

4TH OCTOBER 2020



TODAY:

Series: Significant Hymns and Songs Study 3: He's Alive Again Speaker: Pastor Tony LORDS SUPPER - Please have bread and juice ready.

Sunday 11th October Series: Significant Hymns and Songs Study 4: And Can It Be Speaker: Pastor Tony

For viewing these services, log on to the church website - www.ftgbc.org.au

But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay". Matthew 28:5-6

Messsage From Tony

A Case For The Resurrection

Lee Strobel, best-selling author of numerous books including The Case for Christ and The Case for Faith, was a committed atheist when his wife, Leslie, became a Christian in 1979. Upset by this turn of events, Strobel, then legal editor at the Chicago Tribune, poured his legal training and journalistic skills into investigating the validity of Leslie's newfound faith. He figured he could dismantle it in a weekend.

Twenty-one months later, Strobel laid down his yellow legal pad and surrendered his life to Jesus Christ. He was asked the following question by a reporter from the Discovery Institute.

Q: 'In your latest book The Case for Grace, you detail some of your formative experiences that turned you from atheism. Yet it was the truth of the resurrection of Jesus that turned your life upside down. Do you recall a moment in time when you knew in your gut that you had a decision to make?'

A: 'Yes, Nov. 8, 1981. I had gone to church with Leslie that day. I can't remember anything that was said, but I came home and I just felt like after a year and nine months of looking at the evidence from science and history, and especially the resurrection, that I needed to reach a verdict. As I wrote page after page of evidence on my yellow legal pad, I just put down my pen and said, "Wait a second, it's going to take more faith to maintain my atheism than to become a Christian," because the evidence, I believed, was that strong. So that's when I concluded the resurrection was true. I read John 1:12, which says that "as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe on His name." I didn't just believe it, but I repented of my sin and received His free gift of forgiveness and eternal life, and became a child of God. And my life began to change.'

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus He came to love, heal and forgive He lived and died to buy my pardon An empty grave is there to prove my savior lives



CHORUS Because He lives, I can face tomorrow Because He lives, all fear is gone Because I know He holds the future And life is worth the living, just because He lives

How sweet to hold a newborn baby And feel the pride and joy He gives But greater still the calm assurance This child can face uncertain day, because He lives

CHORUS

And then one day, I'll cross the river I'll fight life's final war with pain And then, as death gives way to victory I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns

CHORUS

Songwriters: Gloria Gaither / William J. Gaither

To continue worshipping the Lord with tithes and offerings you can:

Do a bank transfer into the Church bank account. Details are: ANZ -Ferntree Gully Baptist Church BSB: 013287 Account: 296710027



Cheques written to Ferntree Gully Baptist Church may be sent to: Andrew Ullrich 15 Chedworth Crt Kilsyth Sth 3137



Birthdays:

4th October: Jacob Laukart

Don't forget to let the editor know of any special celebrations in your family.

Zoom Home Groups

Wednesday - 8pm

Thursday - 2pm

Both groups are using the Bible Study material which is currently being made available in the weekly news sheet.

Please contact Pastor Tony if you would like to be involved in either of these groups.



Pastoral Availability:

Tony will be working from his home office but can be contacted on 0406686715.

Please note: Under current restrictions Tony can only meet personally with people under special circumstances. If you have a need to meet, please contact him.



AMAZING FACTS Written by Doug Batchelor

Taj Mahal

Located in Agra India, the Taj Mahal is considered one of the seven wonders of the modern world. Beginning in 1631, the perfectly symmetrical building was constructed as a tomb for the wife of a seventeenth century emperor over a span of seventeen years by 20,000 workers. This beautiful, massively domed structure was designed in the Indo-Islamic style using white marble and inlaid gems. Each corner has a prayer tower, and adorning the outside walls are passages from the Koran. The bodies of the emperor and his wife remain in a vault below the building.

Christians don't need a Taj Mahal to commemorate their lives. Jesus has promised that when He returns, He will resurrect those who belong to Him and give them eternal life.

'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.' John 11:25-26

Source:

Amazing Facts Volume 2

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<u>Bible Study, Old Testament Characters – Daniel</u> <u>Tempted to Compromise – Daniel 1:1-21</u>

In AD 156 a hostile Roman ruler threatened to burn Bishop Polycarp at the stake unless he renounced his faith. Few of us today face this kind of temptation to deny Christ. Yet our daily temptations to compromise our commitment to Jesus are just as serious. The seemingly small decisions we make carry with them far-reaching consequences both in our lives and in the lives of those around us.

Daniel confronted one of these "small" temptations. Having been forcibly exiled to Babylon, he was offered a prestigious education in the best school in the country. The problem, however, was that this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity also required a small compromise.

When is compromise good and when is it bad?

Read Daniel 1:1-21. Why were Daniel and his friends brought to Babylon and selected to enter the king's service (vv. 1-4)?

What tactics were used not only to train these young men but also to help them blend into Babylonian culture (vv. 4-7)?

In what ways are we pressured to conform to our surrounding culture? (For example, at work or school, among family or friends, with money and so on)?

Daniel and his companions accept the education offered by Nebuchadnezzar, the possibility of attaining top positions in the pagan empire, and new names (vv. 4-7). Why do you think they agreed to these things but refused the king's food?

Why might it have been easy for Daniel to rationalize this seemingly trivial compromise?

In what small ways are we tempted to compromise our lifestyle or belief's?

What creative arrangement does Daniel make with the chief official and the Babylonian guard (vv. 8-14)? And how is his proposal an expression of his trust in God?

In situations similar to Daniel's, Christians often go to one of two extremes. Some won't even attempt to cooperate with what they consider to be a pagan system. Others cooperate to the point of losing their distinctiveness. Why are both extremes counterproductive to our desire to be faithful witnesses to Christ?

In what ways does God honour the trust and obedience of the four young men (vv. 15-20)?

What might have happened to Daniel and his future ministry if he had compromised here? In what ways does our obedience in "the little things" have far reaching implications in our service to Jesus?

Questions taken from 'A Life Guide Bible Study Book' by Peter Scazzero

BELGRAVE HEIGHTS WOMEN'S CONVENTION ONLINE IOTH OCT

The 15th Belgrave Heights Women's Convention will be held on Saturday 10th October. The theme is "Generation to Generation" and guest speaker is Cathie Hillman.

This will not be a physical convention but on line and you will need to pre-register.

Cathie will bring two messages and there will be four interactive elective options that will be presented twice. The electives are to be chosen when you register which is why you must pre-register prior to Wednesday 7 October 2020.

The program commences at 9am and concludes at 12.45pm with breaks between

sessions.

The Electives this year are:

1. Mentoring-Helping others to maximise God's grace in their lives with Vicki Mustafa

- 2. Parenting through the ages with Jenny Wraight
- 3. Grieving Well with Dot Hodge
- 4. Generations sharing their faith with Ruth Newmarch

Please see website or facebook for more information. https://www.facebook.com/BelgraveHeightsConvention https://www.bhc.org.au/womens.

Registration is available on-line https://belgraveheights.venue360.me/ public/events/homepage?event=34

Cost \$25 per household. \$20 for concession card holders. – registrations close Wednesday 7 October 2020.

NEEDING SOME INSPIRATION & CHEER IN YOUR DAY?

Enjoy listening to the Getty family singalongs on www.gettymusic.com

Listen to inspiring stories of God at work in lives of ordinary people on www.realfaith.org.au

CHAPLAINCY BILL

An email recently received from the Australian Christian Lobby:

'Dear Tony, have you or someone you know benefited from Christian chaplaincy programs in our schools? These chaplaincy programs are being targeted in Victoria by Fiona Patten, leader of the Reason Party, in her bill before the Legislative Council. Ms Patten's bill will prohibit school councils from employing non-teaching staff via third party providers.

Together with existing anti-discrimination legislation, this means that schools will no longer be able to purposely hire Christian chaplains. The bill is a brazen attack on Christian chaplaincy. Please write to your local MP today and ask them not to support Ms Patten's bill.

Ms Patten did not consult with school principals, parents or chaplaincy providers. The broad scope of the bill could put an end to a whole raft of other school programs which also provide valuable student services.

The bill is fundamentally flawed in its application.

Chaplains provide vital holistic and spiritual support to children. They invest in school communities and provide connection, relationship and engagement. Removing Christian chaplains will prevent children from accessing spiritual support in public schools. Depression and anxiety in young people are at high levels. COVID-19 presents extreme financial, social and personal pressures. This is the time Victorians need to support our children the most. We need our Christian chaplains now more than ever!'



CHIPS (Christians Helping In Primary Schools) is a non-profit organisation based in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. CHIPS is well known in the local area for working with primary aged children in crisis and has won the Casey Volunteer Organisation of the Year Award in 2010 and 2014.





Please pray for Audrey de Jong who sees a surgeon tomorrow, Monday 5th October, RE spinal canal stenosis. Pray that she will get the right help and treatment will avoid long term effects.

Please keep Hubert Z in prayer. After going to Maroondah hospital for X Ray on a suspected broken wrist, he now needs to isolate in



his room for 14 days. (Hubert's wrist was not broken but still placed in plaster.)

Prayer for Giovanni A as he is in hospital while the doctors investigate ways, without operating, of immobilising his shoulder and reducing pain.

Pray for the Belgrave Heights Women's Convention on Saturday 10th October and for Cathie Hillman the main speaker. Pray especially that there will be no technical difficulties during this on-line convention. Pray that it will be a time or encouragement and learning for those logging in.

Please be in prayer about the School Chaplaincy Bill to be considered before the Victorian Parliament in October that it will not be upheld. Also, continue upholding Ange Bakhtiari in prayer, chaplain at Ferntree Gully North Primary School employed through CHIPS.

Keep Bingh and her family in prayer as Bingh has been admitted to Box Hill hospital after receiving recent test results.

Pray that God would bring about His purposes through the COV-19 pandemic, turning people's hearts to Himself, stirring His people to pray, care for those who are suffering and share the good news of the gospel.

Day Light Savings commences Sunday morning 4th October so don't forget to put your clocks FORWARD one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.





Pastor: Rev. Tony Burgum

Address: 27 Chirnside Dve Chirnside Park 3116 Email: tburgum@optusnet.com.au Phone: 0406 686 715 Elders: Rainer Luppa - 9758 4195 (Secretary) Andreas Ullrich - 9762 7115 (Treasurer)

Bulletin Editor: Margaret Penford Phone: 9762 1691 pmpenford@netspace.net.au

Church Details:

Address: 17 Hunter Street FTG

Web: www.ftgbc.org.au Mob: 0406 686 715

Deacons: Frank Schlag - 8790 2550 (Property)

Jeanette Ullrich - 9762 7115 (Playgroup)

Faith never knows where it is being lead, but it loves and knows the One who leading. Oswald Chambers