



DANDENONG  
**Bible  
Education  
Centre**

# Newsletter

## May 2006

### Easter service

There was much to think about for those who came to our Easter service on Good Friday. We were reminded about what Jesus did for us by dying on the cross, and the great gift God gave us when he raised him from the dead. A choir sang songs about the death and resurrection of Jesus, and a talk about Jesus as the Passover lamb tied the whole story together. The picture below shows an enactment of Barabbas in jail, with his guard. In this drama we saw the wonder of God's plan of salvation – the murderer, Barabbas, was set free, while the sinless man, Jesus, was crucified. Who did God do this for? For all those people who will accept this priceless gift and will follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Will you answer God's call?



Mark (guard) and Rob (Barabbas)

### Did you know?

Did you know that God commanded the Israelites that every seventh year they were not allowed to sow seed in their fields, or prune their vineyards or pick any fruit or grain that grew up on its own that year? God said that it would be a year of solemn rest for the land. He assured them that he would provide food in abundance for them in that year if they would obey his command. See Leviticus 25:1-7.

### 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 and share lunch with us. The topics for May and June are:

**May 7** *Bible foundations – Abraham*

**14** *Bible foundations – Isaac and Jacob*

**21** *The Bible's view – politics*

**28** *The Bible's view – evolution and creation*

**June 4** *The Bible's view – racism*

**11** *The Bible's view – the environment*

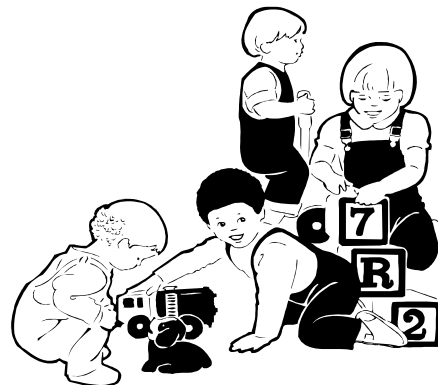
**18** *The Bible's view – war*

**25** No class – evening service 7pm.

### Playgroup – planned for term 3

#### Advance notice:

We are planning to start a playgroup at the Dandenong Bible Education Centre beginning in term 3. If you have a baby and/or a preschool child and would like to join a playgroup, think about joining this one, which will be held every second Tuesday. Watch for further details...



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## Getting to know the Bible better

Our current beginner course, "Getting to know the Bible better" has finished, but we have plans to start two more of these courses – one in the daytime and one at night. For various reasons many people couldn't attend the previous course, so now there is more choice!

Wednesday 11am, beginning July 12

Thursday 7.30 pm, beginning July 13

Our leaflet outlining the term 3 courses should be coming out toward the end of June, but if you think now about which course you wish to attend, you may be able to set aside your time in advance!

## Audio tapes

We now have a selection of audio cassettes in our library for those who would like to borrow them. There are 2 full readings of the Bible as well as tapes about a variety of Bible topics. These are great for those with poor sight, or other difficulties with reading. They have been enjoyed by many who spend a long time driving in cars. They are good for times when your hands are busy but your mind is unoccupied, like when doing the ironing or cooking the dinner. Do you need something to usefully occupy the mind of a sick friend or relative? Come into the shop to see what the titles are. They are kept with the videos and DVDs.

## Answers

Here are the answers to the crossword which was in the March newsletter and the "Words of the risen Lord" in the April newsletter:



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

## Words of the Risen Lord

1. Jesus told *Mary Magdalene*, "Do not hold me."
2. On the Emmaus Road, he called *Cleopas* "foolish".
3. He said to *Thomas*, "Put out your hand, and place it in my side."
4. Jesus asked *Simon Peter*, "Do you love me?"
5. His words, "make disciples of all nations," were addressed to *the disciples*?
6. He told *Simon Peter*, "Feed my sheep."
7. Jesus asked *Saul*, "Why do you persecute me?"
8. He told *John*, at Patmos, to write down his words.

## Passover – a family activity

Would you like to join in a fun family activity which brings alive a story of the Bible? Jesus was killed at Passover time, which is around our Easter time each year. If you have a "passover" type meal at home you can re-live the time when the people of Israel were set free from slavery and left the land of Egypt. Maybe you are not familiar with this story. You can read about it in Exodus 12.

### You will need:

- Roast lamb
- flat bread (eg. Pita bread or Roti)
- herbs
- vegetables (optional)
- sticks for walking with
- a tea-towel for each person (optional)
- a small leafy branch (optional)
- tomato sauce (optional)

### What to do:

At dinner time one day act out the story of the first Passover, following the story in the Bible. If you have children who enjoy dressing up, a tea-towel may be worn on the head and possibly an old sheet for the clothing the Israelites would have worn. If you are feeling like really trying to copy the Israelites use the branch and some tomato sauce to paint the "blood" on the door frame of your house. Now enjoy your Passover meal together. Remember the Israelites had to be ready to leave Egypt quickly so they ate standing up, and with their sticks for walking ready (Exodus 12:11). Read Exodus 12:1-39 with your family.

Perhaps you have no children in your house to add to the fun. Why not invite some friends to your place and share your food in the same way as the people of Israel did? (see Exodus 12:4)

ENJOY!

