

His banner over me is love - Song of Solomon 2:4

October 2018 Newsletter

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Editor - Tony Vaughan



From the National President's Desk

To the membership of the fellowship: brethren we are running a race and only those who participate win the prize; that being to live the rest of their lives in the knowledge that they have tried their very best to accomplish all that God has called them to achieve. On longer can we say I haven't been called to ministry, because the Bible is clear, that we all have the ministry gift of reconciliation, reconciling men to Christ Jesus as he reconciles them to God. Let me remind you of the three-fold purpose of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International, of which you became a valued member after signing the Doctrinal Statement.

The first of those purposes is: to witness to God's presence and power in the world today through the message of the total Gospel for the total person and by this to reach men and women and their families for Jesus Christ, especially those having the same social, cultural or business interests as the person doing the witnessing.

We as FGBMFI members do this by simply sharing our testimonies, giving lost souls the opportunity to hear what God has done in our lives, opening the doors to their hearts in preparation for them to receive the Gospel and thereby surrendering their lives to Jesus by asking Him to come into their hearts and lives and that of their families. Taking away the sin and indeed the stench of it and replacing it with new life as born-again Christians. Just like it happened to each of us in the perfect timing of God, in that time and season when our need for salvation and a lasting relationship with Jesus was at its greatest.

Then we need to remember that in choosing to be a FGBMFI member, we undertook to fulfil the first of these purposes. The question on most people's mind is how do we do it? Well that's what this fellowship is all about. We have here a ministry platform from which we individually and collectively can encourage each other to achieve what God has called us to and accomplish what we have committed ourselves to. How then do we get our message out into the wicked world we live in? One of the best tools of the FGBMFI movement over the years has been the Voice magazine, a little booklet with men's written testimonies, who write their stories of how they were once lost and on the road to destruction and how Jesus came into their lives and what a difference there has been since they came to full salvation.

We can print the Voice for about 60 cents and loose the power of our testimonies to a sinful world. All we need is your Testimony to print in the new Voice magazine or post on our web-page.

Not all testimonies are about lives from gutter to glory. There are a lot of very good testimonies about real good people from good godly homes, that God has had His hand on right from the cradle to adulthood and on into old age. One of these is the testimony of Brother John Szilard, President of our Blacktown Chapter. It can be found on our web page fgbmfiaustralia.com under 'testimony', on the main menu. If you haven't read it then you should do so, it might inspire you to write your own. Your testimony could make a great difference in some poor soul's life. (Write it or record it - we will edit it and post it).

Second Purpose: To provide a basis for Christian fellowship among all people everywhere through a fellowship not directly associated with any church but co-operating with all those of like faith and to inspire its members to be active in their respective churches. The Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International does not start churches; rather we desire to be a service arm to existing ones.

Over the years FGBMFI has fulfilled this part of our charter very well, the proof of this is evident, by the number of good pastors that are in Australian pulpits today who found Jesus through the ministry of FGBMFI. It might be time for to us re-examine our relationship with our local churches and to reaffirm our godly call to be their dynamic service arm; an arm that the pastor can trust to get things done without causing any problems. Have you ever thought of going to your pastor and offering to take a Bible Study or to teach Sunday School for Him? That's true relationship building.

Third Purpose: To bring about a greater measure of unity and spirit of harmony in the body of Christ, where members are united in a common effort for the good of the whole of the body.

This is one of the greatest delights to me of being a member of FGBMFI. We operate over the whole of the Body of Christ not only to the major denominational and established churches, but also the small preaching points, little churches with pastors who have a call of God on their lives but are in the main struggling to make ends meet and build their congregations up numerically. Yes! We can help these pastors by visiting and sharing our testimonies and even preaching for them when the need arises; diffusing the fragrance of the love of God over God's wonderful people. Also, we are a market place ministry which means we minister on the streets in the highways and byways of life where the fallen are.

The American Marines have a saying "fight alone die alone". Fellow members we hold the line as we stand together. Enjoy your membership, for we enjoy your company.

God Bless Len





Coffee & Conversation with James
Another true story from the experiences of
a long-time member and friend.
Submitted by Ron Oastler

There was a rather stiff easterly blowing the other day, when James and I were due to meet for our regular 'coffee and conversation'. Now, the coffee-shops at the Marina do not handle Easterlies at all well. So we elected to buy 'take-away' and go to the boat-ramp at the bay located just inside the Port's southern headland. It is a nice sheltered spot with the high coastal ridge sheltering us from the wind. It has a very pleasant outlook and there is a shelter shed with a couple of picnic tables

So, we tootled along to this little spot and took our places at one of the tables, there being one just one young man at the other. He was of Asian appearance, probably a tourist who would be joining the Whale Watch Cruise a little later in the day.

conveniently located ...

James and I chatted away for some time as we sipped our coffee and enjoyed our muffins - and as you can imagine, the subject matter was not trivial. James was eloquently describing the development of Systematic Theology - the discipline of Christian theology that formulates an orderly, rational, and coherent account of the doctrines of the Christian faith. In particular. he was observing development and clarification of the "The fundamentals of Faith" that originated in the Reformation of the mid 1500's.

'You know' he said 'one of the key elements that came from the Reformers' theological statements was that of the essentials of our Salvation. A very important aspect of their studies and deliberations indeed.'

Then by way of a theological summary, James explained: 'There were initially three statements of the Scriptural essentials, implicitly stated at first but later more codified. It was after Martin Luther's declaration in 1517 that: Salvation is by Sola Fide — by "Faith alone" — that two more elements were added. Sola Gratia — by "Grace Alone" - and Sola Scriptura — by the "Scriptures alone".



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These established Faith over works, Grace over merit and Scripture over tradition.'

The final two statements were: *Solus Christus* - through "Christ alone" – and *Soli Deo Gloria* - "Glory to God alone". These established Christ over man, God over all.

There followed a pause as James finished his coffee and then, with a total change of subject he said: 'Seeing that young man at the table over there brings back a memory ... '

With a faraway look in his eyes, James related this narrative: 'I was running a two-day workshop for a client, developing Key Account Strategies with their front-line professional team. At the luncheon adjournment, I decided to stay in the conference room to prepare some charts - and to read some scriptures from my pocket New Testament. The team members had all gone out to lunch with the exception of one young man, Leo, who by the way was from Singapore.'

'Leo had a small snack lunch while writing up some notes and then, seeing me reading my New Testament, came across to my table. "You are a Christian I see" said he.'

'Yes,' I responded 'and you?'

'No, but I am interested. How does one become a Christian?'

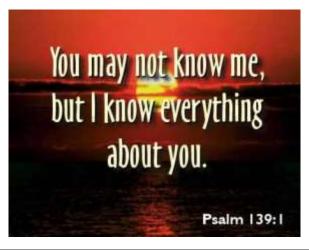
'What an entrée.' quipped James. 'I had the untold opportunity to share with Leo the truth of the Scripture concerning repentance and confession ... and that there is nothing he could do that would earn forgiveness. I shared with him that it is all about ...'

'Christ's righteousness — Solu Christu — [2Corinthians 5:21 for our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God] ... and it is about:

'God's grace - Sola Gratia - and our Faith - Sola Fide - [Ephesians 2:8 for **by grace** you have been saved **through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God].'

James' face was radiant as he reached the finale of this account. 'Leo thoughtfully considered the case that had been put to him and received Christ as his Lord and Saviour, committing his life there and then.'

'Salvation really is through Christ alone, by Grace alone, through Faith alone based on the Scripture alone' ... was James concluding statement.





RAYMOND TAY - FGBMFI MALAYSIA

When we visited Malaysia in August the National President Fong Hoong Heng asked Raymond to look after us and show us around which he did. We had a great time with Raymond, meeting his wife and two daughters. I soon realised Raymond had an awesome testimony and what you see below is a very brief overview of this very modest family man. Raymond visits many places sharing the Gospel and hopefully we will see him Australia in the very near future.

Brother Raymond Tay was born into a family of 9 other siblings in a small estate town in Johor with a Taoist background. He experienced hardship from primary school to secondary education as everyone needed to contribute by working in the farm.

He hated the environment and somehow managed to 'escape' from the 'ghetto' of his surrounding and went to Canada alone. He went to school and university and eventually graduated with an honours degree in commerce.

He came back to Malaysia during the recession period in the 80's and found a job which was based on his performance in commission. After 3 years, he saved enough money to start his own business with some university mates at age 25. For several years, he encountered ups and downs and was served with a lawsuit by his former employer for alleged copyright infringement. Nevertheless, he bounced back and established himself in his 30's.

Brother Raymond accepted Jesus as his Lord and Saviour on 25 June 2005. Raymond and his beautiful wife have 2 daughters who are pursuing their studies in the UK. He had an encounter with the Lord in 2013 and his life has never been the same. He has been serving as a cell leader in River of Life Sanctuary Church for the past 3 years. He is also the President of FGBMFI Desa Sri Hartamas Chapter since 2015.

With faith and action, he is still active in the marketplace as a network marketing professional globally and an angel investor/advisor for a tech start-up in a new social ride-sharing space. In 2017, by God's grace he was selected as one of the top 100 leaders in the world by the world's leading leadership expert and New York Times Best-Selling Author, Dr. John C. Maxwell as his faculty member in Atlanta, Georgia USA.

Most importantly, Raymond has a passion for serving the Lord and witnessing for the Lord Jesus Christ wherever he travels in the world.

In our November edition we hear Raymond's brother's story from drugs, prison and redemption.

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Scott Morrison our new Prime Minister

We need to keep praying for all those that have authority over us but more so for those that have a relationship with Jesus Christ, praying that He will keep them strong. With all that has been going on God, has raised up a new leader who has a personal relationship with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He may not be the only PM to receive the Lord in a personal capacity but he is the only one that I know of who has voiced his beliefs and not been shy about it. Who would have thought it, given the way our society was going!

Morrison began dating Jenny Warren when they were both 16. They married when they were 21 and have two daughters together. After multiple unsuccessful IVF treatments over a period of 18 years, their daughters were conceived naturally. His daughters attend an independent Baptist school. Morrison has stated that one of the reasons for this choice was so that he could avoid "the values of others being imposed on my children". He is a fan of the Cronulla Sharks rugby league team and in was named the club's number-one ticket holder in 2016.

Morrison was raised in the Presbyterian Church, which partly merged into the Uniting Church when he was a child. He later became a Pentecostal and now attends the Horizon Church, which is affiliated with the Australian Christian Churches and the Assemblies of God. He has said "the Bible is not a policy handbook, and I get very worried when people try to treat it like one". In late 2017, Morrison stated that he would become a stronger advocate for protections for religious freedom.

Morrison is Australia's first Pentecostal prime minister



"His Banner Over Us is Love"

Membership

Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International (Australia) is open to all men who wish to be part of this vibrant organisation, who have a heart to reach others and bring them into a relationship with Jesus Christ. You must read and understand our Doctrinal Statement and be willing to serve as a chapter member giving of your time and expertise.

Please return your completed membership application (along with our doctrinal statement) form our Membership Director, Daniel Wright - PO Box 129 Taigum Qld 4018. Telephone: 0404 004 946. Membership forms can be printed from our website: fgbmfiaustralia.com

Membership fees are \$100.00 per annum. To have an effective Fellowship we need all members to pay their dues to fund the ongoing expenses of the Fellowship as per the budget approved by the National Board. Being paid up members of the Fellowship is important and all personnel should hold their membership as significant and of value. Being members allows you to experience all the benefits that are associated with the organisation including being able to vote and have your say at the appropriate time. If you have no chapter in your area or it is not functioning your membership will be held as a National member. Those already in an active chapter will also be National Members and then chapter members. This way all members are included and not overlooked when information is being passed on.

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INTERNATIONAL Our Mission

FGBMFI is one of the largest Christian business organizations in the world. Founded in 1953, we are in 142 nations - meeting in over 7,000 chapters. Our members and leaders include every race, culture, social status and language.

By God's grace, we connect people with opportunities to reach out and help others find a better life and work together to build better communities.

We do this by:

Calling people back to God...

There is a better life by following Jesus Christ.

Promoting integrity and good character...Being a reflection of God to our world.

Participating in God's good work...

Releasing gifts, talents and resources to help others.

Working together to build better cities & nations...

Impacting our leaders and our culture.

Taking the message of God's love to every family...

A true grass roots effort that is changing the world.

"The mandate from God is that we break the chains of despair in the world. Our mandate is to destroy the isolation of loneliness, and link the world to God!"

Demos Shakarian, Founder



"It is our destiny to lift up God in every business center, every marketplace, every government center and university... every nation, city, town and crossroads of the world. People of faith, shining with God's glory, bringing the uplifting message of God's power... reaching out, helping, encouraging and lifting. Today, through our efforts, we believe that over 2 million people come to God each year."



International President Mario_Garcia



Bio of Doug Wolley – our International Secretary

Doug Woolley graduated from USF in 1989 with a B.S. Engineering degree in Computer Science. Upon graduation, Doug worked as a part of the Management Association Program at NCNB (now known as Bank of America). Currently he is a Systems Engineer for Verizon (formerly GTE) and has travelled often to Portugal and to Venezuela to install and implement a new computer software system that produces phone bills for these countries. Working evenings, his current responsibilities include overseeing and monitoring most of Verizon's mainframe computer software systems and troubleshooting any problems.

As a senior in high school, Doug was ranked #1 in Florida in both Mathematics and Computer Science. He was named as one of the top 300 high school scientists in America by the Westinghouse Talent Search for his computer program that graphically solves the Rubik's Cube and other mathematical puzzles. By the age of 20, he became a co-author of a college text book on computers.

Doug grew up attending the Lutheran Church and entered a personal relationship with Christ through faith at the age of 13. While attending college, he joined a dormitory Bible study that led him into a deeper walk with God. Soon afterwards, Doug received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and became an effective witness for the Lord Jesus. With a passion for studying and teaching the Bible, Doug has led weekly Bible Studies for years with interested college students, church members, co-workers, and ministry interns. He graduated *Summa Cum Laude* with a Bible/Theology degree at North Central University (an A/G college), and he completed graduate studies for a Masters in Bible/Theology at Southwestern A/G University, with a 4.0 GPA. Doug has taught college level Bible courses through One Accord School of Ministry from 2004 – 2006 and Generate School of Ministry from 2008 - 2010.

Doug has served FGBMFI (Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International) as Vice-President of the Tampa chapter, State Treasurer for Florida, Web Master for www.fgbmfi.org and www.fgbmfi-florida.org, and as an International Director at Large. Doug currently serves as a USA National Director and an International Director for the FGBMFI.

Doug resides in Tampa, Florida with his wife Marsha, son Isaac, and newly adopted son Dimitri (from Kazakhstan). Doug and Marsha Woolley are living proof that opposites do attract. Doug was born in North Tarrytown, New York while Marsha was born in Ghana, West Africa to missionary parents. Doug spent most of his life studying and excelling in academics while Marsha spent most of that time in the principal's office for talking, but she now speaks seven languages and is a popular speaker at women's conventions throughout the USA and other countries. She is now serving as Director of Women's Ministries for the Assemblies of God in the Peninsular Florida District, serving 350 churches. Marsha excels as a preacher and singer. Both Doug and Marsha enjoy building up other people by sharing foundational truths.



Congratulation to Doug Gray on celebrating his 80th Birthday last week. Doug is a member of the Toowoomba Chapter.

"If God is your partner, make your plans BIG!"
-D.L. Moody