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# World Youth get a taste

Young people and youth leaders from 64 nations across the world gathered in Singapore in July for the International Baptist Youth Convention. Craig Palmer, Youth and Young Adult Consultant, took a team of 15 from Western Australian churches.

About 3,000 people attended the five day conference engaging in worship services, teaching, seminars, and family groups (multi-national, age bracketed groups) as well as sharing meals, making new friends and having perspectives broadened

"It was a taste of heaven," Craig said, "Seeing the trusting interactions, the diversity of experiences and worldview, and the acceptance of that. Baptist has a very wide definition."

The conference attracted 17 to 40 year olds. Craig reported that in some countries young people can include up to 40 years of age.

Javelle Martin from Riverton Baptist Church enjoyed the opportunity to meet and share with other Christians from around the world

"I was an MK (missionary kid) in the Philippines, so I was very excited to meet and connect with some Filipinos." Javelle said. "Towards the end when we all sang in our own languages,

praising God, it truly felt like a glimpse of heaven."

There wasn't much time for sightseeing in Singapore, with delegates boarding buses at their hotels at 8am to travel to the conference centre and not returning until 10pm or 11pm each evening

A highlight of the conference for Ed Devine, Youth Pastor at Lake Joondalup Baptist Church, was talking with John Upton, President of the Baptist World Alliance on one of the days.

"He is such a humble man with such a passion for Jesus and is leading millions of people around the world with sincerity before the Lord," Ed said.

Ed's wife, Nelly Devine was inspired by the family group meetings.

"It was like a small group made up of people from different countries," Nelly said. "It was interesting to hear their stories, pray with them and become friends."

Making friends and seeing how life is different for others were important elements of the conference for many people.

"We got to draw from other people's experience of God, following and serving Him," Craig said. "It broadens our horizons and expands your tolerance for difference because you are interacting with the people not just ideologies. Our commonality was overwhelming!

"It was inspiring. We follow Christ at the core and nothing will move us to mission and worship more than living a life submitted to the Father by the power of the Spirit." Craig said. "The next conference is in five years. I'd really like to take my sons one day."

Generous hearts committed to building the kingdom of God.

**BAPTIST CHURCHES** WESTERN AUSTRALIA





**Graham Mabury** 

Graham Mabury is a broadcaster and Pastor at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. You can hear Graham on Radio 6PR (882AM) every weeknight from 8pm to midnight.

# On air with Graham Mabury

"Why?" One of our grandsons is at 'that' age. He asks this sincerely, but he asks it over and over again. My ability to provide answers that satisfy him is rarely equal to his curiosity. The wrecking ball of each new "Why?" flattens the flimsy edifice of my answers. Despite my feelings of frustration and impotence, "Why" is still an excellent question. 'That' his Poppie presents Nightline, for example, is not nearly as important as 'why' he does.

I heard Philip Yancey tell the story of the work of Joanna and Julian in the notorious Pollsmoor Prison. There were 279 acts of violence the year before they went in, nearly one a day. In their first year there were two, the next, eight. The BBC produced two documentaries of this amazing transformation. They contained only images of Bible studies and

prayer. So, describing himself as 'a cynical journalist', Philip asked them "Why?"

Joanna's instant, incredulous response was, "Of course Philip, God was already in Pollsmoor Prison. I just had to make Him visible." I find that utterly transforming. God is already in our world. In our family, friendship and work networks,

He chooses to use us to make Him visible, like blunt pencils in the Hands of a Master Artist as Mother Theresa put it.

Reflecting on this, I remembered some equally compelling words from a boy about the same age as my grandson. In his church, the communion elements were kept in 'the Tabernacle' - a small

ornate cabinet on a high altar. He watched the priest secure the door. Then he asked, "Can you lock God up in a box?"

Were I to be absolutely honest, my answer would be, "Of course not but I keep trying to." Thankfully, despite my best efforts to 'box' Him within the framework I allot to Him (thus allowing me to stay 'god') He continually bursts out, often in the most disconcerting yet liberating, life-giving ways.

A young boy's penetrating question challenges me to go way beyond 'thinking outside the square', to discovering, enjoying and following God 'outside the box'. Care to join me?



**Dr Brian Harris** 

Dr Brian Harris is the **Principal of Vose Seminary** and Senior Pastor of Carey Community Baptist Church.

# On justifying our grudges

I remember hearing the story of two sisters separated by a feud for several decades. On learning that the one was dying, the other rushed to her bedside and said, "Emily if you die, all is forgiven. If not, things stay as they are." A remarkable number of people find it alarmingly satisfying to have someone to hold a grudge against. Why?

I guess having a grudge can be a wonderful excuse to delay facing the challenges that wait in a postgrudge world. When we run out of people to blame for our problems, the ball is in our court to sort them out. That can have a serious 'ouch' factor.

Sometimes it's easier to be a victim. Do you remember Jesus' strange question to the man who waited to be healed at Bethesda

for 38 years. "Do you want to be healed?" Talk about a redundant question - or was it? After 38 years the man had probably come to terms with his restricted lifestyle. Reaching out for wholeness nullified the reasons for non-participation that had sufficed for almost four decades. And make no mistake about it, his post healing world was complex. Once walking he found himself

embroiled in a battle as to why he allowed himself to be healed on the Sabbath day. After 38 years his healing was apparently not an emergency and could have been postponed a day. No more sympathy for him.

Grudges allow my indignation and hurt to drown any whisper of self reproach. The Bible might suggest that we are all both victims and villains, but when

I emphasise my victim status, I can do an ostrich to the villain within. It is the other, and not I, who needs forgiveness. And if I don't need forgiveness, why should I forgive. Ah - that's the heart of it. And here is the gospel mystery – in acknowledging my own brokenness and receiving forgiveness, I am released from the burden of grudge bearing - I am free to forgive. Both the villain and victim find hope at Calvary.

## Food Rescue



Mick Nurmi (second from right) and volunteers of Food Rescue.

Food Rescue aims to alleviate hunger by rescuing perishable, fresh and nutritious food from cafés, caterers, supermarkets and wholesalers and deliver it to disadvantaged people in Western Australia.

A network of recipient agencies convert the food into meals and/ or provide food parcels to almost 40 charitable organisations around the Perth metropolitan area.

I'm well supported by team leader and chef. Mick Nurmi. and more than 80 volunteers. Volunteers collect, sort, repackage food and then distribute it. We also run a weekly program with Christ Church Grammar School where

boys sort and repackage food

Each week we collect 3.000 to 4,000 kilograms of fresh fruit and vegetables from 24 Perth supermarkets. On Tuesdays to Fridays Croissant Express send their leftover sandwiches, rolls and wraps, and Street Chef (mobile lunch vans) also donate unsold

In addition, we respond to phone calls from produce growers

who have an excess of produce and suppliers of fresh meat and dairy products.

More than 332,000 kilograms of food have been rescued since the program began at the end of 2011.

Our mission is very simple. We aim to alleviate hunger and reduce food wastage by rescuing fresh, nutritious food and distribute it to people in need.

The program is one of a range of service responses delivered by UnitingCare West.

For more information or to donate food, call 9277 8851.

Samantha Soley Manager, Food Rescue

#### 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.

# Learning through suffering

The newly formed Manjimup Baptist Church Catalyst Group organised the activities for their weekend-long church family camp in July.

With the help of a Baptist
World Aid Catalyst group from
Perth, the Manjimup group
developed the theme, 'Who is
my neighbour?' During the camp
they played a simulation game to
give participants a taste of what it
is like to live in poverty.

The 40 camp participants were divided into two villages and each person was given a passport so that they could cross the border each day into 'Nambabawe' to obtain work before returning home each night to 'Camistan'. The passports had the names of real people living in poverty and came with 'Nambabwe money' and a health clinic card.

Participants could get work selling vegetables (which they had to make from play dough), working in a factory (cutting circles out of sheets of paper) or portering (carrying boxes and containers back across the border). Each day they had to work and be paid in order to buy food.

Some unscrupulous bosses caused much hunger and heartache during the weekend. One even trafficked workers out of the country on the promise of better work!

Those who drank free water instead of buying it got sick. So did those who didn't have time to go to the clinic. Those who avoided paying at the border crossing risked stepping on land

mines. If a mine exploded, the wounded person had to hop with one leg tied up. Injury and illness constantly added to the frustration the people felt.

Maize meal porridge and beans were served for morning tea. Some loved it, some didn't – but they all sympathised with the people who have no choice but to live this way.

From pre-schoolers to pensioners, everyone engaged with the simulation. Some felt desperate enough to cheat and steal. At the end of the activity, the self-appointed beggar was better off than everyone else!

As a result, families wanted to know how they can help people in poverty. The Catalyst Group emphasised that the first step is awareness, followed by a willingness to face up to the consequences of the injustices that our western lifestyles contribute to others' suffering.

God moved powerfully at the camp. Lessons learnt continue to arise in conversations at Manjimup Baptist Church. People continue to respond to God's call to be vocal around issues affecting the poor.



Self-appointed beggar, 'Simiton', did well at Manjimup Baptist Church's weekend camp where they explored living in poverty.

## Churches under attack

Baptists in Egypt are requesting prayer for their nation and its Christian community in the wake of recent clashes and violence in the North African country. More than 800 people have reportedly been killed.

Mounir Malaty, pastor of First Baptist Church in Cairo, reported that at least two Baptist churches were attacked, the Baptist Church in El Minya and the Baptist Church in Beni Mazar.

In Beni Mazar, Islamic fundamentalists burned the church sanctuary, demolished office and classroom furnishings and fixtures and destroyed Christian emblems outside the church building.

"Innocent people are being

killed and large numbers of the protestors are also dying," Malaty said

Botros Faltaos, president of the Bible Baptist Denomination, based in the city of Alexandria, asked the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) to "please pray for us." He said more than 80 churches of various Christian traditions have been attacked, many of them burned.

Faltaos said there have been attempts by fundamentalists to attack and burn some of

his churches but they were thwarted by moderate Muslims from doing so.



... 80 churches of various Christian traditions have been attacked, many of them burned.

"Pray for those who have experienced loss of loved ones and destruction of property," BWA General Secretary Neville Callam said. "Also pray for those who have been displaced by the violent conflicts."

### Sportsfest coming

More than 30 churches are preparing their teams for this year's Sportsfest over the long weekend from 27 to 30 September at the Leschenault Leisure Centre in Australind.

Teams from Karratha in the north to Albany in the south will join about 1,200 young people intent in playing hard at this year's games.

A new event for this year is three on three basketball.

Dan McGrechan is guest speaker at the Sunday night gathering of all the teams. DJ Cornflake is kicking off the night before a live worship team comes on stage.

Teams are already preparing their theme-based t-shirts and banners in the hope of winning a prize.

"We're excited to be able

to support Freeset's ministry in Kolkata, India, again this year by using their backpacks for each competitor and volunteer," Assistant Director Michelle Smoker said.

More than 150 volunteers have been recruited to ensure Sportsfest runs smoothly.

# New church reaches out

#### Baptist Churches of Western Australia is constantly changing as new churches form.

Some new churches form within established metropolitan communities. Paradox Armadale is one of the newest groups.

Jules and Sara Birt have lived in Armadale for almost two years. They started a weeknight meeting in their home in April 2012, gathering neighbours and friends to worship Jesus together.

Jules reduced his work hours at Carey Baptist College, where he is a chaplain and teacher, and the family lived using their savings until December 2012. This enabled Jules to spend half a day each week as a volunteer in a local primary school, serving the community.

"I'd visit the mall in Armadale for a few hours each week too, making new friends, praying for people," Jules said. "I started a Bible study group with some guys one night each week in the park. It's challenging but great learning with them."

Earlier this year the group started a Sunday gathering, meeting in Minnawarra Community House in Armadale.

"Minnawarra is a Nyoongar word that means sacred place," Jules said. "That fits well with what we're doing!"

"We're all about engaging with people in our community and walking with them as they grow in trusting Jesus and His power," Jules said. "We're here for the long haul."

'Spud' and Kirsty Holland started attending after Sara Birt, a doula, 'walked' with them through the birth of their twins in 2012. On 4 August, 'Spud' and Kirsty told their story of following Jesus before they were baptised in a backyard swimming pool in Armadale.

For the first three weeks of September Jules is sleeping outdoors in a Street Swag (www. streetswags.org.au), raising awareness of the needs of homeless people and raising funds to support the Australian not-for-profit organisation.

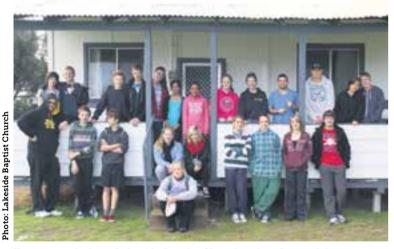


Pastor Jules Birt baptises Kirsty Holland in an Armadale backyard pool.

"During the time I also plan to head to downtown Armadale and spend a night on the street as part of the whole experience," Jules said. "There's a lot of need and Street Swags are a great short-term solution for a homeless person while they try to sort out accommodation."

"We're not sure how this is all going to develop," Jules said. "In mid-August I started a Bible study group in an Armadale home, where there's quite a bit of drug activity. Maybe your readers could pray for us."

# Lakeside pays it forward



Young people from Lakeside Baptist Church painted one of the cottages at Busselton Baptist Camping Centre during the July school holidays.

During the recent school holidays, a group of about 30 young people from Lakeside Baptist Church, led by Youth and Young Adults Pastor, Jeremy Bourdon, travelled to Busselton for a 'Pay It Forward' Camp.

They spent from 7 to 10 July at the Busselton Baptist Camping Centre, where they were responsible for scraping and sanding back then painting one of the cottages at the campsite.

"The basis of the camp was service, doing something to help others, and giving back to a ministry that does so much for the whole Baptist community," Jeremy said.

While the main task was the preparation and painting of the cottage, the camp wasn't all about work. The group made time for team building activities, talks, small groups and games.

"We still got to have fun, still got to hang with friends – but we left knowing we had achieved something positive and that it would be there next time we had camp at Busselton," one of the camp participants, Ben Anderson, said.

"It's great to have the cottage painted and to know that the young people had fun and gained something from their efforts," Baptist Churches of WA Director of Camping, Ross Daniels said.

#### digital church

#### 29/07/2013

#### Brett McCracken

stillsearching.wordpress.com
"... culture – what human beings
make of the world – is far more
than just an end unto itself. It's
far more than just something
that brings glory to man. It's a
means by which we understand,
reflect and glorify the Creator
God "

#### 02/08/2013 **Bob Goff**

twitter.com/bobgoff
"God made us then whispered
'think symphony, not solo'.
Individually capable, collectively
unbelievable."

#### 02/08/2013 **Justin Grunewald**

twitter.com/JustGrune

"I have discovered, through scripture and experience, that brokenness is the devastating normal of life. That's why we need Jesus!"

### 07/08/2013 Andy Stanley

twitter.com/AndyStanley
"People from church are often
guilty of keeping people from
church."

#### 09/08/2013

### David Santistevan www.davidsantistevan.com

"... next time you are faced with a ministry train wreck, don't lose heart ... Know your identity isn't based on any success or failure,

but on God's love for you."

#### 11/08/2013 **Rob Douglas**

robdouglasblog.wordpress.com
"... it's helpful reading the Old
Testament as a major roadwork's
exercise. Everything was done
for a reason and while the detour
signs may not always make sense,
they were part of Gods' blueprint

for the future – every part of it pointing to Jesus."

### 11/08/2013 WillowCreek

twitter.com/wcagls
"The local church is the activity of God here on Earth

#### briefs

#### **Baptisms**

Marcus Lewenhoff-Jones, Candice Vickers, John Vickers, Kelly Vickers, Melanie Wade and Teagan Willsher were baptised at Woodvale Baptist Church on 30 June. Joe Frost was baptised at Lakeside Baptist Church on 21 July. Iain Robertson was baptised at Katanning Baptist on 28 July. 'Spud' Holland and Kirsty Holland, from Paradox Armadale, were baptised on 4 August and Jackie Aitchison, Esther Daw. Isaac Daw, Joel Daw, Caleb Pascoe, Dot Trefort and Xavier Windsor from Narrogin Baptist Church were baptised on 11 August. David Fleck was baptised at Albany Baptist on 11 August.

# Man of peace visits Perth

Som Chanmony (Mony) is the Director of Peace Bridges, a not-for-profit organisation in Cambodia that is changing culture.

The Asian nation carries many reminders of the years of desolation under the Pol Pot regime. Among the problems arising from the era is a national distrust of foreigners, a tendency to attempt to resolve conflict with violence, and serious issues with domestic violence and alcohol abuse.

Australian groups Global Interaction and Transform Aid International (through Baptist World Aid Australia) both partner with Peace Bridges.

"This is foundation work for our nation," Mony said. "We work with communities, families, churches, in prisons and universities, helping people change their lives through learning and living conflict resolution."

The work of transformation is slow but the changes in communities are staggering.

"There are now whole villages where our trainers go to visit and the men are not in the village to talk with them because they're at work on their farms," Mony said. "When we first started working with them, the men would be at home drunk, causing problems and arguing with their wives. The children were hungry and fighting too."

The skills the Peace Bridges team teach are actually changing the culture of the groups they work with, the unlearned attitudes and actions of the local community.

Mony visited Perth in early August to speak at Lake Joondalup Baptist Church and Woodvale Baptist Church. He also taught a morning seminar at Riverton Baptist where seven people attended.

"There is much Australians can learn from Mony and the Peace Bridges team," Dushan Jeyabalan, Baptist World Aid Australia's Western Australian Partnership Officer, said.

Knowledge, attitude, skill and habit. In a city prison, we help the inmates use active nonviolence to regulate their strong feelings.

"The skills of conflict resolution are essential for a community to live with and practise before any aid and development work is done in his country."

Peace Bridges works throughout Cambodia. Trainers gather in regional centres every six months with a national gathering of trainers each year.

"We say change comes through 'KASH'," Mony said. "Knowledge, attitude, skill and habit. In a city prison, we help the inmates use active nonviolence to regulate their strong feelings. There was so much change the prison governor asked us to train his staff as well."



Director of Peace Bridges, Som Chanmony (Mony) is helping bring changes to Cambodia's communities.

Church on the move

#### **Pastor Lamb**

One of the most well-known Christian leaders in China, Pastor Samuel Lamb, died on 3 August in Guangzhou, aged 88. He had been arrested during one of the first big waves of persecution in Mao's China and was first imprisoned from 1955 to 1957, when Christians in the country was estimated to be a few million. Lamb. also translated from the original Chinese as 'Lam', was targeted by the government because of his refusal to merge his illegal house church into the Three-Self Patriotic Movement, the state-regulated Protestant Church. The Chinese authorities

sentenced him a second time in 1958, then he spent 20 years in labour camps. He saw his wife for the last time during the five months he was on remand; she died in 1977, a year before Lamb's sentence ended.

#### Inglewood Community Church wants to see the lives of families transformed as they encounter Jesus.

This focus came out from the combined vision of Bedford Baptist Church and Inglewood Church of Christ. When the groups combined they started meeting at the Inglewood Civic Centre.

"We've well and truly outgrown these facilities," Pastor Mark Edwards said. "Our children's ministry averages 55 children under the age of 12 each week."

To meet the developing needs, the church made a

bold decision in 2004 to sell all their property to purchase better facilities, to help meet their goal of reaching the wider community.

The church purchased an industrial building in Dianella earlier this year and they are currently renovating the property. Some ministries including The Hub, Inglewood's group focusing on university students, have already moved to the new venue

"We're going to have a contemporary and 'blokey' feel

"We'll retain the factory feel of the building, utilise polished concrete floors, interesting finishes and environmentally friendly cooling and heating."

The church has architects, designers and creative tradespeople who are committed to working on the

"We're debt free. We feel like we're standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before us," Mark said. "This is an exciting time for the church."

# Say goodbye to Hollywood



 $After ten \ years \ at \ Hollywood \ Hospital, \ James \ Ward \ is \ continuing \ his \ voluntary \ role \ as \ Chaplain \ with \ Alzheimer's \ Australia.$ 

# Reverend James Ward has retired after ten years as Chaplain at Hollywood Hospital in Nedlands.

"It was a wonderful and meaningful position, often tiring and stressful, but filled with many rewards. I was so blessed in my contact with patients, their families and staff," James said.



The chaplaincy ministry centred on building relationships with patients and involved a compassionate, caring and comforting approach. Listening, supporting, and helping people reflect and speak about their experience of illness or injury and about the reason for their hospitalisation.

"When appropriate, I offered spiritual guidance, sharing about the love, grace, mercy, renewal, hope and peace from God who loves and cares for them," James said. "In this context, prayer, Bible reading and Holy Communion were important aspects of my visits."

"Joy and celebration was shared in the relief, renewed optimism and thankfulness in a patient who comes through a difficult or life threatening situation to recovery.

Intermingled with the collective seriousness of the ministry were lighter moments, often enjoying laughter and banter with staff and patients, their family and friends."

"Highlights of my ten years at Hollywood Hospital include the joy of leading five patients to faith in Christ, the opening of the new chapel, and enlightening discussions with patients of other faiths such as Judaism and Islam. The Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services were also special as old

diggers made the effort to come down from their wards to share in the occasion."

"My call to chaplaincy was and is strong, without Him I could not have done it. He has sustained and guided me throughout. To God be the glory. I also thank God for the prayerful support of members from our home church, Chidlow Community Church," James said.

My call to chaplaincy was and is strong, without Him I could not have done it.

James and his wife Sandra are planning to travel around northern Europe before returning to Perth where James will continue in his role as honorary chaplain for Alzheimers Australia WA.

# Ministry safety

The Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA) hosted the first 'Doing Youth Ministry Safely' briefing for youth leaders with staff from the Australian Baptist Insurance Scheme in Perth during July.

Just two youth leaders attended the event.

"We've been working with Baptist camps and Baptist schools across the nation and this was the first event in Australia we've had specifically for youth ministers," Kym Bennetts, National Insurance Manager for ABIS said.

"Camping teams and schools have really caught the vision of working together, pooling their knowledge and expertise to help each other," Kym said. "Western Australia is leading the field in some areas."

ABIS recently appointed
Stephen Lockrey as Risk
Management Advisor to work
with churches, schools and

camps across Australia.

"I'm looking forward to working with youth leaders in WA," Stephen said. "I expect we'll be learning lots from each other. It's just not good work practice to reinvent the wheel all the time."

Terry Hicks, Business
Manager with BCWA travelled
with Kym Bennetts, Anina
Findling (Baptist Financial
Services) and BCWA Insurance
Officer Jill Birt to Kununurra,
Broome and Karratha in July,
supporting the churches'
leadership teams and answering
questions regarding insurance,
workers compensation and
developments from the
Australian Charities and Not-forprofits Commission.

# Courageous followers flee



 $Members\ of\ the\ Novosibirsk\ fellowship\ are\ now\ able\ to\ hear\ the\ gospel\ without\ facing\ persecution.$ 

Katherine Porter returned to Siberia, Russia in July with a team of 11 West Australians, who were helping build a church for Operation Mobilisation's (OM) growing Central Asian fellowship.

"My husband Lloyd and I were field leaders for OM's work across Russia for 11 years. When we came back to WA as state Directors for OM in 2007, it was our heart's desire to send as many people and resources back to Russia as possible," Katherine said.

While back visiting Siberia, Katherine listened, spellbound, as she heard the stories of courageous Central Asian followers of Jesus, including that of Tibor and Gulia.

Facing severe persecution in the town where they came to faith in Central Asia, Tibor and Gulia moved to another city, eventually becoming pastors there. When ethnic tensions spilled over into outright war in 2010, they were forced firstly into hiding in a cellar and then to flee the conflict with their three small children. The great plan? To hide under a blanket in the back of a car.

Approaching the border, they heard an army truck approaching from the other direction, full of young men who had just been killing Uzbeks. Trembling, they prayed together, certain this meant death for them and their children. However, the border guards were fascinated by the 'hero' soldiers in the truck going the other way and merely waved their car through.

Tibor noted wryly, 'God has a good sense of humour and great timing.'

Safely through the border, the family were refugees with just one bag of belongings to their names. With courage, they prayed about where God wanted them to serve. They were offered places in America, although Gulia felt certain that 'if you go there, you will die' (spiritually). So they kept praying, until God lead them to OM Russia.

Starting three years ago with no known Central Asian believers, their fellowship in Novosibirsk now totals about 35. Most would never have had the chance to hear the gospel in their own country or would face severe persecution in their homeland.

For Katherine, to take communion with this vibrant fellowship in Siberia on a sunny Sunday morning was an incredible experience. The Uzbeks do not have a full printed Bible in their own language yet. But they do have Christ.

"I can't help but think of Joseph's insight in Genesis 50:20, 'That which you intended for evil, God has used for good'," Katherine said.

Communism wreaked havoc on culture and religion in Central Asia; now those who cannot hear the gospel in their own countries have the chance to hear and respond on Russian soil – something quite remarkable indeed.

# God's timing is good



Ben, Sam, Elizabeth and Anna Good are leaving for Mozambique in September.  $\label{eq:condition}$ 

Ben and Sam Good and their young girls, from Gosnells Baptist Church, are counting down the days until they leave the comforts of life in Perth for Mozambique with Global Interaction Australia.

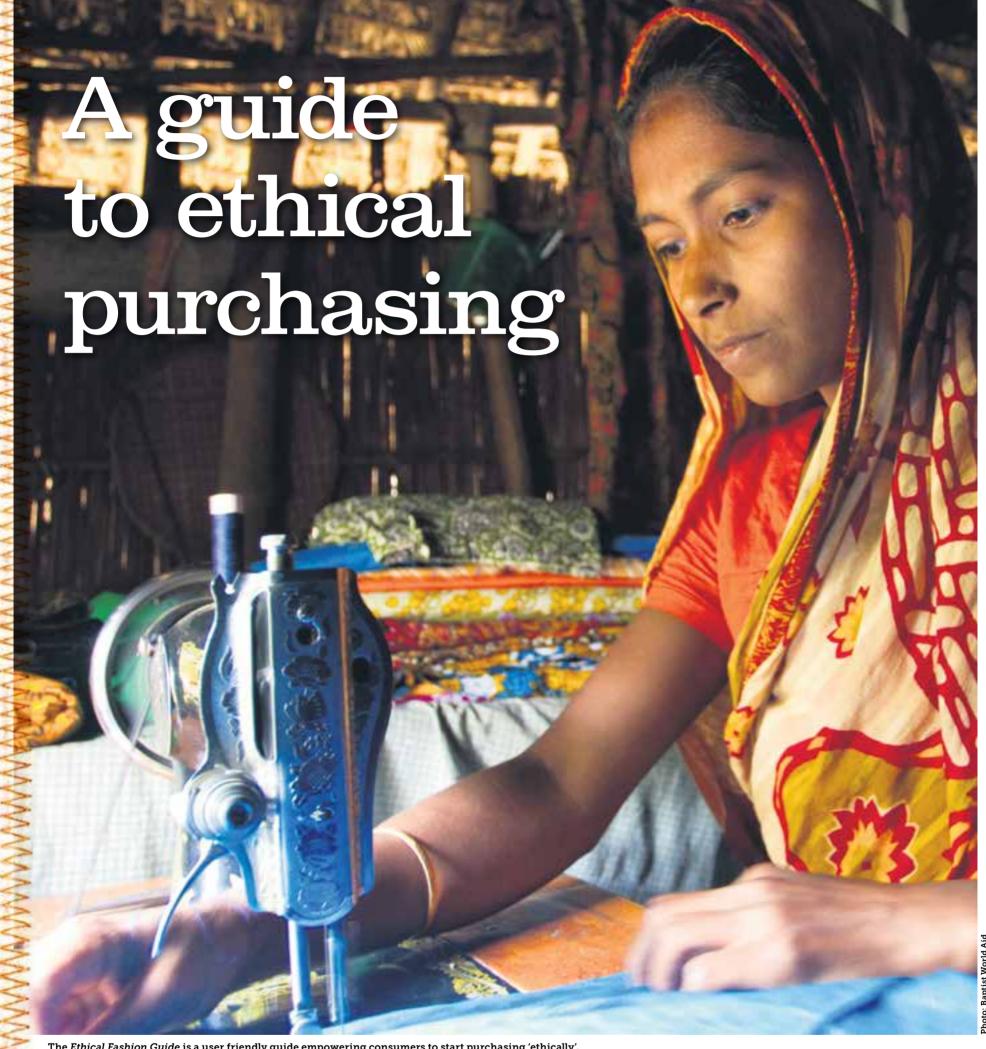
"We were packed up and ready to leave in March, we had sold the car and finished up in our accommodation. Suddenly a registration issue flared and the Mozambique government were not allowing any more Global Interaction staff in until the issues were sorted," Ben said.
"Through an incredible God
moment in the middle of all this,
a church had a vacant house and
car we could use until we left. We
are so thankful to God and the
church for taking care of us."

"We have at times cried

out 'Why God?' While it has been hard waiting it has also been a time to deepen our relationships with our church, family and friends."

"Not many Aussies get to live closely with lions, crocs and hippos. Disease and illness are the flip side so it is important that we are in good health. Learning the language will be important because no English is spoken in the Yao tribe," Ben said.

Now that the registration issues have been resolved the Goods will be leaving for Mozambique mid September.



The Ethical Fashion Guide is a user friendly guide empowering consumers to start purchasing 'ethically'.

In May the world was rocked by news of the collapse of a multi-storey clothing factory in Bangladesh. More than 1,100 low paid workers lost their lives that day and it got people asking the question, 'Fashion, but at what cost?' As a result of these events, there has been a significant shift in the way consumers are now approaching the issue of ethical consumption with Australian Baptists leading the way.

Hot off the press is the new Ethical Fashion Guide from Baptist World Aid. This report is the culmination of almost 18

months of intensive research and investigation into the supply chain of the biggest apparel companies operating in the Australian market place.

"We look into 41 companies and 128 brands and assesses the systems they have in place to reduce the risk of child labour, forced labour and exploitation," Gershon Nimbalker, Advocacy Manager at Baptist World Aid said. "The guide also examines whether or not these companies pay a living wage to their employees and it finds out whether they have taken substantial measures to ensure that they are not using Uzbekistani cotton, which is harvested using forced child labour."

"Possibly the best thing about the Ethical Fashion Guide, though, is that it presents its

findings in a user friendly table that gives each brand a rating to empower consumers to start purchasing 'ethically' when it comes to labour rights. It's so easy to be left feeling powerless in the face of exploitation, but this handbag-sized report helps return the power to the hands of individuals. Every time you shop you can see at a glance which companies are doing their bit. and which ones aren't."

"Some of the results will. I think, surprise you. I would ask you to consider getting a copy of this guide. Pray about it. Keep it in your wallet. And next time you go shopping, use your purchasing decisions to make a

difference for people suffering poverty and injustice off shore," Gershon said.

For a free copy of the Ethical Fashion Guide and more information, visit www. behindthebarcode.com.au

# A Selfie-absorbed generation



While Rolling Stone sought to defuse the controversy over its cover image of Boston bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, and news articles paraded experts condemning Tsarnaev's glorification, Yale University theologian Miroslav Volf cut through the firestorm. He tweeted: "We don't like the evildoer looking like one of us. Perhaps because all of us are a bit like him?"

It's a provocative thought.
While few among us could even contemplate committing mass murder Tsarnaev's cherubic features disturb our categories

of good and evil. The fact that the photo at the centre of *Rolling Stone's* current woes is one Tsarnaev took of himself, and one that resembles millions of other selfies on social media, is also unsettling. In an uncanny, uncomfortable way, this 'charming kid turned monster', as the magazine goes on to chronicle, could be any one of us. He certainly looks it.

Meanwhile closer to home, World Vision CEO Tim Costello declared that it was politically convenient for Australians not to humanise drowned asylum seekers because seeing their faces or learning their names would make them a lot more like us. Costello acknowledges that the suppression of this information may be due to religious and cultural

sensitivities, but he suspects the political reasons are paramount.

It seems we can't stand bombers on magazine covers, for the same reason it's more convenient for dead boat people to remain nameless and faceless – because they resemble us too much.

The kind of image they reflect back to us isn't all that pretty either. Tsarnaev reminds us that even angelic-looking boy-men are capable of great evil. Our callous treatment of asylum seekers - in May, excising the Australia mainland from the migration zone to further impede their claims to asylum, leaving them dead in the water in June, and now shielding ourselves from their humanity by denying them names - represents the grossest failure to love the vulnerable others in our midst.

These stories can't help but strike a nerve when our media has recently debated our tendency to manufacture a polished self-image that we can project to the world.

Today we present our Facebook selves in only the most attractive light possible, constructing an airbrushed identity designed to accrue the admiration of others.

Adam Hills cheekily contributed to this discussion by suggesting the introduction of the 'daggy selfie'. "It's about time we reclaimed our own image by posting realistic photos of ourselves," he says. "The kind of photo that shows us for who we really are. Fragile, hopeless, confused humans with flaws both internal and external."

Hills shows us what he means by posting a mildly unflattering photo of himself posed awkwardly on a couch. He's being cute (that man can't be anything else, especially

with his waistband hiked right up) but he makes a serious point. The kind of selfie he has in mind is refreshingly honest compared to our manufactured self-portraits.

But if we're really serious about seeing ourselves as 'we really are' we can start by looking into the faces of those that confront us with our own flaws. They remind us that even the most unassuming among us are capable of committing wicked acts just as much as they reveal that our failure to act in the face of others' suffering, or even acquaint ourselves with it, is its own kind of cruelty.

This isn't a cry for self-flagellation so much as it is a call for us to simply be honest about our own failings, mourn them, and consider how we might act differently in future. It's a call for – if this isn't too churchy a word – something approaching 'repentance'.

I don't know what such a 'repentant selfie', might look like but it takes courage to see ourselves as we really are. It's too bad that too often human frailty is a truth that's too inconvenient to face.

For more content on Christianity and contemporary life, visit www.publicchristianity.org

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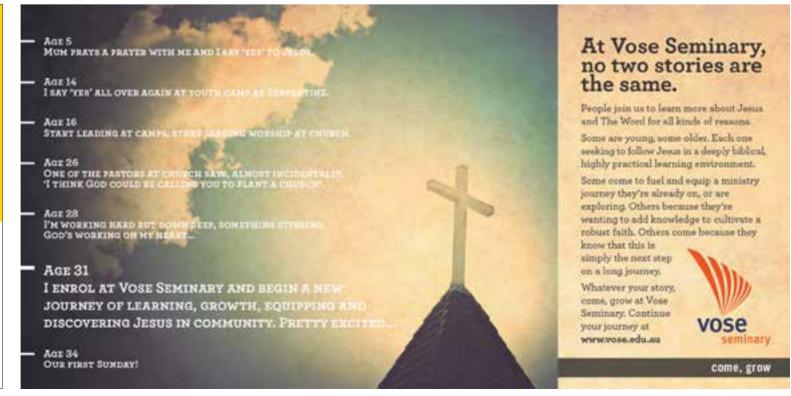


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# Re-vitalising language



Knut Olawsky (left) records the Miriwoong language in the Kimberley.

The language of the Miriwoong people in the East Kimberley region is disappearing. There are less than 20 fluent speakers left in the population of more than 1,000.

Dr Knut Olawsky, a member of Kununurra Baptist Church, is the Senior Linguist and Manager with Mirima Dawang Woorlab-

gerring Language and Culture Centre (MDWg) -an Aboriginal corporation in Kununurra.

"We're documenting the

language by recording it, analysing it and eventually producing a descriptive grammar and dictionary," Dr Olawsky said. "Language revitalisation is the core of MDWg's work. We teach language classes, produce learning materials such as bilingual books for different target groups and manage immersion-based language

learning programs such as the Master-Apprentice Language Learning Program and Language Nest."

One of the latest projects was the publication of several books written by Miriwoong language workers which includes audio support in the form of a pen that scans the words or sentences of the book and plays them back as a sound file.

The time intensive work often takes the team to remote areas for days at a time. It is very people-focused, as relationships have a high priority for Indigenous people.

"Sometimes it is hard to see the enormous disadvantage that Indigenous people suffer in many ways: socioeconomically, having been deprived of their country and facing issues on all levels such as housing, education and health," Dr Olawsky said. "It is also sad to see that many of the people I meet are entangled in cycles of addiction that they did not even know existed before white settlement."

"It is easy to complain about people who drink or take drugs but we should remember that Australian indigenous languages don't even have words for things such as 'alcohol' or 'drugs'."

Dr Olawsky has extensive training and experience working on languages from Northern Ghana in Africa and the Peruvian Amazon.

Growing up in Germany provided a unique opportunity for him to develop his passion for linguistics.

"It was easy to hop across the border of a neighbouring country and get immersed in different languages," Dr Olawsky said.

Faith in Jesus gives him strength to face the challenges of his work.

"Through the language centre I can help Miriwoong people find employment that gives them useful things to do which are directly related to their language and culture, their identity."

"A specific language project can actually impact the entire community by connecting young people who re-learn their traditional language bit by bit and through this grow in confidence."

"That outcome shows the work is worthwhile," Dr Olawsky

### New Testament scholars meet in Perth

Mark Wilson, Director of Ministries for Baptist Churches Western Australia and Chairman of the Heads of Churches in WA, spoke at the opening of the annual conference of the Society for New Testament Studies, the peak international body for New Testament research, at the Government House Ballroom in Perth on 23 July.

It was the first time the Society met in Australia.

Leading New Testament specialists from across the

globe gathered at the four day conference.

Papers included a review of the state of the discipline of New Testament research; a study of Paul de Lagarde, an influential 19th century anti-Semitic New Testament scholar whose

writings served the Nazis; the impact on humanities and New Testament research of the digital age (in French): Insider-Outsider language in early Christianity; and real and unreal images of Jesus' humanity in John's gospel (in German). Twelve small group specialist seminary and 11 short papers comprised the rest of the program.

Membership of the Society is by election on the basis of major published contributions to the

field of New Testament research Scholars come from many churches, including Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Lutheran, Quaker, Seventh Day Adventist, Syrian Orthodox, Uniting and many more. There are also Jewish and atheists who are members.

Murdoch University Emeritus Professor Bill Loader, a member of the Society, organised the conference. Delegates described it as one of the best Society meetings ever.

SEPTEMBER 2013

# Technology spreads the word

Youth With a Mission (YWAM) is producing culturally sensitive art and media resources that share the gospel to the unreached mega people groups of the world.

Videographer Barry Esau lived in Perth before joining the team based in Thailand more than four years ago. They recently completed a three-disk training package called Practical Tools and Insights for Reaching Buddhists/Hindus/Muslims. The package is based on interviews from field workers who share effective methods and tools that have been used to present the good news about Jesus.

Other videos created depict the gospel message and how a gathering of followers of Jesus might work in the context of a particular culture. The actors and voices in the videos are the native speakers of the people group targeted.

66

They help break down the misconception that 'Christianity is a foreign religion' ...

Many of the unreached people groups yet to hear about Jesus are preliterate or have limited literacy skills so audiovisuals are a great way to share the good news with them in a way that they can understand.

"We partner with field workers who already have built relationships in the region where they are serving," Barry said. "Often the actors are believers who want to help reach out to their own people, but other times, God leads us to people who just want to act in a video. We've had some nonbelieving actors give their lives to Christ through the exposure to the gospel as they are acting out the drama."

These evangelistic tools in no way replace building relationships and connecting with people's lives, rather they are an adjunct to assist communication. They help break down the misconception that 'Christianity is a foreign



Barry Esau shares the good news in a way unreached people groups can understand.

religion' by showing how people can worship Jesus in a way that is natural to them, how it fits in with their unique culture.

Another aspect of their ministry is training God's people in using their artistic and media-related skills in missions.

"We run Discipleship
Training Schools; the School of
Frontier Media; the School of
Cartooning and Animation for
Missions; and we're currently
running the Visual Arts for
Missions School," Barry said.

as 'door openers' for further conversations and relationship building among groups of people who don't yet know Jesus, but have increasing access to technology.

YWAM views these tools

# Passion for prayer 24/7

A dynamic prayer movement is influencing Australia's close neighbour, Indonesia. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week (24/7), Indonesian Christians are interceding for their country.

A year ago, 9,000 Christians from around the world visited Indonesia for a mega prayer gathering led by Indonesian churches wanting to honour Jesus as Lord. They pledged to make Jesus known in every city, town and village across the nation.

"The zeal among the 24/7 movement extends among evangelicals, Pentecostals, mainline churches and

Catholics because of the need to spread the good news of Christ all over the country", organiser Dr Bambang Widjaya said.

"There's favour, there's faith, there's grace and they are transforming a nation," Dr Widjaya said.

A multistorey building 45 kilometres outside the capital of Jakarta, serves as a prayer tower. Caretaker Petrus has lived there for 12 years.

a day [to pray]," Petrus said.
"There is power when hundreds
of thousands of believers meet
in either small prayer groups,
houses of prayer, or prayer
towers like this one," prayer
leader Dedi Purwanto said.

Nearly 13 percent of the world's Muslims live in Indonesia, making it the world's largest Muslim population.

The 24/7 prayer movement connects some 500 Indonesian cities with more than five million intercessors. This is producing a deep passion to see the nation and the world honouring Jesus as Lord.

More than 50 Pastors and leaders met with Londonborn Viz-A-Viz Ministries International Director, Dennis Pethers, at Yokine Baptist Church in late July. The Advocate interviewed him before he headed to the eastern states to meet with more Aussie Christians.

#### You talk about the difference between contact and connection with people. Can you explain what you mean in the context of evangelism?

Mission acts into faith conversations. I see that living out our faith is different to sharing our faith. Lots of churches have stepped outside their doors, but there are few conversations that lead to faith in Jesus. Living it out is the key, it's not sharing about Jesus.

#### How do you think society sees Jesus?

In today's world people are very critical. They can see us but they don't have any idea what we have faith in. Most people don't know anything about King Jesus. He's not on their radar. I have people say to me, 'They must know about Him!' They don't. We somehow think it is possible that a migrant to our country might not know about Jesus, but not our workmates or neighbours. Surely they know. No, they don't.

#### How is the church dealing with this?

The way we do and understand church is not a good environment to become good faith sharers. It's

better understanding of God. The challenge is that many people are so conditioned that they think all we need to do is love extravagantly and care for people. We need more than that. We need conversations - we need to engage in life conversations of which our faith is a part.

#### The church is working hard to connect with their community.

Yes, but when you're doing acts of love like feeding the needy or poor, we need to talk about life with people, form a relationship. Out of sharing your life, your faith is something you naturally talk about. It's like an overflow of life filled with Jesus. It's what He's doing, that's the connecting point. What people want to know is how your faith is changing your life and how it's changing you as you face

#### How do you go about that?

I've done a great exercise with groups of people. In pairs, I ask them to talk with each other for ten minutes about this question: Why are you still a Christian? Christians will never have faith conversations with people outside the church until they have faith conversations with believers. We

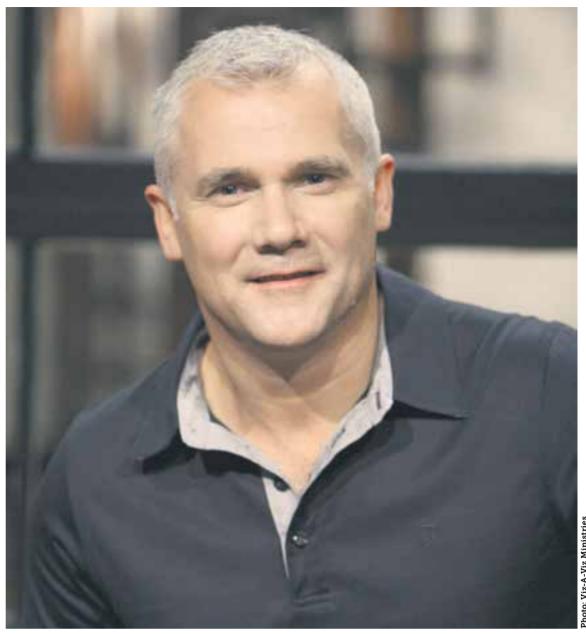
of occasions I have spoken on 'The Rooftop' theme at large conferences and then challenged those present to come to the front, imagine that the platform is a rooftop and stand, facing the gathering to look 'beyond the

everything that I see as a priority in ministry – we have to do things differently from now on if we are to reach the people in this city."

In Reno, Nevada leaders gathered at the top of a casino hotel and looked across a city where only four percent of the population has any religious affiliation. My most vivid memory was walking through the casino to get the elevator to the top. I looked at the

different places that represented so many needs it was as if God spoke to me. I felt I heard Him say "don't be proud that you welcome all who come through the doors of the church. My welcome should be extended out into the streets to all these people who will never come to your church".

After he shared this there was a spontaneous time of prayer as the group of around 25 people formed



outwards. I have then encouraged walls' of the building and imagine a picture of the community where they are from, and then to pray for a 'fresh vision of God's heart for

# Engaging in life's conversation

really passive; quite unrelated to most of our lives. People are not engaged and involved. Most of what we do is unrelated to daily life. I really like this question: How do the things that we do when we're gathered help us be effective when we're scattered? Most of what we ask people to do isn't actually related to their experience. We think of church as a community that equips us to share our faith. We need to make some changes to do that well.

#### For many people, evangelism remains a key purpose of the church.

We must stop thinking about evangelism as a presentation and more of a conversation to get a

have three elements: Encounter - it's encouraging church to ask a new question: 'God how do we see what you're doing and join in?': Engage - helping people connect; and Expand – makes disciples. This is not a guilt driven thing. Guilty and afraid are some of the most disempowering words.

#### How do we encourage believers in our faith gatherings to do the next step?

We've been working in churches across the United Kingdom and in 17 states of the USA for several years exploring some ideas and different ways. I believe it is about joining God in what He's already doing. We call it 'The Rooftop'. On a number the lost' in the place where He has called them to serve. The church needs to get on the rooftop and seek a vision of God's heart for the

#### Can you tell us about what that has meant for people?

I've stood with leaders and looked across huge cities, small towns and rural locations where hardly a house could be seen. On every occasion deep things have happened in the lives of those that have gathered. I remember being in Madison, Wisconsin, sitting at the side of the lake with a small group. From the lake, the whole city was in view and as we looked and prayed and discussed a pastor shared with me: "This has changed people who were pressing buttons and placing bets all with the hope that this might be their 'lucky' day. My heart broke for people who are addicted to something that will never satisfy and who know nothing of God's love!

In Virginia we went to the roof of a hotel that overlooked Virginia Beach. The following morning the group came back together to share their experiences of what had happened on the rooftop. One pastor shared, through tears, how God had clearly challenged him. "I had always prided myself on the fact that our church has a warm welcome for anybody that comes through the doors of our church. But as I stood on the roof and looked across the city, and saw the

into a circle that looked outwards. not inwards, and leaders opened their hearts to God and asked Him for a fresh vision of His heart for the lost in the communities where He has placed them.

In North Carolina we went to the top of a parking lot and I was struck by the story of a young man who shared his story of the time it took for him to come to Jesus. This story was shared with the group to remind us all that evangelism is not just about 'immediate' results. If we are to reach lost people then we need to invest time and effort.

#### So you're pretty convinced God is already working?

Yes, and I'm sure it's the same here in Australia.

# The myth of motivation

By John Maxwell

Contrary to popular opinion, leaders cannot give motivation to anyone. As leaders, we would be foolish, and somewhat arrogant, to think we possess the power to bestow motivation upon another person. Actually, a reservoir of motivation already resides inside every person we meet. The real challenge for leaders is to tap into and channel that pre-existing motivation.

To stir up the innate motivation in others, we must see through their eyes and feel through their emotions. As a leader, your goal isn't to provide people with the enthusiasm to act, but to discover the desires that naturally animate them. Over the course of an hour-long dinner conversation vou can almost always identify what makes another person tick by asking three simple questions.

- What makes you cry? That is, what burdens your spirit or weighs heavily on your heart?
- What makes you sing? What activities bring you joy?
- What do you dream of doing or becoming?

Having pinpointed their primary motivators, you can then more accurately respond to their needs, position their strengths, and encourage their hopes.

People have different motivations according to their unique individuality. Moreover, what motivates you as a leader will not necessarily energise your teammates. This means that leaders have to take a highly relational approach to people development that accounts for a diversity of aspirations and interests.

Finally, effective leadership is a never-ending task because change is continual. People's primary motivations evolve over time. Good leaders monitor the ever-changing motivations of their people and adjust

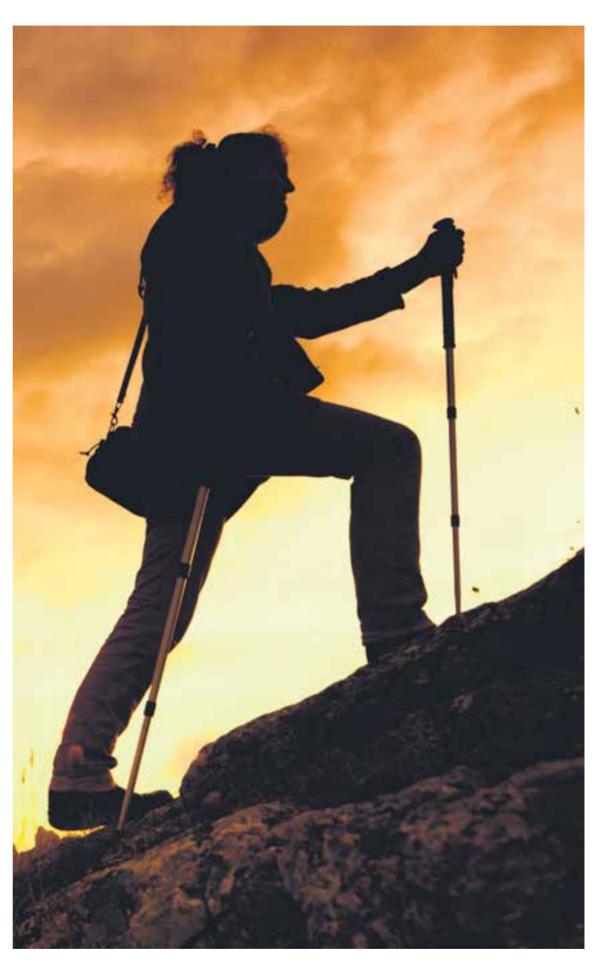
their style of management accordingly.

Fred Bucy, former President of Texas Instruments, makes this point compellingly:

'What is effective in motivating people at one point in their careers will not be effective in motivating them later. People's values change, depending on what is happening in their personal lives as well as their success with their careers. Therefore, one of the most important things that a leader must do is to continue to study how to be effective. This takes discipline. It is much easier to assume that what worked yesterday will work today, and this is simply not true.

People will opt out of your organisation unless you're actively engaged in determining their motivations and giving them opportunities to thrive.

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# Finding refreshment

Dallas Willard, philosopher, theologian and writer died earlier this year. He talked with Leadership Journal (November 2011) about Finding Refreshment.

It's hard to talk about spiritual refreshment without talking about peace. When you drink deeply from God and trust Him to act in your life, there is peace in your preaching and pastoral work.

Once, on my way to the podium to speak, I sensed the Lord saying to me: 'Remember, it's what I do with the word between your lips and in their hearts that matters'. That was a tremendous lesson. If we do not trust God to do that, then he will let us do what we're going to do, and it's not going to come to much. But once

we recognise that we are always inadequate, but our inadequacy is not the issue, we're able to lav that burden down. Then our satisfaction in Christ spills over into everything we do.

We often buy into a false model of success. We get the idea that we are supposed to make something happen, and so we need services to go 'just right'. The concluding benediction has hardly ceased before those in charge are asking each other. "How did it go?" We are not at peace when we try to manage outcomes that way. The

truth is we don't know how it went. From God's point of view, it will be eternity before we know how it

In John 8, when Jesus said to the woman caught in adultery, 'Go and sin no more', I don't think she felt, 'if I work hard, maybe I can do that'. She experienced Jesus' words as, 'That's really possible. I can do that'. That is one characteristic of preaching that comes from a peaceful, satisfied life.

Henri Nouwen said that the main obstacle to loving God is service for God. Service must

come out of Christ's strength and life, flowing through us, into receptive lives. Take an hour, sit in a comfortable place in silence, and do nothing but rest. If you go to sleep, that's okay. We have to stop trying too hard. We need to do this for our own peace, and as an example to those to whom we speak. There is a place for effort. but it must never take God's place with us. We need to make room for Him in our lives.

### events calendar

#### September

4 September Vose Seminary Open Day, 6313 6200

7 September Prayer Together at Como Baptist Church,

6313 6300

7 September Global Interaction Centenary Celebration,

Riverton Baptist Community Church,

9457 6135

13-14 September Fresh Leadership and Conference, Riverview

Church, Burswood, 6313 6300

27-30 September SportsFest, Leschenault Recreation Centre,

Australind, 6313 6300

#### October

25-26 October

12 October BCWA Annual Assembly, Yokine Baptist

Church, 9am to 12 noon, 6313 6300

21 October Evening with Sheridan Voysey, 'Resurrection

Year', Woodvale Baptist Church, 9409 2430

Global Leadership Summit, Riverview Church, Burswood, 6313 6300

26 October North Beach Baptist Church 50th Anniversary,

9448 7018

26-27 October Gnowangerup Baptist Church Centenary

Celebration, 9827 1040

#### **November**

2 November Friends of Global Interaction morning

tea, Riverton Baptist Community Church,

9457 6135

8-11 November Global Interaction – Just Prayer week,

6313 6300

10 November 'Women in Pastoral Ministry in Baptist

Churches in WA' presented by Karen Siggins, Baptist Historical Society AGM,

Como Baptist Church

25-28 November Leavers Week, Green Team in Dunsborough,

6313 6300





#### For more information

Baptist Churches WA: Michelle 6313 6300

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Do you have news that you would like to share with the rest of the West Australian church family?

Email your name, phone number and brief description to editor@ theadvocate.tv by the 5th of each month.

We would like to know about:

- Baptisms
- Birth
- Deaths
- Events
- Marriages
- News about your churchPastoral changes
- Your views (letters to the editor)

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**SEPTEMBER 2013** 

### browse

#### **Prayer Calendar**

www.persecution.com/ prayercalendar Martyrs is a non-profit the persecuted church

Many persecuted world have one primary request: "Please pray support the body of Christ through daily prayer for the persecuted Christian church, with the help of the Prayer Calendar app.



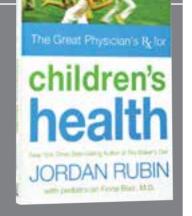
This free iOS or Android application will help focus your prayer requests and remind you to pray each day. It includes: 365 days of prayer requests, daily prayer alert alarm, restricted and hostile the ability to share prayers via Facebook, Twitter, and email. It is available for free in the iTunes App Store or the Google Play store.

### win

#### The Great Physician's Rx for Children's Health

by Jordan Rubin

guide for parents bewildered by one is on the way or maybe you're just trying to raise the healthiest



kids you can. No matter what your situation, The Great Physician's Rx for Children's Health will teach you how to give your children the best chance to stay away from type 2 diabetes, high cholesterol,

The Advocate in conjunction with Word Bookstore is giving you an opportunity to win The Great Physician's Rx for Children's Health. To be in the draw, simply answer the following question:

#### Question:

What is the name of the author of The Great Physician's Rx for Children's Health?

### competition

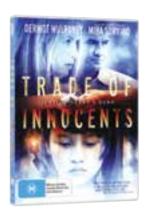
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Phone number:

Please complete this form with your details and post it to:

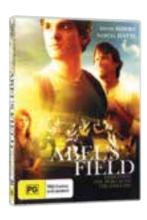
The Great Physician's RX for Children's Health Competition 11 East Parade East Perth WA 6004

### watch & listen



#### **Trade of Innocents**

Directed by Christopher Bessette This harrowing yet hopeful film highlights the sufferings of young girls from Southeast Asia caught up in the sordid and dangerous world of human trafficking. Dermot Mulroney (My Best Friend's Wedding) and Mira Sorvino (*Like Dandelion Dust*) play a married couple working to end this trade in human misery. A powerful story of struggle and redemption.



#### Abel's Field

Directed by Gordie Haakstad Left motherless by tragedy and abandoned by his father, high school senior Seth McArdle (Samuel Davis) has been put under enormous pressure to support his little sisters. At school, he endures the daily bullying of the football team. When he fights back, he's singled out for punishment, assigned to an after-school work detail under the supervision of a reserved groundskeeper, Abel (Kevin Sorbo). Much to his surprise, Seth discovers that Abel may be the only one who truly understands his struggles.

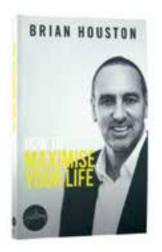


#### The Analog Sessions

By Shawn McDonald

Shawn McDonald continues to solidify himself as one of Christian music's most respected and soulful troubadours. McDonald entered the music scene in 2004 with Simply Nothing and has since released three studio recordings. For The Analog Sessions, McDonald selected nine cuts off previous albums (plus two new songs) to receive the 'analog treatment': recorded with full band live in the studio on fully restored analog tape machines and consoles with tonnes of vintage gear. The result is an album full of favourites with a warm and organic sound.

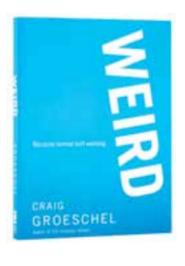
### read



#### How to Maximise Your Life

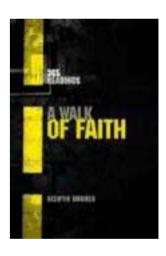
By Brian Houston

How to Maximise Your Life is a complied and revised edition of 'the maximised life series' by Brian Houston, First published as five separate books, this complete collection brings together several Biblical truths for living with purpose, building intimate and meaningful relationships, and finding the balance to healthy living and wholeness. You were not only born with divine purpose and destiny, but you were also called to live it abundantly. This book is about living your 'maximised life' today.



#### Weird

By Craig Groeschel Normal people are stressed, overwhelmed, and exhausted. Many of their relationships are, at best, strained and in most cases, just surviving. Even though we live in one of the most prosperous places on earth, normal living is still living from pay cheque to pay cheque and never getting ahead. And when it comes to God, the majority believe in Him, but the teachings of scripture rarely make it into their everyday lives. Simply put, normal isn't working. Groeschel's 'weird' views will help you break free from the norm to lead a radically abnormal (and endlessly more fulfilling) life.



#### A Walk of Faith: A Men's One Year Devotional

By Selwyn Hughes

Meet the challenges of living by faith. The walk of faith will stretch you to the limit. It requires levels of courage, strength and wisdom that only God can provide. These undated, daily Bible reading notes are especially selected to equip men for the challenges of walking with God. Selwyn Hughes applies his scriptural insight and draws on his long experience to 'enhance your readiness to reign with Christ at His return'.

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# Partners on the right track

Graeme Watson, Athletics Coach at Carey Baptist College, has an inspiring ability to build partnerships that connect people and cultures, promoting community, health and purpose.

In 2010, on a brief stopover in San Francisco, Graeme met Stanford University Track Coach, Kyle White, and learnt all he could to help him excel as the coach at school and the Carey Canning Athletics squad.

Graeme saw significant needs to help the athletes develop as people, not simply athletes.

"I wanted to help the kids learn to give back, to share and support others," Graeme said. "We started connecting with the acclaimed Indigenous coach, Jack Whitby, in Geraldton, to collaborate in creating a suitable program for local youth."

While the relationships and program was taking shape, Graeme took a team of Carey's athletes and rising star from the Murchison, Nickiesha Hodder, to Stanford University's 'Camp of Champions' in July 2012.

Run by Stanford athletic staff and visiting elite coaches, the Camp has a strong international reputation for enabling the transformation of talented young athletes into 'world-class performers'.

All disciplines including throws, jumps, sprints, hurdles and middle distance were on offer at the Camp. Each of the Carey squad specialised in their

"This enabled them not only to focus on their own improvement, but it prepared



Carey Baptist College athletes are gaining more than athletic skills from training with coach Graeme Watson.

them for October last year when some of these students went to Geraldton to run their own track and field camp for rural, remote and Indigenous teenagers and passed on their knowledge to the Murchison student athletes," Graeme said.

As well as finetuning technique and skills, Graeme hopes a bond will be fostered and maintained that encourages the promising rural athletes

to feel more at ease when travelling to the city to take part in competition and training events

"It also assists our athletic students in fostering community spirit, learning mentoring skills and understanding what motivates and inspires," Graeme said.

Working with generous supporters Matt and Jules Izett, Graeme plans to launch the not-

for-profit Right Track Foundation in October.

"Our aims are to build bridges between country and city, between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, to help teenagers reach their potential and to provide them with opportunities to learn and serve," Graeme said. "We're still looking for partners to work with us. One goal is to provide a scholarship for a Murchison student to study at Carey."

Later in October, Coach Kyle White from Stanford is coming to Perth and will travel with the Carey athletes to conduct coaching clinics in the Murchison area.

"I see God's favour all over this whole project," Graeme said. "I don't know how far it will all go as we forge broader connections in towns and communities out from Geraldton."



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