



The Lighthouse

“What Type of Vessel are You?”

Over the past three to four Sundays, Pastor Ronald Trotman has been focusing on the fact that the King is coming and it is our responsibility as Christians to be prepared, to be watchful and faithful. In the last two sermons prior to Sunday 1st March 2015, he dealt with the parables of the ten virgins and the talents respectively. With respect to the parable of the Virgins, he stressed that this shows the Church “as waiting”. In the case of the parable of the talents, it showed the church “as working”. He affirmed that the end process involves rewards and showed that we will all be held to account for our stewardship and will be rewarded according to our efforts.



Pastor Ronald Trotman

Pastor Trotman continued this discourse on Sunday 1st March 2015 by focusing on the text from Jeremiah 18: 1-6:

18 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, ² Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. ³ Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. ⁴ And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ⁶ O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

He noted that the Apostle Paul wrote years after Jeremiah in 2 Timothy 2:20—21:

²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. ²¹ If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work

UPCOMING EVENTS (2015)

Sun 15th March-(10.00 a.m.)	Harvest
Sat 28th March	Flea Market
Sun 29th March	Visitors' Sunday
Fri 3rd April	Good Friday
Sun 5th April	Easter Service and Communion
Mon 6th April	Easter Monday Lime at Church

Pastor Trotman asserted that in the context God is speaking to His chosen people Israel. but He is also speaking to us today since we have been given the right to be called His children. With respect to the vessel, he notes that it is the Potter who decides on the purpose of the vessel, as in the case of Moses whom God told “Certainly I will be with thee” (Exodus 3:12). Pastor Trotman explained: **“God made us for a purpose. Sometimes we settle for less than God’s best”** Next, he invited the congregation on an imaginary trip to the potter's house and see the potter working on the wheel. He

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noted that sometimes a piece of pottery is marred and asked, ***“Why does the clay fail? What causes a vessel to be marred? Clay has a mind of its own. A lump or a dry spot may cause the vessel to fail. So too spiritually vessels are marred in the Potter’s hand because of ‘unyieldedness’ and unfaithfulness.”*** He expanded on these two reasons given for the vessel being marred.

- ◆ **“Unyieldedness”.** The Pastor explained that as clay must yield to the Potter, so too must we, as humans, yield to the touch of the Master for the correct process to occur. He stressed that ***“too many people are claiming that they did it their way, but if we want to be a vessel unto honour, we have to do it God’s way”***
- ◆ **Unfaithfulness.** Another way in which the vessel is marred is through unfaithfulness and Pastor Trotman noted that God does not call us to be successful but to be faithful - ***“Be thou faithful unto death”*** (Revelations 2:10). In [1 Corinthians 3:12-15](#), mention is made of the materials like silver and gold which are tested by the fire and remain firm, whereas wood and stubble perish and this is likened to our own test which we will face:

**A Marred Vessel**

“Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— each one’s work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.”

He asked the congregation: ***“Since the vessel failed because of ‘unyieldedness’ and unfaithfulness, where do we fit in?”*** He stressed that we must ask ourselves ***“Am I yielding myself? Am I a marred vessel in the Potter’s hand?”***

Next Pastor Trotman spoke of the type of vessel. He noted that vessels are important and that God wants us to be a vessel unto honour. In verse 4, it speaks of honour and dishonor. Hence comes the concept of the “made over vessel”. Pastor Trotman notes: ***“You failed the first time. So God remakes the vessel as he planned the first time hoping that there would be no ‘unyieldedness’.*** He used the example of Jonah who went to Tarshish rather than Nineveh and, after the experience of the storm and being swallowed by a whale, God said the second time ***“Go to Nineveh”.*** He stressed that when we fail God we fail others who may be saved. The Pastor gave another example of second chances (made over vessel) in Peter who said to Jesus that he would not deny Him but yet he denied him three times. ***“Nevertheless”,*** he explained, ***“in Mark 16 Jesus says ‘Go tell my disciples and Peter’. Peter failed but God made him over. If you have failed, don’t give up. God never gives up on us. He makes us into another vessel. God always has a job for us.”*** Secondly, he makes another vessel as seems good to the Potter. John mark failed as a missionary in Acts but became a Gospel writer.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Plans are being discussed to re-introduce **Vacation Bible School** at the Berean in 2015. Proposed dates are **Mon 17th August to Saturday 22nd August 2015.** Volunteers to assist are being sought from within the church. This is an important initiative to develop our youths at a tender age.

Pastor Trotman concluded by looking at the managed vessel in the hands of the Potter. He noted: ***“Sportsmen, fighters, singers etc. have managers and God is saying that he wants to be our Manager. Managers make decisions in your best interest. Do you have enough faith to put all in the hands of the Lord as your Manager?”***

Theme for 2015

Theme 2015—Thy Kingdom Come



Bro. Tyrone Lowe

The theme which the Berean Church will make the center of its focus for 2015 is “*Thy Kingdom Come*”

The following are the sub-themes being followed monthly:

Theme 2015 - Thy Kingdom Come			
Topic #	Name	Month	Comments
Topic 1	Understanding The Kingdom	January	Explaining God's creation and purpose
Topic 2	Sowing and Reaping in the Kingdom	February	Harvest time
Topic 3	Reaching Out For The Kingdom	March	Open Air - a sustained outreach in Hothersal
Topic 4	Empowerment for the Kingdom	April	Easter -Jesus' crucifixion ended death and gave power for victorious living
Topic 5	Protecting The Jewels of the Kingdom	May	Child month
Topic 6	Breaking The ties to the present System	June	Examining the traps of the world
Topic 7	Funding for the Kingdom	July	Fund- raising
Topic 8	Enjoyment in the Kingdom	August	Holiday/Festivals - wholesome Christian activities. Spirituality while having fun
Topic 9	Honouring the heroes of the Kingdom	September	Senior Citizens month and elders' appreciation
Topic 10	Celebrations	October	Anniversary - special speaker/special week
Topic 11	Prince and Princesses of the Kingdom	November	Independence - nationalism; your role; position
Topic 12	Thy Kingdom Come	December	Christmas - the birthday of the King

BEREAN CHOIR CONCERT 2015



“Let It All Be Music”



Berean choir and Friends

The Berean Bible Church will stage a Concert on **Saturday, 30th May 2015** at the Sir. Hugh Springer Auditorium of the **BWU’s Solidarity House**, commencing at **6.00 p.m.** Our Choir members will be joined by Friends who normally join them for special events such as Concerts and Cantatas.

The venue is an ideal location and offers an air-conditioned auditorium with soft comfortable seats. For older members of the Church there is no need to worry because the room is easily accessible.

Distribution of tickets has started and members of the congregation are being asked to sell a **minimum** of three (3) tickets. **Adult Tickets cost \$35.00** and **children under 12 years old will pay \$15.00.**

The Concert will consist of two segments with an intermission where refreshments will be on sale. **Volunteers are being sought to help in this area.**

Artistes supporting the Choir’s effort include the following:



Inside The BWU Auditorium

<i>First Baptist Chorale</i>	<i>BDF Band</i>	<i>Ronald Bennett</i>
<i>Jocelyn Taylor</i>	<i>Naomi Williams</i>	<i>Carol Bishop</i>
<i>Cortez Callendar</i>	<i>Dave Jackman (Flute)</i>	<i>Shawn Layne Quartet</i>
<i>Stephen Brathwaite and Gaye Gajadhar</i>	<i>Rock Christian School and Berean Lights</i>	<i>ACEWORX steel pan Ensemble</i>
<i>Christ Church Parish Church Chorale</i>		



Barbados Defence Force Band.

BUILDING OF NEW SANCTUARY OF THE BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH



Excavation of Foundation commenced on 24th August 2014

Three years ago, during the Berean's Anniversary month, there was an official Ground-breaking Ceremony with **Sis. Marion Manning** (Chairman of the Building Committee) and **Pastor Ronald Trotman** breaking the soil at Hothersal.

The **24th August 2014** was a significant day in the life of the Berean Bible Church where a different type of ground-breaking occurred. This time around it was massive machinery doing the job at the start of construction of a new Sanctuary.

For many years, the Berean Bible Church has been blessed to have in its possession a large piece of land. Plans had been established by previous Boards to develop a number of projects including a Sanctuary, a multipurpose hall, a Day Nursery, a Senior Citizen's home and more. Members of the congregation pledged funds selflessly, and through God's grace a substantial sum of money was raised to allow the Church to move to this stage.

What is being done at Hothersal is *a continuation of God's work*. A new house is being built for the Lord and the space available affords the Church an opportunity to make a greater contribution to society. Most significantly, there is ample room for young boys and girls to minister within the church and also to play on the outside where there is a large pasture. *This pasture can facilitate tented camps and other outdoor activities as needed.*

Recently, there has been a lot of activity as the foundation was being worked on. Residents of the area would have seen trucks moving in and out carrying materials, as the blocks began to go up and the foundation was filled with marl. Progress has been satisfactory. The project is supervised by **Bro. Tony Montague** who is a member of the Board.



Foundation as at Monday 23 February 2015.



Foundation currently filled with Marl.

Parenting in Public



Sis. Marva Springer

Children seem to pick the most public places to have tantrums or to question your authority as a parent. Many people still believe that “children should be seen and not heard.” But grocery store tantrums, church service wiggles, etc. are developmentally appropriate for young children. In these embarrassing situations parents sometimes change their parenting standards especially when a lot of people are watching. They may let their annoyance get the better of them and shout at the child, or give in easily, just to shut the child up.

Remember that parenting is about you and your child, not about what looks good to the general public. It is confusing for your child when you respond to the same situation differently at home than you would in public. So plan your outings taking your child’s needs into account. Pick a time to go out when your child is well rested and isn’t going to be too hungry, restless, tired, etc.

Prepare your child so that he or she will know what to expect, set rules before you leave, about what behaviour is acceptable (rules for the store – no running or grabbing things; rules for church – sit quietly and colour your picture; rules at a friend’s house – no fighting, share toys). Before leaving home, remind the child about the rules with an explanation of what will happen if they aren’t followed.

Take some toys, crayons, colouring books, etc. with you so that your child is kept occupied. At the first sign of restlessness, take your child out for a break; don’t wait until he or she is miserable and crotchety. Remember to intervene when your child is being disruptive, but choose your battles wisely – behaviour may seem annoying, but if it is not harmful, it may not be worth a battle.

If a child's is beginning to throw a tantrum, leave the area and find a quiet place to help the child calm down. Be prepared to leave as a last resort. Try to stay calm and keep your sense of humour. Your self-control is crucial; so don’t react harshly because you feel ashamed or humiliated when your child misbehaves in front of an audience. Unwanted behaviour can occur in the best of circumstances – children are growing and learning and these things can happen.

Be sure to give a lot of praise, compliments and positive attention when your child does well.

Dear Parent Wise

I'm embarrassed by my child's public tantrums (he is 3 years old), especially when people make loud comments so I can hear. What can I do? VN

Dear VN

Children have tantrums because they do not have the emotional maturity to express everything they feel and the thinking skills to find more appropriate solutions. Schedule your shopping, etc. for times when he is fed and rested, and keep some snacks on hand. Give him clear guidelines about the behaviour you expect. Start teaching him the words to explain his feelings so he can express anger, confusion, and frustration with appropriate words or body language. It is not too early to begin using problem solving language ("What else can you do when you're upset?" or "Did you like the way that worked out?"). Don't try to stop the tantrum once it starts. If you find the situation embarrassing, leave or get away from the immediate scene until it is over. When it subsides, let him know that you did not appreciate his negative behaviour and remind him to express his feelings when he does not get what he wants or when he is feeling angry. Be consistent and the frequency of tantrums will decrease as he gets older.

Berean Youth Department's Email Address: bereanyd@gmail.com

LOVE!

We just came through February - the month of love and romance. Many times Churches focus on God's love and may leave the notion of romance to secular celebrations. But can we find notions of romance in God's word? Check out the following quiz (and Song of Solomon too!) and let us know what you think.

1. In an effort to protect himself and his wife, Isaac tells the locals that Rebekah is his:

- a. mother
- b. cousin
- c. sister
- d. daughter

2. What is the setting for Jesus' first miracle?

- a. A wedding
- b. A temple
- c. A boat
- d. His kitchen

3. Where does Jacob meet his future bride?

- a. A well
- b. A bar mitzvah
- c. A bonfire
- d. The Red Sea

4. Who gets Samson to reveal the secret of his strength?

- a. Eve
- b. Abraham
- c. Mary
- d. Delilah

5. Name the couple who offered religious instruction to Apollos and who received greetings in Paul's epistles.

- a. Adam and Eve
- b. Priscilla and Aquila
- c. Antony and Cleopatra
- d. Mary and Joseph

6. Hosea once purchased his wife, Gomer, with what currency?

- a. Silver
- b. Barley
- c. Wine
- d. All of the above

7. While some say Song of Solomon contains erotic imagery, others say its language is describing the relationship between:

- a. Church and state
- b. Christ and the church/God and Israel
- c. Law and gospel
- d. Husbands and wives



Sis. Deirdre Boyce

THANK YOU!!

To all those who donated to and made purchases from our Valentine's cake sale, thank you for making it a success.



8. Which couple had a perfect marriage — at least at first?

- a. Mary and Joseph
- b. Hannah and Elkanah
- c. Adam and Eve
- d. Ruth and Boaz

9. In his first letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul says love:

- a. Protects
- b. Trusts
- c. Perseveres
- d. All of the above

10. Who is widely believed to have been the disciple “whom Jesus loved”?

- a. Mary Magdalene
- b. Martha
- c. Peter
- d. John

11. The New Testament contains a directive to ” — your neighbor as yourself.”

- a. Love
- b. Annoy
- c. Cook for
- d. None of the above

Answers: 1.c 2.a 3.a 4.d 5.b 6.d 7.b 8.c 9.d 10.d 11.a

Quiz by KRISTEN CAMPBELL Religion News Service



FOLLOW UP:

In January we viewed the video 'Marks of a Cult: A Biblical Analysis with Eric Holmberg' and we learnt how to identify a cult by one or all of four basic actions:

Addition-adds to God's word using other 'sacred' books or teachings

Subtraction-diminishes or denounces the deity of Jesus

Multiplication - increases the methods / ways to gain salvation

Division-divides its followers from other Christians i.e. the body of Christ

Let's be vigilant brothers and sisters and be ever ready to defend the faith. (Jude 3)

If you missed the January's presentation of the video, you can find it at the following link: <http://youtu.be/w-llhkbHTRY>

Article from Sis. Marion Manning

The Carpenter

Once upon a time two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side-by-side, sharing machinery and trading labour and goods as needed without a hitch.

Then the long collaboration fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference and finally, it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a few days' work," he said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there that need to be done. Could I help you?"

"Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbour. In fact, it's my younger brother! Last week there was a meadow between us. He recently took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I'll do him one better. See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to build me a fence, an 8-foot fence - so I won't need to see his place or his face anymore."

The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you."

The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he left. The carpenter worked hard all that day - measuring, sawing and nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned the carpenter had just finished his job.

The farmer's eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all. Instead there was a bridge - a bridge that stretched from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work, hand-rails and all!

And the neighbour, his younger brother, was coming toward them, his hand outstretched. "You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done." The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge - and then they met in middle, taking each other's hand.

They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox onto his shoulder. "No, wait! Stay a few days. I've a lot of other projects for you," said the older brother.

"I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but I have many more bridges to build."

Continuation of Article from Sis. Marion Manning (from page 9)

Remember This...

God won't ask what kind of car you drove, but He'll ask how many people you helped get where they needed to go.

God won't ask the square footage of your house, but He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet, but He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.

God won't ask how many friends you had, but He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

God won't ask in what neighbourhood you lived, but He'll ask how you treated your neighbours.

God won't ask about the colour of your skin, but He'll ask about the content of your character.

God won't ask why it took you so long to seek Salvation, but He'll lovingly take you to your mansion in Heaven, and not to the gates of hell

Berean Men's Fellowship On The Move

Report By Dr. Barry Ward

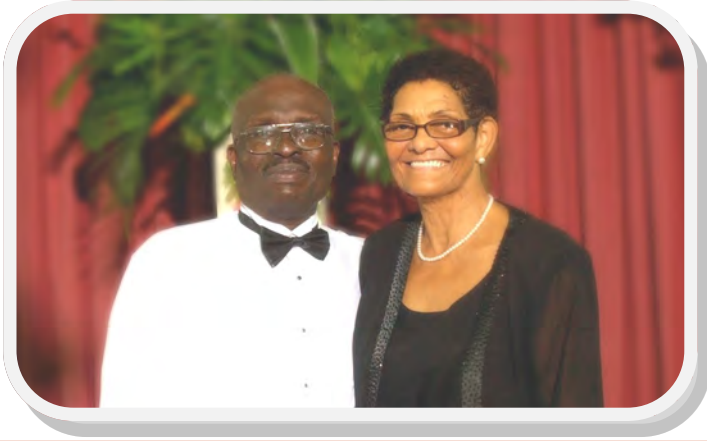
The men's ministry meeting was held on the evening of **21st of February** at 1830 hours at Berean Bible church. It was attended by 9 men. We had a short period of devotion which was lead by **Bro. Owen Thompson**. We then progressed into the main segment which was a health talk on heart disease and, more specifically, cardiovascular disease which was hosted by **Bro. Barry Ward**. This segment was well received with many questions being asked and answered. This was followed by a short period of fellowship with some good food.

Berean Women's Fellowship Making An Impact

The last meeting of the Women's Fellowship was held on **Thursday 5th March 2015** at the Berean Bible Church. There was good attendance *with two new members joining*. **Sis. Julia Ifill** explained that the theme for the evening was "**Light**". Hymns and Bible verses which showed that Jesus is the Light were used. For each meeting, there is a different theme created by a different member. The activities of the meeting included singing, praying and testimonies. After the meeting, everyone seemed very satisfied, When asked how the meeting went, there was general agreement by members present that it went very well. One member said: "***We are like a family, we pray together,..... we share our problems in testimonies.***".

There can be no doubt that this Ministry is making an impact in the lives of Church members.

Berean History: “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends’ - John 15:13



Pastor Ronald Trotman and Sis. Cynthia Trotman

. **I**n our last edition, the Church said goodbye to Pastor Kermit Hansen and Pastor Ronald Trotman became Pastor of Berean Bible Church.

John 15:13 typifies the contribution made by **Pastor Ronald Trotman** over the past 42 years. Additionally, The saying “Each for the other and both for the Lord” aptly speaks also to the value of the union between the Pastor and **Sister Cynthia** over these past 45 years.

Pastor Trotman is one of ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Trotman. His mother, Mrs. Gladys Trotman is a centenarian and dad is deceased.

His life so far has been one of service to the Berean Bible Church as Pastor. His service dates back to the moment back in 1964 when he made a decision to do what would have been a complete change in career by entering the Jamaica Bible College, to pursue a 4-year course in Bible studies (1964 – 1968). This was in preparation for his future role as a Pastor. Knowing the Pastor’s skill as an electrician, one can say that he could easily have thrived in this career. He recalls his lunch time conversations at that stage with Bro. Shurley Recce who was a member of the Christian Union church in Hindsbury, now called the Better Life Church and who was a co-worker at a company. It was at that church that he was saved. But his calling to the Ministry led him to put a career behind him and head off to Jamaica to pursue a 4-year Bible course at the Jamaica Bible College.

It was there in Jamaica that he met the lady who was to become his wife – Sister Cynthia Trotman, born Bloomfield.

At Jamaica Bible College, he signalled his interest in using his talents for God’s service by being a member of the Jamaica Bible School Quartet which had been dormant for a little while.

He actually taught at the same College for one year in 1969. In that same year on 17th May, he got married to Sister Cynthia Trotman, at the said Jamaica Bible College.

Pastor Trotman left Jamaica in 1969 to spend two weeks in Barbados so that his family could meet his wife, Sis. Cynthia, before moving on to Dominica.

In Dominica, he and Sis Cynthia spent 14 months at the Christian Union Mission in the village of Marigot and later went on to teach at the Bible school in Castle Bruce, Dominica. Their Sundays were spent visiting various churches for an entire day. He also conducted open air services.

In 1972, Pastor Trotman and wife left Dominica for Barbados and, in due course, he became Pastor for one of the two sessions at First Baptist Church before becoming Pastor of the Berean Bible Church on 1st May 1973. He has had unbroken service since that day.

The couple has one daughter, **Sis. Patrice**, who is married to **Bro. Rickie Neblett**. The Pastor and Sis Cynthia have been blessed with two grandchildren **Gavin** and **Nathan Neblett**. Pastor Trotman has been the spiritual leader of the congregation at the Berean Bible Church for 42 years. He is well loved and well respected by the congregation because of his sincerity and commitment.

His messages have been one of his many strength over the years. They are always captivating and accurate in the Word of God and are delivered in a characteristically clear, concise, inimitable style from a humble, calm person. One other trait ***as a leader which resonates with many members of the congregation is his ability to share time and a listening ear with so*** many persons in their personal and spiritual lives. He is more than a Pastor. He is husband, dad, grandfather, son, sibling, friend, confidant and much more. He is reliable, considerate and a true patriarch in his own right.

Pastor Trotman continues to sing praises to God in the choir at Berean Bible Church as a leading Bass singer. His wife Cynthia is also a member of the Church Choir. From the early years in the 1970s to the present, a legacy has been created through the guidance of Pastor Trotman - a legacy of insightful messages, splendid music, and well coordinated groups.

Outside of the role as Pastor, he has always had an interest in Table Tennis and has represented Barbados overseas in many countries including Japan, Australia, Germany, Switzerland, Mexico, UK, Curacao, Aruba, Santo Domingo and all Caribbean islands except St Kitts and Antigua. His travels would have earned him valuable life experiences which he now shares with his congregation.

His desire to always do the best he can is captured in a clipping in the media, a few years ago, which read: ***Still unbeaten: Ronald Trotman is yet to drop a game after winning his seventh straight match, on Thursday night*** Another clipping says: ***“Ronald Trotman Fought Back Gallantly to complete victory”*** Such determination has seen him through these 42 years as a Pastor.

His philosophy for living is: ***“Put your hands in the Lord’s hand – the one who knows -and live one day at a time.”***