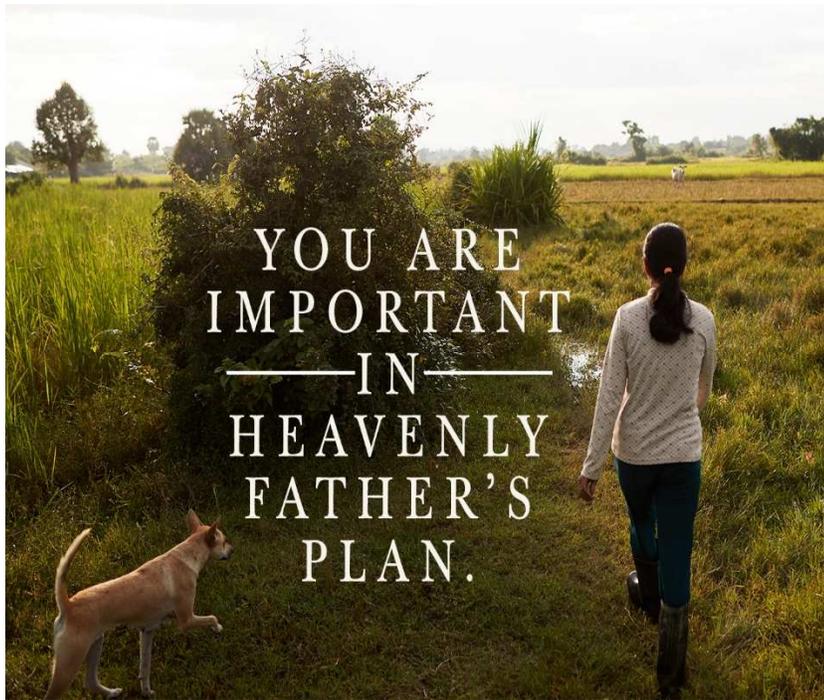


***The HBC Weekly Forecast***  
***Hilton Baptist Church. [www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org](http://www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org)***  
***101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601***



*“Don’t be afraid,” he said, “for you are very precious to God. Peace!  
Be encouraged! Be strong!” Daniel 10:19*

In week one of our “Tough AS Nails Series” we spoke of the importance of “Standing Out.” In weeks two & three we learned about “Standing Up” & “Standing Strong.” This Sunday we’ll look at “Standing In Faith” in whatever situation the enemy brings against your life.

Sometimes we are up against situations in life which may seem insurmountable to us. Daniel saw a vision of how the world was going to end and was so frightened he was shaking. An angel placed his hand on Daniel’s shoulder and reminded him of a few things.

Don’t be afraid. That is a command, not a suggestion. Our ongoing walk in the power of the Holy Spirit prepares us to meet any challenge. We may not always see an instant breakthrough or miracle, but as children of God, we do not need to fear. God treasures us. He loves us very dearly and He will take care of us!

***“Join us live at HBC 10:00 am this Sunday for a sanitized and safe worship experience – Or tune into Facebook Live & join in with our virtual worship experience – Invite a friend!***



## ***You Are Greatly Loved!***

*“We all, at one time or another, once lived among the disobedient in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved.” Ephesians 2:3–5*

Would you not love to hear the angel Gabriel say to you, “*You are greatly loved*”?

Three times this happened to Daniel.

*“At the beginning of your pleas for mercy a word went out, and I have come to tell it to you, for you are greatly loved.” (Daniel 9:23)*

*“O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you.” (Daniel 10:11)*

*And he said, “O man greatly loved, fear not, peace be with you; be strong and of good courage.” (Daniel 10:19)*

I admit that each year when I read through the Bible and come to these verses, I want to take them and apply them to myself. I want to hear God saying to me, “*You are greatly loved.*”

In fact, I do hear this. And you can hear it too. If you have faith in Jesus, God himself says to you in his word — which is more sure than an angel of God speaking — “*You are greatly loved.*”

There it stands in Ephesians 2:3–5, 8: We “*were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ. . . . For by grace you have been saved through faith.*”

This is the only place where Paul uses this wonderful phrase “*great love.*” And it is better than an angel’s voice. It is the very voice of God speaking His love directly to you!

If you have seen Jesus as true and received him as your supreme treasure, that is, if you are “*alive,*” you are greatly loved. Greatly loved by the Creator of the universe. Just think of it! Greatly loved!

*On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood*

# The Hilton Baptist Church Record

## Lynwood Wells, Pastor

May 11, 2021

Budget \$3007.00

Annie Armstrong \$10.00

PBA Offering \$24.00

Cash in Cash in– Building Fund in Memory of Becky Smith \$100.00

Total Deposit \$3141.00



Another Way to Give

**You are invited to “Tommie Peake’s Birthday**

**Parade celebrating her 80th Birthday!**

**Monday, May 17th between 3-4pm**

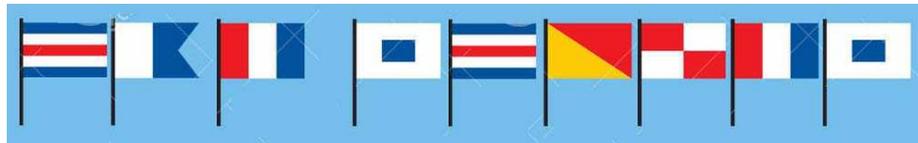


Where: The Chesapeake Retirement Community

955 Harpersville Road, Newport News

(Directions: Turn onto Slackwater Circle, Take immediate right onto Bay Haven Court, Take first right to 207 Leeward Way, Gloucester Cottages)

RSVP by May 14– email [mspink2@cox.net](mailto:mspink2@cox.net) or 757-544-4475



**Vacation Bible School August 9th– 13th**

**6:00pm– 8:30pm**

Table Captains are needed.

Please contact Dreama to let her know if you can help.



**Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226**

**Serve The City**

Visit [STC peninsula.com](http://STCpeninsula.com) to sign up for opportunities to serve.

Elmerton Cemetery Maintenance 5/23/21 2pm-4pm

**WMU Focus**

WMU Missions Focus for May— Peninsula Carenet Pregnancy

Accepting baby items such as diapers, Diaper Bags, lotions, wipes,

Blanket's etc. All Items are due at the church by May 23rd so they can be taken to Carenet Pregnancy. Anyone that has a bottle left from before, you can also turn that in and we will take it with the items.

**Food Pantry at HBC**

HBC gives food away on Tuesdays and Thursday. See Sue Monfalcone to volunteer and for more information on how you can help.

Restock the pantry— Sunday, May 30th

**Pray for Our Missionaries**

CM (Central Asian People) Misty Sargent (East Asian People) DD (European People) MC, RM, JW (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) GC, BK (Southeast Asian People) Josh McCarty (CO) Karlie Hale (OH) Karen Ramber (OK)

**Sedgefield Elementary**

We will be blessing the teachers of Sedgefield Elementary School one final time before the end of the School year. Please bring your individually wrapped snacks to the church by Sunday, June 6th. Also we encourage everyone to write a note of appreciation for their work and put it in the mission outreach corner. You can drop off your items and notes through the week (Mon-Thurs) when the office is open if you do not attend on Sundays

***Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!***

## Calendar

### Tuesday, May 11th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

6:30pm Vision Team Meeting

### Wednesday, May 12th

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

### Thursday, May 13th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

### Sunday, May 16th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

### Tuesday, May 18th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

### Wednesday, May 19th

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

### Thursday, May 20th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

### Sunday, May 23rd

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Celebration of Lynwood Wells

20 years anniversary

### Reminder! Sunday, May 23rd— We will

be honoring Pastor Lynwood in the morning worship service for 20 years of service at HBC. Please plan to attend this special service

### Do you shop on Amazon?

If you do... sign in with [smile. Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Choose Hilton Baptist Church as the organization that you want to support. A percentage of your purchase will come to Hilton Baptist.



### Happy Birthday for the next two weeks

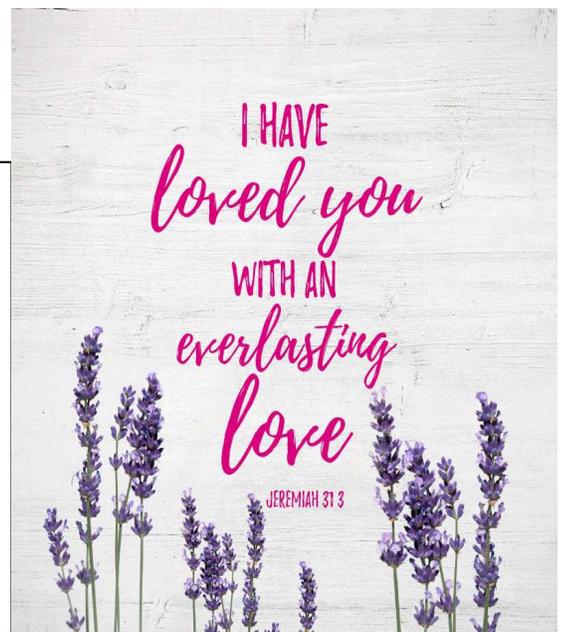
5/11 Beverly Hudson

5/14 Lynwood Wells

5/15 Mary Ann Schell

5/17 Tommie Peake

5/19 Donald Moore





## ***The Potter & The Clay***

When Jewish potters make new pots, they set aside the very best pots and pottery for special treatment. After they put their name on the underside of these extra good pieces, they put them away in a cold, damp room for storage, away from the public view. It is only when the more selective buyers ask for the 'very best' of the potter's products that the craftsman will retrieve the chosen pots from their hidden storage place.

When Gods spoke to Jeremiah, in chapter 6: 1-8, he obeyed and went down. He saw the potter working on the wheel. The Hebrew word for wheel implies two wheels (dual form).

Potters typically used a device with a lower stone wheel fastened on a vertical shaft with a small wooden wheel above. The potter would sit turning the large stone wheel with his feet while shaping the clay on the small wooden wheel.

To express verse 4 with the meaning of the Hebrew verbs, *“Whenever the pot he was shaping was spoiled, as happens with clay in the hands of the potter, he would remake it into another vessel, shaping it as seemed best to him.”*

Spoiled, marred, ruined vessels were not tossed aside and discarded in favor of those that emerged perfect. They were remade! God can mend cracked pots!

When we are being “shaped” by God, we often try to thwart the purpose of the potter. The clay often presses against the potter's hand as it goes around. The potter controls the opposing force with pressure if he wants a useful pot.

God kneads, pushes, presses and pulls us into shape, but He never throws us away. He says to Israel in verse 6, *“O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?”* Isn't this what He says to us as well? Can we not say, “Yes, Lord. Form me into Your image. Do whatever it takes. I want to be like you!”

*“Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand (Isaiah 64:8).*

There are things we must practice as we are being shaped by the hand of God. There are ways we can get the greatest benefit out of these times of refinement. This is the time to trust completely in God for He knows exactly what He is doing. He is making you into a masterpiece for His glory. Learn to trust Him day by day. Remember that you are in the potter's hands - God is working at the wheel of your life in every detail.



### ***It's How You Finish***

I look around at my group of friends that I have started and run the race of faith with. Through the years, how much smaller the group has become!

Have we forgotten the most basic truth of our Christian experience? We must run with perseverance that race that is ours to run. Will we finish the race? Will we have a strong finish? Christianity is not so concerned with how we start as much as it is concerned with how we finish.

It's not how you start out; it's how you finish up. Abraham started out as a liar, but he ended up as the father of the faithful. It's not how you start out; it's how you finish up. Sarah started out as barren, but she ended up as the only senior citizen in the maternity ward.

It's not how you start out; it's how you finish up. Rahab started out as a prostitute, but she ended up in the family tree of the Prince of Peace. Mary Magdalene started out consumed by evil spirits, but she ended up as one of the first witnesses to the resurrection. It's not how you start out; it's how you finish up. Paul started out as a violent persecutor, but he ended up as a gospel globetrotter. It's not how you start out; it's how you finish up.

I started out as a sinner, but now by grace, I am a son of the living God. And through that grace, while I may not come in leading the pack, at least I can say I am still running and I am on my way to the finish line. How about you? How is your race going?

### ***Two Inconvenient Truths Of Lukewarm Christianity***

First is the truth that your relationship with Christ is your responsibility; it is your journey. Our Lord appointed the Holy Spirit as a helper in this journey, and He also gave some other human helpers, but you gravely misunderstand this faith if you believe it is a helper's job to spoon-feed you the depth of revelation and intimacy needed. The true element of communion is never a rose or a light airy white wine. It is always crimson and rich in color to remind us of the truth in the blood it represents.



Second is that living according to a truth-driven lifestyle is a necessity for anyone hoping to change the lukewarm temperature in their spiritual life. Nobody can sustain intimacy with the Father, authority before man, and relevance in this age devoid of a daily choice to not be swayed off of the rock of truth. It doesn't just "simply happen," rather, it is a worthy experience which must be fought for and pursued. We must teach ourselves to believe that lifestyles and experiences outlined to us by the Bible are not polite suggestions. They are requirements of the faith.

## ***Thermometer Or Thermostat***

Have you ever thought about the difference between a thermometer and a thermostat? A thermometer changes with circumstances – it reacts. A thermostat changes the circumstances – it regulates.



The same could be said for the way people respond to life's challenges. Some let circumstances control them and they often feel like victims. But others experience life on a more even keel. Circumstances may become difficult! But they're constantly overcoming those difficult circumstances. They weather the storms with the confidence that circumstances have no power to defeat them.

Which are you? A thermometer, constantly up and down? Or a thermostat, strong and unshakeable? Are you a victor or a victim?

I find that people who have a strong personal relationship with Jesus Christ experience great strength and inner peace no matter what their circumstances. They don't see themselves as victims, but always as victors! It's a real key to victorious Christian living. 1 John 5:5 says, "And who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God."



## ***Dealing with Strongholds***

Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 10:4-5, "*Pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.*" What are you to pull down?

Strongholds: areas of your life that are held in the grip of the enemy. What are you to cast down and take captive? Thoughts: thinking that doesn't line up with God's Word or submit to the rule of Christ in your life.

Recognize you are in a war. You are a new creation, yet your old nature will constantly try to reestablish control over you. Don't let it. So long as it reigns in your life, Christ's seat is taken. If it is on the throne, Christ is still on the cross. Put Christ on the throne and your past on the cross!

In the Old Testament, a priest could not come into God's presence if he had touched anything dead (see Leviticus 22:3-4). If you are going to walk with God, you must bury your old lifestyle. It also means forgiving those who hurt you, including yourself, then moving on.

The issue is not *whether* you remember, but *how* you remember. God is able to take the sting out of the memory and leave us healed and redeemed. No longer will you be handicapped or hindered by what you've been through or by what you've done; instead you'll be enriched by it!

## *Life Is But A Dream...*

*“Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream...  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Life is but a dream...”*

What a crazy, silly song we all learned as children!

I don't know about you, but the time I find myself the most disoriented, confused and challenged are those first, foggy, early morning moments between deep REM sleep and the sound of my alarm clock. If it's been a rare restless night of worrisome dreams, then waking up is a relief and welcomed. If it has been one of my more common fun-filled, fanciful nights of Disney-like sleep adventures, I'd rather hit the snooze button, pull the covers over my head and linger a few more minutes peacefully.

The first time I heard the song, *“Live Like You Were Dying,”* I remember being lulled restfully at how well the lyrics and melody were matched with one another. The first verse ticked like a metronome...

*“I was in my early forties...  
With a lot of life before me...  
And a moment came that stopped me on a dime...”*

It was rhythmic, predictable, as if the songwriter had secretly snuck inside of me and was listening to the inside clock of my life going “tick-tock,” “tick-tock...” But then the melody changed, the percussion paused, and something was telling me that an alarm was set and about to go off.

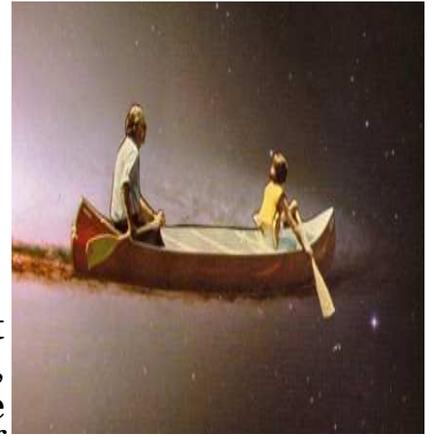
It was as if God giving was me a wake-up call. I found myself trying to put off the moment, ready to hit the snooze button even before the alarm sounded. I didn't want to wake up, because I felt myself thinking and experiencing the things I would only do in my dreams.

I must have been pushed out of the airplane because I would have never jumped on my own. Now I was skydiving! I was Rocky Mountain climbing! I was going for a thrilling ride of 2.7 seconds on a bull named “Fu Manchu!”

Then any fear or apprehension I might have felt naturally gave way to sheer exhilaration. In my helpless abandon, I was free falling into a love deeper than I had ever known. My words were sweet as they flowed effortlessly and graciously from my heart and not my head. Forgiveness rushed like a rocket exhaust from my soul's recesses, freeing me to fly and soar even with my fall. And as my arms flung from my side like wings on a bird, it was as if I could embrace eternity!

Ah... But I should wake up... It's just a crazy, silly song, like...*“Row, row, row your boat, Gently down the stream, Life is but a dream!...”*

*Or is it?*



## ***Generous And Compassionate***

*“I command you, ‘You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.’”  
Deuteronomy 15:11*

As His people approached the Promised Land, God repeatedly declared His desire to bless them. He assured them He would provide for their every need. He warned that they would face enemies but promised to defeat them.



When God gave His commandments, He did so for the good and benefit of His people. As long as they obeyed His principles, He would cause them to be in health and to prosper. But beyond the promise of individual blessing there was another side to these promises.

While His people could now look forward to receiving His blessings, they were also now encouraged to practice giving, and not just receive for themselves. They were to remember to be sensitive to the needs of others.

The people of the covenant were now specifically being called to be known as a people of compassion, looking for ways to help. And they were to be generous about using the resources they were given. They needed to realize that He was going to bless them specifically so that that they might be a blessing to others.

Demonstrating the same principle, Jesus continually was concerned about meeting needs. Everywhere we see Him in the gospels, we see Him being motivated by compassion. He provided for the crowds, as He taught them and healed their sick (Matthew 9:36, Matthew 15:32). He reminded His disciples that just as they had freely received; they were to freely give (Matthew 10:8).

God knows that this is contrary to our human nature. We all recognize that some people are hoarders. Others are stingy, holding on to the things they have been given, reluctant to share.

But the Bible teaches us the importance of being compassionate. Being motivated by mercy. As Moses directed Israel, they were to be people who cared, and showed kindness.

This same principle applies to us. We are to look around, always sensitive to needs. Then as God directs, we are to open our hand, and help others in whatever ways we can.

In your life, look for opportunities to be a blessing. Realize that God has blessed you that you might be a blessing to others. Be an ambassador of His love.



## *Like A Hypocrite*

Ray Stedman told about a young man who had stopped attending the church Ray was pastoring. The young man said that when he was at work he would sometimes lose his temper and treat co-workers poorly. Then, when Sunday rolled around, he didn't want to go to church because he felt like a hypocrite.

Stedman told his young friend, "A hypocrite is someone who acts like something he isn't. When you come to church, you are acting like a Christian. You are not a hypocrite at church."

Suddenly, the young man realized where he was being a hypocrite. He recognized that the answer was not in avoiding church but in changing the way he was at work.

The term hypocrite is from a Greek word that means "play-actor." It means we pretend to be something we aren't. Sometimes we forget our true identity as believers in Jesus. We forget that we are accountable to God. When we do that, we live the way we "once walked" (Eph. 2:2) and thus are hypocrites.

Let's not let our old ways make us act like someone we're not. Instead, through God's grace, let's live in a way that shows we are "alive together with Christ" (v.5). That's a sure cure for hypocrisy.

## *One Last Laugh...*

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands.

He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

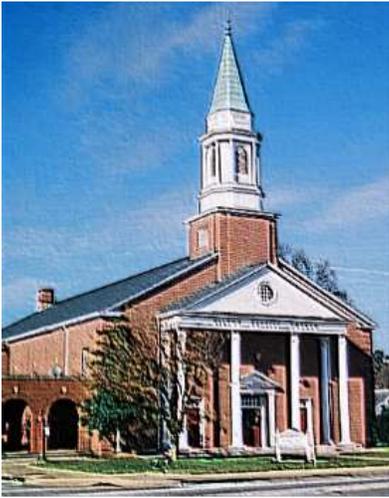
The Pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

My friend replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor."

Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."





## **“God’s House vs. Our House”**

*“Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?” – [Haggai 1:3-4](#)*

In the world today, we must not be discouraged by the struggle it takes to build Christ’s church. The forces of the devil will try to overcome it, but Jesus will prevail ([Matthew 16:18](#)).

Remember what Jesus said: *“Seek first [God’s] kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”* ([Matthew 6:33](#)).

It’s not that God necessarily wants us to live in a bleak apartment without beautiful paneling. But if that’s what it takes to build God’s kingdom, we must be willing to sacrifice. Our treasures are in heaven!

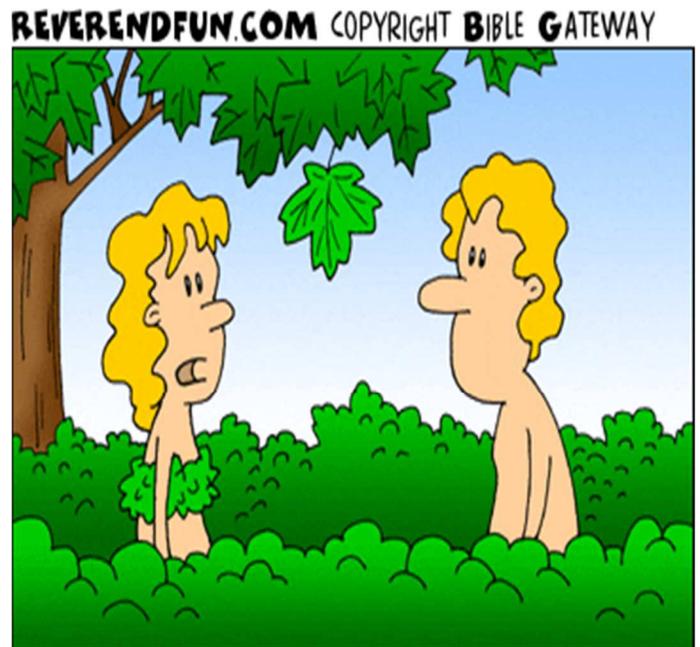
Giving to and receiving back from God is not a gimmick or magic formula – It is a lifestyle wherein you open your life fully to God’s blessing. The Bible promises:

*“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.” Malachi 3:10*

Through your giving and receiving you position yourself to be in the focus of God’s outpoured blessing in your life!

***God is doing some exciting new and powerful things through the faithful people of God at HBC...***

***Please remember your commitments and giving and be part of the miracle!***



Thanks to Alvin Hammond

12-27-2002

**I REMEMBER WHEN I USED TO BE THAT SIZE**