

CEC Canada's public introductory speech, part 1 The God whom we serve. The target audience – All those who are involved in one way or another in the raising of children.

Before I start I want to address our aboriginal people, the first thing are these, if it had not been for a good Samaritan type North Dakota aboriginal family who stepped into my Grandpa's life and saved him from freezing to death in a snow blizzard, I would not be here today, secondly if I had not worked in the potato fields of North Dakota I would not have experienced the strength of their man nor the depth of the love of their women, and finally if it had not been for the way God took advantage of the Aboriginal people to put into my mind the importance of education more then likely I would not be here today. In the middle of all of this God would put a goad into my side to impress on my mind so that I would never forget the importance of knowledge. The words he would write on my heart are these - Hosea 4: 6. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you, that you shall be no priest to me: seeing you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget our children. My **Final comment**, Did the aboriginal people of Canada refuse knowledge, I think not, they couldn't, they were taken against their will and force fed with substandard education to keep them locked into a standard below that of the rest of Canada: what happened after that is the horrendous history that is and has been haunting Canada for many years. Needless to say, CEC Canada's place and its call is to do its best for the Aboriginal people of Canada to help them rise from the ashes and to give them the opportunity to become the people that God would want them to be in the land they call their own. King Solomon the wisest man that ever was, wrote Proverbs 1: 7. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge:

My first name is Jacob, and my last name is Friesen, I come from a southern Manitoba Mennonite village, my Christian heritage dates back to the early 1500s. My people became known as peace loving people. Refusing to shed the blood of others became their hallmark.

When it comes to war, they are true conscientious objectors. A young educated man came to me one day and said Oh you don't believe in going war, do you? I responded, the ¹thief came to steal, kill, and to destroy, but Christ came to give life and that more abundantly, then I asked him, On whose side do you think I should be on? He wouldn't answer; he quietly walked away and has never raised the issue since.

Where do I stand today, I stand with Christ, and ^{1a}in him I speak, repeating the words of the Apostle Paul, Acts 24: 16. And ²herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offense toward God and towards men. **There** are three passages that best identify my life, the first is Galatians 2: 20. ³I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me, and the life I now live in the flesh, I live by ⁴**the faith** of the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.

My comfort zone is best identified by Acts 17: 28. For ⁵in him we live, and move, and have our being.

My living within this comfort zone is best identified by Psalm 103: 4 and 5. This is the under-girding and crowning of every bit of who I have become, how I live, and how I serve. It reads: Referring to the Lord. ⁶Who redeems your life from destruction; who crowns you with his loving kindness and tender mercies: 5. Who satisfies your mouth with good things; so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Today I stand before you as the President of the CEC Canada Foundation Association:

When people hear this name, the first question they ask is what does CEC stand for? Being a nationally registered charity, the Government also wanted to know, here is what they received, CEC stands for Christian Education Centers, as well, Christian Evangelical Church, Canada stands for place, and Association stands for the members of the Association.

In real life both the CEC Canada Christian Education Centers and the Christian Evangelical Churches are Divisions of the CEC Canada Foundation Association, and so subject to its authoritative body, a body that reaches out and has an on-site authoritative member presence in every one of its Divisions, giving them the responsibility, to see to it that the vision given to CEC Canada, is in fact carried out.

CEC Canada came as an answer to my earlier ⁷calling of being involved in the education of the young of Canada. The simplicity of the call was to establish Christian based Schools, Colleges, and Universities in all the major centers of Canada.

Today we stand at the threshold of putting CEC Canada on the map, this is our first public face to face statement, my hope is that you will like what you hear, and that you will include CEC Canada in your prayers as we of the Association give Canada's children an opportunity ⁸to know God, and ⁹to know what he has in store for them, yes, for this life and ¹⁰for the life to come.

Through the eyes of God, we see only three types of people on this earth, they are ¹¹**God's innocent children**, children who are under the age of accountability, then there are ¹²**the Saints of God**, ¹³they

are those who have turned from darkness unto light, and from the power of Satan unto God, Acts 26: 18. And last, ¹⁴**the Heathen, also known as** ¹⁵**the Gentiles**, they are best described as being ¹⁶separated from God ¹⁷doing what they think is right in their own eyes.

The Saints are those who have not only received Christ as their Lord and Savior, ¹⁸they have also presented their bodies as living sacrifice to God, in much ¹⁹the same manner as the Son of man did while he was here on earth. Saints means ²⁰godly people set apart for God, as it is, ²¹they are called to be the hands and feet of Christ to ²²take to Gospel of the Kingdom of God to the Heathen world.

The Children of God are ²³God's inheritance; they have come into this world ²⁴to be raised for him by their parents.

Most people would agree that it is the way children have been raised that will determine the future of a country. So it is with Canada, ²⁵eventually they will become its very soul and backbone that will determine the future strengths of this country. The question is, and I ask you, ²⁶Will Canada, the way it is going today, have the strengths that it will need as it moves ahead playing its part in a failing world?

Because I am talking to the world, a world that is largely separated from God, it is only right that we as his children give to the world a clear picture of the God whom we serve, and ²⁷that in a most simplistic way, the first and the most important picture for the world to know is, ²⁸he is the Creator of all things created, a Creator is ²⁹one who starts with nothing and comes up with something; he brings into existence something that has never existed.

Why is this the most important thing? Because the connection between the Creator and the created puts humanity into its rightful place as created beings, yes, in more ways than one.

The first most important connection is like a father and a mother who have a child, ³⁰**a life giving connection that cannot be changed.**

The second most important connection is again like a father and a mother who have a child, **it is the** ³¹**pleasure connection** the father and the mother have in their child, **a wonderful life living connection that compares with no other.**

And the third most important connection once again is like the father and the mother toward a child ³²**a cherish connection, a powerful life sustaining connection that compares with no other.**

When it comes to ³³**man's unbreakable link to his Creator, and too, man's rightful place within that link**, the Revelator John hits the nail on the head; listen to what he has to say, Revelations 4: 11. You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: **for**

you have created all things, and for your pleasure they are and were created.

In the most simplistic way, it was ³⁴man choosing to go his own separate way instead of allowing God to enjoy his creation, that has netted us ³⁵this present world, a ³⁶world that does not seek him nor include Him in any of its thoughts.

What was his choosing? Being tempted ³⁷by the Tempter, he ³⁸chose to be as gods, knowing good and evil, the very thing and ³⁹the only thing that God commanded man not to do before the fall of man.

The cost would be, and ⁴⁰not without being pre-warned: Adam, ⁴¹the first man our fleshly father, in lieu of ⁴²his disobedience to God, reaped for himself and for all of us, ⁴³**separation from God**, leaving us without the opportunity to know Him, ⁴⁴**spiritual death** leaving us with a lifeless spirit, ⁴⁵the very thing that gives man access to God, ⁴⁶**natural death**, ⁴⁸leaving us with short lives to live, only ⁴⁹to have our bodies returned to dust, **and last,** ⁵⁰**Satan as the god of this world**, ⁵¹leaving us under the authority of this tempter ⁵²who can snare at will those who do not believe, to do ⁵³his wicked deeds.

There is a component in the cherishing connection that gives ⁵⁴rebellious man a second chance. It is a ⁵⁵door that stand open for the return of every man. It is a true ⁵⁶Fatherly cherishing connection, not unlike that of a father and mother whose child has gone lost. My father's door stood open for eleven years, waiting for my return, how was I received, with open arms, with the past never discussed, he truly was a father in ⁵⁷the likeness of his loving, kind, and merciful Heavenly Father having nothing but good in mind for his children.

The Heavenly Father's ⁵⁸door stands open before you today, right here, right now, no matter ⁵⁹who you are, and no matter ⁶⁰what you have done: It is ⁶¹a door that the Father has opened, ⁶²that door is his Son, whom ⁶⁴he sent to establish peace between man and God; ⁶⁵and so reconciling man back unto himself by him. Here is what ⁶⁶the Father had the Son do;

One, he sent him ⁶⁷to lay down his life to pay the wage of death for the sins of man; he did this to ⁶⁸make man just before God.

Two, he had him ⁶⁹take away the power of death from Satan by rising from the dead, ⁷⁰setting man free from the bondage that comes with the fear of death.

Three, he sent him ⁷¹to give life to man in himself, and ⁷²so making him a new creature in Christ Jesus, ⁷³his only begotten Son.

Four, he sent him ⁷⁴to shed light on the kingdom of God, ⁷⁵so that man could make up his mind where he would like to spend his eternity, ⁷⁶in the kingdom of God, Daniel 7: 14, or ⁷⁷in a lake of fire

and brimstone prepared for the devil and his angels. Matthew 25: 41, Revelations 20: 10 – 20.

Five, he sent him ⁷⁸ to be the ^A Head and the ^B foundation and builder of the Body of Christ, ⁷⁹ the church of the living God, ⁸⁰ the pillar and the ground of truth.

Six, he sent him ⁸¹ into the world as the expressed invisible image of himself ⁸² making it possible for him to speak directly to man by his Son. Hebrews 1: 2.

Seven, he sent him ⁸³ to give man an opportunity to be transformed into the image of his Son, the image of God, ⁸⁴ the original pre-fall image of Adam. Genesis 1: 26. **(10m)**

We ⁸⁵ that know God have come to agree that our Creator God has nothing ⁸⁶ but good in mind for the man that he made. We have his ⁸⁷ faithful statements, Isaiah 46: 10. My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure, 46: 9. I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, 45: 21. There is no God beside me; a just God and a Savior; there is none beside me, 45: 22. Look unto me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else, 45: 18. For thus says the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he has established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else. Peter moved by the Holy Spirit recorded these words 2 Peter 3: 10. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12. Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13. Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness.

God has given to us ⁸⁸ the ability to choose, and ⁸⁹ he has also given to us our choices, either to come with him or to stay with the devil. It is that simple. To live the life that God has for us on this earth is also that simple, the prophet Micah wrote, Chapter 6: v8. He has shown you, O man what is good; and what does the LORD require of you, ⁹⁰ but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. In these few words we see what man's relationship is to be with God, as well we see what man's relationship is to be with man.

A ⁹¹lawyer trying to corner Jesus asked him this question, which is the greatest commandment in the law? Jesus replied, Matthew 22: 37. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all of your mind, 38. This is the first and great commandment. 39. And the second is like unto it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. It would be these final words, On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets, and the ⁹²study that would follow that would make it possible for me to walk away from being ⁹³a legalist insisting on keeping the law, ⁹⁴to walking in the simplicity that is in Christ Jesus, that is, to live my life by ⁹⁵the mind of Christ and ⁹⁶his righteousness, which ⁹⁷indeed is fulfilling the righteousness of the law, Christ said, ⁹⁸he came to fulfill the law and not to destroy it. My life now ⁹⁹is one of daily denying myself, to ¹⁰⁰walking and to ¹⁰¹co-working with him ¹⁰²in the will and good pleasure of God, that ¹⁰³pleasure is to extend his kingdom into the hearts of all ¹⁰⁴who will receive him. He says, ¹⁰⁵a kingdom that will never be destroyed.

The question now is, have you made your choice as to where you want to spend your eternity, if it is in the kingdom of God wherein dwells the righteousness of God, ¹⁰⁶then repent, that is turn ¹⁰⁷from sin and Satan unto God, and ¹⁰⁸**pray with a broken and contrite heart**

Heavenly Father thank you for ¹⁰⁹sending your Beloved Son to be the propitiation for the sins of the world, and so making those that receive this ¹¹⁰free gift, ¹¹¹just before you, thank you ¹¹²for giving to Him eternal life to give to all that believe in him.

I now receive your gift and ¹¹³confess before you and all, him ¹¹⁴as the Lord of my life, and ¹¹⁵as the Bishop and Shepherd of my soul. I now pray, O God, ¹¹⁶transform me into His image as promised, so ¹¹⁷that I like Him, will be worthy to serve you as His servant ¹¹⁸in this life and ¹¹⁹in the life to come. ¹²⁰In the Most High and Holy name of my Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus, I pray. Amen.

The Good news for you who have received Christ is this; you now can look forward to an eternal inheritance beyond compare: The prophecy of Daniel –7: 13. I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people,

nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. 27. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

My comfort zone, one of peace and contentment is Acts 17: 28. In him, I live, move, and have my being, (In him I live ¹²¹ an everlasting life, in him I move ¹²² in the will and good pleasure of my Father, ¹²³ in him I have my being to the glory of my Father.) ¹²⁴ A life that is good for now, yes, and for the life to come. And so I say to you, ¹²⁵ contentment with where God has you will be your greatest asset as he has ¹²⁶ you journey with him on this present day earth, ¹²⁷ knowing that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8: 28.

From here we move to the ¹²⁸ infallible word of God.

The importance of the word of God is very profound; it literally has everything that makes it possible for man ¹²⁹ to stand in the unity of the Spirit both with God ¹³⁰ and with man. It is this profoundness that I want address before bringing this talk to a conclusion: Matthew chapter 4 verse 4. has the most important words given regarding the word of God, here it is, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. **Why is God's word so important?** To shed light on this I will open by quoting John 6: 63. It is the spirit that quickens, the flesh profits nothing, the words that I speak they are spirit, and they are life. **The fact that they are spirit and life is what makes them so important,** for they when present in the heart and mind of man if exercised thereby will bring about what the spirit and life in his words are intended for; at the top of the list is this, to let us know that ¹³¹ God exists, that he wants us ¹³² to know and to understand him, ¹³³ to believe and ¹³⁴ to trust him, and finally ¹³⁵ to have faith in him and him alone; **for ¹³⁶ by the working of the word in us we are saved,** ¹³⁷ we are purged and ¹³⁸ purified and ¹³⁹ sanctified wholly fit for the Kingdom of God.

The principle focus point of God's word is ¹⁴⁰ the redemption of man and to give him an expected end, the focal points that tend to this focus point are these, ¹⁴¹ the spoken words of the Lord, ¹⁴² the works of ¹⁴³ the Holy Spirit, ¹⁴⁴ and the good works of the Servants of the Most High, the Saints of God.

God has let us know ¹⁴⁵ that his Son our Savior and Lord can save to the uttermost. But why wait that long when we can ¹⁴⁶ train up a

child in the way he should go, the book of Proverbs says, and when he is old he will not depart from it. **This is what CEC Canada is all about;** to give children the opportunity to get to know their Creator God who has nothing but the best in mind for them.

God's love for your children compels us say to parents: The very fact that many of you have not paid full attention to the real issues of life regarding your own children, that you take the initiative to look at God, using these pages as a stepping stone to the word of God, and then because you have not directed your children from a young age to direct them to those who qualify to teach them ¹⁴⁷ according to the full counsel of God, ¹⁴⁸ which happens to be all the things our Lord heard from his Father, ¹⁴⁹ for it is the Father who works all things after the counsel of his own will, will also see to it that what he has counseled himself to have, will also become a reality: a new heavens and a new earth for his people.

In closing we invite you to go to our website, www.ceccanada.com in particular to page 3 on the table of contents, here you will find biblical support for God's vision and his counsel. **We also invite you to download this speech** in PDF printed form, complete with scripture support to give you a head start in the study of God's word.

www.ceccanada.com is CEC Canada's front door, we invite you to spend time behind this door to find out what God has in store for your children.

The purpose of the site is sevenfold: They are:

1. To link the Association with Canada.
2. To let Canadians and beyond know who CEC Canada is.
3. To let them know what CEC Canada's calling is.
4. To let them know how CEC Canada will fulfill its calling.
5. To call and to employ leadership, management and staff.
6. To attract parents and children to a viable education option.
7. To call for the support of God's vision for CEC Canada, the education of the young of Canada, a most noble and honorable cause for such a time as this.

Our next topics – What are the most effective words Satan has used to keep people from knowing God, followed by, [becoming comfortable and content with God](#), the last of this series and the most important as it applies to this life and the life to come; [In short, what it is to be godly, what it is to live a godly life, and finally what it means to take part in the exercise of promoting this life](#). **Thank you for listening,**

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Exhaustive study – as you move on to looking at the 149 reference in God’s word, you will find that many of the scripture passages come with cross reference, these are to shed light on the passages you will read, some to help to understand what you have read, others to give support, and others to confirm and to strengthen. The Bible CEC Canada uses is the Authorized King James Reference Bible, it has a myriad of centre column references to help students/disciples with their learning. The most important thing is never to take passages out of context.

The foundational materials CEC Canada has used to bring this work together is the Authorized King James Reference Bible, Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance, and [http:// www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

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