

The Verity Voice

Newsletter of the Verity Institute



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Graduation

Verity Institute held its seventh annual commencement exercise this past Saturday, May 30, 2009, at 10:30a.m. at the local New Palestine High School. Hundreds of parents, siblings, grandparents and friends came to celebrate this special milestone in the lives of the 40 graduates of the class of 2009.

Immediately before proceeding into the auditorium, the graduates gathered for a time of prayer with Dr. McCray and Dr. Gothard. The spontaneous prayers of the graduates evidenced the powerful one accord that the students had developed throughout their 21-month-long journey together.

Tears welled in many eyes as the ceremony began and the graduates marched to the front of the room. In the student's faces could be seen thankfulness for God's faithfulness in their academic studies, as well as His goodness in the close friendships they had formed as a class.

The commencement speaker was Dr. Larry Guthrie, who has been a guest lecturer at Verity for the past two years. In his distinctive way, Dr. Guthrie reminded the students that "one thing is needful": sitting at the feet of Jesus.

Dr. Bill Gothard, the Chancellor of Verity, also addressed the graduates. Dr. Gothard charged the students to take a stand against the anti-Christian culture by living out Christ's commands.

Class speaker Bethany Bergeron challenged her peers to "GO FORTH." Class Speaker Joshua Cook responded to Dr. Gothard's message with several remarks; then he called Micah Lawrence, Adam Anders, and Peter Kroon to join him on stage to sing a lively rendition of "Brighten the Corner Where You Are" by Ina Ogdon.



Immediately following the Commencement Ceremony, the graduates and their guests reconvened for a luncheon back on the Verity campus. From start to finish, Commencement was truly a celebration of God's faithfulness in the lives of the 2009 Verity students. Congratulations to the Class of 2009 and praise to the Lord!

Alumni Luncheon

With the class of 2009, the number of Verity graduates has increased to over 300. On Friday, May 29, 2009, Joshua Cook, the Alumni Coordinator, hosted a luncheon for the Verity Alumni. About thirty alumni, representing the classes of 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008 attended. Everyone who came enjoyed visiting with one another, over the delicious meal. James Risner, a 2003 graduate who is now a pastor, was the special speaker. He shared with the group a timely message to trust God in all of our decisions.

The first annual alumni lunch was a huge success. As one of the alumni thanked Josh, "Great food, great message, great fellowship!"

