



Thursday 23rd July 2020

Dear people,

Black lives matter. Who would have thought that this would be a rally cry for disrupting the entire culture of western civilisation? In light of the planned protests in Sydney this weekend, I visited the BLM website this week, and I was appalled at their beliefs and the hypocrisy of their practice. Here are a few examples that are entirely unbiblical:

1. We foster a queer-affirming network. When we gather, we do so with the intention of freeing ourselves from the tight grip of heteronormative thinking, or rather, the belief that all in the world are heterosexual. (See Romans 1 – God’s judgment has come)
2. We disrupt the Western-prescribed nuclear family structure requirement by supporting each other as extended families and “villages” that collectively care for one another, especially our children, to the degree that mothers, parents, and children are comfortable. (Blatant socialism – Interestingly, they also refer to one another as “comrades.”)
3. We build a space that affirms Black women and is free from sexism, misogyny, and environments in which men are centered. (Discrimination against men and against God’s order of leadership in the home and church)
4. We make space for transgender brothers and sisters to participate and lead.
5. We dismantle the patriarchal practice that requires mothers to work “double shifts” so that they can mother in private even as they participate in public justice work. (I’m not sure what assumptions are behind this assertion, but the premise is that any kind of male leadership in the home is inherently evil. All of BLM founders are black women.)

Added to these unbiblical positions is their hypocrisy. Two examples:

1. We embody and practice justice, liberation, and peace in our engagements with one another. (There is no such embodiment or practice to anyone outside their beliefs. They want to police our thoughts and disrupt our society.)
2. We acknowledge, respect, and celebrate differences and commonalities. (Anyone can see that the riots and protests in many cities are a far cry from respectful and a celebration of differences.)

Make no mistake – the BLM movement is not about “systemic” racism. Racism is not systemic. Of course there are racists in any society, and even racist organisations, but this is not part of the life blood in our societal structures. But these people, along with organisations such as Antifa, are actually known as Disintegrationists. They characterise western society as systemically racist (evil), because they want to dismantle our Christian culture and build a socialist system that allows for no other thinking but their own. Christians, and many others, are fooled by the name, Black Lives Matter. Churches are even rallying behind them and cheering them on. Nobody is denying black lives, and indeed all lives matter, but very few are looking underneath to see what their agenda is really all about.

Keep thinking God’s thoughts after Him. Our attitude, as believers, should be one of compassion to these people. They are the blind leading the blind. Only the light of the gospel will bring them from darkness to light.

See you Sunday,

Pastor Mike

*Newsletter*

# Devotional By Dr. David Jeremiah

## *Therapeutic Praise*

*Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?"*  
*Joshua 5:14*

According to an American Psychiatric Association (APA) poll taken in 2018, nearly 40 percent of Americans are more anxious than they were in 2017. Likewise, eighteen percent of the population suffers from an anxiety disorder. That amounts to forty million American adults. Safety, health, and finances are said to be the greatest sources of anxiety.

These are difficult times, and people around the world are facing extraordinary levels of stress. Many need professional help, and multitudes need a reason to be hopeful.

Try praise. One of the greatest antidotes to mental stress is worship with thanksgiving. When we come before the Lord, recognize His blessings, bathe our souls in His glory, claim His promises, and sing His praises—well, it's highly therapeutic to our souls. We don't worship Him just for what we get out of it, of course. That would be counterproductive. Worship is all about Him, not us. But how good of God to bless us, as we bless Him.

Joshua was worried before leading Israel into battle. But he fell on his face, worshiped, listened to God's instructions, and rose to conquer. We can do the same.

*Worship: The spontaneous expression of the heart to the glory of God.*  
*Anonymous*

## Children's Church Workers

Jenny and Tracy (Combined Class) / Creche Workers: Missy and Charmaine

### This week please pray for

A church family – Jess and Gloria Miranda

A church ministry – Ushers and AV team

A church leader – Pastor Mike and April

## Announcements

- 26th July: 'Growing Kids Gods Way' Parenting Course: 4:30pm at Church
- 24th July: EPIC Youth at the Church, 7PM: See Josh and Kat Fernandez
- 24th July: IGNITE Guys/Girls Study: 7pm (See David Vittor or Jesse Zarate)
- 25th July: Men's Coffee Club: 8:30am at Espresso Warriors, Blacktown Westpoint
- 26th July: Deacon Meeting

## Upcoming Events

- **Basecamp Livestream: 8th August at the church.** [Breakfast served at 8:30am – Livestream starting 9am]. Register individually at: <https://basecampmen.com/registration/> and RSVP with Pastor Mike on attendance.

- **OneLove Women Livestream and FBC Women's Breakfast: 22nd August at the church. 9AM - 1PM.**

Register individually at: <https://onelovewomen.com/register> and RSVP with April on attendance.

Breakfast will be provided. *Register before 1st August to receive a free OneLove gift pack.*

# **Ministry Opportunities at FBC**

*Looking to serve at church?  
We have opportunities in the following ministries.*

## **Scripture Reading**

Glen Truman (glen8truman@gmail.com)

## **Music Item for Sunday Service**

Pastor Brian (bkeggert@outlook.com)

## **Holiday Bible Club (5th-9th October)**

Ann Millis (themillisfamily2001@gmail.com)

## **Children's Church and Creche Workers**

April Kwok (apriljoy18th@gmail.com)



# LONGLINES

June 2020  
Never the same

Newsletter of Elise Long

Serving the Palawano People  
with New Tribes Church Planters of the  
Philippines

[elise.long@ntcp](mailto:elise.long@ntcp).



Our world will probably never be the same again either since Covid began. On a brief visit with family in Australia, I found myself unable to return to the Philippines when the borders closed totally unexpectedly right after I left.

I'm in constant touch with my co-workers at Bintat Karis, and thrilled to see how they have adapted to lockdown at a time when the teachers would normally be on summer break, running youth camps all over Palawan. Instead they are making the farm flourish to feed the community, and are teaching the Word of God all over the valley. There are now 3 churches meeting, and numerous Bible studies at different locations.

The mission helicopter brought pipes and concrete to renew the water system and build 2 community bathrooms and toilets at Menti.

A team from Nanringal Baptist Church in Victoria, and 3 German guys worked on this and other projects. Team members trained health workers and taught hairdressing.



Life will never be the same again for my closest co-worker, Prisila and her family.

Her father was taking his first lesson in riding the motorbike his family had bought. He ran into a ditch and the fall broke his neck. Just days after visiting Aussie paramedic, Bronwyn, had trained us in transporting spinal injury patients, we were horrified to see how this poor man was handled by his well-meaning rescuers. He will probably never walk again. Sweet, quiet Presila rose to the occasion, and took charge of his care in the hospital, and on his return home. I am so proud of how she has handled this tragedy, becoming the family breadwinner and nurse overnight.



Team Bintat Karis making the most of Lock-down-planting seed on the community farm and in the hearts of the Palawano People







The health workers are coping magnificently under the leadership of newly graduated midwife, Ayna, dealing with everything from a newborn with spinabifida and a boy with a large fish hook impaling his foot. Pediatric nurse, Ben, from Germany helped us out, and Aussie Paramedic, Bronwyn brought training in transporting victims of spinal injury.

Midwife Henna is finishing her internship with Mercy in Action, a birthing home ministry to the urban poor on the island of Luzon. She has now assisted in 50



births, learning the most up-to-date and gentle methods, and being mentored by beautiful Christian midwives. Both Henna and the 4 students stuck in lock-down for over 2 months on the Philippine Missionary Institute campus, have been **organizing and distributing food** to the poorest and most vulnerable people in their areas. Thanks to the support of Christians in Australia and other places, well over 1,000 packs of nutritious food have been handed out to people who have no way of feeding their families because they are in lock-down.

## Praise and Prayer

- Insurgent activity has displaced upriver people. Formerly resistant to the Gospel and suspicious of our healthworkers, they have relocated at Menti where the local believers are sharing truth with them.
- A huge step- Our community health program, Ipat Palawano, has just been accredited by the municipal government. Now the Palawanos have a recognized part in, and a voice for healthcare in their community.
- Pray for the Menti believers as they work with the BK team to share the Gospel with their upriver neighbours. Razil had to return to his home area which is a huge blow to the work. May God raise up another Palawano with his gifts!
- For our midwives and health workers as they deal with all kinds of patients and administration.
- Pray for us as we disciple our young students, helping in ministry. Some of them have suffered childhood abuse and are vulnerable. The temptations around them are huge, and sometimes they fall.
- Please pray for wisdom for me as I consider returning to the Philippines. I am seeking God's will and a way to get back to ministry there. Thank God I'm able to support and coordinate from a distance, but our health program is still in its infancy and is a heavy load for our young midwives.

## CHANGES IN SENDING SUPPORT to the PALAWANO MINISTRY



**THANK YOU** for making a difference in Palawano lives through your faithful support!

Due to changes to the law regarding non-profit organizations, from July 1 2020, Crossview Australia is no longer able to transfer financial support to the fields where their missionaries work.

Thankfully, Australian Missionary Tidings has welcomed our ministry and agreed to transfer your support to the field.

### **DONATION THROUGH AMT CAN BE BY DIRECT DEPOSIT, CREDIT CARD OR CHEQUE**

**DIRECT DEPOSIT:** ring the AMT office on 07 3219 1800 and they will give you a donor number and the bank details. When you make your deposit put the following in the description. *Please make sure to put the donor number you have been given, (ie. not <donor number>)*

1. The code for Elise Long- *ministry:* <donor number> **LONG Min**
2. The code for Elise Long- *gift/personal:* <donor number> **LONG Pers**
3. The code for Pag-Asa Fund- *scholarships, healthworkers, missionaries, teachers:* <donor number> **LONG PAF**
4. The code for Palawano Project Fund: *community development, building projects, vehicles.* <donor number> **LONG PPF**

**CREDIT CARD DIRECT DEBIT:** ring the AMT office on 07 3219 1800 and they will facilitate a one-off or regular direct debit from your credit card.

**CHEQUE:** Make cheque out to AMT and mail to  
*AMT, PO Box 565, MOUNT GRAVATT QLD 4122.*

Please enclose a note with your cheque which gives your name and address and what the gift is for.

Please also note my new email address:

[elise.long@ntcp.ph](mailto:elise.long@ntcp.ph)

