



*The best in
instant messaging.*

followers of Christ meet at
16 Morrell St., Btfd, ON, N3T 4J2
Sharing Jesus and the Journey

JOIN US!

Sunday
Worship 11:00

Wednesday
Bible Study 7:00
Phone 758-5673
(75 U-LORD)

According to geological data, Nova Scotia actually bends when 14 billion tonnes of seawater flow inland every day, making the countryside tilt under the immense load. That power is invisible to the human eye, except for the evidence of how it affects the rivers and bays, but it's there nonetheless.

And so it is with the immense power of God. To those who have eyes to see it, there's ample evidence of God working in the world and in the human heart. Just as the earth is attracted by the pull of the moon, Christians feel the gravitational tug of the Son.

Though most of the world resists the influence of God, believers are fully affected. But because we're morally and spiritually in motion — seldom at a standstill in our faith — we often have a somewhat drastic ebb and flow in our spiritual lives. Sometimes our faith runs deep. Sometimes it just runs.

But even when we're narrow and shallow, we can be a channel for the power of our Father. In fact, it's usually most obvious in our lives after we've gone through a separation from God. That's because, when his love, peace and purpose are no longer flowing through our hearts, everything is laid bare. We and the people around us can see the mud and debris on the bottom, and it's not a pretty sight.

But as soon as we allow the Holy Spirit to draw us, the power and presence of God flood back in. With a new recognition of just what a difference he makes, we can even find the strength to go against the prevailing social current, embracing what we believe — standing up, instead of standing aside. Once we're standing out, rather than standing in for the status quo, things start to change. We find our identity, our integrity, and our independence from the conformity our culture insists upon.

When followers of Christ are true to their calling, despite the risks and repercussions, God's power flows forth, changing lives in a deep and often dramatic way. The church is like a small tidal wave, moving in the opposite direction to society but leading the way as the Lord's presence fills hearts and lives.

Whether we create a ripple or a wave, we need to yield to God's tug on our hearts, resist the cultural current and let the waters of his love run fast and strong. It's not enough to just go with the flow.

Rick Gamble



Volume 33, Number 35

September 28, 2008

Current Events

Like people, oceans have their ups and downs.

Tides — the rising and falling of water levels on the earth — happen because the earth and moon are attracted to each other, like two magnets. As the moon tries to draw everything on earth closer, the planet can hold onto everything except its water. Since that water is always moving, the moon is able to pull at it, resulting in an ebb and flow that has a drastic effect on water levels.

So every day, twice a day, the tides in Atlantic Canada go out, leaving countless rivers and bays almost completely dry. Boats lie stranded on muddy sea and river beds while tourists go hunting for rocks and fossils. And every day, twice a day, the tides roll back in, as billions of tonnes of water from the Atlantic Ocean push their way up the Maritime rivers, creating a tidal wave that goes completely against the normal current of those rivers.

That mini-tidal wave, or *tidal bore*, only happens in a few places around the globe, normally where incoming tides are pushed into shallow, narrow rivers. That funnel effect raises the height of the tide, often dramatically. As I saw firsthand this summer, it's astonishing to stand at the riverside and watch water from the ocean flow the wrong way *up* the dry bed.

The world's highest tides have been recorded in Minas Basin on Nova Scotia's Bay of Fundy. There, the water level at high tide can be 16 metres or 53 feet higher than at low tide, five times higher than the Atlantic coastal average. The ocean water flows upriver at about 50 kilometres or 31 miles an hour, stirring up waves that can reach as high as five metres (16 feet).

