



the beacon



“Hey Neighbour” - A few thoughts from Steve Authier

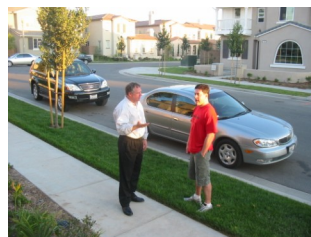
We have all sorts of relationships in our lives. They come in various shapes and sizes. Some are intertwined as part of multi-relational connections and some are much more exclusive. Some last a short period of time and others last for decades. Some we really value and others are not as important to us. Very few people go through life without some form of relationship with other human beings.

Outside of my parents and siblings my oldest relationship is with my friend Mike. We have been best friends since our first day in kindergarten. We have been through a lot together and we truly value our relationship, so we put the effort into the relationship that reflects how we feel about each other. I have another really close friend Paul that I've known since we were in grade school but we did not become close friends until we were in our late teens. I have had other friends come and go in my life, and



I have had friends who have been around for a long time but I am just not as close to them as I am with Mike and Paul.

There is no denying that we were created as relational beings. It starts from the moment we are born. We not only have this dependency on our parents or caregivers for our survival but we have this innate desire to connect with other human beings which carries on throughout our lives. There are very few functional and emotionally healthy people who choose to live in total isolation. Sure there are different levels of desires for relational contact with others that range from the person who likes to have just a few close friends, like I do, to the person who loves to have many. Studies show that a person cannot carry on a significant relationship with more than four to six close friends at any one given time, and studies also show that a person has a natural sense to connect with at



least one other person at a substantial level of intimacy.

Why have I bothered to review all this relationship stuff?

Because it is important to realize that it is who we are—we are relational. Why then do we think that we can easily bring people

into a relationship with God without getting into a relationship with them? Sure we might be able to do something to attract an unchurched person to come check out our church. We might have a clever newspaper ad, a website, or a video commercial that entices them to learn a little bit about us and then come check us out in person. But will we really be able to interest them in a relationship with God just by having them sit through a sermon with us, or by spending some time with us singing songs? There was a time when these things might have been enough, and they still

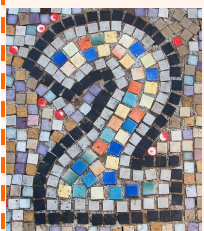
1 Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. Matthew 22:37-38 NIV

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“Hey Neighbour” - A few thoughts from Steve Authier (continued from page 1)

might be enough to get the attention of a few here and there, but the majority of our sceptical postmodern world is not likely to be enticed into investigating a relationship with God merely by what happens during a church service.

Despite how sceptical our world may have become there is one innate desire that still remains untainted, and that is the desire to be in a relationship with other human beings. There is no doubt that there are many things that



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there is a second to set alongside it: 'Love others as well as you love yourself.' Matthew 22:39 Msg

might prevent an unchurched person from wanting to get into a relationship with a Christian. I do not want to use the space in this article to go into greater details about

how many in our society consider us to be too hypocritical and too judgmental, to say the least.

However, if they are put into a position where they get to see us in a context or environment that they are familiar with then things can change. They just might be open to seeing us in a more positive light if they see that we genuinely do care about what *they* care about, or if they see us sincerely trying to meet their needs

with no strings attached, they might just be willing to engage us in a relationship.



I am not talking about going out into the world outside our church walls

with the sole intent of finding people as projects to bring into our church. I am talking about going out into the world and engaging with people on *their* terms. I am referring to developing relationships with people because God calls us to love our neighbours, not *just* because we want to bring them into God's kingdom, but because we want to love them regardless of the outcome. I have a firm belief that if we authentically love people and develop relationships with them then the natural by-product of that might just be that they will be interested in learning more about our relationship with God.

It is a very thin line between seeing people as projects to bring into the kingdom and simply loving them because that is what God calls us to. Do not misunderstand what I am trying to say. I fully understand that God wants us to go out into the world and evangelize, that he wants us to make disciples, and that he wants his kingdom to grow. However, in today's day and age we can really only effectively accomplish that by focusing in on developing relationships with people. We

cannot generate kingdom growth by merely trying to attract people into our churches. It is well documented that the majority of so called church growth in North America is merely a movement of already churched people from one church to another. God is not calling for that type of growth. He is calling for true kingdom growth, a growth that is a result of unchurched people coming into relationship with him through us.

I am not advocating that you have to go out into the world and become best friends with every single unchurched person who will give you the time of day.



I am merely saying that we do need to go out into our communities and develop relationships that give people a chance to know us, to see the hope that we have in Jesus, and to give them a glimpse into God's kingdom by the way we live. It will take more than just a "Hey neighbour" or a one shot entry into the world around you. It will take some serious effort, and it will take time. The alternative is that we just sit back and wait for them to come to us, and the last time I checked, that's not working out so well for anyone.

Blessings, Steve

*** The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with. ~ James 5:16 Msg

If the Christian life is simply a matter of doing our best, there was no need for God to send the Holy Spirit to help us. If we don't need any help, why send a Helper? The promise of a helper presupposes that we need help. ~ Charles Stanley

November 2011

Birthdays

- 01 ~ Peter Kentie
- 02 ~ Pat McMullen
- 05 ~ Lorne Ruegg
- 08 ~ Gary Shropshire
- 09 ~ Wayne Kerr
- 09 ~ Nancy Stover
- 10 ~ Laurie Brooks
- 12 ~ Mike Masci
- 23 ~ Joy White
- 23 ~ Amy Burkholder
- 24 ~ Teena Kentie



Anniversaries

- 04 ~ Wayne & Glenda Kerr

CUBA



Sunday
December
4

the church's plan is to plant urban churches in the major city of each region across the island. In these populated centers, emerging churches will have a better prospect for self-sufficiency because of higher median levels of education and income.

Frank Martinez Corcho and his wife, Iris, are coming to Heise Hill !

Frank will be speaking at our December 4th service. Frank is the President and Bishop of the BIC Church in Cuba.

Today about 5-6,000 people gather across Cuba to worship in BIC churches every week.

According to Cuban BIC Church President Frank Martinez Corcho,

Cubans hunger for relationships with other true believers and struggle against historic, cultural and economic stumbling blocks when building a truly spiritual church. Yet the seeds of faith planted so long ago continue to bear fruit as committed Cuban Christians forge on in their quest to know God and introduce Him to their neighbors.

~ from the BICWM website

Our goal isn't to fill pews but to make a difference in the community in which we live. Our involvement should be with people who are unlikely to show up at church on a Sunday morning. ~William Metzger & Karen Stiller

Trusting Through Trouble



ASK: Lord, in what redemptive way can you use this?

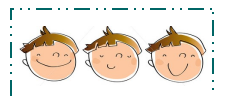
TRUST God to show you something new about Himself and about yourself.

TRUST God to bring something good out of a bad situation.

~ Jill Briscoe

But godliness with contentment is great gain. ~ 1 Timothy 6:6

KIDZ WORSHIP



Here's what kids are learning at HH in November. Pray for our kids!!

The virtue: **Gratitude**

~ letting others know you see how they've helped you.

Bottom Line

- * You always have something to be grateful for
- * Take time to adjust your attitude
- * Take time to say thank you
- * Take time to celebrate what God has done

Basic Truth

- * I can trust God no matter what
- * I should treat others the way I want to be treated



Memory Verse: "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

~ 1 Thessalonians 5:18



A View from the Pew

Sermons are not God's primary method for reaching people. People are His method for reaching people. What kind of people? Men and women whose lives and life-styles have been deeply affected by the truths of Scripture, people who have discovered the wonderful Spirit-filled life.

God is looking for imperfect men and women who have learned to walk in moment-by-moment dependence on the Holy Spirit. Christians who have come to terms with their inadequacies, fears and

failures. Believers who have become discontent with "surviving" and have taken time to investigate everything God has to offer in this life.

God's method for reaching this generation, and every generation, is not preachers and sermons. It is Christians whose life-styles are empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit. Statistics push up to the same conclusions over and over again. Somewhere around 85 percent of all Christians came to Christ through a friend or family member. People are the key to reaching people! ~ Charles Stanley



Tickets for the *Christmas Turkey Dinner* will be available on November 6th!

But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

~ John 16:7

The Lord set His love on you and chose you.

~ Deuteronomy 7:7

It's a continuing fact: You are *called*. You've been called. You've been called personally by God and to God. That's an in-Christ fact about you that can erase any sense of alienation or lack of purpose that you may at times feel. ~ Ruth Myers

A Heart of Gratitude

1. Every morning acknowledge: "I am in God presence, and He will provide for me."
2. Spend lots of time with God each day—meditate on verses about being thankful—prayerfully thank God for His faithfulness.
3. Start a thankfulness journal.
4. Let people hear you making "thankful" statements.
5. Find the blessing in trying times.
6. Ask people to say what they are thankful for.
7. Talk about the highlights and lowlights of the day and find perspective on the lowlights.

God, You are good.

~ Susie Larson

November 2011		
6	10:00 am 10:30 am	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Worship Service ~ Steve Authier
13	10:00 am 10:30 am	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Worship Service ~ Christa Hasselink
20	10:00 am 10:30 am	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Worship Service ~ "REVOLUTION" #4 and Communion
21	7:30 pm	Church Board Meeting
26	4:45 pm & 7:00 pm 6:15—6:55 pm	Christmas Turkey Dinner (1st and 2nd sitting) Hilltop Vocal Band Concert
27	10:00 am 10:30 am	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Worship Service ~ "REVOLUTION" #5
28	7:00 pm	Home Church Leaders Training
December 2011		
4	10:00 am 10:30 am	Time of prayer for Heise Hill Worship Service ~ Frank Martinez Corcho, Bishop of the BIC Church in Cuba
5	Noon 	HOPE 55+ Christmas Luncheon Salvation Army Centre, Jackson's Point

Heise Hill History



The first service held in the new church was the fall Love Feast. (The name being derived from Jude 12 called "feasts of charity"). This was considered the most important and sacred service of the church.

It was an all day service on

Saturday (held spring and fall) with stress on the importance of the unity of the believers, the observance of the ordinances and the self-examining of the individual's standing before God and his fellowmen, before the communion service in the evening.

After the sermon on Saturday morning considerable time was given for members to express themselves; to tell of the way the Lord had dealt with them and was leading them, and their desire to be faithful to the end. In the afternoon two messages were given,

one on Ephesians 4, the other on 1 Cor. 11.

In the evening the feet washing ordinance was observed, (John 13:1-17) and also the Holy kiss (Romans 16:16, 1 Corinthians 16:20 and others); and lastly, the communion. This day's service was also largely attended by folks of the community.

~ from 100 Years at Heise Hill Church



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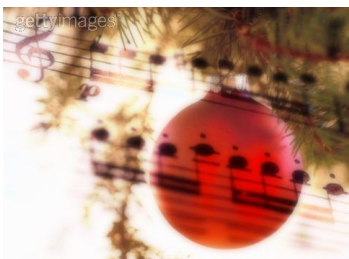
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The gospel is only good news if it gets there in time. ~ Carl F. H. Henry

Hope 55+ Annual Christmas Banquet



December 5, 2011

Our Special Guest this year will be Susan Brown.

The banquet will be held at the Salvation Army Centre in Jackson's Point.

This is a great opportunity to invite your friends to a meaningful pre-Christmas event.

Cost: Tickets for the bus, dinner, gratuities, HST, etc. will be \$45. each.



A Core Value of Heise Hill Church

We are committed to becoming a Body of Believers who acknowledge God's supreme value and worth through wholehearted, Spirit-led praise and worship.

How can you help make the Turkey Dinner a success ???

- ✎ Cook a stuffed turkey (provided to you)
- ✎ Donate a dessert or 2 (pie, cake, etc)
- ✎ Peel potatoes - 3 to 4 people
- ✎ Clean up and reset tables between dinners - 4 people
- ✎ Kitchen "clean as you go" - 2 people
- ✎ Final clean-up
- ✎ Invite your neighbours

Please contact Rick or Joan if you can help 905-294-6022.

Thanks!

Christmas Turkey Dinner

Sponsored by the Family Fellowship Committee

Saturday, November 26, 2011

\$13. per Adult (13 and older)

Children 12 and Under - Free!

(Cheques payable to Heise Hill BIC Church)

First Sitting 4:45 pm (Dinner at 5:00 pm)

**6:15 - 6:55 pm Concert
by Hilltop Vocal Band**

Second Sitting 7:00 pm (Dinner at 7:15 pm)

Seating is limited to 100 per sitting

Friends Are Welcome!

Tickets on Sale starting Nov. 6

For tickets contact:

Rick & Joan Quinn 905-294-6022

Proceeds will go to Urban Promise

Ministry Staff:

Steve Authier (Senior Pastor) steveauthier@heisehill.org

Harvey Sider (Assoc. for Seniors) hesider@gmail.com

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