



January 2011

**From the Desk of
Rev. Chuck**

Unity of Bakersfield
1619 E Street, Bakersfield CA 93301
www.ucob.org

661-327-8614

Dear Friends,

Like many people in the world today we are all looking ahead to the New Year with hope and anticipation for a much better year. The truth is, the year will unfold in a way that will best help us on our spiritual path. The question then is, "Will my faith see me through?" It can and it will if you embrace your divine birthright!

As many of you know my wife, KD, underwent four operations last year, the last three all within 90 days. Did her faith see her through? Yes! She was my teacher as I watched her undergo the many tests, procedures, surgeries, and physical therapy. Sure, there was some fear and apprehension of the unknown. Yet, faith in God as the Master Physician and Healer helped her through the process.

As she said the other day, "I been opened, closed, had things added, had things taken so there's not too much more they can do. So this year has to be a better year. And it will be!"

"Name it and claim it" is one of Unity's affirmations for changing one's outlook on life. When we change our outlook on life we change how the world responds to us because we begin to see it differently.

So how do you see yourself in the coming year? If it's with an attitude of doom and gloom then that's what the world is going to give you to look at. If it's with a positive attitude that things do and will change you'll find blessings around every corner.

Jesus taught that we'd have our trials and tribulations but that we would also overcome them. To the people of his day he

taught them not to look for some outward sign or some future event to take place in order for them to have a good life now. He points out that is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. In fact he said, "You won't be able to say, 'Here it is!' or 'It's over there!' For the Kingdom of God is in the midst you." (Luke 17:21)

Everything we need is already here. However, we must claim it. And how do we do that? Again, he taught us to go to God first in secret, close the door to those who would distract us with their negative thoughts and actions, and pray. Then listen for the still small voice to respond and then go to man as directed by the still small voice.

Jesus taught that God sees us as his beloved children and that He knows what are needs are before we even ask. This is the foundation of our faith, everything I need for me to live a life of abundant blessings is already there for the asking. I just have to name and claim it for myself.

And the secret is that there is a blessing in every trial and tribulation, just ask KD. We learn that we have the kingdom within us and around us as we trust God to be active in our process. Every challenge we have is a blessings for we get to make a choice about it. We can let the world of appearances control our lives or we can take charge and let God guide and direct our course.

I invite each of you to sit with and meditate upon Jesus' statement: "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is your birthright to claim it right now. Then join me this year as each of us look at ways in which to:

Claim My Bit of Heaven in 2011.