

Newsletter March 2008

Missionary returns!

Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." Matthew 28:19.

That is why David (pictured at the right) has gone many times to India to preach the good news that is in the Bible. Recently he returned from an eight-week visit to India and Bangladesh. In spite of the poverty seen so frequently in these countries, there is an eagerness to hear about the word of God which is rewarding for a teacher. Of course when Jesus said to go and make disciples of all nations, that included Australia. That is why we are called the Dandenong *Bible Education Centre*.



David with Jayavantha of Mandya, Karnataka. Jayavantha is now 81 and was baptised by David 26 years ago.

David is the leader of the "Exploring the Bible" course which is currently running on Monday nights from 7.30pm-9.00pm. As he has been reading the Bible for many years, he has a wealth of information about the Bible. If you missed the start of the course, it's not too late to come.

Did you see us on T.V.?

Recently there were a number of advertisements on television advertising *Getting to Know the Bible Better* courses. These are being held in many venues across Melbourne, including at the Dandenong Bible Education Centre. If you missed out, you will be glad to hear that these courses are held regularly. Watch for our courses leaflet each term.

Easter service

Join us on Good Friday (March 21) for an Easter service - a time to reflect on what God, and his son Jesus, have done for those who follow Jesus' ways. Jesus was willing to die for sinners, and because he did not sin, God raised him to life eternal. That can be your hope too.



Playgroup news

Did you know that *Happy Faces* playgroup is now held every week? Adults, babies and toddlers enjoy each other's company every Wednesday morning from 10.30-12.30. They chat, play, eat, sing, do craft and listen to stories - this is all part of the program. Bible stories and Christian living are the basis of all this fun. Maybe you could join them.

New Life Class - Sundays 11.30am-12.30pm

March 2	Why baptism is essential for salvation	March 30	<i>Bible Trivia morning</i>
March 9	<i>No class</i>	April 6	How to make prayer powerful
March 16	Jesus spoke of 2 types of life and death	April 13	Relationships
March 23	The significance of Jesus' death and resurrection	April 20	Christian living: luck and superstition
		April 27	Biblical "inconsistencies" explained

Did you know?

Not a single bone of Jesus' body was broken when he was crucified, though the legs of the robbers crucified with him were broken. This was to fulfil prophecy. See John 19:31-36.

An ancient king's dream showed the future!



Did you know that an ancient king called Nebuchadnezzar had a dream which foretold major empires in the history of the world? This took place around 600 BC. The dream was so startling, and so frightening that the king felt sure that it was no ordinary dream. He wanted to know what it meant. God sent his prophet Daniel to interpret the vision which God had sent. The king saw a huge image which had a head of gold, chest and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, legs of iron and feet which were partly iron and partly clay. He then saw a stone which hit the image on its feet and broke them to pieces. The whole image was broken and crushed and was blown away by the wind. The stone then became a great mountain

and filled the whole earth. This was what Nebuchadnezzar saw. You can read about this dream in Daniel 2.

The prophet Daniel then explained what the dream meant: The head of gold represented Nebuchadnezzar - the king of the Babylonians. The silver represented the kingdom of the Medes and the Persians which replaced the Babylonian kingdom. This was followed by the Greeks - represented by bronze - then iron legs were symbolic of the Roman Empire. Finally the feet represented the time from the Roman Empire until now. All of this came to pass as was predicted by God through Daniel. All that remains is for the stone to come. This speaks of the time when the Lord Jesus Christ will return to the earth and set up God's kingdom on earth. Just as the stone broke to pieces all of the image, so the kingdoms of this world will be replaced by the kingdom of our Lord (God) and of his Christ (Jesus) as stated in Revelation 11:15. Because God was right when he predicted all the kingdoms from the time of Daniel until now, we can have confidence in the many prophecies in the Bible that speak of the return of Jesus and of his great kingdom to be set up on the earth. When Jesus left the earth, two angels said to the disciples,

"Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Acts 1:11

That is the prediction and its fulfilment is certain.

What do you know about Easter?

1. Which disciple betrayed Jesus?
2. How much money was paid to this disciple?
3. Which High Priest was Jesus taken to for judging?
4. Which disciple denied that he knew Jesus?
5. Who was the governor who judged Jesus?
6. What did this governor do before he condemned Jesus to death?
7. What did the soldiers dress Jesus in when mocking him?
8. Who had to help Jesus by carrying his cross?
9. What was written on the sign that was placed over Jesus' head?
10. How long (during the day of crucifixion) was there darkness?
11. What happened to the curtain of the temple when Jesus died?
12. Who took the body of Jesus and buried him?
13. How long was Jesus dead?
14. Who told the women that Jesus was alive?
15. Why did Jesus die?
16. Why was Jesus made alive again?



The answers to these and many other questions about Jesus' death and resurrection can be found in the final chapters of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and also 1 Corinthians 15.

All our plans are subject to the will of God.