

Transforming Sydney Newsletter May 2014

Welcome to the fourth edition of the newsletter for Transforming Sydney. This month we are focussed on the sphere of Law & Justice.

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Note: articles in this Newsletter reflect the opinion and witness of the respective authors, which may or may not align with your own; consider this with Ephesians 4:1-7 in mind.

TRANSFORMING
SYDNEY

What's Inside...

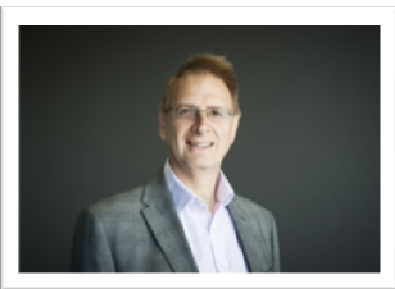
This edition contains articles from leaders in the domain of Law and Justice, and across the Body of Christ:

- ♥ Professor Michael Adams; *Law and Justice for Law Students*
- ♥ Zillah Williams; *Canon Jim Glennon's Teaching on Healing*
- ♥ Rev. George Habib; *Police Chaplaincy*
- ♥ Pastor Lilian Schmid; *Birth of "Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries" in Sydney, Australia*
- ♥ Christine Hohmann-Andrasch; *Resting in God – an Invitation from Jesus*
- ♥ Graham McDonald, Children of the World; *Mother's Day and the Christian Connection*
- ♥ Voice of the Martyrs; *Praying for the Persecuted Church*
- ♥ Anita Femiano; *Renewal Ministries Fellowship*
- ♥ Jason Golden; *Catch The Fire Ministries*
- ♥ Bill Muehlenberg; *The Fall and Redemption of Law*
- ♥ Pastor Glen Vines; *Lion's Roar House Of Prayer*

And more - now 24 pages - can anyone say 'Amen'?

Law and Justice for Law Students

(By Professor Michael Adams, Dean of the School of Law, University of Western Sydney - www.uws.edu.au/law)



Many people believe that there are not many lawyers that are practising Christians and that somehow the two areas of life cannot co-exist. In fact, in my experience as a lawyer for 30 years and a Christian for over half that time – I come across many judges, barristers, solicitors, in-house counsel, government lawyers, not-for-profit lawyers and legal academics – who proclaim their faith and are involved directly with the law.

The Bible has at least 67 references to justice (www.openbible.info/topics/justice) and I have always been touched by Proverbs 21:15 “*when justice is done, it is a joy to the righteous*”. Law is not always about justice, as there are many factors at play. My focus is on the legal education of students to become future lawyers and my own specialist area of corporate law and governance.

Over the last 20 years there has been a major growth in the number of law schools (currently 38 institutions) and the overall number of law students has grown by 32% in the last decade. In fact, the UWS law student body has grown by 50% and is the fourth largest law school in Australia (QUT is the biggest, followed by Macquarie and Monash universities). All law students are required to learn what is known as the Priestley 11 law subjects. These are the mandated content of all degrees if a person is seeking admission to practice as a lawyer (whether as a solicitor or as a barrister). It is the minimum academic requirement that has to be complied with and currently all Australian law schools follow this regime. One of those subjects is ethics and most of the subject areas are the traditional criminal, contracts, torts, evidence etc, as you would expect.

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Law and Justice for Law Students (...continued)

UWS, from its beginning in 1996, decided that as part of its Mission, a social justice focus would be included (even embedded into the whole law degree). The UWS Law School Mission states:

"Our mission is to be a law school which excels in education and research and values its students and staff. In the spirit of intellectual freedom we critically and ethically engage with the law and the issues of our time. We are actively committed to socially just and professional practice and we support and challenge our graduates to serve their communities with the same commitment."

A logical follow-up question would be is how this Mission become translates into the actual teaching of the LLB degree. The answer is through what are known as Graduate Attributes and also the individual unit (subject) learning outcomes, as well as the course (degree or program) learning outcome. Most universities have become much clearer at stating what is required in this context. UWS can demonstrate in its teaching and assessment that students gain knowledge and application of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander customary laws through the teaching of the Mabo case; the Stolen Generation impact; the high levels of incarceration of Indigenous people in jails etc. These topics arise in the first Introduction to Law unit, in Property Law and in Criminal Law, as well as in electives, such as Indigenous Peoples and the Law.

On a more practical level, UWS supports and encourages students to take place in pro bono legal activities, such as community law centres. UWS has a close relationship with the Macquarie Legal Centre (MLC) in Parramatta and the Macarthur Legal Centre in Campbelltown. Our students can study an intensive unit called "Clinical Legal Placement" for credit at the Parramatta Community Justice Clinic (http://www.uws.edu.au/law/school_of_law/parramatta_community_justice_clinic). The PCJC was established in the Parramatta Local Court building in 2009 and is a joint venture with MLC. It provides up to four law students per week to get real experience of helping others who cannot afford legal help through the ordinary channels of legal aid or private solicitors. It has been estimated that over \$350,000 worth of free legal advice has been provided to the community since the scheme was established.

Other universities also provide similar *pro bono* experiences and support community law centres. As a law dean, I have the privilege of representing the Council of Australian Law Deans on the National pro Bono Resource Centre, based at the Faculty of Law, UNSW.

The Lawyers Christian Fellowship (<http://lawyerschristianfellowship.org/>) is based in Sydney and was started in the early 1960s, followed in Brisbane by the Christian Lawyers Society (<http://www.christianlawyers.asn.au/>) in 2000, and other similar organisations around the world.

Universities are very much secular environments and UWS has a strong Muslim heritage of students, as well as other religions including Jews and Christians. There is great diversity and respect for the different religious groups on all campuses and chaplaincy services are freely available to everyone. I very much enjoy contact with Christian students when they disclose and many know that I have a strong person faith system. However, mutual respect between all our students and future lawyers, must not be undermined and there is no place for racism in our society. Many of Australia's major institutions commenced from a Christian basis, but in the 21st century our multi-cultural society of many generations of immigrants has changed the culture of these institutions, or they have evolved to support a diverse community. The Salvation Army for instance provides a legal service (as well as many other aspects of social welfare) that enables funds made from commercial or conveyancing work to be directed to help a large number of individuals with legal problems.

The law impacts on everyone, but having Christians who are lawyers adds a further dimension to the concepts of social justice or in the business world, to corporate social responsibility. I think the Bible sums up the position in Amos 5:24, which states "*let justice roll down like water*".

Professor Michael Adams, 4th April 2014.

http://www.uws.edu.au/sol/school_of_law/academic_profiles/michael_adams

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/profmadams>

Canon Jim Glennon's Teaching on Healing

(By Zillah Williams)

In September 1960 **Canon Jim Glennon** began a healing ministry in St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney. For over twenty years he ministered to packed congregations on Wednesday nights. People who came to the Wednesday meetings were provided with notes of the previous week's sermon. At first, these were done using a duplicating machine. When Canon Glennon died, in 2005, I began to wonder how his teaching would be preserved. It was too valuable to lose and only those people who had received, and saved, the regular sermon notes would have continuing access to it - another problem being that the paper used in the early days of the duplication process was fragile and would disintegrate in time.

Canon Glennon wrote two books about the ministry of healing, both of which are still in print. However, they approach the subject in a more theological way than the weekly sermons. The sermons offered a practical approach. They showed the "how" of appropriating healing for the ordinary person to understand.

With all this in mind I approached Mr Sid Eavis, Canon Glennon's friend and executor, for permission to prepare a devotional book using the sermon notes. Mr Eavis kindly agreed and the result was the book **Healing is a Way of Life: Practical steps to healing** - a series of daily teaching over a five-day period.

The book doesn't include all Canon Glennon's sermons but encapsulates the kernel of his teaching - how God's provision extends to every area of our lives and what the Prayer of Faith means; the importance of forgiveness; the need to depend on God more and of knowing how to pray in faith.

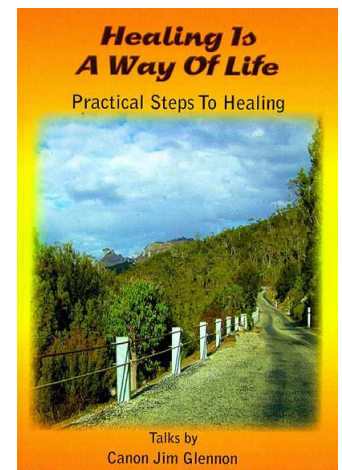
In a sermon giving a review of his teaching on the healing ministry, Jim Glennon said:

"About twelve months after I had begun the Healing Ministry in the Cathedral some young people in the congregation felt guided to go out and work for God in other places. I was very, very impressed with what they were doing, so much so that I said to God that I would go too—I would do whatever he told me to do. Again I was spoken to by the Holy Spirit. He said: 'You are to learn how to pray'. That is the purpose to which God has been pleased to call me.

"I am sharing with you, not only my own call, but what I find to be a blessing to us all. Let your problems enable you to trust, not in yourself but in God, and make it a way of life. It is simple. It is straightforward. You will have to persevere, but it will work for you in the same way as I have found it worked for me and for many, many others. God bless you."

Information about the printed book can be found on the web at: <http://users.tpg.com.au/zillah46/authors.html>

It is also available as an e-book through Smashwords: <https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/245932>



With your help, people can also realise that donating their unwanted but reusable items can go a long way to helping those in need – and all with a simple click of a button! So please help spread the word about what we do by sharing news about us or getting them to visit www.heartforthehomeless.org.

With much excitement –
The Heart for the Homeless team

POLICE CHAPLAINCY

Police chaplaincy's role started in NSW by 1980

The current number of police chaplains in NSW is 98

The duty of a police chaplain is to walk alongside police officers [men and women, sworn and unsworn] helping them to attain wellness within the workplace so that they become more productive and in a better standing to put into effect law and order; the role can be extended to assist the officers' families with the emotional and spiritual support.

The task of a police chaplain will be one of:

1. Acceptance [no matter what is the person's background],
2. Availability to assist police, as individuals, on overcoming problems, not necessarily at the workplace, but both also in times of joy and celebration as well as at critical incidents or times of grief and sadness.
3. Confidentiality [unlimited in the most appropriate ways].

CHAPLAINCY IS NOT ABOUT DOING !

IT IS ABOUT BEING ... FRATERNITY IN HUMANITY ... (ANDERSON 2008:24)

A CHAPLAIN IS A SHOULDER TO LEAN ON ..



Rev. George Habib - Regional Chaplain of the NSW Police Force at Fairfield LAC

George Habib was born in Beirut, Lebanon, married with two children. He grew up within a Christian family focussing on both the human and spiritual values based on the concept of love and traditions which urged him to search, and for many years, to what would quench his heart's desire for God's purpose and his eagerness to please God.

George was for many years involved in the safety consultancy and security trading business. In 1997 he migrated to Australia with his family to establish his own business; at the same time his interest in the Christian social service began to be developed especially in the Sutherland shire.

In 1999, as a result of several spiritual encounters and in response to his exhortation to God regarding the supreme calling, George dedicated his life to the Kingdom's service, leading him to respond and close the doors of his business, heading back to full time study of Theology in Sydney and completed the course of pastoral ministry (2003), then in Psychology and Christian Counselling (2013).

The Reverend George Habib has a heart of a shepherd and the enthusiasm of a motivator/ coach; he planted since 2003 an Arabic Christian fellowship where he ministered for a period of ten years aiming for a more cohesive and positive community; he also organised 2 massive outreaches in many Australian states with a theme revolving around the role of faith in getting rid of addictive habits.

"I am eager to see the community joining together around the common finest things with an outcome working towards the glorification of God through Jesus Christ, who gives water to the thirst, light amidst the darkness, salt to the earth, joy and consolation to the oppressed", clarified the Rev. chaplain George Habib; "my mission at the Fairfield Police Station will face many challenges, but I believe that by the wisdom and awareness coming down from the bosom of God and with the extensive experience in pastoral care and counselling, a better society will be on its way specifically to the family of Fairfield Local Area Command."

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POLICE CHAPLAINCY (...continued)



“One of the most gratifying facets of my job as a chaplain, is that every time I sit and chat with an individual, grace will prevail and I will come away refreshed, encouraged and fulfilled.”

The one-on-one care, my presence and the ear to listen are of my strengths, and my passion is to see the broader community becoming more at peace with itself and with one another.



EVANGELISTS' FORUM:

MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES

9-11 MAY 2014

Kihilla, Queen's Rd Lawson

Are you passionate about reaching people with the gospel and making disciples who make disciples?

Would you benefit from connecting and workshopping with like-minded practitioners?

Would you value learning best practice from recognised leaders in the field?

Then we invite you to join in the first 'Multiplying Disciples' forum hosted by Church Army Australia

Our experienced facilitators include Michelle Addison and Zack Woolwine, who all have years of experience in training and evangelism

The cost is \$150 which includes meals and accommodation

RSVP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE YOUR SEAT AT THIS EXCITING, NOT TO BE MISSED EVENT

For more info or rsvp to: registration@churcharmy.com.au

Announcement of the birth of

“Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries” in Sydney, Australia

(By Pastor Lilian Schmid)

God’s Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries, and Worldwide Prayer Request Lists, Bible Study and song and music videos established by Dale Phillips is one of the oldest Worldwide Prayer Warrior Ministries on the Internet today and it could possibly have the largest active number of worldwide prayer warriors of any similar ministry.

Dale Phillips is from Chickasha, Oklahoma USA, has been a worldwide family genealogist for most of his adult life, and still does this from time to time. For years he did not have a computer and all his family genealogy hunting was by driving from one old court house to another on his vacation time. He and his wife Clara Ann founded a “worldwide/national travelling family genealogy library” and took it from state to state all over the USA setting up at Best Western Inns.” free of charge!

In January 2004, Dale’s daughter Pollyanna was diagnosed with cervical cancer in 4th stage with 29 cancerous lymph nodes. He then started emailing out prayer request to his family genealogy friends. They reciprocated and sent him prayer requests; this is when Dale found, organised and expedited “Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries”. Pollyanna died at 47 years old in 2005, and when his precious, loving wife Clara Ann “BREES” Phillips was sick for several years, he decided to send out prayer requests for her. Clara died in July 2009.

All this time “Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries” grew in numbers to well over 80,000 people living worldwide and is still growing in numbers today (Dale has stopped counting).

Dale flew in U.S Navy Bomber crew #9, PB4Y2, Privateer, 4 engine bomber as a Radar operator and electronic tech, Pacific Theater WW2 depending on the missions. He Then served on U.S. Navy Fleet carrier U.S.S. Valley Forge CV45, “Carrier Air Group Five” (CAG5), as a radar operator in U.S. Navy SkyRaider Bombers. Dale and his colleagues were the first Carrier Fighter/Bombers to take the fight to North Korea, and the Russians and Chinese too (as they were there fighting also). Dale fought side by side with Aussies: he found that they were trained to fight a war; they never backed away from anything, or anybody.

In early April 2014 I received an email from Dale Philips saying:

“Father God gave us this Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries, this Worldwide Prayer Request List, all the Music Song videos, and Bible Study, if we continue to allow so called Christians not to cover “OTHERS” in prayer and continue to let all of them stay, without culling them from our ministry, Father God gave all of us this ministry to manage for Him, and if all of us drops the ball and mismanage our Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries, God can take our ministry away from all of us, as easy and willing that He gave our Ministry to all of us. This is why I email a Spring Clean Up, at least 1 or 2 times per year and for sure our worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries gains more Worldwide Prayer Warriors than removes themselves from our ministry.

Christians, Father God has always been good to your Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries, and Your Worldwide Prayer Request List. He has blessed this ministry many times over!

I have thought about this and prayed about this many times, I am getting up into age now, therefore hoping someone will take over our Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries and Worldwide Prayer Request Lists, Bible Study and music and song. I still feel my oats and will carry on with God’s gift, but I just wanted to say something here about this today.

I need all your prayers, I can receive, asking Father God to give me strength, His power to carry on with His ministry. Amen!

Also, pray that a good Christian lady or man steps forward if I should fall and take over this ministry where I left off. I’m sure not planning on doing this, but at my age it sure could happen.”

I Lilian felt the Lord speaking to me about the above and I took 9 days to pray and meditate on the word of God, and received 5 confirmations. Following this Dale Philips sent me an email saying:

“I would like to plant a Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries in Sydney, Australia”

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“Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries” (...continued)

This is how God opened the door to establish this amazing ministry in Australia.

On the 19/4/2014 Dale sent a message to all his network announcing the beginning of “Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries” in Sydney, Australia:

“To all Worldwide Prayer Warriors, with Father God’s guidance and leadership, we planted a “Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries, a Worldwide Prayer Request List, a Bible Study Program, and Music and Song videos located at Sydney, Australia, under the leadership, management, publication and circulation over internet with.....Sydney, Australia... “Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries” & Worldwide Prayer Request List,” Pastors Bjorn and Lilian Schmid worldprayernetwork1@gmail.com

All Christians living on earth today works for Father God. He made this earth & all things of this earth, including all the people. He gave us his only Son to die on a wooden Cross for all our sins & we will celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ ‘resurrection” this Sunday, attending churches all over this world. All Christians wants to live like our Lord Jesus Christ & the way we learn to live like our Lord Jesus Christ is to do this... 1) LOVE THE WORD,... 2) LEARN THE WORD... and 3) LIVE THE WORD... and, This is a LIFE TIME BIBLE STUDY.”

From here we announce the birth of “Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries” in Sydney, Australia”

Reflection on Prayer

“Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.”

These words from the prayer Jesus taught his disciples express God’s plan and purpose in this

world. They bring together in the simplest and most powerful way, to welcome the kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven, We are challenged to open our hearts to the renewing and empowering of his Holy Spirit, to be transformed into His likeness and to be equipped to go into the world and make disciples. This prayer is a declaration of our sure and certain hope that the day is coming when the kingdoms of the world will become the kingdom of our Lord and Christ, and that He will reign for ever and ever. When we truly pray this prayer, God gives us his eyes to see the need of the world from his perspective and he begins to birth in us the strategies to reach them.

What does Jesus say about prayer? Jesus says in Matthew 15:7-9, *“You people talk about my teachings with your mouth, you do honor me with your lips, but you don't do the things I say to do: you hypocrites. In vain you worship me, teaching the commandments of men as my doctrine.”* In Matthew 6:5-8 He says, *“When you pray, show no one. Prayer is between you and your Father. DO NOT use vain repetition. DO NOT ask for earthly things; your Father knows what things you need to carry out the things he wants you to do.”*

From the Sermon on the Mount onward, Jesus insists on a fundamental disposition for prayer, and a conversion of heart. *“Reconciliation with one’s brother before presenting an offering on the altar, love of enemies and prayer for persecutors, prayer to the Father in secret, not heaping up empty phrases, prayerful forgiveness from the depths of the heart and seeking the kingdom before all else. This filial conversion is entirely directed to the Father (Matt 5:23-33).”* St Augustine wonderfully summarises the three dimensions of Jesus’ prayer. He prays for us as our priest, prays in us as our Head, and is prayed to by us as our God, therefore let us acknowledge our voice in Him and His in us Psalm 85.

Galatians 6:5 tells us there are burdens for which each one must take responsibility. He must seek God’s help and do what he can for himself. In 2 Corinthians 1:8-11, Paul writes of the extreme pressures that can be handled only through the prayers of others. To be guilty of the sin of prayerlessness is to be guilty of the worst form of practical atheism. It is actually saying we can get along without His help while the evidence is very clear on every hand that we cannot. Could it be that the sin of prayerlessness stems from our unbelief that he is a living God who exercises direct influence on the affairs of men? Instead of waiting until crisis problems develop which result in panic praying for others, we need to trust God to protect them as we pray Spirit-led, thoughtful, caring prayers before the problems overwhelm them, and they are unable to cope. We need to engage in major battles, not just minor skirmishes, moving from surface praying to in-depth praying. We need to pray both defensively and offensively.

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“To be guilty of the sin of prayerlessness is to be guilty of the worst form of practical atheism. It is actually saying we can get along without His help while the evidence is very clear on every hand that we cannot.”

“Worldwide Prayer Warriors Ministries” (...continued)

ACCEPT YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PRAY FOR OTHERS

May you accept your responsibility of interceding for others by getting down to the real business of praying for them. “O God, awaken us all to our responsibility to pray for one another so that all Christians may glorify you and fulfill the purpose for which we have been saved!”



Format for your needs to pray

Please put your requests under the correct category(s) below and send to worldprayernetwork1@gmail.com

(You may wish to copy these into your email and put in your requests under each category - due to the number of emails received, we may not be able include your requests if you do not help us with this minor task.)

The grace and peace of our Lord be with you now and always, Amen.

1 - Personal prayers

This is for the list of people who have personal prayer requests.

2 - Health and Prayers for Healing

This is for the list of people who are sick and have physical and psychological illnesses.

3 - Salvation Prayers

This list is for family, relatives and people who we wish to become Christians

4 - Prayers for World Missionaries

This list includes the names of Missionaries around the world.

5 - Prayers for Death in Families

This list is the names of people who are grieving, people who lost loved ones and other issues within this category.

6 - Praying for Worldwide Church for Reconciliation among denominations (Protestants, Catholics, Orthodox, Pentecostal)

We pray for unity among all church denominations.

7 - Praying for Australian and World Governments and Military

This section is to pray for all Government Bodies and Military

8 - Praying for World Business (Finance and Trade)

Praying for people in Business and for the domain of Business in Australia and overseas

9 - Praying for Countries (Israel, Middle East, Africa, Europe, North & South America, Australia, Asia)

Praying for Persecuted Christians everywhere in the world and praying for many to know Christ and become baptised.

10 - Pray for Pastors and Intercessors across the globe

Praying for Catholic and Orthodox priests, Protestant priests and ministers, Pentecostal pastors and other religious figures like monks, nuns, deacons, chaplains, pastoral carers, intercessors, prayer warriors and others.

What is Proclaim 2014?

PROCLAIM 2014 is a conference on the New Evangelisation organised on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference by the National Office for Evangelisation. The first conference, PROCLAIM 2012, attracted over 400 participants each day and PROCLAIM 2014 promises to attract even more.

PROCLAIM
2014



PROCLAIM 2014 is about helping Catholics respond to the call to the new evangelisation, helping to build our parishes as faith communities full of disciples and missionary in outlook. PROCLAIM 2014 will draw upon Pope Francis' encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium* with its theme being 'Living the Joy of the Gospel in Parishes' and uses the practical suggestions in *Rebuilt* to help those involved in parishes across Australia to Awaken to the Challenges facing the Church, Live their Missionary Call and Transform the Parish.

Keynote Speakers

The keynote speakers are Fr Michael White & Tom Corcoran, authors of the book *Rebuilt: Awakening the Faithful, Reaching the Lost, Making Church Matter*. Over a number of years these two men have worked together to rebuild the parish of Church of the Nativity, at Timonium, North Baltimore (USA). In *Rebuilt* they share what they learnt along the way: successes and failures.

"Whatever kind of parish you're in, whatever style of Church you're leading, whatever the culture of your community, you can grow a healthy parish." (*Rebuilt*, Preface, pxviii - for more on *Rebuilt*, visit: www.rebuiltparish.com)

When? 21-23 August 2014

Where? The Concourse, Chatswood (business district in northern Sydney)

Who for? This conference is for people who are interested in the new evangelisation in parishes. It is for those who are already actively engaged and those who desire to be part of the new evangelisation. It is for those who are passionate about sharing faith through witness, proclamation and service to others.

PROCLAIM 2014 will bring together over 500 Catholics over a period of three days in Sydney and is for clergy, religious, diocesan and parish staff and volunteers; married and single people, young and old.

Why? PROCLAIM 2014 is about helping Catholics respond to the call to engage in the new evangelisation. It is about helping to build parishes as faith communities, full of disciples and missionary in outlook.

Pope Francis tells us in *Evangelii Gaudium* (EG) that "parishes play an essential role in evangelisation"(n28).

PROCLAIM 2014 is also responding to this call from the Pope "to review and renew our parishes . . . to make them environments of living communion and participation, and to make them completely mission-oriented." (n28)

How? PROCLAIM 2014 draws upon *Evangelii Gaudium* and has as its theme 'Living the Joy of the Gospel in Parishes'. Over three days participants will be encouraged to Awaken to the Challenges facing the Church, Live their Missionary Call and Transform the Parish.

The structure of the conference allows for participants to network extensively with leaders in parish communities, members of groups and movements, personnel from diocesan agencies and to share practical ideas for making healthy and evangelising parishes.

PROCLAIM 2014 keynote speakers have successfully responded to the call to evangelisation and through their missionary efforts have rebuilt their dying Parish and brought back Catholics to a living faith. Their personal experience will provide invaluable support, ideas and pastoral initiatives for Parishes around Australia. Complementing the keynotes, specialists in a wide variety of fields from all over Australia will conduct practical workshops specifically designed to build evangelising parishes.

For more information please go to the website www.proclaimconference.com.au

Resting in God – an Invitation from Jesus



(By Christine Hohmann-Andrasch, River of Life Conference Inc.)

“Be still, and know that I am God. I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world.” Psalm 46:10 New Living Translation (NLT)

Be still and know that I am God, Be still and know, Be still, Be It is essential to get into the habit to ‘be’ with the one who gives life, hope and rest – Jesus Christ.

There is to be a joy in our walk with God and our ministry for Him. There is a freedom and a lightness in which we are to live – almost a carefree attitude and approach. Being with the one who loves and accepts us just as we are, gives us a sense of security and it is in that place of surrender that we find hope and joy with a confidence that makes our heart burst with life, knowing that God is in control. Jesus is on our side and He looks out for us and He wants us to live a life of total abandonment, knowing His heart towards us is filled with love and grace.

As children of God our relationship with the Father is sealed, it is up to us to maintain our fellowship with the Father, to be mindful to make the time to ‘Be’ As we draw near to the Father we enjoy His sweet words of encouragement and we gain wisdom as we surrender to Him, learning to let go and let God have His way in our lives. We then find an inner strength that sustains and empowers us to face life no matter what our circumstances are. In our fellowship with Jesus we understand the prompting of the Holy Spirit in our lives, we learn to become sensitive to what is important in our spiritual walk, not only for ourselves but also for the people in our world.

Our God is a good God and knowing Him intimately will cause us to truly rest in Him, trusting Him with our lives.

Inspired by prayer buddies.



centre for public christianity **beyond religion**

The **Centre for Public Christianity** (CPX) is a not-for-profit media company that offers a Christian perspective on contemporary life. We seek to promote the public understanding of the Christian faith by engaging mainstream media and the general public with high quality and well-researched print, video and audio material about the relevance of Christianity in the 21st century.

Check latest events here <http://publicchristianity.org/about>

Prayers and Meditations

Adopting a Senator and a Member of Parliament (MP)

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."
[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

For 2014 the Lord put in our hearts to start these initiatives: "Adopt a Senator" and "Adopt an MP". Choose one federal MP (House of Representatives) and One Senator in the Australian parliament to pray for each day.

You can get a current list of federal politicians from the Australian Parliament House website www.aph.gov.au

Adopting a Senator and MP

www.transformingsydney.org/TSAdoptASenatorMP.html

Adopting A Suburb

www.transformingsydney.org/TSAdoptASuburb.html

National Prayer Strategy for the 10 Domains

www.tendoamins.org

Mother's Day and the Christian Connection



Mother's Day - Second Sunday in May

Celebration of Mothers over the centuries has appeared in varying forms and traditions since and possibly before Roman times.

In the 1600s' the Church of England instigated Mothering Sunday in recognition of Mary the Mother of Jesus. Later this religious celebration was expanded to include honouring all mothers. As time passed, this celebration slowly disappeared from the church calendar.

The seed for Mother's Day that we celebrate today had its beginning in 1858 with Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis a Christian lady who was working to heal the nation after the Civil War. Her strategy was to promote and elevate the important role of mothers and help them to create healthier and more hygienic homes. From this she instigated a 'Mothers Friendship Day' which eventually developed into a national movement called 'Mothers Friendship Clubs'. At these clubs Ann would teach the mothers basic nursing and safe sanitation practices to be used in the home, which she had learned from her brother who was a famous M.D. This resulted in many lives being saved and by offering this service to both sides of those involved in the Civil War it was instrumental in facilitating the reconciliation process between Union and Confederate neighbours.



When Ann Marie Jarvis passed away after a long illness, one of her two daughters, Anna decided to dedicate her life to her mother's dream of a Mother's Day to honour all mothers around the world. Anna missed her mother greatly and felt children often neglected to appreciate their mother enough while the mother was still alive. As a Sunday school teacher for twenty years at her church, she was very aware of the Fifth of the Ten Commandments, "*Honour your father and mother*" and no doubt would have taught this to her students. She shared her desire to bring to fruition her mother's dream and it was readily accepted by her friends. The first such service was held at her church and she handed out her mother's favourite flower, the White Carnation. At first, people observed Mother's Day by attending church and writing letters to their mothers.

After much letter writing and lobbying the Governors of Oklahoma and West Virginia in 1910 proclaimed the Second Sunday in May to be celebrated as Mother's Day. The acceptance of this celebration throughout the USA was breath taking. By 1911 there was not one state in the USA that did not have its own observance of Mother's Day.

On May 9th 1914, President Woodrow Wilson, proclaimed the Second Sunday in May as Mother's Day and a national holiday. It was not long before the Mother's Day celebration was embraced by other nations as far away as Japan, China, Africa, South America and some Asian countries.

Within ten years, the rapid commercialisation and exploitation of this sacred and joyous celebration for Mothers caused Anna much grief. She went on to spend her inheritance fighting against the abuse of this Christian based celebration and said that she 'wished she would never have started the day because it became so out of control...'

Despite Anna Jarvis's misgivings, Mother's Day has flourished all around the world. In the USA the Second Sunday in May has become the most popular day of the year to dine out, and the telephone lines record their highest traffic.

However let us not forget the original intention as set out by God to celebrate and honour the mothers in our families, in our churches and in our society.

*Compiled by Graham McDonald, Campus Crusade for Christ Australia, graham.mcdonald@ccca.org.au
Children of the World a ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ Australia, www.children.org.au*

Marriage Week AUSTRALIA

We have a 16-page "Resource Kit" bringing together resources and ideas to build a vibrant, effect marriage ministry that can reach out to the wider community. It contains simple ideas on how you might participate in Marriage Week. There are no costs involved – simply follow the link below to get the complete, printable, PDF Kit emailed to you.

<http://marriageweek.org.au/run/kitform.php>

Praying for the Persecuted Church

"Woe to those who decree unrighteous decrees, who write misfortune, which they have prescribed to rob the needy of justice, and to take what is right from the poor of My people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless. What will you do in the day of punishment...?" Isaiah 10:1-3 NKJV

KENYA: Six Fatalities After Church Attacked by Gunmen

Sources: Open Doors, World Watch Monitor, Christian Solidarity Worldwide

On the morning of March 23rd, as a congregation gathered for worship at their church in Likoni, a hooded gunman burst through the church's back door and began firing indiscriminately. Those who tried to flee through the church's main door were met with gunfire from several more assailants waiting outside.

"They forced their way through the rear door, shot the watchman who staggered into the church before falling down. One attacker shouted 'Allah Akbar!' and started shooting in every direction," a devastated survivor shared.

As suddenly as they had come, the attackers abruptly and calmly walked away, disappearing into the surrounding slums. Police later found a box containing 36 rounds of ammunition that had been left at the scene.

Six Christians died from the assault, while over 20 were hospitalized. Many of the injured had gunshot wounds while others suffered soft tissue injuries due to their panicked attempts to escape the church.

Although, at last report, no group had claimed responsibility for the attack, it is widely suspected to be the work of the Somali Islamic terrorist group, Al Shabaab, or its sympathizers.

As many now grieve the loss of loved ones due to this unwarranted attack, pray that they will look to the Lord for comfort and daily strength. May He surround those suffering from resulting physical and emotional wounds with His love, and may their recovery be prompt and complete. Please also intercede for the gunmen, that they will repent of this destructive violence and develop a personal and life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.

To post a prayer for those affected by this terrible attack, please visit our Persecuted Church Prayer Wall at www.persecution.net/prayerwall.

INDIA: Believers Targeted for their Faith Throughout Country

Sources: Evangelical Fellowship of India, Morning Star News

Around midnight on March 5th, approximately 30 Hindu militants forcefully entered the home of Pastor Ramsai Netam in Bhanupratappur, Chhattisgarh, accusing him of forcefully converting people and practising witchcraft. Dragging him to a cultural hall, the mob then beat the pastor, as well as his two sons who tried to protect him. The next morning, the police arrived at the scene and brought Pastor Ramsai to a nearby hospital, where he was treated for a serious head injury. However, the police recorded the cause of the wound as an "injury sustained from falling from a tree."

In Kandhamal, Odisha, militants threatened to physically assault a group of Christians on March 11th after the believers had gathered stones for the construction of a church building. Since the unprecedented violence that took place after the assassination of a Hindu leader in Odisha (formerly called Orissa) in August of 2008, life has become difficult for Christians. Believers are boycotted, discriminated against and threatened by Hindu militants on a regular basis because of their faith in Christ. (For more information on the 2008 attacks, go to www.persecution.net/in-27th after the intervention of area church leaders. Amid this climate of hostility, Christians in the country are growing anxious as general elections begin this month. A Hindu nationalist party is predicted to win, raising concerns of even more violence being perpetrated against the church.

As Christians across India face attacks and false accusations because of their faith, pray that the church throughout the country will be a unified and bold example of God's love. Ask Him to completely heal and restore those who were injured or arrested in recent weeks. May their resolve to follow Christ only be refined and strengthened by these attempts to stop their witness. Ask our Lord to encourage believers during this election period in India, trusting that His will be done. Please visit our India Country Report at www.persecution.net/india.htm to learn more about the trials our Christian family faces there.

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Praying for the Persecuted Church (...continued)



URGENT PRISONER UPDATES

PAKISTAN: Christians Sentenced to Death for Blasphemy

Sources: Release International, World Watch Monitor

Sawan Masih, a Christian road sweeper and father of three from Lahore, was sentenced to death for blasphemy on March 27th. Sawan was also fined 200,000 rupees (approximately \$2,250 CAD). The trial was conducted in the Lahore Camp Jail, where Sawan has been unable to leave due to the threats on his life.

Sawan's sentence is based on a conversation that occurred between him and his Muslim friend in March of 2013. Two days after the conversation, more than 3,000 Muslims pillaged Sawan's community in Joseph Colony, looting and torching Christian homes, shops and churches, and displacing hundreds of families. (For more information on these attacks, go to www.persecution.net/pk-2013-03-14.htm.)

Sawan and his family are reportedly shocked by the verdict. An appeal is being filed with the Lahore High Court, which must sign off on death penalty cases.

Meanwhile, the latest hearing in the appeal of Asia Bibi against her own death sentence for blasphemy took place on March 26th at Lahore High Court. It lasted just 10 minutes due to the failure of the prosecution lawyer to attend.

The next hearing has been scheduled for April 14th. Asia Bibi is the first woman in the country to be sentenced to death for blasphemy. (To learn more about Asia Bibi, please visit www.persecution.net/pk-2014-03-20.htm.)

Ask God to grant wisdom and favour to both Sawan's and Asia's legal teams as they face the judicial authorities in Pakistan.

While lifting these dear persecuted believers to our Lord, pray that they and their loved ones will be strong and courageous, resting in God's promise that He will neither leave nor forsake them (Deuteronomy 31:6).

May their appeals be successful, so that they may soon be released from prison and reunited with their concerned families.

Finally, pray that Sawan and Asia will serve as bold testimonies of God's goodness, leading many to faith in Jesus.

For more information on Pakistan's persecuted church, go to www.persecution.net/pakistan.htm.

The Persecution & Prayer Alert is a ministry of:

The Voice of the Martyrs Canada, P.O. Box 608, Streetsville, Ontario, L5M 2C1

Tel. (905) 670.9721. Website: www.persecution.net

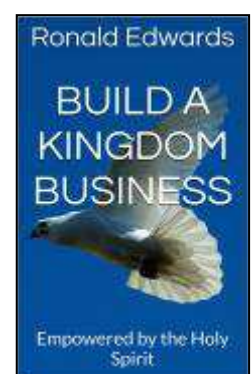
Announcement for a new book by Ronald Edwards

What is a Kingdom business?

The author has impressive experience growing significant businesses before he became a Christian at age 47 and then thirty years experience growing a Kingdom business. You will clearly comprehend the difference. An interesting turbulent portion of Abbott Laboratories history is revealed with an added perspective, a Godly view of the events. Ron's partnering with God to build and transition Care & Share Products Pty Ltd provides a series of miraculous stories that will enthral the reader and hopefully inspire others to set out on the journey to build a Kingdom business. To get a flavour of where Ron is coming from visit his two websites www.livingeternal.net and www.buildakingdombusiness.com.

Foreword by Peter Irvine Co-Founder, Gloria Jeans Coffees, Australia, author of "Winning in Business" and "Building Your Business" also "Your People, Your Life":

"...So go for it, I hope Ron's stories and the principles outlined in this book will inspire you on your journey to build a Kingdom Business."



Renewal Ministries Fellowship

Uniting & Mobilising the Body of Christ

(from Anita Femiano)

Renewal Ministries Fellowship's vision is to unite and mobilise the body of Christ, and I'm still growing in my understanding of what that means. You see, this fellowship was God's idea, not mine, and much of the time I feel like I'm running to try to catch up with what He's doing in and through it. We now have 263 affiliated ministries in 29 nations and have mobilized missions teams comprising members from Kenya, Uganda, Burma, South Korea, Australia and Zimbabwe.

My story starts before I was a twinkle in my father's eye. As a teenager he found solace in the Anglican church from the turmoils of life with a severely bipolar mother. His commitment grew and he entered Moore Theological College to train for the ministry. Somehow along the way he lost his faith and fearing becoming a professional hypocrite he fled the church, attended uni, met and married my atheist mother. Seven years and four children later they divorced, but my father's friends from the Anglican church never gave up on us and even though they now had no direct contact they prayed for us children. I am convinced that it is as a result of those prayers that all four of us came to know Christ in our teenage years.

It was through a little independent Pentecostal church that we were introduced to the gospel, our friend's grandfather being the pastor.

My brother and I had started by attending the Friday night youth group and soon were there all day Sunday as well – morning service, extended family lunch and afternoon fun with friends and their cousins and then evening service. We had never experienced such a sense of family and belonging before.

After a few months our mother decided that Sunday was 'family day', and we were no longer allowed to be out all day at this church, if we wanted to go to church it had to be one that was close to home and from which we would return before lunch time. The closest church to our home was a traditional Baptist assembly.

"...just because what God had shown me and done was different to something that people ... were saying did not cause me to think that they were wrong – there was still so much that was right in them and still so much that I needed to learn from them."

So I spent my teenage years fully involved in a Pentecostal youth group on Friday nights, Baptist church on Sundays and Anglican church when I visited my father in Melbourne on school holidays. In each one I saw different aspects of the beauty of Christ, each had their strengths and each had so much I enjoyed and needed to learn from.



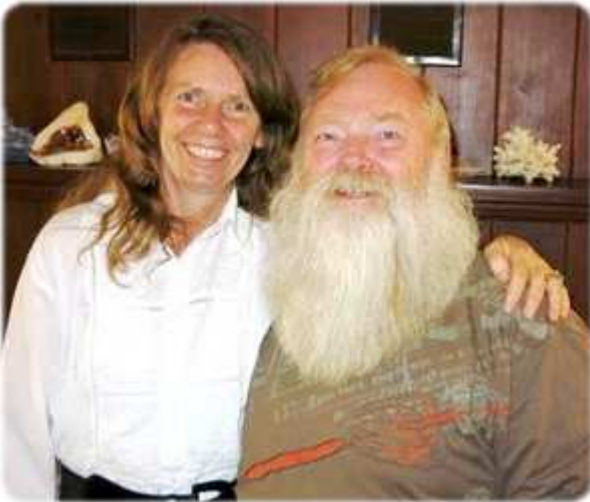
When I came across differences in opinions between the different churches I just asked the Father to show me in His Word what it was that He wanted me to walk in. So it was when it came to baptism in the Holy Spirit – strongly promoted by the Pentecostals but denounced by the Baptists at that time as not for today and any current manifestations likely from the Devil.

When I asked God what He wanted me to walk in He led me straight to Acts chapters 2, 10 & 19. Convinced by the Word I walked up the bush hills behind our house for a time of prayer and there Jesus baptised me with the Holy Spirit and gifted me with tongues. Now just because what God had shown me and done was different to something that people in the Baptist church were saying did not cause me to think that they were wrong – there was still so much that was right in them and still so much that I needed to learn from them. Thus God laid the foundation in my life of seeing the beauty of Christ in all His body, of humbly learning from each one, and of seeing Jesus and His love for the world as far more important than the things that we allow to separate and divide us.

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Renewal Ministries Fellowship (...continued)



In 2006 my husband Nils and I founded Renewal Ministries Fellowship, but at that stage our vision was limited to bringing together and uniting isolated pastors in south-east Queensland. God's vision was so much bigger than ours.

Along the journey Nils suffered increasing difficulties that were eventually diagnosed as fronto-temporal dementia and the symptoms made it impossible for him to continue in any aspect of the ministry. Often during this time I sort God about laying down or handing over the ministry to someone else, concerned that my husband's condition disqualified me as well. But the Holy Spirit would not let me walk away from it and continued to forge forward with His plans and vision for this community of believers – using a woman on an isolated property in Qld to unite together pastors in neighbouring villages in African and Asian nations and raising up teams to take the gospel into all the world.

God has now totally healed Nils from the dementia (destroying the doctor's diagnosis) and he is starting to re-engage in the ministry and once again become integral to what God is doing in this fellowship. Our next planned missions trip is to West Africa (Cameroon, Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia & Sierra Leone) with an emphasis on uniting together in building grass-roots discipleship movements to spread the gospel through the Islamic regions of their nations and on into north Africa and the Middle East.

"I have given them the glory that You gave me, that they may be one as We are One. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me."
(John 17:22-23)

www.renewal.asn.au



OUR HEAVENLY FATHER OF LOVE, IN CHRIST JESUS

If we could speak in All the languages of men and angels, and did not have Your love DAD, We would be no more than a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

If we had All prophetic powers, and could understand All mysteries and All kinds of knowledge, and had All faith, so as to remove mountains, and did not have Your love DAD, We would be nothing at all and useless.

If we gave away All that we possessed, and delivered our body to be burned, and did not have Your love DAD, it would profit us nothing here in this World,

May we be patient and kind, not jealous or boastful, not arrogant or rude, not insisting on our own way, not ever irritable or resentful, But DAD please help us to see others in the family of Christ as real true family and not just friends or those other people.

May we rejoice always in what is right DAD, never in anything that is wrong.

Help us to bear All things and endure whatever we must, to trust in All circumstances, and to be hopeful in All trials.

In Jesus' Authority we come to You DAD, asking, believing and receiving by faith. Amen DAD. In Jesus Name.

In The Service Of The KING OF ALL kings And LORD OF ALL lords. THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!

Your Church And Nations Apostle: James Winfree Sr.

Catch The Fire Ministries Inc.

PO Box 148 Hallam

Victoria, 3803 Australia



Increasing blessings to you in the matchless Name of our soon coming King of kings and LORD of lords!

My name is Jason Golden and I'm a 37 year old Messianic Jewish believer in Yeshua / Jesus, originally from the United States of America, but with everlasting citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven!

In 2001, through a regional centre in Seoul, South Korea, I completed a 2 year biblical, theological, and ministry training program from International School of Ministry (ISOM) whose primary objective is to train an army for the end-time harvest across the nations of the world. The international curriculum consisted of professionally recorded training sessions taught by mature Christian leaders in the Body of Christ from diverse backgrounds such as Jack Hayford, T.L. Osborne, Reinhard Bonnke, Joyce Meyer, Ed Cole, Brian Houston, A.R. Bernard and Dick Eastman, to name a few through whom I was highly honoured to receive a powerful impartation of the Holy Spirit and revelatory understanding of the anointed Word of God!

In early 2002, while in extended personal fasting and prayer on the International Prayer Mountain in South Korea, the Holy Spirit called me to serve with Pastor Daniel Nalliah, President of Catch the Fire Ministries and Rise Up Australia prayer movement (2 Chronicles 7:13-14). The Lord revealed to me that it was His strategic time to move with my newly married wife to Australia to rise up a mighty united army of Kingdom breakthrough warriors (across churches, denominations, ministries, cultures, and generations) through 24/7 prophetic intercessory prayer, repentance, strategic spiritual warfare, praise, worship, evangelism and discipleship to unceasingly storm the gates of Heaven and Hell for God's Kingdom Revival, Awakening, Revolution, Reformation, and Radical Transformation across this Great South Land of the Holy Spirit and the Nations of the World, back to Jerusalem, Israel!

Having followed the Spirit of the Lord's apostolic revival missions call to move to Australia in November 2002, my beloved wife Silver (originally from South Korea), our two children (Shekinah Glory and Josiah Israel) and I are now Australian citizens based in Melbourne at the Turning Point Family Church (CRC Churches International) led by Pastors Phil & Norma Cayzer. In 2004, I was officially ordained as a Five-Fold Minister of the Gospel of Christ through Rev. Dr. Margaret Court of Victory Life International based in Perth and in 2010 as an Evangelist with Catch the Fire Ministries based in Melbourne.

Over the last 13 years of serving the Lord, I've had the great privilege to minister the prophetic Word of God, miracle working power of Jesus Christ and revival fire of His Holy Spirit to thousands of precious souls in evangelistic healing deliverance crusades, pastor's / leader's conferences, many different churches, denominations, movements and ministries in the Body of Christ

throughout Australia, Indonesia, South Korea, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Philippines, Japan, Sweden, Kenya, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Israel and my country of origin, the USA.

Following is the end-time Kingdom forerunning ministry that the Lord has called me to as a missionary / evangelist / revivalist:

- ♥ To boldly proclaim the glorious gospel of His Kingdom throughout the nations (Mark 16:15-20) with the prophetic anointing of His Word and the miraculous demonstration of His Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 2:4-5, Heb. 2:4)
- ♥ To produce radical disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Kingdom of all nations, ethnic, and people groups (Matt 28:18-20)
- ♥ To 'Rise Up' a radical, extreme, revolutionary, nameless, faceless, revival glory Kingdom forerunning generation of 2nd coming apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers to equip the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-13) for this unprecedented end-times global harvest
- ♥ To earnestly prepare His glorious Bride for His triumphant return to Jerusalem, Israel and the literal manifestation of His everlasting Kingdom across the nations of the world (Rev. 11:15)

Evangelist Jason Golden: (+61 3) 9794 8211 or 0404 952 768 or jglory7@hotmail.com

Praying for your Local Council

After our successful initiative to pray and continue praying for our politicians (www.transformingsydney.org/TSAadoptASenatorMP.html), we are starting now to pray for our Local Councils, this month we are upholding all local councils in NSW. To find out some basic statistics and the names of your local Council, go to this link:

http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/dlg/dlghome/dlg_LocalGovDirectory.asp?index=1&mi=2&ml=2

There are currently 152 Councils in NSW, **153** if you include Canberra/ACT (which although a separate Australian Territory is still within the NSW land-mass). 153 is a number of interest in the Gospels:

(The text below is reproduced from <http://www.biblestudy.org/bibleref/meaning-of-numbers-in-bible/153.html>)

The Meaning of Numbers: The Number 153

The meaning of the number 153 centers around the New Testament event sometimes referred to as the miraculous draught or catch of fishes (John 21:1 - 11). It is only mentioned in the Gospel of John. This amazing miracle was performed by Jesus, after his resurrection from the dead, in his next to last appearance with his eleven disciples before ascending into heaven.

By understanding what led up to this miracle of fishes we can gain a broader perspective of what the number 153 represents.

After his resurrection Christ appeared a number of times to his innermost circle of eleven disciples. He first showed himself alive to all the disciples, except Thomas, on the Sunday night after his resurrection (John 20:19 - 24). Eight days later he met with the disciples when Thomas was present (John 20:26 - 29). Then an unknown period of time later he met with all the apostles at the appointed mountain in Galilee (Matthew 28:16 - 17). It was sometime after this meeting in Galilee, but before Christ's ascension on May 18th, that the miracle of 153 fishes occurred.

One day Peter decided he wanted to go back to his pre-conversion job of being a fisherman (John 21:2 - 3). Upon hearing his plans several of the other disciples (Thomas, Nathanael, James, John and two unnamed disciples) went with him to fish on the Sea of Tiberias (Sea of Galilee). The men fish for an entire night and catch nothing. In the morning, a man on the shore (they did not know it was Jesus) yells to them and asks if they caught anything. They answer no. They are then told to drop their net on the right side of the ship. When they try to bring the net out of the water it is so FULL of fish that it requires being dragged to the shore! The disciples now realize it was Jesus talking to them. On shore, Peter counts a total number of 153 'great fish' in the net.

Symbolizing abundance, 153 can even represent an OVERFLOW blessing from God. The Bible states the disciples marvelled at the fact that their net held together even though it contained so many large fish (John 21:11)! Additionally, the catching of such a large amount of fish happened only after Christ became involved in the work. This is a subtle (or perhaps not so subtle!) reminder that without Christ the disciples' (and any believer's) attempts to accomplish something great on their own will fail, but that with Jesus all things are possible (John 15:5).

Lastly, the 153 fishes is reminiscent of a previously abundant catch Peter, Andrew, James and John experienced when they were first called to follow Christ and become fishers of MEN (and not food). Given the disciples were trying to go back to their pre-conversion employment when the miracle occurred, it likely reminded them that they now worked for God whose will it still was for them to catch men and not fish.

Additional information on the Biblical Meaning of the number 153

We discover something quite interesting when we look at how many people, in the Gospel accounts, Jesus personally blessed.

The book of Mark records Christ, on a total of three occasions, personally blessed three people. These events were the healing of a man with an unclean spirit (Mark 1:23), healing a man who was deaf (Mark 7:32) and making whole another who was blind (Mark 8:22). Matthew, however, writes that on 23 occasions Jesus blessed a total of 47 people. Some of those whom he bestowed God's grace to include a leper (Matthew 8:2), a non-Israelite woman and her daughter (Matthew 15:22), Mary Magdalene (Matthew 27:56) and Joseph of Arimathea (Matthew 27:57). Luke writes that on 14 occasions 94 people were blessed. They include the seventy disciples sent out to preach and heal (Luke 10:1), ten lepers cleansed at the same time (Luke 17:12) and Zaccheus (Luke 19:2). Lastly, the apostle John bears record of 8 incidents where 9 people were helped by Jesus. Nicodemus (John 3:1), the woman accused of adultery (John 8:11) and Lazarus (John 11) are among those personally touched by the Savior of mankind.

All told, the Lord directly blessed a grand total of 153 people in 48 separate incidents!

The Fall and Redemption of Law

(by Bill Muehlenberg, CultureWatch - <http://www.billmuehlenberg.com>)

Law and legal issues are of course a vital component of life. And for good parts of human history the laws of God stood over, and greatly influenced, the laws of men. But in the secular West today this is becoming more and more rare, and increasingly we find the rise of ungodly, if not anti-God, law.

This comes in many forms, including so-called anti-discrimination, equal opportunity, and anti-vilification laws. These are being used to stifle Christians from sharing the gospel, forcing them to violate their own consciences, and keeping them from speaking out publicly about important social and moral issues. We see examples of this happening all the time.

Today law in the West is largely in the hands of those who adhere to the worldview of secular humanism. This is reflected on a daily basis in a whole host of areas: laws and legislation passed, court and judicial decisions, sentencing for crime, activist agendas promoted through law, and so on.

Judicial Activism

Let me focus on that last area I just mentioned: judicial activism. This is where judges who are pushing radical agendas effectively take the law into their own hands, and promote militant social engineering causes. The most recent example of this was when the High Court ruled on a NSW case, actually claiming that there are no longer two genders, but people can now have a "non-specific" third gender! I discuss that bizarre case in detail here: <http://billmuehlenberg.com/2014/04/02/high-court-rules-against-biology-and-redefines-reality-to-boot/>

The sad truth is, all over the Western world we are witnessing the rise of judicial activism. We find the active political involvement of judges in contentious social issues. The problem is, judges - often unelected and unaccountable - instead of legislators, are making and repealing laws, and internationalising law as well. Judges have overstepped their bounds, and their agendas are often at odds with the majority of those they claim to serve. In fact, far too often the rule of law has been replaced by the rule of judges. This usurpation of the democratic process should be of concern to all of us.

The rule of law is of utmost importance, and judges are to be neutral in its application, and not seek to push their own political and social agendas. Judges are meant to serve the people and the laws the people helped to make, and not rewrite the law books and promote Political Correctness and social radicalism. But that sadly has been exactly the case for a number of decades now.

Judicial activism can take many forms: it may simply mean that judges are speaking out on controversial ethical and political issues when such pronouncements are not really proper to the role of a judge. Or worse, it can mean using one's position as a judge to not just apply the law but to radically reinterpret and rewrite the law, to suit trendy political changes or to enforce a stifling Political Correctness.

This has certainly been the case in the US, where in the past half century a whole raft of radical judicial decisions have been made on such controversial issues as abortion, euthanasia and homosexual rights. As Robert Bork has commented, we are beginning to understand "what it means to be ruled by an oligarchy. The most important moral, political, and cultural decisions affecting our lives are steadily being removed from democratic control" and put into the hands of a few radical judges.

Phyllis Schlafly minces no words when she laments "the judicial supremacists who have been systematically dismantling the architecture of our unique, three-branch constitutional republic, and replacing it with an Imperial Judiciary".

And with judicial decisions attacking the very nature of the moral order - as in its pro-death and anti-family decisions - one has to ask if the courts are still to be regarded as instruments of justice. As Robert George notes, the "worst abuses of human rights have come from the least democratic branch of government - the judiciary".

And of course our radicalised law schools are fuelling all this. Today we have feminist legal theory, queer legal theory, Marxist legal theory, deconstructionist legal theory, and so on. Every kind of radicalism around seems to gravitate towards our law schools. And with good reason. Activists know that if they can take over our legal faculties, our courts and our judiciaries, they can impose their radical agenda on the rest of society.

In addition to the law schools, there are a host of legal reform bodies, often government supported (and tax-payer funded). They too tend to have a radical and secular agenda they are promoting, be it drug decriminalisation, the legalisation of prostitution, the decriminalisation of abortion, or the promotion of homosexual rights.

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The Fall and Redemption of Law (...continued)

Cultural Marxism

So how did all this arise? Antinomianism has always been with us, ever since the Garden of Eden of course. But the anti-God agenda of recent times - including judicial activism and the radicalisation of law - has come about, not by accident, but quite deliberately. The field of law, like so many other areas, has been strategically targeted by those who want to overthrow the West and its Judeo-Christian foundations.

Let me mention just one important component of this. In the 1930s Italian Marxist Antonio Gramsci said that there is more than one way to take over a nation. There is the obvious method of external use of force - armed rebellion and revolution and the like. But a nation can also be subverted from within - without firing a shot.

He made the case that radicals should take over the institutions of power and influence: the media, politics, the universities, and the courts. He spoke of the "long march through the institutions". He knew that by so doing an internal revolution could easily take place. Sadly, we have seen his strategy almost fully realised now.

Indeed, no one could have foreseen how quickly and easily the institutions did crumble before the radical activists. The moral, cultural and social blitzkrieg has been as thorough as it has been all-consuming. And the success of this revolution, as Roger Kimball reminds, "can be measured not in toppled governments but in shattered values".

How do we turn things around?

As to the radical law activists, much can be done: Their activities need to be exposed, and their public funding needs to be curtailed. In addition, alternative legal bodies need to be set up to reflect mainstream values, and to challenge the judicial activists. All these strategies are long term goals, and require time, effort and commitment from those concerned about the way things are now headed.

Indeed, reversing the decline of the West and its ungodly direction is no small task. And redeeming law in the West is just one part of this process. Much would need to be done in many areas. But let me speak to just one facet of this. A large part of our problem is that we Christians have allowed secular humanists and others to take over the field of law while we have simply pulled out.

Thus we are no longer being salt and light in this vital area as we are meant to be. By abandoning law - and most other spheres of power and influence - we have basically lost so many of these battles by default. We have handed these important areas over to our enemies, and we wonder why we keep losing here.

We need Christians to reclaim every area of life. That is because Christ should be Lord over every area of life. After all, he is the one who created politics, and law, and the arts, etc. These are parts of his original cultural mandate (see Genesis 1:28).

But we have sat back and allowed God's enemies to take over all these areas. It is time for us to wake from our slumber, and get back into all these realms. So we need Christian lawyers and judges and law professors. And of course they need to be guided soundly by the Christian worldview.

Simply being a Christian in law, but soaking up the secular mindset and worldview, will not be all that helpful. We need to think Christianly here, and seek to promote Biblical values and ideas in the legal realm. So Christian participation in all areas of society, strongly informed by a biblical worldview, is imperative if we want to see some of these areas turned around for the glory of God.

For too long Christians have pulled out of the surrounding culture, and allowed the other side to take control. It is time we once again take seriously the idea of the Lordship of Christ, and take on board our responsibilities to be salt and light in every part of life - law included.

Bill Muehlenberg is the author of the book "In Defence of the Family", hundreds of articles and book reviews, and recently the book "Strained Relations: The Challenge Of Homosexuality". He is Secretary of the Family Council of Victoria, and part-time lecturer in philosophy, theology, and ethics at several theological colleges. He is a frequent media commentator, with articles and comment in many of Australia's leading newspapers and journals, and has appeared on most major television and radio current affairs shows and news programs. Previously, he was National Vice President of the Australian Family Association, and National Research Coordinator at Focus on the Family. He has a BA with honours in philosophy (Wheaton College, Chicago), an MA with highest honours in Theology (Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Boston), and he is currently completing a PhD in theology. Originally from America, he now lives in Melbourne, Australia. Bill is married with three sons. Bill also directs CultureWatch, a website providing critical commentary on current issues.

LION'S ROAR HOUSE OF PRAYER

(From Pastor Glen Vines)

Amos 3:8, "The Lion has roared, who can but fear? The Sovereign Lord has spoken, who can but prophesy?"

Senior Pastor Glen Vines: started in ministry January 1989 joining Youth With A Mission Brisbane. He then started 17 years of pioneer church missions work amongst the unreached peoples of Tibet. During that time he did return to Australia and got a Diploma of Doctrine and Theology from Jubilee International Fellowship. Glen met his Korean wife Hyunmi Kim on the mission field and got married in 1999. They both served amongst the Tibetan people till 2007 when they returned to Australia.

In 2007 Glen started a ministry that is now called Strategic Warfare Intercessory Network, [Strategic WIN] gathering, training and activating those interested in Prayer and Spiritual Warfare. His goal is to raise up a prayer movement that will lead to both revival and reformation in Australia and beyond. Since returning to Australia Glen and Hyunmi have been ministering to Korean, Chinese and Japanese people in a fellowship on the Sunshine Coast. March 2013 they started the Lion's Roar House of Prayer in Runcorn, Brisbane, Australia.

Service Information

For up to date locations and times of meetings please email Glen Vines: lionsroarhop@yahoo.com or call 0403 062 915.

1. Sundays Service [with Korean Translation]. Prayer starts 9.30am and service from 10am-12pm followed by Fellowship lunch.
2. Midweek Korean Bible study and Fellowship Wednesdays from 6pm-8pm followed by Fellowship meal. [12 Jade Close, Runcorn].
3. Blazing Altar, [Inter-church-all welcome] Prophetic Worship, Warfare and Intercession held every month from 6.30-9pm. [Communications Block of Runcorn High school]
4. Lion's Roar Apostolic Training School, once per month, Friday night from 6.30pm-9pm and Sat from 9am-1pm. [Open to all Inter-church Event] Communications Block of Runcorn High School
5. Once per month Revival and Spiritual Warfare Seminar held together with the South side International Church on the corner of Pinelands and Beenleigh Rds Sunnybank. Chinese Translation for this meeting
6. Lion's Roar functions as the HQ or Home Base for Strategic Warfare Intercessory Network. [Strategic WIN] which runs various seminars, training and activation events for various churches and Ministries in various locations. If your interested in having Ps Glen come to speak in your church please contact him



Ps Glen Vines with candidates on the left, and on the right Glen Vines, his wife Hyunmi and their 3 daughters from left Hannah, Yeshi and Esther

(continued next page)

LION'S ROAR HOUSE OF PRAYER (...continued)

WHAT IS LION'S ROAR HOUSE OF PRAYER??

- ♥ Lion's Roar House of Prayer is a member of Harvest International Ministries [HIM] which is an international Apostolic/Prophetic Network committed to seeing Revival and Reformation in the Nations of the Earth.
- ♥ Bi-lingual [English/Korean services] on Wednesdays and Sunday Mornings. Although we have a special focus on targeting Koreans our Sunday morning meetings are open to all who wish to attend.
- ♥ Apostolic/Prophetic training seminars and prayer events, open to one and all in English on the every mouth.
- ♥ Blazing Altar is a prophetic Worship, Warfare Intercession, open to all who wish to unite in prayer and worship for our city and nation. [Blazing Altar events will increase in number as momentum builds
- ♥ This isn't a church in the traditional sense but a Discipleship Training Centre [as I Glen Vines have a YWAM background and put an emphasis on discipleship and mentoring.] and House of Prayer [I have been a member of the Prophetic Prayer Movement for more than 20 years and want the DNA of movements like IHOP and the Call in our DNA]. We also function as a HQ or launching pad for Strategic WIN which has a vision to raise up a revival reformation prayer movement in this nation. *Those from other churches welcome to join us for Blazing Altar and Lion's Roar Training School events as we have a vision to serve, train and activate the whole body of Christ.
- ♥ Why call it Lion's Roar? Because Amos 3:8 and Rev 5:5 is a key confirmed scripture God has given us in founding this ministry. When God speaks yes, he has a gentle lamb like voice [and we will endeavor to reflect his Lamb likeness], but the Bible also says he is a Lion Lamb who roars and thunders from Zion and through his Prophets, Amos 1:2/Joel 3:16/Jeremiah 25:30. The Lion is a Messianic symbol and Jesus is the Lion of Judah Gen 49:8-10, Revelation 5:5. I believe Australia needs to hear the Prophetic Gentle words of the Lamb of God as well as the Thundering Roar of the Lion of Judah
- ♥ Why call it a House of prayer? We want to see the restoration of David's House/Tabernacle [Amos 9:11-12 and Acts 15:15-18] a place of continual praise, worship, prayer and prophecy.

A House of Prayer for all Nations Isaiah 56:7, Mark 11:17. I believe prayer and worship to be the keys that will lead to transformation, revival and reformation of our nation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL: lionsroarhop@yahoo.com.au or PHONE: 0403 062 915.

For more info check out Lion's Roar House of Prayer's Facebook page.



On the left Ps Glen ministering to Korean youth, on the right Ps Glen Vines speaking in a seminar in Victory Life Church, Toowoomba.

News and Events

What is CRADIO?

CRADIO is Australia's new Catholic media service, providing free access to a growing variety of Catholic programs, talks and music.

Listen in via our 24-hour stream, subscribe to our podcasts or access new content online when and where you want it. - See more at:

<http://cradio.org.au/about/>



Genr8 is the premier provider of School Chaplains in NSW, managing over 150 Federal Government Funded School Chaplaincies.

Genr8 partners with schools in the recruitment, training, supervision and ongoing professional development of School Chaplains.



This ensures the placement of high quality Chaplains who are well equipped to support young people and strengthen local communities.

Transforming Sydney is partnering with Genr8 to bring awareness of the role of Chaplains and the need for SRE teachers.

For more information how to help please go to

<http://www.genr8.org.au/>



Pastors Network & Prayer Groups Across Sydney

We encourage you to contact and attend a group that is close to you - join together and be strengthened.

NOTE: the contacts in the below link have been given to Transforming Sydney by the people concerned for the express purpose of inviting others to attend their prayer group - the details are not provided for any other purpose and we ask that you do not copy these details onto other websites and social media without the permission of the respective owners.

Please go to Transforming Sydney Website

www.transformingsydney.org/TSPayerGroups.html

to find the list of all Prayer Ministries and Groups in Sydney

Anne Weeks, Uniting Church Belrose writes:

Soul Survivor is the best movement I've ever seen, that is strong on three things - together and equally, it emphasises:

- **The Bible as God's Word**
- **The Holy Spirit as the Christian's source of strength, guidance and power; and**
- **Social action**

The young people from our church have really grown in their faith as they have been heavily involved in Soul Survivor since it came to Australia in 1999. I praise God for this cutting-edge ministry across many denominations and look forward to how it develops in the future. For more information please go to the website www.soulsurvivornsw.org.au

27 Million Trafficked People Need Your Help To Fill in a 5 minute survey

Justin Pagotto has just launched the website I have linked below.

Social enterprises make profits which are distributed into changing the world.

It's all about making everyday purchases for everyday products and services that you would normally buy anyway but by making these purchases through this website you are **supporting the global effort to end Human Slavery/ Trafficking.**

Please take the time to check out the link below and please **fill out the 5 minute survey**, which will help them to get this awesome work started and so they can serve your needs better while your proceeds go to work ending Human Trafficking.

<http://moneyforjam.launchrock.com/>

JESUS IS _____.

is an unfinished sentence. How would you fill in the blank?

We're interested in your opinion. We know people will say all sorts of things, both positive and negative. Our hope is that as our friends, neighbours and acquaintances come in contact with the unfinished sentence "Jesus is _____," there will be people from our churches ready to listen and offer a Biblical response.

Visit the www.Jesus-is.org.au website for more information.



News and Events

SMBC Open Evening

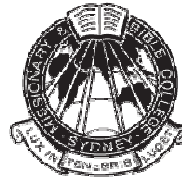
WHAT: A great opportunity to check out SMBC

WHERE: SMBC Croydon Campus,
43 Badminton Road, Croydon

WHEN: 7pm Monday 19 May 2014

WHO: Anyone who is curious about what it's like to study at Bible College Everyone is welcome to come to our Open Evening to hear all about studying at SMBC, chat with faculty and tour the campus. The 'Study at SMBC' presentation commences at 7.15pm. Learn about our full-time, part-time and intensive study options - graduate or postgraduate. Supper will be served. No RSVP required - just come along, we'd love to see you. Bring a friend!

See more at: <https://www.smbc.com.au/events/open-evening>



SMBC
Sydney Missionary & Bible College

UNITED BIBLE SOCIETIES DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 9TH MAY 2014

Prayer binds us together

Wherever we live we can pray for the work for God's Kingdom all over the world.

We would love you to join us as we focus on prayer for the world wide work of the Bible Society.

Speaker: Anthony Lamuel, General Secretary of the Pakistan Bible Society and global Board Member of Bible Societies.

Hear about our Pakistani literacy project giving women the opportunity to learn to read and write and ultimately read their own Bible.

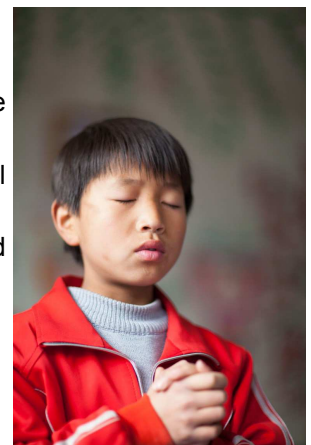
Venue: Bible Society, 5 Byfield Street, Macquarie Park NSW 2113

Time: 10.00am - 12 Noon

Morning tea will be provided

Contact: Vicky Kaw 1300 BIBLES (1300 242 537) or bibles@biblesociety.org.au

BIBLE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA - Macquarie Park, NSW



Celebrate the National Day of Thanksgiving - Saturday 31 May 2014

The National Day of Thanksgiving is a unique opportunity for Australians to celebrate and give thanks for our God given heritage as a nation and to demonstrate the God given values of honour, respect, thankfulness and gratitude towards our fellow man that have made us the great nation we are.

It is a day for us to pause as a nation and say thank you to God and to each other for those many things we often take for granted but which really make our lives worth living. Let us use this day to be a blessing to those who have been a blessing to us during the past year.

For more information please go to the website of the National Day of Thanksgiving:

<http://thanksgiving.org.au/contactus/>

Transforming Sydney - Spiritual Formation Program

For the Youth (18-26 years)

Transforming Sydney is running a Spiritual Formation Program to equip Young Adult between 18 and 26 to be ambassadors for the kingdom within their spheres of influence. If you wish to start this program next year at your church or youth group let us know.

This course consist of 3 levels of spirituality:

- ♥ Discipline in prayer, devotion, bible reading
- ♥ Introducing the Supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit with evaluation for each candidate regarding their gifts
- ♥ Developing Christ-like leaders

More information is available at <http://www.transformingsydney.org/TSPFormation.html>

To run this program with your church, please contact Bjorn and Lilian Schmid info@transformingsydney.org



BLESS PHILIPPINES

A cultural presentation showcasing performances by major community groups of Sydney.

Friday 16th May 2014
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Bowman Hall, Campbell Street Blacktown

This fundraising event aims to help rebuild the lives of the people affected by super typhoon Haiyan.

Entry Fee: **\$10** per person at the door

This event is brought to you by the Christian Churches of Blacktown and the Sikh Community. Supported by the Blacktown City Council and the Local State and Federal Members of the Parliament. All funds collected will go direct to "Gawang Laya", a charity organisation based in the Philippines. Donations are received through RJC Ministry Centre Inc. BSB 062339 Account No 1069 6497. For details contact: Ray 0430 138 707, Nick 0406 426 445 or Zahir 0419 281 330. ALL GIFTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

