

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

MONDAY
5PM Walking Soccer
7PM Social Soccer

THURSDAY
3:30PM Youth
9:00AM Quilters

TUESDAY
9:30AM Playgroup

FRIDAY
9:30AM Playgroup
4:30pm Kids Ignite

WEDNESDAY
9AM Prayer Meeting

Home Groups
BETTER TOGETHER
If you would like to know
more, Contact Pastor John
0408 402 476

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

16th Melinda

PRAYER & PRAISE POINTS

- * Give thanks to God for his kindness, graciousness and faithfulness.
- * Give thanks to God for his sovereignty, power and promises.
- * Give thanks to God for answered prayers and the blessings he gives us each day.
- * Pray for Brendan (food poisoning), Kristen (operation) and for those looking for employment.
- * Pray that we strive to live with Christ as our hope and our true source of peace and happiness.
- * Pray that God will help our children will be surrounded by good influences in their life.

IS IT OK FOR CHRISTIANS TO HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT GOD?

The truth of the matter is everyone doubts from time-to-time. I am sure many of us have asked questions like - does God really exist? Does God really forgive me? Does he really love me? Am I really saved? If you have doubts then be encouraged by the fact you are not alone. Take a look in the Bible and you will see all kinds of doubters, even among some of the great heroes of faith. Even though they doubted, God used them in great ways. It was their wrestling with doubt that helped to strengthen their faith. Abraham, who is considered to be the "Father of Faith," had all kinds of doubts. He doubted God when he told Abraham that he and Sarah would have a baby in their old age. Rather than trusting God and taking Him at His word, Abraham laughed at the news (Genesis 17:17). Yet despite his doubts, God and gave Abraham a son and continued to bless him just as he had promised. When Jesus was on trial before His crucifixion, Peter, denied that he even knew Jesus because he was afraid (Mark 14:66-72). But after Jesus' resurrection, Peter became an outspoken witness for God and, according to church tradition, he was martyred because of his faith in Christ. Thomas refused to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead until he saw it for himself. But when confronted with the resurrected Jesus, Thomas worshiped him (John 20:24-29). Church tradition tells us that Thomas went as far as India telling others about the good news of Jesus. Like Peter, Thomas was eventually killed for his faith.

As we struggle with doubt, we must remember that God still loves us. John the Baptist was in prison for speaking out against King Herod and at one point he wanted to get reassurance that Jesus really was the Messiah (Matthew 11:3). When Jesus heard about John's doubt, he sent a message to John telling him about all he was doing - healing people, raising the dead and preaching the gospel (vs 4-5). Then Jesus spoke to the crowd and praised John by saying, "I tell you the truth! Of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist." (v11). Jesus understands our doubts and he still loves us. As I said at the start, everyone doubts from time to time. Sometimes, even the strongest among us have doubts. Having doubts doesn't make us any less important in God's eyes. God works through us despite our weaknesses. He loves us despite our failures. Even when we have doubts and are faithless, God remains faithful because that is who He is. (2 Timothy 2:13). I pray that we all can take comfort in Him during our moments of doubt.

God bless, Pastor John.

SPECIAL MEMBER'S MEETING

To be held after the service on Sunday 28th March. At this meeting we will be looking at appointing a new Worship Ministry leader and two new deacons. We are also hoping to vote in some new members and take a look at our draft 2025 Church Strategy (which will include the latest on our proposed building plans). Even though only members can vote, we would encourage everyone from our church family to come along to the meeting and see what God is doing at Coolum Beach Baptist.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a church member, and want to find out what it means, please see Pastor John or Tom Symons after the service or contact them during the week.

VIETNAM FUNDRAISER

At Coolum Thai Spice restaurant at 6.30pm on Thursday 25th March. Cost is \$40 for a delicious meal and all proceeds go towards helping Hung's mother cover her son's funeral costs. Please RSVP by 23rd March. You can book online at matt.hosang@gmail.com

COOLUM CRUSADERS

Our first home games of the season are coming up on Saturday 27th March. That means it's time once again for early morning set up, hot coffees, sausage sizzle, pies and a great time of fellowship in the great outdoors. We are looking for volunteers for the day so if you can help in any way please put your name on the sheet in the foyer.

COVID SAFE FOOD HANDLING

As we continue to get back to normal with our church and ministry activities we will be requiring more people to undertake the online Covid Safe food training course. The more people we have trained the greater our capacity to hold events and functions that require food preparation and serving (eg morning teas, soccer canteen, fellowship dinners). It is not an overly onerous task and we do have people to help with the training.

