



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

The Lighthouse BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of the
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Able to Do Abundantly in 2020

Eph 3:20

"...He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think..."

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PREPARING FOR THE 44TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ALSO MEANS PREPARING FOR SACRIFICIAL GIVING

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (1 Pet 2:5).

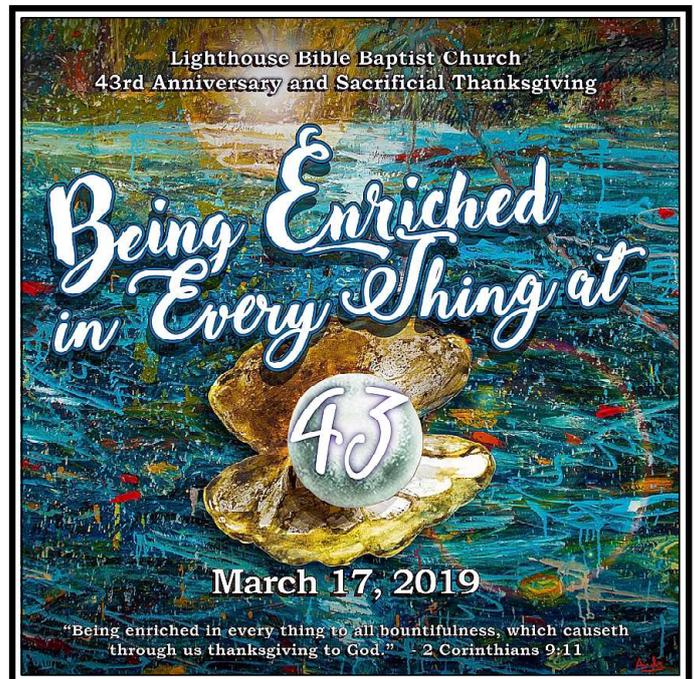
"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased" (Heb 13:15-16).

The Lighthouse BBC's 44th Anniversary Celebration on March 22 is not simply a celebration of God's gracious equipping and sustenance for the ministry through the years. It also serves as a time in which God's people demonstrate before God our being His habitation, His spiritual house that offers up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to Him.

Other churches and ministries think that they exist alongside the Lord Jesus Christ. We do not. As Ekklesia, Christ is our very head. We dwell and abide in Him. We therefore manifest works that befit a people who have such a claim. This means, for how He is our Head, we hold Him up high in all our celebrations. For what He is as our dwelling place, how He is as the rich land in which we dwell, we demonstrate the riches that we have in Him.

For these reasons, our celebrations are not just celebrations of a certain accomplishment but a celebration that demonstrates our being as His body, His Ekklesia.

This is the reason the Bible reminds us, "...to do good and to communicate" (i.e., share sacrificially) is something that is continually present in all our celebrations. Let us then prepare for such. Let us not forget this. - PRA



Families belonging to the Lighthouse District 5 each give their testimonies of how the grace of God enables and equips them to be in specific ministries and do abundantly.

First Quarter Focus :

Able to Do Abundantly as His Ekklesia

"...It is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure..." (Phil 2:13).

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

**TITLE : DIRECTIONS REGARDING TREATMENT OF
CHURCH MEMBERS**
TEXT : 1 TIM 5

INTRODUCTION

In Paul's letter to Ephesians, the very church which Timothy pastored, he taught that the Ekklesia is one body that is "fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part..." (Eph 4:16).

Paul also taught in 1 Cor 12:12 that the Ekklesia is one body, that has "many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ."

Moreover, Paul writes in 1 Cor 12:23, "And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness."

What this truth teaches us is, there should be proper relationship and treatment of members of the Ekklesia. And Paul leaves no stone unturned to be sure that this is taught to Timothy to equip him in being used by God to build His people.

This lesson fits our Lighthouse BBC focus this first quarter of the year because it builds us up to be able to do abundantly as an Ekklesia.

A) Instructions on relationship with and treatment of elders in the Ekklesia

1 Tim 5:1, "Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren."

As the Ekklesia is a body of people, the relationship of each member must be taught and

built. This is necessary so there may be proper treatment of each. If only this is observed, the Ekklesia should not have many petty relational problems and irrational treatment between members. We only need the Word in order that we may have knowledge, wisdom and understanding of the will of God.

B) Instructions on relationship with and treatment of the desolate

As the Ekklesia being a body of Christ, all members learn to demonstrate care for each other consistent with the New Testament teaching.

1 Cor 12:24-27, "For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: that there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

"And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

"Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular."

Rom 12:10-13: "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality."

While these instructions should be done, Paul also instructs families:

1 Tim 5:8, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."

Also, 1 Tim 5:16, "If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed."

1) The recognition given to widows indeed. Widows indeed represent the desolate and destitute in the Ekklesia, in so far as sustenance is concerned. Even Israel as a nation was commanded not to turn their backs to the fatherless and widows. Widows were not to be afflicted or made a prey (Deut 16:11; 27:19; Jer 7:6; Isa 10:2).

The early Jerusalem church recognized the help to be given to widows. So they appointed seven of the men to attend to them (Acts 6:1-4).

2) While there is instruction to recognize the need of those who are desolate and destitute, the primary work of the Ekklesia must continually be attended to.

The Ekklesia and the ministry may extend help to those who are really left to themselves. But those who are not so should be extended help by their relations.

Faith is something that is applied both within the confines of the Ekklesia and the home, being institutions of God. It is faith when relatives take care of their own and this is mentioned to be acceptable to God (4).

3) Younger widows are advised not to live in pleasure and self-gratification. Paul advises that in 1 Tim 5:14, "I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully."



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Top picture, the Lighthouse Psalters render their number last Sunday evening. Lower photo, the Lighthouse District 5 members sing an original M4M song, "Pagpapala Niya'y Tunay" that describes how everyone in the Ekklesia should be involved in the ministry and be able to do abundantly in serving God.

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