# **Westview Baptist Church**

6th September 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

### A new identity that affects every relationship.

On Sunday we look at 3:18-4:1, a very practical outworking of last week where we looked at 3:1-17. Here we saw that because we have been united to Christ, we have a new identity. Because of this we have a new aim, a new purpose and a new culture. We have taken off the old self, set on sin and put on the new self, set on living in a way that befits those who belong to Jesus.

But in 3:18-4:1 we come up against things like 'wives submit' and 'slaves obey' which sometimes for good reason have very negative connotations because of the abuse of these things. It is so important that these commands be understood in their context. Particularly in that of 3:1-17 where compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and forgiveness abound and where love binds them all together in perfect unity. It is in the context of this, our new identity in Christ, that these commands are properly understood.

In our marriages, in our families, in our work and in all our relationships, we are to live out to one another and to this world the lives of those who are being renewed in knowledge in the image of our Creator. Those who are now in Christ and therefore have a new identity in Him. A new purpose, a new aim, a new culture. Because for us now... it is all about Jesus!

### **Family News**

### **Happy Father's Day!**

A very happy Father's day to all our fathers. We are so thankful to God for each of you, and the father figures that God has put in each of our lives. Godly fathers are a rare gift, and a wonderful blessing to their children and to our community. Today comes with a mix of emotions for many, some with fathers gone or fathers who were never there. May we all be comforted no matter the experience of our fathers by the fact that in Christ we are sons and daughters of Greatest Father who is always good, faithful and full of loving care towards his children. "For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children." (Rom 8:15-16)

#### **Update on Ashok**

Please continue to pray for Ashok and for the rest of the family during this very difficult time. Ashok he had liquid building up near his ribs which has been drained but his condition is still quite serious and doctors are going to prepare him for a bone marrow transplant. It will be 8 weeks of intensive chemotherapy. Please pray that his body will be able to endure this and for the financial matters that also need to be sorted out, as some of the personal bills for all his health needs are rising still. Also prayer for his wife Sabita and other caring for him who are trying to get multi entry or long term visas, as they are only able to get 1 month visas currently and have to leave the country (Singapore) before being able to reenter. Please pray for this very difficult situation for the Singh family.

### **Thursday Morning Prayer**

Just a reminder that there is a time of prayer at the church building on Thursdays from 6-6:30am each week. All welcome.

# What's Coming Up @ Westview

### **Quick WRAP Meeting – 13th September**

There will be a quick WRAP meeting on Sunday 13th September after the service to ratify the motion regarding JJ's eldership. If you have any questions please speak to Lee.

#### **Soccer in the Park – 13th September**

The next soccer in the Park will be on the 13th September. As Usual from 2pm at Charlie Bali Reserve, Doonside. All welcome!

### **Question Box Sunday – 20th September**

Have a question that you have been thinking through? Something you would like to hear a biblical response on? Please write it down and drop it into the church giving box and on the 20th September we will seek to address it. Thank you.

### **Community Prayer Night – 27th September**

Our next community prayer night will be on Sunday 27th September. All are welcome. This is at the church building and starts at 7pm and goes til around 8pm. If you can make it, it is a wonderful opportunity to pray together as a church.

### **Building or Maintenance questions or concerns?**

Please speak to Tony Kenning.

# Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

**Country:** Jordan **Leader:** King Adullah II **Population:** 7.7 million **Main Religion:** Islam **Government:** Constitutional Monarchy

Main Source of Persecution: Islamic Extremism/Tribal Antagonism

Religious freedom has not improved in Jordan, where the number of Christians has been declining for half a century.

Tensions between moderate and radical Islamic elements in Jordanian society are on the increase, under influence of the Arab Uprisings and civil war in Syria. Jordanian society is multi-ethnic – as reflected by the monarchy. Jordan hosts large groups of refugees, mostly from Iraq and Syria, which leads to economic, political and religious pressure and serves as a potential destabilizing factor.

For a long time, Jordan has been one of the most liberal countries of the region in terms of freedom of religion, however the tide seems to be turning – especially for Christian converts from a Muslim background. They face oppression in all spheres of life, but particularly in the areas of private, family and church life. Christians who evangelise Muslims or support Muslim background believers are also under great pressure.

There have been reports of Christians being killed, imprisoned, physically abused, abducted and forced to flee for faith-related reasons. For Christians, the growing power of radical Islam is an especially important warning sign. The development of the civil war in Syria is likely to influence their situation considerably.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Jordan.



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