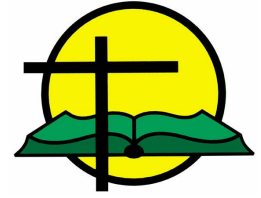


# Westview Baptist Church



*Sunday 26th June 2016*

## **Mission: to make passionate disciples of Jesus**

When we have lost something or someone precious to us, the grief and pain we experience will indicate the value we place upon it or them. We instinctively know this so there are times we will actually hold back our heart and affections, because we know it will not last and it may not be worth the hurt. So when we are presented with the greatest treasure ever, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, who is not temporary but eternal, we can actually give ourselves utterly and completely knowing that we will not lose him and he will never abandon us. Jesus is not the one from whom we need restrain our passions, for the joy of knowing him promises to overshadow even the hardships we face day to day. We need no longer to live in fear!

That is why Westview is in the business of making passionate disciples of Jesus. We don't want anything to get in the way of our core business. We don't want distractions. When our passion is for Jesus who commands us to make disciples of all the nations, we can delight in the truth that this will bring much glory to God our Father, fulfilling our purpose in life. We can also delight in the thought that our relationships with other disciples will also be eternal, a good reason we need not hold back our affections towards one another.

Today we are going to explore the basics of making passionate disciples of Jesus. We will see that it is a call upon us individually to be passionate, to see each other on a "discipleship scale", seeking to encourage each person's passion for Christ.

## **Family News**

### **Latest WRAP Meeting minutes available.**

Last Sunday's WRAP meeting minutes are available on the back table or by requesting a copy through the Elders.

### **Property Matters**

During the school holidays, it is expected that you will see the installation of Air Conditioners (4th July) and new carpet. Our aim is to make the church building as comfortable and safe as possible for the church family and all the groups which use our premises. On Sunday there should be further information available about the proposed mobile phone tower for our property (if you received it via email there is nothing new in this information). Please keep free an information night where representatives from the company will be able to address questions and concerns, Monday 18th July at 7.30pm. We expect to be make the neighbours aware of the proposal and invite them to attend the meeting so that they might have their concerns addressed too.

### **Sunday School at Westview**

Please consider to pray with us and to consider yourself as to our desire for a Sunday school team. We would (ideally) love a team of 4-8 people who could be involved on a roster type system that would mean those involved would get a good rest and not miss out on the Sunday teaching. As we have children growing up (and more on the way) we want to keep thinking and praying through the best way to care for them and their parents by providing ways in which they can be cared for and taught which provide a break for their parents to hear the teaching but also that provide a blessing having an opportunity for them to hear about Jesus from a non-parent in an age-specific way. Thank you for your prayers and consideration. Please speak to the Elders or Deacons if you are interested in being involved or have any ideas regarding this ministry.

## **Birthdays!**

### **A Very Special Birthday and July Birthdays!**

A very special happy birthday to David Rollason who turns 70 on Tuesday! We do thank God for the blessing you are David!  
And a happy birthday to Juliet (8/7), Sammy (11/7), Nelly (17/7), Sue (18/7), Keith (23/7), Lynne K. (28/7), and Lionel (29/7).  
Hope you guys have a wonderful birthday! We thank God for each one of you. Did we miss your birthday? Please let us know.

## **What's Coming Up?**

### **Time of Prayer – Sunday 26th June – 7-8pm**

All are welcome for a time of prayer together on Sunday 26th June at the church property.

### **Soccer in the Park – Sunday 26th June – 2-4pm.**

All welcome for some soccer in the Park.  
Charlie Bali Reserve, Doonside from 2pm.  
Bring your friends!



### **Time of Prayer – 3rd July – 8:15am**

All are welcome for a time of prayer together on Sunday 3rd July at the church property.

### **Proposed Mobile Phone Tower Info Night Monday 18th July – 7:30pm**

Please keep free an information night where representatives from the company will be able to address questions and concerns, Monday 18th July at 7.30pm. We expect to be make the neighbours aware of the proposal and invite them to attend the meeting so that they might have their concerns addressed too.

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

**Country:** Sudan **Leader:** President Umar Hasson Ahmad al-Bashir

**Population:** 36 million **Main Religion:** Islam

**Government:** Federal Republic

**Main Source of Persecution:** Islamic Extremism

## **Christians regarded as second class citizens**

□ Though Sudan has moved two spots down the World Watch List in 2016, persecution against Christians has increased. Believers face persecution from Islamic extremism and the government. With 97% of the population being Muslim, and Christianity perceived to be foreign to Sudanese culture, Christians are regarded as second-class citizens.

Punishing MBBs, demolishing churches, and detaining Christian pastors and priests are just some of the ways Christians are persecuted in Sudan.

## **Severe violations of religious freedom**

Sudan was one of the few African countries that has consistently been on the World Watch List since its first use in 1993. Since 1999, Sudan has been designated a "Country of Particular Concern" by the US State Department for its 'severe violations of religious freedom'.

## **Converting punishable by death**

□ Persecution of Christians has increased, particularly in the Nuba region. Muslim Background Believers (MBBs) face the worst persecution. Christians, and particularly MBBs, are monitored by Muslim religious leaders and politicians. The punishment for converting from Islam to another religion is death.

In October 2015, two churches were demolished in separate incidents and for false reasons. In one instance, authorities only gave the church 72 hours notice that their church would be demolished, citing re-development requirements.

Churches, schools and hospitals have been under continuous attack in different parts of the country, causing injury and death. Since 2012, more than 4,000 bombs were dropped on civilian targets in the Nuba region.

## **Please Pray:**

- > That the apostasy laws will be abolished.
- > For Christians who have been detained to remain steadfast in their faith and convictions.
- > For Christians around the Nuba mountains to be kept safe from bombings and continue meeting together.



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