Welcome to Retreat Conference 2003 and to the premier issue of the Faith Walk newsletter. In a sense both the conference this year and the newsletter take us back to major milestones in the history of Faith To Face Ministries. It was in the fall of 1998 that we held our first ever conference, a Men’s and Women’s conference (there was no retreat, though). It was also during this time that we began publishing weekly newsletters detailing ministry events, prayer requests and praise reports, and other information aimed at “encouraging the believer’s faith to face life victoriously in a way that would please and glorify God”. That was the aim then; that is the aim now. Then we had a volunteer staff of two; this premier issue was produced by a volunteer staff of six under the coordination of Faith To Face’s Multimedia Ministries Executive Director, Bro. Ricardo Rowe.

Simply speaking, Faith Walk is a microcosm of and commentary on the life of the believer. Indeed it is our manner of life to “walk by faith and not by sight” (2 Cor. 5:7). In the pages that follow, you will be blessed and challenged by review articles, editorials, bible trivia, and even an interview with a minor Prophet!

This premier edition newsletter also serves as the official Retreat Conference 2003 proceedings. It’s stretch time in the kingdom and over the next few days the Lord is going to use Pastor Mike Servello from Utica, 1st Lady Kathy Bowman from Buffalo, Elder Phil and Minister Ruby Harlow from Rochester, Teacher Debra Ryberg from Endicott, Pastor Dean Hillyard from Bath, Elders Howard and Jennifer Reid from Rochester and Faith To Face’s own Co-Pastor Jeanette E. Vaughn to pull us into higher dimensions in God! Their biographies and a complete conference schedule are contained within.

It is my sincere prayer and resolute confession and expectation that our lives will be forever changed as we are rained on and poured into this weekend. Get ready for a sudden harvest!

Blessings,

Rev. Dr. Mark D. Vaughn
Senior Pastor and Executive Director of Fellowships
On Sunday, July 13, 2003, we had an awesome opportunity to fellowship at the Christian Hope Center. That night the church was filled with anticipation of receiving a word from the Lord from Brother Chuck Pierce. As we came into the church, the people were excited and it seemed as if they were waiting for the move of God. The worship was awesome! Bro. Pierce commented that the worship was like an eternal worship and that it was not easy to end. It was one of the best worship experiences we have had in a while. Their worship team is anointed to lead the people of God in Worship, Praise God for that!

Brother Chuck Pierce started out by passing on to us an assignment which the Lord has given him. He was told to pray for the State of New York, especially from June through August. The Lord also told him that any place he was told to go would see revival. He shared that revival means to restore life where death destroyed. Bro. Pierce spoke life to the Southern Tier - he proclaimed, “Let faith arise in this area.” As revival comes we will see families getting back together and homes being changed.

We were taught that the voice of God is not hard to know, the key is learning to listen to hear God speak. Also, that prophecy is speaking the mind of God. He shared a story about how his prayer life has changed. He used to have a long list of prayers that he used to pray that he would get regularly from another world wide Christian organization.

However, he learned the importance of listening to God and praying the prayer of faith over what God burdens us with. As he spoke, we saw how when there is an explosion of faith, we will see people getting saved and the Holy Spirit coming into the life of those who rejected God.

His key scripture was taken from Luke 17: 5-19. In these few verses you will find a few different situations of faith being asked for and faith in action. Bro. Pierce shared that faith leads to unity, which releases anointing. He said what matters is the quality of our faith not the quantity, and to let God order your prayers.

An awesome vision came to him of people crying out to God and fire filling the place in worship. He began prophesying that God will move when we come together in unity. The Lord said He’s going to produce a quality of faith in this region and it’s going to impact Albany, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the nation. There will be 10 cities He will link together in a peculiar way that will cry out for Him, as well as 10 churches in this area. The city will be healed through worship and it won’t be a struggle to press into worship. There will be a healing move of God when something happens and resistant churches will come in first.

There was so much meat shared in this meeting as well as many testimonies of the great things that God has done in the great man of God’s life. Don’t forget to be praying for New York and our leaders and also be praying to God daily and listening as He speaks. We had an excellent time of fellowship with the Lord's people and now we are expecting the increase.
Welcome to the 2003 MOVERS’ (Men Of Valor and Excellence Ready to Serve) & SHAKERS (Saved, Happy And Kingdom EaRnest Sisters) of Faith To Face Ministries! This weekend you will be blessed by three, dynamic, specialized seminars and four power-packed general sessions - all aimed at encouraging your faith for victorious living. The vision for the conference, as well as the ministry, is all about “encouraging your faith to face life victoriously”. The focus for our time together? “It’s S -T-R-E-T-C-H Time in the Kingdom”.

The seed for Faith To Face Ministries, Inc. was implanted in the hearts of the ministry’s founders, Rev. Dr. Mark and Mrs. Jeanette Vaughn, more than a decade ago. The couple has been married since 1986 and in ministry together since 1984 when both were students attending Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, NY).

Faith To Face Ministries was established and charged by God to provide training, support, guidance, and encouragement to Christians of all ages and cultures. The vision of the ministry is to nurture the believer’s victorious faith to face the challenges of everyday life in a way that glorifies God.

The God-inspired mission of Faith To Face Ministries is to help bring believers to an active fulfillment of God’s purpose in every area of their lives: at home, in the community, and in the body of Christ. This mission is aided by the four pillars of Faith To Face: Foundation, Function, Family, and Future. If you’ve been looking for a ministry to become an active member of, Faith To Face Ministries may be just the place for you! Let us join you as you prayerfully seek God's direction. We are excited about what the Lord is doing!

We are looking forward to experiencing an awesome move of God over the next few days. Welcome to Retreat Conference 2003!

For Faith To Face,

Pastor Mark and Co-Pastor Jeanette Vaughn

The Vaughn Family
Retreat Conference Agenda

As the theme suggests, the goal of Retreat Conference 2003 is to S-T-R-E-T-C-H participants to a new dimension in their purpose and prophetic destiny. Here’s how:

**Thursday, September 18th:**
Conference Opens at 7:30pm with an anointed Worship Celebration featuring Praise and Worship with recording artists from the Faith To Face Praise Team and the ministry of Pastor Michael Servello.

**Friday, September 19th:**
Morning Glory, 7:30-8:00am  
For SHAKERS only with Teacher Debra Ryberg, 8:00-9:30  
For MOVERS only with Pastor Mike Servello, 8:00-9:30  
MOVE & SHAKE Break, 9:30-10:00  
SHAKERS Part II with Minister Ruby Harlow, 10:00-11:30  
MOVERS Part II with Elder Phil Harlow, 10:00-11:30  
Kingdom Kids Youth Session with Pastor Dean Hillyard, 8:00-11:30 (children aged 10-18)  
Lunch (included with registration), 11:45AM-1:30pm  
Afternoon Delight featuring the ministry of Co-Pastor Jeanette Vaughn, 2:00-4:00  
S-T-R-E-T-C-H Break, 4:00-7:30pm  
Worship Celebration featuring the ministry of Evanglist and Psalmist Kathy Bowman, 7:30pm

**Saturday, September 20th**
Morning Glory, 7:30-8:00am  
Manna for Marrieds with Elders Howard and Jennifer Reid, 8:00-9:30  
Single and Salty, 8:00-9:30  
Kingdom Kids II with Pastor Dean Hillyard, 8:00-9:30  
MOVE & SHAKE Break, 9:30-10:00  
Closing service: “It’s Stretch Time!” featuring the ministry of Rev. Dr. Mark D. Vaughn, 10:00AM-12 noon  
Check Out, 12 noon – 1:00pm

Faith To Face Ministries would like to thank the following organizations for their sponsorship of the 2003 Retreat Conference:

- Arnott Mall Barber Shop
- Corning Building Company
- Corning Radisson Hotel
- Rosewood Inn
- Tops Supermarket
- Wal-Mart
- Wegmans Food Stores

We appreciate it!!
Guest Speaker Biographies

Evangelist Kathryn Bowman accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal savior at a very young age. After she yielded herself to the will of the Lord, it became apparent that this now saved, sanctified, spirit-filled vessel was destined for greatness in the up building of God’s kingdom. As the daughter of Bishop and Mrs. Carl Roberson, Kathryn was not only in an environment which allowed her to study the word of God, but an environment conducive to the cultivation of her gift as an anointed gospel singer and songwriter.

Through her total devotion to the will of God, Kathryn has been blessed in many facets of her life. Recognizing the strong calling that He placed on her life, He blessed her with a wonderful husband, Elder James H. Bowman Sr., Pastor of Antioch F.B.H. Church (Buffalo, NY). Since their union, Mr. & Mrs. Bowman have had only one agenda, and that is to win lost souls for Christ. Together they have participated in many community outreach programs, lectures, and seminars in order to spread the gospel across the country. Along with her husband, in July 1995 they were the host church of the Buffalo Area AZUSA Conference with Bishop Carlton Pearson & his company of guest speakers. She has also been the guest Psalmists for the Progressive National Baptist Convention where Rev. Dr. Bennett W. Smith presides. Even with such a responsibility, the couple found time to provide a loving home for their four children: Karla, James Jr., Kristina, and Jason.

Kathryn was educated at SUNY (State University of New York) at Buffalo, was the Director of American Cancer Society- Inner City Branch, Minister of Music, and President of Antioch’s Women’s Ministry. As an evangelist, minister, devoted wife, and loving mother, Kathryn is author of ‘SISTER TO SISTER,” a column published biweekly in the Buffalo Challenger Newspaper, which deals with ministering to the needs of the whole woman. Kathryn is also President & Founder of CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF INTEGRITY FELLOWSHIP, an inter-denominational group ‘who are followers of Jesus Christ” designed to share with and meet the needs of their “sisters” in Christ regardless of denomination.

Faith To Face Ministries welcomes Elder Phil and Minister Ruby Harlow. Elder Phil Harlow will be conducting our MOVERS Only session and Minister Ruby Harlow will be conducting our SHAKERS Only session on Friday.
Evangelist Debra Ryberg hails from Birmingham, Alabama, where at the age of 19 she was “wooed” to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord. A year later, she acknowledged and accepted the call of the Lord into ministerial service and has been laboring in her calling ever since.

In 1973, by the orchestration of the Holy Spirit, Sis. Ryberg, her late husband Ron Tubbs, and three year old son relocated to Endicott, NY where her husband had accepted an engineering position at IBM. Shortly after the move, Sis. Ryberg was lead to Faith Temple (Community) Church of God in Christ where she served the Lord for 9 years under the leadership of Pastor Leo and Dr. Wilma Hughey.

Today, Sis. Ryberg is a member of Living Word Christian Center in Greene, NY, pastored by Bill and Elaine Kiefer. In the 11 years of training and service at Living Word, Sis. Debra has been graced to share the word in teaching and song in the local Binghamton area, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, San Juan (Puerto Rico), and Nairobi and Na’Kurru (Kenya).

As a testimony and praise to the Lord, Sis. Ryberg has been blessed with two sons (Ron Jr., 29, and Richard, 25) and a daughter (Roshane, 18) all of whom have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. In testimony to I Cor. 7:13,14 (regarding the unbelieving husband being sanctified by the believing wife), Evan. Ryberg witnessed the salvation of her husband of 24 years one month before he died on May 5th, 1998. After his passing, she and her children continued to feed on the faithfulness of the Lord Jesus Christ and rejoice in him as their living hope. In due season, the Lord sent Bro. Stanley Ryberg into their lives and he and Sis. Debra were married in July, 1999.
Michael Servello is the senior pastor of Mt. Zion Ministries Church in Utica, NY where he and his wife have pastored for over 20 years. During this time they have established many outreaches and have seen the church's ministries grow extensively throughout the community. Pastor Servello is also the Northeast USA Regional Director for Ministries Fellowship International and a member of the MFI Apostolic team, a network of thousands of churches in over 80 countries. Pastor Servello has partnered together with other area pastors and government officials to bring unity and God's blessing to the city of Utica. His driving passion to help the underprivileged was a key force in founding of Compassion Coalition, Inc., a food and clothing distribution center for 78 local agencies.

Faith To Face's Senior Pastor and Founder, Rev. Dr. Mark D. Vaughn, was born and raised in Elmira, New York. It was there, in 1975, that he accepted Christ as his savior at the age of 11. By the time he left for college (at Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York) 7 years later he had grown in the faith and had established himself as a bible scholar and teacher of all age groups.

Pastor Vaughn earned an Associates Degree in Physics w/Honors at Rochester Institute of Technology. During his time in Rochester he became a youth leader at Bethesda Church of God in Christ. The Lord used him and a fellow Tech student, Jeanette Brooks (who became Mrs. Jeanette Vaughn in 1986 and is Faith To Face's Co-Pastor!), to win many college students to the Lord.

In the Fall of 1986 Pastor Mark relocated, with his new bride Jeanette, from Rochester to his hometown of Elmira. In early 1987, he accepted the call to ministry and was licensed in ministry later that same year. Pastor Mark became the Youth Minister and a leading ministerial associate at the church that he'd grown up in.

He continued his studies at Alfred University where he earned a Bachelors degree in Physics in 1991. While studying at Alfred University, he also worked full-time as a research technician for Corning Incorporated (where he's been employed for 15 years now).

Rev. Vaughn continued to grow in grace and in the knowledge of his Lord and Savior even as he yielded to the leading of the Lord to pursue graduate studies at the University of Rochester where he earned a Masters degree in Optics in 1993 and at Georgia Institute of Technology where he earned a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering in 1998. Throughout this season of academic training, Pastor Mark remarkably became more and more active in ministry. He was ordained in 1996 by Bishop Chandler Owens, presiding Prelate of the Churches of God in Christ and accepted the call to pastor in 1997, a call that he'd first heard in 1985.

Today, Dr. Vaughn continues to provide cutting edge vision and leadership, is world renowned for his teaching and preaching (having been the guest revivalist at a city-wide crusade in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa in February of 2003). Pastor Mark is also a Senior Research Scientist at Corning Incorporated where he is an acknowledged expert in Traffic Demand Modeling. He and his wife of 16 1/2 years, Co-Pastor Jeanette, reside in Corning, New York with their five children: Karissa (12 in June), Kyela (10), Cullen (8), Carrington (4 in June) and Clayton (8 months).
Co-Pastor Jeanette Vaughn, is a native of Buffalo, NY; and the loving wife and friend of Dr. Mark D. Vaughn (a native of Elmira, NY) who have co-labored together in ministry for over 20 years and she is the proud mother of 5 lovely children. They live and pastor in the Crystal City of Corning, NY: the Faith To Face Ministries Church. She has 6 credit hours to finish her BA Degree from Elmira College.

Co-Pastor Jeanette accepted the Lord in her youth through the consistent prayers and steadfastness of her mother (Mother Mildred Brooks) taking her to prayer at church. Through anointed exhortation and intercession, Co-Pastor Jeanette is used of God to propel His chosen into their rightful place in the body of Christ. Her powerful preaching and teaching ministry of restoration and deliverance proves she is persuaded that "nothing is impossible to those who choose to commit their ways unto the Lord."

Co-Pastor Jeanette is committed to serve in the body of Christ to share the Word of God and encourage men and women alike to have ‘faith to face’ the challenges of life. She wants to be faithful unto God.
God is doing an awesome thing in the body of Christ. HE is proclaiming His truth to the Body so that we can claim our victory in the earth. There are so many ingredients and variables to living victoriously in Christ Jesus and there are numerous approaches being presented. There are many ‘name it and claim it’ formulas espoused from every pulpit but there are some fundamental truths and foundational building blocks that must be in place and in operation in our lives as Christians.

The Lord released one such truth and building block to me through prayer several months ago. He spoke… “Your Worship is Your Warfare…. and you won’t win ‘cause you won’t worship HIM!!!!!” This word and revelation is not for every member of the body of Christ… just some of us. It isn’t about worshipping once a week during Sunday morning service or when the Holy Spirit convicts, it is about having a worshipful relationship with Him. The revelation is about having the heart of a worshipper… a heart, mind and soul that do not have competing interests… one that is undivided.

The Holy Spirit shared that many of us worship but we do not worship God. We worship our own desires, the thoughts of our minds, the latest drama or crisis we face. We often worship our jobs (or the fact that we want a better one). We worship our husbands or wives or the fantasy of having one. We sometimes even worship someone else’s husband or wife and covet another’s relationship. We worship our money or the absence of it. We worship, we worship, we worship; but do we worship God? The Holy Spirit revealed that the members of the Body of Christ are worshipping the wrong thing. We often worship what we ‘think’ is an outpouring of God but not God. We worship, we worship, we worship - but we do not worship God.

We attempt to worship God without knowing God. And we can’t know God without daily, divine and dedicated fellowship with Him. This is only achievable through worship.

We can’t worship someone or something we do not know. We can praise a complete stranger… “I like that dress you are wearing…. great color on you.” We can share that kind of friendly praise without even knowing the person who is the object of our praise. But we can’t WORSHIP that person because of the dress worn. Worship requires a ‘knowing.’ It requires a relationship.

Because many of us are not involved in worship of someone we know and have relationship with, there is no love, power, joy or strength in our worship. Our worship has no ability to convert to warfare and bring victory. For many in the Body of Christ the wellspring of worship has gone dry. There is no fresh revelation being birthed through our relationship with Him. As ministers of the Gospel, we must be careful. Intimate relationship comes through worshipping Him in spirit and in truth.

The attitudes we hold about worship and praise are directly related to our victorious living and walk with the Lord. NO WORSHIP….NO WARFARE….NO VICTORY!!! Some in the Body of Christ have interesting ideals about worship. We think that it is something that is ‘done to us’ each week by the Praise and Worship team. We think that the Pastor must extract and cajole worship out of us. We think that worship is something that we do if we feel like it or if the choir has done a good job rousing us to new heights of worship through song.

Precious saints of God, worship is an honorable privilege of our relationship with God. We come daily before the most High God and declare His worthiness in all the land.

(Continued on page 11)
Today our guest will be the Prophet Habakkuk. The Prophet Habakkuk is the author of the book of Habakkuk. His book can be found in the Old Testament of the Bible. It is found in the division of the Minor Prophets and is the 35th book in the Bible.

The Prophet wrote this book probably between B.C. 650-627. There are 3 Chapter in this book and 56 verses. The name Habakkuk in Hebrew means "embracing" - not in the romantic sense, but in a comforting sense and this is a great book of comfort.

**Faith Walk:** Good morning Prophet, how are you doing on this fine day?

**Prophet Habakkuk:** I'm blessed of the Lord thank you.

**FW:** Can you please let us know the time and events around the time you wrote your book?

**PH:** The time was around 610-607 B.C., around the reign of king Jehoiakim. The people were slipping into a state of sin and spiritual sluggishness.

**FW:** Was this the reason for writing the book of Habakkuk?

**PH:** Yes, in fact it was.

**FW:** After reading your book I realize the style of your book is quite different then other writers.

**PH:** Yes, The Book of Habakkuk is in the form of a dialog between myself and God.

**FW:** Can you please share with us a brief summary of your book?

**PH:** Yes, In the first Chapter of the book I open by asking God the following questions: 'How long, O Lord, will I call for help, And Thou wilt not hear?' Why does evil go unpunished? Why do the wicked prosper? Why doesn't God do something?

**FW:** So what were some of the things you saw going on in those days?

**PH:** Some of the things that I saw were the following:
1. There was sin,
2. wickedness,
3. destruction,
4. violence and spoiling,
5. no justice in the courts,
6. and the wicked outnumbered the righteous.

**FW:** Oh my goodness, that sounds just like the world today! So Habakkuk what was God’s solution for these problems?

**PH:** Well FW it was nothing I would ever have imagined in my lifetime. First God lets me know that He has heard my prayers and has already begun answering them. Next He lets me know that the answer to my prayers would be nothing that I would expect, and that I would not even recognize it or believe it when He tells it to me.

**FW:** Can you please let us know what God told you that would be so incredible?

**PH:** God informs me that He is raising up the Chaldeans (also known as the Babylonians), a more wicked nation, to come and destroy and punish Judah. They are bitter, hostile, ruthless and cold-blooded. They believe that their own might is their god, and they trust in their own strength.

**FW:** A more wicked nation to come and punish His people? How could a just, holy, mighty and sinless God use a more wicked nation to accomplish His will? Wouldn't the world become more corrupt after they had punished Judah?

**PH:** I thought the same thing at first but that is when I had to do the following: (which takes me to the end of chapter one and into the beginning of chapter two)

*Stop to think* - Before talking about it, think about it. Do not react emotionally to the problem. Do not let panic grip you, or some terrible fear come over you.

**PH:** Then the next thing is to **Restate basic principles** - As you think about the problem, don’t begin with the problem, but restate to yourself the basic things you know about God; and His character as it has been revealed to you in revelation and by experience.

(Continued next page)
Interview (cont)

FW: I see. When is comes to restating basic principles just remember that God is in control and remember his character as shown in the bible. For example:
1. Jehovah-jireh: *the Lord will provide* given by Abraham in Gen.22: 14
2. Jehovah-nissi: *the Lord my banner* given by Moses (Ex.17: 15)
3. Jehovah-shalom: *the Lord sends peace* given by Gideon (Jdg 6:24)
4. Jehovah-shammah: *the Lord is there* given by Ezekiel (Eze 48:35)

PH: Yes, the third thing is Apply the principles to the problem - Think about your problem in light of these basic principles. Take what you know about the character of God and bring it to bear on the problem

FW: If we as believers could remember who God is, we would trust Him more. Please go on.

PH: Finally we need to Commit the matter to God in faith - Whether you know what to do or not, leave the rest with faith in God and ask him to show it to you.

FW: So after leaving it in God's hand did God tell you what would happen to those Chaldeans?

PH: Yes, and that is where Chapter two begins. God tells me to write the vision down and to make it plain so that anyone who reads it will be able to immediately tell the answer abroad and spread it all over the land.

FW: After learning how God handles the problem how do you end your the book?

PH: After God revealed to me that the Just shall live by faith (Hab.2: 4B) *(faith in the greek means firmness, fidelity, steadfastness, steadiness).* Then I realized that God is the God of history and he has everything under control. I ended the book in prayer by asking God to show mercy to us and send revival instead of the wrath we deserve. I then praised God for bringing revival.

FW: Habakkuk thank you so much for this interview. I can't wait to get home and re-read the Book. I'm sure I will gain an even deeper understanding in light of this interview.

PH: Amen.

Worship is your Warfare (cont)

It is a benefit in our relationship with Him. Like David the Psalmist, we must cry daily...*Lord, create in me a clean heart and renew the right spirit within me.* It is to our benefit to come before Him, lift up Holy hands, forget about ourselves and worship Him. It is before Him in worship that our hearts and souls are purified for no flesh can glory in His presence. Saints, here are four points to victorious living through worship that will revolutionize your life:

1. Worship is an act of Obedience.
2. Do not give God an offering of worship that is not a sacrifice - *I Chronicles 21: 18-24*
3. Give God your best...*your best heart, your best attitude, your best thoughts*...if it is not your best, it is not a sacrifice…
4. Sacrificial and extravagant worship pleases God.

In the Old Testament, animal and blood sacrifices were made daily. But what God desires daily of us is the sacrifice of our hearts. Because His son Jesus is in our hearts, when we worship God, we are offering up His son back to Him. *Lord, give me a clean heart and renew the right spirit in me.*

As we give worship to God, we receive. We receive our cleansing, our deliverance and our breakthroughs. We WORSHIP and We WIN. Worship embodies the qualities of holiness, reverence and awe. *Warring* involves taking a stand, overcoming threat, invading territory and conquering an enemy. God is calling the Body of Christ to bridge worship and warfare. When we enter the Throne Room in heaven through worship, we are to be clothed in His authority. We ascend in WORSHIP, we descend in WARRING!! *Let the High Praises of God be in your mouth and a two-edged sword be in your hand* (Psalm 149:6). *Let Your Worship be Your Warfare and WIN!!*
Bible Trivia
(For answers see last page)

Adult Questions:

1. Which of the following rivers was not a branch of the river that watered the Garden of Eden?
   a) Gihon
   b) Tigris
   c) Euphrates
   d) Danube

2. According to the book of Hebrews, Jesus is a high priest of the order of whom?
   a) Aaron
   b) Joshua
   c) Eleazar
   d) Melchizedek

3. Who helped carry Jesus’ cross to Golgotha?
   a) Micah of Moresheth
   b) Simon of Cyrene
   c) Joseph of Arimathea
   d) Joseph of Cyprus

Children’s Questions:

1. What was the name of the first man?
   a) Fred
   b) Adam
   c) Noah
   d) John the Baptist

2. Who built the Ark to protect the animals from the Flood?
   a) Moses
   b) Abraham
   c) Noah
   d) Barney

3. In what town was Jesus born?
   a) Bethlehem
   b) Ephesus
   c) Rome
   d) Philadelphia
As I looked over the successes and challenges of my life recently and reflected on the faithfulness of God, I came to the realization that the pattern of my life has often not been the same as many of my fellow brothers and sisters in the Lord (those with as well as without collars, credentials or special callings).

How? Well, I make my boast in the Lord when I say that in the 28 years that I've been getting to know Him (especially the last 21), I have NEVER been on a spiritual roller coaster. Never sometimes up and sometimes down and almost level with the ground. Have I gone through? Yes! Have I failed? Yes! Have I sinned? Yes! But have I wallowed? Never! Not once have I ever left the Lord to try it my way. Not once have I looked at the trials and cares of life and concluded that they were his doing and so to punish him or his people I left him and them. And don't get me started talking about his people! Have I ever suffered church hurt? Can you stay in the church more than a Sunday and not risk being a victim of church hurt? Have I ever been the one to cause church hurt? Probably, but I can assure you it was never my intent. Not everyone can say that.

So what? Am I looking for an ‘boo wee button’? No, I said if I boast it’s in the Lord! I’m trying to tell you that I’m MADD; I’m a Minister Against Defeated Disciples. Why am I MADD? Because, while I’ve not walked away from God or wallowed or stayed on the roller coaster, I see people that I love often doing so. My fellow brothers and sisters in Christ (again with and without collars---some of whom I have the privilege to pastor others who don’t even know my name) seem to be too often victimized by everything but victory. And what makes matters even worse, in a sense, is that most of them don’t leave the pulpit or their Sunday School class or their usher post or the choir loft. They haven’t left the house but somehow got lost in it. Being lost in the house I believe is a silent killer of the faith of many. It looks like being present in the body by absent from the Lord. It looks like knowing church but not knowing Christ. It looks like programs but no passion or power. It looks like religion with no relationship.

Why am I MADD? Because in our defeat we are losing ground to the one who is the Defeater---and he’s not always to blame! I am MADD because I see a crisis. That’s what I see: Covenant Christians In Crisis. In crisis at home where our children hear us say and pray “In all thy ways acknowledge him” or that “evil communication corrupts good manners” but know that we’ll let them watch what they want to watch or listen to what they want to listen to or go just about anywhere they want to go when they want to and with whomever they want to. Crisis, on the job where colleagues see our spiritual paraphernalia but aren’t condemned because they see us coming in late and leaving early, ministering at two hour lunches, doing church work at work and joining in with them when they run down the boss or the company or not speaking up when other believers or Christian values are criticized. Crisis in our communities where racism is running rampant, poverty continues to be a scourge and the blight of drugs and the agendas of anti-family advocates (from abortion rights to homosexual rights to anti-church rights supporters) have driven us to prayer meetings instead of to city council meetings. Crisis in our lives where we are often struggling to make ends meet but aren’t paying our tithes or our taxes. Never having to lend and always needing to borrow. Never knowing what it means to be the ahead financially or spiritually or academically or relationally---or when we do it’s not for long.

(Continued next page)
I believe this crisis is the reason for unsustained and stunted victory in the life of the believer and am concerned that in these end times it may be one of the greatest factors in what appears to be the continued moral decline in America and in the world. The crisis can and must end; but first it must be understood.

I am convinced that the crises covenant Christians are facing is one of commitment, character, conscience and/or compromise. Commitment in action is demonstrated in Matthew 6:33 where we are commanded to seek first the kingdom of God. Commitment sounds like David's proclamation in Psalm 27:4, “One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after”. Commitment has the testimony of Jesus Christ in John 8:29, “I do always those things that please [my Father]”. Are covenant Christians in 2003 committed? If not, they're in crisis.

Character is assessed in Galatians 5:22-23 as ‘love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance”. We know these as the fruit of the spirit, the umbrella of which is love. In the end times, Matthew 24:12 warns that ‘the love of many will wax cold (because iniquity will abound). Has the love of covenant Christians waxed cold? If it does, they can't bear fruit. They are in crisis.

Conscience and compromise are in a sense part and parcel of the same principle: knowing who and what you believe and sticking to it no matter what. Are the covenant Christians in crisis included in the number of folks who are described in Ephesians 4:14 as being tossed to and fro and carried away by every wind of doctrine? If Christians don't align their conscience with God's will and word or if they tend to be conformed to the world instead of being transformed by the renewing of their minds they will find themselves in crisis. Crisis can be defined as ‘a crucial or decisive point or situation; a turning point’ or “A point when a conflict reaches its highest tension and must be resolved”. We're there. It's decision time.

### Vacation Bible School 2003

The 2003 Vacation Bible School was held from July 28th to August 1st. The theme for VBS 2003 at Faith To Face Ministries this year was ‘The Kingdom Comes Through me.” Five classes were held this summer: the beginners’ class (ages 3-5) was taught by Sis. Cindy, the children's class (ages 6-8) was taught by Sis. Ashley, the juniors’ class (ages 9-12) was taught by Sis. Kim, the seniors (ages 13-18) were taught by Pastor Dean and the adult class (19 and up) was taught by Mother Wilson.

Each day the children's classes enjoyed activities like tag and volleyball games from 5:15 to 5:55pm, followed by a short time of prayer before starting VBS.

The key scripture was Romans 14:17 – “For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.” It was important to learn that the kingdom of God is in every believer, and that we should share God's word so that others can be healed and set free by the power of the kingdom.

The final day of VBS week allowed each class to show off what they had learned in an innovative way. Presentations included songs, recitations, and arts and crafts.
Students received awards for their educational excellence both in Sunday School and at local schools and universities.

Children are one of the most valuable resources in the kingdom of God. With that in mind, the Education Ministry led a special youth program each Wednesday evening from June 25 - July 23 to encourage our children to grow in Christ. The program included topics such as: Being an Effective Christian, Community Service, Prayer for the Nations, and Witnessing and Evangelism. Youth members had opportunities to make fruit baskets for our neighbors, pray for local, national and international leaders, and to canvas our local neighborhood while sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Efforts by our youth greatly impacted our annual Vacation Bible School held from July 28 - August 1. This week of fun, fellowship and training proved to be an awesome outreach opportunity where we ministered to children and adults throughout the Southern Tier.

The new school year got off to a great start as we sponsored the Homework Assistance and Tutoring Program (HATP) Kickoff on Wednesday, September 3 during our Bible Study Fellowship. Parents and students were encouraged to ask for help when needed, seek the resources that are available to them, and knock on the door of heaven with the expectation that they would abundantly receive. We stand in anticipation for great things as we support the educational and spiritual development of Faith to Face Ministries members and friends.

(Continued next page)
Finance/Benevolence

We are excited about how the Lord has allowed us to create an effective team. We are determined to manage with excellence the resources that have been given for building the kingdom of God. This year we have divided the team into four areas:

- **Accounts Payable** - handle disbursements of all funds; balance checking, savings & credit accounts. Generate weekly, semi & yearly reports.
- **Accounts Receivable** - account and input all resources given in the ministry. Generate weekly, semi & yearly reports.
- **Counters** – two teams that are responsible to count resources every other month. Each team is lead by a Head cashier that oversees weekly scheduling, receiving and counting all resources.
- **Benevolence** - There are 4 counselors that are being trained to assist our partners when in need.

We were successful in giving each of our partners a semi-annual giving report. We have revised some of our systems and have reduced the cost to the ministry. We have dedicated, prayer attending, tithers & givers that sacrifice of their time to work in this cluster. Go team!

Multimedia Services

The Multimedia Services ministry has been busy this past quarter. The Sound Team is continuing to train new members and obtain new equipment to enable us to better serve the needs of the ministry. Look for the dedicated members of the Sound Team during the MOVERS & SHAKERS Conference, making sure that faith can come by the hearing of God’s word.

The IT/Support team is continually working to keep FaithToFace.Org up to date and easy to use. Check out the newly added Father’s Day and Student Appreciation photo albums. In addition, the newly-formed Editorial team has been busy putting together the product you now hold in your hand! Faith Walk will be published four times a year and available for download from FaithToFace.Org.

Feature References

Interview with Habbakkuk:
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http://www.calvarychapel.com/simivaley/library_commentaries.html

Bible Trivia:
"My Final Answer Bible Trivia" by Paul Kent
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\[\text{Bible Trivia Answers:}\\ \text{Adult: 1-D, 2-D, 3-B}\\ \text{Children: 1-B, 2-C, 3-A}\\\]

The Faith Walk Staff

Ricardo Rowe – Editor
Cindy Joe – Staff Writer
Michael Joe – Staff Writer
Andrea Ogunwumi – Staff Writer
Peter Ogunwumi – Staff Writer
Wendy Rowe – Staff Writer

Faith To Face Ministries, Inc.
35 Tuxill Ave.
(607) 937-6222
www.faithtoface.org
faithwalk@faithtoface.org