

A large graphic of a cross with a feather and stones. The cross is dark red. A feather with orange and red tips is positioned behind the cross. A stack of smooth, dark brown stones is arranged vertically to the left of the cross.

Aboriginal BIBLE ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2013

Did you know that our Aboriginal people have a population of almost 1.5 million in over 1,000 communities stretched across our nation? This is a people and a culture that has literally been here since before the beginning of Canada and yet, it is estimated that less than 10% profess a Saving knowledge in Jesus Christ.

You'd think for as long as the Gospel has been proclaimed here in North America that better inroads into our First Peoples communities would have been established by now. But that simply has not been the case.

The plight of the Aboriginal has been well documented: Alcohol & substance abuse, poverty & homelessness. Some studies project that within 10 years half of all Aboriginal children will grow up fatherless. The suicide rate of Aboriginal youth is almost 6 times that of the national average.

Statistically, Aboriginal people continue to suffer.

This is the reality that we face in reaching our First Peoples of Canada for Christ.

But all is not lost!

Utilizing strategic partnerships and networking, Aboriginal Bible Academy is helping to reverse the trend. By working with local churches, ministries, regions and districts, we are helping to effectively equip indigenous leadership all across Canada through the development of local training centres. Whether the student feels called to minister from the pulpit or the pew, we are able to offer training that will help produce dynamic practical ministry expressions within and through the believer.

This is a much needed mission to Canada.

There is a great urgency to encourage, empower, inspire and provide assistance so that Aboriginal people can convert their tremendous potential, their aspirations and their dreams into solid achievement and brighter futures. We want to help make it possible for Aboriginal people to contribute their gifts not only to their communities, but to Canada and the rest of the world.

Thank you for helping us continue to serve the Aboriginal community.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A GREAT NEED 1

Check This Out!
~ Highlighting a
new resource 2

ABA is Sociable 2

Greetings from
the Board 3

How YOU can
Study through
ABA 4

Check This Out! (Contact our office for more information)

Do you know that you can have an active part in accomplishing the building of Christ's church? Certainly this is implied in Jesus' statement of purpose in Matthew 16:18: *"I will build my church."* Ever since the church began on the Day of Pentecost, the followers of Christ have been planting churches all over the world.

In *Starting New Churches*, author Larry Pate shows us the value of having the direction of the Holy Spirit in planning strategy for the founding and development of new churches. The Bible gives the principles and purposes that are the guidelines to planting the Church in every culture and people group.

From the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the early church you will learn principles and patterns that continue to the present time. You will consider how every Christian has a responsibility to work with other members of the body of Christ to plant new churches and you will examine methods of motivating other believers to become involved in church planting.



**CHECK
OUT EVEN
MORE
RESOURCES
ON OUR
WEBSITE!**



ABA is Social Media Friendly!!

HEY EVERYONE!

For those out there that did not know, we are on Facebook (have been for some time now). There is a link on our website (bottom right) that when clicked will take you straight to our Facebook page. Feel free to "follow us".

Right next to that link (bottom centre) is the opportunity to donate online via a secure conduit.

Also, we know that many people prefer electronic mail rather than the traditional offering of hard copy newsletters. So to that end, we have been offering the option for those that would prefer our e-newsletter. Again, on our website under, "Stay Connected" (bottom right), input your email address and click "Subscribe". That's it!

Just a few ways of letting you know how sociable ABA is trying to be.

**ARE
YOU
SOCIABLE?**

**BE
SOCIABLE
WITH
US!**



Greetings from the Board

Dear Friends:

It is a delight to greet you at this wonderful season of the year...Christmas! The good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ is found in the well-known verse "For God so loved the world that He have His one and only Son, that whosoever believes on Him shall be saved." (John 3:16). What an amazing story and experience of redemption we enjoy through our Lord and Saviour!

The Lord's blessing continues upon Aboriginal Bible Academy (ABA) with the establishment of new relationships and networks across this great country of Canada. Students are doing well with their studies and it is anticipated that many more leaders will enhance their skills through the excellent courses offered. These resources are proving to be amazing tools. There are many wonderful testimonies of hope and blessing! We are thankful to the Lord for His faithful provisions, particularly for each individual student!

Such ministry is possible because of your partnership! Thank you for all you do to enhance the work of God, especially amongst Canada's more than 1.4 million aboriginal peoples. Your prayers, words of encouragement and financial support translate into active leadership training across this entire nation and in the far North. Your tangible gifts to this ministry make all of this possible!

Perhaps you would consider making another investment in this ministry at this Christmas time! A commitment card has been enclosed for your convenience.

Your Board of Governors at ABA joins me in extending Christmas blessings to you and your family! We are pleased to announce the addition of a new Board Member in the person of Rev. Stewart Hunter. Stewart brings many years of ministry experience and we are delighted to have him. Rev. Jeff Hillier resigned from our Board earlier in 2013 following 5 years of faithful ministry. Jeff is now the Lead Pastor at Community Pentecostal Church in Orleans.

It is our prayer that the Lord's abundant blessings will be upon you during this season and the New Year! We greatly anticipate the coming of the Lord and, who knows, perhaps it will be today!

Thank you again for all you do in partnering with us!

On behalf of the Board of Governors (Rev. John E. Maracle, Bill Rendell, Bill Maracle, Rev. Carl Brant, Rev. Stewart Hunter)



Cal Anthony (Rev.)
Board Chair

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BIBLICAL STUDIES?

Here's How ABA can Help:

- Simply contact our office via phone, email or through our website. (Anyone is eligible to take the courses we offer)
- A "New Student Registration Form" will need to be filled out and returned to our office (by mail or fax)
- Included with the submitted forms needs to be a cheque for all appropriate academic fees made out to Aboriginal Bible Academy
- Once all forms and payment have been received by our office the process takes about 10 days by which time you can have your curriculum and study materials in your hand! If you choose to take your course online.....you can be well into your studies in 3-5 days!

SOME COURSE SYNOPSIS

ACTS: THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK IN BELIEVERS

- A thorough study of the content, purposes, principles, and applications of Acts. The course emphasizes the role of the Holy Spirit in the early church and today. Attention is given to the geographical, numerical, cultural, and theological growth of the church from Jerusalem to Rome. The journeys of Paul are examined as the background for his epistles.

LOCAL CHURCH IN EVANGELISM

- The local church is the provenance of evangelism for reaching its community and the world. After a foundational, biblical theology of the Great Commission and the Holy Spirit's role in evangelism, this course proposes a comprehensive and integrated approach to evangelism in the local church that avoids over-compartmentalizing evangelism and discipleship .

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT FOR CHURCH LEADERS

- A biblical approach to conflict resolution. This course offers a scriptural way to deal with the inevitable occasions when conflict arises, particularly in a church setting. It offers practical principles for resolving the conflict in a manner that is pleasing to God.