



Faith is the Food That Vision Lives On

Making a difference in Canada

by BRIAN WARREN, Co-host, *The 700 Club Canada*

It seems it was only yesterday that a committed team of individuals who hardly knew one another got together with this fresh idea: *The 700 Club Canada* can be more for the glory of God! We met, we prayed, we talked, we prayed, we wrote... (you get the idea), all the while being confident that we were on the verge of bringing a powerful voice to daily Christian television. One year later, over 250 shows, thousands of souls reached, and countless people encouraged, I celebrate what together we have accomplished for the kingdom!

My co-host, Laura-Lynn, and I continue to be both humbled and deeply grateful for your precious prayers and letters of encouragement. You are truly the best partners in Christian programming! My heart continues to stand in faith for the greatest Canadian harvest and, friends, I believe we will see it in our generation. I know that many of you have prayed and fasted for years, but please do not grow weary in doing good, for this is our due season!

Partners, I encourage you to believe with us, to hope with us, to pray with us; for I have discovered a few things about vision and its ability to bring the seemingly impossible to pass. Vision, as mentioned in Proverbs 29:18, is more than just looking on the bright side. It is looking on God's side. By the grace of God we are seeing, like Joshua and Caleb (Numbers 14:6-9), what we have been praying for, for so long.

"... The 700 Club Canada is like these hummingbirds—productive and full of life!"

Faith is the food that vision lives on; without it, our vision withers on the vine. Satan's greatest attack on vision is an attitude of doubt. Both the hummingbird and the vulture fly over our nation's landscape. All vultures see is rotting meat, because that is what they look for. They thrive on that diet. But hummingbirds ignore the smelly flesh of dead animals. Instead, they look for the colorful blossoms of flowering plants. Vultures live on what was. They live on the past. They fill themselves with what is dead and gone. But hummingbirds live on what is.



They seek new life. They fill themselves with freshness and vitality. I believe that *The 700 Club Canada* is like these hummingbirds—productive and full of life!

It took the courage of vision for *The 700 Club Canada* to move to a daily commitment of the Gospel in 2011-2012. The courage of vision says, "Lord if that's You, let me come to You walking on the water." And together we walked. The courage of vision declares, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." And together we served. The courage of vision shouts, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" And together we boldly advanced. The courage of vision states, "The trials of this life are not worthy to be compared with the glory of the eternal life that is to come." Together, we are the difference that is making the difference in Canada. God bless you, and let's do it again... together!



Forgiveness

The Power to Live in Freedom

by GORDON ROBERTSON, Chief Executive Officer, CBN

It is easy to say we forgive, but hard to do. This is especially true if we've suffered injustice or were hurt repeatedly. Matthew 18:21-35 tells us how Jesus answers a question about forgiveness. Peter asks, *Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?* He thinks he is being generous by offering to forgive someone so many times. But Jesus replies, *Up to seventy times seven.*

He then tells a parable about a king who is settling accounts. One servant owes him 10,000 talents—which would be over \$1 billion today. Of course, a servant could never repay that enormous amount. So the master orders that he be sold, along with his family and belongings. The servant falls down and begs, *Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.* Moved with compassion, the king releases him and forgives the debt.

And what happens? The servant goes to a man who owes him 100 denarii, which is a very small amount—perhaps about \$20. He takes him by the throat and demands to be paid. The man falls down and begs with the same words, *Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.* This time, it is actually possible to pay the debt. But the servant who has been forgiven so much won't relent and throws the man into prison.

The king then says, *You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?* Jesus adds, *And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that*

was due to him.

Unforgiveness can deliver us to torture—and we are the torturers! Every time we relive an injustice, we torment ourselves. The people who wronged us have probably forgotten all about it, but we continue torturing ourselves with the memory, angry that there was no justice and that the debt is unpaid. We literally hurt ourselves! Harboring bitterness in our hearts can cause physical disease in our bodies. It may also express itself through outbursts of anger that can hurt people.

This is all because we have not forgiven others. And this is why Jesus goes on to say very plainly, *So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.*

Jesus doesn't just preach with words; He preaches with actions, too. One of His own disciples betrays Him, and all His friends abandon Him. He is put on trial—innocent, yet found guilty. There is no justice. He is tortured, mocked and beaten. Finally, stripped and hanging on a cross, He says some of the most amazing words ever spoken: *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do* (Luke 23:34).

That's our standard. We could never pay for all our sins, but Jesus says, "I'll take that massive debt. I'll pay it all." And just as we are forgiven, we are to turn around and forgive others. When we do that from our hearts, we are no longer subject to the torture of unforgiveness; we are free to walk in newness of life.

Scripture is quoted from the NKJV.

This inspirational teaching can be found at CBN.com.

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BY GORDON ROBERTSON

Happy Thanksgiving!

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