

Westview Baptist Church

www.westview-baptists.info

“people learning to live Jesus’ way”

20th October, 2013

Our purpose is to bring glory to God. We will do this as we:

1. are transformed by enjoying Christ;
 2. love by serving others; and
 3. proclaim Jesus by faithfully living in a fallen world
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Transformed by Enjoying Christ

Teaching Sessions

We continue looking at Paul’s letter to the Galatian church. Responding to false teaching which suggested that faith alone in Jesus does not make us right with God but obedience to the Jewish traditions, Paul is quick to condemn such teaching. Anything that is added to faith in Jesus as a means to salvation means that we do not trust what God has spoken, and without faith it is impossible to please God. This principle of faith alone can be applied to us today when people try to add to the message of the gospel.

Charles Spurgeon was a renown Baptist preacher throughout the second half of the 19th century. He is reported to have said, “We preach what God has done for us, not what we do for God!”

In attacking the gospel which Paul delivered to the Galatians, the false teachers also had to attack Paul’s credibility. We will see Paul defend his apostleship by deferring to the one who authorised him: Jesus Christ himself!

Love and Service

Family News and Prayers

Doonside Property Spring Clean - Thanks to all who helped clean and tidy the property yesterday. Your efforts are much appreciated.

FGB Dinner is next scheduled for 21st October. Please see John for more details.

Community prayer night is generally on the 4th Sunday of the month which is the 27th October.

Pray for those affected by bushfires and the church communities that have been touched.

Westview Review & Planning Meeting (WRAP)

Our meeting will be held immediately after our morning service. All are welcome to come and be a part of the discussions as we discern the way forward under God and hear each other.

As previously noted, there is a proposed change to one of our statements of faith to give a clearer picture of how we see the bible:

Present statement

“2.1.1. The Holy Scriptures as penned in the original languages are inspired by the Holy Spirit, and therefore are inerrant and fully authoritative in all matters.”

Previously proposed statement

“2.1.1. *The life of the church is guided by God through the Scriptures which are uniquely inspired and the final authority for faith and practice.*”

Elders' suggestion

“2.1.1. *The Holy Scriptures are inspired by the Holy Spirit and are the final authority for faith and living.*”

There was also a proposed change to reflect our understanding of baptism and membership. After feedback and

further thought, it will be proposed that we can achieve a similar outcome in practice without any changes to the constitution.

These things and things will be all open for discussion.

Living Faithfully in Our World

Praying for the Persecuted

Every year, Open Doors publish the World Watch List, ranking the countries where Christians are most persecuted. It measures freedom to live out Christian faith measuring areas of life: private, family, community, congregation and national life, and measuring the degree of violence. May we encourage you in public and private prayers to pray for these countries. A new country will be listed each week with some suggestions on how to pray for them. The listed can be downloaded [online](#).

#1 Persecuted Country: North Korea

‘Communist oppression’ and ‘Dictatorial paranoia’, it promotes two ideologies opposed to religion of any kind: the self-reliance of man and the god like worship of the leaders. Despite this, there is an underground church movement. Open Doors estimates it numbers between 200,000 and 400,000. Christians are classified as hostile and face discrimination, arrest, detention, torture or even public execution. There is a system of labour camps including the renowned prison No. 15 (‘Yodok’) which could reportedly house 6,000 Christians alone. Pray for political change, protection against government spies, and the emergency aid delivered by Open Doors.

Teaching

Galatians: Jesus Alone!

Galatians 1:10 – 2:10 Paul’s defence.

The crisis.

Gal 1:9 the gospel preached, the gospel accepted.

Gal 3:5 the gospel confirmed

Gal 3:1-3 the gospel plus...

Gal 5:2-6 What is at stake?

The gospel.

Gal 1:11-12 the gospel is the big picture, not just a piece of it.

Piper: “God’s glory is most reflected in us when we are most delighted in him.”

(Let the nations be glad, P37)

The authority.

Gal 1:1 an apostle sent by whom?

Gal 1:13-17 Paul sure of his call and who called him

Gal 2:6 who is more important?

Address: Cnr Crawford Road & Coveny St, Doonside NSW 2767

Post: PO Box 965 Kings Langley NSW 2147

Eldership Contact: Tony Calman 8212 4534 or 0430 027 636; tonycalman@gmail.com

OHS Matters: Lee Arundel ph. 9621 6907; leearundel@yahoo.com

Electronic Giving: ‘Westview Baptist Church’ BSB: 704 922 Acc't:100003291

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