

Where is Your Heart?

There are more than 40 parables of Jesus recorded in the Gospels and Matthew's account includes around 20 with a third of them in chapter 13, the focus of our teaching today.

Early in his Gospel, Matthew tells us that whenever Jesus taught the people, he always used parables. We'll explore the reason for that and the answer may surprise you.

The parables we'll look at illustrate various aspects of the Kingdom of God - his rule in creation, where Jesus is king. They challenge us about our response to the good news; remind us how Satan tries to undermine the Kingdom but will finally be defeated; and call us to

treasure the Lord Jesus over everything else.

There are issues for all of us to pay attention to. Do you know how to be saved so you are ready for the end of your time? Are you fully committed to Jesus or have the cares of the world diverted you from living for him? Where is your heart and what do you treasure most?



REGULAR MEETINGS



A SPECIAL NEED: Supporting Our Partners in the Gospel

In truth we do have many partners in the gospel. All followers of Jesus are partners in the gospel. But there are some that we have chosen to focus on in

an intentional way to support through care, prayer and where led and able finance. Our partnerships are with the Derringtons, Alison, the Beecks, the Calmans and the Aylings.

It has come to our attention there has been quite a large reduction in income for the Ayling family this year. With the grant going from \$20,000 to less than \$10,000 and some other factors, the Aylings have a large reduction on their income this year. With Bay's Advanced Diploma in Counseling and his work in both Doonside and Seven Hills High, a wife and three small boys, this has them as you can imagine pretty stretched as a family.

Bay hopes that maybe in the future he will make some income through counseling, but this year will be difficult for them as he



finishes this course considering with this decline. Can we encourage you to pray about this need and to consider supporting this family in 2017 in some way? For more information about how you can give to the Aylings please speak to Allan or the Elders. Thank you.



WRAP Meeting This Sunday

Our WRAP meeting has been rescheduled to this Sunday (26th Feb). We meet after the morning service and we do not intend to go past 12pm. All are welcome and encouraged to attend if you are able. If you have anything you wish to be included in the agenda please speak to Lee before Sunday.



HomeGroups in 2017

If you do not currently attend a HomeGroup (also known as Growth Groups, Small Groups, Bible Study Groups) and you would like to be involved in one please speak to JJ.

Thursday Church was started partly with this idea in mind that it would function as a Homegroup/Small group that meets weekly to open the Scriptures, pray, sing and to share a meal together. If Thursday night does not work and none of our other current groups we will see what we can do. If you would like more information please speak to JJ or any of the Elders or Deacons.



A TIME OF PRAYER: This Sunday Evening 7-8pm

This Sunday evening we will be having a time of prayer at the church property from 7pm. During this time anyone is welcome to pray (or to listen and amen with others as they pray). We'll spend some time thanking and

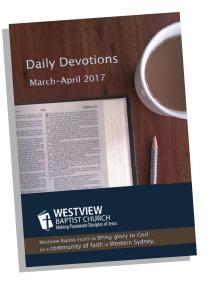
praising God, praying for one another, our partners and the work of the gospel, we pray for our government and our world. All are welcome. Please speak to Lee for any more information.



Creating Safe Spaces

Our desire as a church is to encourage the use of gifts to build up the body. If we are going to make ministry to children a priority, we need to have gifted and qualified people to serve our children.

This course is one such qualification that is needed. Dates can be found at www.nswactbaptists.org.au/events, CSS Awareness for those have not completed a course in the previous 3 years, or CSS Refresher for those who have. For more information, please talk to Lee.



DAILY DEVOTIONS: March - April

We are now making available the next daily devotions for the following two months. Please get your book early rather than later to ensure that we have enough for each person. If you have not been able to keep going, or you have not yet started, please take one and commence your daily devotions as you ioin with the rest of the church in considering God's Word for us each day.

The two most significant things that we can do to further our faith and joy in God our Father is to pray and read his Word.

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