

The Pursuit of Excellence

A Publication of Brad Brede Ministries

Christmas 2008

Volume 7, Issue 5

Merry Christmas

from all of us at

Brad Brede Ministries

LOVE IS GIVING!

The Christmas season is a special time for us to celebrate the event of God's Son coming into the earth. Jesus Christ was sent to pay the price for our sin, destroy the headship of the devil, and reveal to us the love of our Heavenly Father.

God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, has given us the victory (1 Corinthians 15:57). Now, we must believe in Him and obey His Word. We are to live by faith (Hebrews 10:38).

Our faith is our means of success. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world (1 John 5:4). However, to be strong in faith, we must understand some very important truths from God's Word. One such truth is that faith works by love.

Galatians 5:6 says, "For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love."

YOUR FAITH IS ACTIVATED AND ENERGIZED THROUGH LOVE!

First John 3:22 declares, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight."

We ask and receive by faith (Mark 11:22-24; James 1:6, 7). We please God by faith (Hebrews 11:6).

First John 3:23 further says, "And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment."

We are to put our faith in Jesus and love one another. Faith and love work together. Your faith is activated and energized through love. Faith works by love.

James tells us that faith without works is dead (James 2:17). These works are acts of love and obedience. Jesus said that the one who keeps His commandments is the one who loves Him (John 14:21). We are to obey His Word and follow His commands; and His commandment is love.

But, what is love? Is love just being nice and

forbearing? Let's allow the Word of God to define love.

First John 3:16, 17 says, "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"

The love of God is seen by what it does. It gives! In fact, love is not love unless it gives.

THE LOVE OF GOD IS MANIFESTED BY GIVING!

First John 4:9 says, "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."

Love is manifested by giving! God so loved that He gave (John 3:16). Love always gives. Faith works by love, so faith works by giving. You will overcome the world by your giving. Again, let's just permit the Bible to speak for itself.

Luke 6:36-38 says, "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

What you give is what you will receive! We know that we receive by faith, but our receiving is based on our giving. Our faith works by love or our giving.

Galatians 5:7 states, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." You will only reap what you sow - good or bad.

Second Corinthians 9:6 exclaims, "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." If you desire to reap bountiful blessings then you must be a bountiful giver! Your

Brad's Itinerary:

Faith Hope Love Church
Moorhead, MN - Nov. 30 AM & PM

AFCM Meetings
Sioux Falls, SD - Dec. 4
Des Moines, IA - Dec. 5
Auburn, NE - Dec. 6

Grace Community Church
Rockport, MO - Dec. 7 AM & PM

Xtreme Life Training Center
Willmar, MN - Dec. 10-12

Break Forth Bible Church
Glendive, MT - Dec. 14 AM

Word of Faith Family Church
Great Falls, MT - Dec. 14 PM,
Dec. 17, 21, & Jan. 4

AFCM Leadership Meeting
Hayward, CA - Jan. 14-15

Glory and Power Meetings
Willmar, MN - Jan. 18-20
AFCM Meeting - Jan. 20 AM & PM

Xtreme Life Training Center
Willmar, MN - Jan. 20-23

Word of Faith Family Church
Great Falls, MT - Jan. 25 & Feb. 1

Xtreme Life Training Center
Willmar, MN - Feb. 3, 4, 10, 11, 13

AFCM Meeting
Savage, MN - Feb. 12

Word of Faith Family Church
Willmar, MN - Feb. 15

Word of Faith Family Church
Great Falls, MT - Feb. 22

AFCM Meeting
Great Falls, MT - Feb. 23 AM & PM

faith to receive can be strong when you have given much!

The Apostle Paul told the Philippians that God would supply all their need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). But, we must remember that He only told them this after they had given much to help Paul in his ministry.

We have great freedom in Christ Jesus but are not to use it as an opportunity for selfishness. We are to "by love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13).

Jesus clearly taught that when you give your life away that you will find the life that God has for you (Matthew 16:24, 25). Be a cheerful and generous giver, and trust God to meet all your needs.

Be the children of the Highest, walk in love, and your reward shall be great (Luke 6:35). Seek first the kingdom of God and things shall be added unto you (Matthew 6:33). Don't be concerned for merely your own interests, but also for the interests of others (Philippians 2:4).

The further you get from selfishness the better your faith will work. Faith works by love!

Your future is in your hands right now! What you give today determines what you will receive in the future. What do you want to reap?

If you want to receive mercy, then sow mercy. You don't want to be judged, then don't judge others. If you sow love, you will reap love. Give so that others may be blessed and you will be blessed.

God so loved that He gave His only begotten Son. Christmas celebrates this great act of love by giving gifts to family, friends, and those in need. Let's not be givers just during the Christmas season, but year-around. Practice a life of giving and you will discover a satisfying and blessed life. You will find the life God has for you! Giving is the essence of living.

by Brad Brede

Rev. Bradley and Patricia Brede hold ordination credentials with the Association of Faith Churches and Ministers. Brad Brede Ministries was established after twenty years of successful pastoral ministry.

Brad and Patty have faithfully served as AFCM Regional Directors since 1988. They travel extensively promoting the vision of AFCM, encouraging and equipping pastors, and strengthening churches.

Brad and Patty have established several youth camps beginning in 1994. They founded Xtreme Passion in 2005 and Xtreme Life Training Center in 2007 - ministries devoted to helping teenagers and young adults pursue the purposes of God.

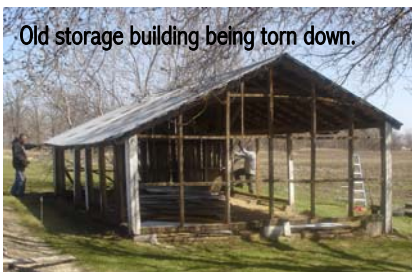
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The Pursuit of Excellence is published as a ministry of Brad Brede Ministries. Your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated. If you have been blessed by this issue of The Pursuit of Excellence or desire prayer, we would like to hear from you.

If you desire additional information about Brad Brede Ministries or to receive a list of powerful teaching materials from Rev. Brede, please contact our ministry office.

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New Maintenance and Storage Building



Our new construction project began this last spring and we want to thank everyone that helped with the new building. Please agree with us in faith as we believe for the completion of this project. You may also give towards the completion of this project.

We want to say a special thank you to New Beginnings Faith Church, Sioux Falls, SD, Rocky Mountain Truck Service, Great Falls, MT, and Word of Faith Family Church, Willmar, MN.

Glory & Power

January 18-20, 2008
Sunday 10:00 am & 7:00 pm
Monday and Tuesday 7:00 pm

AFCM Meeting
Tuesday 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

Word of Faith Family Church
3010 7th Ave NW
Willmar, MN

COME EXPERIENCE THE GLORY OF GOD!



Preparing young people for life, not just a career!

Xtreme Life Training Center is an innovative approach to higher education. Young adults discover God's plan for their life and are trained to successfully pursue it. Young ministers receive hands-on training and assist pastors and youth workers in ministering to teenagers through dynamic worship, powerful drama, anointed preaching, and Spirit-led personal ministry.

Please contact us for additional information and application packets.