



25TH OCTOBER 2020



TODAY:

Series: Significant Hymns and Songs

Study 6: Joyful Joyful Speaker: Pastor Tony

Sunday 1st November

Series: Significant Hymns and Songs

Study 7: How Great Thou Art Speaker: Pastor Tony

Lord's Supper (Please prepare your own elements)

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

“These things I have spoken to you.

*That My joy may remain in you,
and that your joy may be full.*

John 15:11



Message From Tony

Joy Verses Happiness

In the Bible, the words “joy,” “rejoice,” or “joyful” appear about 430 times, compared with “happy” or “happiness,” which appear only 10 times. Joy is lasting, and it satisfies the heart in a unique and marvellous way. Joy is characteristic of God’s people, found in his presence. Someone has written “Christian joy flows from realizing our position in Christ: who you are in Him, and what He has done for you.”

Happiness is built on self-seeking, but joy is based on self-sacrifice. The more we pursue self-gratification, the more empty we feel. Happiness is fickle and requires happy circumstances. Joy, on the other hand, sticks around. It doesn’t get chased off by trouble.

The author of Lamentations describes how happiness disappears when turmoil enters the scene: *My soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is.* (Lamentations 3:17). But the Holy Spirit supernaturally gives us great and lasting joy, even when we face affliction: *We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.* (2 Corinthians 8:1-2)

Someone has written ‘If a pint of pleasure gives momentary happiness today, a gallon of excitement and thrills is necessary for the same effect tomorrow. Joy, however, is based on the sacrificial giving of ourselves. As we learn what it means to focus on the needs of others, we find greater fulfilment in God Himself, who meets our every need.’

Joy to the World



Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

To worship 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



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.



Birthdays:

27th October Ingrid T

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

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.



AMAZING FACTS Written by Doug Batchelor

PEARL OF VENUS - When \$14 purchased a fortune

A brooch purchased for \$14 at a Rhode Island antique shop turned out to be priceless. An antique dealer found the nineteenth century ornamental pin while rummaging through a basket of otherwise cheap costume jewelry.

Upon close examination, it was found to be made of 18 carat gold with three rose-cut diamonds. But most notably, the brooch features two extraordinary rare pearls, which experts say are all-natural, purple, and produced by a rare type of clam known as a quahog. The larger of the two pearls is about the size of a marble, and it's value alone may exceed several million dollars. The whole brooch is regarded as priceless. It was nicknamed the Pearl of Venus and has been featured on many nationwide tours.

Did you know that Jesus compared the kingdom of heaven to a rare and exquisite pearl?

'The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all he had and bought it.'

Matthew 13:45,46.

Source:

Amazing Facts
Volume 2

www.afbookstore.com

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Bible Study, New Testament Characters – A Throwaway Woman Redeemed by Christ – John 8:1-11

In a complex society, some people just don't make it. They are mentally ill, or low in intelligence, or uneducated, or socially inept, or lacking in self-confidence or physically disabled. Whatever the cause, they can't cope. Capable people move around them, rushing off to work or school or church. But these "throwaway people" hover at the edges of society largely unnoticed and undervalued by their busy counterparts.

GROUP DISCUSSION – What kinds of people does your own society tend to "throw away"? Name or describe some specific people who seem unnoticed or undervalued.

PERSONAL REFLECTION – Bring to mind several types of people that you tend to avoid. Why do you avoid these people? How could you show that you value these people in the same way that you hope God values you?

In all of His relationships, Jesus showed a different value system from that of the society in which He lived. Read John 8:1-11.

Notice each person or group of people mentioned in this event. Using the point of view of the Pharisees, create a "respectability scale." Where would you place each person or group of people on that scale?

What events led to Christ's meeting with the woman (vv. 1-6)?

What evidence do you see that the temple leaders were using this woman for their own purposes?

Verse 6 refers to a trap. Why was their question a trap?

What underlying problems were not being addressed by the accusations against the woman?

How did Christ's actions show that the woman was not a "throw-away person" in His sight (vv. 6-11)?

Jesus spoke to both the woman and the religious leaders about sin. Why?

Jesus showed that He valued the woman even though the temple leaders did not. What words or actions help you to feel valued?

What difference does it make to you that Christ values you – no matter what you have done?

The religious leaders used the woman to gain what they thought was a greater good. What is wrong with using people in this way?

Many people are almost faceless to us. We avoid other people because their problems are too big for us to fix or because they embarrass us. Think of some of the "throwaway people" who enter your life. How might you treat these people in a way that mirrors Christ?

Questions taken from 'A Life Guide Bible Study Book' by Carolyn Nystrom

Joy is distinctly a Christian word and a Christian thing. It is the reverse of happiness. Happiness is the result of what happens of an agreeable sort. Joy has its spring deep down inside. And that spring never runs dry, no matter what happens. Only Jesus gives that joy.

~ Samuel Gordon



Rainer Luppa has a new email address:

rainerluppa@dodo.com.au

Please update your directory information.



The Schlag family is preparing for two weddings.

Johanna will marry her fiancé, Joshua Novak, on Thursday 12th November in Officer.

Caleb will marry Georgia Fredericks on Saturday 28th November in Healesville, after their wedding was postponed from earlier this year.

COVID restrictions mean that only a small number of people, mainly some family, will be able to attend.

BUV Gathering

Frank Schlag, Russell Davis and Pastor Tony joined the BUV Gathering on line meeting with 200 pastors and delegates on Friday night 16th October.



The main agenda items were:

- . Recognition and welcome of 5 New Constituent Churches – All Ethnic
- . Recognition of 5 new faith communities – 4 Ethnic
- . 2 Union Council reappointment and 1 new appointment – Passed
- . Honorary legal Advisor – Passed
- . Pastoral Stipend and Superannuation Increase – Passed (Frank, Russell and Tony voted ‘No’ in light of COVID financial impacts during 2020)
- . BUV Intervention in Declining Churches report – Passed

If you would like further information please contact Frank, Russell or Tony



Belgrave Heights Convention

50+Getaway to Queensland

The Seniors Convention is this year combining with the Seniors Getaway Convention in Mt Tambourine, Queensland. Unfortunately you will not be able to attend in person but you can participate online.

The program goes from Friday 12th November to Sunday 14th November at different time during those days.

Speakers: Rodney Cripps and Bill Forward.

Rodney will focusing his talks Nehemiah and Bill on Acts.

There will also be a hymn singalong and a campers and Saturday night concert.

Cost to join is \$50 per household and you can register on line at <https://www.bhc.org.au/seniorsconvention>



OPPORTUNITY
International

When Sapna was a child she enjoyed a privilege too many girls in India miss out on - an education.

Sapna grew up surrounded by a supportive family committed to educating all their children. As a child, Sapna was inspired to spread the power of education to others. Each afternoon she would race home from school to show Pinky—a friend whose family couldn't afford to send her to school - everything she had learnt that day.

Today Sapna is the principal of a low cost, affordable private school for more than 200 children in India. With a loan from Opportunity International's Edufinance program, Sapna invested in better infrastructure at the school, including four new toilets. Girls often drop out of school because of embarrassment and lack of privacy. With access to toilets they can continue their education with safety and dignity.



Opportunity's Edufinance program has now benefited approximately 1.3 million children in India.

To learn more and ways you may be able to help go to www.opportunity.org.au



Please keep the Schlag family in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare for the weddings of Johanna and Caleb during November.

Continue upholding Bingham and her family as she continues chemotherapy. Pray that Bingham will continue keeping her hope and focus on the Lord God and know His guidance.



Keep Giovanni and Angela in prayer as Giovanni returned home from rehab this week and is settling back at home with in home care and support.

Please pray for Regina now home on medication and to have further investigation in three weeks.

Continue praying for those in our Victorian Government who are making decisions with regard to moving further out of lockdown - for wisdom but also understanding and consideration for those who continue to struggle through this period. Also, for decisions to be made allowing Churches to return to corporate times of worship.

Please keep Belgrave Heights and Mt Tamborine Conventions in prayer as they finalise the 50+ Seniors Getaway Convention. Pray also for Rodney and Bill as they finalise presentations.

Pray for Prison Fellowship as they continue to minister in prisons throughout Australia and for the Victorian branch as they undertake to coordinate provision of gifts for children of parents currently in prison and under COVID restrictions.



Angel Tree has been operated by Prison Fellowship for over 30 years in Victoria. Normally people purchase gifts to be given to children (0-15 years of age) of parents who are in prison.

However, with the current COVID restrictions, if you would like to be involved in Angel Tree this year, you can give a monetary gift which will be forwarded to Prison Fellowship. This will allow them to purchase gifts and cover postage costs, as

gifts will not be able to be hand delivered or be given out at Christmas events as usual.

Monetary gifts can be placed into the Church Bank Account clearly marked 'Angel Tree'. Please contact Andrew Ullrich or Pastor Tony if you would like to give a cheque or cash.

Pray for the MISSIONS & WORKERS

we take an interest in including...

Andrea Rothweiler (Wycliffe PNG)

Ange Bakhtiari FTG Nth Primary

School chaplaincy

Andy and Cathie Staunton

(GIA Cambodia)

Mukti Wings of Hope

Reach Beyond

Helga



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)

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)

Bulletin Editor: Margaret Penford

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On my daily walk:

Covid-19 can't deter
enthusiasm about the
footy grand final.

