

## FROM THE LAPTOP

January 20, 2019

Welcome to church! If you are a guest today, please stop by the *Welcome Centre*, which is located in the fellowship foyer. We have an informational booklet and gift we would like you to have. Please do come again!

### What's happening today at Calvary?

This is Day 20 of the New Year, and week three of messages planned and prepared to set you up for success in 2019. We have dealt with personal eyesight, self-deception, and today I want to tinker with your mind. We will dig into your thought life. Studies have shown that many people do not want to go there. To be alone with their minds and thought life is scary for so many people. I wonder why. Let's go there today, and let us be challenged to think what could be if we would just... well I will fill the rest in later.

At 12:00 noon, African Church takes place in the Upper Room.

### Advance Conference

Are you involved in ministry leadership in Calvary Temple? Advance is a total church leadership conference offering keynote sessions and specialized ministry track workshops. This will take place on Friday and Saturday, February 8, 9 at New Beginnings Church in Winnipeg. For more information on the conference and costs see the *Information Centre* located in foyer (north side), or one of the pastors

### Family Skate and Fun Night

Set Sunday evening, February 10 aside for a great evening of community. You are invited to meet together at *Central Community Centre* located at 529-4<sup>th</sup> Street in Brandon at 6:30 pm. You can bring your skates to skate; bring your snacks to share; bring your board games to play; and we will bring the hot chocolate to drink. There will be a donation bucket available to help cover rental costs. For those who are new to the family at Calvary Temple, this is a great way for us to get to know you a whole lot better. Please do plan to come.

### OTB (Opportunity to Bless)

Throughout the year Calvary Temple plans and encourages reaching out opportunities for the church family to be a blessing to others. February 9-15 is *Random Acts of Kindness Week*. We always encourage you to go out of your way to be a blessing to someone, but especially plan to do this during this week. It does not have to cost money; it does not have to be big and gigantic. All it takes is caring and some time to express kindness in the way God directs you. You can do something small that could make a big difference in someone's life. Bless on.

## Tithes, Offerings and a Testimony

Have you ever wondered how Calvary Temple financially operates ministry?

The Bible teaches the principle and blessings of tithing and generous financial giving. Luke 6:38 says "Give, and it shall be given to you..." As believers give, God blesses. This is one of the promises of God.

Calvary Temple believes that according to the Bible, the *tithe* belongs to the Lord. *Tithe* means tenth. When believers bring this portion of their income to the Lord, it honors God and declares His Lordship in their lives.

Is it always easy to tithe? Let me be honest with you; no, of course it's not. Let me share a little personal testimony insert here. I haven't always found tithing to be easy; I have always found tithing to be a choice. I choose to be obedient. I have also learned that obedience comes before blessing. As I have chosen to honor God with the tithe, God has always taken care of our needs as a family. My wife and I have proved this over and over again in our lives. God has blessed and we are thankful. We will continue to be obedient and trust God to take care of us. We serve a big God. He indeed is able.

The *tithe* designation on the Calvary Temple offering envelope goes to the general fund of Calvary Temple to care for the expenses of this local church. These expenses include staff salaries, operating and upkeep of the church facility, and for local church ministry expenses. Those who call Calvary Temple their church home are asked to care for these local church expenses by tithing.

There are also other designations on Calvary Temple offering envelopes. These include *missions*, and *other designated offerings*. As monies are generously given over and above the *tithe* to different designations, they further support the work of the Lord.

We thank you for your financial support to the work of the Lord locally and beyond during 2018. Calvary Temple has definitely witnessed the miraculous hand of God in meeting all of the needs. May we be faithful to His word and prove him once again in 2019. It is impossible to out give the Lord. He always has a bigger shovel.

I would like to add here that as we ask the congregation to tithe, Calvary Temple also tithes. 10% of what is received in the general fund of every ministry is given to the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada District Office in Winnipeg. These monies enable ministry to over 85 churches and the needs that arise; to pastors, church planting, missions, and on it goes. We value supporting the District Office.

What a joy is to give and to be a blessing!

II Timothy 3:14 says ...continue *in what you have learned*... Amen!

New Year's blessings',

Pastor Gary (Lead Pastor)