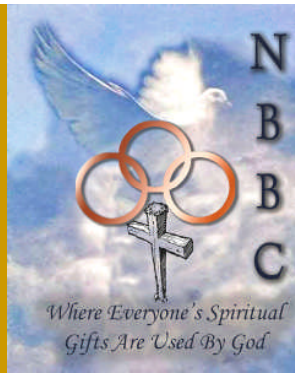


**NEW BEGINNINGS
BAPTIST CHURCH**

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Pastor Curtis Durham



Perfect Vision

Volume 12 , Issue 1

June 2007

Special points of interest:

- What's blocking your vision?
- Scriptures: Luke 12:6-7, Psalm 119:104-105, Proverbs 29:18, Acts 8:3, Acts 9:1-9
- Vision for the poor

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Seeing Clearly

When you hear the words "twenty-twenty" you automatically think about someone with perfect vision. A person that sees clearly without the aid of spectacles or other devices. However, aids help many otherwise sightfully-challenged, (I just made this word up), individuals to see well enough to function. Let's discuss what it means to see. To see is to notice, distinguish, set eyes on, catch sight of, observe, perceive, understand, grasp, or realize. Therefore, if your sight is impaired you may miss something. Have you ever been watching TV and someone walks in front of the set and causes you to miss part of a scene? It is upsetting especially when you have invested time into watching a program. On rare occasions when I have done this people have said to me "you are not made of glass!" meaning that they cannot see through me. But there is one that can see through me and knows my innermost thoughts and concerns. He is the one that has promised to never leave me or forsake me and to be with me until the end of the world. He is omniscient seeing everything nothing can block his vision in fact his sight is by far superior to "twenty-twenty." He even knows the number of hairs on my head proving that he notices and cares about me. (Luke 12:6-7)

David pens the following: Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path (Psalm 119:104-105). As David studies God's laws he gains wisdom and sin is no longer appealing to him. His vision is clear because the laws of God direct his path and he no longer walks in spiritual darkness. Like David as we study God's word our understanding increases and the obstacles that block our vision are removed allowing us to see clearly.



Violet

Food for Thought

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. (Proverbs 29:18 KJV)

Where there is no vision [no redemptive revelation of God], the people perish; but he who keeps the law [of God, which includes that of man]--blessed (happy, fortunate, and enviable) is he. (Proverbs 29:18 AMP)





What's Happening at New Beginnings

Calendar of Events

June 6, 13, 20, 27 Bible Study 7:00pm

(NBBC invites the community to share the word and supper)

June 17 Father's Day Program 11:00am

June 20-22 Vacation Bible School 7:00pm

June 23 NBBC Picnic at Lake Forest Park in Henderson 10:00am until

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 again everyone, God has a message for us this month so put on your helmet of salvation and let's get some word. In our lesson this month there was a man by the name of Saul who had perfect vision, at least that is what he thought, but he was of a carnal state of mind. He knew what his goal was and went all out with his perfect plan (Acts 8:3). Saul made havoc of the church, entering in every house, arresting men and women and casting them into prison. The saints of God and their children feared for their lives. Saul's carnal mind could not and would not allow him to see the spiritual things of God, neither can we if we are not Christians. Let's look at what happens to Saul, Acts 9:1-9, first of all, Saul went to the High Priest asking for a letter to go to Damascus to find those that were worshipping God in the church so that he could have the privilege of taking them to prison. However, on his way to Damascus, something happened and a light shined around about him from heaven: he fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him "Saul, Saul, why persecutes thou me?" Saul knew who it was because he called him "Lord." "Yes, I am Jesus who thou persecutes: it is hard to kick against the prick." He asked Jesus what he wanted him to do and was given instructions. Saul was blinded from the light impairing his natural vision and he was led into the city with the aid of others. In the city, there was a man of God by the name of Ananias waiting to give Saul more instructions. Ananias had heard about Saul's dealing with Christians and was afraid, but God let him know that Saul was chosen by him to do a great work for his kingdom. In the meantime, Saul was without sight for three days. The very man that he would have persecuted was the man that would lay hands on him to open his eyes. Ananias prayed and the scales fell from Saul's eyes and he received the Holy Ghost and his name was changed to Paul. He learned from the disciples and began his ministry preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Maybe now you see that he has perfect vision because God gave it to him. We cannot do anything without Christ and his Holy Spirit. Saul found out that his vision of imprisoning the saints was wrong because why? He could really see now, but his perfect vision came from Christ. What about you, is your vision impaired? I challenge you this month to reach out to God for guidance so that your vision want be scaled.

Peace,
Pastor Curtis Durham

Prayer Closet

Dear Lord, we thank you for spiritual eyes that see with "perfect vision." Lord we are grateful for the vision to follow your direction to the kingdom that you spoke about in your word. For you said that without vision we will perish. Let our steps be ordered by you. How can a man know his way unless through you Father? As we travel through the storms of life that cloud our vision, Lord we ask you to lead with your perfect vision. In Jesus' name, I pray Amen.

First Lady Regina Durham

Community Outreach



Upper left Paula Loftin at Friend Ships at Port Mercy, Middle photo other volunteers, upper right Paula with other volunteers , lower left the "Spirit of Grace", lower right Paula with another volunteer.

NBBC member Paula Loftin, recently volunteered with Friend Ships at Port Mercy in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Friend Ships is operated by full time and part time volunteers from around the world to help meet the needs of the poor. They provide disaster relief, medical care, and humanitarian aid including training for single mothers. The "Spirit of Grace" carries 5000 tons of aid per voyage to needy Jewish immigrants, Arab families, Hondurans, and Haitians. Paula slept on the ship and ate food that had been donated from stores, she got a chance to experience the life of a missionary first hand. Paula was assigned the task of helping to stock the ship with medical supplies for its two month long voyage to Honduras and Haiti. Paula says "words cannot explain how much I have grown personally and spiritually" as a result of the trip. Paula would volunteer again in fact, she has been asked to take the trip to Haiti and Honduras but does not feel that the timing is right for her. Paula feels that she would like to pursue missionary work it is "my next calling" she says, but for now there is work for her to accomplish in Henderson and at NBBC. Although, there was a lot of work to prepare for the mission Paula managed to make time for fun, as you can see by the above photo of her in "jail" with one of the other volunteers. If you would like to learn more about volunteering you may contact Friend Ships at (337)433-5022 or info@friendships.org. Friend Ships website is www.friendships.org

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Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (II Corinthians 5:17)

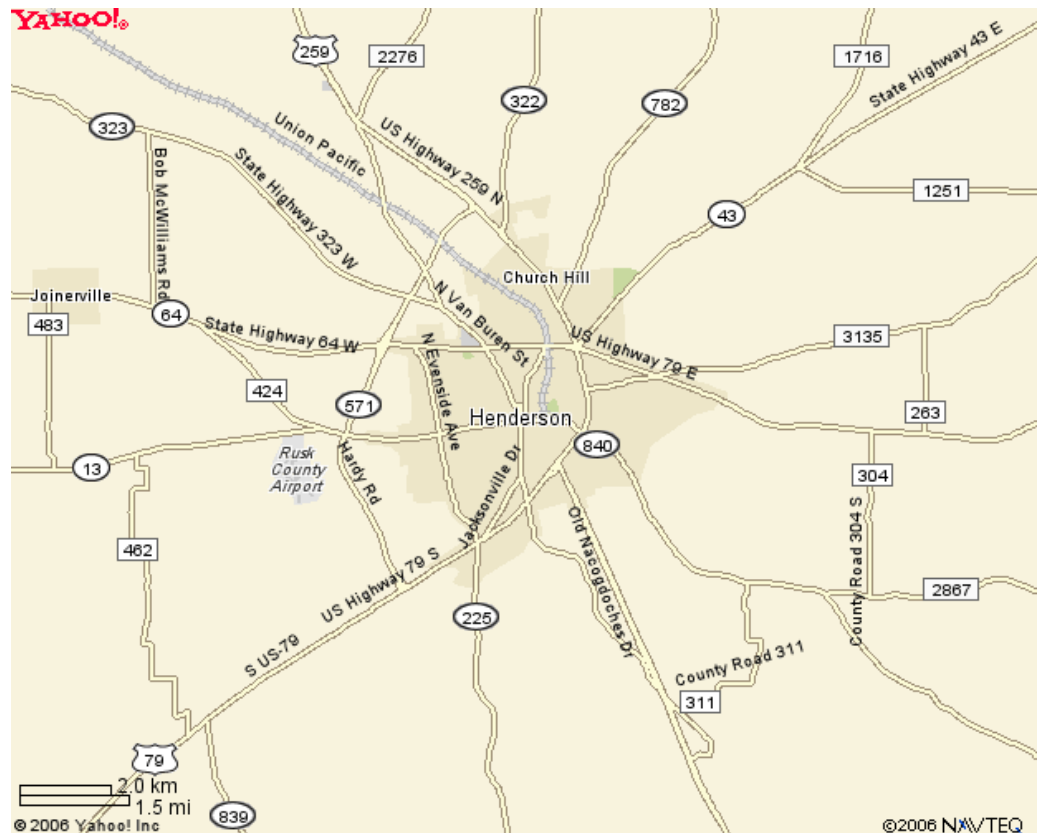
Worship Services

New Beginnings Baptist Church would like to extend an invitation for you to be a part of our worship services.

- Sunday School 10:00am
- Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am
- Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

If you would like to be placed on our mailing or prayer list please write or contact us by phone. If you would like further details or you are interested in tax exempt donations to this ministry please contact Pastor Curtis Durham at (903)752-3573 or (903)657-7470

City of Henderson



Violet Pier
Editor

The mission of New Beginnings Baptist Church is to impact lives for the cause of Christ, to reach out to all communities and people to share the love of God thus fulfilling the great commission. (Matthew 28:19-20)