

JULY 2018

Sunday 1

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

Holiday Club Wrap-up

Mark 15v33-39

Sean Savides

(Missions prayer meeting between the morning services – will be meeting upstairs on the balcony at 9.15am)

Sunday 8

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

Psalms 8 : Nathan Lovell

Tuesday 10

9.00am Hiking: Maytnus Rocks. Meet at Vallyland, bring a jacket, strong shoes, water & something for tea. Contact Carole 0812356809 with any questions.

Saturday 14

8.30am Valley Inter-Church Prayer Meeting. Venue: St Margaret's, 4th Ave, Fish Hoek

Sunday 15

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

Psalms 46 : Nathan Lovell

Tuesday 17 – Term 3

Friday 20

CoolClub 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 1-4

7UP 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 5-7

Hood 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Grade 8-12

Saturday 21

10.00am Craft Group meets in the Children's Centre

Sunday 22 -Baptism at 10.00am

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

Psalms 110 : Carel Pienaar

Monday 23

Fellowship Social Week

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 24

9.00am Hiking: Sunbird Valley. Meet at Vallyland, bring a jacket, strong shoes, water & something for tea. Contact Carole 0812356809 with any questions.

10.00am Stay & Play

Friday 27

CoolClub 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 1-4

7UP 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 5-7

Hood 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Grade 8-12

Saturday 28

Fellowship Leaders Training

Sunday 29

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

Winter Life: Is God anti-sex?

Sean Savides

Monday 30

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 31

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

Be like Jesus Study 1

August 2018

Wednesday 1 August

Fellowship Groups

Be like Jesus Study 1

Friday 3

Winter Life Family Event

Saturday 4

Winter Life Men's Event

Sunday 5

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

Winter Life: Is God anti-fun?

Jon Morrison

Monday 6

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 7

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

Be like Jesus Study 2

Wednesday 8 August

Fellowship Groups

Be like Jesus Study 2

Thursday 9 – Saturday 11

(Public Holiday)

Winter Life Art Exhibition

Saturday 11

8.30am Valley Inter-Church Prayer Meeting. Venue: NG Kerk, Kommetjie Rd, Fish Hoek

Sunday 12

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

Winter Life: Is God anti-culture?

Carel Pienaar

Monday 13

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 14

9.00am Hiking: Cobra Camp, Kommetjie. Meet at Vallyland, bring a jacket, strong shoes, water & something for tea. Contact Carole 0812356809 with any questions.

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

Be like Jesus Study 3

Wednesday 15

Fellowship Groups

Be like Jesus Study 3

Friday 17

CoolClub 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 1-4

7UP 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 5-7

Hood 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Grade 8-12

Saturday 18

10.00am Craft Group meets in the Children's Centre

Sunday 19

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

2 Timothy 1v1-12

Carel Pienaar

Monday 20

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 21

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

2 Timothy 1v1-12

Wednesday 22

Fellowship Groups

2 Timothy 1v1-12

Friday 24

CoolClub 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 1-4

7UP 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 5-7

Hood 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Grade 8-12

Saturday 25

Cape Town Men's Convention

Sunday 26

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

2 Timothy 1v13-18

Murray Anderson

Tuesday 28

9.00am Hiking Silvermine Craggs East. (Entrance money needed) Meet at Vallyland, bring a jacket, strong shoes, water & something for tea. Contact Carole 0812356809 with any questions.

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

2 Timothy 1v1-12

Wednesday 28

Fellowship Groups

2 Timothy 1v1-12

The Call of Every Christian...

When we read Jesus' great commission in Matthew 28:18-20, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..." or Acts 1:8, "...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." We might be tempted to think that this call is only for a small select group of special people, like the Apostles, Paul, Apollos and Timothy. Or some great missionaries and evangelists (like Hudson Taylor or Billy Graham). Yet, it is important to remember and realize that these commands are for every single person of Jesus' people. Here are two things to remember...

- **Jesus called every believer to witness to Him**

Historians are often amazed by the rapid spread of Christianity in the 1st Century to the 4th Century. For example, when Constantine became emperor and signed the Edict of Milan in 313 A.D., approximately 10% of the Roman Empire's population claimed to be Christian. Even so, it is a mistake to believe that this growth was primarily due to full-time pastors and teachers. As important as the pastors and teachers were (like Irenaeus or Tertullian who kept the church grounded in Jesus and His mission), the ultimate reason Christianity spread was because of the witness of every Christian. Wherever Jesus' people lived or worked, they used every opportunity to tell people about Jesus.

The main critics of Christianity picked up on this. For example, Celsus who lived during the reign of Marcus Aurelius (2nd Century), wrote this about the spread of Christianity in his anti-Christian work "The True Word",
"In some private homes we find people who work with wool and rags, and cobblers, that is, the least cultured and most ignorant kind. Before the head of the household, they dare not utter a word. But as soon as they can take children aside or some women who are as ignorant as they are, they speak wonders... If you really wish to know the truth, leave your teachers and your father, and go with the women and the children to the women's quarters, or to the cobbler's shop, or to the tannery, and there you will learn the perfect life. It is thus that these Christians find those who will believe them..."

Notice what irked Celsus: it was that ordinary people claimed to know the truth. In Roman and Greek societies, only the wealthy

could afford an education and become teachers/philosophers. Christianity turned this upside down. Those who talked about Jesus were cobblers, tanners, women and children. People who would not be considered "qualified" for teaching. Yet, that is the wonder of the Gospel. The people Jesus chose to witness and teach about Him were fisherman, tax collectors and zealots (cf. Matt. 4:18-22). The first people to witness about the risen Jesus were women (Lk 24:1ff). Everyone in the Early Church understood that they were called to tell their neighbours about Jesus and that is what they did.

Yet, why they felt they could do it was not because of their own ability, but because of Jesus' promise...

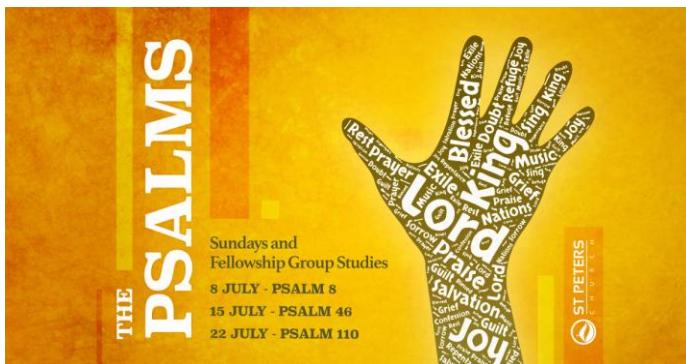
- **Jesus empowers every believer with the Holy Spirit to witness**

Notice in Matthew 28:18-20 the reasons why the disciples were able to make disciples. It was not because of their education or background that enabled them. Firstly, the One who commissions them has all authority, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me". The One who sends them is the All-Powerful Messianic King who has supreme authority and rule over all things. Secondly, they will not be doing this alone. Jesus promises that He will be with them always, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." The One who sends us is also the One who is eternally with us.

How Jesus will be with us is explained in John 14-16 and Acts 1. It is by the indwelling presence of God the Holy Spirit, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you". Every believer has received the gift of the Holy Spirit. The reason we can go out and tell people about Jesus is because we are empowered by God the Holy Spirit to do so. As the prophet Zechariah told Zerubbabel when rebuilding the temple. We are able to do what we do, "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit" (Zech. 4:6).

We live in a Valley of approximately 80 000-100 000 people. Realize that all of us are called to witness to this Valley about Jesus (like the cobblers and tanners in the Early Church). Also realize that the same Spirit that empowered God's people back then, still empowers us today. So go out and tell someone about Jesus...

Carel Pienaar



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