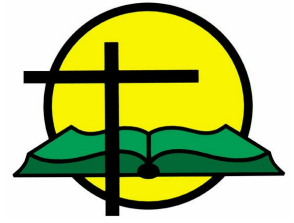


Westview Baptist Church



11th October 2015

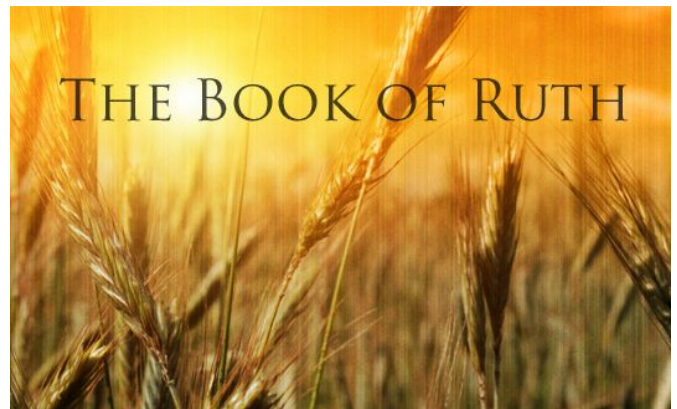
Our purpose is to bring glory to God.

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*

'Under his wings'

In the second of our talks about the book of Ruth, focussing this week on chapters 3 and 4, we see how in all things God works for good in and through the lives of a community of believers in Bethlehem in the time of the judges (Romans 8:28).



Unlike the vast majority of their fellow citizens, these people were walking in God's light and acknowledging the Lord's unfailing love to them, even in times of personal weakness and difficulty.

There is a property transaction, celebration of a marriage and the gift of life! It was more than 3000 years ago, but through blessing these people God is continuing to advance the possibility of blessing for people even now and into the future!

Family News

An Update on Ashok

Upendra's brother Ashok is not doing well. Upendra writes: "My brother, Ashok is going through a very difficult time. Doctor has now given us 10% survival chance over the next few days of heavy chemo treatment. Let's pray that he survives and gets healed." But Upendra also mentions a praise point for him and Devika this week: "Thank God for a bridging (visa) that has now been granted to Devika, i.e. she can live and work in Australia while waiting for an outcome of her application which usually takes 1-2 years. Please continue to lift the family up in prayer.

COBIS Giving

For many years now, individuals have been supporting Cobis (Churches of Blacktown in Schools) through Westview's giving on a Sunday with the option to do so through prepared envelopes so that a tax deductible receipt can be given. After speaking to the new chair of cobis, he has asked us to encourage people to give directly to cobis. The information is found on their website: www.cobis.org.au



From this point on, Westview will only pass on gifts that do not require a tax deductible receipt. We will arrange for those who have given already this financial year to receive a tax receipt. If that is not required by those individuals who have given, please send Tony an email asap. Thanks for all those who have supported Cobis in this way. Could we encourage people to continue in their support for the work of Cobis?

Westviews on a 5:2 Diet!

Thanks to Allan we have started our 'diet' of 5 small Old Testament books over 2 weeks each with Ruth which finishes this Sunday. We then start our 2 weeks through Jonah. It would be



great if you could read through the book in the next week. We will then be going through Lamentations, Ezra and Esther. Our prayer is that this will be a great blessing and encouragement for everyone as we look at these very old books that continue to speak as powerfully and are as applicable to our lives as Christians today as when God spoke through those who first penned their words thousands of years before.

What's Coming Up @ Westview

Soccer in the Park – Sunday 18th

Next Sunday 18th there will be soccer at Charlie Bali Reserve at 2pm. (Depending on whether we might start at 4pm) Please speak to JJ for further details.



Westview WRAP Meeting – 25th October

The next WRAP (Westview Review and Planning) meeting is fast approaching. If you have anything that you would like to be included in the agenda to be discussed on the day please speak to Lee or JJ. As usual this meeting will commence shortly after the service at 11am and should conclude by around 12. If you are able to make it that would be great. All welcome.

Community Prayer Night 25th October 7pm

There will be a time of prayer at the church building from 7pm for those who are able to come along. This usually goes for around an hour. If you have any questions please speak to Lee.



Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: Tanzania **Leader:** President Jakaya Kikwete
Population: 52.3 million **Main Religion:** Christianity/Islam **Government:** Republic
Main Source of Persecution: Organized Corruption/Tribal Antagonism

Zanzibar, the island of Tanzania, has become the epicenter of Islamic radicalism in the country. A radical Islamic separatist group called Uamsho (a Swahili acronym for the Association for Islamic Mobilization and Propagation, meaning Islamic Reawakening or Revolution) uses Zanzibar as a springboard to further its radical Islamic agenda in Tanzania. Persecution due to Islamic radicalism was basically limited to the Island of Zanzibar, but in the past year the coastal part of mainland Tanzania has also been effected as radical Islam expands.

The level of pressure and violence has been significantly high in the past year. Christians in Muslim dominated areas, particularly the Muslim Background Believers are the worst effected this type of persecution. Radical Islam has been growing, making Zanzibar a boiling point of Islamic radicalism in East Africa. There were targeted killings and destruction of churches. The Tanzanian Church withstood the pressure it has been under, but the persecution is rising to another level, and will be an even challenge for the Church. In addition to this type of persecution, Tribal antagonism has also become more visible in the country. There are more than 250 tribes, and Converts to Christianity from indigenous tribes often face pressure from their extended families to adhere to traditional practices. According to an Open Doors expert, so far "a common national identity and the effect of animist religions in the country serve as a barrier for more Islamic radicalism and intolerance or pressure from radical Muslims." This barrier might not resist forever. Radical Islam has been growing, and if this is left unaddressed, it might eventually put the country ('Union') on the brink of collapse.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Tanzania



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Eldership Contact: Lee Arundel 02 9621 6907; leearundel@yahoo.com

Electronic Giving: 'Westview Baptist Church' BSB: 704 922 Account:100003291

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

Post: PO Box 965 Kings Langley NSW 2147