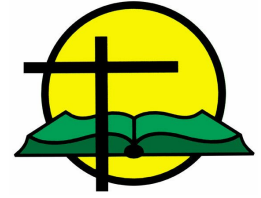


Westview Baptist Church



Sunday 21st February 2016

Our purpose is to bring glory to God.

We will do this as we: Are transformed by enjoying Christ; Love by serving others; and proclaim Jesus by faithfully living in a fallen world

This Sunday we address the below questions...

Question: "How do we know the difference between God's calling and your desire?"

Question: "Love covers a multitude of sins" and a woman "will be saved through childbearing" are two verses in the Scriptures "I am sure there is no contradiction in the Bible. Please help me to reconcile these with salvation only through faith in Jesus."

Question: 1 Peter 4:1 says "Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin" And the question of this verse is: "Am I right in thinking that if someone is in pain, his mind is focused on how to stop it and can't think about anything else, like being tempted to sin?"

There are some difficult things in the Bible. Hard for us to understand. Some verses are particularly hard. But God has given us His Word, His Spirit and His people to help us to understand better those parts that are difficult. We never want to shy away from the 'hard parts' but do our best to seek to study and understand what God has revealed to us in His perfect Word. Because Truth gives birth to worship and then to fruitful living. If you have a question why not drop in the box or email it to us and we will seek to address it. Join us this Sunday from 9:30am.

Family News

Scripture in Schools

Weekly Scripture (SRE) classes are slowly coming back for the year. Doonside Public was back last Monday (2-3pm), Crawford Public is back this week (2-3pm), and Doonside High School is also back this week (11:30-12:30). We would really value your prayers. At the moment JJ is running both the Primary school classes and helps teach one of the classes at the High School. We are always in need of more volunteers to teach or to assist the teachers. If you are interested please speak to JJ, even for a trial run. JJ is also involved in Scripture seminars run by Cobis worker Bernie Coleman at Evans High and Mitchell High. She has recently asked for more workers who can commit. Both Evans and Mitchell are full days once a month. Dates for Mitchell are: 3/3, 26/5, 16/6, 4/8, 5/9, 24/11. Maybe something you could consider is taking an annual leave day to come and teach or help assist the teachers to make known the truth of Jesus to these kids? If so, please speak to JJ. It is a wonderful door that is still open! But please, if everyone could join to pray for these workers and their students hearing the truth about Jesus, to pray they might respond, putting their faith in the One sent to save them. Thank you so much for your priceless prayers!

Reading the Bible in a Year

Remember there are free resources to listen to the Bible online (www.biblegateway.com), and great free videos (www.jointhebibleproject.com), with bible book overviews and themes. If you do not have internet access please speak to JJ and we can sort out a way to get these resources to you. Please feel free to direct questions you might be having or things you are struggling to understand to our elders, who are always available for any questions you might have. Or why not throw a question (even anonymously) into the wooden box and we will seek to address it at our next Question Box Sunday.

What's Coming Up?

Passage For Teaching Next Week: Luke 14:7-17:10

Why not make some time to read over the passage during the week?

Indoor Soccer Sunday February 21st 2:30-3:30PM - One hour. \$5 each.

We will be using Emerton Leisure Centre (35 Jersey Rd, Emerton). Let JJ know if you intend to come.



2020 Discussion Group Sunday February 21st 7pm

Minutes are available from our WRAP meeting last Sunday. Please speak to Lee or JJ. From that meeting a discussion group to talk through some of the finer details of the 2020 vision came about. This group is open for anyone who would like to come along and there is no requirement to commit to come along more than once. This group will meet for the first time this Sunday 21st from 7pm at the church property. For any further details see Lee or JJ.

Doonside Letterbox Drop

On Saturday 27th February, for those who are willing and able we will be meeting at the church property at 8:30am and then we will go around Doonside for a few hours putting fliers and tracts from our church into Mailboxes in the area. If you would like to be involved please meet at the church at 8:30am or see JJ for further details. Please be praying God will use this.



Westview are a "people learning to live Jesus' way",
a journey of faith we would encourage everyone to undertake.

YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US ON A SUNDAY.

Community Prayer Night Sunday February 28th 7-8pm

All are welcome. It's held at the church property.



Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: Kazakhstan **Leader:** President Nursultan Abishuly Nazarbayev
Population: 18.1 million **Main Religion:** Islam **Government:** Republic
Main Source of Persecution: Islamic Extremism

A worsening situation

The regime in Kazakhstan is constantly working to increase its control over every aspect of society. It is using the threat of radical Islam to restrict more and more freedoms. New laws have been recently introduced to further restrict religion. Mainstream Protestants are frequently branded as "extremists", and accused of being spies attempting to destroy the government.

Tumultuous history

Christianity grew in the 1930's when Stalin deported many 'unreliable' and religious citizens of the USSR to Kazakhstan. After being released from concentration camps, many started secret ministries among the people. Immediately following independence in 1991, more religious liberty allowed the gospel to reach thousands of ethnic Kazakhs, who embraced Christianity. However after recent political unrest, authorities have become wary of Christians and see them as a threat to security and society.

Christianity seen as a threat

Conversion is the issue that triggers the fiercest reaction. Converts from Islam will avoid performing Christian rituals or openly displaying Christian symbols in order to avoid drawing attention to themselves. They are frequently pressured into recanting their new faith, if they refuse their family may expel them or take their children. Some government-controlled media portray Protestant Christians as a threat to Kazakhstan. Local officials frequently encourage people to have a negative attitude towards Christians.

Please Pray for our brothers and sisters in Kazakhstan

- > For the continued growth of the Church in Kazakhstan, despite the increasing pressure on Christians.
- > That God would calm political tensions in Central Asia and that peace would come, offering new freedoms to Christians.
- > For protection for pastors who are especially targeted.



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