

CHURCH OF HOPE

NEWSLETTER No 10.

SPRING 2005

EVANGELISM CENTRE (Mobilising the Army)



THE HARVEST TRULY IS PLENTIFUL

“Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest.”

DEVELOPING MATURE DISCIPLES

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-12)

Church of Hope has a real heart to invest in the lives of all who attend our Centre, and who meet on the steps of Flinders street each Friday night. On Monday night we have leadership training classes and on Wednesdays discipleship classes. Christian TV programs are also used to disciple those who attend our Centre.

To further equip those attending our Centre, we have commenced a Sunday afternoon Church meeting where we invest in the lives of a core group of people who want to grow in their faith. This Sunday meeting commences with worship followed by a short message. We then break up into small groups where we can get all people involved in discussing the teaching topic for the day.

We have so far had teachings on topics such as the importance of forgiveness, how to overcome rejection, practical keys to building a strong faith in Christ and the importance of being obedient in our Christian walk. Every Saturday night we also preach gospel messages.

HELPING CHRISTIANS TO EVANGELISE

Church of Hope has a heart to see the streets of Melbourne evangelised and to see all new converts planted in a local church. Over the years we have also helped to encourage Christians from many other churches to become active in the area of evangelism. We believe in the importance of “*edifying the Body of Christ*” ... “*in which every part does its share, causing growth in the body for the edifying of itself in love*” (Ephesians 3:12, 16)

Church of Hope encourages all Christians to be equipped in the area of evangelism. Every Saturday afternoon we hold an evangelism class and practical outreach between 2.00 pm and 5.00 pm. It is hoped that we may be able to assist some local churches in helping them to pioneer some local community outreaches. Every Friday night we hold several outreaches which are open to all Christians. For more details, please call Conrad on mobile 0413 483 858.

CENTRE HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Saturday night meetings are now attracting consistently between 50 to 60 people
- ◆ Mid-Week teachings and studies are drawing 12 to 15 people
- ◆ New Sunday (Small Group Focus) Church Meeting has now been running for 2 months
- ◆ Friday night outreaches are now growing. (Many people being saved) People from many other churches are now also joining our Friday night outreaches
- ◆ Just on 100 people have now been born again in our Centre since it opened on 1 June 2004

CENTRE WORSHIP TIMES

Monday Nights	4.30 pm to 7.00 pm
Wednesday Nights	5.00 pm to 7.00 pm
Thursday Nights	5.00 pm to 7.00 pm
Saturday Nights	6.00 pm to 9.00 pm

(Come and go as you like)

ALL WELCOME

Free Tea and Coffee (Enjoy a time of fellowship)

CHURCH OF HOPE OUTREACH VISION

- To be a church which will *evangelise* the streets of Melbourne with a message of hope
- To be a church which helps to *equip* the wider body of Christ in evangelism
- To encourage Inter-church outreaches in the streets of Melbourne
- To see all new Christians directed to local church fellowships
- To Shepherd and help people to grow in their Christian walk
- To evangelise Country Towns and to equip the local churches
- To encourage all Christians and local churches to evangelise the lost
- To have weekly Saturday night revival meetings for all Christians
- To provide a place where people can have fellowship and a sense of belonging.
- To practically demonstrate the love of God to the poor and needy

“He who wins souls is wise” (Proverbs 11:30)

CHURCH OF HOPE CARE MINISTRY VISION

- To demonstrate in a practical way the love of God by providing food parcels and food vouchers to the poor.
- To assist in providing temporary accommodation for the homeless and blankets and clothing to those who are in need.
- To provide practical assistance to other disadvantaged people who live in the low cost accommodation hostels and high rise flats throughout Melbourne.
- To minister to those in prisons in a *practical way* to support other evangelism initiatives.
- This organisation will work together with other welfare, aid agencies and support groups to help the marginalized community.

“Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter, when you see the naked, to clothe him.” (Isaiah 58:7 NIV)



HOUSE OF WORSHIP Worship is a key part of our Centre's activities. Many have enjoyed the Worship and fellowship at our Centre on Saturday nights. We now also have times of worship every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings between 4.30 and 7.00 pm. **ALL CHRISTIANS ARE WELCOME.**

THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” (Rom. 1:16)

As believers we should always be available to share our faith as God gives us opportunity. In a world which is struggling with many social and relationship problems, we have a message of hope for everyone.

It is however so easy to get caught up with the cares of this world that we can forget how temporal this life is and how permanent eternity is. It is also sometimes easy to forget that many people are on the threshold of a Christless eternity if they do not give their lives to Jesus Christ. TRACTS are a great way of sharing your faith with those that you may sit next to on the train, or with work colleagues.

The more we meditate on the gospel message of salvation and forgiveness and eternal life, the more we will want to share this message of hope that we have as Christians. Evangelism should be a lifestyle rather than a series of programs or initiatives.

I have continually meditated on the gospel message since becoming a Christian 14 years ago and have experienced the joy of leading people to Christ, and seeing them grow in their faith. I have a real heart to see ***all Christians*** having the joy of leading people to Christ. The Bible says “He who wins souls is wise” For this reason I have included a gospel message and scriptures in this newsletter to help encourage all Christians to share their faith with others. **We must also not allow the fear of man to stop us from sharing our faith with others.**



THE NEXT GENERATION Many of the street people now attend our Centre regularly. Our church has a heart to share our love for Jesus with the disadvantaged youth of this City. Part of this love is expressed in meeting their practical needs.

CHURCH OF HOPE INC.

INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION NO: A0044845W

ABN: 12 198 982 157

BANK DETAILS:

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

BSB: 06 - 3001 **ACCOUNT No:** 10259368

CHURCH OF HOPE CARE INC.

INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION NO: A0045695J

ABN: 83 786 787 963

BANK DETAILS: (Donations are tax deductible)

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

BSB: 06 - 3001 **ACCOUNT No:** 10276053

REGISTERED ADDRESS (Both Ministries):

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POSTAL ADDRESS(Both Ministries):

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CONTACTS: Conrad Fenton (03) 9735 5015
Michael Zombos (03) 9311 0279

CHURCH OF HOPE CARE UPDATE

We have now set up a room within the Centre for the processing of clothing parcels. Many bags of clothing have already been donated to our Centre. This clothing is given to the needy throughout the week. We now provide meals four nights a week. We are still praying for someone to man a discipleship house for the homeless.

THE SIMPLE GOSPEL MESSAGE

Whilst many Christians have a real love for God and want to share their faith, they find it hard to communicate the gospel message to others. We are all assigned mission fields in which we work and associate with others. We need to always be prepared to share the hope that we have in Christ.

The following gospel presentation is to help Christians to communicate the gospel more clearly. A number of key scriptures are attached to help present the gospel to others.

- **WE ALL SIN** (Rom. 3:23, Rom. 3:10a -12, Ps 130:3)
- **SIN SEPARATES US FROM GOD**
- **GOD WANTS TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH EVERYONE** (John 3:16, Luke 15:7)
- **THE BIBLE SAYS THAT THE SOUL WHO SINS SHALL SURELY DIE AND THAT THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS** (Ezek. 18:20a)
- **JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS (IN OUR PLACE) TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR ALL OUR SINS** (Rom. 5:6-9)
- **THEREFORE ONLY JESUS CAN FORGIVE OUR SINS AND GIVE US ETERNAL LIFE** (Acts 4:12, John 3:3, John 14:6, John 10:9, John 3:36)
- **BOTH HEAVEN AND HELL ARE A REALITY**
- **GOD HAS NO PLEASURE IN THE DEATH OF THE WICKED.** (Ezek. 33:11a,b, John 3:17)
- **HOWEVER, EVERYONE MUST CHOOSE TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE AND BE BORN AGAIN HERE ONE EARTH BY:**
 - i) confessing their sins, (1 John 1:9)
 - ii) turning from their sins **TO** God, (Acts 3:19)
 - iii) acknowledging that Jesus is the resurrected Son of God who died for our sins, (Romans 10:9-10)

AND

 - iv) making a personal commitment to receive Jesus Christ into their heart to be their Lord and Saviour (John 1: 12).
- **GOD HAS THE BEST AND MOST FULFILLING PLAN FOR EVERY PERSON'S LIFE.** (Jer. 29:11)
- **BY RECEIVING JESUS CHRIST AS OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR, OUR SIN IS EXCHANGED FOR HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS AND WE RECEIVE THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE.** (2 Corinthians 5:21)

OUR LOVE FOR PEOPLE: A KEY TO LEADING PEOPLE TO CHRIST

Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My Disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

Jesus also said, "Salt is good, but if the salt loses its flavour, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another." (Mark 9:50) and "let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

In our workplaces and amongst our relatives, family and friends, it will more often be our attitudes and lifestyle which will have the greatest bearing on leading them to Christ. As Christians we are often under the microscope as non-Christians look to observe if there is anything different about our lives.

George Bush was heard to have said that it was not so much what Billy Graham said to him, but his Godly and gracious character that persuaded him to give his life to Christ. It was the fruit of the Spirit in Billy Graham's own life which was the greatest message that he preached to George Bush. He was an example of the gospel message.

As we spend time in God's presence, and seek to walk in love, obedience and humility, we will grow in the fruits of the Spirit and our light will shine brightly in our workplaces. We will then have the credibility as God leads to share the message of hope that has changed our lives. We need to be living epistles of Christ.

THE POWER OF PRAYER AND UNITY

"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place." "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting ... And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 2:1,2 &4)

The day of Pentecost came following a time of prayer and unity as they all prayed with one accord, (Having one mind and one purpose) It is now crucial for all churches to pray for one another and to pray for unity. At the moment there are multitudes in the valley of decision.

Every Friday and Saturday night both in Melbourne and the suburbs there is a whole generation of youth who have had no Christian heritage and are going down a path which is headed to a Christless eternity. All Christians must now seek the face of God and go into the highways and byways and share the gospel with those who are lost.

If youth groups could be mobilised, church small groups mobilised, many people would begin to be exposed to the life changing message of the gospel. We need to pray for revival in the church, in our own hearts and obey Jesus' command to go into all the world, (beginning in our workplaces and this city) and make disciples of all nations.

CENTRE EVENTS / TIMES:

OPEN FOR GENERAL FELLOWSHIP

- Monday 1 to 5 pm (FREE Tea and Coffee)
- Wednesday 5 pm to 8 pm (FREE Tea and Coffee)
- Friday 4 pm to 6 pm (Flinders St Station outreach 6.30 pm)

LEADERSHIP CLASSES

- Mondays 5 pm to 6 pm incl. free meal (Worship to 8 pm)

LADIES TEACHING NIGHT

- Third Tuesday each month 6.00 to 8.00 pm (includes FREE Supper and time of Worship)

DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

- Wednesday 6 to 8 pm includes FREE Supper

FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

- Thursday Night 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm (inc. FREE meal)

EVANGELISM CLASSES / OUTREACHES

- Saturday 2 to 2.30 pm (Short Teaching / Worship)
- Saturday 2.30 to 5 pm (Outreach Activities)
- Saturday 5 to 6 pm (Teachings: The simple Gospel message)

SATURDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

- Food / Fellowship / Friendship 6 pm to 9 pm

(ALL WELCOME)

SUNDAY SERVICE (Worship/Message/Small groups)

- Tea / Coffee / Afternoon Tea provided 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm

