

June 15, 2012

Good Friday morning friends, *Thanks for joining me for five minutes to update you on news and items of prayer and praise for our Lower Pacific District family.* I trust that you have had a good week and are looking forward to Sunday.

Happy Father's Day to all you dads. Father's Day has changed for me over the years. My own dad passed into the Lord's presence one week after Father's Day in 2007. Two of my three sons are now fathers, and I now share Father's Day recognition with them and their families. As a grandfather, it is precious to see our grandchildren flourishing and to see Jon and Tim learn, adapt to and enjoy parenting.



On Father's Day, I am also aware of the blessing I have had in having a godly father, Ray Stewart, who provided me a consistent role model, both as a man of God and as a father. Though he was an university professor of education, he was a very practical man, and nothing gave him more pleasure than being with his family, especially taking the grandchildren out crab fishing on Mayne Island. His example has made it easy to understand the love of My Heavenly Father, a blessing today. As David writes:

As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children —with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts. (Psalm 103:13-18)

Last Sunday, Karen and I ministered at **Parkdale EFC in Victoria**, where I had the opportunity to preach in a service that honoured several graduates at the church. **Pastor Tom and Joyce Hilchie** continue their long-planned vacation to Europe, and we trust for a real time of refreshment for them.

This morning, I head to TWS/ACTS for a special meeting of the Join Governance Council - a meeting of leaders of the five partner denominations. Please pray for TWS/ACTS, and that it will be used in equipping servant-leaders for work in the Kingdom.

Please join me in praying for:

- ◆ **Please pray for our LPD Board**, as we meet next Thursday, and trust the Lord to guide us as we seek to be, "...an encouragement and resource to our growing family of churches to reflect Jesus Christ."
- ◆ **Jesus Is Our Salvation Church**, as they have stepped out in faith in calling **Pastor Emmanuel (Noel) Macasaet** to serve their Chilliwack Campus as a church planting pastor. He is travelling to Ontario to bring his family out west to begin their ministry. Already, Pastor Noel, and church leaders Charlz and Ruth have had opportunity to meet with the mayor of Chilliwack, and to pray for her.
- ◆ **Stephen Leung** and team, as they ready to launch "**Grace Evangelical Free Church.**" Please see his attached newsletter, as a LPD Church Planting Missionary.
- ◆ **Philip and Grace Yung**, as they, ANACEFC, the LPD, the EFCC and Ambassador Church (an EFCA Church in Brea California, where Philip and Grace will train in a residency program, in preparation to launch an International Church in our region.

Please remember the LPD in your church budgets and personal giving. We are pleased to share what we have with these new works of God and more, and the opportunities are stretching us!

May God bless you and your ministry this weekend!

In Jesus,

Rob