Testament”:

To Timothy, Paul writes, *“and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work”* (2 Timothy 3:15, 16).

The only Scriptures Timothy could have known from childhood was the collection of books we call the “Old Testament.” Therefore, Paul is speaking of the Old Testament when he says that the Scriptures can make a person wise for salvation, and training in righteousness, thus equipping the man of God for every good work.

According to the New Testament, then, doctrinal truth applicable to Christians can be derived from the Old Testament!

Q: Isn’t it true that God can give His Holy Spirit to a person who has not been baptized?

A: It is true that God can give His Holy Spirit to a person though that person has not been baptized. However, that fact is aside from the real question. The real question is: Should a repentant believer be baptized? The clear scriptural answer is a most decided yes. Jesus commanded His disciples, *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age”* (Matthew 28:19, 20). Later, on the Day of Pentecost, the apostle Peter said, *“Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit”* (Acts 2:38).

Scriptural examples show that even in a rare instance in which someone receives the Holy Spirit without first being baptized, baptism should still be administered (Acts 10:44-48).

CgiCanada Vision 2030 **CORNER**

Our 5-year plan for leading the church

December 2024 Report

Welcome back to the new Vision 2030 Corner of the CGI Canada Newsletter!

I hope you were able to make some time last month to look through the Vision 2030 document. This month, we'll take a deeper look into our **Mission Statement**.

Before we do, what is a Mission Statement? The statement can describe the goal, products or services of an organization, but when you boil it down, it is a short statement of WHY an organization exists. Brethren and coworkers support CGI Canada with their time in worship, following our written and audio/visual productions and volunteering their time to support all of these efforts. Can you explain WHAT your time, effort and financial commitments are supporting?

The Mission Statement of CGI Canada is **“to preach the good news of the Kingdom to all peoples, primarily in Canada, as a witness and a warning; and to nurture and prepare disciples to reign with Jesus Christ.”**

The first thing you may notice is what it does NOT say. Our mission is NOT to bring as many people as we can to Jesus. Twice in John 6 (v.44 and 56) Christ tells us *“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him.”* Our mission is NOT to save the world. Rather, we are to follow the admonition of our Lord when He prophesied in Matt 24:14 that *“this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world AS A WITNESS to all nations, and then the end will come.”*

The gospel of how God will offer salvation to the world through the selected family of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is spread throughout the scriptures. Luke confirms this preaching was first to be a WITNESS in Luke 24:46-48: *“Thus it is written and thus it was necessary...that repentance and remission should be preached in His name to all nations...and you are witnesses of these things.”*

Preaching can be likened to yelling from the mountaintops. The goal is that everyone at least HEAR the message. That is part one of our mission. Let the true message of the gospel be heard. Because we are in Canada, our specific goal is that we accomplish this here in our nation, with the added benefit that through technology, people from other nations hear the message as well. (continued on the next page)

CgiCanada Vision 2030 **CORNER** - *cont'd*

December 2024 Report Cont'd:

The second part of the mission answers the question posed to the apostles in Acts 2:37-38 when many were “cut to the heart, and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’ “

Not everyone will respond to our preaching; sometimes very few do. However, we must be ready when someone is “cut to the heart” and offer an environment in our congregations for teaching people how to be followers of Christ. In Matt 28:19-20, Christ told his dedicated followers to “...*make disciples...baptizing them...and teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you.*”

As you and your congregation determine how to better serve our God, knowing WHY CGI Canada exists as an organization is paramount in providing a biblically foundational service. “Preaching the true gospel and preparing disciples of Christ” is WHY we exist. What these two admonitions really mean and how we go about executing them are the much deeper questions, and ones that you can work on in your congregations.

Next month, we will take a look at the Vision Statement and answer the question “How is our Vision different from our Mission?”

Until next time!

Elder Murray Palmatier

Ω



CGI Canada Strategy 2030

Our 5-year plan for leading the church

Our Mission, Vision and Values

Mission

To preach the good news of the Kingdom to all peoples, primarily within Canada, as a witness and a warning; and to nurture and prepare disciples to reign with Jesus Christ.

Vision

By 2030, we will have a reputation for being a healthy Church of God organization - with a ministry that is respected and easy to approach due to our servant leadership culture and our ability to effectively proclaim and teach the Word of God.

Core Values

"I foresee" (I4C)

- ❑ **Integrity** – Rom 12:9; Jos 24:14
- ❑ **Courage** – Prov 28:1
- ❑ **Care** – Eph 4:32
- ❑ **Courtesy** – Gal 5:13-14
- ❑ **Consideration** – Heb 10:24

Our First 5-Year Objective

1. To help God's people:
 - a. Walk worthy of our vocation;
 - b. Maintain humility while forbearing one another in charity;
 - c. Keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace;
 - d. Discover, develop and use their gifts towards being active members of the body of Christ

"Eph. 4.1-3 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Our Second 5-Year Objective

2. To have an evangelism program
 - a. That is robust and uncompromising in its Biblical content and ability to address current affairs; and
 - b. That leverages technology and word of mouth.

Matt 24.14 "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

External Forces acting against us

Political Winds

- Government Legislation
- Societal Changes
- Negative Economic Factors
- Political Schisms
- Fake news
- Influence of Socialism
- Environmental Movement
- Continuing growth of the conflict between Nationalism / Globalism
- Identity Politics (Reverse Racism)
- Global Instability & terrorism danger
- Censorship of online speech
- Sudden and unexpected crisis management from government (e.g. pandemic, civil unrest)

Moral Redefinition

- Demonization of Christianity
- Education and Indoctrination
- Exaltation of Islam and Transgenderism
- Normalization of sexual immorality and murder
- Increasing syncretism – all religions are equal

Social Unrest

- Erosion of respect through easy access to knowledge
- Growing confusion
- Continuing growth of violent social unrest and erosion of civility
- Loss of trust and increase in suspicion over authority figures
- Open borders and changing demographics
- Addictions and mental disorders

Internal Challenges that may obstruct us

Division

- Political schisms seeping into the Church
- A divided ministry
- Not understanding church is a family
- Distance between scattered brethren
- Little regard for the need to gather and fellowship
- Holding onto our youth
- Lack of understanding of the impact of social media/Internet in the lives of our youth

Disrespect

- Disrespect for the ministry
- Connected audiences that fact check/challenge our statements in real time
- Lack of effectiveness in counselling
- Lack of recognition of the ministry as a source of counselling
- Lack of recognition of the importance of the sanctity of marriage
- Mental illness
- Maintaining privacy

Growing Weakness

- Lack of closure re funerals/death
- Lack of support in the operations of the congregations
- Dedication & devotion of membership
- Fatigue – expressed in how we can accept teachings
- Aging congregations
- Cycle of diminishing revival in succeeding generations
- Small ministry & small budget
- Economic challenges within the church
- To be relevant & remain rooted

Our Six Critical Success Factors

1. Personal Health

- Personal Health Maintenance
 - Diet
 - Weight Management
 - Sleep
 - Exercise
 - Stress Management
 - Supplements

2. Healthy Congregations

- Healthy Congregations
 - Speaking to the issues of Family, Marriage, Conflict Resolution
 - Strong and Healthy families in our congregations
 - Encourage active engagement by, and mutual respect for, all members
 - Discourage gossip and disrespect of Christ's body

3. Staying Relevant

- Staying Relevant (with the Changing Times)
 - Staying above the Party Politics
 - Teaching meat in due season
 - Preaching about current topics evangelically
 - Incorporating current language into our teachings
 - Teaching against both sides of extremes

Critical Success Factors

4. Biblical Fluency

- Biblical competence and fluency in both the ministry and the brethren

5. Leading By Example

- Leading by Example
 - Personally
 - How we interact in the ministry
 - § Encouraging each other to discover, develop and use our gifts
 - § How we publicly interact with each other
 - How we interact with the congregation

6. Communication

- Improving our Communication Skills
 - Speaking skills
 - Interpersonal skills
 - Counselling skills

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Beverley Smith has been a member of the CGI since October 1986. She is a foundation member of the CGI Kingston, Jamaica congregation where she first visited when it had about fifteen members.

Bev, as she's known to most people, has been an active member of the church over the years having served in various ministries, notably the Women's and Family Ministries. She has taught Sabbath School, coordinated and hosted a number of women's related events, organized CGI Toronto's annual picnic, and served on the Feast Planning Committee.

She has been described as "a social butterfly" because of her ability to reach out to others, especially new visitors, with her usual friendly and welcoming attitude.

Bev, who retired almost a year ago, worked as a civil servant with the federal government for 20 years, and now spends her time gardening, travelling, and her usual church chores. She's married to Elder Horane Smith and they have four wonderful children; Shey, Samar, Jordi and Codi, who are also members of the church, as well as 2 grandchildren.

Group pic of Feast of Tabernacles 2024 Collingwood attendees



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YOUNG ACHIEVERS!!!



RACHAEL-ANN KEANE

pictured at left, is an inspiration as she recognizes the importance of doing her best in school. Her school has acknowledged and awarded her for the 3rd time as an Honour Roll student. Rachael-Ann is a member of the CGI Praise and Worship dance team Movement of Praise, the CGI Toronto Choir, and her school's Rugby team, and she finds joy in doing these activities. We encourage Rachel-Ann to continue to do her very best as she prepares to enter university in September.

KERISSA-ROSE THOMAS

pictured at right, has successfully achieved her 2nd Honour Roll, and also received a Subject Achievement Award for Visual Arts. She expresses her love for art in glass painting, and it comes across in her nail tech designs. She plays volleyball and has won a gold medal in a tournament. Karissa-Rose is a member of the CGI dance team Movement of Praise. Yahweh's blessings and wisdom are present in Karissa-Rose's life.



WELL DONE RACHAEL-ANN AND KERRISA-ROSE!

Join us as we extend our warmest congratulations to Rachael-Ann and Karrisona-Rose for their academic accomplishments. We thank Yahweh for His continuous guidance and blessings in their life. Our children deserve recognition for their academic accomplishments, especially since there are times when they're absent from school in order to observe Yahweh's commanded Holy Days. Yahweh is love and the righteousness of our children's lives. Submitted by Kerine James

A Helpful Scripture From Sandee Willshaw, CGI Kawartha Lakes

Here is a scripture that has meaning for me...
particularly when I am troubled about an issue.

Paul is talking here about a thorn in his flesh...

2 Corinthians 12:8-10 -

8. I besought the Lord three times for this, that it might depart from me;

9. But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you; for My power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, most gladly will I boast in my weaknesses that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

10. For this reason, I take pleasure in weaknesses, in insults, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

When troubles and persecutions make us weak, we need to rely on the peace of God. Our faith will make us strong to endure. When we put our focus OFF of our trials and ONTO God's goodness, we can overcome!



Pictured at left
- The Ottawa
Leadership
Team striving
and discussing
how they can
improve their
congregational
experience for
everyone.
Submitted by
Peter Wilcox.

DECEMBER SABBATH SERVICES

Toronto

Dec. 7 - Kenroy Allen
Dec. 14 - Horane Smith
Dec. 21 - Dwight Chin
Nov. 28 - Bernard Wilson

Kitchener

Dec. 7 - Rick Dubler
Dec. 14 - Bernard Wilson
Dec. 21 - Kenroy Allen
Dec. 28 - Adam Dubler

Burlington

Dec. 7 - Jan Kowalczyk
Dec. 14 - Adrian Davis
Dec. 21 - Adrian Davis
Dec. 28 - Jan Kowalczyk

London

Dec. 7 - Mel Rahel
Dec. 14 - Rick Dubler
Dec. 21 - Horane Smith
Dec. 28 - Heinrich Peters

Kawartha Lakes

Dec. 7 - Horane Smith
Dec. 14 - Taped Sermon
Dec. 21 - Stephan Willshaw
Dec. 28 - Jim French

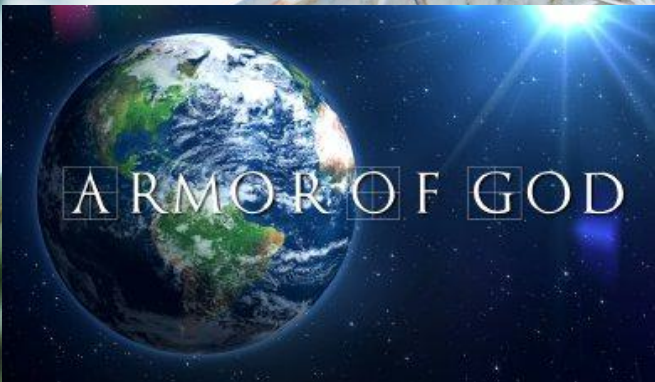
Ottawa

Dec. 7 - Jim French
Dec. 14 - David Townson
Dec. 21 - Peter Wilcox
Dec. 28 - Taped Sermon

For more info - see the Congregation websites
@ Cgicanada.org

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07:50 10:00

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