

NOTES:



Newsletter



News

ABOUT OUR CHURCH:

MEETING TIMES:

Sunday Morning:

Worship & Meeting: 9:30 am to 11:00 am

Mighty Kid's Church: Sunday morning 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Mid-week Bible Study / Fellowship Meetings:

Thornlands - fortnightly Tuesday evenings 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Alexandra Hills & Birkdale - weekly Wednesday evenings from 7:30 pm

ONLINE GIVING: Ormiston Christian Faith Church (thanks for your support!)

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Ormiston Christian Faith Church

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- **This morning** we welcome the representatives from the School Chaplaincy program, who will be giving a special presentation on their ministry at schools across the Redlands. This will involve a slide show and discussion on how we can support the program with our prayers! As mentioned in previous newsletters, the School Chaplaincy “road show” will be visiting many churches in the Redlands to celebrate 20 years of chaplaincy, this is quite a milestone. The Chaplaincy team are looking forward to meeting all of the wonderful Christian men and women of the Redlands who have supported them in prayer, financially or by volunteering and want to present the vision to the churches to inspire people with stories of God's work in our local schools.
- **Please continue to pray for Rachael Farrell** who visited us some years ago with the Timothy 2 evangelistic group from the USA. As mentioned last week Rachael feels that the Lord is calling her to come back to Australia, and she has a desire to get involved in youth ministry. I received an email from her this week and she was really blessed that the church took the time to pray for her and she is just raising the money for the visa and travel expenses.
- Last week **Pastor Peter Sutcliffe** preached a powerful message that was very well received by the church, and I've already had requests via email for copies of the DVD. The DVD should be available in a couple of weeks for those who would like to order it.
- A **new message series** entitled “God's Got Something Special For You!” will be coming soon to Ormiston CFC. Jesus never spoke of His followers in a way that indicated they would be powerless and ineffective in the work of the Kingdom— in fact quite the opposite. Why is it, then, that much of the church today is unable to demonstrate God's power in a way that brings freedom and transformation? Come along and find out how you can unlock the hidden potential and access the spiritual power in your life and start to live the way that God designed you for. This is going to be BIG!

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God working through us!

A few years ago I heard a message from a prominent evangelist that indicated three stages of development in the life of a believer. The first stage was when God made Himself real **TO US**, it was when God was outside our lives making an impression on us that led to our knowing Him through Jesus. The second stage, according to the speaker, was God moving **IN US** by His Holy Spirit. It was the stage where we learn to know the voice of the Spirit, and grow in our relationship and understanding as we learn God's ways. The third stage was God moving **THROUGH US** to touch the lives of other people. This always made sense to me, and I have always remembered it as it represents a logical progression in a person's walk and relationship with God.



The sad thing about this model is that I realised many people stop at either the first or second stages. Some people come to the point where God wants to draw them into relationship—drawn by the Spirit—only to reject God. Others receive Jesus into their lives and learn His ways but never move beyond the learning and relationship stage to touch the lives of others.

Late last week I felt God directing my thoughts towards this subject, and more specifically about the gifts and power that God has bestowed on His people, and how these often lie hidden or buried within people's lives and never see the light of day.

Surely our goal as believers is to be about the Father's business? When Jesus was only thirteen he was visiting Jerusalem with his family and missed the trip home. After a day on the road when they couldn't find him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him, and three days later they found him in the temple with the teachers talking with them and asking questions, and listening. The scripture says that all that heard his questions and answers were amazed at his understanding. When Mary finally confronted Jesus he simply said to her *"Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"* (Luke 2:49)

My thoughts are that sometimes we can be so involved with the journey we're on that we can forget the reason we're on that journey in the first place. It's great to be on this amazing journey of knowing God and learning about the glory of His work in us, but we should never neglect the important role God has called us to, and that is proclaiming the gospel (good news) of the Kingdom in truth and power.

It's like the Apostle Paul said: *"For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience--by word and deed, by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God--so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ."* (Romans 15:18-19)

GOD'S GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR YOU

NEW SERIES COMING SOON

New Series Coming Soon . . .

This series will look at how to unlock the awesome potential that is locked away inside you! For many believers these great gifts never see the light of day . . . But through His Spirit God wants to release you into a greater dimension of power and authority!

A Few Thoughts on What We Do in Church

Why do we spend so much time in worship?

"Oh come, and let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." (Psalm 95:6) "Bless the Lord, I say to myself; and all that is within me, bless His holy name!" (Psalm 103:1) Worship is the natural response of those who are thankful for all they've received. God is kind, loving and good!

How should I worship God?

"The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the father is seeking such to worship Him. God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth." (John 4:23-24) We are spiritual people, so we worship God in a spiritual way — spontaneously!

Why do we raise our hands?

"This is how I will bless you while I live: I will lift up my hands in your name." (Psalm 63:4) "So I desire that believers pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, free from doubt and anger." (1 Timothy 2:8) The raising of both hands is also a universally accepted sign of surrender.

Why do we clap our hands?

"Clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph! (Psalm 47:1)

Why do we lay hands on the sick?

Jesus said, "They shall lay hands on the sick, and the sick shall recover." (Mark 16:18) "Is any sick among you? Let that person call for the elders of the church, and let them pray, anointing the person with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord will raise him up." (James 5:14-15) There's more than empathy in a Christian's touch: there's healing from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus is worth getting excited about!