New Prospect

I think it was 1976 when I started attending New Prospect Church.  I had attended a few revival services during high school but this was my first time to be at regular services.  Some of my former class mates were members of the church and I had been out of church for a few years.  I felt a real emptiness in my heart and I knew I needed what the Lord would provide through his church.  I began attending services regularly.  The preaching really blessed me and I realized that I was receiving what I needed as a young Christian.  I enjoyed the whole worship experience.  It was an old fashion type worship that I found very fulfilling.

Soon after I started going to New Prospect I moved my letter and became a member of New Prospect Missionary Baptist Church.  The following church year I was asked to teach the youth Sunday School class.  That year there were two young men in the class that were saved.  As far as I know that was my first time to help lead someone to Christ.  The thrill that the Lord provided me was unexplainable.  I had never had such joy as a Christian.  There was no way of knowing what God had in store for me.

  In the fall of 1976 Kathie and I started dating on a regular basis and at Christmas we were engaged.  While we were dating I realized God was calling me to the ministry.  In August of 1977 Kathie and I were married at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, where Kathie attended.  Brother Haskel Adamson, my pastor at New Prospect, married us.

Brother Haskel had a great influence on me and my ministry.  The fourth Sunday of January 1978 I surrendered to the call to preach. I was given my first appointment to preach at New Prospect on the following Sunday after I surrendered to the call.  Brother Haskel gave me wise counsel in the beginning of my preaching years.  He taught me to study, encouraged me in the Scriptures and prayed for me. I am so grateful for being a part of New Prospect Church during those years.  In a spiritual sense those were very formative years for me.  It was the beginning of Kathie and my marriage, the beginning of my ministry, and I was learning about church and church matters.

 September of 1979 New Prospect Church ordained me.  It is easy to see that many wonderful things happened to me at New Prospect.  I thank God for them.  They were and still are some of the best people in the world.   Some of them have prayed for me throughout the forty-one years of my ministry.  When I think of New Prospect and their influence in my ministry I must say “To God be the glory!  Great things he hath done!”

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram