



DANDENONG  
**Bible  
Education  
Centre**

# Newsletter

## July

## 2009

### Relocation – progress

The new home of the Dandenong Bible Education Centre sits empty as we wait for a council building permit. We are thankful that a planning permit has now been issued and are eager to get on with the major work needed to remodel the store – once approval is given! We must leave our Walker Street home by 13<sup>th</sup> July, so there is little time remaining.

Please note that the store at  
46 Walker Street will be  
closed after 2pm on  
**Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2009.**

Come in before this time to shop for the last time at our Walker Street store where the Dandenong Bible Education Centre has been operating for almost 5 years. The new shop will not be open for business for a few months while the remodelling is carried out.

We will continue to keep you informed through this newsletter, our website and the front window of the new shop at 118–120 Foster Street in Dandenong.

Although the new shop will never be as delightful as God promises his kingdom will be, waiting for things we are eager to have can always be a reminder to us of how we are to wait for that wonderful time when Jesus will return as he promised. Jesus talked to his disciples about how they needed to keep watching for his return:

*Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.* Mark 13:37

### Mary Jones

A young Welsh girl wanted to have her own Bible. If you look on the internet, Google Maps will tell you that the trip from Llanfihangel to Bala in Wales is 32.8km and should take about 38 minutes – but Mary Jones had to walk all the way. In 1800 there were no cars and she was so poor that she had to walk in bare feet.

Mary had been saving money for 6 years to buy a Bible, but when she arrived in Bala there was no Bible for her. Imagine her heartbreak.



Versions of the story vary; she may have had to wait 2 days for a Bible, or she may have been given one already promised to another. Whichever it was, she was finally able to hand over her money, take her Bible and start the long walk back home to Llanfihangel.

How long would you save for, to get a Bible of your own? How far would you be willing to walk to get it? For us, Bibles are easy to get; make sure we value them and read God's message to us.

### The New Life class

Each Sunday from 11.30am -12.30pm we hold a class in the shop covering a variety of Bible topics. All who attend are invited to stay to share lunch with us. God willing the topics for the next two months will be:

**July 5** *Why did Jesus have to die?*

**12** *Better than sacrifice*

**19** *Forgiving one another*

**26** *The Bible –*

*God's inspired word to you*

**Aug 2** *Repent, for the kingdom of*

*God is near!*

**9** *Old Testament prophecies of Jesus*

**16** *Nooma DVD: Noise – hearing the voice of God*

**23** *The correct history of Satan*

**30** *What is grace?*

Dandenong Christadelphians

PO Box 2076, Dandenong East 3175

46 Walker St, Dandenong 3175

Ph: (03) 9791 1699

[www.dandenongbec.org.au](http://www.dandenongbec.org.au)

## Bible Reading

Those who have made a study of Shakespeare feel they are acquainted with him and his thought processes; so it is with any other writer who has left his works behind. It may be nice to know a human author this way but it in no way compares with getting to know God through His Word. In fact, it is completely impossible to obey the first command to love the Lord with all our heart, soul and mind if we do not constantly read His Book, pray and meditate upon His goodness and mercy to us.

It is impossible to love the unknown. We cannot love someone we have never seen, never heard from, never heard of. Only by becoming familiar with a person can we love them. In the natural this usually comes as a result of personal contact but it has occurred by correspondence. Many lovers first met by mail and the love grew even before they saw one another. Since we have never seen God it is only possible to love Him as a result of our familiarity with His Word. It goes without saying that if we are not faithful in our daily readings in His Book, we will not love Him. How can we expect Him to save us if we break His first and most important command? Paul asks the question "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?" His answer is, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." It is this word of God that must fill our minds and hearts if we are to love Him, obey Him and receive from Him the crown of righteousness. To ignore the Bible readings is to ignore God.

If we cannot find time to read God's book every day, just how much do we really love Him? Our actions are speaking louder than words.

May the words Paul addressed to Timothy apply to us as well. "Continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:14-15)

### Bob Lloyd

(abridged from 'Minute Meditations' 7<sup>th</sup> Edition)

*All plans are subject to the will of God*

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
Forgive our foolish ways!  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
In purer lives Thy service find,  
In deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard  
Beside the Syrian sea  
The gracious calling of the Lord,  
Let us, like them, without a word  
Rise up and follow Thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!  
O calm of hills above,  
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee  
The silence of eternity  
Interpreted by love!

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and Thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still, small voice of calm!

John Greenleaf Whittier

## Did you know?

Mary Jones' Bible (see story overleaf) is now in the Cambridge University Library. It was one of 10,000 Welsh Bibles printed in 1799. Mary is long dead and the cottage she lived in lies in ruins, but the story of Mary Jones continues to inspire us today.

Can you walk as far as your bookcase to get down your Bible and read it – every day?