

From Pastor Craig's Desk...

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Watching our kids grow up and change has only increased our delight of them over the years. Now with Benjamin married and Ian just graduated, we have to plan for these family times much further in advance.

I know how hard it can be for them, as they start out in life, to come up with the money to do 'optional' things like family vacations, so now I've got my faith out there to be able to pay for some trips together because I realize how precious family is and how quickly time seems to pass.

Also, I know it's quite likely that grandkids may soon be on the way. My friends who are already grandparents have told me that spending time with the grandkids is more fun than parenting. So I suppose there may be a selfish motive lurking somewhere in my desire for family times as well.

All this to say to you, our partners, sometimes the most spiritual thing you can do is to take time to be with your family and do something fun! Do something that will bring you together and cause the things in life that really matter to be front and center.

May God richly bless and refresh you this summer as you enjoy it together with your family!

Pastor Craig

Contact Us...

Remember that we continue to pray for each of you, our partners.

We would love to know how you have been blessed, specifically through our ministry.

Feel free to contact us through any of the information listed below. May God bless and refresh you today!

Pastor Craig's Itinerary...

Itinerary is subject to change without notice.
For the most up-to-date itinerary information,
visit our website at www.timesofrefreshing.ca.

June 28 - July 2 Dominion Conference (West)

450 - 31 Street N, Lethbridge, AB

Please visit www.miraclechannel.ca for registration and info.

July 4 - 5 VCI Youth "Boot Camp"

James River Children's Retreat, Sundre, AB

Please visit www.rovc.ca for registration and information.

July 9 to August 4 Summer Holidays!

Please pray for Pastor Craig and his family as they enjoy their vacation. Pray for their family, their protection, and their health.

August 5, 12, 19, 26 Southside Victory Church

6402 - 1A Street SW, Calgary, AB

Please drop by our church this month to hear Pastor Craig minister. He will be ministering during the 10 am services.

Please call 403-253-7777 for directions or more info.

August 29 TOR Taping at CJIL: The Miracle Channel

450 - 31 Street N, Lethbridge, AB

This is our first taping of the season. Come see the station, pray for Pastor Craig and be a part of the live audience.

Would you like to have Pastor Craig minister at your next function?

Contact our office by phone or email and speak with Rev. Ann Camber at info@timesofrefreshing.ca or at 1-877-877-87 ext. 2.



Times of Refreshing

6402 - 1A Street SW, Calgary, AB T2H 0G6

Toll-free: 1-877-877-87 ext. 2

Fax: 403-258-4421

Email: info@timesofrefreshing.ca

Website: www.timesofrefreshing.ca

Seen on CJIL: The Miracle Channel, featured on

Bell ExpressVu (channel 652) and Star Choice (channel 357)

and various cable systems across North America.

Call your cable provider and ask for the Miracle Channel!



The Times of Refreshing

From Pastor Craig's Desk...

Dear partners,

May this letter find you blessed and refreshed as you serve the Lord with gladness.

As you enjoy the Canadian summer, remember how important it is to get some down time. Set aside a couple of weeks where nothing is demanded of you except time with family. Spending time together is what is important in the long run.

When Anne and I were first married, we decided to have a vacation each summer with our family, no matter what it took.

When we first had Benjamin twenty years ago, we were just starting in ministry and had no money to spend on 'options' like holidays. I remember being in a bit of a dilemma as we didn't want to go into debt by putting vacation spending on our credit card, but we also didn't have enough cash flow to pay for such holidays.

I finally made the decision to use the credit card and believe God for the money to come in over the next few months because I wanted my kids to grow up with memories of family times they enjoyed with mom and dad when they were young. It was costly and at first, hard, but the bills always got paid somehow.

Those first few holidays were spent camping and tenting because it was the closest to being affordable. We even had to borrow camping supplies from friends and neighbours.

I can still remember nights in our tent with two little boys. One time, we were all awake as the thunder and lightning boomed in the mountains around us, and more than once we listened to the mosquito that had somehow escaped our bedtime mosquito hunt before we turned off the Coleman lantern.

Then there was the time we saved up and rented the smallest houseboat you could get and sailed merrily around the Shuswap Lake in central British Columbia. At one point Benjamin, about

seven at the time, was swimming and must have passed through some mites in the water. When he came out he began to itch all over. It got worse and worse and when he began to cry, we realized he was really itching and we had no idea what to do!

Fortunately, we were quite close to a floating dock and we rushed him in asking if they knew what to do with this. The lady immediately hurried off to get us a bottle of bleach and a cloth. She told us to rub him down with the bleach, which we did. Apparently, the bleach killed off the mites because he stopped crying and scratching within minutes.

On that same trip, I remember tying up the houseboat at a small secluded beach, only it was fairly rocky. We settled in for the night and I congratulated myself on the fact that we were the only ones there. However, at about two o'clock in the morning, I was awakened by the sound of wind and waves and the aluminum pontoons grating against the rocks on the beach. The sound was like hammers hitting tin drums. I was convinced we were going to capsize any minute and got up in the dark to go see how long we had before it was all over.

It turned out not to be nearly as bad as I thought. I remember going back to sleep with a new understanding of why all those other houseboats had moored on beaches where they were not so secluded, but on beaches of predominantly sand.

There are many other stories I could tell of our family times when we visited various places for summer holidays and came back with a fresh enjoyment of what it means to be together having fun.

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Pastor Craig Buroker

The Times of Refreshing is designed to keep our partners up to date on what is happening in our ministry, Times of Refreshing.

We are confident you will find this a valuable source of information providing regular contact from the show host, Craig Buroker, a sneak preview about what is next on the show, and our latest product available.

We feel that God is using our ministry to impact this nation both as an oasis of God's presence to its viewers and as a trumpet call to Canada's church.

It is important for our partners to stay informed, and that is why we've started The Times. If you would like to write to us, see our contact information on the back of the newsletter. We love to hear from our partners!

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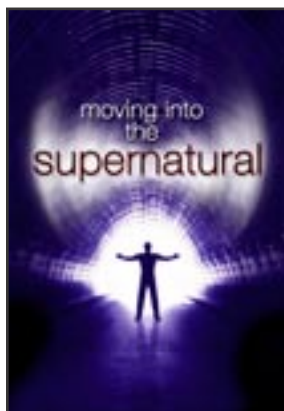
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Showing this Summer...

Each summer, we show the highlight teachings of our previous season. You'll be sure to enjoy these teachings again!



Moving into the Supernatural ...airs July 3 to August 6

Item#1041

We hear of supernatural happenings, but do you believe God wants to do the same things for you and through you? In this series Pastor Craig challenges us to raise our expectations concerning how we experience God. When God moves towards us, He arrives outside the lines of our present understanding of Him. "Cross the line" by faith and God's goodness will be assured as we move into the supernatural.

Partner Prices:

\$36.00 DVD \$27.00 CD



A Time to Rest ...airs August 14 to 20

Item#1044

In this single episode, Pastor Craig challenges us to take time and rest in the Lord. God wants time to enjoy His children. Let's remember in our efforts to do His work that we also draw aside for fun and rest.

Partner Prices:

\$10.80 DVD \$9.00 CD



Calling and Character ...airs August 7 to 14

Item#1048

God always works on two things in our Christian walk: our calling and our character. Listen as Pastor Craig shares how to develop a Godly character that will sustain the calling He has given you.

Partner Prices:

\$10.80 DVD \$9.00 CD



The Last Days ...airs Aug. 21 to Sept. 17

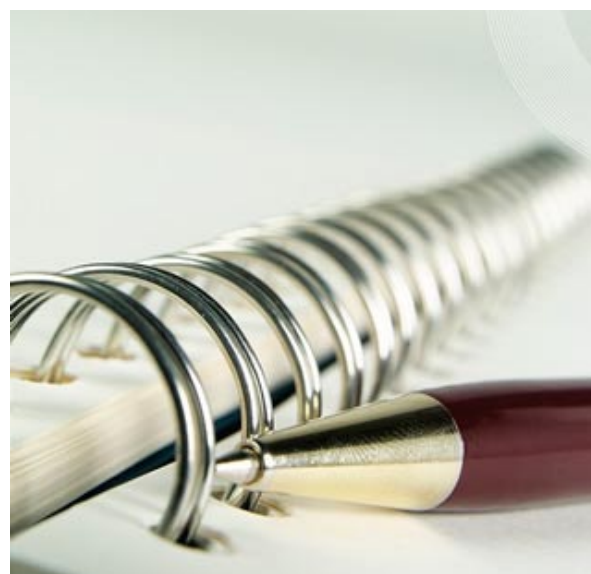
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As we draw close to the end of this age both righteousness and wickedness will increase. Trauma and tension around the world as well as the alignment of nations to both light and darkness will cause the last day's church to arise and shine as the answer in the midst of the darkness.

Partner Prices:

\$28.80 DVD \$21.60 CD

Call 1-877-8777-87 ext. 2 and have your Visa or Mastercard ready! Please mention your partnership discount when you order. All prices are in Canadian Funds. \$5 shipping will be added for provinces Manitoba and westward. For provinces Ontario and eastward, as well as the territories, please add \$9 for shipping.



Thank You for Your Input...

Thank you for completing your surveys!

With the last mailout, we included a short survey to our partners for record update and partner preference purposes.

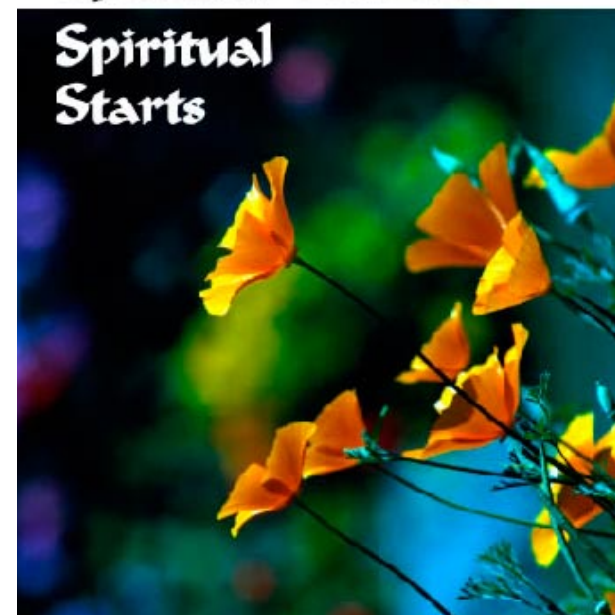
We have appreciated all of your responses!

We are still accepting your survey responses. If you have not done so already, please take a couple of minutes to fill it out and send it to our ministry. A copy of the survey has been posted on the Resources Page of our website for your convenience.

Blessings to you all!

Excerpts from...

Spiritual Seasons



How can I produce spiritual change so that twelve months from now I can look back and see marked spiritual growth? How do I start the process so that I'm further ahead, spiritually, a year from now?

The answers to these questions have to deal with spiritual seasons. If we believe there are different spiritual seasons, then we can position ourselves accordingly. In order to get a good harvest, a farmer must do work in his fields specific to what seasons he is in. We, too, can do spiritual work depending on what season we are in, so that at the end of the spiritual year, we will see a harvest in our lives, a spiritual growth cycle.

How can I take advantage of the spiritual season I'm in? I believe the spiritual year starts in the fall, just like the Jewish calendar year starts in the fall. Fall is the time when things start spiritually in church life, too. And at the start of the new year is a good time to start new spiritual endeavours.

We are just coming into the fall season. How can we purposefully take steps to grow spiritually? Something I say often applies here: You cannot alter the future without first disturbing the present.

Let me state, too, that I am assuming we are living according to Matthew 6:33, that we are "seek[ing] first the kingdom of God and His righteousness." I am assuming we are putting God's kingdom first in word and in deed, to the best of our ability already. And by this I mean that we don't make decisions lightly about our family, job, church, or the like, but we really keep the Lord involved in those

decisions. We say to Him, "Lord, I want to do what You want me to do. I want to be what You want me to be." This is the only way what I am sharing about here will work.

The first step we can take towards spiritual change is to dream – to think outside the box, to look beyond our present restrictions, to desire for more. The devil's number one strategy for Christians is containment. If he can contain us, he can limit our success and effectiveness in the kingdom of God. If we can look beyond our present restrictions, we can see what God desires for us. God lives outside our box and in order to access Him, we must be able to dream and desire.

Look at Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Before faith can operate, there must be hope, or a dream. What comes before faith? A desire!

In Mark 11:24, Jesus says, "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them." This verse reiterates the same fact: that we have to have something to ask for before we can believe for it. Jesus doesn't even qualify what we can desire for.

*To move ahead into the
next spiritual season
we must act on our dreams.*

But if the devil tries to contain us anywhere, he especially does in this area. He comes to us as we start to dream and says, "You can't desire that. It's not right for you to have that. You're just being selfish to want that. You have impure motives."

And his accusations go on and on. For if he can get us to stop dreaming, he won't have to come against the faith we put behind that dream. He essentially stops us before we even start. And he steals from us before God's promises can even begin to come our way.

In order for you and me to see spiritual change, we have to dream, we have to desire. So I do this. I'll sit back and I'll dream... "Lord, what would I really like to see, in my own life, in my own family, in my own ministry? What would You like to see?"

Recently, for example, I have had several people who didn't know me, prophesy that God wants to use me for working of miracles. I finally caught on when, on several separate occasions, people who don't even know me exhorted me to begin to believe God for working of miracles. So I have been saying to the Lord, "Lord, I desire this. I want to lay my hands on people and have them be touched by the Holy Ghost. I want to lay my hands on people and see their bodies get well!"

Let me emphasize something here: dreaming is not wrong. Your desires are not wrong. They only become wrong when you go against Matthew 6:33. The things you desire are wrong only when they become preeminent or take precedence over God, where God can't speak to us about that desire. Your dreaming is wrong only when you can't hear God's directions on your dream.

The second step we can take towards spiritual change is to risk. I am sure you have heard me say, "Faith is spelled R-I-S-K." Faith is risk. To go where you haven't gone, you have to do things you haven't done.

Matthew 14 contains the story of Jesus and Peter walking on the water. Now, as Christians, we usually make this story really spiritual. But the bottom line is two guys walked on water. They did something that was physically impossible to do. How come Peter got to walk on the water? Peter saw Jesus do it, and wanted to do it himself (desire), he asked if he could, then he stepped out of the boat (risk)!

When did Peter's desire or dream to walk on water become realized? Not until he stepped out of the boat. Not until he believed in what Jesus told him to do and he risked. As soon as Peter stepped out, he experienced a move to the next level in God.

If Peter did it, then we can do it! After getting a desire, we only fail in this area because we are not willing to have faith, to take the risk. To move ahead into the next spiritual season we must act on our dreams.

Let's take full advantage of this next spiritual season. Let's begin to dream and then move towards that dream. I guarantee we will see spiritual growth come this time next year!

by Pastor Craig Buroker
edited by Mara Fraser

The full teaching series
Spiritual Seasons, Spiritual Starts
is available on DVD or CD
through our webstore. Visit us online
at www.timesofrefreshing.ca.