

"In The Beginning..." (Genesis 1:1-2)

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'To know Christ and make Him known'



"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

04

February

9AM Pastor John

“In The Beginning...”
(Genesis 1:1-2)

Thought for the Week

IN THE BEGINNING

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

"In the beginning God" These four simple words communicate the profound truth that, before anything or anyone else existed, God was always there. He was and will always be first. There is no time before God. He always has been and always will be. He created everything out of nothing. He is eternal, infinite, self-existent, life, creator, omnipotent, omniscient and sovereign. He alone is worthy of our worship. God is the central character of time and history as we know it. He commands centre stage in everything – time, life, history, redemption and eternity. Sadly, because of sin, we struggle to put God on the centre stage and worship Him as we should. From the moment we take our first breath, we act and think like the universe revolves around us. History is filled with examples of mankind's insatiable quest to make our names, fortunes and kingdoms as vast and enduring as possible. We embrace the concept that every single person has, as the American constitution famously puts it, 'the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness'. We've bought into that sense of entitlement and embraced a mindset of "it's all about me." We live as though earth is our personal asset, life is our playground and God is our servant (that is, if we decide we need Him at all). In reality, nothing could be further from the truth. Max Lucado hits the nail on the head when he says, "God does not exist to make a big deal out of us. We exist to make a big deal out of Him." Acknowledging that fact and embracing it frees us to experience the abundant life that God originally intended for us to have.

Grasping and living out the truth of these four words is about putting God first in every area of our lives. It is about glorifying Him in everything we do. Modern-day believers can fall into the trap of compartmentalizing all the areas of their lives into two nice, neat little boxes: the sacred (which contains everything related to church) and the secular (which contains everything else). But God desires to be a part of every aspect of our lives – not just the "religious" or just the "sacred." The Bible never makes a distinction between the sacred and the secular. Paul says, "Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Colossians 3:17) We need to put God first and foremost in our life, faith, relationships, stewardship and time. As we strive to do that, we will receive the assurance and peace that our lives truly have meaning and purpose in something so much larger and grander than we could ever imagine.

God bless, Pastor John.

Prayer Points

- For our Elders and Deacons as they meet tomorrow night to discuss and affirm the plans for our transition to a new Senior Pastor
- For RI at Coolum Primary School – a new co-ordinator, good relations with the school and that lessons will start in term 1.
- Praise for the glory and wonder of creation and for the truth it reveals about God – eternal, creator, omniscient, omnipotent, self-existent and sovereign.
- That God would give us hearts of compassion for the lost.

What's on?

MONDAY
5PM Walking Soccer

TUESDAY
9:30AM Playgroup

WEDNESDAY
9AM Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY
9AM Quilters

FRIDAY
9:30AM Playgroup
4PM Kids Ignite & Youth

MENTORING/DISCIPLESHP 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 these classes starting tonight at 7pm and then continuing on the 11th and 18th February. Please add your name to the list in the gallery if you are wanting to attend.

CREATION, SIN AND THE NATURE OF GOD

We are commencing our new preaching and Bible study series on Genesis 1-11 this morning. If you are in a Home Group or would like to do the Bible study individually, please make sure you pick up a study book before you leave. We are asking for a donation of \$5 to help cover printing costs.



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

BIRTHDAYS: 7th Uli Hosang, 10th Pam Jones

BAPTISM CELEBRATION

Today we have the absolute joy of baptising four members of our church family – Carin Van Der Walt, Dawn Johnson, Jenny Jensen and Judie Turner. May we give thanks to God for His grace and salvation and pray for these amazing ladies as they publicly declare the faith in Christ.

SOS IS BACK

Our first outing for 2024 is happening on Thursday 29th February. We are looking to go to Stonebridge Gardens at Palmwoods. More details soon.

AFTER EDEN

by Dan Lietha

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For since the creation of the world God's invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. Romans 1:20