

The Parchment

Volume 1, Issue 1

Pastor Howard Chang

August 9, 2009

In my first year as a pastor someone suggested I write to the congregation every week or two. I first thought they were crazy! Who has time to write while trying to fulfill all the pastoral duties? But the more I thought about it the more I liked the idea. I do enjoy writing my reflections and I wanted another means to communicate to the congregation besides preaching sermons. That year I first penned *The Pastor's Parchment* as a personal, biblical, and devotional writing for the English congregation.

Now that I have entered my second year serving at CBMC I again have the desire to write. We do already have the *Pastor's Corner* at CBMC which serves as a means for each of the pastors to share their ministries and heart to the whole church. I plan to continue writing the *Pastor's Corner* when it is my turn. But I would also like to write separately to you in the English congregation. I will simply call this writing *The Parchment*. My purpose in *The Parchment* is to explore how the Bible continues to speak to our real life, every day twenty-first century concerns. I would like to share my personal stories and interactions with both this world and the Scriptures, guiding us into a deeper understanding of the heart of God for daily living.

Recently I taught the "The Life Series" to prepare a few among us for this month's baptism and membership transfer. Each time I went through the material a couple well-worn verses stuck in my mind: *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work* (2 Timothy 3:16-17). I truly hope that *The Parchment* will help each of us become more godly and equipped to do His work as we explore the contours of God's Word together.