

## Annual Report 2015 "Bearing the Light into a New Day!"

**Once Each Year... We shine the light on our \$\$\$ report... To see and celebrate what God has done! *Isaiah 41.20* "He is faithful and blesses abundantly!" To fulfill a moral obligation to our family! "As a family of stewards we must be found faithful!" 1Cor4.2 To see how the Lord has provided for us on the way to fulfill His mission! Mt10.9 Abundant resources, "clothing," transportation, co-laborers...**

**We shine the light on our *perceived* future... *Stats* show we have prospered/grown... Our *hearts and actions* and *kids* tell us we are growing in His grace... *Holy Spirit* impressing/pressing us that we still have lot's of potential to tap... So we deliver again and again... because...**

***At stake is our obedience to God for the mission we have been given...At stake are the people we know and love in the community where we have been set...And we have been called to bear the light and to be a lighthouse in a darkening world!***

**2014 Was a very good year... Added three newer-used buses... now busing in over 200 kids mid-week! Completed the drainage plan for all planned future builds/lots/drives! Premiered Life Changer's! Added Nursing Room for new mom's! Added the Annex, Maintenance bldg. and Maintenance Man!**

Our income increased 25%... While our attendance increased 10%... More serious "followers!" The Adult Sanctuary Fund opened with a special gift of \$50,000 We're not reaching anywhere near our potential with 23% tithing... But it does say that more of us are realizing we, our stuff, "not our own!"

**Asides... Church Council laid out 2015 budget! 7% higher than last year's income... First three weeks income dropped 29%... Tells us that people are recovering from Christmas bills... Tells us that many of us still don't really understand the concept of the tithe... The tithe is based on income(ing), and only *drops* if income *stops*... People who tithe faithfully, generally, don't have to juggle! First tenth sanctifies the balance!**

**The Tithe** "...is holy unto the Lord! It is cursed for human consumption by dedication to Him (cherem)!" **Lev 27** The tithe provides for the upkeep of the "temple" **Numbers 31**, the priests **Numbers 3,4,18** and the storehouse **Genesis 41, Malachi 3** Tithe simply means "tenth," and that tenth of our "incomings" puts us in covenant with manifold promises...

**The Covenant** "You have left Me on this principle... but if you will return to Me I will return to you, says the Lord. Why do you say we have left you? Because you have tried to rob Me of the tithes and offerings and in doing so you have brought a curse on yourselves, even your whole nation... but bring all the tithes into the storehouse that there will be meat in My house and prove me with it to see if I will not 1.) *open to you the windows of heaven, and 2.) pour out a blessing that cannot be contained, and 3.) I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and 4.) he will not destroy the fruit of your labor, and 5.) neither will disasters cut down your harvest, and 6.) all nations will call you blessed for you will be delightful in their sight* – says the Lord!" **Malachi 3.7-12**

**Most Christians... Want to be blessed!** Cursing is the opposite! **Mal 3.9** Want the benefits of the covenant! "Open windows, blessings poured out, devourer rebuked, fulfillment of what is seeded, *limelight of blessing!*" **v10-12 Want to be more spiritual!** But if you can't handle what is least; mammon, not given true riches! **Lk16.11 Want to do mighty things!** Can do no mighty works/unbelief! **M13.58**

**The Covenant** While we are no longer "under the laws" of the Old Testament... If we do not "rise" to the generosity of NT believers/Jesus covenant... "sowing bountifully to reap bountifully, giving cheerfully to be enriched abundantly, receiving plenty to fund every good work 2Cor 9.6ff and to confer benefits like God..."

**1T6.18** Then the OT law remains as our *schoolmaster* to bring us up... **Gal3.24** And *minimum* to retain the covenant!

**Asides... If you don't tithe because you didn't know... fixed by hearing/study...** NT minimum **Mt 23.23** "In the face of all the rest, don't leave it undone!" Not tithing is (our) "undoing!" **If you don't tithe because you're afraid, you have a God problem...** Tangled up w/god of mammon... Affected by slander of God's faithfulness! Don't know what God can do with 90% that is protected/sanctified... **IYDT because you don't validate the institution of the church, then you have a problem with God...** God instituted the form/elements of church we have: *worship*, prayer, word... **IYDT because you can't validate this church, you have a location problem...** "You guys don't need my money..." Tithing is a response to God... and partnering w/us in something bigger than yourself/not just riding along!

**Best way...** Stop thinking of your money as *your money*! Limited source/hold tight/selective giving. Start thinking in terms of the 90% and adjust your lifestyle *in the short term*! Not giving away 10%/have 90% to use! Start doing it w/o "figuring it out!" None can explain why it works, outside of God rewarding the faithful!

**Tithing is the way the church should light up its presence and work in the community where it's set...!**

**Future!** Life Changer's! 5 weeks/180 kids! \$50k Lighting for the playing fields! \$35k Parking lots/back driveway/exit for adults and rainy days! \$35/20k Playground addition! \$35k New ent/exit to Henderson! \$150k New Building fund/D.R. option! \$630k New Regional Foursquare "Teen Mania!" 1 yr. gap program.

All do-able from the tithe if we are faithful!

**The Key...** To unlocking our future is in our hands... in our obedience... We could raise the money for special projects... (building/benevolence) But rather see it all happen by good management of our gathered fidelity!

***The key to unlocking our future is in our active faith... deciding now is the time! Let's face our future with faith and watch God light up our community!***