



Norwood Christian Grapevine

I am the vine; You are the branches... John 15:5

Pastor's Promptings...



The year 2008 is one of those years that many people are glad to see end. With the economic melt down leading the news throughout the year, most people are ready for 2008 to be over with the hope that 2009 will be better.

In some respects I am one of them. I approach every New Year optimistically. I see it full of potential, like a blank canvas just waiting for a masterpiece to be painted on it. That is how I approached the start of 2008. I had big hopes and dreams for 2008.

It did not take very long for my plans, focus, and perspective to change. I began 2008 fluctuating between 200 and 205 pounds and experiencing some annoying health symptoms that I could not explain. Two weeks into 2008 I discovered what was causing those symptoms. I was told I had heart disease.

With the New Year not even a month old all my plans and dreams for 2008 suddenly took a back seat to getting my health under control. I was able to

accomplish some of what I had hoped, but my number one priority was my health.

Many people make New Year's resolutions to lose weight and start exercising but seldom accomplish that goal. While I never made those part of my "official" New Year's resolutions, I did have those as goals for several years. I wanted to lose a few pounds and get in better shape, but I never did anything to accomplish it.

But something happened in 2008 that finally made those goals come to pass. I am pleased to say that I am starting 2009 in much better physical shape than I did 2008. I'm down to 165 pounds and am much more health conscious than I ever have been in my life. So why was I able to accomplish this goal when I did not start out the year with that as part of my plans? My beliefs changed.

Once I found out that my eating habits and sedentary lifestyle had led to my acquiring heart disease I believed that a proper diet and exercise was a necessary part of living a long, prosperous life. But the change did not come simply by my newly found belief. That belief needed to be accompanied by the corresponding action to

bring about the real change I desired.

In other words, I needed to live what I believed. Many people believe that they need to eat better but few people live that belief. We would all do better if we would "just live it." If we would just live what we say we believe we would accomplish so much more with our life.

This is true not only in our physical life but in our spiritual life as well. Most Christians know what the Bible says. Most Christians know the difference between right and wrong and how the Lord has called each of us to live the Christian life. We believe what God's Word tells us but our actions do not always follow that belief. We need to "just live it!" Just live what we believe and our life, our community, and our world will be so much better.

Let me give you just one example of how to "just live it" in 2009 that can help you reach the full potential that lies ahead of you in this New Year.

Chances are that someone hurt you in 2008. Someone did something to cause you pain, to hurt your feelings, to cause you economic stress, or commit some offense against you.

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You have been carrying that hurt and animosity against the person who caused it with you through 2008. As Christians we know what the Bible says about the need to forgive those who hurt us.

Matthew 6:14-15 says, "For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

Luke 17:3 says, "If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him."

And Colossians 3:13 tells us, "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

To "just live it" in 2009 we need to lay the hurts from 2008 aside, forgive those who hurt us and start 2009 with a clean slate. Don't let the hurts of the past continue to torment you and distract you from reaching your full God-given potential in 2009. 2009 is here! 2008 is behind us. It's time to move forward.

There are many other ways we can "just live it" in 2009. As the New Year begins, full of potential let us take what we believe and put it into action in

all areas of our life. In 2009 let's just live it!

Serving Christ and His family,
Pastor Ken



PECKING ORDER

By Davis Watson

It's the day after Christmas. The wind has blown all night and we have at least five inches of new snow outside. It's still blowing and snowing. As I look out my back window, I see little birds trying to feed themselves from our four feeders. We have two house type feeders, a cylinder feeder, and a round feeder.



It's fun to watch the birds compete for the food. With all these feeders, we have enough room for ten birds to feed without disturbing each other. But, do birds look around and see a vacant spot to feed? No. They look around to see where other birds are feeding and try to scare them off by pecking at them.

Then some birds are only happy with a certain type of feeder. They fight over their favorite feeder. Why? The food in each feeder came from the same bag!

Then some birds are only happy with certain type of seed. They will peck through all the seeds and only select what they like!

I wonder if God is watching "humans" today. Does He wonder why His people "peck" at each other rather than looking for a "vacant" spot to feed?

Does He wonder why we are so unhappy with our "feeder?" Does He wonder why we are not satisfied with our "seed?"

In Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians he writes, "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:11-13)

As Paul writes, being content in our circumstances is learned. As we have seen in the pecking order of birds, it is completely natural for us to compete. But God's way is not natural; it's learned.

In Proverbs 3:5-6 it says, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

As we enter the New Year, are we learning to be content by trusting in the Lord? It's not natural! Start out this week by trusting in the Lord by attending Church.

SUNDAY SERVANTS

JANUARY 4th

Communion Preparation

Ernie & Zack Calvillo

Greeters

Sharon & Carmen Warfield

Communion Servers

Ernie & Zack Calvillo

Communion Mediation

Dean Boehler

Childcare

Tammy Miller

Sound Booth

Rhonda Oliver

JANUARY 11th

Communion Preparation

Davis Watson

Greeters

Dick & Kathy Nelson

Communion Servers

Dick & Kathy Nelson

Communion Mediation

Davis Watson

Childcare

Kathy Row

Sound Booth

Rhonda Oliver

JANUARY 18th

Communion Preparation

Ted & Fay Earley

Greeters

Ted & Fay Earley

Communion Servers

Ted & Fay Earley

Communion Mediation

Ernie Calvillo

Childcare

Chris Lawrence

Sound Booth

Rhonda Oliver

JANUARY 25th

Communion Preparation

Betty Greager

Greeters

Howard & Betty Greager

Communion Servers

Howard & Betty Greager

Communion Mediation

Ken Lawrence

Childcare

Cathy Carlson

Sound Booth

Rhonda Oliver

CLASS 100

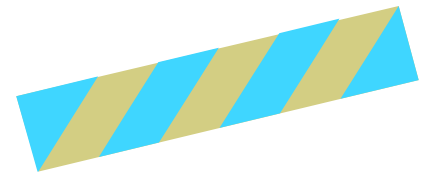
Discovering
Norwood Christian Church

This class is a basic introduction to our church family, during which we will cover what we believe and why we believe what we believe, our purpose, our salvation, and our structure.

Since we have people join us from many different backgrounds and church persuasions, this class is designed to clearly explain the ministry of Norwood Christian Church and lay the foundation for you to become an active member of NCC.

Everyone is encouraged to attend, especially anyone who has joined us in the last couple of years or is considering joining us.

Class 100 will be held on Wednesday nights beginning January 7th. We will begin with a meal at 6 p.m. and the class will start at 6:30 p.m.



FREE MOVIE NIGHT
Fireproof - the Movie
is showing
Saturday, January 24th
at 6:30 p.m. at NCC



FIREPROOF YOUR MARRIAGE

Fireproof Your Marriage is a six-week Marriage Study beginning Wednesday, February 4th. A meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. Study begins at 6:30 p.m.

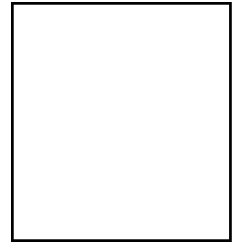
For more information or to sign up call the church office at 327-0201 or email Pastor Ken ken@NorwoodChristian.com.



Thank You!

A big thank you to a wonderfully generous church family. The chainsaw will be a tremendous blessing to us! Just can't express thanks enough.

Pastor Ken & family



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P.O. Box 931
Norwood, CO 81423
Phone: (970) 327-0201
Ken@NorwoodChristian.com
www.NorwoodChristian.com
10 AM ~ Bible Study
11 AM ~ Worship Service



START THE NEW YEAR BY GOING TO CHURCH

BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM

1115 LINCOLN
CORNER OF LINCOLN & SUMMIT
NORWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
www.NorwoodChristian.com



Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send?" And "who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I, Send me!" He said, "Go and tell this people..."
Isaiah 6:8

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3 <i>Heather Lawrence</i>
4 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM	5 <i>Joanne Wood</i>	6	7 Class 100 6PM	8 Praise Team 7:30PM <i>Rebecca Williams</i>	9	10 Take down Christmas Decorations 10AM
11 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM	12 <i>John Warfield</i>	13 <i>Robert Lawrence</i>	14 Class 100 6PM	15 Praise Team 7:30PM	16	17
18 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM <i>Sanctity of Human Life</i>	19	20 <i>Dori Calvillo</i>	21 Class 100 6PM	22 Praise Team 7:30PM <i>Rhonda Oliver</i>	23 <i>Lee Barrett</i>	24 Fireproof the Movie 6:30PM
25 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM <i>Chris Oliver</i>	26	27	28 Class 100 6PM	29 Praise Team 7:30PM	30	31