

Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; Ps 62:5

"Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise our persons, but they are helpless against our prayers." J Sidlow Baxter

"I have so much to do I shall spend the first three hours in prayer." Martin Luther

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went to a solitary place and prayed. Mk 1:35

"Scripture is eternally true, always applicable and perfectly sufficient to meet all our spiritual needs." John Macarthur

What's on this week

Today		Global Interaction speaker Chris Barnden - Acting General Director
		Church Lunch
	1.00pm	Quarterly Business Meeting
Tuesday	10.00am	Linking Hands Craft Group
Wed, Thurs, Fri	9.30am	Bizzy Butterflies Playgroup
Friday	7.00pm	LifeQuest Diamond Smugglers

A number of Home Groups meet on various days/evenings through the week

What Is Truth?

Humanism says man is the truth;

Pragmatism says whatever works is the truth;

Pluralism says everyone has a piece of the truth;

Relativism says each situation determines the truth;

Mysticism says intuition is the truth;

Skepticism says no one can know the truth;

Hedonism says whatever feels good is the truth;

Existentialism says self-determination is the truth;

Secularism says this present world is the truth;

Positivism says whatever man confesses is the truth.

This is the world in which we live: the rejection of the truth.

– Ligonier Ministries



Please stay behind after our service this morning for a time of fellowship over tea or coffee.

We need to stack the chairs after our service this morning.

The disposable coffee cups and lids are recyclable. Please leave them near the coffee machine so they can be rinsed and placed in the recycle bin.



Drouin Baptist Church

13 – 15 Bennett Street, Drouin

www.drouinbaptistchurch.org.au

Pastor: Stephen Young 0439 420 201

Sunday 27th May, 2018

Our Mission:

Engage the God-seeker,

Establish disciples in community,

Equip the saints for service,

Expand the Kingdom of God into all the earth.

WELCOME

We hope that you feel at home with us this morning as we collectively focus our hearts, minds and activities on God, and desire only that He be exalted. Creche and Sunday School programs are on today for children from 2 to 4, and 5-12 years of age.

Things you should never say (continued)

8. "Why don't 'they' do something?"

A friend says three groups of people can be found in every congregation. There are consumers: "Just browsing." There are customers: "We come to this church because of the music program" (or children's, missions, Bible teaching, etc). If you cancel that program, they leave. And there are the shareholders: Announce a work day and these are the ones who show up. You build a church with the shareholders, not with the other two groups, although most of the latter were one of the former previously.

9. "The preacher is a dictator"

Now, some preachers have been known to tyrannize congregations, so let us admit that up front. There is no place for that in the household of God. However, **Acts 20:28** says the Holy Spirit makes the pastors the overseers of the church, and **Hebrews 13:17** calls on us to submit to those who are over us in the Lord.

10. "I don't know what the Bible says, but I know what I believe"

Each believer should bring our convictions and beliefs under the Lordship of Jesus and the authority of God's Word. If we are holding onto a doctrine or belief about which Scripture says otherwise, the spiritually mature will jettison the faulty conviction and stand on the Word. The immature and carnal will insist that being true to his own beliefs—flawed as they are—is the highest form of faithfulness.

I suspect that one of the greatest tests of maturity and faithfulness in the Kingdom is the ability to receive correction from the Word of God, even to the point of giving up cherished beliefs and doctrines we have held dear but now see as mistaken. Let us bring every area of our lives under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



Give Thanks

Monday 28 - Thursday 31 May

The Global Interaction family gives thanks and praise for the hearts of Australian Baptists. For all who have served historically and today in advancing the Gospel to bring Jesus to the least-reached.

Scripture:

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17

Please give thanks and praise to God:

28 M.

For those who discern and follow the calling to serve in or support cross cultural mission

29 T.

For the protection and safety of cross-cultural workers and all involved in this ministry at home and abroad

30 W.

For His provision and resources, nourishment, and fruits of our labour as together we branch out to share the Gospel and build the Kingdom of Heaven.

31 T.

For all who have served historically and as custodians today as pastors, leaders, directors, staff and volunteers in support of those called to mission.

Throughout May you have prayed for the people and work of Global Interaction. Prayer points for the rest of the year can be found on the Global Interaction website globalinteraction.org.au/resources/pray.

By praying for our Global Interaction teams and financially supporting a project that will enable one of those teams to strongly engage with their community at a point of real need, we have helped to make a difference to the Kingdom of God as lives are transformed. Continue to pray for our Silk Road team.

To tithe, or not to tithe - that is the question

Many Christians struggle with the broader issue of financially supporting the local church, other ministries and various charities. This struggle may range from sincerely wanting to honour God but not being quite sure how to do it financially through to seeing how little one can give and still feel OK. Any comment about giving is controversial because every man and his dog has a 'clear word from the Lord' about how it should be done.

Tithing is an Old Testament concept. The tithe was a requirement of the Law in which the Israelites were to give 10% of the crops they grew and the livestock they raised to the tabernacle/temple (Leviticus 27:30; Numbers 18:26; Deuteronomy 14:24; 26:12-13; 2 Chronicles 31:5). In fact, the Old Testament Law required multiple tithes—one for the Levites, one for the use of the temple and the feasts, and one for the poor of the land—which would have pushed the total to around 23.3%. Some understand the Old Testament tithe as a method of taxation to provide for the needs of the priests and Levites in the sacrificial system. To not tithe was a bit like tax evasion today, and was condemned by God (Malachi 3:8-10).

Tithing is not the New Testament standard for giving. Giving reflects the condition of the heart Mt 6:21, and even at 23% we are still nowhere near the amount we give the tax man who then goes on to waste some of it.

On 6th May I wrote a brief article about Christian Giving in the church newsletter. Check it out on the church website. I would like to enlarge on one point in that article – Love. The Christian life is fundamentally a love relationship with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love for us saw Him give His only begotten Son so that we might enter into life at its best – eternal life, here and now, as well as later. In the incarnation the greatest example of love is expressed through a gift. To love is to give, not just generously but sacrificially. We love, because He first loved us 1 John 4:19. Our love's response to God's love for us is to love like He did through sacrificial giving. Jesus told one rich young man to sell everything he had, give the proceeds (presumably all of it) to the poor and follow Him. So maybe God wants more than our dough. Primarily, He wants us, and when we voluntarily surrender our all to Him, giving sacrificially (in the broadest sense) will automatically follow. It doesn't need a law to make it happen.

Tithing has some commendable points. (1) Those who tithe are often acting in obedience to what they believe God has commanded. (2) Tithing gets some to increase what they give. (3) Tithing helps consistency and discipline in giving. Here are some reasons why I see it as not being God's standard for Christians.

1. Tithing was part of the law of Moses. We are not under the law, This does not mean that we are lawless, because we are under the law of Christ. 1 Cor 9:20-21; Rom 13:8-10.
2. Tithing was an involuntary tax to support temple staff and services.
3. Tithing is not mentioned in any instructions to the church, although much is said about giving.
4. Tithing is not mentioned in any writings of the early church fathers.
5. Tithing puts a wrong emphasis on giving. It emphasises obligation to God, but NT giving is love's response to God's love for us.
6. Tithing can lead to a false concept of stewardship – 10% is God's, 90% is mine.

Because we have been bought with a price, all that we have and are belongs to God. We merely seek to be like God by giving sacrificially, just like He has done for us. Relationship is at its highest when it is driven by love rather than law. To love is to give. The one who loves much will give much Luke 7:36-50.