

# NOTICES

- NEW CHURCH YEAR**  
All church members are encouraged to consider their service in the local church for the new church year with a view to increase their usefulness for the work of the ministry. There will be many areas of service opening up. Begin to pray now about the areas in which you will volunteer your service. **"I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."** Isaiah 6:8
- ADULT PRAISE ENSEMBLE**  
All members of the Adult Praise Ensemble are advised of a rehearsal this Saturday at 5:00 p.m. at Central. Please be punctual.
- ACTEENS CLUB MEETING**  
All members of the Acteens Club are reminded of their meeting on Friday, 5th October, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at Central. Be sure to bring your Bible, notebook and a pen. Please be punctual.
- RESCUE THE PERISHING**  
All church members are encouraged to be faithful with their evangelistic responsibilities, for without it we are actually useless to the kingdom of God. Let is not violate, with a sin of omission, the Great Commission of our Lord in Matthew 28:19-20. Remember to turn in, to your Sunday School teacher, a record of your stewardship in this matter each Sunday morning.
- CONTINUE TO GIVE**  
Even though we have dedicated and entered the new chapel of the Covenant Baptist Church, there is still much work to be done and bills to be paid. **Please continue to give to the Lay-A-Block Fund until we are in the clear.**

## ELDERSHIP

Pastor Dr. Hensworth W.C. Jonas (Presiding)	773-0242
	461-7757
Pastor Ivor J. Walker	464-1644
	461-1414
Pastor Orvin D.E. Paige	772-6314
	560-5543

## DIRECTORY

Central Baptist Church	462-2894
Tyrells Baptist Church	460-3557
Covenant Baptist Church	561-4022
Baptist Academy	Office: 462-2894
Baptist Retreat Centre	Fax: 462-6029
	463-8801

# TARRY IN PRAYER

## GENERAL MINISTRY NEEDS

Elders, Deacons, and their families  
Baptist Academy of Antigua  
E.C.B.M. Ministries & Staff  
Evangelistic Ministries  
"Sovereign Grace Hour" (ABS TV & Abundant Life Radio)

## CHURCH FAMILY

**HEALTH:** Sis. Cassilda Williams, Sis. M. Gardner, Sis. Gertrude Butters, Sis. Rhonda Grant, Bro. & Sis. Nigel Pilgrim

**PRIVATE CONCERNS:** Sis. Clara Lewis, Sis. Marsha Lay, Sis. Sharon Carty, Sis. P. Skerritt, Bro. & Sis. Carl Jarvis, Bro. & Sis. Nigel Pilgrim

**THANKSGIVING:** Sis. Clara Lewis, Sis. Marsha Lay, Sis. Otesia Melville, Sis. M. Hurst, Sis. Claudia Lewis, Dea. & Sis. David Jarvis, Sis. Norma Grant, Bro. & Sis. Carl Jarvis, Sis. Clarissa Lewis, Bro. & Sis. Charlesworth Dowdie

**NEW MEMBERS:** Sis. Claire Tonge, Sis. Rosa-Lidia Audain, Sis. Marsha Lay, Sis. Deborah Jefferally, Bro. Wendell Audain

**SAFETY IN PREGNANCY:** Sis. Myra Hughes, Sis. Suzette Dowdie

**TRAVEL:** Sis. Rhonda Grant, Deacon E. Skerritt

**SHUT-IN:** Bro. Isaiah James

**WATCH CARE:** Sis. Christophene Daniel, Sis. Edith McCoy, Sis. Enid Matthew, Bro. Claude Jeremiah

## OTHER CONCERNS

**SAVING GRACE:** Noah & Thea-lee Hurst; Arvel Grant, Sr.; Arvel Grant Jr.; Lionel Gomes; Brian Breianna & Theo Blair; Jamol Pilgrim; Arah Sheridan; Joshua Joseph; Sharon London; Albert Mayers; Jillian Edwards; Jamie Robinson; Sonia Edwards, Gloria Antonio;

**HEALTH:** Lionel Gomes

**NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS:** Mahalia Matthew, Kenneth Henry, Shaquille Charles, Stephen Jarvis Jr., Rashauna Matthew, Corinthia Lewis, Annstachia Barlow, Ceon Barlow, Althea Gage

# THIS WEEK

- |       |            |                                     |
|-------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sun.  | 8:00 a.m.  | Sovereign Grace Hour (ABS TV)       |
|       | 8:00 a.m.  | Worship: Tyrells & Covenant         |
|       | 9:00 a.m.  | Sunday School: Central              |
|       | 9:45 a.m.  | Sunday School: Tyrells & Covenant   |
|       | 10:00 a.m. | Worship: Central                    |
| Tues. | 3:00 p.m.  | Sovereign Grace Hour (ALR 103.9 FM) |
| Wed.  | 7:00 p.m.  | Prayer Service: All Churches        |
|       | 7:45 p.m.  | Fellowship Groups: All Churches     |
| Fri.  | 9:00 a.m.  | Sovereign Grace Hour (ALR 103.9 FM) |
|       | 6:30 p.m.  | Acteens Club: Central               |
| Sat.  | 5:00 p.m.  | Adult Praise Ensemble: Central      |

# FAMILY NEWS

Baptist Circuit of Churches, ECBM  
P.O. Box 2678, St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda  
E-mail: [admin@baptistantigua.org](mailto:admin@baptistantigua.org)  
Website: [www.baptistantigua.org](http://www.baptistantigua.org)  
Dr. Hensworth W.C. Jonas, Pastor/Presiding Elder

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## DO YOU THIRST FOR GOD?

Part 2

Points from Part 1:

### THREE KINDS OF SPIRITUAL THIRST

- Thirst of the empty soul.** Though it is not felt every moment, in some sense there is a thirst in every soul.

### Thirst of the Dry Soul

The difference between the empty soul and the dry soul is that one has never experienced "rivers of living water" (John 7:38) while the other has and knows what he is missing. That is not to say that the dry soul can lose the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, indeed Jesus said that "the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life [John 4:14, emphasis added].

How is it then that a true believer in Christ can become a dry soul when Jesus promised that "whoever drinks of the water I shall give him will never thirst" (John 4:14)?

Pastor/author John Piper was reading this verse one Monday morning and cried out, "What do you mean? I am so thirsty! My church is thirsty! The pastors whom I pray with are thirsty! O Jesus, what did you mean?"

As he meditated on the text, the illumination which seemed to come from the Lord upon His Word was perceived by Piper this way:

When you drink my water, your thirst is not destroyed forever. If it did that, would you feel any need of my water afterward? That is not my goal. I do not want

## From The Pulpit...



- Bro. Charles Grant will preach at Tyrells at 8:00 a.m. on the topic "Maintaining A Good Conscience" based on Romans 12:1-2.
- Pastor Ivor Walker will preach at Covenant at 8:00 a.m. on the topic "Evaluating Your Worship" based on Luke 13:10-17.
- Pastor Orvin Paige will preach at Central at 10:00 a.m. on the topic "Is Anything Too Hard For God?" based on Genesis 18:9-15.

self-sufficient saints. When you drink my water, it makes a spring in you. A spring satisfies thirst, not by removing the need you have for water, but by being there to give you water whenever you get thirsty. Again and again and again. Like this morning. So drink, John. Drink."

A Christian soul becomes arid in one of three ways. The most common is by drinking too much from the desiccating fountains of the world and too little from "the river of God" (Psalm 65:9). If you drink the wrong thing it can make you even more thirsty. In particularly hot weather, my high school football coach would give us salt tablets to help us minimize the loss of fluids. During one game he experimented with stirring salt into our drinking water, hoping the diluted form would expedite the benefits of the salt. Bad idea. At halftime I drank until my stomach swelled and I was too heavy to run well, yet I was still thirsty.

Similarly, perhaps it was because the psalmist had drunk too much of the world's briny spiritual water

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that he wrote twice in one chapter about longing for God with all his heart while closely asserting his resolve not to wander from the Lord's Word (see Psalm 119:10, 145). Too much attention to a particular sin or sins, and/or too little attention to communion with God (two things which often occur in tandem) inevitably shrivel the soul of a Christian.

Another cause of spiritual dryness in the child of God is what the Puritans used to call "God's desertions." While there are times God floods our souls with a sense of His presence, at other times we dehydrate by a sense of His absence. Let me quickly say that His desertion of us is merely our perception, for the reality is just as Jesus promised: "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). When feeling deserted by God, however, the Christian believes himself to be in the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 23:4), or somewhat like Jesus when He cried from the cross, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Matthew 27:46). The words of David in Psalm 143:6-7 describe the emotions of those who try to pray from such a spiritual desert: "I spread out my hands to You; my soul longs for You like a thirsty land. Answer me speedily, O Lord; my spirit fails! Do not hide Your face from me, . . ." (Psalm 143:6-7).

For reasons not always made clear to us, the Lord does sometimes withdraw a conscious sense of His nearness. Since this is not the place for a lengthy treatment of the subject, the best concise counsel I could offer is that of William Gurnall: "The Christian must trust in a withdrawing God." 4 When the sun goes behind a cloud it is no less near than when its rays are felt. However, for the specific purposes of this book and chapter, remember that it is a good thing that you are able to discern the seclusion of God's presence. Such spiritual sensitivity characterizes spiritual health.

A third cause of spiritual aridity in a Christian is prolonged mental or physical fatigue. Both cause and cure are usually obvious enough, so I won't elaborate on them. What I do want to emphasize is that a believer may not sense spiritual growth when fatigued or burned-out, but instead brood under shadowy thoughts about the reality of his relationship with Christ. And yet, much may have been learned in the very battle that caused the fatigue, things which, when the sunlight returns to the soul, will be seen as significant spiritual turning points. Again, don't forget


that the longing for fresh water is itself a sign of progress.

Regardless of the cause, the dry Christian soul is like the believer of Psalm 42:1-2, thirsting for God "As a deer pants for the water brooks." When you are in this condition, nothing else but the living water of God Himself will do. My daughter was three when she separated herself from me while we were in a child-oriented restaurant. She wanted to play with some of the game machines instead of eating. Though she had run to the far side of the restaurant, I could see her and was following to return her to the table. Suddenly she realized she didn't know where she was or where I was. Panic-stricken, she began crying and calling for me. The store manager could have offered her unlimited play on every machine and given her every toy prize in the place, but nothing would have appealed to her without my presence. Everything else was meaningless to her without me. Once we were reunited, for a few moments she was content just for me to hold her, just to have me back. That's the cry of the dry soul. Other things may have distracted you, but now the only thing that matters is a return of the sense of your Father's presence.

—Donald Whitney

Part 3 will be in the next issue of the Family News

### Memory Verses For Next Week

 Pre-school — Matthew 11:28  
Elementary — Hebrews 13:5  
Secondary & Adults — Galatians 6:7

**Happy Birthday!!!** 

*Rykiel Joseph, Tyrells—Today!*

*Christine Marcellus, Tyrells—1st October*

*Kingsley Irish Jr., Tyrells—2nd October*  
*Sis. Cassandra Jarvis, Central—2nd October*  
*Sis. Brittney McDonald, Central—2nd October*

*Sis. Selina Grant, Tyrells—3rd October*  
*Rekeem Joseph, Covenant—3rd October*

*Bro. Abner Marcellus, Tyrells—6th October*



## MUSIC MINISTRY



**Praise ye the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being. — Psalm 146:1-2**

**1. We are destined to win/**We're surrounded by His love/Guarded by His power/Destined to win/Following the Lord until the battle's over/We are destined to win.

**2. Father of Life draw me closer/** Lord my heart is set on You/ Let me run the race of time/ With Your life enfolding mine/ And let the peace of God/ Let it reign.

Oh Holy Spirit, Lord, my comfort/ Strengthen me, hold my head up high/ And I stand upon Your truth/ Bringing glory unto You/ And let the peace of God/ Let it reign.

*Oh Lord I hunger for more of You/ Rise up within me/ Let me know Your truth/ O Holy Spirit saturate my soul/ And let the life of God fill me now/ Let Your healing power breathe life and make me whole/ And let the peace of God/ Let it reign.*

**3. There is peace in the midst of my storm-tossed life/** Oh, there's an Anchor, there's a Rock to cast my faith upon/ Jesus rides in my vessel so I'll fear no alarm/ He gives me peace in the midst of my storm!

**4. It will be worth it all when we see Jesus/** Life's trials will seem so small when we see Christ/ One glimpse of His dear face all sorrow will erase/ So bravely run the race till we see Christ.

**5. Turn your eyes upon Jesus/** Look full in His wonderful face/ And the things of earth/ Will grow strangely dim/ In the light of His glory and grace.

Keep your eyes upon Jesus/ And others will not take His place/ But through every hour/ He will give you power/ 'Til at last you have run the straight race.

**6. The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases/** His mercies never come to an end/ They are new ev'ry morning, new ev'ry morning/ Great is thy faithfulness, O Lord/ Great is Thy faithfulness.

**7. Rejoice, rejoice, God is on our side/** Rejoice, rejoice the victory is ours/ Jesus is great and glorious, reigning forever on high/ Jesus is our victorious Champion, Conquering King, exalted on high.

**8. Because He lives I can face tomorrow/** Because He lives all fear is gone/ Because I know He holds the future/ And life is worth the living just because He lives.

**9. Whom have I in heaven but You/** There is nothing on earth I desire beside You/ My heart and my strength,

many times they fail/ But there is one truth that always will prevail.

*God is the strength of my heart/ God is the strength of my heart/ God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever, forever.*

**10. God will make a way/** Where there seems to be no way/ He works in ways we cannot see/ He will make a way for me/ He will be my guide/ Hold me closely to His side/ With love and strength for each new day/ He will make a way/ God will make a way.

**11. It is You, it is You/** It is You that I love/ It is You, my Lord and King/ I apprehend to know and be known.

You, it is You/It is You that I worship/ Holy, holy, worthy, yes, You're worthy/ How I love You, Lord.

**12. Be glorified, be glorified/** Be glorified in the heavens/ Be glorified in the earth/ Be glorified in this temple/ Jesus, Jesus, be Thou glorified/ Jesus, Jesus, be Thou glorified.

Worship the Lord, worship the Lord/ Worship the Lord in the heavens/ Worship the Lord in the earth/ Worship the Lord in this temple/ Jesus, Jesus, be Thou glorified/ Jesus, Jesus, be Thou glorified.

**13. He is Lord; He is Lord/** He is risen from the dead/ And He is Lord/ Every knee shall bow and every tongue confess/ That Jesus Christ is Lord.

**14. To Thee we ascribe glory/** To Thee we ascribe honour/ To Thee we ascribe power and majesty/ Holy is the Lord.

Morning Hymns		
Tyrells #14, #299	Central #102, #204	Covenant #30, #348
Evening Hymns		
Tyrells #171	Central #201	Covenant #214

## Baby Dedication

We celebrate with Bro. Cornelius Charles and Sister Joy Charles on the dedication of their daughter, **Olivia Cornelia Christine**. She was dedicated Saturday 29th September, 2007.

*"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for such is the kingdom of God"*

—Matthew 10:14