



Tony Vaughan



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Men of like mind, I call you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to stand as one man against the great falling away that we are experiencing in Christendom at this time in Church history. At no time since the ascension of Jesus Christ, the great out pouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost and the establishment of the early Christian Church have we seen such an all-out move against all things that are Holy.

We need to get back to the basics of our Christian heritage to undergird the foundations of our faith and rebuild in the power of Almighty God, where Satan and his hordes have robbed and are robbing from us. The time is now before it is too late to make that stand. Alas when we stand we will be standing not as the majority in a Christian country, but rather as a fading minority in a post Christian country.

Unfortunately there is a wave of unrighteousness that is sweeping not only this Great South Land of the Holy Spirit, but the world and if we the members of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International don't make a stand shortly, it will be to our detriment. It has been well and truly planted in my heart that we haven't got time to be playing politics that leads to divisions and counter production. (By production I mean that, that extends the Kingdom of God).

Our Fellowship from its inception has been built on and by men with a sound

understanding of the Word of God and excellent testimonies given by men, transformed from lost souls to vibrant born again Spirit filled Sons of the most High God. Yes men who were lost, even the off scouring of society in many cases, but God loved them through to salvation and beyond.

It is time for each of us to reflect back in our own lives and as the old hymn says. "Count your many blessings name them one by one and it will surprise you what the Lord has done." Men we need to be moving forward in the power of God. Unfortunately what I see is that we have allowed Satan to stall us, we seem to be stuck in the muck and only spinning our wheels.

Come on men lets break free from the bands that have bound us up and prevented an outpouring of the Holy Spirit through us to others who are in need. God hasn't changed, He is the same yesterday today and forever. What he did for you in your hour of need He is more than willing to do for others. All God needs is for His People who are called by His name to humble themselves and pray then according to the Scripture, He will hear from heaven forgive our sin and heal our land.

God Bless each one of you in Jesus' Name Len.

Appreciation – by Ron Oastler

If you have bought stock recently, you understand the meaning of 'appreciation'. To appreciate means to raise in value. Healthy organisations have appreciating assets and their most valuable assets are their people. Everything rises or falls on leadership – 'the ability to influence behaviour'- and that applies to all of us! Quality people produce quality goods and services. If you're able to increase the value of your colleagues, you create a more valuable organisation. So how do you do it? By appreciating them!

The best way to increase long term value is to appreciate people.

Appreciation brings out the best in us...it motivates us...helps us learn better... and inspires us to be more productive. Williams James the great psychologist said, "The deepest principle in human nature is the

craving to be appreciated." Mark Twain said, "I can go two months on one good compliment!"

Successful people appreciate three things about others:

THEY APPRECIATE PEOPLE'S DIFFERENCES:

Recognise and value individual uniqueness. God made us different for a very good reason! Life would be bland and boring if we all thought alike. There is strength in diversity. Focus on creating unity without forcing uniformity.

THEY APPRECIATE PEOPLES DEPENDABILITY:

When they've stayed with you in the tough times. The Trade Winds aren't our greatest environmental feature, but they are famous because they're dependable. Appreciate people you can count on.

THEY APPRECIATE PEOPLES EFFORT:

When they've given it their very best shot...regardless of the result. A pat on the back always gets better results than a kick in the pants!

There are three characteristics of effective appreciation...

- It is real – genuine from the heart.*
- It is recognisable – clear and specific.*
- It is regular – not just special occasions.*

As Dr Ken Blanchard says (The One Minute Manager), "Make a habit of catching people doing something right. By the way, appreciation not only works at the office. It works with our spouses and children too! The more we appreciate our family the more valuable they become!"





SOUND THE TRUMPET

Matthew 24: 31

And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

The trumpet sounds for the return of Jesus and in verse 30 it states that all the people of earth will weep as they see Jesus coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Many I guess will be weeping for joy as Jesus comes to take them home. Others will weep as they realise they have believed a lie that Jesus was not the Son of God. For others they were not expecting Jesus to arrive so soon and did not have enough oil in their lamps. In times gone by the trumpet was a sound that got peoples attention, to attack in warfare or retreat, one knew the sound.

God's trumpet is never sounded for retreat and it's a sound to his faithful that he is calling them to a roll call as he comes again upon the earth. God's trumpet sound cannot be duplicated by the enemy and its sound will make those who turned their back on God go weak at the knees.

As no one knows the day or the hour, we look forward to the sound which will penetrate every person's heart here on earth. Use your time wisely and ensure that others will hear the sound, and because of your determination in spreading the Gospel, they will not have to fear the sound of the trumpet.....



In The Fullness of Time

By Ross Waugh

Over the last year the Lord has strongly impressed upon me the absolute importance of time, and the brevity of life.

James 4:14 reminds us that 'you are just a vapour (or mist) that appears for a little while and then vanishes away'. The Bible also compares our lives to a flame, or to grass that burns up in the heat of the day. The images are of the shortness of life, and its transient nature.

We also know that we bring nothing into this world, and that when we depart we will take nothing (physical) from it. It stands to reason then that in the final analysis all we have in between is the time God has given us.

We all know stories of men or women who have been given just months to live by the doctor and have changed their lifestyle. They might make time to enjoy the beauty of God's creation, to fulfil a long held dream or ambition and to spend time with those most important to them, strengthening relationships. These people know in a very real way the importance of time.

Yet I think that most of us, myself included, generally live as if time isn't that important. Jobs, cars, houses, things, recreation and sports, seem to fill our imaginations – and society says to us that accumulating these is the measure of success. So we spend our time chasing or acquiring these things, little realising that we are constantly trading away the only thing we have of any value – time.

Moses says in Psalm 90:12 'So teach us to number our days that we might present to Thee a heart of wisdom'.

That is what God has impressed upon me. Number my days! Today is all I have because yesterday has gone and cannot be reclaimed. Tomorrow has not, and for me, may not arrive. There are no guarantees about tomorrow, so I must make the most of each hour of today. That is easy to say and a lot harder to do.

I think that is one of the secrets of Jesus, the Apostles and the great men and women of God down through the centuries – they knew so clearly how brief life is, so they used each day they were

given for Gods glory. The ambitions of this world were meaningless to them because they knew that time was all they had, and what they did with that time was how they would be judged.

My challenge to myself each day is, how am I going to use the time I am given, and how am I going to use it for God? Whilst I know I muck up and fail on that challenge every day it has helped, and still is helping me to keep a clear focus on what is important in life.

What about you, if you knew you only had six months or one year to go would you make any changes, what would be important, what would you want to do? It's a question worth asking because it helps each of us keep some clear focus and direction in our lives. Better that than being like the rich fool in Luke chapter 12.



News - Well a lot has been happening since our last newsletter. Our membership is growing as is the enthusiasm of our National President, who seems to have bucket loads of it which is very contagious!

On a very sad note we remember the passing of Charles King's wife (Kathleen) who passed away in January this year. Many of you know Charles, who has been a member of the fellowship both here and in New Zealand for many, many years. So many people have been blessed by Charles's ministry especially those who were visited by Charles in prison. Where there was no hope and darkness, through Charles they found the Lord of eternal hope. Please keep Charles and his family in your prayers over this difficult and sad period.

Thank you all for your prayers for Bernie Gray who is now fully recovered from his ailment and back to his fighting best. Bernie and Nell have again organised the Mayoral Prayer Breakfasts and chapter meetings for March with Barry Cunningham, Len Donaldson and Doug Gray will be visiting those many towns throughout Queensland over a number of weeks. Please keep them in your prayers for people to be reached and ministered to during this outreach.



February 2014 Newsletter

Bio – Ian Smith (National Secretary)

Ian immigrated to Australia from England with his parents along with a sister and two brothers in 1974. The family settled in Strathpine, and after he finished school he worked at Alcan for a short time before finding a job working as a clerk in the Royal Brisbane Hospital. During this time, he became very influenced by the people he worked with and found himself frequenting night clubs and partying, often not going home between shifts but spending the night drinking with mates. Even after Ian left the hospital to work as a supervisor at the Golden Circle Cannery he continued this same lifestyle. Ian also had friends who were musicians. These friends of his played in pubs, and so Ian would also spend time with them. He had learnt to play the guitar at this time, but never performed with them. He would just go to watch (and drink).



It was in April 1983 that Ian was first introduced to the gospel after his parents received Christ. His conversion was very dramatic. It was as if he had been walking in one direction and in an instant was facing the other way walking in the opposite direction. The drinking stopped. The swearing stopped. His records were burnt, and he started reading the Bible.....constantly.

The afternoon before he committed his life to God, he had been at the local pub where his friends were playing. They wondered why he wasn't drinking, but it was because he had promised his mother that he would go to church that night just to keep her happy, and he didn't want to smell like alcohol. He never went back to the pub. His conversion was so dramatic that in November of that year he was in India sharing the gospel, playing his guitar, and praying for the sick. If he hadn't already been totally transformed in his faith (which he was), this certainly would have done it as he laid hands on the lame, deaf and blind and saw them healed in Jesus name.

During this year, Ian also met his wife Sue at church. They were married in 1984. Ian and Sue have four children – Benjamin, Joshua, Cherie-Ann and Amy. Today, all are involved in separate churches and they are all serving the Lord in different ministries. In 1995, the Lord started to talk to Ian about starting a business producing plastic packaging. Ian had learnt about the processes involved with vacuum formed packaging at Pacific Products (Int.), the business that he was then employed at. Ian had no business background which may make it sound like a risky thing to do, but he did have enough knowledge of the manufacturing processes involved to be able to run a business if he knew that God was with him.

However, Ian did not want to do the wrong thing with his employer, and therefore told God that he would have to make the way open if he was going to proceed down that path. This is exactly what happened. While Ian continued working for Pacific Products, Shiloh Plastics began operating in 1996 under Ian and Sue's house with complete support of Pacific Products. Eventually, Ian went full time running this business, which today occupies a 650m factory and employs 7 staff. Ian and Sue still attend the same church where they met and have been actively involved in many ministries over the years including music ministry, Sunday school and youth. Ian also preaches from time to time. Ian is passionate about seeing people reach their full potential as they grow in 'the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:' (Ephesians 4:13)

"His Banner Over Us is Love"

*The best advice I can give you for success in business is to read Proverbs
The second best advice I can give you for success in business is to read Proverbs again!*

Membership

Full Gospel 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's.

Please return your completed membership application (along with our doctrinal statement) form to our treasurer:
John Diamond at 43 Knight St, Rochedale South QLD 4123.

Membership fees are \$100.00 per annum. To have a vibrant 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."

Richard Shakarian, International President



Leadership Ronald Reagan

If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under.

Something to think about

John Eldredge, in his best-selling book *Wild at Heart*, paints a dynamic picture of Christian service:

We don't need accountability groups; we need fellow warriors, someone to fight alongside, someone to watch our back. The whole crisis of masculinity today has come because we no longer have a warrior culture, a place for men to learn to fight like men. We don't need a gathering of Really Nice Guys; we need a gathering of Really Dangerous Men. It's a long-standing truth that there is never a more devoted group of men than those who have fought alongside one another, the men of your squadron, the guys in your foxhole, but we don't need a large group. We need a band of brothers.



Quotes by Abraham Lincoln

You cannot bring prosperity by discouraging thrift.

You cannot help small men by tearing down big men.

You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.

You cannot help the poor man by destroying the rich.

You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.

You cannot further brotherhood of men by inciting class hatred.

You cannot establish security on borrowed money.

You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence.

You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.



"Every morning in Africa, a Gazelle wakes up. It knows it must run faster than the fastest Lion or it will be killed.

Every morning a Lion wakes up. It knows it must outrun the slowest Gazelle or it will starve to death.

It doesn't matter whether you are a Lion or a Gazelle... when the sun comes up, you'd better be running."

What about you, are you up and running every morning for the Lord!