



**Knox Presbyterian Church**

20 Quebec Street  
Guelph, ON N1H 2T4  
Telephone: (519) 821-0141  
Fax: (519) 821-8307

E-mail:  
[office@knoxguelph.ca](mailto:office@knoxguelph.ca)  
Website:  
[www.knoxguelph.ca](http://www.knoxguelph.ca)

Rev. Johan Olivier  
Minister

Anne Eaton  
Pastoral Assistant

Chris Fischer  
Director of Music Ministries

Wilma Welsh  
Mission Coordinator

Jessie Bush  
Session Clerk

**STEPHEN MINISTRY**



Rev. Dr. Arnold Bethune  
Nancy Dickieson  
Kathie Stirling  
Stephen Leaders

*"Christ caring for People  
through People"*

January 9, 2010

Greetings One and All,

There are times when during my own reading I come across a teaching that is so clear and so well expressed that I simply say WOW and then desire to share it verbatim. This week I share one such teaching from a book that is brand new on the market. The book is titled The Power of a Whisper by Bill Hybels.

He begins:

"Nearly every Christ-follower I know has faced a season or two in life when God seemed distant or uncharacteristically aloof, and I believe that Romans 8: 38-39 was written especially for times like these. It says: ***"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."***

He continues:

"For most people, it's an utterly overwhelming idea that a loving and all-powerful God wants to share an intimate bond with the likes of you or me – but this passage assures us that He does. Through one simple verse of Scripture, God seems to remind us, 'I know that you're going to foul up. I'll forgive you. I know you're going to get scared as well, and I promise to help you with that. You won't always pray as wisely as you hope, but I promise the Holy Spirit will give expression to what you don't even realize you ought to be praying. Just keep your hand in mine and we'll walk together each step of the way. I'll cover you. I'll love you. I'll never leave you. I'll always be your God.

"God wants to be connected to us every hour of every day, for the rest of our lives. What's more, he craves this sort of intimacy not just during our span of life on earth, but for all eternity – that's your Father's loving heart toward you!"

***These truths that Hybels expresses are just the kind of words that we need to read and reread and give God thanks for, every day. In fact maybe we should put them by our bedside to be read each morning and thus carried in our hearts each day and then reread each night before sinking into a trusting and peaceful slumber.***

I could think of no better truth, or no more valuable gift to give you as we start this next year. This verse of Romans has always been one of my favourites and Hybels expresses most clearly why this is so.

A continued Happy New Year, and Blessings to all.

Amen.

(Rev.) John McGurrin