

From Where I Sit . . .

"NEW YEAR CHALLENGES!!!"

As we are blessed with a new opportunity to serve God with a new year ahead (almost as if it were with a blank canvas to start over with) there are many challenges ahead. By "blank canvas" I'm not referring to sin being wiped out that we have not repented of for indeed we must repent if we want God to make that canvas clean. I am, however, referring to a fresh start, a renewed interest. New years tend to bring new commitments. The Elders and I have so many dreams for what this church can become, and it's far past time that we roll up our sleeves and go to work. The past has been but a prologue of the great things that can be when the people have a mind to work. The many great works that have been done and are being done only convince me the more of how just much more we can accomplish.

In the next few weeks we will be unveiling our all new organization of the church for evangelistic and brother's keeper programs. Additionally, we are attempting to get the leadership training program off the ground for our boys and girls in Lads and Leaderettes. The next two months will be very busy in both of these directions. I firmly believe that we can be setting up and teaching home Bible studies that lead the lost to Christ. I firmly believe that we can lead many back to the Lord who have fallen away, and we can strengthen many who are weak and spasmodic about their participation.

I also firmly believe that we can grow in the grace of giving so that yet other outreaches can be adopted without the fear of inadequate funds. We can recruit, train, and put into service additional teachers who will help share the load in our classrooms. We most certainly can improve on the percentage of church members who take advantage of the classes that are offered. There is indeed much to do, and we have a new canvas to start filling.

Saluting Some Unheralded Role Models:

With our attendance tracking program and the help of Tom Hancock, we are able to look back at the past 52 weeks and report to any individual who would like to know, how their attendances fared on Sunday and Sunday night. I want to highlight some role models in the area of church attendance without trying to suggest that those who traveled, suffered illness, or worked were any less faithful. That is not my implication. The following members were here for all 52 Sunday morning services this past year: Eddie Burgess, Jane Burgess, C. B. Laney, Doris Laney, Wendell Page. Additionally the following made it 50 times or more: Kathryn Baird, David Bellomy, Willie Bellomy, Vivian Collins, Bob Harrington, Ruth Harrington, Bonnie Jarrell, Vince Laney, Aaron Manning, Joey Manning, Bob Rice, Marge Rice, Glenda Robertson, Sonny Robertson, Hugh Spurgeon, and Ruth Spurgeon. On Sunday evening the following were here at least 50 times: Tracy Brumley, C. B. Laney, Doris Laney, Wendell Page, Sonny Robertson, Leonard Wilson.

Additionally, there were 68 members who were here 47 or more of the Sunday mornings, and 31 were here 47 or more Sunday nights. We recognize readily that job conflicts, travel, and sickness may have caused very dedicated Christians to not fall into this category and we do not minimize at all your importance to the work of Broad Street. We merely wanted to salute those who were fortunate enough to not have these interferences and set a wonderful example for us. I hope you take this with the spirit with which I intended it. God bless our efforts in 2004!!!

. . . . Terry Broome