



"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple" (Ps 119:130).

The Lighthouse BULLETIN

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**2015:
The Year of
Fruitbearing**

John 15:16
"...I have chosen you, and ordained you...go and bring forth fruit..."

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12-WEEK COUNTDOWN FOR FIRSTFRUITS 2015 BEGINS

"...bring the firstfruits...year by year, unto the house of the Lord" (Neh 10:35).

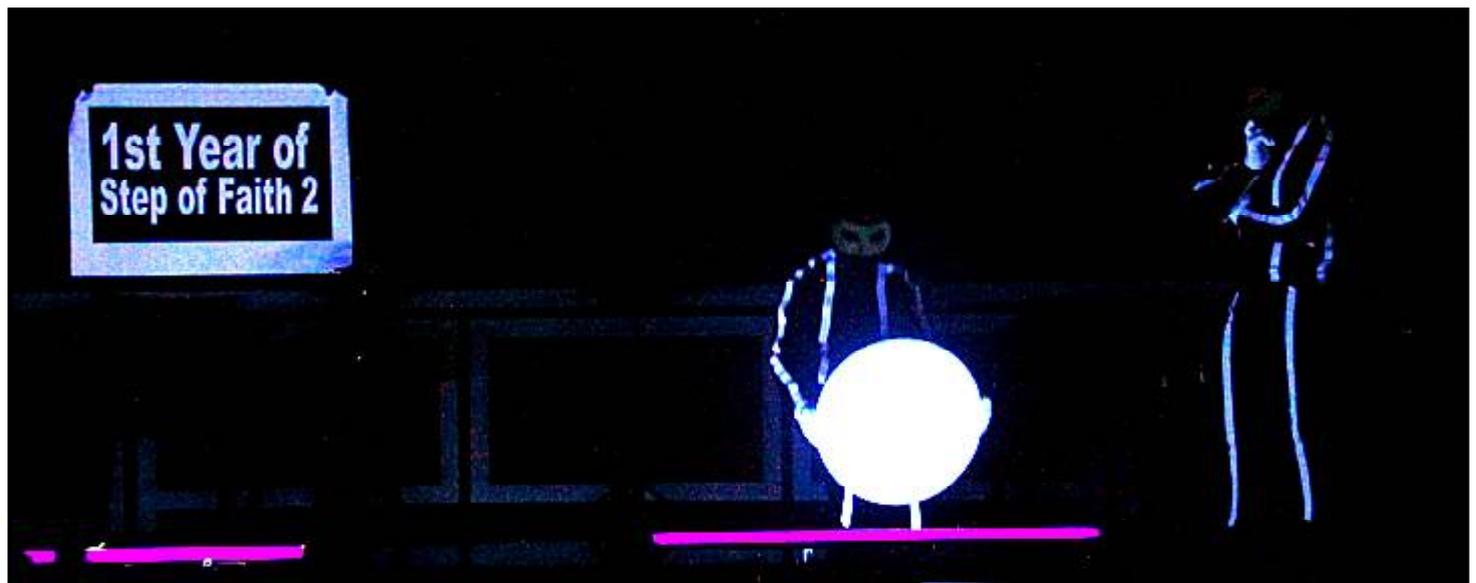
A Word from the PASTOR



As a Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church, we are, once more, looking forward to giving God our Firstfruits Offerings and we will do on September 20, some 12 weeks from today. We know that Firstfruits is simply another term for Thanksgiving Offering, one that represents our thanksgiving to Him for His many wonderful blessings the whole year.

Beginning today, we will emphasize the virtue of being thankful to the Lord for all things and thus, make a good preparation of our hearts for Firstfruits. The nation of Israel was instructed by God in Deut 26 that as they offer their Firstfruits, they shall "rejoice in every good thing which the Lord thy God hath given thee" (v11).

Today, we are instructed by God's Word in 1 Thess 5:18, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Cor 1:5 says, "...in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge." then in 2 Cor 8:7, "...as ye abound in every thing...abound in this grace also."



A scene during the presentation of the Lighthouse District 6, a play on being consistent in our commitment for the Step of Faith Project.

**Third Quarter Focus :
Bearing Fruit in Every Good Work**

"...walk worthy of the Lord...being fruitful in every good work..." (Col 1:10).

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

TITLE : PAUL'S REJOICING AND CONFIDENCE IN THE MIDST OF GREAT SUFFERING
TEXT : PHIL 1:12-20

In these verses, we find the Apostle Paul praising God for his prison experience. Instead of hindering the spread of the Gospel, his sufferings furthered the spread of the Gospel.

This furtherance of the Gospel was accomplished through the following:

A) The confinement of his fetters (vs 13; 4:22)

Fetters mean "a chain or shackle for the feet."

While imprisoned, Paul was guarded by imperial soldiers who were the cream of the Roman army; and at the time of the writing of this epistle, he was in Rome, in the very center of the Roman government.

Traditions indicate that according to the Roman custom, Paul would have probably been chained to a Roman soldier 24/7 with a new guard every six hours.

Keeping in mind the start of the ministry in Philippi where the jailor himself, after the midnight prayers and songs of Paul and Silas, asked how he may be saved, to which, Paul and Silas answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31). Paul used this same scenario to witness to every guard on duty and no doubt, every guard came to know his conversion story. What resulted was his very testimony, "the

things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; so that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places..." (vs 12-14).

Only God knows what went on in the rented house in which Paul was permitted to live. There, the guards heard not only the very testimony of Paul, but of everyone who came to visit him. Every circumstance in his life was a platform on which the grace of God is manifested.

B) The courage of his friends (v 14)

"...many of the brethren...waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear."

Paul's prison testimony jolted some of the timid believers into becoming bolder witnesses of the Gospel. One possibility for this may have been the conversion of the Roman soldiers themselves. Their testimony would doubtless have given new courage to the members of the churches in Rome.

C) The carnality of his foes (vs 14-16)

"Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: the one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds" (vs 15-16).

In spite of what seems to be the impure or insincere motives of various preachers in his day, some even known to be contentious to him, Paul nevertheless declares, "whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice" (Phil 1:18).

Note that the great problem in the world is not the imperfect preaching of the Gospel -- but the none preaching of the Gospel!

D) The confidence in his future (vs 19,20)

Paul is confident of two things:

1) His needs will be supplied.

Phil 1:19, "For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ"

2) His Savior would be magnified

Phil 1:20, "...my earnest expectation and my hope...that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death."

Coming Events

July 12

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

July 28-30 (Tue, Wed, Thurs)

ALL-LIGHTHOUSE

STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS

(Nightly event)

August 1 (Saturday)

OPEN HOUSE @lighthouse



Clockwise from top left, masons work on plant boxes at the entrance to the new property; newly planted royal palms and fall bamboo along the perimeter of the new property. Works are done for the soon-to-open Safebirth Clinic and new location of TGP Araneta. Both are parts of the ministry.

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