



"The entrance of Thy words
giveth light..." (Ps 119:130a)

The Lighthouse BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of the
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**Being
a Blessing
in 2018**

1 Pet 3:8-9; 2 Pet 1:3

"...Be ye all...
a blessing... according
as... He hath called us to
glory and virtue."

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December 31, 2018

LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY CAMP ENDS TODAY WITH SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

"Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called..." (1 Pet 3:8-9).

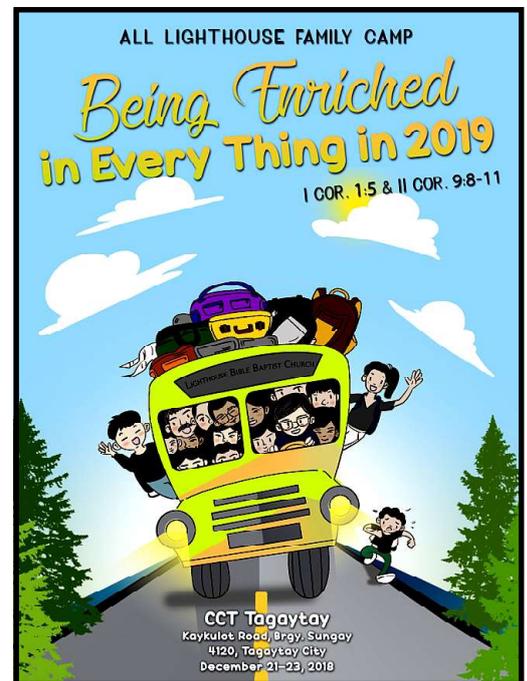
The Lighthouse Family Camp ends today with the morning services of Lighthouse BBC held at the venue, CCT Retreat and Training Center at the Kaykulot Road, Tagaytay City. This will be the second time in the history of Lighthouse BBC that the Sunday morning services is held outside the premises of the church in Tatalon. The last time this was done was during the 40th church anniversary in 2016.

More than 220 members joined the year's event with everyone enjoying the main feature of the camp, the Bible Quiz, this year covering the books, 1 and 2 Peter. The exciting Bible Quiz covered almost 6 hours last Friday with the five color groups showing good performance with all the cheers provided by the members of the respective groups.

For the challenge portions, Pastor Reuben summarized the theme and quarterly focuses of the year 2018 noting the great working of God in the lives of the members of the Lighthouse BBC through the preaching and teaching of God's Word.

The Pastor also outlined the theme for the coming new year 2019, Being Enriched in All Things in 2019 and emphasized that the gifts-based ministries developed in members of Lighthouse BBC must be considered "riches" given by God to the Ekklesia.

The year 2018 has become one of the most significant years in Lighthouse BBC as it raised the awareness of everyone in the Ekklesia into being a blessing as a body more than as individuals. It also taught God's people that God's grace in the Ekklesia is bestowed for the benefit of the whole body and not simply of the individual. And there are yet many areas of growth in this grace. 2 Peter 3:18 says, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." - PRA



The Lighthouse BBC's Children Department doing their Christmas presentation last Sunday night with the musical play of the birth of Christ.

Fourth Quarter Focus :

Being a Blessing

"Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification...follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another..." (Rom 15:2; 14:19).

"Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen" (Eph. 3:21)

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON
Christmas Lesson

ministry of Zacharias (a priest of the order of Abijah) seem to point to the said period.

TITLE : THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Text : Luke 2:8-20

INTRODUCTION

Only the Gospel of Luke records the announcement of the birth of Jesus to the shepherds in the field. As to why the announcement was first made to the shepherds, one Bible commentator writes, "these may have been the shepherds who supplied the lambs for the Temple sacrifices, performed for the forgiveness of sin; and they are now invited to greet the Lamb of God Who would take away the sin of the world."

A) Their watch (v8)

The term, "shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night" could not have been a time within which the birth of Christ is being celebrated today. It is known in the Judaeen land that the sheep are kept out in the open country during the whole of summer until about the first rain around late October. "It was the Latin church which placed the birth of Christ on December 25, the very day on which the ancient Romans celebrated the feast of their goddess Brutus...Pope Julius I was the person who made this alteration (Adam Clarke)

This preacher is, however, convinced that the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ occurred sometime between September and October.. Both the observation cited above and the reference to the

B) The revelation by the angel (vs 9-14)

- 1) The reassurance by the angel
The shepherds were terrified when suddenly the horizon was filled with God's glory, but they were given a reassurance by the angel, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy..."
- 2) The revelation in regard to God's son.
Three titles were given to Jesus in the angel's announcement: Saviour, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) and Lord (Yahweh or God). Jesus is both God and man.
- 3) The revelation in regard to the sign
"Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Swaddling clothes were strips of cloth used to keep a baby warm and give it a sense of security. They were believed to protect its internal organs. The custom of swaddling infants is still practiced in many Eastern countries. A manger is a feeding trough for animals in a stall or stable. Tradition says that Jesus was born in a cave, in which case the manger may have been cut out of a rockwall.

C) Their resolve (v15)

The shepherds practically ran to see the baby born. They did not mind the time nor they allowed themselves to be hindered by anything. Their statement indicated the right time, the right place, and the right purpose in seeing the baby.



WATCH The LIGHTHOUSE CAFE TV TALK SHOW and MGA MUNTING ILAW every Saturday; and THE PULPIT, featuring our Sunday morning services, every Sunday on GCTV, Ch 185 on SIGNAL. The Mga Munting Ilaw Kids Show is seen every Saturday and Sunday at 7pm. GCTV programs may also be viewed via the GCTV Mobile App downloadable from Play Store for Android phones, free. Mobile App for IOS will be coming soon.



D) Their report (v17-18)

It is wonderful how the shepherds became true witnesses of both the heavenly revelation and their association with the baby Jesus. Such should also be the reaction of every true believer who experiences the grace of God in salvation.

E) Their rejoicing (v20)

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them."



Top photo, the Lighthouse District 4 members sing Mark Rosales' song, Haring Araw as their presentation last Sunday night. Lower photo, Pastor Reuben is seen hosting as Bible Quiz Master covering the books 1 and 2 Peter during the Lighthouse Family Camp at CCT Tagaytay. The family camp ends with the Sunday morning services today.

"Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen" (Eph. 3:21)

