



# LET'S CHAT!

with Pastor D



SHARON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

December 28, 2019

Who would anticipate the king of the universe and His pregnant mother, to be rejected and give birth in a cave with animals. Jesus was received at birth with pieces of cloths to keep him warm. Yet he moved from a place of obscurity and silence to become the most notable and influential person in the world.

Like Jesus, many people will be born and live in quiet insignificant places, rural areas, small towns, and in the unknown parts of our country. Some will watch the big events of our world from the outside, and remain there. Many in the big cities will forever be unknown, their talents and contributions will not be recognized by anyone, perhaps not even their own families. Individuals will live, work, and die in towns and cities without having a considerable impact on society, or leaving a lasting legacy.

Jesus' model is one that urges us to make a difference in this world. It motivates us to refuse to be resigned to the fringes. We are called to use our gifts and talents no matter where we live to share the name of Christ. This new year is the time for us to consider a transition to more active leadership that requires using our gifts and talents for God. We can't afford to be die without creating a lasting legacy.

## URGENT prayer & visitation

- George Lake and family, bereavement and encouragement
- Cooper family, bereavement
- Olive and Lee family, bereavement
- Bushnell family, bereavement Art Bushnell, former Sharon Church pastor
- Brittney Modoc, health
- James Foster, health

Abraham was called to sacrifice Isaac. Can you spot the 12 differences?

KIDS CORNER



Calling all children 4-9 years of age...the Adventurers Club at Sharon is making a comeback! The Club goes LIVE January 2020. We are seeking children AND parents (parental involvement is a requirement) who are excited about experiencing new things. Contact Ben or Adaire Brown at [adairebrown@gmail.com](mailto:adairebrown@gmail.com).

## GETTING THERE

### ★ NOT ★ GUARANTEED

New year's setting goals and planning where you want to go, is all great. But. Don't make the mistake and assume that just because God desires us to go somewhere in 2020 we're automatically going to get there. Getting there isn't guaranteed, something is required of you to reach your destination. I'm going to share four of points with you for you succeed on your journey. My prayer is that they all hit home, but that the Holy Spirit takes one point and really rings your bell and sets your spirit on fire.

#### **Fail at Something Like Someone Who Cannot Fail.**

You're going to need to fail a lot to get where God wants you to go. Too many believers equate failing with missing God — it's missing a shot. It's not losing the game, the game is decided. Don't fear to fail because you're the boss, you're a mom, you're a student leader. . . You're never too big to fail. When we do lay-ups, we don't rely on God, but when we do a half court shot — we pray!! Jeremiah 8:4 says, “. . . This is what the Lord says: ‘When people fall down, don't they get up again? When they discover they're on the wrong road, don't they turn back?’” “The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives.” (Psalm 37:23). Like a father teaching his 3 year old to swim, asking them to jump from the side of the pool into his arms. When you get the revelation that your heavenly father catches you every time you jump, you'll get addicted to jumping.

**Fuel Up Twice as Much as You Need.** In college filling up my car I felt like I was broke, so I never put more than \$12 in my tank. It's a habit that has caught. One day at the pump the Lord said to me, “I'm concerned.” I replied “What are you concerned about?” Lord: “Son, you are consistently too close to 'E' in your tank and you're not going to be able to go where I need you to go because you don't have enough fuel in your tank.” Me: “How much do I need, God?” Lord: “Twice as much as you think you need.” Cars run out of fuel, they stop. Humans run out of fuel, they crash. In I Kings 19, God taught Elijah what happens when you have no fuel. One dangerous lie about fueling yourself up, is that's it is selfish. It's not selfish, it's stewardship — you will not go where God leads you on an empty tank. Furthermore you can't enjoy the abundant life

Christ died to give you on an empty tank — it requires fuel and twice as much as you need. What kind of fuel? Spiritual, physical, emotional and the relational. Sit down, write out each of these types of fuel and what you personally need to put you at the top of your game so you can go when God calls.

**Forget Your Fake Names.** The devil has cheap shots to throw at us, calling us by fake names. The bible tells us that Satan is a liar, so when the devil calls you any name, it's a lie. Failure, addict, loser, alone — you have to be reminded no matter your path, Jesus didn't just die to give you life but to give you a new name. Your biggest obstacle is getting that fake id out of your wallet. Reassuring and reaffirming your identity in Christ. When you let someone call you by a fake name you will always live up to it. You may have battled addiction for 20 years, it does not make you an addict for all eternity. An amazing thing happens when God changes your name. You cannot live at a new address, still adopting a new way of thinking.

**Fight More Aggressively Than Ever.** This victory, though decided, it still has to be fought for. The devil doesn't come to shake, kiss or to dance. The devil comes to steal, kill and destroy, coming at you aggressively. You will never be able to enforce victory over him passively. You need to get bothered by your enemy, you need some righteous anger. “All who fear the Lord will hate evil.” (Proverbs 8:13) You may be tempted to tolerate the Devil, and he will reek havoc in your life. To fight aggressively we need two things to arm ourselves. First, walk in authority. Authority is a state of control over something or someone. Don't walk around like, “poor me.” No! Stand tall, pin your shoulders back and get after it! Secondly, walk with a swagger, the result of holding hands with the God that has all power. This is what David did as he walked out to Goliath. “Hey, listen cupcake. I've taken out lions and bears and my God is going to take you out today!” You need to interrupt the devil and say, “The God of the universe deposited His spirit in me and when you pick on me you're picking on Him. So go ahead and try!”

Victory has already been decided. You've experienced losses, but walk in victory. So go on now, swagger!

*Source: Morrison, Pastor Preston. [www.gatewaypeople.com](http://www.gatewaypeople.com). December 29, 2018. *Getting There Isn't Guaranteed*.*

Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Hebrews 12:1

Sharon church family, my prayer for all of us in 2020 is to make only one New Year's Resolution — to walk closer with God, by setting time aside each day to get into His word. All of our other desires will come to fruition once we've done this.

It's been a pleasure creating the loop for you. Nathan and I wish each and every one of you a blessed 2020!