

the advocate



"When will you be successful?"
JOHN MAXWELL PAGE 13>>

In Conversation Children's Pastor Rachel Barkman speaks about her journey through food addiction.
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Photo: John So

Broadcaster Graham Mabury with his wife Merle during the live broadcast of his final *Nightline* show on radio 6PR.

33 years ends an era

Radio 6PR *Nightline* host Graham Mabury broadcast his final show from the auditorium of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Booragoon on 4 June.

More than 900 people filled the auditorium and foyer for the two hour Wednesday evening broadcast where Graham was joined by a panel of radio and community personalities to farewell *Nightline's* evening radio community.

There was plenty of laughs as people reminisced about the highlights of the *Nightline* program. The evening culminated in a party following the broadcast.

"In an industry where careers are sometimes expressed in terms of weeks or months, it's been an absolute honour and a privilege to be on air for 33 years. It's the right time and stage of my life to now devote myself to my wife Merle and our sons and their growing families who are now living overseas," Graham said.

6PR General Manager Martin Boylen paid tribute to Graham's long and distinguished radio career.

"Graham has been the backbone of 6PR for more than three decades – providing

companionship, entertainment and assistance to many hundreds of thousands of Perth radio listeners," Martin said.

"He will be sorely missed by many, but we are delighted to announce that he's agreed to a continuing role with the station, providing advice and assistance with some very exciting charitable and community projects we have in the pipeline."

Graham said he had first discussed his decision with 6PR management over a year ago and now felt the time was right to pass the baton over to 6PR overnight presenter Chris Ilsley.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Senior Pastor Nick Scott said that from the beginning of Graham's ministry on radio, the church had been keen to release him into the ministry and to take the church with him into the community.

"This is the end of an era as far as 6PR's *Nightline* is concerned, but the good news is that Graham's ministry will continue on," Nick said.

"Precisely what that will look like is not clear, but Graham and Merle are committed to their Mount Pleasant family."

A highlight of the broadcast was Graham's closing comments, effectively conveying the message that God loves us and that He is for us, not against us.

"What a wonderful message for his many listeners to take away!" Nick said.

"The whole evening was amazing, and a fitting tribute to a faithful servant of the Lord. As Graham would say: 'To God be the glory!'"

High Court rules

The High Court of Australia ruled against the Commonwealth on the funding process for the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program on 19 June, deeming it invalid and may cease.

YouthCARE CEO Stanley Jeyaraj said that school chaplaincy is a vital service to school communities throughout Western Australia, providing pastoral care to students, staff and families.

"Even though the decision of the Court is very disappointing it is comforting to know that the Prime Minister expressed his support for the program

soon after the release of the judgment," he said.

Federal funding is a resource that many chaplains and schools rely on. Currently there are 343 Western Australian public schools, with approximately 125,000 students, that access chaplaincy services through YouthCARE that will be affected by the decision of the Court.



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Sue Ash, UnitingCare West CEO, awarded an AO >>



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Mandurah Baptist College students have their say >>

“We are stronger when we work together.”

BAPTIST CHURCHES
WESTERN AUSTRALIA





Rob Furlong

Rob Furlong is a Pastoral Consultant for Baptist Churches Western Australia.

House rules

As a general rule I despise 'reality' TV programs but during my recent transition period from Thornlie Church of Christ to Pastoral Consultant with Baptist Churches Western Australia I have been seduced into watching *House Rules!*

Six couples from around the country take turns in renovating each other's homes based on the 'house rules' drawn up by the home owners. The house rules are vital for the prospective 'DIYers' because it provides them with some idea of the personal taste of the owners. Inevitably there is always one couple who chooses to ignore the house rules and renovate according to what they think is best which only

translates into a poor score for them and some very disappointed home owners.

It requires an enormous amount of trust to allow people you barely know to be let loose in your home to renovate it. They will certainly have different likes, dislikes, preferences and ways of doing things to you and despite the guidelines of your house rules you ultimately must invest a lot of trust into people you hope

will at least attempt to follow them! When the house rules are ignored, trust is broken and disaster follows.

Coming into the role of Pastoral Consultant I am acutely aware of the importance of trust. A certain level of trust has already been afforded me by asking me to take on this role, but I am also aware of the fact that I will need to earn the trust of many of you who do not know me. In order to do that I am going to follow the 'house rules' set down for all of us by Paul in Colossians 3:12-14 and is summarised in the statement 'And the most important piece of clothing you must wear is love. Love is what binds us all together

in perfect harmony'. [Colossians 3:14, New Living Translation]

My commitment to each of you then is to listen with mercy, counsel with kindness and to walk with you in humility. In those times when we may disagree, to do so in a spirit of grace and forgiveness.

I like these 'house rules' because as we commit to following them together and God builds us into '...his house ... a holy temple for the Lord'. [Ephesians 2:20-21, New Living Translation]



Dr Brian Harris

Dr Brian Harris is the Principal of Vose Seminary and pastor at large for the Carey Movement.

On The Advocate articles ...

So I've been thinking of collating my last 100 *Advocate* columns and getting them published and kindled. No doubt that has made your day, and I imagine you will be first in line to ensure that it's a runaway bestseller.

I'm planning to call it 'On ...' because that is the opening word for the title in most months. To help decide if this will be a worthwhile project, I have re-read a hundred 'On ...' articles.

April 2006 saw 'On taking a bath ...' (an increasingly rare event), while a few months later we had 'On singing and silence'. Personally I rather liked 'On

being potted', but some of the best feedback came from the March 2013 piece, 'On almost stepping on a snake' – clearly a universal fear.

Now every article hasn't started with the word 'On ...' – creativity has sometimes called for a different format. Does anyone remember the ever so stirring 'To lose sight of all coasts'? And how about 'Signing

up to be a Pharisee', 'With global eyes' and 'Does God find us parking bays?'

I've got to be honest though. While most have been kind about my *Advocate* articles (I will love you forever), a few have muttered. The most annoying complaint has been the 'but what has this to do with the Bible?' ... grumble.

For some, you've not spoken about God unless you cite a chapter and verse. Clearly if you are in that mould, 'On almost stepping on a snake' isn't going to hack it. Of course I could have won some brownie points by linking it back to that ancient

serpent in the garden, and our instinctive mistrust of snakes since that sorry saga – but that is not what raced through my mind when I almost stepped on the viper.

So what should this monthly column pontificate about? I've tried to keep to 'On that which touches the heart of God'. It has allowed for a very broad canvas. Why? Because that's the one God paints on. Ah, I sense another article, 'On not having too small a picture of God ...'



John Sikkema

John Sikkema is a business leader, philanthropist, motivational speaker and author.

Redefining wealth

Your perspective on success and aligning your career with your life's purpose is not just important but crucial, especially for business leaders.

After a successful career and building an Australia-wide financial planning franchise, Garrisons, I was confronted with the brutal truth – no matter how well I disguised it, I was working for myself. I was successfully running a large company, working 80 hours a week, but it was taking a toll on my health and my family life was at an all-time low. This realisation provided a catalyst for me to explore more intentionally what it would be like

to live a life of significance, and a more purposeful second half.

Despite my business success, it is my personal transformation that remains my most satisfying and rewarding achievement. I have written about my journey from success to significance in *Enriched: Re-defining wealth*, written and published in 2012.

As a consequence of my transformation, I saw the need for the US based Halftime program in Australia and introduced

it to Australians. Halftime is a Christian-based executive coaching organisation created by successful entrepreneur and businessman, Bob Buford. Having 'achieved it all', Bob discovered that there was much more to life than allowing business to consume his life. After losing his only son in a drowning accident, he knew he needed to make some changes.

Through Halftime Australia, I'm devoted to helping others enrich their lives by discovering their life's purpose and developing a plan to leave a lasting legacy. Each year I visit places around Australia giving motivational talks, helping people discover their life

purposes as per Ephesians 2:10 calling: 'The good works God has prepared for us in advance to do'.

Bob Buford's friend and mentor, Peter Drucker, said we are over prepared for the first half, and under prepared for the second half.

I have the privilege of meeting business leaders around Australia to share my story. Anyone who stops and pauses to create a plan for the second half of their life and ensure that they're in tune with their passion and calling is guaranteed to lead a life of significance.

I'll be facilitating workshops in Perth over the coming months. For more details, visit www.halftime.org.au

letters to the editor

send us your letters

The Advocate welcomes your letters to the editor on topics of concern to you and the community. Send your letters of no more than 100 words to editor@theadvocate.tv by the 10th of each month.

Order of Australia for CEO

UnitingCare West Chief Executive Officer, Sue Ash, was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in early June.

The citation read 'for service to the community in the area of social policy development, reform and implementation, and to the provision of services to people in need.'

Sue has more than 40 years' experience as a leader in government and not-for-profit sectors leading teams and developing policy and programs. Early in her work she observed issues that shaped her convictions.

"There are a lot of people with a lot of potential that don't get a chance. As a child I was aware of this with a minority of 'black' people in a white majority community. But there were more issues than skin colour," Sue said.

"Sometimes the people around these marginalised ones didn't have aspirations. There was no vision for them."

"In my early days I was inspired by migrants coming to Australia. Many arrived in Australia with no English and life was tough."

"As I started work as a social worker I saw people who had made decisions that didn't contribute to their progress. I realised I could blame them for those decisions or try to understand why and how they'd made those decisions that didn't help their progress."

"As human beings on this earth, we are God's creation. The story of Jesus is that no-one has to be trapped by circumstances nor trapped by potential. Jesus' power is transformational. He changes people."

Sue is a regular attendee at Riverton Baptist Community Church and this belief was put to the test in her life. Her husband Graeme died unexpectedly from an aneurism in February 1986. At the time, Sue had two young children aged five and three.

"I thought I had life and Christian faith all sorted but that was challenged both personally and professionally."

"I look at this award and it's proof of me not being trapped by circumstances: my children are now mature adults; my family is intact; my faith keeps growing; I'm blessed with opportunity, health and resilience. I have the opportunity to respond out of that privilege."

"My current job is the integration of a fairly long professional career and almost as long Christian faith, and the opportunity to work with people who have very little hope and opportunity."

"As I was grappling with Jesus' claims on my life in my late teens, Micah 6:8 became a guiding principle for me: 'Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God.'"

"When you're in a position to influence there's a seduction in that unless you've got your relationship with God right. It's been important to have it right, not underestimating self nor over estimating the importance and value of walking humbly with God."



Sue Ash was honoured with an Order of Australia in early June.

Photo: Jill Birt

A Sunday for love

Baptist World Aid Australia invites churches across Australia to join together and be counted when it comes to helping the world's poor on 10 August – 'Be Love' Sunday.

Be Love Sunday is a day when we as a church can pray for children and their families living in poverty and then act by individually committing to sponsor a child. By participating in Be Love Sunday with your church, you will be joining with Baptists across Australia to show love for those in our broken world who need it the most.

Although we remain one of the wealthiest countries in the world, with the second lowest debt level amongst all aid giving nations (only beaten by Luxembourg), the Australian Government has further reduced the nation's aid giving budget by a massive \$7.6 billion over the next five years.

Now is the time to step up and be counted.



Supporting children in poverty is a focus of 'Be Love' Sunday.

Photo: Baptist World Aid



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Semester 2 begins 21st July 2014.



ENROL NOW FOR JULY START

Quilts for fire victims

Parkerville Baptist Church's auditorium was transformed into a quilt showroom for a Care Quilt Morning Tea when families who lost everything in the January Perth Hills bush fire chose a new quilt to take home in late May.

Devastating bush fires throughout Parkerville, Stoneville and Mt Helena in late January 2014 destroyed more than 50 family homes.

The church's craft group, Parky Craft, responded by devising a plan to help families who had lost everything.

"The loss of irreplaceable personal treasures is a deep grief for many people," Craft Coordinator Joy Gregson said.

"One of our ladies said she guessed we'd be making quilts for people. That's how it started."

Shortly after the fire, Maureen Sharp from Parky Craft attended

an event in Mundaring where fire victims could connect with suppliers who were providing free services. She collected the names of 130 people who would like a quilt. More names came from school chaplains and through friends of friends.

With Jenni Anning as Quilt Project Coordinator, the craft group designed and made more than 120 quilts for children, women and men using donated and specially purchased fabrics. The quilts are a variety of sizes from cot and lap quilts up to bed size. Other quilts were donated by quilters across Perth.

After careful planning and preparation, in March the craft group held a quilting day at the church when many of the quilts were made. Quilters then took their projects home to finish.

At the Care Quilt Morning Tea, people came to choose their quilts and stayed for morning tea, meeting up with friends and in some cases meeting others in a similar situation to themselves for the first time.

"We heard many wonderful stories from these people and from others who came by to choose their quilts," Joy said.



Maureen Sharp, Jenni Anning and Joy Gregson with some of the quilts ready to become family treasures for bushfire victims in the Perth Hills.

"We have five women who have joined Parky Craft having felt nurtured and cared for."

Since the fire, Parkerville Baptist Church (PBC) people have joined with other churches in the area and sent teams of volunteers into the community almost every week to help people with cleaning up gardens and yards, removing rubbish and doing small repair jobs.

At a recent meeting hosted by Bendigo Bank in Mundaring,

Terry Penn, who has coordinated the church's response to the crisis, highlighted the contribution of PBC.

The committed and practical support given by the church to the community has raised the church's profile in the community.

"I'm so proud of what the 'Parky' people have done," Pastor Craig Lydon said.

"Our buildings have been used for public meetings,

our people have cooked and served generously and without hesitation."

Needs continue to surface for people as they are finally allowed back onto their properties after contaminated topsoil was removed and replaced with builders' sand.

The 'Parky' people expect to have many more opportunities to demonstrate Jesus' love to their fellow hills people.

digital church

05/05/2014
Daniel Mosley

twitter.com/DanielMosley

"Remember, God does not call the qualified. He qualifies the called."

08/06/2014
Steven Dilla

twitter.com/StevenDilla

"Jesus didn't ask the irreligious to become religious, but the religious to stop counting on their good works to justify themselves."

11/06/2014
Betsy Childs

thegospelcoalition.org

"Our enemy, the father of lies [John 8:44], is real [1 Peter 5:8], and he deploys ghost armies to discourage and deceive us into believing that all kinds of threats are coming against us. These skirmishes sap our strength and distract us from the actual battles God has equipped us to fight."

11/06/2014
JD Greear

jdgrear.com

"The New Testament writers all eagerly wait for Jesus to come back. They are straining forward to that day, almost on tiptoes as they yearn for His return. They lived with spiritual alertness, as if Jesus could back at any moment."

12/06/2014
Tim Stevens

leadingsmart.com

"The way we think about God and talk about Him when life is good and going our way reveals much about our theology, and sets us up for extreme disappointment with God when life falls apart and we don't think we can stand another day."

13/06/2014
Jon Bloom

desiringgod.org

"The resurrection from the dead is the single greatest hope of the Christian. It is the only prize that ultimately matters, and we make it our one great life goal to obtain it."

13/06/2014
Eugene Cho

twitter.com/EugeneCho

"Don't mistake humility with mediocrity. In all things – small or large – do it with all your heart, do it well, and give glory to Christ."

13/06/2014
Steven Furtick

stevenfurtick.com

"As Christians, we understand that having faith is more than just rolling the dice with our prayers, hoping God will fix all our troubles and do great things in our life. Faith requires participation too."

Vacancy for Receptionist @ the Baptist Ministry Centre

A pleasant, outgoing person is needed to be the window into the Baptist Ministry Centre — first impressions count!

We need someone who is proficient with Microsoft products, highly organised, shows initiative, has prior experience, loves to serve, and shares our Christian ethos. The position is temporary for six months, but may become permanent.

If you think you might be the right person, then contact Greg Holland for further information.
Baptist Ministry Centre,
PO Box 57, Burswood 6100
or email to greg.holland@baptistwa.asn.au

Conference for better mums

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) celebrated their first Western Australian state conference with an all day event at Riverton Community Baptist Church on 17 May. Mums from across the state came to be inspired and equipped to be the best mum they can be.

The one-day conference with the theme Better mums make a better world, was run on a similar program to a MOPS group's weekly event with good teaching, good conversation and good food, 170 mums attended.

Conference Convenor Miranda Miller said MOPS runs a national conference for leaders each year but Western Australian mums were missing out until now.

Talks from experts focused on how to have Better Kids, Better Friendships, Better Connection and a Better You.

The inspiring and challenging speakers included Griffin Longley from Nature Play WA who had plenty of ideas on how to get children more involved in outdoor activities and Psychologist Von Kilpatrick spoke on parenting.

Image consultant Sandra Barnsley talked about image and inner being and gave some great tips about colour and style.

A highlight of the day was the afternoon discussion with a panel of medical and social experts including Von Kilpatrick, Jane Weeks (Women's sexual and reproductive health), and Ros West (Perinatal depression).

"Some of the questions put to the panel were right out there, but I was so pleased the mums felt comfortable to ask them," Miranda said.

The day concluded with Nicole Bryan, a Perth woman, telling part of her life story,

and the impact and support MOPS has been to her as she faced some horrendous personal challenges over the past few years. Her candid honesty and authenticity about her journey challenged and inspired many women. Nicole credits God with the changes and acknowledges MOPS has been an incredible support network for her.

Everyone had time to browse the mini market with stalls selling homemade crafts and products from the event sponsors during the lunch break.

Generous sponsors, including ENJO, 98five and Thermomix, provided treats for the mums in their take home 'goodie' bags as well as competition giveaways during the day.

"The conference was more than I hoped for or dreamed of. The comments and feedback we have received from the women tell stories of new hope in difficult marriages, fresh ideas to use with kids and a great feeling of being blessed and encouraged to be a better mum," MOPS Australia WA Coordinator Cherie Macchiusi said.

MOPS coordinate groups across the state where every mum is welcomed, accepted and challenged to reach her potential and recognise her influence with her family and her world.

"We will definitely be hosting another Better Mums Conference next year with planning already underway for 16 May," Cherie said.



MOPS Australia WA Coordinator, Cherie Macchiusi motivates mothers to be better mums to make a better world.

Photo: MOPS

Rob joins BCWA team

After 20 years as the Senior Pastor of Thornlie Church of Christ, Pastor Rob Furlong has joined the staff of Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) as a Pastoral Consultant.

BCWA Director of Ministries Mark Wilson said Rob will oversee the Church Safe Ministry, as well as Accreditation and Ongoing Accreditation of Pastors, Youth and Young Adult Consultants and Pastoral Small Groups.

"We are very excited about Rob joining the Executive Staff team for BCWA," Mark said.

"He comes with a wealth of experience and passion for

this role of Pastoral Consultant. He has a special interest in pastoral support and developing healthy pastors."

With 30 years of ministry experience, Rob has a strong background of team building and pastoral care.

"I'm looking forward to being involved with pastors at every stage of their ministry, whether that be at the beginning, the middle or approaching retirement," Rob said.

"I am very excited about the opportunity of being able to encourage and influence the next generation of leaders coming through."

"I also have a strong commitment to pastoral health – physically, mentally, spiritually and psychologically – and I am keen to develop strategies that will enable us as pastors and churches to better care for each other, decrease the incidence of



Photo: Jill Birt

Rob Furlong brings a wealth of pastoral experience to his new role.

burnout among our pastors and also establish systems that will be more effective in helping pastors to work through the issues related to recovery from burnout and return to ministry."

Rob will be based at the BCWA office but expects to travel widely throughout the state visiting pastors and churches.



Position Vacant: Ministry Assistant

Applications are sought for the position of Ministry Assistant at Vose (1.0 FTE)

This role is primarily responsible for providing professional, confidential and effective executive management to the Director of Leadership/Equip. Additional to this there will be involvement in various projects and seminary wide administration tasks.

As part of the administrative team at Vose this role will establish warm and efficient communication pathways, set up and maintain strong executive management processes and support executive and administrative load in a competent and professional manner.

The successful person will have a highly refined task orientated profile with strong administrative skills. Previous experience in a similar role is beneficial.

Visit the Vose web site www.vose.edu.au for the job description, application form and selection criteria. Applications close COB 1st August. Please note role may be filled before close date if suitable applicant found.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
PHONE: 63136200 FAX: 63136299
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WEBSITE: www.vose.edu.au

come, grow

SENIOR CHAPLAIN/ COUNSELOR SECONDARY SCHOOL. 1.0

Carey Community Baptist Church is a vibrant growing community that ministers to its neighborhood through various agencies. One of these is our College, Carey Baptist College.

We are seeking a senior chaplain/counselor to join our team, contributing to the campus Pastoral Care Network serving over 700 secondary School students. The role will include the supervision of chaplain interns, some counseling (depending on experience) to facilitate successful participation in the school community and general pastoral care for students and their families and staff in the College.



Applications Close Friday 19 July at 4:00pm.

Detailed information on this position is available on www.carey.asn.au. For further information contact the church office, 9394 9155 or office@carey.asn.au.

Neil retires after 28 years

After 28 years of volunteering at Vose Seminary Neil Mactaggart has decided to retire. The long-term volunteer was farewelled at a morning tea held in his honour on 17 June.

Neil served on the former Baptist Theological College of Western Australia College Committee for 28 years through the 1980s to the 2000s. The Committee was the governing body of Vose Seminary during that era.

Neil began working in the Seminary library in 2002, after an appeal to the Committee for more staff by the librarians. He was initially given the task of stocktaking the library. Neil's voluntary time at Vose Seminary gradually increased over the years to the point that, until recently, he was opening the library five mornings a week and responsible for overdue books and processing loans, amongst many other tasks.

He has outlasted four library managers and worked on a plethora of projects, from relocating thousands of books to assembling bookshelves and digitising the old tape collection.

From 2004 to 2013 Neil has been the manager of the annual book sale. Over the decade, the book sale has raised \$100,000 for the Seminary, enabling 2,000 books to be added to the library.

At the farewell, Librarian Nathan Hobby spoke about Neil's expertise and adaptability as a library volunteer and his skills as a motivator and organiser of the annual Vose Booksale.

"Neil is a great innovator and quickly embraces change," Nathan said.

"He's an inspiration to people who think senior citizens can't adapt to changes and technology."

Vose Seminary Principal Dr Brian Harris presented Neil with a photo collage of projects and people at Vose as a reminder of his many years of volunteering.

Former Principals Dr Noel Vose and Dr John Olley as well as members of Neil's family, Vose staff and volunteers celebrated Neil's volunteering achievements with him.

One staff member asked the question, "Who are we going to go to for a historical perspective now?", acknowledging Neil's longevity at the Seminary and his passion for history.

Vose Library is seeking expressions of interest from computer-literate volunteers who can work at least half a day a week as well as a volunteer to move boxes of books on Monday afternoons.



Retiring Vose Seminary volunteer Neil Mactaggart accepts a farewell gift from the Principal, Dr Brian Harris.

Photo: Jill Birt

Big church leaders meet

More than 20 pastors of large Baptist churches from across Australia met in Perth during May for an annual conference to address the unique issues leaders of large churches face.

Speaking at the conference dinner, Baptist Churches Western Australia Director of Ministries, Mark Wilson, said that these bigger churches have some unique issues to deal with.

"They all have several people in their pastoral teams, they face significant challenges when dealing with pastoral care, and facilities and technology are more complex."

Several pastors from Western Australian churches attended the conference, including Baptist church pastors Nick Scott (Mt Pleasant), Grant Hendry (North Beach), Hans van Asselt (1Church), Mike Bullard (Riverton) and Colin Lituri (Woodvale).

Grant Hendry was a first time attendee at the conference.

"The gathering was a great mixture of encouragement, support and challenge," Grant said.

"Encouragement, because it was deeply encouraging to mix with godly and gifted men, some of whom have been pastoring the same church for over 30 years."

"Supportive, because we all face similar situations, and it was just fantastic to be able to grow through each other's experience."

"And challenging, because I for one came away inspired to make some changes."



The Western Australian pastors who discussed some of the challenges of large churches at their annual conference recently.

Photo: Matthew Storms

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church hosted the event, and its Pastor, Nick Scott, said it was an encouraging and inspiring time together.

Karl Fasse, Senior Pastor at Gymea Baptist Church in Sydney, inaugurated the conference several years ago. This is the first time it has been held in Perth.

briefs

Baptisms

Fiona Lemon and Will Redshaw were baptised at Albany Baptist Church on 25 May 2014.

Homework help — volunteers needed

Tene Moore runs a program assisting female Indigenous students from Years 7 to 12 with homework assignments in basic English, Literacy, Maths and Religion. The homework group runs from 7pm to 8pm on Monday and Tuesday evenings at Clontarf Aboriginal College, 295 Manning Road, Waterford. Volunteers need a Working With Children Check. Carers have

observed that students work exceptionally well with mature adults. Opportunities exist for more people to join the team. For more information, phone 9251 0685.

Vose planning permission

Vose Seminary recently received planning permission for additional training rooms at the Bentley campus. Donations of more than \$930,000, over 75 percent of the project cost, have already been received. "It is exciting to get to this stage — the point where you sense that the dream will become a reality.

We are now ready to push for the last bit of funding still needed", Principal Dr Brian Harris said.

Canberra focus

Hundreds of Australian Christians from across the country converged in Canberra from 21 to 24 June to take the cause of the global poor into the halls of Parliament House. Campaigners from all parts of the Christian church attended *Voices for Justice*, Micah Challenge's annual worship, training and lobbying event. Over the past eight years, through this event they have

persistently sought to increase efforts towards reducing extreme poverty. This year, campaigners aimed to 'shine the light' on corporate tax dodging and corruption and urge Australia's leaders to take strong action against these unethical practices which drain developing countries of billions of dollars each year.

Baptistcare winner

Baptistcare employee Cale Swift was presented the Trainee Award at the 2014 Aged and Community Services WA Excellence in Care Awards on 6 June 2014. "Cale is an

outstanding recipient of this Award and it is well deserved. Baptistcare is very proud of his achievements and would like to congratulate Cale for this Award," CEO Baptistcare Rev. Dr Lucy Morris said. Cale started working with Baptistcare in June 2011 as a physiotherapist. The experience of working in aged care had a significant influence on his career path, leading him to pursue a career as a facility manager. He has commenced his Masters of Business Administration and joined the Gracewood residential aged care facility team as a trainee manager.

Ethical electronics report

A report, grading the practices of 39 electronics companies to minimise the risk of slavery, child labour and exploitation has garnered strong interest from electronics companies, investor groups, the Australian public and the church.

The *Australian Electronics Report* generated a lot of interest from the media after it was released on 22 May by Baptist World Aid Australia and the Not for Sale campaign. The report graded the labour rights practices of some of the biggest brands in the world including Apple, IBM, Microsoft and Samsung.

Since the release, a number of the companies surveyed, including some of those receiving the worst grades, have engaged publicly or with Baptist World Aid Australia about the report's findings. This includes companies such as Dick Smith, Kogan and Nintendo who each received D and D- grades. Apple, Microsoft, Woolworths and other companies have also sought to update their grades

with new initiatives that they are undertaking.

Encouragingly, in the weeks since the launch, a number of large investor groups have shown interest in the report findings to help inform their corporate engagement. Both the report and the accompanying *Ethical Electronics Guide* are receiving strong take up amongst the Australian public and the church.

"Through the phones, TVs and tablets we buy we're connected to people all around the world, including children enslaved in mines in Africa and young woman being exploited in Asia," Baptist World Aid Advocacy Manager Gershon Nimbalker said.

"Our purchasing practices and investment decisions can help

change the supply chains of these companies, and through them the lives of hundreds of thousands of workers around the world."

"We're excited that our report and the traction it is receiving is helping to do this."

"There is much that we can do as individuals and groups to transform the systems that entrench and maintain global poverty."

"We at Baptist World Aid believe we cannot stand idly by with the injustices of some of these practices. We need to be vocal and speak out against these groups that allow the exploitation of workers and children."

"Be fair and choose products that were made ethically," Gershon said.

Concerningly, the report found no company was awarded an A grade, and only one company, Nokia, could demonstrate that it was paying workers' wages that were sufficient to live from.

To download a copy of the report or the pocket guide, visit www.behindthebarcode.org.au



Baptist World Aid Advocacy Manager Gershon Nimbalker shows the guide that has made an impact across the world and stimulated changes.

Photo: Baptist World Aid

Are you seeking a new way to serve God?

The Boards of Kennedy Baptist College and Mandurah Baptist College invite expressions of interest in future Board membership.

Board members work collegially for the benefit of the Colleges, and are unpaid.

Board of management experience and experience in education would be valued, but is not essential. Skill or experience in finance, law, construction or communications would be valued as complementing the skills of current Board members, although people without these specific areas of experience should not be discouraged from expressing an interest.

If you are interested in serving in this field of mission, please contact the **Executive Officer, Dr Phil Ridden, on 0431 715179** to initiate an exploratory conversation about the role.



BE STRONG & COURAGEOUS



Cambodians forced out



Samaritan's Purse is working in the border town of Poipet to alleviate the suffering of thousands of Cambodians forced out of Thailand by the military junta.

Photo: Samaritan's Purse

In early June the ruling military junta in Thailand announced that undocumented Cambodian migrant workers were required to leave the country within ten days. Fearing prosecution and forced removal, a flood of migrant workers have been re-entering Cambodia at the Poipet border crossing.

Since 9 June, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Cambodia office estimates tens of thousands of men, women, and children have crossed the border or have been transported across by police and left on the streets of Poipet. The numbers have been rising daily, with an estimated 129,000 people arriving between 11 to 16 June.

Several were reportedly fired from jobs and sent home, and the

belief spread that both legal and illegal workers were being ejected.

Approximately 35 to 40 percent of deportees are women and children. Many have been without food, water, or shelter for several days. There is no sanitation, and people are sleeping in markets and on the streets. Local systems are completely overwhelmed.

"Local systems are completely overwhelmed,

and this is a crisis that could result in loss of life, instability, and longer term displacement if not handled well," a Samaritan's Purse spokesperson in Poipet said.

Samaritan's Purse has responded quickly to the need with tents to provide shelter and working space for the relief operation with medical assistance provided by the Red Cross. They have distributed more than 125,000 meals, 163,000 bottles of water and 900 hygiene bags to the people.

Samaritan's Purse's goal is to alleviate immediate suffering, prevent loss of life and assist people in returning to their home communities.

Australia is changing. The place and value of church has moved in the local community over the past 50 years.

The place of church in Australia



McCrindle Research, Australia's leading social researcher, recently looked at data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the National Church Life Survey (NCLS) to discover current trends for church attendance across the nation.

Australia has more churches (13,000) than schools (9,500), and more Australians attend a church service each week (1.8 million) than there are people in South Australia (1.6 million).

Although the latest census results show that Christianity is the religion with which most Australians identify (61.1%), well above the second most popular religion in Australia, Buddhism (2.5%), less than one in seven of the Australians who ticked 'Christianity' on their census form regularly attend a church.

McCrindle Research Principal, Mark McCrindle said he was surprised that so many people see Christianity as the dominant religion in Australia.

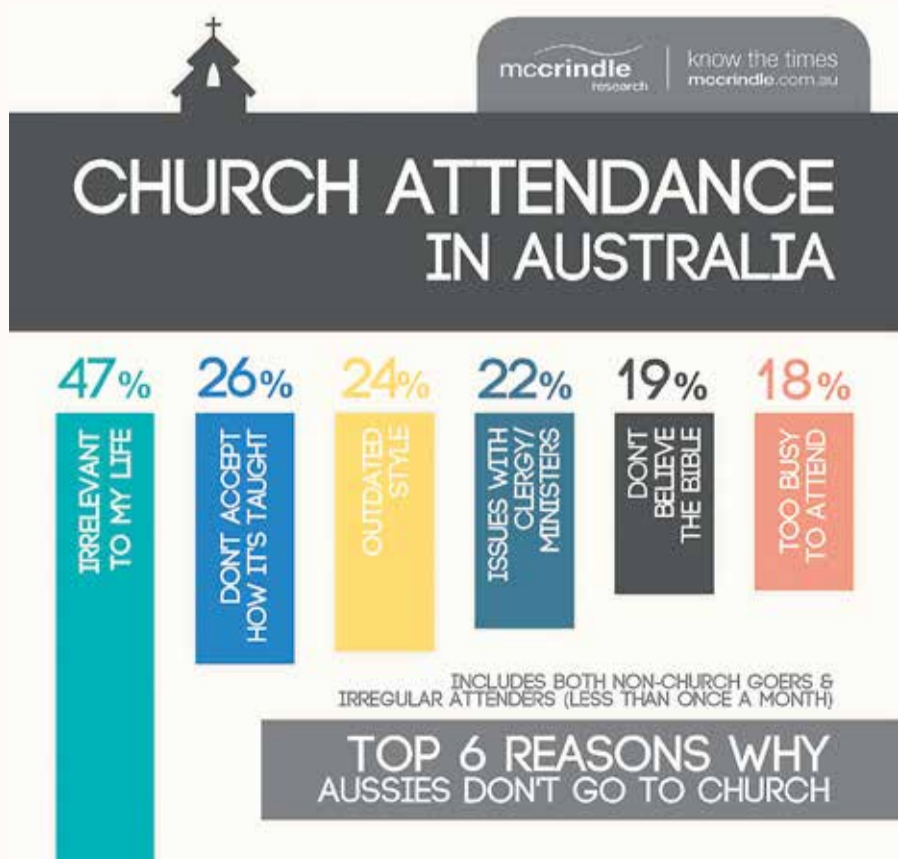
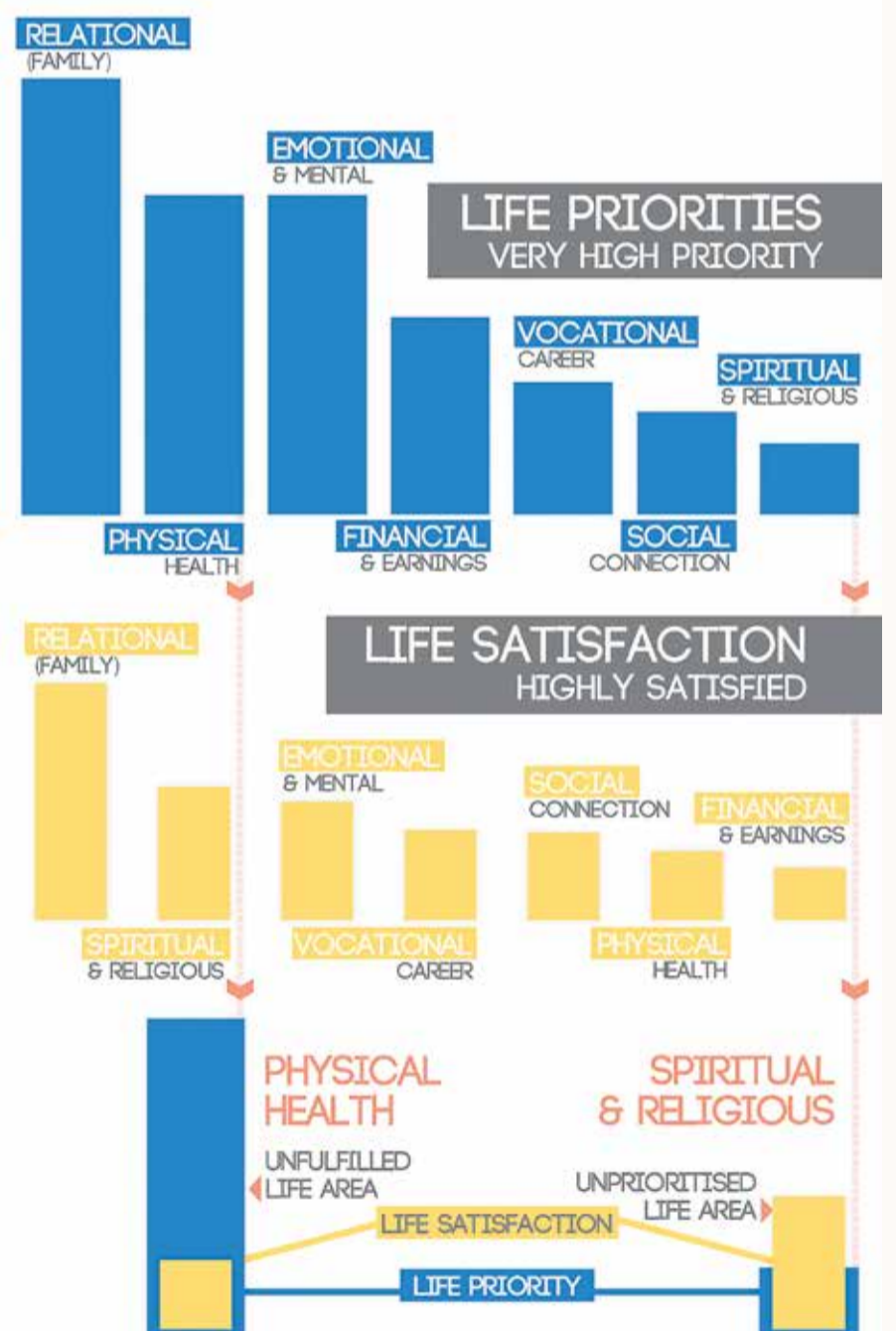
"The number of people who identify with Christianity is almost nine times larger than all the other religions combined," Mark said.

"We're a fairly secular society now and others have a loud voice in the community but I see there are a lot of 'quiet' Christians who still identify strongly with Christianity."

Australia's population is aging. The median age in 1984 was 30.5 years. Today it is 37.3 years with 24% of the total population of Australia aged 60 years and over. In the church population, 44% is aged 60 years plus.

Statistics from the NCLS survey (2013) showed that of all the people who sit in church on a Sunday, four out of five of them made a life changing faith decision before they turned 20. This decision before their teenage years end shows the influence of children's and youth work, along with the significant influence of mothers and fathers.

The place of the church is changing as Australia moves to a more secular society. What do the 92% of Australians who are not regular church attendees think of churches, and churchgoing in 2013? Following is McCrindle Research's latest infographic which shares the data.



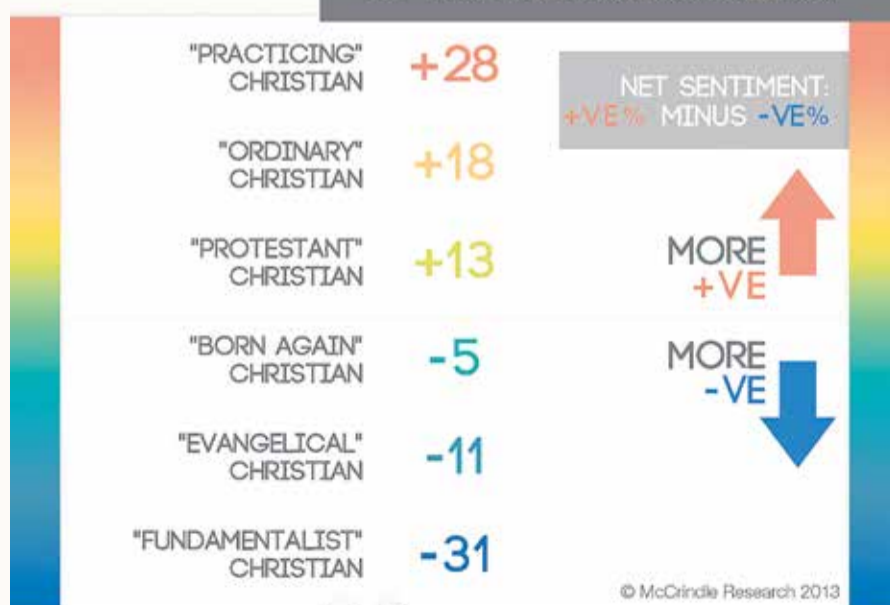
"The number of people who identify with Christianity is almost nine times larger than all the other religions combined."



MEDIA & THE PRESS NEGATIVELY AFFECT PERCEPTIONS OF THE CHURCH

65% AGREE

CHRISTIAN TERMS WHAT AUSTRALIANS THINK OF THE FOLLOWING LABELS...



CHURCHES ARE BENEFICIAL...



For more insights from social research on other issues Australians are facing communicated in clear, accessible and useable ways and to view infographics, visit www.mccrindle.com.au or follow their team on Facebook at McCrindle Research.

8% REGULAR CHURCH ATTENDERS (AT LEAST ONCE PER MONTH)

92% NON CHURCH GOERS

TO GIVE A SNAPSHOT OF THE VIEWS OF NON CHURCH GOERS, ALL OF THE DATA PRESENTED IN THIS INFOGRAPHIC COME FROM OUR NATIONAL RESEARCH OF AUSTRALIANS (129 COMPLETED SURVEYS) & THE RESULTS FROM REGULAR CHURCH ATTENDERS WERE EXCLUDED.

Christians face terror in Iraq

The civil war that erupted in Iraq in early June has placed Christians in great peril and forced the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of civilians.

The group known as ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) seized Mosul, a city of two million people, and Tikrit, the hometown of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. More northern towns have fallen to the insurgents as they continued to advance southward toward Baghdad.

The Sunni jihadist group seeks to overthrow Iraq's Shiite government and impose strict sharia law on the populace.

Two Mosul-based ministries contacted Christian Aid Mission with grim reports of violence and a mass exodus out of their region. The following email was sent by a ministry that has planted churches and led many Muslims to Christ:

"Please pray for us. We are scared. Last night they came into our church building and started breaking everything they saw.

They took our pulpit down and removed the cross. Then they threw gasoline on it and burned everything."

"We were all hiding in the church basement but we had to go out because of the smoke. As we started running out they saw us and started shooting at us. Some did not make it, but those who did ran in all directions."

"Those who were captured were killed on the spot. Most of those who attended the meeting are Muslim background believers. Please pray for us. We don't have a place to go to and we don't know what to do."

The ministry reported that soldiers distributed leaflets stating sharia law was now in effect. The leaflets mandated that all citizens are required to pray five times a day, the hands of thieves will be amputated,



Photo: Public Domain

Members of the ISIS group cause fear for those living in Iraq.

and women should not walk the streets except during an emergency. If women have to go out in the streets, they must be fully covered.

An estimated half a million people, including hundreds of Christian families, are fleeing

the troubled area with many attempting to find refuge in the nearby Kurdish province of Northern Iraq.

Anglican vicar of St George's Church in Baghdad, Canon Andrew White said Iraq was facing its worst crisis since 2003. Writing

online he said many Christians "had returned to their homes in Nineveh for the summer and now they are stuck in this total carnage unable to even escape. We desperately need help so that we can help the Christians of this land get through this new crisis."

briefs

Broadcasts interrupted

Explosions have rocked the hillside beside radio FEBC's Eastern Ukrainian radio tower in the twin towns of Slavyansk and Kramatorsk. This has forced all radio transmissions to be suspended due to the damage sustained from increased fighting between pro-Russian separatists and the Ukrainian central government. Despite the election of a new president, fighting continues. A church FEBC partner with is now occupied by rebels and has become a battleground of death and destruction. Hundreds of people have died and thousands evacuated. During this time of crisis, FEBC workers in Eastern Ukraine helped evacuate families who adopted children from the area. The FEBC Director in Slavyansk is safe, after having had several tense talks with the rebels, however tensions remain high.

Prayer for Middle East

The next international prayer meeting for the Middle East will be on Monday 8 July from 9am to 11am (AWST). A streamed service will come from Pastor Faheem via www.vancouverpersianchurch.org.ca. There will be worship, testimonies and then all participating, including those online, will split into smaller groups to pray.

China believer

A recent Brookings Institution panel titled 'Christianity in China: A force for Change?' observed that Christianity continues to grow

rapidly in the People's Republic of China even with the communist Chinese government cracking down on Christian communities. "Chinese Christian leaders look at this as a winnowing effect, so those who are not true Christians will leave the churches; the 'Sunday Christians,'" Panelist and Political Science Department Assistant Professor at Loyola University Maryland, Carsten Vala said. "The really committed, devout believers will be increasingly strengthened in their faith by this 'winds of persecution' and honestly the church buildings may be torn down, but that doesn't mean the congregations themselves have scattered."

Kenya trouble

World Watch Monitor reported that following the Kenyan 15 June massacre of dozens of people in a Christian-majority coastal village, Kenya's religious leaders are urging the government to improve security in the country. An estimated 50 gunmen stormed the village of Mpeketoni, about 40 kilometres inland from the Indian Ocean, at around 8pm on 15 June, overwhelming police forces. Initial reports counted 45 dead, though aid worker Wim van den Burg told Dutch media he counted more than 100 bodies. "We acknowledge the anger and desperation of Kenyans arising from the spiralling insecurity and rising tension in the country," said the Most Rev. Zacheus Okoth, Archbishop of Kisumu and Catholic Justice and Peace Commission Chairman.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Myanmar youth at risk

A recent visitor to Perth from Myanmar spoke with *The Advocate* about a rising problem in his country.

With extreme poverty a way of life for many families in rural areas, parents are being enticed by the promise of an ongoing income if they send their children to employment agents who place the children in work positions in the city.

Many parents have little formal education and limited experience of city living. Some have never travelled to the capital Yangon where their children are taken to work as maids, houseboys, workers in sewing factories and waiters in restaurants.

The parents pay the employment agent one month of the agent's wages and then receive in advance, six months wages for their child's employment. With little contact from home, the children are trapped in the city. Once the parents understand what their children have been caught up in, it is too late and the parents are hopeless.

The Karen Baptist Convention was alerted to the problem when reports of young people running away from their place of employment came in. The young people reported cruel behaviour by their employer with some being physically, sexually and emotionally abused.

One young woman returned to her village with the baby she had recently given birth to, only to have her mother confront her at the front door and tell her she was not welcome and she had to leave.

The Karen Baptist Convention (KBC) has started working with a group of young women who have been bought back from employers in the city. The girls are now living

in the KBC compound where they are learning new skills to enable them to run their own small business in the areas of hairdressing, administration and cooking.

Buying back children costs are significant and the KBC has no budget for this. As they scrape together enough funds, they work to free another young worker. The church has built a small dormitory in their compound for the young women they are assisting.

Paul Henney from the Perth Karen Baptist Church visited his homeland in 2013 and saw the impact of this on village life.

"Church leaders are very concerned," Paul said.

"They have produced a video to help rural families understand the problem of sending their children to work in the city."

The video with songs written to address the issue and a simulated roundtable discussion with a rural family and church leaders is being shown in some rural regions where many people are semi-literate, to help parents understand the potential problems for their children and themselves.

"The songs explain the problem better than a conversation sometimes," Paul said.

The problem extends from the Irrawaddy Delta through to the mountain regions of south-east Myanmar where the Karen people live.

The government has little interest in matters relating to the predominantly Christian Karen people, marginalising them from government services.



A young girl from the Hinthada Township region of Myanmar who was tricked into human slavery leading to forced prostitution.

Photo: Public Domain

Sudan bombs Nuba region

Members of the Sudanese fellowship at Yokine Baptist Church are distraught following news of recent bombings by the Sudanese government of their homeland in the Nuba Mountains close to the border of South Sudan.

Sudanese Armed Forces launched hundreds of bombs and artillery shells into Um Dorein County in early June. According to Sudan's People Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N) officials more than 450 artillery shells and 365 aerial bombs have been dropped.

While these numbers cannot be verified, *Nuba Reports'* journalists visited the area and travelled through villages completely emptied of their residents, including Um Serdiba, El Nugura, Tabalo, Alabu, and

Tangal. The battleground is home to nearly 80,000 residents but nearly all have been displaced.

On 16 June two bombs hit a medical centre run by Doctors Without Borders (MSF), wounding a MSF staff member. Five people in the nearby village were also injured. The emergency room, pharmacy, kitchen and a dressing room were all destroyed in the attack, the organisation reported.

According to the traditional chief of Tangal, Philip Kory, nearly 3,000 people fled after two days

of shelling in which more than 100 rockets fell in the area. One resident, Ustaz Peter, said his family lost almost everything.

"The planes destroyed my father's house, an Antenov destroyed my neighbour, Abu-Bakr's house and on that day we lost around \$2,500". (An average one year salary.)

Civilians across the county are now hiding in caves and dry riverbeds hoping to survive the hail of explosives falling on and near their homes.



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Addicted to food

Rachel Barkman is a Children's Pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Coquitlam, Canada. She spoke with *The Advocate* about her journey through food addiction.

You mentioned you had a secret until recently. Can you tell us about it?

For years and years I have struggled with a secret addiction. This addiction has controlled every aspect of my life. It has prevented me from living the life I want to live. For most of my life I willingly let it. I am a food addict.

How did you discover you were addicted?

I knew I was at my lowest point when I would throw away the cake I was trying not to eat, only to return to it an hour later and find 'untouched' parts in the garbage that were okay to eat. I started pouring dish soap over the top of everything I threw out so that I wouldn't return to it. I would order so much at the McDonald's drive through that I would order two beverages so they wouldn't think it was all just for me. I was completely addicted to food and the chains of my addiction were wrapped tightly around me.

Did you try to solve your problem?

I tried to lose the weight. I tried to eat healthier. Some days I wouldn't last a day of dieting – rewarding myself with ice cream, chocolate, or chips for working so hard. I failed and failed and failed. I would go to church and preach the message of freedom to everyone else, but soon I started to believe freedom was for everyone else but me. I had lost my faith. I had given up on Jesus.

What helped break the food bondage?

I wish I could pinpoint the exact moment or strategy I found for overcoming these chains (outside of the awesome power of Jesus). I remember one day in December 2013 sitting with my husband on the couch, feeling completely overwhelmed by my inadequacy. We had started thinking about having a family, but when I looked in the mirror I knew I couldn't bring this brokenness into the lives of my children. I didn't want them learning from a mother who couldn't be healthy or control herself. That night on the couch, I began to weep.

So what happened next?

For what felt like the millionth time, I confessed to my husband my brokenness and desire to finally find freedom. Being the

amazing, supportive man he is, he reassured me he loved me and that I was beautiful, but that he would also support me in any way he could if I wanted to be a healthier version of myself. I immediately messaged a friend of mine who was a nutritional coach and trainer and asked for a quote on her services. I started with her the next month ... because who is going to successfully diet during Christmas holidays?

What did that mean for you?

At first, the journey was not at all what I had expected. In October, I was diagnosed with the autoimmune condition coeliac disease. This means I cannot eat gluten. Not just your typical breads and pastas, we are talking about sauces, spices, everything! Gluten is in almost every type of food product out there. The week of my diagnosis I was a dramatic mess. I thought my life was about to get incredibly difficult and it would always remain that way. I lamented about it often, but once again, God decided to turn my mess into His success.

How so?

My new way of life meant that I had to be extremely careful with what I ate, but it also meant that I had to prepare most of my own food in advance. I couldn't go through the McDonald's drive through anymore. Even though I had approached this diagnosis with a negative attitude, God used it to bless me as I began my journey to wholeness. Through the routine of learning to juggle my diagnosis, I learned to also plan to live my life healthily. To this day I tell people coeliac disease is one of the biggest blessings in my life.

So how are you progressing?

I'm 27 kilograms lighter. I'm still on my journey, but it has gotten harder. I've stumbled. I've been wrapped up in the numbers (exercise and calories) at times instead of keeping my eyes on Jesus. I struggle to stand on the scale and not let the results define how I see myself. I have to be careful to not let my obsession with food turn into an obsession with losing weight. Even today, I stood on the scale and had gained one pound, despite working just as hard as other weeks prior to this. I climbed back into bed in a foul, defeated mood. I felt like I had lost the battle this week. I almost stayed under the covers for the rest of the day, but instead I went to work.



Photo: Barkman

Has anything surprised you about your journey?

A dear friend dropped by my office to say "hello". I welcomed her in and asked how she was doing. Immediately she started to cry. She told me there weren't any words and being the awkward person I am, I decided to fill her silence with my rambling. I told her of my own failings this morning in letting the scale dictate my worth instead of the blood of Christ. I told her of the fight with my addiction and the lie of thinking that freedom was for everyone but me.

She stared at me and said, "Rachel, I wish I knew that you had this struggle too. Because that is my life!" She began to share her pain and failures with me. As we chatted and bonded over garbage can raids, runs to McDonalds and secret hiding spots, I began to see Christ reminding me of one incredibly important concept – in my weakness, He is made strong.

The Spirit moved amongst us that morning, encouraging us and reminding us of the strength of God and the freedom in Christ that is freely given for us.

So Jesus's strength is the source of freedom?

If there is anything I have learned in the last few months, it is that I am only strong when I lean on Jesus. He's been teaching me so many things about freedom, discipline, trust and loving myself. It has been so very hard but so very worth it.

The more I talk about my struggle and share my journey, the more emails and messages I have received from women just like me. Women who want freedom, who are tired of their chains and want to see total freedom in their lives.

Even on days when I struggle, when I cave, when I feel like I'm failing, God sends these women to me, reminding me that my journey is not about the scale, but about glorifying God and seeing Him set people free. The more I stop letting my struggle be a secret, the more people God brings to the foot of the cross. That is the most beautiful journey of all. I'm repeatedly humbled by the way God glorifies Himself through us, mere sinners who fall short of His glory.

What else have you learnt?

Silence and shame are Satan's favourite tools. He wants us to believe we are alone and we are not like other people. He wants us to believe that freedom isn't true. I think that food addiction is one of Satan's most favourite sins, because no-one actively tries to intervene. A lot of times it's considered a lifestyle choice to eat unhealthy. No-one is confronted. No-one is lovingly brought to the realisation that what they're doing is destroying their body and not honouring God. We are content to worship food and God together as our bodies become unhealthy and worn out. It's an exhausting contradiction that just isn't worth it.

Now I can look in the mirror without seeing the word 'fat' scrolled across my body. I see strength, beauty and wholeness. I feel joy. Instead of seeing brokenness, I see the blood of Christ, which covers my iniquities and sets me free of the chains of sin. I am assertively living a life of faith in the power of Jesus to overcome sin. Even when it isn't easy, it is worth it.

What I believe about success

- Part 1

By John Maxwell

When will you be successful? If you're like most people, what comes to mind is someday – somewhere off in the future, when you'll suddenly wake up and think, "I made it! I'm a success!"

That's how most unsuccessful people see success: as something to strive for and hope to reach 'someday'.

Each of us has a picture in mind of what we want our career to look like, our family to look like, and yes, from an early age we often conjure up images of the houses, cars, and things we would like to obtain. In many persons' minds, success is something way off in the distance that they will run themselves ragged to get to – if they ever get to it at all.

At one time, I viewed success as a place where I would arrive. I defined it as the progressive realisation of a predetermined, worthwhile goal. But over time, I realised that the definition falls short of the mark. It leads to 'destination disease' – the belief that if we just arrive somewhere (e.g. attain a position, accomplish a goal, have a relationship with the right person), we will be successful.

But many years ago, I came to a different conclusion about success. All the traditional definitions either made success a destination to reach, or required some magic formula to obtain. I began to see success as a journey, an ongoing process of growth. And after over nearly 50 years of knowing successful people and studying the subject, this is the definition of success that I now embrace:

**Success is ...
Knowing your purpose in life,
Growing to reach your maximum potential, and
Sowing seeds that benefit others.**

You can see by this definition why success is a journey rather than a destination. No matter how long you live or what you decide to do in life, you will never exhaust your capacity to grow toward your potential, nor will you run out of opportunities to help others. When you see success as a journey, then you never have the problem of trying to 'arrive' at an elusive final destination. And you'll never find yourself in a position where you've accomplished some final goal – only to discover that you're still unfulfilled and searching for something else to do.

Another benefit of focusing on the journey of success instead of on arriving at a destination or achieving a goal is that you have the potential to become a success today. The very moment that you make the shift to finding your purpose, growing to your potential, and helping others, successful is something you are right now, not something you vaguely hope one day to be.

Let's talk more about how to pursue each of the three aspects noted above.

Knowing your purpose

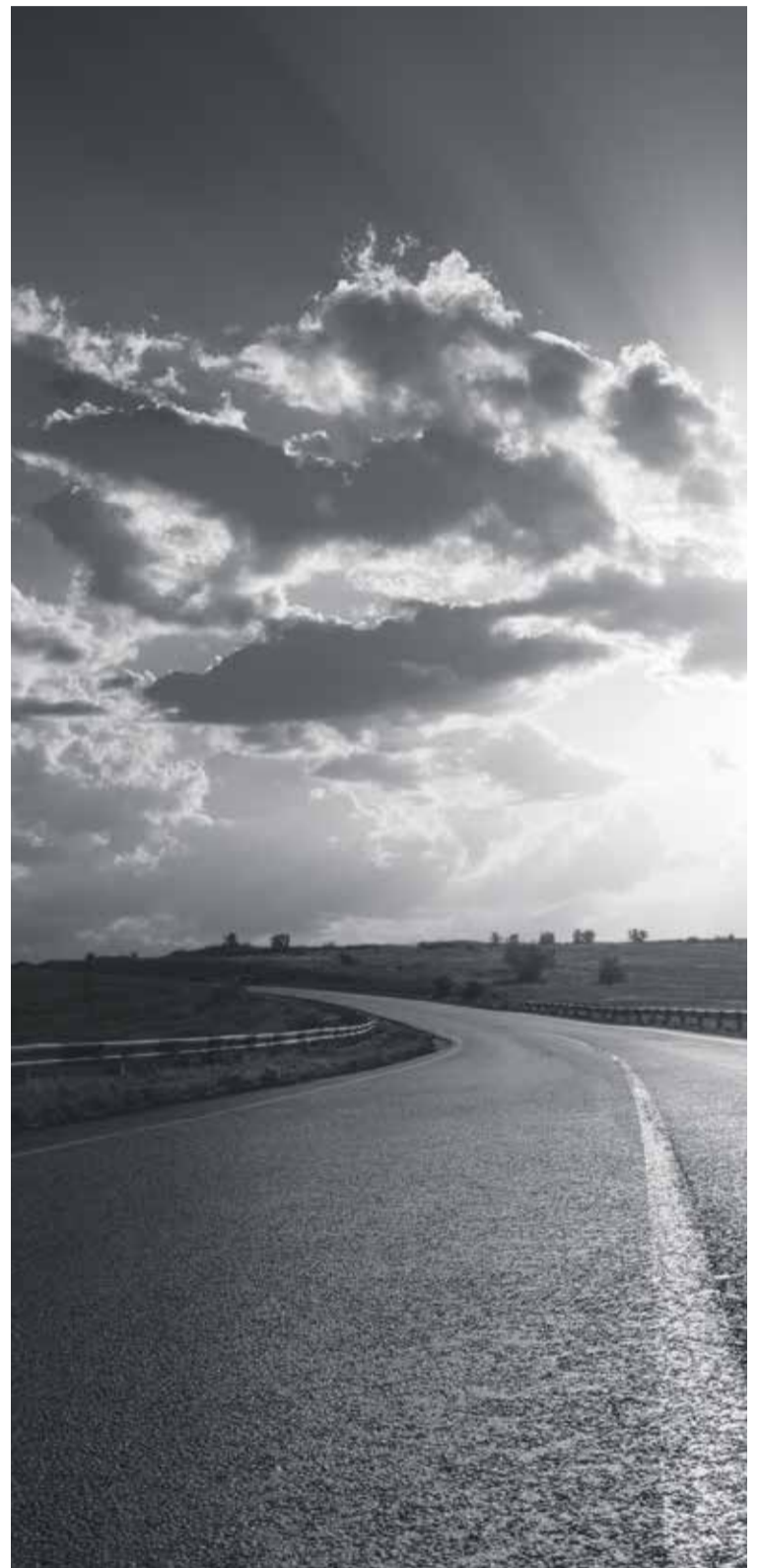
I believe that God created every person for a purpose. As psychologist Viktor Frankl said, "Everyone has his own specific vocation or mission in life. Everyone must carry out a concrete assignment that demands fulfilment. Therein he cannot be replaced, nor can his life be repeated. Thus everyone's task is as unique as his specific opportunity to implement it." Each of us has a purpose for which we were created. Our responsibility – and our greatest joy – is to identify it.

Finding our purpose requires us to seek to discover two things: our passion, and our giftedness. What is the deep desire set in your heart, the thing that sets your soul on fire? What makes you cry? What do you get most excited about? And what are you good at? No one else in the world has exactly the same gifts, talents, background, or future that you do.

Think about the unique mix of abilities you have, the resources available to you, your own personal history, and the opportunities around you. If you objectively identify these factors and discover the desire of your heart, you will have done a lot toward discovering your purpose in life.

Next month, John Maxwell will talk more about how to pursue the other two aspects noted above.

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Lessons on leading

By Sue Ash

My family tells a story of me at four years of age. I tried every trick to not speak to strangers including coaching my two year old sister, Jill, to do any speaking for me.

How then is it possible such a person could become a reasonably successful leader in the not-for-profit sector?

My learning about being a leader can be distilled into three key areas.

The Bible tells us to discern wisely – accept and praise God for the gifts He has given us and commit to using them for His honour and glory, while at the same time recognising

that if we walk humbly with our God, we will always recognise that He is the loving, providing and forgiving God whom we love and serve. Too often leaders fall into one of two traps, they believe their own press – you are fantastic, powerful, and important – or you can't be a leader because you make mistakes and don't have the skills or attributes to be a leader.

Photographers, artists and others need to determine the horizon or perspective that they are working towards. Likewise effective leaders have long horizons. They vision answers for questions such as "what will this organisation look like in 10 or 20 years from now?" Jesus commands us to have a long horizon – to be Kingdom focussed not just focussed on the things of the world. As a Christian leader, we are commanded to ensure that whatever entity we are leading, be it an organisation, a family or a church, that the leader has a long horizon.

Finally, I have learned that leaders understand they only have such a position for a season. A wonderful friend of mine taught me an invaluable lesson about this

aspect of leadership. At her farewell speech she took off her shoe, held it up to the new person and the audience and, paraphrased, said something like this:

"This is my shoe, it has served me well in this role, but it is not your shoe. You cannot and need not attempt to fill my shoes. You need to walk in the shoes that you bring to this role. Go confidently, knowing that you have the freedom to lead in the way you believe to be right for the time that you are the CEO."

Jesus led the disciples for a few short years. He knowingly prepared those following him to carry on the task of building His Kingdom and provided His Spirit to empower His followers. Some did it well and others did it poorly, but the Kingdom grew.



Sue Ash AO is the CEO at UnitingCare West

browse

Exponential

www.exponential.org

Exponential is a growing community of church leaders who are committed to accelerating the multiplication of healthy, reproducing faith communities.

The exponential.org website provides resources and tools to equip movement makers with actionable principles, ideas and solutions. Amongst the resources on offer are books, e-books, courses, podcasts, webcasts, webinars and newsletters, many of which are free.

Exponential also offers a Digital Access Pass to their conferences, which allows users to download videos of conference presentations. With speakers like Michael Frost, Louie Giglio, Craig Groeschel, Nicky Gumbel, Alan Hirsch and Bill Hybels speaking on topics of evangelism, outreach, witness and preaching these are a significant resource. Check out the resources at exponential.org

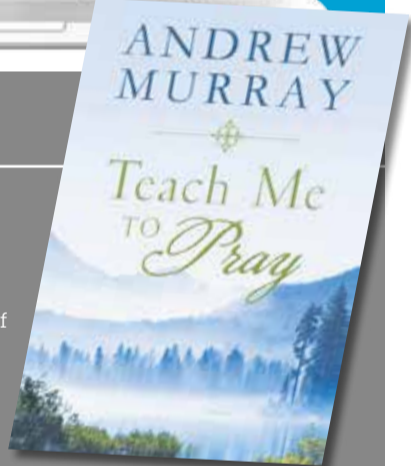


win

Teach Me to Pray

Andrew Murray

Teach Me to Pray is a collection of carefully excerpted devotionals from the writings of Andrew Murray. One of the world's foremost authorities on the deeper Christian life, Murray wrote scores of insightful books through the late 19th and early 20th centuries. *Teach Me to Pray* brings together 180 selections from Murray's writings, addressing issues like faith, obedience, love, and more. For a substantial yet never overwhelming devotional experience, enjoy *Teach Me to Pray*.



The Advocate is giving you an opportunity to win *Teach Me to Pray*. To be in the draw, simply answer the following question:

Question:

How many devotionals are in *Teach Me to Pray*?

Entries close on Thursday 17 July and all winners will be announced in the August edition of *The Advocate*.

The winner from the *Suffering with God* competition is C Te-Aotonga.

competition

Answer: _____

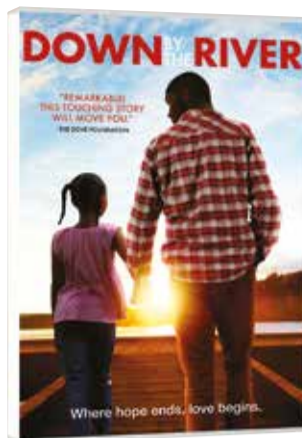
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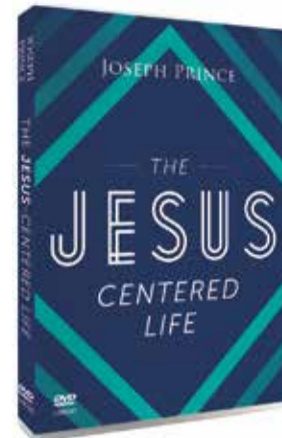
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Down by the River

Bridgestone Multimedia Group

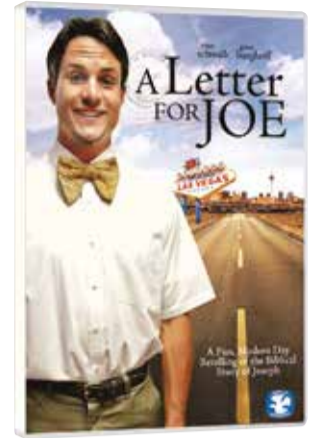
Based on a true story, Skylar Ford is a young man with a dream to become a published author. Amidst his dream lies the balance of helping his mother care for his little sister who is unwell with sickle cell anaemia. In the midst of these trying, but sometimes prosperous times, numerous other obstacles come to play that test the very foundation of this family and their faith.



The Jesus Centred Life

Joseph Prince

Fantasies, dreams, grand plans, goals – will pursuing and fulfilling them really make us happy? Join Joseph Prince in this two-DVD package as he examines the life of King Solomon – the richest man who had his every fantasy fulfilled. You'll be grateful to know that God isn't out to thwart your heart's desires, but to anchor you to the foundation that enables you to really enjoy life's blessings to the fullest – Jesus.

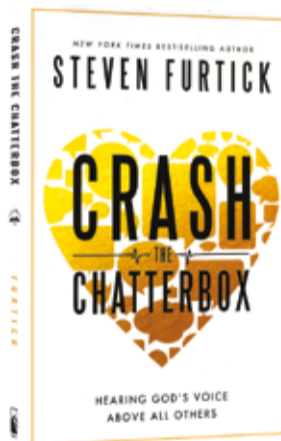


A Letter for Joe

Lazarus Filmworks

When 17 year old Joe Roberts is given a prank letter by his older brother and friends to get him out of their lives, Joe leaves his home in Florida and heads to freewheeling Las Vegas on a wild goose chase to strike up a friendship with the richest man in America, the reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes. *A Letter for Joe* is a powerful modern re-telling of the Biblical story of Joseph.

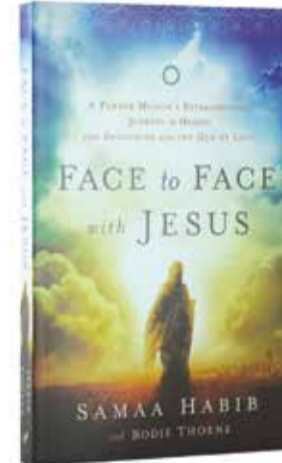
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Crash the Chatterbox

Steven Furtick

Inside your head and heart is a chatterbox. Its lies are keeping you from realising your God-given potential. But what can you do about them? The voice you listen to will determine the future you experience. In *Crash the Chatterbox*, Pastor Steven Furtick focuses on four key areas in which negative thoughts are most debilitating: insecurity, fear, condemnation, and discouragement. Learn how to crash the chatterbox ... and hear God's voice above all others.



Face to Face with Jesus

Samaa Habib

When an extremist faction of Islam bombs a church service in the war torn Middle East, many are killed. After the chaos, the fire and the smoke die down, one woman comes back to life. When Samaa heard the voice of Jesus calling her out of Islam and into a faith in Him, and then seeing Him face to face in heaven, her life has the mark of His supernatural love and power flowing through it.



Soul Keeping

John Ortberg

The soul is the key to our lives, binding our heart, our mind, and our spirit together – yet what is it, really? In *Soul Keeping*, John Ortberg takes a popular, story-filled approach to the subject of what our soul is and how we can care for it in a world which often forgets it exists in each one of us, waiting to be nurtured.

Reviews and competition kindly supplied by Word Bookstore.

Website: www.word.com.au

Address: Victoria Park - 359 Albany Highway, phone 08 9361 7899



Each month a school highlights news from their campus through the writing and photography of students on the School Scoop page.



Mandurah Baptist College provides education experiences and opportunities beyond the standard curriculum, which enhances our students' learning.

Kindergarten to Year 12

www.mbc.wa.edu.au

Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution



Photo: Peter Fallon

Polly Fallon, Elizabeth Birch, Chevelle Savage, Thea Cook, Cailee George and Jasmine Peart enjoying making a healthy wrap.

By Jasmine Peart (Year 7)

One hundred and twenty Mandurah Baptist College Year 7 students participated in one of the 7,807 events held across 121 countries on Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution Day on 16 May.

The aim of the day was to celebrate how important it is to cook good food from scratch and raise awareness of its impact on people's health and happiness.

The Year 7s each made a Rainbow Salad Wrap full of fresh vegetables and fruit. The ingredients included carrots, beetroot, cabbage, pear and a very tasty dressing made from yoghurt, vinegar, mustard and some olive oil.

We worked in groups of six and were each assigned a role to do, for example, washing or grating the vegetables, or combining the dressing.

Sadly, we could not join the live video conference due to the time difference with the UK, but Head of Year 7 Mrs de Wet could download clear instructions from Jamie Oliver's website on how to make the wrap.

It was a nice and easy recipe that everyone enjoyed and apart from some students struggling with using the box grater, it all ran very smoothly.

On behalf of all the Year 7s, a special thank you to Mrs de Wet and Mrs Strbac for preparing the ingredients and making it all happen.

For more information on Food Revolution Day and how to make a Rainbow Salad Wrap, visit www.foodrevolutionday.com

Going purple for PMH



Photo: Tina Gratton

Principal Rob Gratton and student Kynan Piercy having their heads shaved for PMH.

By Katie MacLeod and Lara Strbac (Year 6)

On Friday 4 April, Mandurah Baptist College Primary School held a fundraiser to raise money for Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH). The fundraiser was also known as 'Go Purple Day'.

We chose to participate in Go Purple Day because one of our Year 6 students, Kynan Piercy, was diagnosed with Classic Hodgkin's lymphoma. His positive attitude throughout his treatment inspired us to help raise awareness for childhood cancer.

Our teachers and Principal were also involved in the event. Mrs Labuscagne said that if she

raised \$1,000, she would have her hair shaved, and she did! Mr Phillips and our Principal, Mr Gratton, also took part by having their hair shaved.

On the day, everyone was excited; especially the Year 6 boys who had chosen to get their hair shaved. Many people came to school with whacky hairdos and many wore purple clothing. The

school was full of purple for the whole day.

The moment finally arrived when the end of lunch bell went. The whole Primary School came out to watch the boys and teachers get their hair shaved. Altogether, 24 boys and three teachers were brave and had their head shaved.

The day was an amazing success, with students, teachers, parents and friends of the school all helping to raise money. Our school managed to raise \$11,428.10 to be donated to PMH!

To make it even better, less than a week after this special fundraising event, we learnt that Kynan was in remission from his cancer!

Enjoying Medieval times

By Chloe Geary (Year 8)

All the Year 8 students took part in Medieval Day held on 28 March.

The day was filled with many educational but fun activities to do with the Medieval period.

Many of the Year 8s got involved and dressed up in medieval costumes which added to the atmosphere of the day.

During the day we participated in various activities, including archery, medieval dancing and fencing.

The day ended with a guest speaker who talked about medieval weapons, warfare and showed us a movie about the worst jobs in medieval history.



Photo: Theilma Cooper

Johan van der Westhuizen, Keiren Roberts, Tiaan Von Rechenberg and Meyer van der Westhuizen dress up for Medieval Day.

Christian view of World Cup

Thousands of Australians flocked to Brazil to be part of the 2014 Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup, 12 June to 13 July.

On Copacabana beach, Aussies partied with fans from around the world before kick-off of the greatest football tournament in the world. Planet Sport reporter Tom Ellis spoke with some of them as he reported on the preparations in Brazil.

However, many Australians could not afford the airfares or the time to travel to South America for the event so reliable news reports are paramount.

International Christian sports media agency 2K Plus International Sports Media is covering the multi-city event from its base close to the Maracanã stadium in Rio de Janeiro. The 2K Plus team of eight journalists and media producers will produce an extensive range of services including reports, stories, interviews, roundtable discussions and player testimonies.

Producer Steve Vickers brings his extensive experience to the role as a sports reporter in Africa for the BBC World Service.

Sports fans in Australia will be able to listen to Planet Sport - Destination Rio from 11 June to 14 July on radio and online at www.planetsport.tv. They will also be able to comment on Facebook ([planetsportmedia](https://www.facebook.com/planetsportmedia)) and Twitter ([@plantesporttv](https://twitter.com/plantesporttv)).

"2K Plus has reported with a Christian perspective from the past two World Cups in Germany and South Africa," 2K Plus CEO Adrian Barnard said.

"Our aim is to introduce sports fans to Jesus and we are delighted to be able to offer a multi-platform service, building on our experience in radio over the past 23 years, which enables us to reach a wide audience through both new and traditional media."

The extensive multi-media coverage 2K Plus offers helps sport lovers engage more deeply with the events than just hearing facts and figures of what happened on the pitch. They give fans the ability to share together the excitement, devotion and journeys that sports conjure up and the opportunity to respond through social media.

Since 1991, 2K Plus has reported from many major international sporting events, including the summer Olympic and Paralympic Games, FIFA World Cup, World Championships in Athletics and Commonwealth Games.

“Our aim is to introduce sports fans to Jesus ...”

The flagship will be Planet Sport - Destination Rio, a daily 30-minute English language radio program covering the drama of the unfolding football competition and exploring life in the vibrant South American city.



Planet Sport TV reporter Tom Ellis interviewing Australian Soccerroo fans on Copacabana Beach in Brazil during the 2014 FIFA World Cup.

Photo: Andy Bloss

the
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