

...They have a solution for everything. If you present them with a problem they will find the solution. If need be, they will put their hand in their pocket and fix the problem permanently. They evaluate quickly; if it holds people back from reaching their potential in life, and it's just a money problem, they will fix it.

Be humble and love people as you love God

Micah 6:8 says, "And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercifully, walk humbly with your God". Some people are hard to love; they are so self-absorbed, and focus only on themselves. Norman Vincent Peal said, "People with humility don't think less of themselves. They just think about themselves less."

Be a person that hangs around with encouraging life enrichers.

We all have enough 'poisoners' and 'lawn mowers' in our lives, we need to get around encouragers and read encouraging testimonies and autobiographies. Seek out DVD's and CD's of people who have overcome in the Christian faith. There are some great stories and books and some great Christian web sites.

Crucial character Traits to fulfil our God given purposes in the Fellowship.

Persistence
Persistence is stubbornness with a purpose. It is a determination with a goal in mind.

Humility
Be down to earth, people relate to friendly warmth, you and I are just a sinner saved by grace.

Kindness
Be kind like Jesus. As you get older you understand that most people are trying to do things right, and the few who aren't, just never got their act together, so be kind to them.

Honesty
Never do what is best for the moment, do what is right. You get a reputation for it, they'll say about you, "if he says it, you can depend on it."

Hard work
Many are self made men, they have worked hard to be where they are today through discipline and sacrifice. We made it, they say.

Don't take credit for your achievements, instead, let's give credit to God for giving us the ability, to work is a gift. Look at those who can't work, they are truly sad.

Optimism
Optimism is to believe that life is good, that people are good, and that God is good. Live life in such a way that it inspires the next generation.

Bill Sgro National President



"We pray your special touch will bring new life."

FROM THE PRAYER ENCOURAGER

When I heard the weather report about hail and snow I thought about many fire victims still living in trying circumstances. I have seen their frustrations at the community meetings as they wonder how long it will be before their blocks are cleared, or building permits sorted out, including the criteria for building in fire areas. People are living in a variety of places including temporary villages on ovals, and caravans, tents. Others are living in houses far removed from their home towns and/or sharing with relatives or friends. So many emotions are coming to the surface, such as anger, grief, frustration, and tiredness as many had been living on adrenalin that had kept them going for so long. The promised grants have taken so long to come through and there are mountains of paper work to be completed.

I am so grateful that we didn't lose our home and I am thankful for the comfort and shelter that it provides for us. At the same time I am very much aware of the compassion, love, and kindness that is flowing from the Lord to others. It's the heart of God that beats within us that shows the love, mercy, and understanding that people so desperately need at this time.



There is so much to be done, now and for a long time to come. On the other hand, the bush is regenerating as new leaves are appearing on burnt trees. The other day my wife painted a picture of the pink flowers growing out of the ashes of a friend's house.

"Lord, we pray that your special touch will bring new life out of the devastation that the fires have caused. Let your loving kindness flow through us and others that will show the compassion that is needed at this time for the hurting. Let your loving arms be around and underneath them to carry them through. Give us the strength to keep running the race before us. We think of our nation at this time as there is not only fires but drought and floods. In our hour of need we pray that you will cause us as a nation to return to You. In Jesus' name."

Rex Cardwell National Prayer Coordinator

Choose to love



A message from the national encourager

We should praise God for the Love of God that flows through our National President, Bill Sgro and his wife Joy. Their commitment to establishing the love, unity, and encouragement is becoming a hallmark of our Chapter meetings.

Using the four letters of the word LOVE as keys will help us to remember the incredible power God has given us to extend the love of Jesus in our own lives and the lives of people we come in contact with.

Liberating ourselves and others in God's love through His Word.

"If any man is in Christ he is a new creation. Old things have passed away and all things have become new." 2 Cor 5:17.

God has given us this wonderful key to liberate us from past abuses, failures, and existing binding habits such as drug addiction, alcohol, pornography, anger, and the many manifestations of sin that beset us. By grasping, affirming and applying this truth. Again, the Bible tells you that "if we confess our sins God is faithful to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness". 1 John 1:9. Let us do a daily housekeeping of the temple of God which is our body, by confession and repentance, allowing the indwelling Spirit of Jesus to have full reign over our lives, giving us that glorious freedom that brings heaven down to earth.

Oneness with God and each other through love.

Jesus's prophetic prayer in John chapter 17:21 - 23 was that "we would be one with each other as He was with us and the Father was with Him". Even as we pray "Our Father" in the Lord's Prayer, we are affirming our brotherhood to each other and the fatherhood of God. Let us, in our prayers and attitude, ever honour our Father by acknowledging Him in all our ways and honour each other by our love, respect and encouragement.

Virtue released in our lives by love.

Virtue in our character is constantly being released by walking in love as outlined by the word of God. 1 Corinthians chapter 13 states, "love beareth all things; believeth all things, love is patient and kind; etc.

This love is commensurate with the fruit of the Spirit which flows from our relationship with God (Galatians 5:22,23), allowing the virtues of love to ever be our guide and rule. The Lordship of Christ in our lives will attract people to us and allow us to lead them to salvation. Avoid, with determination and discipline, ungodly communication by television, radio, and reading matter that could allow demonic influence of our minds. Always be conscious that our thoughts have power to influence others.

Energising Power of Love.

The more we focus on loving God and allowing His love to control us, the more we shall channel His energy through us and into the lives of others. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings of eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:31). We are to love others as we love ourselves. It is very important to see ourselves as cleansed by the Blood of Christ and a new creation by the indwelling life of Jesus. By affirmation, speak into our lives the Word of God.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me". There are many Scriptures relating to our position in God. Psalm 91, Psalm 18, Mark 16:18 etc. The love of God gives us a powerful self image as we reflect on His Word. The better we feel about ourselves the more we will honour and encourage others.

Finally, let us all, by embracing and releasing the love of God, leave in our wake an influence that will allow the Holy Spirit to continue to enlarge the Kingdom of God by watering the seed we have sown into peoples' lives.

Love you all,

Tony Brain
National Encourager



The Port Stephens Chapter FGBMFI

Chapter President.

Peter Arena.m.0414 676 080

I write this with the view that there will be many going through what I have been through to this point in my walk with the Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that what I write will help and encourage those who read it.

When I arrived in Port Stephens I had been through the wringer of life, there was little left, I thought I would not recover in deed I was at death's door step. 2000. However with perseverance and some time to repair the Lord put me back together. I was then like someone who needed a good meal. I was feeling dry and thought of the great FGBMFI meetings that I had attended in Sydney in the 80's...I phoned around and did not find one.

At this point I prayed a simple prayer Lord if you want me involved in the FGBMFI. Please open a door! I didn't think too much of it after that. About June 2007 I was on a Newcastle train station a man walked up to out of nowhere and started to talk to me about Jesus, the chat culminated with him saying I should talk to Dr. Ed Kwan in Sydney, whom I had met 10 yrs prior also in amazing circumstances.

I contacted Dr. Kwan, we spoke about the things The Lord had been doing to refine us both since we last met, he then put me in touch with Jim Brown NSW President. After a number of prayer meetings I was commissioned as chapter President September 2007.

From that time forward The Lord has worked steadily through the FGBMFI not only in those who have attended the meetings but me also. Our first meetings had good attendance and also during 2008, with Salvations and Baptisms in The Spirit. A pinnacle came when in March 2008; I met Pastor James Jacob from Orissa India. As he entered the meeting he came straight to me and asked if he could pray for me. I found out later what God had started through our first meeting. I felt to invite him to Port Stephens where we had two meetings, local Churches provided the venues. The Thursday night meeting had 300 people from many denominations. With salvations, healings & numerous words of knowledge which went to the core of peoples needs.

We continued through 08 with many good meetings & speakers but again with Bro Jacobs return in March, we had a Holy Ghost Explosion! This time there were 9 meetings where people were really deeply touched in more than seven denominations. The High point was Angels being visible in one meeting that appeared as small lights touching people with great power. In Particular for me I was touched, changed & empowered.

As I went about organising the meetings God connected me with the local Churches & Pastors, through this God led me very clearly. Each time I went to my present Church I was touched by the power of God in a powerful and unusual way. He was showing me very clearly where I was to go. Through this church I am receiving total recognition & support from the pastors.

Queensland - State Report



“What a roll out of members and members of the public. Prayer works!”

PETER MONSON
QLD State Director

During the month of April, Bernie Grey, Major Alan Laurens and myself conducted a ministry tour throughout the state. The response from members and the general public has taken the awareness of FGB to new levels in the community. The power of the ministry was enormous and each town we visited put on excellent functions. Here's a snapshot of the tour.

Brisbane - Involved with the Brisbane Chapter in street ministry, feeding the hungry at Sandgate. Prayed that the cyclone off the coast would not impeded our journey... Prayer answered! Was given a vehicle and free fuel for the trip. What a blessing!

Family Camp - Place divine, the atmosphere matched.

Maryborough - Welcomed with open arms. We are believing to start a Chapter here.

Bundaberg - 230 people attended this function.

Yeppoon and Rockhampton - New Regional Mayor who wants to host a function next year.

Mackay - 25 attended the function. A number of first timers.

Townsville - A real blessing to you.

Ingham - Members of both Rotary clubs were in awe of the talk given by Alan.

Cairns - 25 attended with 7 first timers. What a dinner!

Charters Towers - Prayer line finished one and a half hours after the end of the service.

Lady testified to being healed of bowel cancer after being prayed for five years ago.

Cloncurry - Approximately 30 attended the Mayoral Prayer Breakfast.

Longreach - 60 attended the Mayoral Prayer Breakfast. Mayor delighted with the outcome.

Chinchilla - 50 attended the Mayoral Prayer Breakfast.

Mayor Brown was delighted with the event and spoke of staging this in Dalby, the new Regional Council Centre, next year.

Toowoomba - Congratulations to Col and his very effective team.

What a roll out of members and members of the public. Prayer works!

Peter Monson
QLD State Director



Photos

1. Principal and School Captains attending the Dalby Regional Mayoral Prayer Breakfast at Chinchilla.

2. Major Alan Laurens, Bernie Gray, Banana Shire Council Mayor John Hooper at Biloela.

Western Australian - State Report



“We continue to look for promising opportunities to minister to the community...”

DINKO MIOCEVIC
WA Regional Director

Western Australia is such a long way away from the eastern states, yet our colleagues are always encouraging us in prayer and in good works. The Armadale and Malaga groups have amalgamated under the banner of the Perth South Chapter under the leadership of Sunny Wee (formerly Malaysian FGBM). They have about 30 members and have reached out to many business men in the CBD.

Busselton is continuing in its efforts to reach the men of the South West region. Regular monthly functions are reaching between 30

and 40 people, and the gospel is preached through powerful testimonies.

Garry Pratt, who is looking to move to Busselton soon, has begun work with the disadvantaged people of the region. Garry has always had a yearning for the practical outworking of the gospel as a way of sharing God's Word.

Garry, his wife, and Keith Cramer (Busselton Membership Director), have gone to the Philippines on a preaching and teaching mission. Alke Pratt has taken medical supplies and

equipment and will use her nursing skills.

Busselton members have begun lunch time fellowship meetings in Bunbury, 50 km north, and negotiations with pastors and leaders in Margaret River will soon lead to an outreach beginning there.

We continue to look for promising opportunities to minister to the community in WA through testimony and practical means as the Holy Spirit leads.

Dinko Miocevic
WA Regional Director

South Australian - State Report

Naracoorte Chapter hosted an outreach at the Lucindale Field days, a rural event that attracts thousands of farmers and local people of all ages. FGB hired a site and tent and had a dozen or so members and wives 'man' the stand and engage the passer by in conversation, offer free Voice, other tracts, Testimony DVD's as well as tea coffee, and cookies. Overall, a lot of good seed was sown and we know it took root in the hearts of many of those we spoke to.

Adelaide East held an open-air testimony outreach in one of the city squares on the eve of Easter. The speaker was three times world Kung Fu champion, Tony Anthony and music was by John Callaghan who many may remember from his involvement in FGB a number of years ago. We had 6 or so respond

to the excellent Gospel presentation, and many others were witnessed to both at the event and in the surrounding streets. It was also good to work with a couple of the local churches without whom we could not have arranged all the things necessary.

Other Chapters in Adelaide have been meeting for regular Chapter breakfasts and most have regular prayer meetings that are well attended. Adelaide North-East is planning an October Mayoral Prayer breakfast and are progressing well with good cooperation from the local Ministers Fraternal.

Adelaide North is also talking to their local Mayor regarding an Outreach Dinner event in August, this will be held at the local SANFL team clubrooms. Other outreach events are

also being planned including a Father and Son Breakfast, Supper evenings, and more business luncheons, while the Adelaide South Chapter has plans in place for an outreach supper in Unley.

Plans for the SA State Conference in September are underway with details to be confirmed soon once our visiting speakers from FGBMF in Malaysia have set their itinerary.

Apart from that, we have a couple of Chapters currently in recess, and are seeking God for future directions on all fronts. But, we press on, knowing our labours in Him are not in vain (1 Cor 15:58), and we will bear much fruit as we continue to live and move out of our abiding in Him (John 15:5).

Geoff Dyer
SA State Director



"...we are seeking God for future directions on all fronts. But, we press on, knowing our labours in Him are not in vain."

GEOFF DYER
SA State Director

Tasmanian - State Report

Chapter executive meetings commenced in late January. As has occurred for the past two years our State Prayer Coordinator arranged and promoted a week of prayer and fasting. This commenced on Monday 23rd of February. As you can imagine, there were some very specific areas of prayer that were targeted during this period.

The first outreach meeting for the North of the state was held in Somerset on February 14. This was a breakfast meeting which

was well attended by new contacts to FGB. Keith and Dawn Hannah were the guest speakers. This meeting went very well.

On March 28 we held our annual State Training Day at Campbell Town in Central Tasmania. During the day there was a good balance of fellowship, music, testimonies, prayer, and teaching. It was a beneficial program for those who attended.

The Tasmania State Conference this year will be held from 23 - 25

October at Camp Banksia, Port Sorell. For anyone from interstate who wishes to attend, the nearest airport, which is only 10 minutes from the venue, is Devonport Airport.

I would like to encourage you all to continue serving diligently in the little things, for it is then that the bigger challenges we encounter seem to just fall into place.

May God bless your efforts.

David Kleyweg
TAS State Director



"I would like to encourage you all to continue serving in the little things..."

DAVID KLEYWEG
TAS State Director

Victorian - State Report



“Our goal should be to bring men and women of God to our Chapters that have the gift of communication...”

BILL SGRO

Acting VIC State Director

The most pleasing activity in any Chapter is to see outreach events where men, women, and children come to the full knowledge of Christ. Unfortunately, for one reason or another, we have not been successful in all Victorian Chapters this year. As the newly appointed State Director, I plan to support the Chapter President's and work with them to accomplish our purposes.

Our goal should be to bring men and women of God to our Chapters that have the gift of

communication and the fire of the Holy Spirit with in them, to leave a mark on the landscape when they leave.

In Victoria we have been praying that we will spread the influence of the fellowship further into the country regions. Establishing three new Chapters in the next twelve months is our aim. We are also working to strengthen what we have.

Plans are well on the way for our up and coming State Conference, the

theme is on healing and we expect it to be a real success.

We plan to have three Victorian Core Leadership Team (VCLT) strategic planning meetings; this team is made up of all Chapter Presidents and up to three special guests. We also plan to have an open membership sharing and training day each year with an appropriate speaker to minister into the lives of the membership.

Bill Sgro

VIC State Director

New South Wales, ACT- State Report



“Our State leadership had sought God's direction when a decision had to be made...”

JIM BROWN

NSW/ACT
State Director

Since the last Vision, we have seen our Chapters active in our communities. Great dinner speaks such as Peter Pollock, Alan Laurens, Gary Raymond, Toivo Hopea and Pastor Jacob have been very supportive.

Parramatta and Gilgandra Chapters outreach to the “Homeless and the Hopeful” at their regular Saturday morning breakfasts – similar breakfasts by the Butuan (Philippines) Chapter also receive great blessings and miracles.

It is also with great pleasure to reflect on our State Convention from March 2009.

Our State leadership had sought God's direction when a decision had to

be made to totally change our program and speakers only a few weeks prior to our Convention... whilst we felt initially challenged, He provided us with anointed speakers in Russell Ames, Gary Raymond and a number of our members who stepped forward to assist, all without hesitation.

Gary's testimony touched everyone – from “Messes to Miracles”. His life as a policeman, particularly the years in rescue services, provided many examples of how God works through those who seek Him in times of need (Gen 13:14-18)

Russell's challenge was for us to “be real with God – to get back to the basics of what God requires of His people –

through keeping our eyes on Jesus”. As the Apostle Paul said, “I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings”.

Many thanks to David, Jan and all the convention organising committee – you produced a meeting with a “wow” factor.

For a more comprehensive report, please email: jwsebrown@yahoo.com.au

Final comment please read:

Deut. 31:6

John 3:16-21

Matthew 17:5...

and put his words into practice.

Jim Brown

NSW, ACT State Director

national
office



FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

The aim of the National Office is to provide structural, practical, and prayerful support to the FGBMFI Chapters, Presidents, Directors and Members in their local outreaches and ministries.

The Fellowship is so blessed to have Joy Sgro as our national office administrator, she is doing a terrific job. Joy is paid for 4 hours a day but also works extra time voluntarily. No one else in the Fellowship receives payment for work. As it is a privilege to serve the Lord, I believe it is one aspect which energises the Fellowship.

The other major cost at the office is the rental lease. The office is functional, run professionally, and we have a modest rental lease. Every attempt is made, to keep office running and administrative costs to a minimum.

The standard membership fees for our organisation are at present \$120 for ordinary members and \$66 for pensioners. With about 440 members' nation wide, the standard membership fees would be unable to meet the modest administration costs such as part time wage, rental lease, office running costs, etc. The 150 members who are part of the Partnership Program at Gold, Silver, and Bronze level provide the additional income which is used in evangelism across the nation. In the first 4 months of 2009 over \$11,000 has been spent on evangelistic material and the bookstore with new and reprinted Testimony Tracts, Prayer Covenant cards, "The Awakening Giant" books, etc. I would encourage you to continue to support the work of the Fellowship by remaining an up to date Member and if possible a Partner. Partnership commences at \$15 a month for the Bronze level, running up to \$100 plus a month for the Gold level. I regularly pray that God will bless all the members and partners of the Fellowship – your financial sacrifice both appreciated and used carefully for the glory of God.

The company books of FGBMFI Ltd for the 2008 year have just been audited by SCC and are shown to be in good order. FGBMFI Ltd made a small profit of \$1,939 in 2008 which was helped by the \$4,500 profit from the 2008 National Convention. Membership fees revenue fell by \$4,000 during 2008, while Partnership giving increased by just over \$8,000. The generous giving of the Fellowship is needed and greatly appreciated by the National Office.

I am pleased to say that over the past 6 months the National Office has been able to support FGBMFI Chapters, members thanks to the extra income generated by the Partnership program in the following ways:

Printing a new testimony tract in April 2009 (Bill Sgro – "Leaving the Emptiness Behind").

Many previous testimony tracts have been reprinted.

The bookstore is fully stocked with 12 different tracts which should be freely distributed by Chapters at outreach meetings.

Production of 10,000 "My Prayer Covenant List" card. This card encourages members to pray daily for five people who are far from God and then invite them to an outreach meeting. These cards are business card size and fit into a wallet. They are free.

Reprint of "The Awakening Giant" Book written by Val Fotherby.

This book follows on from "The Happiest People on Earth" and tells of the miraculous story of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International. Copies are only \$8 from the office bookshop.

Continued update of the National FGBMFI website.

Donation sent to International Office. A donation of \$535 for the 2008 year, was sent by Australia and gratefully received by the International office in California.

FGBMFI Bushfire Appeal Money sent to El Kanah The FGBMFI National Office sent \$3,357 to El Kanah, a Christian ministry whose buildings were burnt to the ground in Marysville. Many people have benefited from El Kanah over the years. I would like to thank members and Chapters who gave generously to the bushfire appeal.

Charles Rockefeller
FGBMFI National Office



New Members Welcome...

NSW/ACT

James SOO, Sydney Chinatown
Ian PAVLETICH, Canberra

SA

Christopher ROBERTS, Adelaide North East
William DYER, Adelaide Eastern
John McGUIGAN, Adelaide North
Daniel MADGA, Adelaide North
Robert ROSE, Adelaide North East
Michael FLYNN, Adelaide North East
Andrew VELEZ, Adelaide North East
Barry WHITTLE, Adelaide East

TAS

Peter FULTON, North West Coast

WA

Brian RAVENSCROFT, Busselton
Philip ANDROVICH, Busselton
Sunny WEE, Armadale now Perth South
Chin Ming LIM, Malaga
Jose OMOTOSO, Armadale now Perth South
Edward WARD, Armadale now Perth South
Stephen ADEYEMO, Perth South
Nicholas ANTARTIS, Perth South
Jerome MAHUMOT, Perth South

NT

Kelvin CHAPMAN, Alice Springs
Jamie ASKER, Alice Springs

VIC

Richard McCULLOUGH, Geelong
John FINDLAY, Waverley
Brian YOUNG, Albury/Wodonga
James BERRY, Goulburn Valley
Darren WORLAND, Goulburn Valley

CONTACTS

STATE CONTACTS

NSW, ACT - Jim Brown (M) 0418 234 692
QLD - Peter Monson (M) 0413 140 145
SA - Geoff Dyer (M) 0417 819 993
TAS - David Kleyweg (M) 0418 330 67
VIC - Bill Sgro (M) 0411 035 102
WA - Dinko Mioceovich (M) 0408 929 156

FGBMFI Australia National Office

248 Ryrie Street Geelong Victoria 3220 Australia
Phone: (03) 5229 6911
Email: mail@fgbmf.org.au
Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9 AM to 1 PM AEST

FGBMFI WEBSITE

The Australian FGBMFI Website has been gradually updated. Please have a look at our Website www.fgbmf.org.au and take notice of the updated Membership and Merchandise sections. On the home page you will be able to download this June 2009 copy of the Vision magazine. In the Membership section, you can download the latest Membership Application form.



Joy Sgro
Office Administrator

State Directors are encouraged to email information of upcoming Chapter and State FGBMFI functions to Joy Sgro at the National Office. Joy Sgro will then email the information to the National FGBMFI website coordinator.

PRAYER COVENANT CARDS

This is a business size card and will fit in your wallet and is a convenient way to encourage the men of the Fellowship to pray daily for the people listed. These cards are free so please call the office for your supply.

UPDATE OF OFFICE COMPUTER

There is a real need to update the National Office Computer system. Some of the present computer software and hardware is now a decade old and quite slow and inefficient. The Computer program which looks after all Membership and Chapter records is also in great need of updating. The National Board is asking the Membership of the Fellowship for financial gifts towards the computer update appeal. Financial gifts can be sent off to the National Office. Our Computer Update Appeal target is \$6,000.

"THE AWAKENING GIANT"

The bookshop now has an abundant supply of this book; it has been reprinted with the permission of the author, Val Fotherby and is a follow on from "The Happiest People On Earth". These are available for \$8.00.

TESTIMONY TRACTS/VOICE

At present, the bookshop has 12 different testimony tracts in stock, which cost 25c each. The new 2009 testimony tract is from our National President; Bill Sgro. "Leaving the emptiness behind"



These powerful testimonies are available in packs of 50 for \$12.50 + postage.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June 26 – 28 Victorian State Convention, Geelong Conference Centre
August/September South Australia Convention, Venue to be Advised
October 15 – 17 Queensland State Convention, Toowoomba
October 23 – 25 Tasmania State Convention

Please contact the relevant State Director for more information about any of these dates.