



DANDENONG
**Bible
Education
Centre**

Newsletter August 2005

Special Bible study weekend

We have just enjoyed a special Bible study weekend with our speaker, Neil Todd, from New Zealand. The topic was "*Learning more from our Lord*", and Neil spoke of Jesus' different teaching methods - in particular learning from parables and miracles. Using stories, Jesus taught the people about God and the sort of behaviour he is pleased with. We looked at the parables of 'the sower' and 'the prodigal son'. We can be the 'good soil' in which God's message grows. The second story reassures us that God is always watching out for us. On Saturday we looked at the Old Testament characters Esther and Mordecai. Neil told it as a story with lessons for our lives. The miracles of Jesus were our focus on Sunday. We found that although we often want our bodies healed, Jesus is more interested in healing our minds and cleaning out the "dirt" of sin. Only then will we be ready for life for ever in God's kingdom on earth, when our bodies will be completely healed. Our final talk was about reading the Bible, which is vital in a Christian's life. Over the weekend we enjoyed socializing together with games and a film on Friday night (a highlight for the children) and lunch together on both Saturday and Sunday. We concluded the weekend with mini-golf at Dingley on Sunday afternoon. A great weekend was shared by all!



Meet Silas and Andy!

Silas and Andy are our two presenters of the course "God and you through Jesus", which runs each Monday night for eight weeks. Together they have prepared this course, which looks at the character, purpose and plan of God, the position of people in his plan, and how Jesus came to save us. As a father of two sons, Silas can appreciate what it meant to God to give his son to die for us. Children are very precious to their parents, but God **so loved** the world that he was willing to give his only begotten son so that those who believe and obey him can live forever. Andy was born and grew up in India. He now lives in Melbourne and works with computers each day. Having come from such a poor country with so much suffering, he knows how much people need God's help in their everyday lives and a hope for the future.



Did you know?

The complete Bible is now available in 422 languages. However parts of the Bible are available in 2377 languages. Many of these languages have at least one Testament (for example in 2004 twenty-two new translations of the New Testament were registered).

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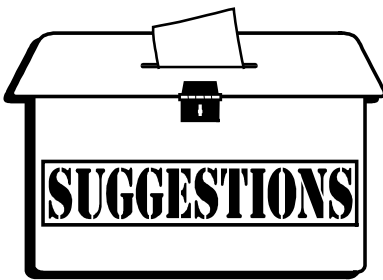
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New Life Class: 11.30am-12.30pm each Sunday, followed by lunch

We would love to have you come to this class which discusses a variety of topics from the Bible. All our arrangements for the future will take place if the Lord lets them.

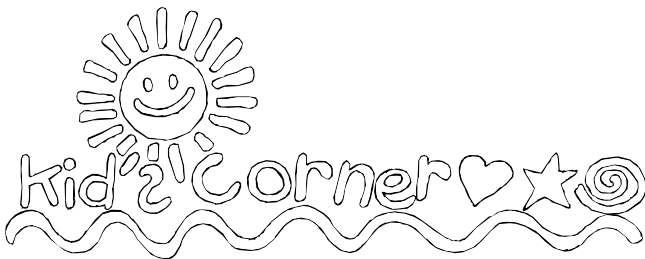
The following program is planned for the next 2 months:

August	7	<i>Recent archaeological evidence for the Bible</i>
	14	<i>Fulfilled prophecy – evidence for the Bible</i>
	21	<i>Bible and church – history of the churches</i>
	28	<i>Bible and church – where doctrines came from</i>
September	4	<i>Bible and church – what happened to the reformation?</i>
	11	<i>Bible and church – which takes priority?</i>
	18	<i>Bible and church – one Bible, why so many churches?</i>
	25	No class



We are trying to meet the needs of the community around Dandenong with regard to the Bible courses we run. We are therefore seeking suggestions for courses that we could run at some stage in the future. While we will try to run the courses you request, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to, as it depends on the numbers of people who are interested. So if you would like to attend a particular course, please write, ring or email us with your idea, or come into the shop and talk to our friendly staff. Here are some suggestions to get you started:

- Bible culture and customs.
- Archaeology and the Bible.
- Geography of Bible lands.
- Life as a Christian in an anti-Christian world.



What is faith? Here is a code puzzle to give you the answer. If you get stuck, see Hebrews 11:1. A modern version of the Bible makes it clear what this verse says faith is. The whole chapter talks about many people in the Old Testament of the Bible who had faith and is interesting to read.

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Q	D	L	Y	H	W	M	X	K	W	X	V	V	W											

At Bible Explorers we learn about many of the faithful people in the Bible.