



DANDENONG
**Bible
Education
Centre**

Newsletter

August

2006

New Life



It's winter in Melbourne. We can tell, can't we? One look out the window shows us that it must be winter – the grey, cloudy sky, or the falling rain! A step outside sends us hurrying for a coat as we feel the cold wind. Yes, it's winter, but around the corner is Spring, with its hope of warmth and sunshine. When people think of Spring, they often think of little lambs and young birds – of new life.

At the Dandenong Bible Education Centre we are very interested in new life because God has offered great things to those who follow his ways. We can change to a new way of life with God's help. We can learn to do things in the way Jesus, God's son, did. To help the people of Dandenong and the areas around it learn more of what God has in store for us, we hold a "New Life Class" each Sunday from 11.30am-12.30pm. Each week there is a different topic and a different leader to suit all types of people. Most sessions involve discussion or workshop activities and the Bible is the focus of each week. If you were able to stay for a light lunch, we would love to share it with you. Let's look at what the topics are in August.



August 6 *Does it matter what you believe?*



Many Christians have different beliefs from one another. Have you ever wondered whether God cares what you believe? Jesus said,

"God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth" John 4:24

We must look for God's truth in his book, the Bible. Come and hear more on August 6.

August 13 *Don't blame the Devil – you are the sinner*

Where does sin come from? The Bible says:

"...each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin; and sin when it is full-grown brings forth death."

James 1:14-15

So we cannot blame anyone but ourself when we do what is wrong.

August 20 *Our reward: now or in the future?*



God has a great reward in store for those who obey the commands of Jesus. Though we will have a happier life now because of the

peace God gives us when we worship him, his main reward will be greater than anything that we can imagine! This earth will be made new again when Jesus returns to the earth as king. The Bible teaches:

"The meek will inherit the earth." Psalm 37:11

August 27 *Jesus – a crucified saviour*

We are separated from God because of our sins, but God has made a way to close this gap. He sent his son, Jesus Christ, to live a sinless life and then to be crucified to save us from sin.



"But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us"

Romans 5:8

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"Bible cup" Quiz

Many people have enjoyed watching the "World Cup" in past weeks. There are many uses of the word "cup" in the Bible. See how many of these you can answer!



- Whose cup was found in Benjamin's sack?
- God will reward anyone who gives a cup of this to one of his followers.
- What popular Psalm says "my cup runs over"?
- What did Jesus mean when he said that the disciples James and John would drink the cup that he was to drink?
- Name a king's cupbearer.
- What did the cup which Jesus shared with his disciples at the Last Supper represent?
- Jesus said the teachers of the law were hypocrites who cleaned the outside of the cup and dish. What did he say this "cup" was like inside?
- What "cup" did Jesus want God to take away from him?
- The Babylonian king, Belshazzar, ordered gold goblets to be used at his party. Where were these from originally?
- What is God's anger sometimes called?

Hints – look up these verses if you need to:

- Genesis 44:1-2, 12
- Matthew 10:42
- Psalm 23
- Mark 10:39
- Nehemiah 1:11
- Luke 22:20
- Matthew 23:25-26
- Luke 22:42
- Daniel 5:2-3
- Isaiah 51:17

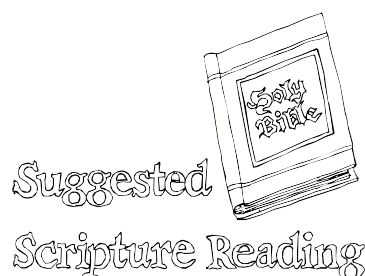
The New Life class

Each Sunday from 11.30am-12.30pm we hold a class covering a variety of Bible topics. All who attend are also invited to share lunch with us. The topics for the next two months are:

- Aug**
- 6 *Does it matter what you believe?*
 - 13 *Don't blame the Devil – you are the sinner!*
 - 20 *Our reward: now or in the future?*
 - 27 *Jesus – a crucified saviour*
- Sep**
- 3 *Family building – Godly marriage*
 - 10 *Family building – Bringing up child'n*
 - 17 *The power of God shown in creation*
 - 24 *Christians speak out – Jesus fulfilled the scriptures (Acts 2)*

Are you a "Good Samaritan"?

Have you ever done a good deed and been called a "Good Samaritan"? Maybe you have read in the newspaper of those who help the poor and needy and are called Good Samaritans. If you are familiar with the Bible you would realize that this comes straight from a parable of Jesus. However, many people use the term without even realising its origin. It was the Good Samaritan who helped a man who had been robbed and bashed. Yet the religious leaders of the day had passed by without helping at all. The people in Jesus' day would have been surprised by this story, because the Samaritans and the Jews hated each other intensely, and they would have found it difficult to imagine a Samaritan doing anything helpful for a Jew. Read the complete story in Luke 10:25-37. The message for us is that we should love our neighbour as ourselves – our neighbour is anybody needing our help. Jesus said, "Go and do likewise".



For a message of hope and comfort, why not read Psalm 139? This Psalm shows that wherever we are, God is there. He knows where we are, what we are doing and even what we are going to say. The famous Psalmist David also wrote about the wonderful way God created him before he was born. The more modern scientists find out about the human body, the more we realize how amazingly we are formed. The last verse of this Psalm is a good prayer to pray:

"See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:24

Answers to last month's puzzle

1C		2L	3B	U	R	4D	E	5N		6S		7S	Q	8U	A	N	9D	E	10R	
11R	O	B	E		O		A		12E	M	P	T	Y		N				I	U
Y			13W	I	L	D		Y	W			R		14U	S	E		G	N	
	15L	D	D		16S		17F	18T	W	I	G	19S	H		20T		21A			
22B	A	R	N	N	A		O	A		P		O	R		23I	N	N			
	N	E		24E	N	V	I	O	U	S		25P	E	R	F	U	M	E	G	
26S	E	N	S	E	S		E	D		T		E	E		N			27T	E	N
	S		S		28S	I	D	E		29R	E	A	D	Y		30S	K	I	N	L

All the words come from the New International Version