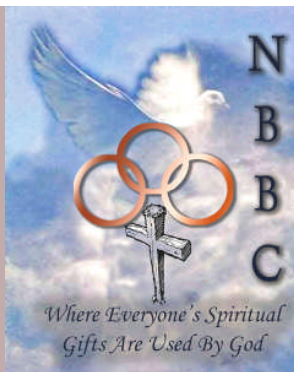


NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

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Pastor Curtis Durham



Moving Forward

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Special points of interest:

- Scriptures: Exodus 3, Gen 19, Matt 8:22, Phil 3:13-14, Prov 24:16

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Forward Motion

Sometimes it is hard for us to move forward because we are so focused on our past. At times, God moves us from one area to the next to strengthen our relationship with him. There are also times when he moves us to protect us from situations that could be detrimental. The bible provides details of God's instructions to various ones directing them to move from one place to another. Notably, Moses leading the Children of Israel from Egypt to the promise land and their journey chronicled in the book of Exodus. The bible also gives an account of God's Angels instructing Lot to take his family and leave the city of Gomorrah to protect them from destruction. His strict instructions to them were not to look back and to keep moving forward. Most of us know how the story ends with Lot's wife being turned into a pillar of salt, because she looked back (Gen 19). Once God has delivered you from a situation, he wants you to keep moving forward and not to dwell on the past. I know that in my life, there have been situations that I have been delivered from and it only hurts me when I think or dwell on them. My best option is to move forward and leave those things from the past in the past. Have you ever been around people that always bring up something negative that they remember about your past? Although you have attempted to move forward, just hearing about it can upset you. I have resolved that it is one of the tactics of the enemy. He wants us to stay focused on the past so that we do not reach our full potential in Christ. One account in the bible details Jesus' discussion with a man that wanted to follow him but he needed to go and bury his father first. Jesus' reply was *follow me; and let the dead bury their dead (Matt 8:22)*. Now, do not misinterpret what was just said by thinking that we should not bury the dead. The essence of Jesus' reply is that there should be no hindrance to us following Him. Paul in his letter to the church in Philippi writes *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, (Phil 3:13)*. The Apostle Paul was moving forward and so should we.

Violet Pier



What's Happening at New Beginnings



Calendar of Events

Jan 9, 16, 23, 30 Bible Study 7:30pm

Jan 13 Youth Sunday

NBBC offers a CD Ministry you may select from the following titles with a \$10 donation: "Exploring Your Mission", "The Gift of God", and "The Miracle Worker"

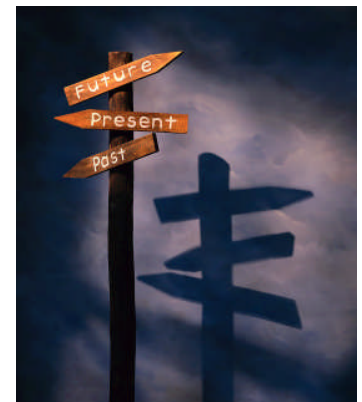
Tammy Durham provides GED tutorials you may contact her at (903)526-0910 for more information.

Pastor's Heart

Hello, everyone thanks for reading this newsletter I hope it will be a blessing to you and your families. This month our theme is "Moving Forward." Since 2007 has past now is the time to regroup and reach the goals that are set before us. I hope that you can forget about the past and let God lead you through the future. Maybe in 2007 you were not in the best state of mind, maybe some things happened that were out of your control so what, forget about it and move on. If the truth were told many of us had some days just like that but God knows how to blot out our transgressions, isn't that great? We must learn as Christians to praise God for the good and the bad. Some of the bad we create ourselves and sometimes God allows it for a test. However, most of our tests come through others. Do not allow the devil to control your mind just let it go and let God move you forward in 2008. Challenge yourself to be different in body soul and mind; this is not a small thing to do. In fact, it may be a great challenge and will get hard at times. When the tough get going well, you know what I'm trying to say, I forgot my line (ha! ha!) In other words, don't give up. The word tells us the battle is not given to the strong but to those that endure to the end. Rethink your situation and move forward. Peace out!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Pastor Curtis Durham

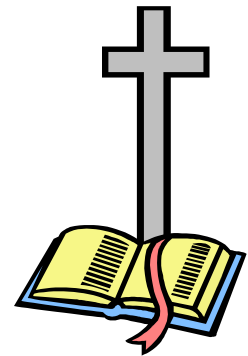
(Note from the editor, the saying is "when the going gets tough, the tough gets going")



Prayer Closet

Heavenly Father, we come thanking You for the many blessings You have given to each and every one of us. Father for we know that it is by nothing we have done, but by Your mercy and grace that we are here and able to press on toward the mark. We come humbly before You Father thanking You for saving us, while we were yet still sinners; by sending Your only Begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We thank You Dear Lord for this year, which marks a new beginning; not only for the year, but for our lives, as we continue to grow closer and stronger in You Dear Lord. We come Dear Lord laying our burdens at Your feet, and welcoming the favor of blessing that is soon to come. Dear Lord in Your Word You tell us "to forget the things which are behind, and reach forth for those things which are before" (Philippians 3:13-14). We come reaching Dear Lord and seeking Your guidance all the way. As we go forth in this new beginning we ask that You take us to higher heights, and as we leave the questions and problems behind, we ask that You continue to give us the answers and solutions as we move forward. Right now we thank You Lord, we magnify You and we glorify You, in the name of Jesus Christ. We ask that You keep us, bless us and guide us as we walk in Your will and Your way. Amen

Deacon Prentise Jones



Food for Thought

I do not consider, brethren, that I have captured and made it my own [yet]; but one thing I do [it is my one aspiration]: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, Philippians 3:13 AMP

Inspiration



Moving Forward is like learning to ride a bike. You may have fallen several times before you learned to balance yourself. You may have hurt yourself before you were able to ride with no hands. You may have fallen backwards before you learned to pop a wheelie, now you can do it for blocks and blocks. *for though a righteous man falls seven times, he rises again, but the wicked are brought down by calamity (Prov 24:16)*. The failures and successes of 2007 are behind you, so get up and move forward. God has much more in store.

Minister Shawn Percy

Words From the First Lady

When you think of moving forward, it seems really easy but for many of us it can be very difficult. Often times moving forward can require major changes. I'm reminded of the words of Apostle Paul, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." I understand in doing this I must have a goal. I knew that the roles of First Lady of New Beginning Baptist Church, wife, mother and fulltime employee, would be difficult. My position requires a lot of scheduled events as well as flexibility due to unexpected situations that may arise. Nevertheless, with a lot of support from church members and living for Jesus I am now able to move forward.

First Lady Regina Durham

