



# NEW HOPE

LOVING ONE *God* • LOVING ALL *People*

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March 20, 2009

Greetings!

Okay, it is time for me to start getting back into the habit of writing a letter to all of you from time to time. So, here it goes...

As I write this in the middle of March, I can't help but look back on all the blessings Papa has continued to shower on us. From the many new people He has been bringing to us, to the way we continue to meet our monthly budget, to all the study groups that are going on every week, He truly is blessing us.

Though we still have a long way to go in making room for Him to work, I think you will agree that God has been honoring us with His presence on Sunday mornings, as well. Come Lord Jesus, and have Your way among us!

Just to recap what we've been learning, our founding pastor, David Moore, opened up the year with a great teaching on having "Eyes to See," and what a fitting message it was for where we find ourselves today! In the midst of all the economic struggles our community (and nation) is facing, we must have our eyes of faith opened to the vision God is giving us, so we can be a beacon of light that shines His glory into the gloomy darkness so many are experiencing. For the rest of January, I taught on the EDGE: how we have lost our EDGE, why we need our EDGE, and how to get our EDGE back!

Guy Romito got us started in February with "The Ultimate Treasure Hunt," then I taught on Papa being a "LOVEGIVER," a new word I made up based on John 3:16, and followed that up with asking if we are LOVEGIVERS. We finished the month of February with an amazing DVD teaching from Robert Morris, of Gateway Church in Dallas, Texas. He powerfully taught on "Putting God First" in all that we do, and it has been awesome to see how New Hope has responded to his call to give our firstfruits to the LORD so He can bless the rest.

With the foundation of all that Papa has been speaking to us, I want to look forward to what we have planned. After this weekend of Mens Retreat, I will be sharing our "Mission, Vision, and Values" so we can all get on the same page and begin to move forward in unison. Then, after Easter weekend, we will embark on a 3-month journey through the book of Nehemiah, a book which I feel speaks prophetically to where we are at as a church. If you are curious, don't fret--reading ahead is HIGHLY ENCOURAGED! ☺

Remember to "Put God First" and to "Give Him Your Best" in all you do, and do not back down from the dreams He has planted in your heart. I believe that Papa God wants to break out of the walls of New Hope, and get us to a place where we truly have "Eyes to See" the amazing things He has in mind for those who refuse to be afraid to be used by Him!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim".