

# LIVING OUT THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS.

## THE LOGIC OF GOD

There is an interesting encounter between Jesus and the paralytic in Luke's Gospel 5:17-26. The friends of this man did everything they could to bring him within the sight and touch of Jesus. And what did they hear as they lowered their friend down?

***"Which of the two is harder," asked Jesus. "To bring physical healing or to forgive a person's sins?"***

The answer appears self-evident—to bring physical healing is harder because that would be such a miraculous thing, visible to the naked eye. The invisible act of forgiveness had far less evidentiary value. Yet as we ponder we discover in life that the way God works is so different from the way we expect. We move from the material to the spiritual in terms of the spectacular, but God moves from the spiritual to the material in terms of the essential.

**The physical is the concrete external—a comparative shadow. The spiritual is the intangible internal—the actual objective.**

***Do you ever feel that you are chasing shadows?***

Chasing them because they are a haunting enticement of the substance without being the substance themselves. Jesus was so aware of this weakness in us that He often used something more dramatic to help us see what is of greater importance to God.

Every day I look at the hurt in the world and the seemingly desensitization that people have to the Gospel message—the message that cleanses the soul, heals the inner being and brings light to the body. Our world is weighed down with pain, fear, suffering and poverty. People turn a blind eye to the hope in the Gospel and instead turn to the familiar in their lives. Sadly both body and soul are forgotten in the process. The cost in human suffering is beyond computation.

In such a world the question becomes—does Jesus still lift body and soul out of the shadow and bring it into the light? I believe He does. It is Christ who shows that unless a person's pain is understood, one will never understand a person's soul.



### Sunday Services

|           |                         |                           |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aug 11th  | Preacher Judi           |                           |
| Readings: | Isaiah 1:1 & 10-20 Marg | Hebrews 11:1-3 & 8-18 Bob |
| Helpers—  | Marg and Bob            | Communion: Noel           |
| Aug 18th  | Preacher Judi.          |                           |
| Readings: | Isaiah 5:1-7 Jeanne     | Hebrews 11:229-12:2 Leah  |
| Helpers—  | Jeanne and Leah         | Communion Judi            |



**ALPHA** Our group is running a few weeks behind due to illness. However, 5 of us met on Monday evening to watch the DV—How can I have faith? We enjoyed a lively discussion following this. This coming Monday we will discuss our timetable and abilities for people to attend the proposed weekend sessions on the Holy Spirit.

**Donations for Pantry:** We received a number of great donations this week including our new monthly donations from two local Aged Care Residences;

**Prayer Room.** Please feel free to use our Prayer/Lounge room during the week. It is a nice spot to sit, read scripture, pray and light a candle. .

**Homelessness for the full month of August.** We have begun with a bang, working with Local MP Tim Richardson. This week our breakfast was joined by a number of students from the local Chelsea Primary School and teacher. Photos were taken as a great kick off to our month.

Pastor Judi would love to see a number of you support Homelessness by popping past the church on Sat/Sun 12/13th August and Sat/Sun 17/18th August to assist with sorting donations of items as well as having a go at painting/.drawing/writing on our calico sheet which will be situated in the hall. This will be used to promote the success of the program.

**Tony and Len** are collaborating on a quarterly newsletter to be provided to Pay it Forward and other supporters of our Care Works Outreach programs. We eagerly await the first edition.

**Len** has also agreed to take on responsibility of collating and printing our church newsletter. This will commence for our next Newsletter as we experiment with returning to the smaller version but with readable print. Please chat to Len about any ideas/articles or interest. These must be to Len by no later than Wednesday afternoons.

**Financials** Pastor Judi was able to complete all our documentation and have it signed

## PRAYER ROOM/LOUNGE

### PRAYER MEETING

Friday's at 10am for 1/2 hour. All are welcome.

### LADIES BIBLE STUDY:

Friday's 10:30 - 1130am.



3-5 Blantyre Ave  
Chelsea

Ph: 03 9773 0301  
Rev. Judi - 0423 375 714

[www.chelseachurchofchrist.org.au](http://www.chelseachurchofchrist.org.au)

### *The Pastor Is In:*

Pastor Judi provides pastoral care to all who attend the church and overall site throughout the week. She is able to meet on or off site, depending on your preferences. Best contact 0423 375 714. Please note Judi does not work Tuesdays/Thursdays or Saturdays. However will return your call if it is an emergency.