

## "Men, Women and The Freedom To Minister" (1 Timothy 2:11-14)



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'To know Christ and make Him known'



21

January

9AM Pastor John

# "Men, Women and The Freedom To Minister" (1 Timothy 2:11-14)

## Thought for the Week

### PABSOLUTE TRUTH – THE ONLY WAY TO SALVATION

According to their brochure, if you go skydiving at the Southwest Florida Skydiving Club you can count on two things: (1) an exciting experience and (2) the need to follow some basic rules. Before you participate in a dive, your "Jump Master" will give you a number of vital instructions such as don't curl up into the fetal position, arch your back and hold your arms out in front of you and stick your legs out in front when landing. Their final, and most important rule is "Do everything your jump master tells you to do." These rules are not negotiable, especially if you want to live. They are absolutes. Now, imagine if you arrived for your skydiving experience and a smiling instructor immediately straps a parachute on your back and puts you in the plane idling on the tarmac. Then, as the plane ascends to your right altitude, the instructor says, "We here at the Relativist Skydiving School believe there are many ways to get from the plane to the ground. We respect everyone's desire to skydive and we don't believe in absolute rules. Just listen to your inner voice, respond honestly to your feelings, and have a memorable experience. We'll see you when you get down!" If that was your experience, would you go skydiving? I would be certain that nearly everyone who goes skydiving are glad that there are strict, non-negotiable truths to know.

A recent poll in Australia found that only 20% of Christians believed the Bible was absolutely true and that Jesus is the only way to heaven. For many 'believers' (like much of the non-believing world) truth is seen as something that is relative depending on your situation and worldview. This means people are creating their own personal moral code, which can be a recipe for disaster. For when truth is relative, absolutely anything seems okay. So is there absolute truth? Absolutely! But it's not found in a religion, denomination, philosophy, or in the ever-changing world of science. It's found in Jesus Christ for He is, "THE way, THE truth and THE life." He is the only way to God, the truth about right and wrong, and the key to abundant life. Do you want to know absolute truth? Look to Jesus Christ in God's Word for it is perfect truth (John 17:17). Do you want to know how to live the truth? Just look and see what Jesus did. Read and listen to what He taught and proclaimed and let the Holy Spirit lead you into understanding and obedience to His truth. In the previously mentioned poll, 68% said they believed in heaven and were hopeful that they would get there. Jesus states that heaven can only be gained through Him. We must surrender our lives to Him and absolutely put our trust in His Word, salvation and promises.

God bless, Pastor John.

## Prayer Points

- For our ministries and their leaders as they prepare to start a new year.
- For the full assurance we have in that our past, present and future are all in God's care.
- For God's just commandments, flawless wisdom and supreme power.
- For Lesley Arnold as she heals from broken elbows, broken nose and bruising that she received after taking a fall this week with them there
- Pray that we would have a heart like Christ, one that hates sin and the things of the world and loves the things of God



If you would like to know more about our Home Groups, contact Pastor John 0408 402 476

BIRTHDAYS: 22nd Ian Ratcliffe, 27th Aidan Robinson, Lynne Smith

### MENTORING/DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Would you like to learn how to mentor other people in their Christian walk? What about discipling new believers?

Colin Lituri will be leading some classes over three **Sunday nights:**

**4th, 11th, 18th February at CBBC from 7.00–8.00 pm.**

Please put your name on the list in the gallery if you are keen to attend.

### GENESIS 1–11

This is our new preaching and Bible study series for 2024. It all starts on Sunday 4th February. We are hoping to have the study books available for collection on Sunday 28th January.

### WALKING SOCCER MANAGER

We are looking for someone to connect with the Walking Soccer players on Monday afternoons. This will entail collecting the money from players, helping to set up (but they do most of it) and liaising with them regarding wet weather and equipment. There will be a cash 'gift' of \$30 per week. If you are interested please see Pastor John for more information.

### SOCCER SUBSIDIES FOR STRUGGLING FAMILIES

Each year we have a number of families who receive Fair Play vouchers from the government to help subsidise their registration fees. Unfortunately this subsidy does not cover the full amount of registration and as a Club we look to meet that shortfall so that they don't have to pay fees at all. If you are willing to donate towards helping the Club meet those costs, then please see Chris Hampton.

### PRAYER MEETING

Our Wednesday morning Prayer Meeting will start this Wednesday at the church at 9am. We have much to pray for as we start 2024. Everyone is welcome to come along.