



**From the National President's Desk**

These notes have been prepared from a heart of real concern for the generation that should be following in our footsteps but aren't; in an attempt to answer questions such as: "why not our young men?" in the hope that members of The Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International Australasia would take a more serious and prayerful look at our responsibilities as fathers, grandfathers, and spiritual community leaders for the reasons why not!

The spiritual parenting role, has in our times, mostly fallen upon our ladies and has in the main, been abdicated by the men. Who first ministers to the young? Mother does as she places the baby to her breast and speaks words of encouragement into the child, looking down and saying, "you are a gift from God to me and your father" or "you are a lovely baby that has a great future, for the blessing of Almighty God is upon you".

Loving mothers will continue this sort of thing as baby grows, nourishing them both spiritually and physically, daily speaking into their little lives, building for them a solid foundation of faith without really knowing what great ramifications or fruit their ministry will bear in later life. In the main, most animal of God's creation takes their nourishment from the back end of their mothers, but primates not so.

As Christian parents, both male and female, we are responsible before God for the nurture of our offspring: Proverbs 22:6 *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.* Are we to take the word of God literally or only use it in a manner that suits us? When I read scriptures such as the above, I see them more as a command or warning. An instruction from God making clear our responsibility; but remember every cloud has a silver lining, so we can read this scripture this way.

Be accountable to God for the training up of your children in the way they should go, and when they are older there will be no heartache of seeing them wandering out in the world with the lost. How many of us have had to experience the pain of knowing our children are lost in a world that has forsaken God?

The real truth of the matter is, it's never too late to reach out and save the lost, more especially our own. Remember, home is our Jerusalem, we start and work from there, salvation to impart.

It's never too late! What of 2 Kings 13:20-21 *Then Elisha died, and they buried him, and the raiding bands from Moab invaded the land in the spring of the year. 20. So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band of raiders; and they put the man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.* It is a sad thing that when Elisha died there was no one standing for him to pass on his mantle to; raising the question, who would be the next "Man of God" to stand up against the enemy?

Elisha had the prophetic promise of Elijah that he would receive a "double portion" of God's power. Now at his death, he was one miracle short of Elijah's record. This amazing miracle in the graveyard would fulfil the promised double portion. Surely God was letting His people know that if they would only place their faith in the God of Israel, He would give them resurrection power to overcome their enemy.

We the members of FGBMFI who are truly born-again and filled with the Holy Spirit have that same power with promises. For it is the same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead, yes it's that same Spirit that now dwells in each of us, empowering us ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

So when and if we are walking in the power of the Holy Spirit and we meet spiritually dead people lost in sin, we need to remember that we have resurrection power and can speak the words of life, that being the Gospel even the power of God unto salvation into them. Under our anointing the dead in sin will revive and come alive to the things of God. That my friend is revival.

If you as Christian parents have lost offspring out in the world, doing their own thing, being led further and further away from God, let me encourage you there is still hope. It is never too late, we have the sure promises of God that they will return to their rightful borders. Jeremiah 31:17. *So there is hope for your descendants, declares the Lord, your children will return to their own borders.*

Yes, this year is our year for a mighty move of God. Let us as a fellowship trust God to open new doors of revival, letting the captives out of their graves of bondage into the liberty of the Sons of God. If we stand in the fear of God and not of man we will see great and mighty things.

Len.



**Coffee & Conversation with James**

Another true story from the experiences of a long-time member and friend.

*Submitted by Ron Oastler*

We had decided to meet just a little later than usual and ended up being serenaded by buskers from the Country & Western Music Festival. Not your average 'Blue Grass' music festival - being the Port area the event is titled 'Blue Water' music festival. Droll indeed! And that's precisely how James viewed the event.

"Ah, how they play with words - and they play with concepts too," James commented. "Why, what concepts have they played with I asked, somewhat puzzled?"

"Oh not this festival" James clarified. "I was thinking of sundry other festivals that are a real play on concepts..." "Like?" I persisted.

"Well, one classic is the Alice Springs boat race. They have mimicked the famous Henley on Thames boat race in the UK and named it Henley on Todd Regatta, the Todd being the ephemeral river running through Alice Springs. The only problem is that for 95% of the time there is little or no water in the river so they use bottomless boats and the crew run along the riverbed carrying the boat.

"Well, I must admit that sounds like fun. Have you ever been there and seen the Regatta?" I asked. "No, I have not been there at Regatta time but I do have some distinct memories of a very interesting visit to The Alice some years ago" he said, with a far-away look in his eye.

"Do tell" I pleaded, knowing that the account would be worth the wait. That was all that was needed to unlock the memories, and James began his reminiscence...

"The Fellowship was invited to Alice Springs, with the request (or assignment) to run a one day seminar on the Holy Spirit and to share testimony and speak at a Civic Dinner meeting. This invitation came about through an interesting combination. It included one of the mainline churches in The Alice, plus a few committed American Charismatic Christians who were working at the joint Australian/US Space Facility up there and for good measure a feral animal trapper who had become a Christian. What a combination.



"Three of our men flew with an AOG pastor who had a pilot's license and access to a Cessna 170 aircraft. They had some good fellowship en-route and an enjoyable flight. It was not a big plane. Not the fastest. Not the most comfortable. Not able to accommodate any more passengers either. So, as I had staff in Adelaide as well as on the Alice Springs Space Base I flew commercial." James explained with a cheeky grin.

"The wonderful thing though, was the time we had with folk in the Alice. The seminar was well attended and folk were hungry for what the Lord had for them. Two of our team shared the main sessions of the seminar, at the end of which a number were baptised in the Holy Spirit, and there was a real excitement there. The team received personal blessing as well through this whole process of sharing the reality of the Holy Spirit and His work.

"We spent time in town the next day ministering God's word and praying with folk, especially in the Christian bookshop which a couple from the Space Base were running in off-duty hours.

"The finale was the Civic Dinner at the Town Hall. It too was well attended and not just by church people. They had made sure that non-church folk were invited and sponsored. Quite a number of civic leaders were there, including from various voluntary service organisations, sporting clubs, Red Cross and the like.

"The Dinner function was covered by much prayer. The organisation was superb. The meal was excellent. The music was outstanding. The testimonies were powerful. The Holy Spirit was there. The opportunity to present the claims of the Gospel was never better.

"It was my privilege to be the speaker at this function and I sensed a freedom in the Spirit as I related during dinner with the VIPs who were at table with me. This aspect was hardly surprising as we had been so blessed in sharing the Holy Spirit on the previous day. It was also not surprising that at the end of the evening, when presented with the claims of the Gospel, a number of guests responded. One of those who responded was a lady who was a high profile civic leader in the Alice. She was seated at the head table and her response was a very public one. That really was the Holy Spirit in action.

"So my friend" James concluded, "regardless of how it comes about, when you find yourself teaching about the work of the Holy Spirit, praying for individuals with needs or presenting the claims of the Gospel, it is all part of God's strategy in which we all have a part to play.

"Ultimately it is the Holy Spirit himself who gives effect to the strategy and brings to pass the purposes of God, including *winning and discipling folk to Christ.*"

### I Turned My Back on Principles Mario Garcia, Mexico

I owned three companies, and one that gave me the most profit was in the field of agriculture. My life was filled with problems; including my marriage. These problems caused me to turn my back on the people that I loved. In my zeal to earn a lot of money and social place in life, I disregarded my religious and moral principles that my parents taught me. Before I attended this Fellowship, no one ever told me that I could have God as my partner.

Through FGBMFI, I learned that He could be my friend, my guide, and much more. In the past, my "god" was the desire to make more money. I was a billionaire who possessed everything, but happiness. This caused me to reflect upon my life and wondered; if there was something else in this life, would I be able to have a better life? I thought I had everything. Yet there was an emptiness within. I had many businesses, so I was under a lot of stress. I became an alcoholic and a heavy smoker. My wife and I started considering about getting a divorce.

My heart was hardened and I felt no emotion at all when discussing about the divorce. One day, due to many circumstances, I went bankrupt. I returned to my home town and talked to a person about my problems. He said to me, "I am going to invite you to a businessmen's dinner." In 1995, I attended my first FGBMFI meeting. One businessman gave his testimony. He said these profound words, "I am going to invite you to meet the owner of gold and silver." Sure, I wanted to meet this guy. He was talking about the Lord. He told me to repeat after him. It turned out to be a prayer of salvation.

I invited Jesus Christ into my life and my heart, and He began a new work in me immediately. Instantly, there was a change in the whole aspect of my life including my marriage, family, and businesses. I received peace and began to experience true happiness. Jesus came and filled the void in my heart as I felt the strong presence of the Holy Spirit. My life was significantly changed. One week after I received Jesus Christ into my heart, my wife, Sylvia, said to me, "You have changed!

You are a completely changed man!" I invited my wife to this Fellowship where she also received the Lord. We were both filled with the Holy Spirit in the FGBMFI meetings and our marriage was miraculously restored. Jesus Christ brought new things and genuine happiness to our lives, and the businesses, including the supernatural healing of our daughter from epilepsy.

No words are enough to thank the Lord for what He has done in me. I am also grateful to FGBMFI and what they did to help turn my life around and to return to the basic principles that I once knew!



Mario Garcia



February 2018 Newsletter

**Business Core Values**

What determines the drive and 'heartbeat' of a company? If you are starting a new business or want to improve your existing business there are principles you need to establish and own to give you the foundation for success. When consulting to some firms with problems, I often found that they did not know who they were as a business or organisation. This is because there were no values that had been agreed upon to direct the business and keep it in good health.

In short, their integrity could be challenged at many points, with some personnel working at the lowest level of commitment to their owners and customers. As owners of a business you need to have a moral compass that keeps pointing 'true North' and your published 'core values' are your compass. There are many facets to a successful business such as a 'compelling vision,' (like where are we going; what drives us on; why are we doing this), good leadership, good products or service, great people, exceptional customer service, growing and happy client base (with repeat business and word of mouth referrals).

Sometimes when looking at a business you can see that some owners are in the wrong business when they are operating contrary to agreed core values or have little integrity. Some years ago you will remember that an agreement was sometimes given by way of handshake and a person's word was their bond. How things have changed, with some people becoming more profit centred with less alignment to good business fundamentals or being good corporate citizens.

There are many successful Christian business people who have returned to the Lord what is his and still have an abundance left over. There is a wonderful scripture that we could consider as one of our core values:

***Luke 12-48 from everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded [required]. And from the one trusted with much, much more will be expected.***

As we depend on God for every breath we take, we should also ask and trust him to lead us in the business so it becomes 'His' business. Also ask Jesus to manage your successes and help you in your failures because he is the one that gives us the tools to prosper. It is very sad to see some Christian people (many who were/are very famous) who have prospered in business and then moved away from God, with him simply becoming an afterthought.

Part of the reason God wants you to succeed is that you can be a blessing to others, and also the extension of his kingdom with your available resources. Looking at the big picture, many people tend to forget that they came into the world with nothing and will exit by the same means. Life is very short when compared to eternity.

Your values in business and everyday life will define who you are as a person and your reputation. I always think of God's word in relation to our name and how it should be treasured: ***Ecclesiastes 7:1 A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.***

If God is at the 'Core' of your business you will always have the greatest mentor and exciting times!

Tony Vaughan



***"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: [fgbmfiustralia.com](http://fgbmfiustralia.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.



**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 Terence Rose**



**BIG PHIL –PART I (courtesy of FGB UK)**

Profession: Ex Paratrooper & Biker



I was born in the Lancashire town of Bolton on the 16th August 1951. My mother was a working girl and hardly had any time for me. One day she was so mad, she wrapped me in a blanket and dumped me in a bin behind the ABC cinema. There, a man who had just committed a robbery heard me as he ran from the police. He stopped, picked me out of the bin and waited for the police to catch up with him so that he could hand me over. I hear that he got a shortened prison sentence for doing the right thing.

I was placed into social services care, which was meant to last until I was 18 years old. I was 3 years old when I was fostered out to the Fultons for 8 years. But I never settled down properly. My mother had started to visit me when I was 6 years old and I had found out, by 10 years of age, where she lived. I thought she would want me back if I turned up on her doorstep. She didn't, and I was returned to the Fultons. I kept running away, looking for someone who would love me.

When I was sixteen I joined the Fusiliers and did 3 years with them. Then I transferred to the Paras. I thought I had finally found where I belonged. While serving in the Army, I was in the Falklands, the first Gulf War. I left the army, after 27 years of service, with a fist full of medals and my pockets full of cash. I spent the next few years getting drunk and into trouble, ending up in prison for 18 months after hitting a policeman. This happened just after a car smash when I was in a coma for three days, and I was told by nurses that I had died three times.

After my release from prison I linked up with John, an old army friend, and we set up a security consulting company in Guyana. While I was at dinner one evening, an off-duty policeman tried to rob me and stuck his gun in my face. It was then that I hit him and he went down with a thud and was dead before he hit the floor. I received a 5 year sentence for that. My prison cell was 6 feet by 6 feet and I shared it with 12 other prisoners. We took it in turns to sleep, in 2-hour shifts.

*Continued...*