

# FROM OUR PASTOR

SALEMBAPTISTCHURCH February 2011

February

NEWSLETTER



The New Year  
by Brett Mask

Over the past few months, I've been reading and studying a good bit on the subject of values. This has been in preparation for the visioning process that we are going to go through as a church. Let me just share with you a few of the things that I've learned about values.

One of the things is the fact that just like people, churches have a soul. This is a collective soul that is at the very heart of the congregation. This is a valuable lesson because it means that as a church, we need to make sure that we foster growth as a corporate body. Understanding that what we do as individuals affects the collective soul of Salem Baptist Church is an eye-opening thing for some of us. We've got to realize that none of us "live on an island." Everything that we do has either consequences or benefits not only for us and our family, but also for the family of God.

The "collective soul" of Salem Baptist Church is the genesis of our values. In other words, we value certain things because of who are as a church. This is important because we need to discover what our values are in order to determine our vision and mission as a church.

For some of you, all this talk of mission, vision, and values seems complicated and useless, and I completely understand that. There was a time in my ministry when I thought that it was all "hogwash." What changed for me? Becoming a pastor is what changed me. All of the sudden, I saw church as a living, breathing, and functioning organism that needed guidance and direction. As the pastor, I learned that I must spearhead the direction of the church or it would be going in a hundred different directions. Think about it this way, what if you did everything that everyone asked you to volunteer for at home, work, church, and other civic organizations? If you did that, "you wouldn't know which way was up." That is what happens to churches that don't have a defined set of values, a mission, and a vision.

Please pray that as a church, we will embrace and live out God's direction for us. If we are going to thrive in this community, then we can't just continue "business as usual," but we've got to be all that God has called us to be.

In Christ,  
Pastor Brett

# Asking for a Broken Heart

By Brody Bearden

The Poor  
The Prisoners  
The Blind  
The Oppressed

New Years bring New Years Resolutions, right? Let me ask you this, have you ever had a new years resolution of having a broken heart?

Probably not.

In fact, if you are like me, you've probably spent most of your life trying to KEEP from having your heart broken. Maybe you haven't gotten too close to certain people, for fear of getting a broken heart. Maybe you've prayed for solutions and amends to patch things up in order to prevent your heart from breaking. Maybe you've even done the heart-breaking yourself, because it means yours won't be the one that gets broken.

But I've got a challenge for you this year...a New Years Resolution for you:

**“LET [YOUR] HEART BE  
BROKEN BY THE THINGS THAT  
BREAK THE HEART OF GOD”  
~ BOB PIERCE,  
FORMER PRESIDENT OF WORLD VISION**

In Luke 4, verses 18-19, Jesus talks a little bit about his purpose on Earth. It's an incredible scene where all he does is read the scriptures aloud, from Isaiah 61:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

That's who Jesus came to bring the good news to. Those are the people that Jesus came to save, to redeem, to release, and to free. Those are the things that break the heart of God...so He did something about it.

My sister Anna leaves this week to serve as a missionary across the world fighting against the tragic sex trafficking problem. For five months, she'll be working with a team of missionaries to help free these oppressed men, women...and even children...that are held in bondage and need the good news.

My sister Jenifer just had a mission trip cancelled, due to snow, where they were going to spend a week of their Christmas break passing out coats, gloves, and scarves and work in a soup kitchen in New York City all the while sharing the love of Christ.

My cousin Miles, two years ago, left his corporate engineering job in the states and moved to Liberia in order to help build wells and provide fresh water for villages throughout the countryside. Both physical and spiritual needs are being met.

What breaks your heart? Is it the same things that break God's heart? What will you do about it?

May your heart be broken this year...for the things of God.

Peace, Love, Christ  
Brody

## Need something/someone to pray for?

How about our students...Pick one, a few, or all of them and intercede on their behalf this month.

Claire Sanders  
Jasmine Mendez  
Jillian Sanders  
Katelyn Kenney  
Rayne Pyfrom  
Murphie Davis  
Ashlie Forrester  
Sydney Forrester

Kaitlyn Young  
Vickie Sanders  
Abe Tompkins  
Hunter Boring  
Amanda Gordon  
Carli Smith  
Kate Shealy  
Heather Mize

Sarah Power  
Jolie Meyen  
Maisie Sanders  
Stephanie Peterman  
Angel Kelly  
Emily Faz  
Samantha Manning  
Charlie Davis

David Bridges  
Brent Dellinger  
Mason Mendez  
Stewart Sanders  
Nick Sheely  
Andy Paul  
Cody Townsend

SALEMBAPTISTCHURCH December 2010

Jan 2011 (Eastern Time)

Salem Baptist

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 10am - SS & 5:30pm - David's	27 Marianne Hansford's	28 MOVE Conference	29 6:30pm - Adult Bible 6:30pm - EDGE	30 George Harwood's	31	1 Harriet Sanders' Mike Powers' Phil Sanders'
2 10am - SS & 5:30pm - David's	3 4	4 Donald Dav's Students Back to 6:30pm - Adult Bible 6:30pm - EDGE	5	6	7	8
9 10am - SS & 5:30pm - David's	10	11 6:30pm - Adult Bible 6:30pm - EDGE	12	13	14	15
16 10am - SS & 5:30pm - David's	17 MLK Student	18	19 6:30pm - Adult Bible 6:30pm - EDGE	20	21	22
23 10am - SS & 5:30pm - David's	24	25 6:30pm - Adult Bible 6:30pm - EDGE	26	27	28	29
30 10am - SS & 5:30pm - David's	31	1 6:30pm - Adult Bible 6:30pm - EDGE	2	3	4	5

Don't forget to check the website for updated prayer lists, recent sermons from Pastor Brett, and other pertinent information as it comes available.

Brooke Bentley  
Eddie Boswell  
Zelda Buckman  
Earlene Abbott & Family  
Bessie Mae Paradise  
Della Paradise  
Bill Paradise  
Mitchell Family  
Tonya Virtue  
William Prichard  
Our Economy  
Our Government  
Our Military  
Our Schools  
Bobby & Suzanne Whitfield  
Dale Bradford  
Ayden Gailey  
Albert Paradise

Nancy Godfrey  
Jane Briggs  
John Faz  
Dawn Howard  
Audrey Lewis  
Inez Moore Family  
Dennis Pitts  
Barbara Wolfe  
Mickey Smith  
Jean Channell  
Randy Power  
Rebecca Armour  
Sue Ellen Buckman  
Marilyn Mattox  
Mike Power  
Barbara Pelzer  
Josh Mixon  
Eilene Forbes

Janice Gilbert  
Jean Hayes  
Jeff Haynie  
Ned Sanders  
Randy Prichard  
Bill Wall  
Benson Justice  
Joyce Parker  
Lewis Sanders  
Betty Woodward  
Jerome Bradshaw  
Maria Bridges  
Mildred Sanders  
Martha Paradise Family  
Billy Wall Family  
Gladys Slay  
Jo Watkins

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