

**Let All The World In Every Corner Sing – 'My God And King'**

**GLOBAL DAY OF WORSHIP 11-11-11**

**11-11-11 (11 NOVEMBER 2011)** is the date set for the Global Day of Worship. Beginning at 7pm at the International Date Line, worshippers from across all 24 time zones are invited to share their unique expressions of praise via the internet. Everyone is encouraged to worship from 7-8pm local time. For more information visit: [www.globaldayofworship.com](http://www.globaldayofworship.com)

The Global Day of Worship aims to bring together worshippers of Jesus Christ from various churches, denominations, organisations and geographic locations with a common vision to see Jesus lifted up and celebrated around the world.

**The VISION**

The Global Day of Worship strives to unify the Body of Christ while embracing and celebrating our differences in expressions of worship. Through a unified celebration and adoration of the name of Jesus, the world will see that we are His disciples because of our love.

In 1 Corinthians 12.12, Paul speaks of having many parts yet one body. In a body there are many parts for multiple functions with varying levels of visibility and importance, yet all are essential to the life of that body. Likewise, in the global body of Christ, we also are many parts but under the headship of Jesus.

The Global Day of Worship seeks to gather and unite the global Church under one banner of love for Jesus Christ, to go beyond the limitations of denominations, organisations, cultures, nations, languages and geography.

**Fresh Focus Of 'War To End All Wars'**

11 November is remembered as the end of World War I – 'the war to end all wars'. On this day, Christians can focus on Jesus, Victor over sin and death because He gave His life for us so that we may all have everlasting freedom as we receive new life in Him.

*These youngsters are getting ready for Global Day Of Worship – will you and your church join them?*



**A Wave Of Worship**

Like the coming of New Year, for one hour in each time zone (7-8pm), a wave of worship and adoration across the nations will unite Christians as one body. Utilising all 24 time zones, we will agree with and join the 24 elders, spoken of in Revelation 4, who are already worshipping Jesus around the Throne. When the worship of Heaven meets the worship of Earth the spiritual climates of nations will shift as we serve faithfully here and now in preparation for His return.

**On The World Wide Web**

The Internet will serve as our connection in worship. In each time zone, live venues ranging from small house gatherings of families to larger events will be streamed. This will be a movement of worship and adoration of Jesus that brings hope, unity and His Kingdom on Earth. We can worship Jesus through reflective expressions of love or loud, joyful celebration. We can sing hymns and choruses or engage in free-flowing passionate worship.

**One Focus: Lift Up The Name Of Jesus**

Our heart is to build bridges of love, honour and appreciation for different expressions and cultures of worship, focussing on Jesus in various expressions, without judgment.

**Mark your calendar now for the Second Annual Global Day Of Worship on 12 December 2012.**

## How Can YOU Help *New Life*?

- ◆ Keep us in your prayers.
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- ◆ Make a donation as you feel led.
- ◆ Check out our website (nlife.com.au)

## FROM THE EDITOR

### CHOGM – The Queen Stole The Show ... But The Leaders Dropped The Ball

NO prizes for guessing which CHOGs persuaded the recent Commonwealth Heads Of Government Meeting to shelve the proposal of the 'Eminent Persons Group' for a Commonwealth Human Rights and Democracy Commissioner, opting instead for drawing up a charter and thereby consigning the issue to the 'Under-Active-Consideration' basket. Certain Commonwealth countries, most notably those on the Sub-Continent, are notorious for their inaction on human rights abuses, especially the persecution, torture and martyrdom of Christians.

It appears that Australia might be too preoccupied with trying to garner enough votes to gain a seat on the United Nations Security Council to risk giving offence to possible supporters from within the Commonwealth by pressing too hard on the human rights issue.

If so, our leaders have descended into disgraceful compromise. Not that they are alone in that. With the exception of the recent passing in the House of Representatives of a motion of support for Egypt's Christians, there has been a deafening silence from governments all around the world on the persecution of Christians in countries throughout the Middle East, North Africa, the Sub-Continent, North and South East Asia as well as many former Communist countries.

And all this in the face of massive military and welfare aid given to these very countries by the likes of the USA, the UK and Australia. It's not that we're against the giving of aid, especially to help out in disaster-stricken countries; it's just that we'd like the cat to give them back their tongue when it comes to speaking up for the persecuted.

This is not just a matter of one religion striving against another. We live in the 21st Century, not in the Middle Ages or the Ancient World, and this is a humanitarian and social justice issue. It is not just unacceptable; it is beyond the pale – it is not open to any religion which cannot stand in the marketplace of ideas to thrust itself onto others by force and violence.

Any government which believes itself to be an expression of civilisation must condemn religious persecution and make every endeavour to stamp it out. To this end it would help if the Church spoke with a more forceful voice. If the silence of the nations is deafening, the silence of the Church is an offence against God and man. In particular it is pathetic to see denominations which so loudly profess an interest in 'social justice' cosying up to the very religions which most violently persecute Christians but failing to stand behind the likes of Patrick Sookhdeo and Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali.

The appointment of a Commonwealth Human Rights Commissioner would not have been a cure-all for the abolition of persecution but it would have been a step along the way. Just as the fight for the abolition of slavery in the 18th Century needed a Wilberforce backed by a Newton, the fight for the abolition of this 21st Century scourge of humanity needs Christians who will 'quit (themselves) like men', confront the persecutors with the enormity of their crimes against their fellow men, convince those who let them get away with it of the need to act decisively, and open the eyes of those who prefer blissful ignorance to facing reality. For all the while, these special saints are crying out: 'How long, O Lord, how long?'

– Bob Thomas

# Egypt: Islam, Dhimmitude & The Maspero Massacre

ISLAM is a political religion that aims to achieve dominance – demographically or through military or political conquest – so that Muslims might rule and Sharia (Islamic Law/the law of Allah) might be applied.

Where Islam is dominant, atheists and polytheists have two choices: convert to Islam or die. Jews and Christians (the People of the Book), however, have a third choice: dhimmitude – they may pay for their 'protection' (ie their right to life) with 'jizya' ('tax': religiously sanctioned extortion) and by submitting to total subjugation and abject humiliation (Sura 9.29 <http://quran.com/9/29>). This state of subjugation is one of immense insecurity, vulnerability, perpetual anxiety and psychological trauma.

The people subjugated are known as dhimmi (singular) and dhimma (plural). The agreement between Muslims and the dhimma is known as the dhimma pact. If the dhimma pact is violated, then 'protection' ends and jihad resumes.

Europe's rise and Islam's decline – commencing in the late 17th Century and culminating in defeat for Islamic forces in the 20th Century's two world wars – saw dhimmitude wane. Today, however, Islam is back and so too is dhimmitude – and nowhere is this more evident than in Egypt.

On 30 September thousands of Muslims went on a pogrom in Elmarinab village in Egypt's Aswan Province after being incited in their mosques during Friday prayers. The military watched on without intervening while the Muslims destroyed St George's Church and other properties owned by Coptic Christians. State-run media subsequently whitewashed the incident. (The Copts are the indigenous people of Egypt, the true descendants of the Pharaohs. They have been Christian for 2000 years.) The Muslim pogrom was launched in response to church renovations. Though the Christians had legal permission to repair their dangerously dilapidated church, church repair is nevertheless something clearly prohibited by the dhimma pact, for the Christians must be seen to be humiliated.

On Sunday 9 October Christians, along with numerous sympathetic Muslims, peacefully protested outside Cairo's Maspero building, the home of Egyptian state television and radio. They were calling for an end to religious discrimination, but to demand equity and justice instead of accepting subjugation and humiliation is to rebel against the dhimma pact.

This time the reprisal came first and foremost from the Egyptian military. As violence escalated outside Maspero, state media falsely reported that armed Coptic protesters had attacked the military, killing three soldiers, and issued an appeal for loyal Muslims to rise up to defend their military. Thousands of angry Muslims responded. So that the truth could not be reported the military attacked the studios of al-Hurra ('The Free One') TV, targeting Christian reporters and forcing its closure.

The Maspero Massacre left 26 dead and more than 300 wounded. Eye witnesses have testified that soldiers and police chased, shot and beat Christians while abusing them as 'infidels' and 'sons of dogs'. Whilst the state media did apologise for its false report (blaming a 'nervous reporter') the military publicly denied they had killed any Christians, despite volumes of video and mobile phone footage showing armoured vehicles running down Christians and crushing them amidst cries of 'Allahu Akbar' ('Allah is great'). A 27th Christian protester died on 16 October from the injuries he received the previous Sunday.

The ruling Supreme Council of the Armed Forces has taken control of the investigation. SCAF will doubtless call for 'reconciliation' whereby the military makes peace with the Christians in exchange for the Christians dropping all charges. Such 'reconciliation' appeases the short-sighted, 'can't-be-bothered' West and satisfies Egypt's Islamists because the dhimma pact prohibits Christians testifying against Muslims.

The rise of intolerant Islam, the return of dhimmitude and the guarantee of impunity for acts of violent persecution bode ill for Egypt's Christians.

### **Please Pray Specifically That God Will:**

- comfort those who mourn and bring peace to those who fear by confirming His presence and everlasting love, wielding His right arm of justice. 'Be strong; fear not! Behold your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.' (Isaiah 35.4 ESV)
- draw Egyptians to look beyond all idols to the Living God; may the LORD make Himself known to the Egyptians (Isaiah 19).
- awaken all who support human rights worldwide to the reality of religious apartheid and the gross affront of dhimmitude to universal human rights; may a cry go out around the world against it.

– Elizabeth Kendal, for Aust Evangelical Alliance  
Religious Liberty Commission

## SOLIDARITY

### Australia Rallies For Egypt's Coptic Christians

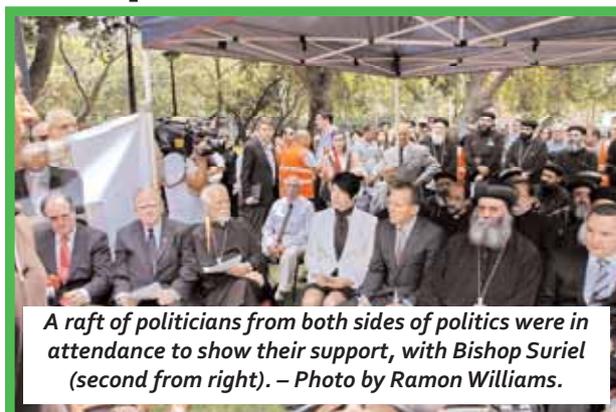
ON 23 October, thousands of Sydney's Coptic Community gathered in a show of solidarity following the callous massacre of 25 Coptic Christian protesters by the Egyptian Military and armed 'thugs' in Maspero, Egypt.

His Grace Bishop Suriel addressed the crowd challenging the leaders of the Egyptian caretaker government to 'be men' and put an end to the ongoing persecution and discrimination of Christians.

A raft of politicians from both sides of politics were in attendance to show their support, along with other clergy and church leaders from various denominations.

Immigration Minister Chris Bowen extended the government's condolences to the Coptic community. 'We stand with you ... we share your grief, your concerns,' Mr Bowen said. 'The routing of tyranny and dictatorships in the Middle East had all too often been followed by violence and despair. Today we say: "Let Egypt be different. Let Egypt shine the way forward for other countries in the Middle East. Let Egypt be a nation which gives all members of its community the right to live in freedom, regardless of their religion, regardless of their beliefs".'

Federal Member Craig Kelly read an excerpt of his speech to the House of Representatives follow-



*A raft of politicians from both sides of politics were in attendance to show their support, with Bishop Suriel (second from right). – Photo by Ramon Williams.*

ing the unanimous passing of his private member's bill regarding the persecuted Copts of Egypt. A motion mirroring the same terms as Mr Kelly's motion was also passed unanimously in the NSW State Parliament after being introduced into the NSW Legislative Council by the Rev Hon Fred Nile.

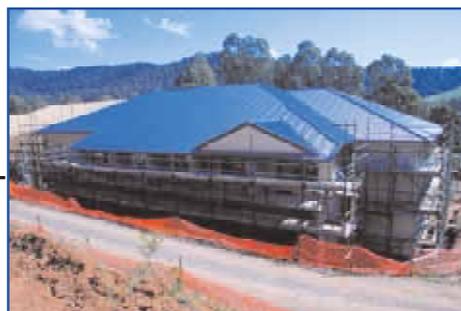
The Australian Coptic Movement thanks all who 'stood up for Egypt's Copts' in a united stand of solidarity. The ACM will monitor the Australian Government to ensure it implements the actions set out in the motions passed. The ACM will also continue to lobby both Australian and international bodies for the change that Egypt's indigenous Coptic Christians desperately have been waiting (and dying) for.



## THE ROOF IS ON!

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0414 864 329 or 0414 564 309

## MEET ...

### Ida Maree – Launching Debut Album At SpencersLive

IDA Maree next month launches her debut album *Saving Grace* at one of Melbourne's leading live music venues, SpencersLive. The popular Australian ballad singer and worship leader recently secured national airplay on Christian radio with her new song *Butterfly*.

She previously garnered broad music industry experience performing with Daryl Braithwaite, Reba McEntire, and The Stylistics in concert, and on national TV shows like *Hey Hey It's Saturday*, *Good Morning Australia* and *In Melbourne Tonight*.

Asked why she's just now releasing her debut album she smiles and says that she couldn't write before, because she 'didn't have anything to say'. Now she has.

'Just as caterpillars go through a miraculous transformation to become butterflies, there's no set time for them to emerge from the chrysalis. It can take several weeks in summer, or several months in winter,' Ida says. 'My winter was a lengthy process dealing with personal doubts and insecurities, busyness, being a mum, working as a singing teacher, and finding the right producer. It wasn't easy.'

Recording *Saving Grace* has helped create a new focus for Ida's career. 'Ministry is the number one priority,' she says. 'It's not about me anymore. It's about the journey I'm on, and the people travelling with me.'



Music journalist Wes Jay says the wonder of Ida's performance lies not only in the way she captures people's hearts with her songs, but her powerful voice and the way she uses it. 'Listening to her songs is like getting an in-depth look at the person behind the persona,' he says.

Ida Maree launches *Saving Grace* at Spencers Live, Melbourne on Thursday 10 November at 8.30pm.

The launch features a live performance of several songs from the album with a band directed by record producer and Grammy nominee, Phil Turcio. More details: [www.idamaree.com](http://www.idamaree.com)

### Pray For Libya's Christians

PRAYER is requested for a small fellowship of Libyan converts who were meeting in Benghazi. Nothing has been heard from them since late July. Also remember two converts in Tripoli who continue to have contact with Christians in Egypt and Tunisia. The Islamic extremist faction which led the revolutionary takeover of Tripoli has vowed to impose Shari'a law on the whole of Libya. – MERF via *Banner Of Truth*

**Only a minute to read, but food for thought  
for the whole day!**

**Short devotional blogs at:  
[www.barbarafurman.com](http://www.barbarafurman.com)**

### ODD SPOT:

#### Germany's Autobahn Churches: 'Filling Stations' For The Soul

GERMANS are famous for their love of fast cars. But for those needing a little respite from the country's high-speed highways, autobahn churches offer a unique brand of peace and sanctuary for the modern traveller. 'We seek to care for our guests fully – not just for their cars, but also for their body, soul and spirit,' said Anna Isabell Strohofer, whose parents opened the ecumenical *Light On Our Path Church* ten years ago at the family-run Strohofer service station close to Nuremberg in southern Germany. – ENI

### COULD YOU MAKE A DONATION TO NEW LIFE?

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## VIEWPOINT

# Should We Use *The Quran* In Witnessing To Muslims?

USING the *Quran* as a 'witnessing tool' among Muslims in order to answer objections to the validity of the Bible and to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ is a contentious issue, a 'hot topic' among Christians, that generates much 'heat'!

Those involved in witness to Muslims tend to gravitate toward one of three major positions in regard to the use of the *Quran* in their ministry:

1. That the *Quran* is the work of the devil and therefore any use of Quranic texts in ministry to Muslims is an absolute anathema!
2. The opposite extreme is to use the *Quran* pragmatically, using its texts exclusively in Muslim ministry; an example being the 'Camel method' (Kevin Greeson, *The Camel: How Muslims Are Coming To Faith In Christ!* Wigtake Resources, LLC, 2007) which is a classic example of deceitful exegesis and faulty exposition of the Quranic text.
3. An eirenic approach to Muslim evangelism, using both the *Quran* and the *Bible* as equally authoritative in their Muslim witness; a method used extensively by the late Fouad Elias Accad (*Building Bridges: Christianity And Islam*, Fouad Elias Accad, Navpress, 1997).

Apart from these three groups there is the mass of ordinary believers who, though not wishing to use the Quranic text exclusively, wonder if perhaps it would be advantageous to quote certain verses from the Muslim's own book in answering their objections against the *Bible* and the Gospel, and using those same texts as a bridge to the *Bible*.

The problem with using the *Quran* in witnessing to Muslims as I see the issue, lies not in how the Quranic text came into being, but that by quoting from the *Quran* as a means of answering Muslim objections or using the *Quran* as a 'bridge' to the Gospel of Christ, we may be unintentionally giving credence and authority to a book which demonstrates an anti-Christ spirit (1 John 4.1-3) denying as it does the Deity of Jesus Christ and thus His relationship to God the Father as the 'Son of God', denying His crucifixion and death upon the cross, thereby denying His bodily resurrection.

The *Isa al-Masih* of the *Quran* is most definitely not the Lord Jesus Christ of the *Bible*!

### The Best Book To Use Is The Bible

There is no better way to answer Muslim objections to our faith than by using the Word of God itself!

Every objection raised by Muslims to our faith can be answered from the Bible. Every part of the Bible is 'God breathed out' (2 Timothy 3.16) and as such we can use it confidently in our witness to Muslim friends, whether or not they accept its teachings.

Am I, then, promoting a complete embargo on the use of Quranic verses in Muslim ministry? Not quite, but I urge caution in the use of the *Quran* as a means to explain Christian theology and doctrine.

We cannot honestly teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ from a book that explicitly denies that same Gospel. We cannot prove incorruptibility of the *Bible* from a book that re-reports in a distorted form, historical events copied from the Bible. We cannot teach the Oneness of Yahweh in the unity of the Trinity from a book that presents God as a Monod!

If we venture to use Quranic texts in witnessing or debating with Muslim people, we must never give the impression that we believe that their book comes from Yahweh. If we are careless in how we introduce Quranic verses into our conversation, Muslims will be under the impression that we accept Islam's *Quran* as a valid revelation from the Most High God of Abraham through Mohammed – and that is not the outcome that we would desire from our witness!

Quoting from the *Quran* is best preceded by a clarifying comment such as: 'Your book, the Noble *Quran* says ...'. By such a statement we are making it evident that the *Quran* is not the Christian's book, but the Muslim's.

The power of Yahweh to bring sinners to repentance and saving faith in Christ Jesus lies in the Word of God through the convicting and regenerating influence of the Holy Spirit. The *Quran* has no such power or influence. – Don Haddleton

## Global Day Of Worship

**We're Holding A Praise & Worship Service In  
St Kilda Presbyterian Church, Cnr Alma Rd/Barkly St, St Kilda (Melway 58 B9)  
At 7-8pm On Friday 11 November.  
All Welcome! Further Details: Rev Bob Thomas 0417 592 646**

## CHURCH & NATION

### FamilyVoice Tells Adoption Inquiry Of Abortion Grief

'THE heart-rending stories of women who were forced to relinquish their babies to adoption are very similar to the stories of women hurt by forced abortion,' FamilyVoice research officer Ros Phillips told a Senate Inquiry on Former Forced Adoption Policies in Adelaide on 26 October.

She said many women who abort their babies do so because they feel they have no other choice – because of circumstances, or pressure from parents, husbands or partners. 'They suffer ongoing depression, suicidal thoughts and drug abuse, just like women who have been forced to relinquish their babies to adoption,' she said.

'A friend of mine stood outside Adelaide's abortion clinic at Woodville Park early one morning last year. She counted the women entering the clinic to have an abortion. One third were in tears. They did not want to be there. These women will suffer greatly later on,' Mrs Phillips said.

Senator Judith Adams (Lib, WA), a member of the Senate Community Affairs References Committee which is conducting the inquiry, said attitudes have changed since the 60s when she was a trainee midwife, sometimes dealing with women whose babies were adopted. No one understood the need for appropriate counselling. She herself had lost a baby to stillbirth and did not receive counselling either. 'We were just expected to get on with life,' she said.

Ros Phillips told Committee Chair Senator Siewert (Greens, WA) that state premiers should be encouraged to follow the example of WA Premier Colin Barnett and issue a public apology to women who in years gone by were forced against their will to hand over their babies for adoption. But Mrs Phillips also said that the pendulum has now swung too far – with women who want to release their babies for adoption being pressured not to do so. Ros Phillips urged senators to consider another inquiry into women who have suffered ongoing mental ill-health after stillbirth, miscarriage or abortion.

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📖 **COMMIT** to God's Word      Romans 12.1-2      📖 **IMPACT** God's World      Matthew 28.18-30

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**Pastor:** Rev Martin Pakula

**6 Nov:**      1 Corinthians 14.1-19 'Prophecy and Tongues'  
**13 Nov:**      1 Corinthians 14.20-40 'How To Run A Church Service'  
**20 Nov:**      Colossians 1.21-23 'Getting Right With God' – Heath Easton  
**27 Nov:**      1 Corinthians 15.1-34 'The Resurrection From The Dead'  
**4 Dec:**      1 Corinthians 15.35-58 'The Resurrection Body To Come'

**Hills Bible Church – A Baptist Fellowship – 43 York St, Mont Albert Vic**

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## FROM ALL QUARTERS

### Partial Demolition For Quake-Hit Christchurch Cathedral

NEW Zealand's landmark Christchurch Cathedral, severely damaged in a 6.3 magnitude earthquake on 22 February, will be deconstructed, partially demolished, and the remains made safe.

After losing its bell tower and famed rose window, the cathedral suffered further damage during another 6.3 magnitude quake on 13 June. Bishop Victoria Matthews said the controlled demolition – a stone-by-stone deconstruction – will start before Christmas. This will enable heritage items and artifacts such as the pulpit, carvings and religious icons to be removed.

### Crystal Cathedral Holds Out For Miracle Despite Accepting University Bid

THE bidding is over. A bankruptcy court will soon give the title deed of the megachurch campus Robert H. Schuller built to Chapman University – barring a financial miracle. Bankruptcy Judge Robert Kwan set the next hearing for 14 November. At that time, Crystal Cathedral must either pay its debtors, confirm a buyer or continue through bankruptcy proceedings.

Although Crystal Cathedral's board chose the university as its preferred buyer in a deal to bring in \$50 million to pay off creditors and allow the church to lease the Garden Grove, Cal, property, the ministry is still believing God for a multimillion-dollar breakthrough.

'Nothing is final until 14 November!' said Dr Sheila Schuller Coleman, senior pastor of the Crystal Cathedral. 'We continue to pray, believe and stand behind our *Jeremiah 29.11 Plan*, which we submitted to the court – "For I know the plans that I think toward you, says the Lord, plans of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope".'

Dante Gebel, pastor of Crystal Cathedral Hispanic Church, agrees with Coleman. He believes God is in control and is orchestrating everything. And he refuses to think the situation has escaped from God's hands. 'The Hispanic Church of the Crystal Cathedral is the fastest-growing Spanish-speaking in the United States,' Gebel said. 'If God brought His presence and hundreds of souls have reached salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ here, that means that the mission is being fulfilled. And as far as everything else is concerned, God has already prepared a solution, you can be sure of that. I have known God for 43 years and He has never failed.'

Crystal Cathedral members are also standing in faith, believing that a miracle will come about that will affirm the work Dr Robert Schuller began.



Dr Robert Schuller

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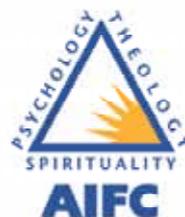
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## CHRISTIAN EVENTS SURROUND CHOGM

### 'First Fleet Bible' Signed By Queen Elizabeth Arrives In Perth

QUEEN Elizabeth's arrival in Australia signalled the imminent start of CHOGM 2011, the Commonwealth Heads Of Government Meeting in Perth. In conjunction with CHOGM, a historical King James Bible – brought over on the First Fleet in 1788, and signed by Elizabeth II on earlier visits to Australia – has arrived in Perth from St Philip's Church, York St, Sydney. The signatures of Princess Diana, Prince Philip and Prince Charles are also in the large leather-bound Bible, considered a foundational document in the formation of Australia. It was paraded at the kick-off to SHINE – eleven days of prayer and celebration organised by the Christian community in support of CHOGM.

SHINE was part of the 'Commonwealth Prayer Initiative' organised by church leaders in Perth, in response to WA Premier Colin Barnett's call for

community support for CHOGM.

In 2010 'Project 54' began, with churches in Perth 'adopting' a nation to pray for over a 12-month period.

'When churches in other Commonwealth countries heard about it, they wanted to be in it too!' says Wendy Yapp, one of the driving forces behind SHINE. 'In India alone, 4,000 churches have joined in the prayer.'

'SHINE was a significant time of prayer, unity and excitement for the Christian community, not only in Australia but also in the other countries of the Commonwealth,' said Gillean Smiley, Community Relations Manager for Bible Society Australia, which helped with the running of SHINE.



### Church Plant In Branxton Suggested

THE Congregational Church in Cessnock (NSW) has drawn the attention of the Fellowship Of Congregational Churches to the possibility of the FCC commencing a new church in Branxton, on the New England Highway north of Newcastle, beginning with a home group. A new motorway is being constructed, which will make easy access for residents to get to either Singleton or Newcastle. A lot of new housing is anticipated for the town.

Presently the churches in Branxton are the Roman Catholic Church, Anglican Church and Uniting Church. There is a community hall which is a suitable location, and could possibly be rented. The FCC would be pleased to hear from committed and able evangelicals who could go there to begin the work.

The Rev Alan Best, General Secretary of the FCC, can be contacted at: PO Box 475, Bexley South 2207; phone: (02) 9588 5128; email: fcccong@bigpond.com

The vision of the FCC is to be a dynamic fellowship of evangelical churches, with each church effectively reaching its local community with the Gospel and collectively, impacting our nation and the world for Christ.

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### Associate Pastor (Discipleship)

Darwin Baptist Church is seeking an enthusiastic and energetic person to support the Senior Pastor and ministry team generally, and in particular to lead, support and grow discipleship ministries within the church.

The church predominantly consists of young families and young adults in a vibrant and growing community of over 300 people close to the city centre.

#### The successful candidate will:

- ◆ be a team player with a desire to work closely with the church leadership,
  - ◆ possess leadership qualities and be capable of relating well to an 18 – 30s demographic,
  - ◆ have oversight of connect groups and have a major role preparing the church for growth,
- ◆ be required to live out a commitment to the vision, purpose and values of the church.

#### For a profile of the church and detailed position description please contact:

Dot Meakins at the church office on (08) 8941 0701  
or email: [admin@dbc.org.au](mailto:admin@dbc.org.au)

**Applications close COB on 11 November 2011**

## Church Faces Increasing Hostility In Sudan

CONSTRUCTING worship buildings has become more difficult since the secession of South Sudan.

Emboldened by government calls for a Sudan based on Islamic law since the secession of South Sudan, Muslims long opposed to a church near Khartoum have attacked Christians trying to finish constructing their building, sources said.

The Sudanese Church of Christ congregation in Omdurman West, across the Nile River from Khartoum, has continued to meet for Sunday worship in a building without a roof in spite of opposition from area Muslims and local authorities, the sources told Compass.

Claiming that Christianity was no longer an accepted religion in the country, Muslims in the Hay al Sawra, Block 29 area of Omdurman West on 5 August attacked SCOC members who were constructing the church building, the sources said.

'We do not want any presence of churches in our area,' shouted members of the mob as they threw stones at the Christians, the sources said. Muslims in the north, where an estimated 1 million Christians still live following the secession of South Sudan on 9 July, fear the potential influence of the church, they said.

'They want to reduce or restrict the number of

churches, so that they can put more pressure on believers,' said a church leader on condition of anonymity.

The SCOC has been trying to erect a church building on the site since it obtained the land in 1997, but both government officials and area Muslim residents have used delaying tactics to prevent it, according to a Christian who lives in the area. The SCOC in that area of Omdurman is still trying to get permission from the Islamic government in Khartoum to construct the new church building, Christian sources in Khartoum said.

Muslims and local 'popular committees' responsible for issuing residence certificates necessary for obtaining citizenship or an ID card, with authority to strike down proposals for erecting church buildings, assert that no church is necessary because there are no Christians there. But there are many Christians living in the area, sources said.

— *Special to Compass Direct News*  
(Having preached to hundreds of believers in four churches in Khartoum, Bakri and Omdurman during my visit to Sudan in 2004 as Moderator General of the Presbyterian Church I can vouch for the fact that there are many Christians there. In fact I was taken by surprise at the size of the Christian presence. — Ed)

### Missionary Attacked While Walking Home From Church

GOSPEL for Asia just received word that a GFA missionary was attacked on Sunday 23



October while walking home from church. The South Asian missionary was walking with his family when several anti-Christian extremists surrounded them, beat the missionary, and fled.

Pray for the physical healing of this man and for the emotional healing of his family who witnessed the attack. Pray that they would not be shaken in their faith and would continue to spread the Good News.

### Iran Attempts To Convert Christian Prisoners – Crackdown On Church Intensifies

CHRISTIAN Solidarity Worldwide has been informed that Pastor Yousef Nadarkhani, in prison awaiting a final decision from the Supreme Leader of Iran regarding a death sentence for apostasy, was recently presented with Islamic literature, allegedly as part of an official campaign to convert Christian prisoners.

Local sources report that a renewed campaign of harassment of Iranian Christians is underway in Iran, and that several members of the Church of Iran have recently been called in for questioning. Many have been threatened with charges of blasphemy, while one was informed he would be

punished for engaging in 'actions against the security of the state', a reference to taking part in Christian meetings.

Another Church of Iran member, Mehdi Furutan, was recently transferred from Shiraz prison to an underground cell in Adelabad security prison, where the torture of inmates regularly takes place. He had just begun serving a one year prison sentence, after an earlier sentence for 'crimes against the order' was upheld at an appeal hearing. Whilst in the general prison in Shiraz Mr Furutan had also been presented with Islamic religious books. Sources fear that his transfer to Adelabad may have been prompted by responses he may have made when questioned about them.

## GOOD NEWS FROM ABROAD

### Wycliffe Finds Ways To Engage Oral Cultures Through Media

BIBLE translators have seen a lot of changes over the last half century as technologies have developed. Wycliffe Bible Translation teams are not only tasked with providing a written Bible in a heart language, but they are also encouraged to develop a media plan to reach the oral societies. Teams are being trained through partner ministry partner SIL International to deliver Scripture through video, radio, audio players, cell phones, TV, and the Internet. Pray for swift and accurate translation and distribution of God's Word.

#### Students Coming To Christ On Fields Of Faith

FIELDS of Faith, an event that unites young Christians in the USA has grown every year since its inception in 2004 when 6,000 students gathered at athletic fields in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas. By 2010, those numbers had reached a record of more than 150,000 people across 41 states and 475 different fields. Last year's event led to more than 3,500 students committing their lives to Christ for the first time, more than 5,000 recommitting their lives and nearly 13,000 making a commitment to reading the Bible on a daily basis

– *Christian Post*

#### Indian Christian Leaders Rally Against Corruption Within The Church

CHRISTIAN leaders from across India have gathered together in Bangalore in a historical meeting named *Operation Nehemiah*. The meeting aimed to bring together concerned Christian leaders in India to deliberate on the issue of corruption and to create a united movement with a vision to make the Indian Church corruption-free. In attendance were about 60 leaders from the religious and business worlds representing the wide spectrum of Christian faith traditions in India

– *Australian Prayer Network*

#### Jesus.net Conference In Netherlands

THE Jesus.net Conference was held in mid-October on a boat in Amsterdam with 75 people from 22 countries. The theme was *Join the Experience*. The goal of Jesus.net is to lead searchers step by step through to a Christian commitment and contact with a local church. Jan-Willem Bosman, organiser of the Conference, encouraged people to work together for God's Kingdom. Participants represented the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Campus Crusade, TWR, Youth for Christ, Alpha and others. (*Go to Jesus.net – it's a fascinating site. – Ed*)

#### Thanks For The Memory Chip

FEBC is using new technology to reach a closed Asian country with the Gospel, by developing 'memory chip lending libraries' to be used in mobile

phones. Listeners can borrow memory chips and play Bible messages on their mobile phones and MP3 players. In some cases even speaker boxes can play the chips to larger groups within homes. Hubs are opening all over the country allowing thousands of mobile phones access to FEBC's broadcasts.

#### Spiritual Needs Outpacing Ministry Team In Mozambique

AUDIO Scripture Ministries continues to make strides toward growth in Mozambique. Team members say that the rising demand for audio Bibles created the need for a new building, which is now underway. In the meantime, an ASM ministry partner has started an outreach to the youth in three communities. Young people gather on Saturday afternoon to listen to Bible Stories in their heart language. Interest in God's Word is spreading. Pray that the seeds of the Gospel will take root.

#### Who Will Run The New Libya?

WITH Libya united to topple Muammar Gaddafi, the question upon his death is: Whose revolution was it? There were multiple heavily-armed militias fighting together to remove the regime, and now that the smoke is clearing, they've laid claim on a territory and cause. Carl Moeller with Open Doors says there is reason to be concerned. 'There are indications that many of the elements of the revolution to overthrow him were funded, fueled, and inspired by extremists. The question is: "Is the transition going to do any better for religious liberty, Christians, and basic democracy than what we had before".'

The insecurity of the future has many Libyans asking deeper questions and looking for hope. As a result, 'The number of our Bible deliveries and Scripture deliveries has been greater than in the previous whole nine years of work in that area,' says Moeller. 'So we see a tremendous upswing in the desire for people to have a copy of God's Word and maybe hear the Good News message of Christ.'

### Important Event Coming Up?

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## TRUMPETS SOUNDING, TRIBUTES FLOWING ...

### Thanksgiving, With 'Faith, Hope And Love' For Elaine Nile's Life And Work



THE Hon Elaine Nile would not have been surprised with the content of the Service of Thanksgiving in her memory, on 26 October – she planned it all! Only the number attending would have surprised her. In choosing the venue, she asked her husband, the Hon Rev Fred Nile MLC if a big venue was necessary because 'not many will come.'

Calvary Chapel, Georges Hall, which seats 800 people, was chosen and soon packed. There were Members of Parliament from various political parties, including the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition; church representatives; supporters of the Christian Democratic Party and friends of a very loveable woman, Mrs Elaine Nile, so well known for her clear Christian witness.

Elaine Nile passed away on 17 October 2011 following three years of battling liver cancer. In evidence of the honour and love for this politician, wife, mother and grandmother, Calvary Chapel was packed for the *Thanksgiving Service For The Life Of The Hon Elaine Nile, 20 March 1936–17 October 2011*.

Some travelled great distances to be present – from Orange (280km West of Sydney), Wollongong (112km South), Gerroa (136km South), Bowral (115km South-West) and across the many suburbs of Sydney.

Family members participated throughout the service. Grandson Joshua Nile read John 14.1-15; grandson Elijah Nile read 1 John 5.1-13; Meditations were given by daughter Sharon and granddaughters Jessica, Montana, Lily and Matilda.

Prayers of Thanksgiving were offered by Sister Simone (Evangelical Sisters of Mary); Rev Hon Fred Nile MLC; Pastor Ruth Harvey (Christian Revival Centre) and the Rev Philip Kendall (Kogarah Bay Congregational Church).

Eldest son Stephen Nile presented the Eulogy which encompassed the many positions held by his mother during her working years, her influence on the family and her devotion to her husband.

Clergy taking part included Rev Warren Mortmore (Pastor of Calvary Chapel), Rev Alan Best, General Secretary of the Fellowship of Congregational Churches, and the Former Minister of the Calvary Chapel, Rev Don Baker.

The Message, *Faith, Hope And Love*, based on 1 Corinthians 13.13, was presented by the Rev Dr Ross Clifford, Principal, Morling Bible and Theological College. 'These three words, Faith, Hope and Love, came from the Apostle Paul who in 1 Corinthians 13 concludes, "these three remain: faith, hope and love and the greatest of these is love",' Dr Clifford said. 'Our nation knows, and we know, the value of these words representing values that shaped Elaine's life and which she sought to instil in her family, community and parliament.'

'As Fred said to me, Elaine's faith was about simplicity, the basics. Living the basics, whatever our role, is what life is all about. Where did Elaine find what to place her faith in, where to place her hope, and what is to be the model of her love?

'In her maiden speech in Parliament in June 1988, she said that the foundations for her values are the Living Word, the Lord Jesus and the Written Word, the Bible. In faith in Jesus we find forgiveness of sin through His death and resurrection. In Jesus there alone is hope as seen in His empty tomb. In Jesus we learn what true love is, love God and love your neighbour. Elaine's love for her family and her neighbour, whether they be the elderly, the unborn, fellow politicians, or the addicted, knew no end. She based it on Jesus and the Bible.

'We can honour Elaine in a number of ways such as with flowers and donations, but we will truly honour her if we leave this place committed to God's basics: Faith, Hope and Love.'

The medley of many hymns presented by the Redeemer Baptist Fellowship Musical Ministry reminded many of bygone evangelical rallies, church services and Sunday Schools, all of which played a formidable part in the life of the Hon Elaine Nile, who was remembered for her glowing attributes in this Thanksgiving Service.



Sharon with Jessica, Montana, Lily and Matilda.  
Photo by Ramon Williams.

## SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

### THINK AGAIN TONY! – ACL Calls For Re-Think On Opposition's Stance On Mandatory Pre-Commitment

THE Australian Christian Lobby says it is disappointing that the Opposition looks set to oppose mandatory pre-commitment technology for addictive high-loss poker machines.

Managing Director Jim Wallace said mandatory pre-commitment should not be dismissed as a tool to combat gambling-induced poverty without even conducting a trial.

'I am concerned that vested interests such as Mr Packer's Crown Casino, the clubs industry and State Governments addicted to poker machine revenue are having undue influence in this debate.

'With 95,000 poker machine users classed as problem gamblers losing a staggering \$5 billion per year, it is important for the government to act,' Mr Wallace said.

'I would urge the Opposition to re-think its stance on mandatory pre-commitment and at least propose that a trial be conducted in the Northern Territory, Tasmania or another suitable locality.'

### HCJB - Reaching Youth With Truth

THE people of Poland traditionally listen to the radio in the office during their workday. It averages out to about four hours of listening time daily.

HCJB Global has a radio station in Poland and is taking the opportunity to provide uplifting music and a Gospel message.

Many people call in with concerns about loneliness and depression, and Christian DJs are able to reply with the Gospel. There are fewer believers there than in Saudi Arabia, but people are responding. Pray for HCJB's work in Poland.

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### 'Glorious Things - A Protestant's Guide To London'

What to look for and how to find places associated with people and events which shaped Protestant Church History, compiled by Rev Bob Thomas.

**Available from:** PTC Media,  
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### Ramon A Williams – Worldwide Photos

WANT TO SEE MORE?

'New Life' can only publish a small selection of photos, but you can see more of those attributed to Worldwide Photos by going to:

[http://community.webshots.com/user/ramon\\_williams](http://community.webshots.com/user/ramon_williams)

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## NEW LIFE ADVERTISING

### OFFICE SUITE TO LET – MELBOURNE (BOX HILL)

**Steer Incorporated** will have an office suite available for rental in the Melbourne suburb of Box Hill from late March/early April 2012 onwards. The suite is located in a building occupied by a number of mission agencies and would suit another mission agency or Christian organisation.

**Location:** 5 Court Street, Box Hill (just off Whitehorse Road).

**Space:** 145 square metres. The suite is divided into a reception area, open office area, 5 separate offices and a small waiting room/office.

The space is available as a single area, but requests for smaller areas will be considered.

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  - ❖ (which may also be removed if desired).
  - ❖ Shared use of 45 square metre conference room and small meeting room.
  - ❖ Shared use of secure storage for archives, etc.
  - ❖ Shared fully equipped kitchen.
  - ❖ Individual split system air-conditioning/heating unit for each office.
  - ❖ Back-to-base security system.
  - ❖ Some on-site carparking and adjacent to public carparks.
  - ❖ 5 minute walk to Box Hill business centre and public transport.
  - ❖ Pleasant environment shared with 6 mission agencies.

**Further information from:** Ian Teh, Operations Manager: 03 9899 6413 or [ian\\_teh@steer.org.au](mailto:ian_teh@steer.org.au) or Richard Dickins, National Director: 0419 748 318 or [richard\\_dickins@steer.org.au](mailto:richard_dickins@steer.org.au)

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## BOOKS WORTH READING

### **DEUTERONOMY: AN INTRODUCTION AND COMMENTARY, Edward J. Woods, Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries, Nottingham: IVP, 2011**

DR TED Woods, recently retired Senior Lecturer in Old Testament at Melbourne School of Theology, is well-known to many readers of *New Life*. In a sense, his whole career as a student and teacher of the Old Testament has been poured into this book. As he says, at least three key features make *Deuteronomy* one of the most important books in the Old Testament. It contains some of the finest preaching in the Bible, consisting as it does of the final sermons of Moses to the people of Israel. *Deuteronomy* is a highly theological book, for as Dr Woods expresses, it is 'a reflective attempt to systematise belief in Israel'. Thirdly, it has influenced most other parts of Scripture, including the teaching of Jesus and Paul. It is, therefore, a vital book to master if our aim is to understand the Bible as a whole, and Ted Woods is of great assistance in meeting that goal.

It is pleasing to read that Dr Woods says that there is no compelling reason not to accept that the book of *Deuteronomy* goes back to Moses himself on the plains of Moab, just before the people crossed into the Promised Land. What this means is that the past 200 years of critical scholarship has not disproved the plain reading of the biblical text. For example, Woods shows that the alternation of 'you' plural and 'you' singular modes of address by Moses does not indicate different sources, but is rhetorical and theological in force: the Law of God is for the nation as a whole and is also to be kept by individual Israelites.

*Deuteronomy* has a distinctive vocabulary, with words such as 'fear', 'love', 'land' and 'life' repeatedly used. It has a homiletical or catechetical style, for in it Moses urges God's covenant people to respond to God as they ought. Woods shows that the structure of the book has similarities with contemporary Ancient Near-Eastern law codes and treaty documents, so that it is a product of its time (the Second Millennium BC) as well as being the inspired Word of God. He also demonstrates that the detailed stipulations of chapters 12-26 are structured according to the order of the Ten Commandments given in Deuteronomy 5.

*Deuteronomy* is an overtly theological book, and Woods does a good job of expounding that theology under four heads: God, people, land and worship. More specifically, its theology of God's uniqueness and His Name; the nature of God's people as family ('brothers'); the character of the land as God's gift; the focus on the attitude of the worshipper, not on the details of the different types of sacrificial offerings. He goes on to explain the text section-by-section in a most convincing way.

This, then, is a splendid new resource for students of the Old Testament. It is up-to-date, believing and scholarly, but it is written in a way that will make it useful to a wide Christian reading public.

— Greg Goswell

### **THE POWER TO SAVE: A HISTORY OF THE GOSPEL IN CHINA, Bob Davey, Evangelical Press, Darlington, 2011**

FROM the Introduction by Sinclair Ferguson to the final chapter assessing the future of the church in China, this is an engrossing book. Many of us have grown up with stories of the missionary movement in China from Hudson Taylor onwards. The beauty of this book is that there is integration of the missionary history, the political situation in China, the impact of geography and the emergence of the numerically strong national church out of persecution.

There are also less well known names in this history. I would have liked even more of this aspect of the book. Bob Davey has given a very honest appraisal. This is no glowing history that whitewashes inadequacies in both the mission movement and national Christian leaders. The *Introduction* by Sinclair Ferguson is a gem. Many readers will identify with his comments.

In this book we come face to face with the reality of martyrdom in such events as the Boxer Rebellion and the Cultural Revolution under the Communist regime.

Many have given their lives to God's work in China, with death for some, torture and imprisonment for others. One example of the way the House Churches are monitored at the present time is that 200 delegates sought to attend the Cape Town 2010 Lausanne Congress in South Africa. All 200 were prevented from leaving China whatever route they had individually chosen. We are reminded that the Word of God faithfully proclaimed is never lost.

Bob Davey's up-to-date information is most illuminating. Also helpful are the appendices. One will not fail to be stirred by reading this book.

— Mignon Goswell

### **And Just A Few Words On The Puritans ...**

'MINISTERS never write or preach so well as when under the cross: the Spirit of Christ and of glory then rests upon them. It was this, no doubt, that made the Puritans such burning and shining lights. Though dead, by their writings they yet speak; a peculiar unction attends them to this very hour; and for these thirty years past I have remarked that the more true and vital religion has revived, the more the good old Puritanical writings have been called for.' So wrote George Whitefield.

Banner Of Truth publishes both in full and in many cases abridged versions, *John Owen's Works*, 6 vols, *Owen On Hebrews, Works Of John Flavel*, 6 vols, *Works Of Richard Sibbes*, 7 vols, *Thomas Watson, Works Of Thomas Brooks*, 6 vols, and more (go to: banneroftruth.co.uk for complete list).

The likes of C.H. Spurgeon, Martyn Lloyd-Jones, John MacArthur and Billy Graham (who used Watson on *The Ten Commandments* when preaching in London in 1955) turned to such authors for help and inspiration.

To make a start on reading, the *Puritan Paperback* series, which includes some of the best of the main authors, are recommended. Banner Of Truth publications are readily available in Australia through The Reformers' Book Shop, phone 02 9564 3555 or go to: reformers.org.au

## BEARING ONE ANOTHERS' BURDENS

### Barnabas Fund Helps Christians Affected By Disastrous South-East Asian Floods

AS people across south-east Asia continue to suffer from the worst floods for 50 years, Barnabas Fund said it is sending urgently needed help to Christians in four countries.

Barnabas Fund works to support Christian communities around the world where they are facing poverty and persecution.

Barnabas Fund has reported that hundreds of people, many of them children, have been killed in the floods, and millions have been seriously affected. Many have been forced to flee their homes, have seen their livelihoods swept away, or are living without sufficient water, food or sanitation.

Barnabas Fund said that in Thailand, one of the worst-hit countries, thousands of residents are rushing to leave the capital, Bangkok. Some northern parts of the city are already 90% submerged, and this weekend a huge run-off from the central plains is expected to inundate more districts.

Barnabas Fund said that about a third of all Thailand's provinces are affected, and more than 360 people have died there alone. Cambodia, Burma (Myanmar), the Philippines, Laos and Vietnam have also been ravaged by the floods, triggered by unusually heavy seasonal rains.

#### Helping Christians In Need

Barnabas Fund has launched an urgent appeal to help Christians caught up in the disaster. Working through Christian partner organisations, the group said it will be providing a variety of assistance.

◆ **In Burma**, Barnabas Fund plans to feed 1,338 Christian families, mainly by providing rice and oil. In addition, the group will rebuild 112 houses.

◆ **In Thailand**, Barnabas Fund will feed Christian families in Bangkok and in rural areas. It will also provide boats, blankets and mosquito nets.

◆ **In Cambodia**, the group will feed 600 Christian families with packages containing rice, noodles, salt and sugar, plus a blanket and a mosquito net.

◆ **In the Philippines**, Barnabas Fund said it will provide seeds, fertilizer and related needs for Christian farmers who lost their rice crops just before harvest time.

Dr Patrick Sookhdeo, International Director of Barnabas Fund, said in a news release, 'Conditions in some parts of south-east Asia continue to worsen, and Barnabas Fund is helping many of our stricken brothers and sisters with their most urgent needs. But much remains to be done, and the costs of rebuilding shattered lives and livelihoods will be huge. Will you please give whatever you can spare to help needy Christians, and pray for the situation?'

For more information go to: [www.barnabasfund.org](http://www.barnabasfund.org)

– Jeremy Reynolds,  
Senior Correspondent, ASSIST News Service



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