

# THE NEW HEIGHTS NOTES

Newsletter of the New Heights Church of the Nazarene

Spring 2013

## Pastor's Points

### There is and "I" in Team

As most of you know I love basketball. Even though the Lakers are out of the NBA playoffs I still watch the other teams playing. One team really sticks out to me this year because they do not really have a superstar but they are beating teams with superstars. If you look around teams are everywhere. There are sports teams, work teams, research teams, medical teams, ministry teams — all kinds of teams. Much of what is accomplished in our world is done by teams. *The Bible praises the value of teams:*

**Two can accomplish more than twice as much as one, for the results can be much better. — Ecclesiastes 4:9 (The Living Bible)**

Great teams produce greater results. When we work together it's amazing what can be done. When "we" takes the place of "me." For this to happen there are some things we need to understand about team work and team life. It's been said that *"there's no 'I' in team."* While I agree with the premise of the statement, I would quickly say, *"yes there is!"* There's an "I" in every team. The "I" is the "individuals" on the team. A team is only as strong as the individuals that are part of it. Teams are made up of individual people. These "individuals" must bring the right things to the team if the team is going to be all it can be. *Let's take a look at 7 characteristics of a great individual team member.*

#### 1. Great team members are COMMITTED to the team.

To be a strong team member you must be "all in." You must love being on the team. You must be committed to the team members and organization. You must "wear the team colors," and "sport the team logo" in your attitudes and actions. You must honor your team by your words. There's nothing that lowers a team's morale and effectiveness more quickly than a member who's not committed. You can't be a "lone ranger" and a "team player" at the same time.

#### 2. Great team members CARE about the team's mission.

A mission is a given assignment. It's a set of goals and objectives that are to be accomplished or achieved. A great team member cares about the mission that's been assigned to the team. They're fully invested in reaching the objectives. The goal becomes more important to them than their role. They're willing to do what needs to be done to fulfill the mission. They're willing to dig deep, work hard, relinquish personal ambitions, and remove defensiveness.

#### 3. Great team members are COMPETENT in their CONTRIBUTION.

No one enjoys working on a team where members fail to do their part. While we all have bad days, and need help along the way, we like to know that, in a reasonable way, everybody on the team is "bringing their best game."

#### 4. Great team members are CONGENIAL and COLLABORATIVE.

There's an old military strategy called "divide and conquer." What can be "divided" can be "conquered." That's why team unity is such an important thing. When divisive attitudes, squabbling, competitiveness, contention, and mean-spirited attacks weasel their way into a team environment, the team's in trouble. Great teams consist of people who work on their relationship chemistry. They build their "emotional quotient." They are congenial, communicative and kind-hearted. They work at getting along. Genuine congeniality brings collaboration. A peaceful atmosphere leads to a productive process.

#### 5. Great team members are CONSISTENT.

Consistency speaks of endurance — continuing undeterred down a pathway. It refers to diligence — staying at the right things without quitting. A great team member is able to "roll with the punches," deal effectively with setbacks, and flexibly handle changes. They're not just in for the quick win, they're in for the long haul. They are marathoners, not sprinters. You can count on them.

#### 6. Great team members CELEBRATE the abilities and achievements of others.

Jealousy kills teams. When team members have a hard time celebrating the gifts and accomplishments of their teammates, the team will never do it's best work. And when individuals on the team are applauded, but don't understand or acknowledge the contributions of their teammates to their success, team morale is undermined. Great teams celebrate one another, without jealousy. A win for one is a win for all! This is easier said than done, but powerful when it's done.

#### 7. Great team members have CHARACTER.

Lack of character in team members can mean death to a team's power and success. When people on the team are prideful, arrogant, filled with selfish ambition; when they're in it for themselves — using the team to build their personal platform rather than using their gifts and skills to build the team's platform — the entire team is adversely affected. When a team member is deceptive, lacks integrity, is untrustworthy, two-faced, disloyal, or a gossip, others suffer. Character is critical to a team's success.

As I look back at all God has accomplished here at New Heights Naz it could not have been accomplished without a good team of people putting God's work first, and working together. This is a good reminder for each of us that we need to continue to take a look at ourselves to see if we are doing what God has called us to do, and doing it His way.

So, I think that there is an "I" in team. The "I" is the individual team members. What kind of team member are you?

And if you have been sitting in the stands watching, it is time you join the team. Remember: God is always up to something, He always does great things, and He never does them alone.

New Heights  
Church of the Nazarene  
15518 E. Gale Ave.  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745  
626-330-0723

Rev. Don Rodriguez  
Pastor  
Cell: 626-217-4042  
don.rodriguez@newheightsnazarene.org

Judy Johnson  
Office Administrator  
admin@newheightsnazarene.org

### WOMEN'S – MEN'S GROUPS

Donna Rodriguez  
Women's Ministry Director

For more information  
626-215-0730

Alvin Busby  
Men's Ministry Director

The M.O.D. Squad  
The Men Of Discipline

Judy Pitts  
Wedding Coordinator

### SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Ruth Polley  
SAM Director

### SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

8:30 am  
Prayer in the Sanctuary

9:00 am  
Discipleship Hour

10:15 am  
Worship in the Sanctuary

### SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

Wednesday  
7:00 pm  
Traditions:  
Bible Study and Prayer-  
Sanctuary

Monday  
7:00pm  
Celebrating Jesus

Tuesday  
Prayer and Fasting

Saturday  
8:00am  
Community Breakfast and  
Bible Study

### YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

#### The Next Wave Youth Group

Wednesday  
7:00 pm  
Next Wave Youth Center

TEN13 Youth Group  
Wednesday  
6:30-8:00pm  
Meet in Youth Room

# Baby and Children's Day 2013



On Sunday, May 5th we celebrated Baby and Children's Day. We honored our babies and children with their first prayer book as the congregation committed to praying for the children and their parents/guardians. We had over 10 children participate. It is great to see all the new life here at New Heights Naz.

# BABY DEDICATION



Earlier this year we dedicated Mason Alexander Abbey. He is the son of Michael and Crystal who have grown up at the church and were in the Youth Group with Pastor

Don and Donna. Michael is serving in the Army and was able to be here to be part of this special event. It was also a special ceremony because Pastor Don and Donna are the God Parents of young Mason.

We also recently dedicated Roman Anthony Rojas son of Art and Darlene Rojas who attend here. This was a special gift from God for the Rojas family and we all understand the gift that God has given this family through him.

Both ceremonies were very special. Each child received a letter from Pastor Don to be opened on their 12th birthday to let them know of what happened this day and encouraging them to accept Christ as their personal Savior. Please pray for each of these young children and their parents as they strive to bring them up in the church. It is such a blessing to have young parents understanding the importance of bringing children up in the church.

# Women's Ministry Spring Tea



The Women's Ministry Spring Tea was again a success with over 50 women in attendance with many first time guests. The guest speaker of the afternoon was none other that Miss MaryAnn from the children's television show Romper Room. She gave an inspiring testimony from growing up in Oklahoma to starring on television. The ladies enjoyed a variety of teas, sandwiches and deserts as the listened and fellowshiped together. If you would like to join the Women's Ministry they meet every 3rd Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall.

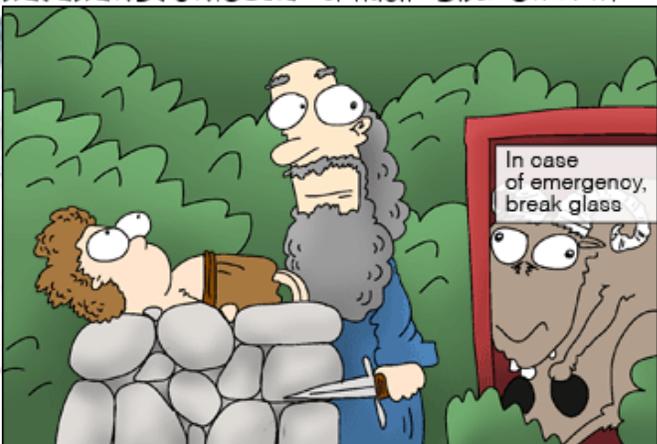


Our Next Wave High School Youth Group went to Rock and Worship in Ontario and heard Christian artist like Jeremy Camp. Ten of our youth went and had a great time.

Our youth leaders are Hank and Ida Luna. The group meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm and Sunday's at 9:00am. They have a great time together studying and serving the Lord. Please continue to pray for our youth as they are the next generation of the church.



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Genesis 22:1-18)

04-12-2013

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11 Women's Ministry meeting 7:00pm
- 15 All church picnic
- 16 Board meeting
- 20 Senior Adults meeting 11:00am
- 22 All church workday
- 23 StoreHouse Bake Sale after church
- 28 Movie night — starts at dusk
- 30 Stewardship Sunday

June 2013

Community and Church Bible study and breakfast every Saturday at 8:00am