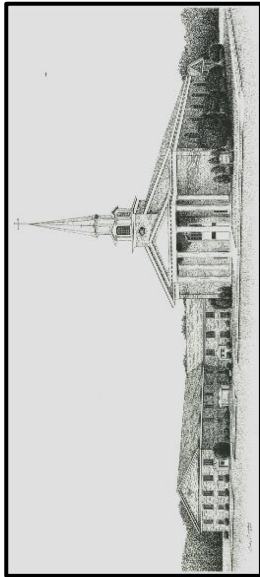


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### ***Godwin Heights Baptist Church***

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. David Hawes</b>
<b>Minister of Youth</b>	<b>Dr. Leslie Sessoms</b>
<b>Music Director</b>	<b>Mary Vivian Tyler</b>
<b>Pianist</b>	<b>Gayla Johnson</b>
<b>Deacon Chairman</b>	<b>Billy Davis</b>
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	<b>Sharon Parham</b>

#### **Church Office Hours**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM    2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Wednesday**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM    2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**Office Phone** - (910) 739 - 7574

**Fax** (910) 739 - 7546

**Email:** ghbc@ncrrbiz.com

**Website:** godwinbc.com

# *Godwin Heights Baptist Church*

*Praising God, Equipping the Saints, and Evangelizing the Lost!*

***From the Pastor's Desk...***

***January 2020***

*"And he looked up and said, 'I see men, for I see them like trees, and walking around.' Then again he laid his hands on his eyes; and he looked intently and was restored, and began to see everything clearly." -Mark 8:24-25*

2020. A new year is here, a new decade.

Of all the stories of Jesus and his miracles, this one has a little twist not found in any other story. A blind man is brought to Jesus in order to be healed. Jesus spits on the man's eyes to heal him and asked, "do you see anything?" The man had received partial sight and told Jesus that he could see men, but they "look like trees walking around." So Jesus laid his hands on the man's eyes for a second time and suddenly he was able to see everything clearly. Did you catch the twist? It took a double dose of Jesus to heal the man completely. It's the only time when Jesus had to touch a man twice to completely heal him.

No I can't explain why it took Jesus two times to heal him. Why did his vision only partially return until Jesus touched him the second time? So I don't have those answers, I do find an important lesson in the story. Sometimes our vision of Christ is not made clear in a single moment of time. There are moments when we see only dimly, but as we spend time in his presence, our vision becomes clearer. So don't think that all you need to know of Jesus, all that you need to experience of Jesus, all that you need to learn, or even all that you need to see, will become clear at that first encounter. Or even on your hundredth encounter. I've been a believer for the past 37 years. I understand more about Jesus than I did back in May 1983 when I first put my trust in him. The exciting thing is to know that years from now I will see him even more clearly. My faith was not made complete at the moment I first believed. My salvation was complete... But my knowledge of Jesus, it continues to clear with every encounter that I have with him.

Let us commit to spending more time with Jesus in this new year, that "Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day." -Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253.

Your Pastor,

Dave