



"For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." - 1 Timothy 4:8

## BACK TO BUSINESS!

2017 finished on a high note with a terrific family event: the Annual Hurricanes Alumni game held at North Oaks Baptist Church. It was so good to see former players return and show "they've still got it" with an emphatic 8-2 victory against current high school players. But the result was irrelevant. More important was the evidence of a growing and successful program, as well as the quality of soccer on display. From humble beginnings, a Christ-centered vision for homeschool soccer, and the hard work of the Hurricanes leadership, the future is bright, especially given the talent and commitment of the "young ones" coming through.

The first week of 2018 began with a freezing cold session at Gleanloch, but concluded with an awesome showing by HSJVB, taking Second Place in the St. Thomas Tournament. Great job boys!

## DEPENDENCY

As we continued our theme of "Living by the Book", we discovered one of the greatest truths in Scripture: it is impossible to live the Christian life! That's right. Hard as we may try, we simply cannot do it. We cannot reproduce the fruit of the Spirit described in Galatians 5:22-23 by our own efforts. It is not an act of the will to be kind, patient etc. No. It has to be the Spirit of Christ working in and through us if we are to demonstrate true Christ-likeness. In essence, we must surrender – give in – to our own will and allow Christ to do His work in our lives. Much like the guy who floats seamlessly in a pool by surrendering his body to the water, we too are to surrender to Christ. The key ingredient, of course, is faith – trust that God will do what He says He'll do. Faith in Romans 8:28; faith that He who is in us is greater than the one who is in the world (1 John 4:4) and a keen understanding that "without faith, it is impossible to please God" (Hebrews 11:6). No wonder Paul concluded that, "For me to live is Christ..." (Philippians 1:21). He recognized that he was totally dependent on Christ and that only through the Holy Spirit, can Christ provide us everything we need to experience the abundant life He promised.



*"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)*

How dependent are we (truly) on Jesus Christ? Do we still mix legalism with grace? Are we guilty of trying to perform or achieve to be in right standing with God? If so, take a deep breath and hand it over to the Lord. Let's start to live by faith and adopt an attitude of total dependency on Christ to live His life through us (and often, in spite of us!)

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"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." - Philippians 4:13