

January 29th 2023



Chelsea Community
Church of Christ and
Careworks Inc.

3-5 Blantyre Ave
Chelsea. 3196.

“OUR ANCHOR OF HOPE—GOD”

You are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are His child, God has made you also an heir. Galatians 4:7

Have you ever said, “It’s my life. I’m free to do whatever makes me happy”?

After a while, whatever you choose to pursue—popularity, alcohol, relationships, living selfishly, or trying hard to be perfect—becomes something that controls you instead of you controlling it. Soon the choice doesn’t feel like a choice at all.

Instead of being free, you’re a slave.

Before we commit our lives to Jesus we are slaves to sin. Even if we try to be good, we still aren’t free. Freedom is an illusion. We are tangled up in our sin, and it is impossible to set ourselves free.

When we commit our lives to Jesus, we are freed from our slavery. Only God brings real freedom. He frees us from everything we’ve been controlled by. Only God—who is absolutely perfect and all-powerful—can make us his children and save us. Jesus forgives us. Jesus heals us. Jesus makes us whole. Don’t be discouraged if you don’t see instant change.

The more you know God, the more you will become the person God created you to be. He knows what your purpose is, what is best for you, what you are good at, and how your experiences will be used in the future. He will help you get past what holds you back. He will make you whole.

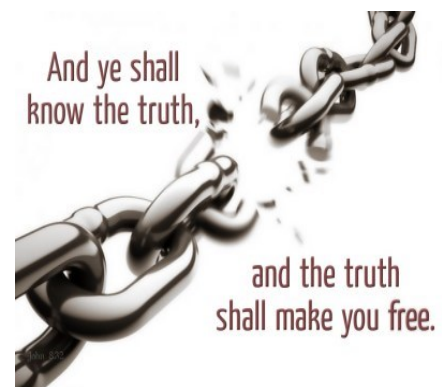
Read what the Gospel of John says in Chapter 8:31-36 to help you identify:

What are some things you are a slave to?

What does it mean to be a slave to sin?

What will the truth do?

How does it feel to know you are a child of God and set free?



Works completed on our Annex Roof. Our plumber, Gordon and his son Doug completed works on the replacement of corrugated iron roof. As funds were not available, there are still further urgent works to be completed. If you would like to contribute to our Building fund to help, please speak to Kay.

Community Garden. One of our breakfast/pantry guests got stuck into the back garden on Wednesday afternoon. He has done a marvellous job. He has indicated he would care for the area every Wednesday after his breakfast.

Espresso Yourself. 8 of us enjoyed another hour of friendship and laughter over a cuppa and snacks. We met at the Café Peru in Chelsea and will meet there again in 2 weeks time—Thursday 9th February.

Breakfast and Pantry people are still benefitting from these free services, with a number of new guests finding their way to us for food and support. Breakfast is open to anyone, so why not pop along, as a church member to see what happens. There is always the need for good listeners to be on hand.

Men's Group unfortunately Anthony is unable to continue offering this informal group to men in the community. We will, however, continue to explore opportunities for someone to take on this group.

Do you have a favourite hymn, poem or scripture passage? If so, Kay would love to chat with you and insert it into our newsletter. It would be great if you could include the reasons why it is a favourite for you.

Justice and Mission: Di is our Justice and Mission person and is keen to hear if you have interests in particular speakers so we can expand our horizons to include what is happening throughout the world, in particular, the spreading of the Gospel. Currently we have been considering: Common Grace; International Justice Mission and Open Door. We would like to have a guest speaker once a quarter, if the cost is not prohibitive.

This fortnight's question for you to ponder.

How has God guided your interests and hobbies?

You may wish to review past and present hobbies and perhaps any future ones you may be considering.

Sermons for February

5th—Salt and Light—true and false

12th—The Lord and anger

19th—The Transfiguration

First Sunday of Lent

26th—Who will you listen to?

Mondays: Pastoral care/prayer support by appointment with Pastor Judi

Wednesdays: Food Pantry 7am to 11.30am;

Big Breakfast 7am to 10am and

Orange Sky Laundry 7am to 8.30am.

Fridays: Prayer meeting 9.30-10:30am

Women's Bible Study 10:30-11:45am.

Sundays: **Worship service 10am** followed by a cuppa and a chat.