

WHITEBOARD

www.c3monash.org.au/ministries/realmen

September 2013



JAM-PACKED!

That's how you'd describe September's Whiteboard. Heaps of interesting reads this month will take you from the community radio airwaves in Canberra to the Tweed Coast hinterland, then all the way to Indonesia. Curious? Then keep reading!

The always anticipated Journey of Pastor Steve's continues on page 2. He again provides us with his own unique perspective and insight into his experience – this month on grace. Evangelism is the theme in our church throughout September. Make sure to get along to church

and hear some of the wisdom our pastors will share on this vital part of being a Christian. Meanwhile, one of the guys this month shares his take on being salt and light to the world.

With REALMEN conference last month came some great messages and words of encouragement. Some of the guys share their 'take homes' from REALMEN on page 5.

Get in touch with John Gallagher if there's something you want to say about Whiteboard or if there's something you'd like feedback and contributions are welcome! Happy reading.



WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

Don't forget Father's Day this month. It's also the first day of our church's 21 days of prayer and fasting.

VISITING PASTORS THIS SEPTEMBER

Throughout September we're blessed to have some great visiting pastors coming to C3 Monash to preach and inspire us through the Word of God.

Pastor Fergus McIntyre
Saturday & Sunday
7-8 September

Pastor Andy Kubala
Sunday 22 September

SAVE THE DATE

Men's Breakfast – Saturday
5 October 2013

8.00am to 9.30am, C3 Church,
Monash

Special guest speaker: Mr Jim
Wallace AM, Deputy Chairman,
Australian Christian Lobby

See the back page for more
information.



God's grace is always there to sustain and refresh us, as Pastor Steve explains.

Deb and I recently helped our daughter celebrate her 30th birthday. 'Harry's Hideaway', a retreat in the hinterland of the Tweed Coast was hired and a huge gathering of family and friends congregated for a 'Midnight in Paris' themed party. It was one of those rare occasions when our family was all together and we enjoyed every exhausting minute! Many conversations were engaged with all the ensuing complexities of large, diverse family dynamics. I was posed a question by one of my sons: 'Did anything major happen to me when I was ten?' he asked. We reflected on some of the events of that time and, although it may have shed some light for him, it got me thinking. Whether it is parenting or pastoring, or even for that matter, being a man in today's society, I have never felt adequate for the task. It seems I have had more questions than answers. I have however found that there is a grace that sustains me when I feel out of my depth. And so over the years I have prevailed on that grace, on a daily basis. That grace has manifested in a variety of

“And if nothing else, life has revealed this truth to me - 'But He gives more grace.'”

ways: a friend with a word in season; a scripture that has come alive at just the right time; a timely sermon or insight from a favourite preacher or mentor; the words of a song; drawing aside and soaking in God's creation; a new level of intimacy and communication with Deb; or a robust discussion in a small group. These are just some examples that spring readily to mind. And if nothing else, life has revealed this truth

to me - 'But He gives more grace' James 4:6 (NKJV). The challenge to not only share my faith, but to live out of that faith requires a grace that is beyond my own resource. To reflect on how powerfully that has

been at work in my circle of influence over the years is sobering as well as inspiring. 'I have no greater joy than this, to hear that my [spiritual] children are living their lives in the Truth.' 3 John 1:4 (AMP). I figure I will be prevailing on that grace for a few more years yet.

With you on the journey
Steve



This month we're pleased to have 1WAY FM's General Manager, Colin Webster, take some time out from his busy schedule and share with us about the ministry of Christian radio.

Research shows that "Christian Media reaches more Australians more frequently than churches do, with almost half (48%) of users not describing themselves as Christian".

The 1WAY FM Vision is to "Connect people to Jesus" through our on-air content. It is simple - we must, for the sake of everyone's best interests, carry out the "Great Commission" by loving people, building relationships and, as the opportunity arises, sharing the gospel of Jesus.

In making these statements let me be clear about what Christian radio is and is not – it is not about replacing the church and it is not about substituting a personal relationship with Christ. Christian radio is about supplementing the church message of discipleship

through the provision of music and content designed to engage, challenge and grow Christians in their relationship with Christ, and to connect them to the wider Christian community across Canberra.

1WAY FM History & Vision

1WAY FM was established in 1990 by Warren Rout, who submitted 23 licence applications to establish Christian community radio across Australia and Papua New Guinea. This came at a financial, physical and emotional cost, with the process consuming Warren and his family for the remainder of his life.

The original vision was for "Fast Track Discipleship" with on-air content designed to build up Christians across the week. While the vision statement was renewed

recently to "Aspiring to see the Canberra region connected to Jesus", in reality, the station's intent remains the same.

With Christian radio comes the unique challenge of creating content that connects with both the Christian and mainstream listener – what attracts one, may alienate another (add denominational and personal views to that, and you can imagine some of the regular feedback I receive).

Therefore, it is important to be clear about our target audience. We define it as 'those who call themselves Christian' and – regardless of our intent – it may not be feasible to attract a wider audience. Surveys show that two out of three non-users of Christian media are very unlikely to use any Christian media in the future.

So why listen to Christian Radio?

(Philippians 4:8) Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

There are many things in our culture that will consume our time and thoughts – some are beneficial and some are not. The Apostle Paul encouraged us to consider these choices. Some recent research I came across highlighted that even if you attend church regularly, if you were not reading the Word of God at least four times across the week, then your views on social and moral issues were no different than a non-Christian. The truth is that God's Word shapes us, but we need to spend time in it to see its effect. (Note: read Psalm 1 and contemplate v2 with regard to how frequently we should meditate on the law)

I am passionate about Christians positioning themselves to be transformed or renewed by God but, to be honest, I recognise that Christian radio is not for everyone. I am not letting you off the hook though! My question is this: what is in your life to keep you thinking about the things of God across your day and week?

Christian radio is no more than another medium to encourage you and to turn your heart and mind back to God across the day.

If your days are consumed by other things that don't align with Philippians 4:8 maybe the question to ask yourself is why not?

Christian Media and its role in evangelism?

At 1WAY FM we see and hear accounts of people being transformed by our message. We hear stories of the miraculous; where someone has been suicidal, flicked on the station by accident and been saved by the Word of God. Or people in relationships that are falling apart, then God imparts change in them through a message. But I would suggest this is the sovereignty of God rather than the prime intention of the station.

Evangelism by its nature is more about what we do when we are not in Church, rather than what we do in Church (or when listening to the radio). While radio is undoubtedly used by God to save the lost, the fact is we are generally broadcasting to Christians (or at least those who profess to be Christians). Therefore, the station's core focus is to build up the body to take the message to the world. We believe that as Christians live out their relationship with Christ in their day-to-day connections and relationships, the world will be changed!

When looking to evangelism outside of our local church bodies, the real question should be, why radio? As believers in Christ we are told to preach the Gospel to every corner of the world and are given a great example by Paul in Acts 17 on how to use the local language and

culture to reach out in relevant ways.

Finally Why Christian radio?

Christian radio will relate to some and not others. But ask a 1WAY FM presenter about their interactions with listeners – they'll tell you about emails and phone calls thanking them for a radio station with music and content that encourages and supports them through their day. The personal accounts we receive from people who, in various ways, were encouraged or inspired through our programming to connect with their Creator testifies to the effectiveness of Christian radio. It just works!

Radio is only one medium that reflects the lessons of Paul and others in the Scriptures who used culture to redeem souls. We have access where the general evangelist doesn't – in cars, work places, and even the privacy of people's bedrooms. What better way to supplement the work of the world's evangelists, pastors, and teachers than by subtly (but very purposefully) injecting the Truth of the Gospel into people's lives in a way that is inarguably the most accessible and potent medium available?

Tune into 1WAY on 91.9 FM or in Tuggeranong on 94.3 FM.





REALMEN CONFERENCE 2013

The 2013 REALMEN Conference was held in Sydney on the 26th and 27th of July.

Those that went along this year came back challenged and encouraged by the messages they heard. Some of the guys have shared their 'take home' messages from REALMEN to now motivate us. This is just a taste, with more to come in future issues of Whiteboard.

The thing that struck home with me the most was Pastor Paul Scanlon's talks, particularly about maintaining a margin. That is, don't work everything so close to the edge or limit. Make sure you have some spare capacity so you can adjust if things don't go as planned. I think I sometimes get a little moody and grumpy if things don't go as I planned because of this. He also spoke about Jesus going off to be alone frequently, this is something I rarely do and probably need to do a lot more of.

- Jacques Linssen

Pastor Paul Scanlon spoke about processing our journey. Some of the main points he made were:

- An event in our life is only as good as the process – it is the process that creates growth, not the event in itself.
- There are two voices in every room – that of the speaker and that of myself interpreting the message. What I say about what was said will determine the message.

Proverbs 23:7 – As a man thinketh in his heart, so he believes.

- It is our voice that creates our belief, so we need to shift the belief system.
- We can be free from Egypt but still a slave to our beliefs.

- Colin Webster

Pastor Phil Pringle gave 14 points on what type of character he looks for in a MAN IN CHURCH.

1. Mighty Man
2. Helper
3. Resourceful
4. Committed
5. Skilful and adequately prepared
6. Courageous
7. Tithes and should be baptised
8. Not slow but swift to act
9. Ever ready
10. Willing to have another go
11. United in the vision of the leader of the church
12. Insightful and prophetic
13. Ready to go out to battle
14. Can keep rank

- John Gallagher

Did you know that you can register now for REALMEN 2014? Next year's conference will be held on the 15th and 16th of August 2014. Check the ad on the the last page of Whiteboard.

MISSIONS TRIP: INDONESIA



This month in Whiteboard, we hear from Matt D'Aquino about his recent missions trip to Solo, Indonesia.

So I wanted to write a short article on our trip to Solo. But I had to re-write the first draft because it was massive and, to be honest, we are all too busy to read a novel. Put simply though, the mission's trip was incredible!

I never thought in my wildest dreams that I would go on a missions trip, or pray for people in another country, do a prayer drive or tell my testimony and inspire people to chase God with all their hearts. But on this trip we did all that and more.

We arrived in Solo at around 7am, where we had a quick two hour break to explore our hotel before heading off to a Compassion project. At the Compassion project we learnt that through our contribution as a church, the project had grown from 190 to 243 children, which was so awesome and inspiring. It was so cool to see that – through our contribution – the project was able to have such a massive impact on the community around it. The Compassion project is run through the local church, and every day after school they hold extracurricular activities and classes such as maths, English and bible study. Through the program the children are provided with extra support and education, which in turn gives them a shot at a better life.

I was also lucky enough to talk about being an elite level athlete and Olympian. I got to teach some Judo

(to the horror of some kids) and Jamie got to teach some dance moves with some help from Pastor Steve (boy can he move)!

Throughout the day we had an interpreter named Liberty, who was actually a graduate of the Compassion project. She came through the project because she and her family were living just above the poverty line and, through Compassion's help, she was able to go to university and get a degree. She is now studying her masters and works as a Compassion volunteer teaching English. Honestly, if you don't sponsor a Compassion child, then I highly recommend you do, because it really does change families' lives in a huge way.

Over the next two days the women on our trip ran a women's night. So, luckily for me and Steve, we were able to go to a men's night, where I shared my testimony and Pastor Steve talked on learning to share and take on responsibility. He also talked about learning to give, learning to connect, learning to accept responsibility and learning to share with passion. On the second night, Pastor Steve preached on managing our expectations and the fact that there is always more to God.

We also did a heap of sightseeing and looking around Solo. But the highlight for my trip was being able to speak and show some Judo at the youth service on Saturday night and the three church

services on Sunday. The Holy Spirit was in each meeting like crazy, and I think I cried more and connected with God more there than I have in a long while.

Throughout the trip I learnt and saw Pastor Steve and Deb's passion for people, passion for connecting and passion for seeing the c3 vision come to pass. It was awesome to see Pastor Steve preach at the men's nights – you can see the passion he has for men to be men. Men of God.

I loved seeing that, although we are in different countries, we are still worshipping the same God and God is moving all over the world. I loved talking and telling my testimony, and I loved how we so often got told we were talking with only one day to prepare. This forced you to rely on God and get it done.

I really felt this trip has stretched my capacity to pray

for people, to feel more deeply what other people feel and to preach. Since being back, I kinda want to be living and doing church stuff everyday like we did over there.

I encourage you guys to come along to the next missions trip. Get out of your comfort zone and do it. We didn't go around door-knocking and preaching on street corners; we simply went to church every day, had a few 5am prayer meetings and shared to other believers what God has done and is doing in our lives. Through sharing our faith we can build each other up and in doing so build His house.

Thanks Matt – your honest account of this trip is inspiring. It will no doubt encourage us to get out of our comfort zones.

A FINAL THOUGHT

THE MINISTRY OF HANGIN' OUT

With our church this month focussed on evangelism, Geoff Herbig gives us his approach to spreading the message of Christ.

One of the best jobs I ever had was working in a day and boarding school as a youth worker. What more could you want than to go to work and hang out with an awesome bunch of kids playing football or cricket, or just sitting around comparing the latest artwork or new music?

I used to think of it as a chilled out, nothing kind of job. Then someone explained to me 'the ministry of hangin' out'. The key to Jesus' ministry during His time on earth wasn't the miracles or the big sermons He gave – it was the relationships He built and the stories He told while sitting around sharing a meal or chillin' out with people. It's the same for us. The key to our lives as God's followers is not trying to heal or save everyone we meet on the spot, but it's about getting into their world and sharing their lives. In other words, hanging out.

The value in this type of relationship was never more evident to me than one night while working at the school. After taking a group

of boarding students to a Youth Alive event, one student, before hopping off the bus, asked me to wait. They had something to give me. The resulting 'gift' was a razor that the student had been hiding in their boarding room. They didn't want it anymore. What had started as a mutual appreciation for each other's doodling, sketch art and punk music had – after about 8 months – turned into a relationship that allowed this person to trust me enough to share a heavy burden of self-harm.

We don't need fancy words or flashy miracles to help people come to know Christ; we just need to be Jesus. Just hang out!

Who do you 'just hang out' with?

SAVE THE DATE

Mark it in your diaries now - Saturday 5 October 2013. We'll be having Mr Jim Wallace joining us for our men's breakfast. It's another one not to be missed. Read about Mr Wallace's background below.



BIOGRAPHY – JIM WALLACE

Jim Wallace AM, Deputy Chairman of the Board of the Australian Christian Lobby (ACL).

Mr Wallace left the Army as a Brigadier in late 2000 after a 32-year career which included command of the SAS Regiment, Special Forces, and the Army's mechanised Brigade of 3,000 personnel and most of the Army's fighting vehicles. He is a graduate of Duntroon in Canberra, the British Army Staff College and the Australian College of Defence and Strategic Studies.

Mr Wallace served as a UN Observer in the Golan Heights and Lebanon with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation.

In 1984 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for his services to counter-terrorism. He has been a Visiting Fellow at the Australian Defence Studies Centre and has served on the Council of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute and the National Consultative Committee for International Security Issues.

He was the Managing Director of ACL for 13 years until May 2013 when he was appointed Deputy Chairman.

Mr Wallace and his family worship at Hughes Baptist Church in Canberra.

WE NEED YOU

Whiteboard exists for the men of C3 Monash. It's not just a newsletter - it's a platform for us to share what's been going on in our lives, encourage others in our experiences and generally get to know each other better. If you have a story, scripture or something else you'd like to see published, let us know. We'll also include 'for sale' and 'wanted' items if you have them. Contact John Gallagher on the details below for any contributions you may have. And, of course, we welcome your suggestions and feedback.

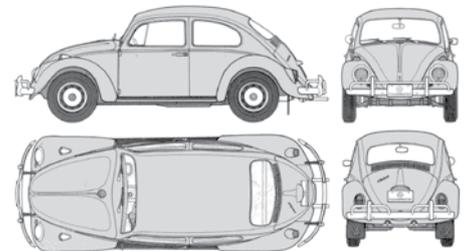
C3 Church Monash: 184 Clive Steele Ave,
Monash, ACT - Ph: 6298 5900

RealMen: John Gallagher - Ph: 0409 125 021,
johng@c3monash.org.au

Connect: Graham & Pat Cumming - Ph: 6154 0482



AUTO EVENT



German Auto Display Day

Old Parliament House Lawns
Sunday 22 September, 10am - 3pm.

Displays by the ACT German car clubs - Audi, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Volkswagen.

Congratulations

A big shout out to Jared Pritchard, who announced his engagement to Zoe Nerdal in July. The happy couple are now busy planning their big day. Congratulations to you both!

