NEWS FROM DAVID AND GRETA

FEBRUARY 2024

We hope that you will take a few minutes to read what has been happening in our ministry recently. The Perspectives section reveals a prophetic message for 2024.



"Raise your hand," said Pastor Tak Bhana at the end of Church Unlimited's Christmas production, "if you want to give your life to Christ." One by one around thirty hands went up, including our two young granddaughters who were visiting from Australia. It was a wonderful sight to see all thirty then stand at the front of church and make a public commitment to Jesus.

Summer holidays in New Zealand mean that churches prefer not to have guest ministries, which enables Greta and I to take some weeks of rest from travel. It has been a blessing to be able to attend Church Unlimited, our home church, for an uninterrupted period.

Sunday, January 28 saw us resume ministry when we spoke at all three services at church. During the day, we shared prophetic messages for 2024. In the morning, Greta spoke on 'Psalm 24 and Open Doors in 2024' and I spoke on it being 'A Year of Overcoming Spiritual Storms'.

These messages are available to watch on You Tube. Click here.

In the evening, Greta encouraged the people to go with the God of the impossible into 2024, the year of unprecedented miracles. My message was 'More in 24' (see Perspectives section below).

2024 is going to be a very unstable year in the world but those who have faith in God will definitely overcome and flourish.



February 11: Grace International Church, Glenn Innes, Auckland. Sunday plus leaders' meetings.

February 18: Elim Church, Coromandel. Sunday meeting.

February 24-25: Renew Church, Whangarei. Leaders' plus Sunday meetings.

March 2-3: Elim Church, Nelson. School of the Supernatural plus Sunday and leaders' meetings.

March 9-10: Elim Church, Greymouth. School of the Supernatural plus Sunday meetings.

March 17: Revival Church, Kaiwaka. Sunday meeting.

March 21-23: NZ & Beyond Conference, Auckland.

March 28 - 30: Elijah House Easter Convention, Lower Hutt. Guest speakers.

March 31: River of Life Church, Lower Hutt. Sunday meeting.

PERSPECTIVES

MORE IN 2024

One of the things Greta and I love to do is to ask the Lord for prophetic insight for each new year. A theme will usually come which we will pray into and also use for the preaching/teaching ministry God has given us. Over the last few weeks of 2023, the phrase "more in 2024" kept coming to me. As I studied many scriptures with the word *more* in them, three stood out especially.

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

Speaking of the opposition and trials that Christians face, the apostle Paul said:

"In all these things we are **more** than conquerors through him who loved us." (Romans 8:37 NIV)



The world has become more volatile, more opposed to Christianity, and the devil is more active – all signs Jesus said that would precede his return. **But God's more will always conquer evil's more**. We are more than conquerors over these things, through Christ. This includes addictions, character flaws, and other areas we may struggle with.

If we have failed many times, it's easy to believe that we will never have victory. To feel a condemned failure. To fear the next fall. Fear will rob us of victory. But if we believe and pray, and resist the spirit of defeatism, we can expect to conquer things we have never been able to before in 2024.

MORE THAN WE CAN ASK

Another scripture that stood out was Ephesians 3:20 (NIV):

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably **more** than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

Dare to ask big in 2024. Dare to think big. As long as it is God's will, he will do more than our biggest request. He always has a way of surpassing our expectations to remind us how kind and amazing he is, leaving us in awe of him.

For example, I released my latest book *How to Pray – and Change Your World* in 2022. At the time, Greta and I prayed that the Lord would take it far and wide, to light a fire of prayer in all who read it. A copy fell into the hands of a New Zealand missionary to Mongolia who sent it to a church leader there. That leader liked it so much that he translated it. Between the missionary, our home church, and our ministry we raised enough finance to print 5000 copies. Last year, these were all distributed free of charge to the Mongolian church.



Such was the hunger, that one woman drove fifteen hours through a sandstorm, snowstorm, and an engine breakdown to get three copies! Because of the demand, another 5000 copies are being printed for distribution in 2024. A donor has already covered the cost of this. 10,000 books on prayer are going to make a huge difference to that nation. Outer Mongolia – we never thought God would do that!

You may not have written a book. But you may have desires and God-dreams for yourself, your family, church, business, nation, and this world. And God is waiting to awe you with his "immeasurably more" if you dare to ask and think big.

ALL THE MORE

Finally, a third scripture caught my attention.

"Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the **more** as you see the Day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:24-25 RSV)

The Day is the return of Christ when we cross the finish line and receive our reward. Things will get tougher nearer to his coming, but we can encourage one another. A word, a good work, a smile, sharing truth, praying for one another – encouragement is the language of heaven.

But encouragement can't work in isolation. It works best in community: small groups, church gatherings, friends meeting.

In the early church, there was a man called Joseph. Acts 11:24 says he was a good man full of the Holy Spirit and faith. He loved to encourage people. He did it so much that the apostles nicknamed him Barnabas which means 'son of encouragement'. When Saul the persecutor of the church was converted, many believers thought he had faked his conversion so as to infiltrate the church. Barnabas, however, believed in him, encouraged him, and helped launch him into ministry. Saul became the great apostle Paul.

If there had been no Barnabas, there might not have been a Paul. You never know the outcome when you encourage someone. You help them become who God wants them to be. You help them cross the finish line.

As we enter this new year, let our declaration be, "More in 24!" Believe it, pray it and expect to be amazed by what God does.

Blessings,



David and Greta

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