

# *Trinity Bible Church*

*The Carpenter's House*

**February 3, 2008**

**FIRST SERVICE MESSAGE:**  
*Ten Principles of Ministry*  
*Romans 15:22-33*

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*Please join us for refreshments between services*

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>3 Feb</b>  | <b>The Lord's Table.</b>                     |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>4 Feb</b>  | <b>Youth Group Meeting</b>                   |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>6 Feb</b>  | <b>Bible class-2 Corinthians 7</b>           |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>7 Feb</b>  | <b>Ladies Prayer Meeting.</b>                |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>10 Feb</b> | <b>Deacon's Meeting.</b>                     |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>11 Feb</b> | <b>Youth Group Meeting</b>                   |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>13 Feb</b> | <b>Bible class-2 Corinthians</b>             |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>14 Feb</b> | <b>Ladies Prayer Meeting.</b>                |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>15 Feb</b> | <b>Party for Butch and Vickie Miller.</b>    |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>17 Feb</b> | <b>Annual Business Meeting-First Session</b> |

**\*\*** We made a mistake. Only two deacons will be elected this year. Danny's term did not expire. Nominations were closed last Sunday. Leonard and Jimmy were nominated. Other nominees chose not to run.

**\*\*** Note that the Annual Business Meeting will be first session this year.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING**

*The Lord's Table*

**SECOND SERVICE MESSAGE:**

*Encouraging Words*

**ROGER AND MARCY OLIVER**  
**Puebla, Mexico**  
**February 2008**

### **Puebla Bible Seminary**

As you read these passages about the early church sending off the first missionaries, have you ever thought about the emotions they must have felt? As the poet said, parting is sweet sorrow. Every year at graduation we feel that same ambivalence, excitement about finishing and moving on to the future combined with the wrench that inevitably comes when it is time to part company with dearly loved brothers and sisters.

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone and that it is time to say goodbye to another graduating class. We have had the privilege of getting to know them and watching them grow. After several years of living and learning together in community here at Puebla Bible Seminary, it is not easy to say goodbye to the familiar faces of our graduating students, whom we have grown to love. But as the students walked across the stage to receive their degrees, the speaker reminded us that we should view graduation not as an end but a beginning.

Having finished their formal training, these graduates are going out to serve the church, impact their communities, and reach the lost for Christ. It is exciting to know that as we part company, we are saying goodbye not just to students but to another generation of leaders, pastors and missionaries who are dreaming and scheming for the kingdom of God.

If previous years are anything to go by, we know that these graduates will be influential for Jesus wherever they go-and where are they going?

Some will be serving locally. Reuben is looking to pastor a Church in Puebla. Kurt and Jessica will be serving in youth camps. Juanita will serve in music. Some will be sending missionaries and others will be sent. Elda is going to serve at her home church where she will have the opportunity to implement the suggestions in her dissertation about the churches role in supporting and sending missionaries. Alex Pantoja and his wife, Liz, will graduate together. They met as students in the seminary. Now they are a family with a baby. Both are graduates majoring in missions. They will be leaving the familiarity of their homeland to serve as missionaries in Turkey.

Jesus said 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.' (Acts 1:8)

It is a thrill to see this passage fulfilled once again through this generation of leaders, even through a single graduating year. Please join us in praying for these new Graduates and their future ministry. And don't forget the students who are still with us. They need your financial help and prayers to finish the course.

### **Divine Serendipity**

CAM International's new vision statement lifts our eyes to the far horizons of the great commission, to the uttermost parts of the earth. It says, Together with the Spanish-speaking Church, CAM will make disciples among the world's less-reached peoples by mobilizing multi-national teams to win a hearing, teach the Word and establish Biblical churches. Where in the uttermost parts of the earth might God be leading? Among the less reached possible places for CAM's to go is the small country of Uruguay in South America.

In the daily grind of working in a seminary you think, "That's nice, good idea, but far away from me and my work." God had other plans. Uruguay came to Puebla Bible Seminary. Read the following testimony.

*My name is Augusto Aniano. Valeria Techera is my wife. We have been married for 7 years, and have a 6 year old son, Matras. We are from Uruguay. Three years ago, while living and working in Mexico, my wife and I were going through a marital crisis that was destroying our family. We decided to ask for help from a psychologist. After several months of unsuccessful attempts to help us resolve our conflicts, she said our marriage seemed hopeless and the best way that she could help us was to invite us to her church.*

*I was frustrated that I couldn't solve this myself. My insistence that I was right prevented dialogue. The situation worried me, but even worse was the thought of living this way the rest of my life. The invitation to church was the best counsel we had ever received. Our psychologist introduced us to the Lord and we gave ourselves to Him, allowing Him to work in our family. Our home was blessed abundantly and we started a new life in Christ.*

*The church was El Camino Bible Church in Puebla. They put us right to work serving in the worship ministry. We had planned to stay in Puebla for a several years but a job opportunity took us back to Uruguay. We had been Christians for only 6 months. We went back to Uruguay open to what the Lord had prepared for us and witnessed a reality we previously had not recognized. Uruguay does not have a strong Christian presence, the weakest in Latin America. It is spiritually impoverished and needs to hear the gospel. Uruguayan society is often described as "gray" because of its skepticism. Skepticism coupled with the deteriorating economic situation often produces an identity crisis.*

*We attended a small church in Uruguay where we served for two years in the worship ministry. We were blessed with brotherly love, encouragement and spiritual growth. We recognized we needed better preparation for ministry and were drawn to return to Mexico as our best option. We returned to Puebla in February, 2007 where the Lord opened the door to attend Puebla Bible Seminary supported by El Camino Bible Church. Our goal is to earn a bachelors degree and return to Uruguay as missionaries.*

*We are thankful to the Lord for His outpouring of grace and mercy and we pray that our plans for future ministry will become a reality so that Uruguay and the whole world might be reached by the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is our commitment, the desire He has placed in our hearts, and we trust Him that others will join us in the harvest in Uruguay.*

Daniel and Selene Rodriguez are small group leaders in El Camino Bible Church and were the first to disciple Augusto and Valeria Aniano. Daniel and Selene are praying about entering Puebla Bible Seminary and joining the Aniano's as missionaries to Uruguay

**VII. Personal Messages and Benediction (15:14–16:27)**

- A. Paul's Plans (15:14-33)**
1. His Priestly Ministry. 15:14-21
  2. His Plans To See Them. 15:22-29

**Ten Ministerial Principles**

**Rom 15:22 = Why He Was prevented From Visiting Rome.**

**15:22 C.T. = For this reason I have often been prevented from coming to you;**

**Summary:**

1. The reason Paul had not been to Rome was because they had already been evangelized, so they were not high on his list of priorities.
2. Hindrances can come from:
  - A. Satan and his forces through the spread of legalism. Gal 5:7
  - B. Satan and his forces through various roadblocks. 1 Thes 2:18
  - C. Through personal failure. 1 Pet 3:7
  - D. A desire to not inefficiently use the present time. Rom 15:22

**Principle #1: Ministers have to set \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Rom 15:23 = It Is Time.**

**15:23 C.T. = but now, with no further place for me in these regions, and since I have had for many years a longing to come to you**

**Principle #2: Ministers have to keep their personal desires, no matter how \_\_\_\_\_, subservient to priority needs.**

**Rom 15:24 = The Near Plan.**

**15:24 C.T. = whenever I go to Spain—for I hope to see you in passing, and to be helped on my way there by you, when I have first enjoyed your company for a while—**

**Summary:**

1. Paul's intentions are to meet them and get to know them personally.
2. This letter "has built upon another's foundation," and his visit will probably do the same, but Paul did not see this as competition with else's ministry.

**Principle #3: Ministers need to let people honestly know about their \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Rom 15:25 = The Immediate Plan.**

**15:25 C.T. = but now, I am going to Jerusalem serving the saints.**

**Rom 15:26 = The Reason for the Immediate Plan.**

**15:26 C.T. = For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.**

**Principle #4: Ministers need to \_\_\_\_\_ tasks begun.**

**Rom 15:27 = Explanation of the Offering.**

**15:27 C.T. = Yes, they were pleased to do so, and they are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they are indebted to minister to them also in material things.**

**Summary:**

1. It will be a while before he will get to see them because he has some ministerial activities to fulfill.
2. Some of the poorer provinces of the Roman Empire were ministering to the Believers in Jerusalem who were under persecution.

**Principle #5: Ministers need to be able to \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual truths.**

**Rom 15:28 = Timing of the Near Plan.**

**15:28 C.T. = Therefore, when I have finished this, and have put my seal on this fruit of theirs, I will go on by way of you to Spain.**

**Summary:**

1. Paul's apostolic reputation would be affected by a mishandling of the funds given for the Jerusalem relief campaign.
2. He is going to do the things he promised to do in delivering the offering. 1 Cor

**Principle #6: Ministers are \_\_\_\_\_ for ministry funds they receive.**

**Rom 15:29 = His Peace With The Plan.**

**15:29 C.T. = I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.**

**Summary:**

1. Paul is looking forward to his time with them.
2. He is sure that it will be centered on the blessings of Christ.
3. Paul will bring a basket full of Christ's blessings which include:
  - A. His promises to Israel. Rom 11:11-12
  - B. Differences in time frames. Rom 11:25-26
  - C. The role of Love. Rom 13:10
  - D. The role of the Church. Eph 1:22-23
  - E. The Essence of God. Eph 3:18-19
  - F. The Maturity of the Believer. Eph 4:12-13
  - G. The Hypostatic Union. Col 1:19-20
  - H. The Sufficiency of Christ. Col 2:9-10

**Principle #7: Ministers need to carry a \_\_\_\_\_ of spiritual food with them.**

- A. Paul's Plans (15:14-33)
  1. His Priestly Ministry. 15:14-21
  2. His Plans To See Them. 15:22-29
  3. His Personal Prayer Request. 15:30-33

**Rom 15:30 = Paul's Personal Prayer Request.**

**15:30 C.T. = Now I am encouraging you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,**

**Summary:**

1. Paul is asking the Romans to intensely pray for him.
2. He is asking them to join him with their spiritual love and pray for him.

**Principle #8: Ministers enlist others to intensely \_\_\_\_\_ for them.**

**Rom 15:31 = The Reason.**

**15:31 C.T. = that I may be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove well-acceptable to the saints;**

**Summary:**

1. Paul is delivering an offering to Jerusalem which has evidently drawn a lot of attention.
2. It is not just a simple trip but a dangerous one.
3. Paul is concerned about the offering.

**Principle #9: Ministers may share their \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Rom 15:32 = The Desire.**

**15:32 C.T. = so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and find refreshing rest in your company.**

**Rom 15:33 = His Prayer For Them.**

**15:33 C.T. = Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.**

**Summary:**

1. Paul still has his desire to see them, but the present mission comes first.
2. He is looking forward to a time of rest and relaxation with them and is praying for peace for them.

**Principle #10: Ministers need some \_\_\_\_\_.**

**How To Encourage One Another****3. The Process Of Encouragement:**

- A. Recognize first that words that encourage are inspired by love and directed toward fear. 1 John 4:18
- B. Words that encourage are prompted by love. 1 Tim 1:5
- C. Encouragement: The Context for Change. Change can take place most easily when Truth (which is the person of Jesus Christ) is presented in relationship.
- D. Opportunities for Encouragement: Heb 10:24-25
  1. Meeting together with fellow Christians is intended to provide us with opportunities to meaningfully encourage one another.
  2. Opportunities for encouragement will go unrecognized unless we consciously choose to minister to people as we talk to them.
  3. Encouragement occurs most effectively when opportunities are seized rather than created.
  4. We must seek to listen beneath the words, and recognize that not every sentence is communicating a disguised need.
  5. A sensitive listener uses words that convey an interest in hearing more. This will open doors because it sends out a dual message:

6. **Words that close doors convey a lack of sensitive interest, which also carry a hint of criticism that threatens rejection.**
- E. Responding to Opportunities: Eph 4:29**
1. **Many times we fail to respond due to fear.**
  2. **There is not a list of phrases to memorize. Encouragement is not a technique, but an attitude that views others as valuable with a commitment to treat them accordingly.**
  3. **There are some principles to keep in mind:**
    - a. **The central function of a "layer" is to protect.**
    - b. **Indifference, criticism, irritation, impatience, sarcasm, withdrawal and disapproval are a few ways to reject someone.**
    - c. **Part of the strength of encouragement lies in its communication of acceptance.**
  4. **Understanding is sometimes better than giving advice.**
  5. **The more precise the understanding, the more encouraging can be the words.**
- F. "Techniques of Encouragement"**
1. **To be a truly encouraging person, we must overcome the tendency to manipulate and also our own "layers."**
  2. **There is a fine line between concern and control and it is difficult to recognize. Manipulation can look like Ministry.**
  3. **Manipulation is a "layer" that tends to use either "blustering bravado" or "assertive avoidance."**
  4. **The Mindset of an Encourager:**
    - a. **Encouragement requires involvement in the lives of other people, a sacrificial giving that refuses to consider the cost.**
    - b. **The Encourager must be "slow to speak." Prov 12:18; 13:3; 17:27-28; 18:13; 29:20; Jas 1:19**
    - c. **The Encourager must be sensitive to personal speech.**
    - d. **The Encourager must be gentle with speech. Prov 15:1; 26:21**
  5. **Responses that inhibit encouragement:**
    - a. **Defensive or explanatory words.**
    - b. **Quick apologies.**
    - c. **Attacking and cutting remarks.**
    - d. **Corrections.**
    - e. **Quick advice.**
  6. **Encouragement is not simply a matter of acquiring a new set of skills. It is the fruit of a self-examined heart and a compassionate, discerning sensitivity to others' needs. It does require the development of communication skills, but primarily it involves the leading of the Holy Spirit.**
  7. **People who encourage attend to their own nonverbal messages and they seek to make the necessary changes.**
    - a. **Squarely face the person.**
    - b. **Openly face the person.**
    - c. **Lean forward.**
    - d. **Eye contact.**
    - e. **Relax.**
  8. **Some verbal suggestions:**
    - a. **Reflection looks back to the speaker seeking the real problem that requires attention.**

- b. Clarification-checks out what the speaker meant.
  - c. Exploring-seeks more information.
  - d. Interaction.
9. Then we should offer Biblical remedies.
10. Notice that the Encourager is one who promotes Faith, Hope and Love.

#### 4. The Local Church: A Restoring Community

- A. The joy of restoration lies less in the work of restoration than in the awareness of participation in the project.
- B. God wants people who consider it their main privilege and responsibility to obey and worship Him. 1 Cor 10:31
- C. The work of restoration is designed to help people who are basically self-centered, unbelieving and fearful to become thoroughly Christ-centered.
- D. Churches must seek to develop a balance in the value and importance of worship, teaching, fellowship and evangelism.
- E. Counseling is basically the application of Biblical Truth found in the person of Jesus Christ to individual lives.
- F. Counseling should include: Encouragement, Exhortation and Enlightenment.