# **Westview Baptist Church**

Sunday April 26th 2015



### 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;
- 3. And proclaim Jesus by faithfully living in a fallen world

# Struggling with prayer?

The Bible seems to make it clear that prayer is fundamental in the personal and corporate lives of God's people. This is evident in both Jesus teaching and the life and ministry of the early church.



Yet even as we acknowledge this to be true, so many of us find ourselves struggling with prayer: how to find time, how to pray, what to pray for.

Our difficulties in this vital area of our lives can only be addressed by examining the Word of God. There is little point in trying to pray more often, pray longer, pray deeper, if we don't understand why we are praying in the first place.

Perhaps a good place to start is with the most intimate prayer Jesus prayed for us in John 17:3. "Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent." Our knowledge of God grows and develops when he speaks to us and reveals himself to us in his Word, the Bible, and we speak and open our hearts to him in prayer.

# **Family News**

### Friendship Group - celebrating 18 years!

The Friendship Group will be on this Wednesday 29th April. It has been running now for 18 years. Thanks so much to all those who help make it such a special time. It has allowed over the years many to hear and grow in their understanding of the gospel message, even some we might not see on a Sunday. Thanks to all those who are involved in this wonderful group.

#### **Special Target Group Meeting**

The minutes from the last meeting will be available on the back table or online. The recommendation thus far is that there is every reason to keep moving forward with the process for recognising JJ as an Elder. We consider JJ's preaching has developed with sensitivity and agree that he displays great maturity, confidence, and warmth. He possesses a very high level of trust in leadership and church. We believe him to be a man who has no pretenses and high moral character. His demeanour with individuals is genuine, loving, caring interest. The Target Group recommend that we continue to allow time for feedback and prayer, and to encourage individuals to give feedback that might not just raise concerns, but affirmations. .

# **Mothers Day gifts from MAF**

There is an MAF poster on the notice board and information on the back table about giving a gift of love and life on Mother's Day. Please read these and take what you need to give a special gift to your mother, or just a donation to MAF for these special needs. Please see Lin Low for any more information.

#### **Supporting Alex and Fran**

Alex Niedbalski will be sharing with us this morning. If you would like to support him and Fran financially please email him (<a href="mailto:alexyfran@gmail.com">alexyfran@gmail.com</a>) or speak to JJ.

# What's happening at Westview?

### **Morling Mission are coming to Westview next week!**

A team from Morling Baptist Bible College will be joining our church for a few days from next Sunday. The team will be leading the service Sunday morning and will be joining Tony and JJ during the week at Scripture, dock knocking/letter box dropping, and other community activities during the week, as well as joining some of our Homegroups during the week. All who might be able to join us for a lunch after the service are welcome to come.

<u>Please bring enough to share with others including our Morling College students.</u>

We would love some help with letterbox/door knocking on Tuesday (5th) from 2pm. Please speak to Tony or JJ if you are interested and available.

#### **Community Prayer next Sunday at 7pm**

Please come join us from a time of prayer next Sunday night at the church building from 7pm with some of the Morling team.

### **Soccer in the Park - Sunday 3rd May**

After our lunch with morling next Sunday all are welcome to join us for a game of soccer in the park. We will be playing at Charlie Bali Reserve in Doonside from from 2pm.

# **Any Maintenance/Property Issues?**

For any questions or issues related to the church property please speak to our property care co-ordinator Tony Kenning.

# **Pray for our Persecuted brothers and sisters**

Country: Libya

Leader: President Nuri Abu Sahmayn

**Population:** 6.3 million **Main Religion:** Islam

**Government:** Transitional Government

Main Source of Persecution: Islamic Extremism

#### The situation in Libya

The position for Christians, already extremely difficult, has deteriorated over the past year, making Libya the worst ranking country in North Africa.

As in most Muslim countries, converting from Islam brings social pressure. Christian converts from a Muslim background are always at risk from their families; there were some reported cases of beatings by family members. Christians continue to experience high levels of pressure in all areas of life.

Most Libyan Christians are afraid to meet with other believers, as any kind of religious gathering (other than Islamic) is forbidden for Libyans. Migrant Christians are allowed to have their own churches, but Libyans are not allowed to attend.

During Gadhafi's reign, the main source of persecution was the government's secret service. Now, Islamic extremists - such as the Salafists - are responsible for most of the pressure on and violence against Christians, as there is no central government or rule of law.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in the nation of the Libya.

For more info see: <a href="http://www.worldwatchlist.org.au/">http://www.worldwatchlist.org.au/</a>

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