



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

# The Lighthouse BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of the  
**LIGHTHOUSE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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**2016:  
The Year of  
Proving**

**1 Thes 5:21**  
"Prove all things;  
hold fast that which  
is good."

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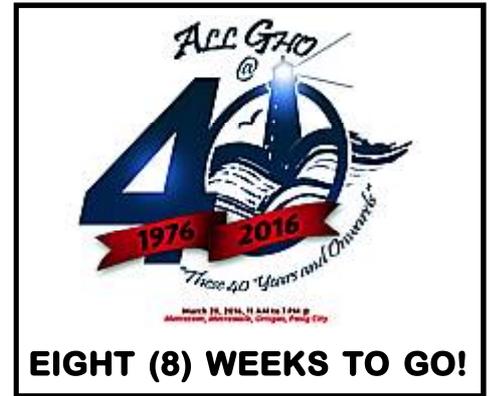
Reuben M. Abante, DD - Senior Pastor

January 31, 2016

## PASTOR REUBEN CHALLENGES EVERYONE IN LIGHTHOUSE BBC, "BE A BLESSING."

"I...send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger...for he longed after you all...Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness...because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me" (Phil 2:25-30).

### A Word from the PASTOR



The words of the song Make Me A Blessing present to each believer a serious thought about being a blessing.

Peter 3:8-9 says, "...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, that ye should inherit a blessing." What Peter explains here is that we are called to be a blessing, and, we can actually be by being of one mind, having compassion one of another, loving as brethren, being pitiful, courteous. That we need to be a blessing not simply because it is our calling, but because by being so, we inherit a blessing!

In our text above, the Apostle Paul cites the example of Epaphroditus who was to him, a blessing. And he sent him to Philippi to further be a blessing. As such, he did not regard his own life so he could be a blessing to the Philippian believers.

The song, Make Me A Blessing, asks the Lord to be the One to make us and mold us to be a blessing. It does not simply ask the Lord that we may do a single act of blessing, but to make us, blessings ourselves.

Whom God calls, He also makes. Rom 8:30 says, "...whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified." What this means is, everyone He calls, He equips and

furnishes for His calling. And all that must be done of people with such a calling is to be willing to be in accordance with the call. The Apostle Paul lays this down clearly in Phil 3:12 when he says, "...I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus."

As we look forward to our 40th Anniversary and Sacrificial Celebration in eight (8) weeks, may this song be also our true prayer. Let us be a blessing to each one and to the work of God as a whole!



Well known violinist, Dick Saraza plays the songs, People Need the Lord and Via Dolorosa during the first joint Fellowship Service for the year last Sunday night. This came as a treat to everyone by Pastor Reuben. Reports for 2015 were also featured that night.

**First Quarter Focus :**  
**"Proving the sincerity of our love."**

2 Cor 8:8, "...prove the sincerity of your love."

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

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson No. Phil052415-010

**TITLE :** THE SACRIFICIAL GIFT OF THE PHILIPPIAN CHURCH

**TEXT :** Phil 3:10-19

### INTRODUCTION

Verses 10-19 of Philippians chapter 4 give to us the very commendable testimony of the Philippian church as they gave a sacrificial offering for the work of the Apostle Paul. This example must be followed if churches today will be like the churches in the New Testament.

In this lesson we learn the following things:

#### A) Their Sacrificial Gift was something which they were careful (v 10).

Observe how the Apostle says, "...your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful..."

This means that their carefulness (*or thoughtfulness, mindfulness, affection*) emanates from what really was in their hearts. They cared for Paul and the work of the Lord which he did.

How they cared was cited also by Paul in 2 Cor 11:9, "...that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied..."

#### B) Their Sacrificial Gift was something that was not given because of a "want" (v 11)

We give mainly because of what we have to be before God and of the value of the work of the Lord; not because there is need. We have always been taught that our giving is not driven by a presence of a project, but by our continuing desire to "...offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (1 Pet 2:5).

When Mary poured her precious ointment at the feet of Jesus, the act was met with indifference even by some because of the need of the poor. But take note of the following narrative:

Matt 26:8-13, "But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose is this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor."

When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me. For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always. For in that she hath poured

this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial. Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her."

#### C) Their Sacrificial Gift is described by Paul as having been "well done" (v 14)

Phil 4:14, "...ye have well done, that ye did communicate (*share, contribute*) with my affliction (*the challenges that come with doing the work of the Lord*)."

We should not be weary of well doing.

2 Thess 3:13, "...brethren, be not weary in well doing."

Gal 6:9, "...let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

#### D) Their Sacrificial Gift was not dependent on the performance of others (v 15)

Phil 4:15, "...when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated (*contributed*) with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only."

What a testimony! They gave not because others gave!

#### E) Their Sacrificial Gift was not done once (v 16)

Phil 4:16, "...ye sent once and again unto my necessity."

Their sacrifice was free flowing!

#### F) Their Sacrificial Gift abounded to their "account" (v 17)

Paul says, "...I desire fruit that may abound to your account (*testimony*)."

(Phil 4:17). Wasn't this the prayer of Paul for them at the beginning of the Epistle? Phil 1:9-11, "...that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness..."

#### G) Their Sacrificial Gift was "an odour of sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God" (v 18)

Phil 4:18, "...the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God."

Heb 13:16, "...to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

#### H) Their Sacrificial Gift guaranteed the supply of

their need as a church (v 19)

Phil 4:19, "...God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

They are guaranteed to have meat in the storehouse!

**LET US WILLINGLY  
GIVE OUR  
SACRIFICIAL  
OFFERINGS AS  
PROOF  
OF THE SINCERITY  
OF OUR LOVE.**

"I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others...prove the sincerity of your love" (2 Cor 8:8).

"Wherefore shew ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love..." (2 Cor 8:24).

"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).

## Coming Events

**February 6**

**MDM, Lighthouse Cainta**

**February 14, Sunday afternoon**

**Blood Letting**

**February 21**

**Foundation Day, Lighthouse Cainta**

**February 26**

**Foundation Day, Lighthouse Olongapo**



The SINAG and YLS singers as they sang during the first Joint Fellowship Service last Sunday night. All the Lighthouse musical groups are preparing for the 40th Anniversary and Sacrificial Celebration on March 20, 2016. The event will be held at the Metrotent, Metrowalk, Meralco Avenue, Ortigas, Pasig City.

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