



DANDENONG
**Bible
Education
Centre**

Newsletter March 2006

Commonwealth Games – God’s way!

The Commonwealth Games are coming! The organizers are putting the final touches to the venues and schedules. Security staff will be trying to make sure nothing goes wrong. And the athletes are still practising. Maybe you have interest in some of the athletes and are wondering if they are good enough to win a medal.



“Winners are grinners” they say, but do you spare a thought for those who don’t quite make it? Did you know that the prize for athletes in the original Olympic games was a crown plaited from wild olive branches? No matter how lovely it

looked when it was awarded, within a few days it was dead. God speaks of our lives as a race, and there is a prize at the end for those who run the race well. The apostle Paul compares the crown awarded to the winners of the Olympic games with the reward on the day of judgement in 1 Corinthians 9:24-25:

“Surely you know that many runners take part in a race, but only one of them wins the prize. Run, then, in such a way as to win the prize. Every athlete in training submits to strict discipline, in order to be crowned with a wreath that will not last; but we do it for one that will last for ever.” (GNB)

Can you see the two big differences between the two races? Firstly, the prize is life forever compared with something that lasts for a short time. Secondly, many people can be winners, not just one. As Paul said in 2 Timothy 4:7-8:

“I have done my best in the race, I have run

the full distance, and I have kept the faith. And now there is waiting for me the prize of victory awarded for a righteous life, the prize which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that Day – and not only to me, but to all those who wait with love for him to appear” (GNB).

Which race would you rather win? The instructions for the “race of life” are in the Bible. Read your Bible every day, and learn how you can be given the free gift of eternal life on judgement day, when Jesus returns to the earth.

Getting to know the Bible better

We are glad to report great interest in one of our new courses for this term, “Getting to know the Bible better”. This course is held on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. Our presenters, Rob and Bernie, are keeping a keen audience interested with their information about the Bible. We have looked at some unusual customs of Bible times, how the Bible is divided up, why there is an ‘Old Testament’ and a ‘New Testament’ and have started a systematic plan to read the Bible.



The presenters, Bernie (left) and Rob (right)

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The New Life class

Each Sunday from 11.30-12.30 we hold a class covering a variety of Bible topics. All who attend are invited to stay to share lunch with us. The topics for March and April are:

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| March 5 <i>Great prophecies – Ezekiel 38 & 39</i> | April 2 <i>Great prophecies – Matthew 24</i> |
| 12 <i>Great prophecies – Psalm 22</i> | 9 <i>Great prophecies – Revelation</i> |
| 19 No class | 16 <i>Bible foundations – Creation</i> |
| 26 <i>Great prophecies – Zechariah 14</i> | 23 <i>Bible foundations – Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel</i> |
| | 30 <i>Bible foundations – Noah</i> |

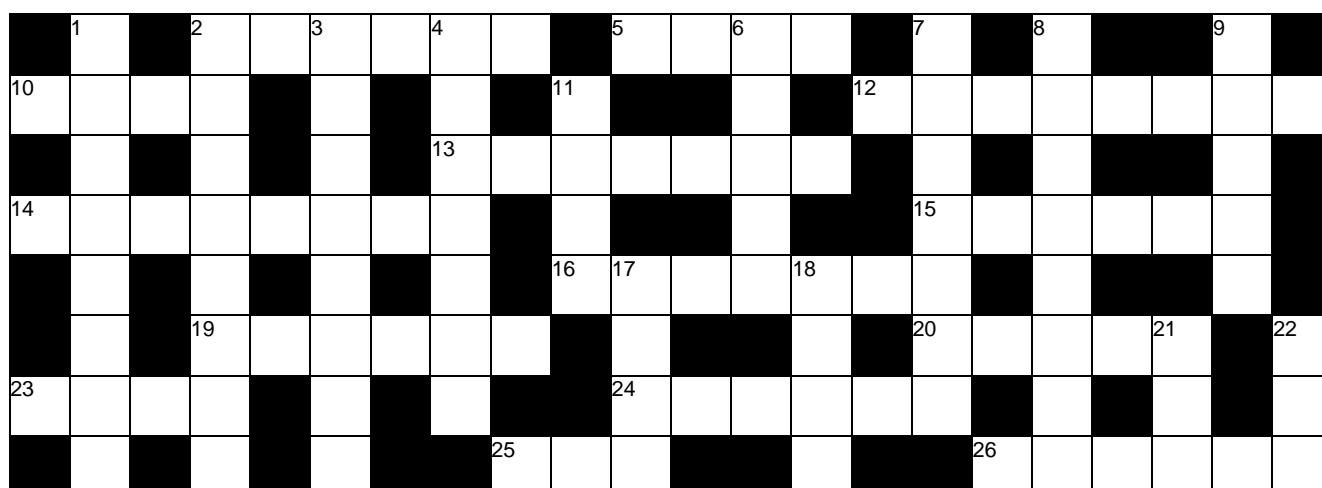
Crossword – God’s Nature World

Across

2. The Lord said to ____ the stones on the highway. (Isaiah 62:10)
5. God decided to wipe mankind from the _____ of the earth. (Genesis 6:7)
10. What the stork has in the pine trees. (Psalm 104:17)
12. What the Israelites remembered about Egypt. (Numbers 11:5)
13. A sign of the covenant God made with the earth. (Genesis 9:13)
14. A man’s death is compared to this. (Job 14:11)
15. The water did this when Moses struck the rock. (Numbers 20:11)
16. Produced by the land after Adam sinned. (Genesis 3:18)
19. The water Jesus gives will become this. (John 4:14)
20. An Israelite does this to the nails of a captive. (Deuteronomy 21:12)
23. The beloved calls herself this from Sharon. (Song of Solomon 2:1)
24. The Lord fixed these for the sea. (Job 38:10)
25. Her lover went down to a grove of these trees. (Song of Solomon 6:11)
26. Esau sold his birthright for this stew. (Genesis 25:34)

Down

1. The Lord asked Job if he could set up this over the earth. (Job 38:33)
2. God asked Job if he’d walked in these. (Job 38:16)
3. With faith we can tell this tree to be uprooted. (Luke 17:6)
4. The colour of the beloved’s bed. (Song of Solomon 1:16)
6. When dust becomes hard, these stick together. (Job 38:38)
7. The earth’s dust contains these. (Job 28:6)
8. The Lord will look on like shimmering heat in the what? (Isaiah 18:4)
9. Crushed _____ of grain could be brought as an offering. (Leviticus 2:14)
11. Tyre heaped up gold like this. (Zechariah 9:3)
17. God tells the proud waves to do this. (Job 38:11)
18. Isaiah wanted God to make his name known like fire sets this ablaze. (Isaiah 64:2)
21. The Lord asked Job on what were the earth’s footings _____. (Job 38:6)
22. The Lord gave his people this from the flinty crag. (Deuteronomy 32:13)



Please note that the NIV (New International Version) was used to produce this crossword.