



# Chapel in the Hills

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## About Us

Gippsland Christian Fellowship (formerly Leongatha Christian Fellowship) is a caring, friendly Church that has been holding meetings in Gippsland since the mid 1970's.

The Church adheres to sound Scriptural practise in all of its worship and teaching activities. The love of the Word of God is encouraged both publicly and in every household. Fellowship is a central value at GCF and is promoted in each aspect of its broad program, which cares for all ages.

### May 2010 edition...

**2 COME AND SEE!**  
Good person stuck inside a bad person? It is time to be freed to walk on in a new life.

**4 WHAT MATTERS**  
Darren Irvine writes about the cost of being a half finished project.

**6 ABOUT LIFE**  
This month our regular devotional study focuses on the how to make prayer effective.

**8 KIDS PAGE**  
Hey kids! Learn lots of interesting things about seeds with Zoe Seedlife.



### KNOW MORE...

Want to find out more or need a ride to church?

We have people living in locations right across Gippsland who would be happy to help:

Traralgon	Brad	0437 961 102
Mirboo North	Bob	0400 403 765
Korumburra	Joe	0403 006 096
Inverloch	David	0428 553 222



# Chapel in the Hills

Come and  
**See** *by Brad Cooper*

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## **Being freed to walk on in the 'new life'.**

One of the most common excuses for not becoming a Christian is the fear of failure to live the Christian life. This objection overlooks the truth that God provides the power to live the Christian life (the new life).

Before Christ was crucified He promised the coming of the Holy Spirit to help believers live this new life. John 16:13 -14 reads:

*However when He, the Spirit of truth has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me; for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*

The subsequent events that take place from the book of Acts supply ample evidence of the fulfilment of Christ's prophecy.

The power of the Holy Spirit was not designed solely for the first-century church. Rather, all Christians are to be indwelt by the Spirit and so have His power



available to them. However, living the new life under the Spirit's power must not be thought of as simply allowing the Holy Spirit to take control whilst we as the believer, do nothing. We must still live the Christian life, but do this by the Spirit's power. Romans 8:13 says:

*If by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*

So we are to put to death the sinful deeds of the body, but we are to do this with the assistance of the Holy Spirit through His power.

If we struggle in our own strength to live the Christian life, unfortunately we will ultimately fail. We must by faith, rely on and utilise the power of the Holy Spirit. Practically this means that we, as believers must trust the Spirit to empower us in specific instances such as sharing our faith with others, resisting temptation, remaining faithful, etc. This is what can also be referred to as 'walking in the spirit', or in other words we need to make a concerted daily effort to live according to the will of the Holy Spirit. Romans 8:5-6 reads:

*For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh but those who live according to the spirit, the things of the spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

Sounds great doesn't it? And it's not as hard as we might think. There is no secret formula that makes the Holy Spirit's power available. It is as simple as relying on Him to help us.

As I continue on in my own walk in this new life I find encouragement in the following passage, again from Romans chapter 8:13-14:

*For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God.*

I love that thought that I might be a son of God, I hope that you might want to be one too!

## My shout for coffee!

Present this voucher at the GCF Mirboo North market stall for a FREE espresso coffee (or Hot Chocolate).

Books ● Face Painting for the kids ● ~~Great~~ Good Coffee



# Chapel in the Hills

## The heart of the Matter

*Darren Irvine*

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### **We are His Workmanship**

Have you ever set out to make something or undertaken a building project of some kind? Did you finish it? Or is it still sitting there half done?

Sometimes we get inspired to begin a project such as renovating a house, or building a deck or even knitting a garment if that is more your style. Why do we spend our energy on these things? There is no doubt that there is something satisfying about having a vision for something and then seeing that project through completion. It is great to see something working how it should, knowing that you build it.

Personally, there are too many projects that I have started that have never been finished. Looking at an incomplete project with all the mess is discouraging, knowing the precious time wasted and the unfulfilled potential of an unfinished project.

Have you ever considered that we ourselves go through a process of being built? In life we experience various things that shape us and form us, but what is this shaping for? What are we being built into? Who is doing this building?

For most of us, we spend quite a lot of our existence building ourselves. We all have an idea of who we would like to be or who we think we should be. We base a lot of our decisions in life on getting to that idea.





We build our wealth; we build our bodies, our knowledge and our social networks.

But how do you know who you should be? What plan are you building yourself in accordance with? Have you ever considered that God has a plan for the building project that is you? Ephesians 2:10 says “We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works prepared beforehand that we should walk in them”.



Take a moment to consider the projects that you have begun, how did they start? It would be true to say that they all started with an idea or a purpose. It is the same with God. Our project or the story of us began before we even were and it began with the idea and purpose for our life. Jeremiah 29:11 says “I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord.....”

This is an exciting thought! We do have a purpose and life is not meaningless, in fact far from it. We can know who we are and become all that we were always intended to be. What an exciting proposition! We can fulfill our potential 100% and without any regrets or uncertainty.

When we wrestle and struggle and do our best to build a life for ourselves, we may often achieve things that we want or even find little pockets of purpose, but we can never know the full purpose and peace from God for us. Psalms 139 says that his thoughts toward us are more than the sand.

If we connect with God and invite Him to build us, then He can get to work on building us according to His perfect plan. Through the good times and the bad times, God will fashion us into all that He intended us to be, Will you let Him in?

# About Life

*A sample of the daily devotional  
available online*



## Effective prayer

The prayers of a worthy house are directed toward the Lord's house. King Solomon sought the Lord saying, 'Listen to the supplication of Your servant and of Your people Israel, when they pray toward this place; hear in heaven Your dwelling place; hear and forgive'. The Lord has admonished us that if 'My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven'. Humility is the ground of prayer. When this is the character of a worthy house, then the Lord hears and answers. We're to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God. We know that the effective fervent prayer of the righteous man avails much. Prayer throughout the New Testament is referred to as 'continual devotion'. It is the ascending aroma before the Lord. When we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

Prayer and worthy houses are effective for the continual increase and multiplication of the word. You might consider, having received the word into your house, that prayer in support of the messengers is essential for the increase of the word. We must pray for messengers that they do not neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. Likewise, we must pray that men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit, like the seven deacons of the early church, will be appointed to the practical charge of serving tables in the Lord's house. When this kind of prayer is effective among us, then the word of God will be spreading and the number of disciples increasing. It is significant that Philip, one of these seven deacons, was later referred to as Philip the evangelist.

### References:

1 Kings 8:30    2 Chron 7:14  
1 Pet 5:6        James 5:16  
1 Thess 5:25  
Acts 6:2-4  
Thess 3:1

### Further Study:

1 Kings 8

### Daily Proverb:

Proverbs 15

# Snapshot s

*Little things that mean more:*

## First...LOVE

?  
Interesting isn't it,  
that love is often the  
first thing that we  
abandon.

These three are solid...

**Faith, Hope and Love**

But the greatest of these is love.

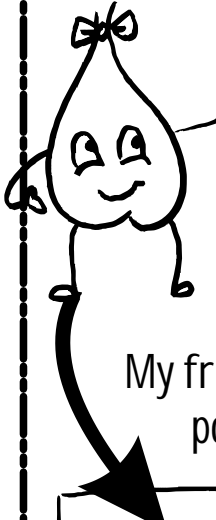
God's love saves, renews and gathers us to  
belong.

"...when the kindness of God our Savior and His  
love for mankind appeared, (5) He saved us ....  
according to His mercy, by the washing of  
regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, (6)  
whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus  
Christ our Saviour, (7) so that being justified by His  
grace we would be made heirs according to the hope  
of eternal life." (Titus 3:4-7)

*Pursuing Freedom? There is no law against love*

? Your existence is  
testimony of God's love

// God is love  
Seek God first  
You will find //  
Love and light and life



# ZOE'S PAGE

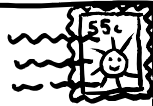
My name is Zoe Seedlife  
and this is my page just for kids!!

I am a seed and seeds are amazing. On my page you will  
learn lots of cool stuff about seeds and have fun too!!

Hi kids! Hope you had a great holiday.

My friend Bud is still on holidays. He sent me this  
postcard from Uluru in Central Australia.

Hi Zoe,  
I drove for hours over  
flat, red rocky ground  
and have arrived at  
Uluru. It's a HUGE  
rock! It is 863 metres  
high and 9.4 kms  
around!! Hey Zoe, how  
do you think it got  
there?  
Love from Bud.



To/ Zoe Seedlife



So I sent him one back!

Dear Bud,  
Wow Uluru sounds  
massive! God made the  
land on the third day of  
creation. In the Bible  
rocks are a symbol of  
God - strong, solid and  
dependable.  
Uluru is an aboriginal  
word.  
Love from Zoe.



To/ Mr. B. Sprout

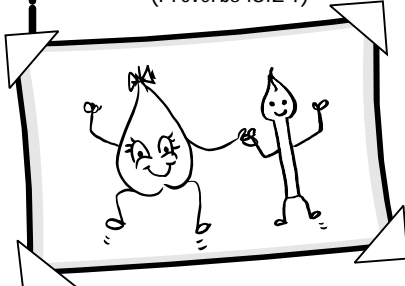
## Zoe says...

Bud is a good friend!  
In the Bible it says - Friends love  
through all kinds of weather  
(Proverbs 17:17),  
and a true friend sticks by you.  
(Proverbs 18:24)

How many words can you find in...

Friendship (I'll start you off!)

fr \_ \_ \_ \_  
sh \_ \_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Heres a photo of Zoe and Bud