

living Bible we would say, for the period of time He was on this earth, and mankind was expected to add that to the previous Bibles that were written for mankind, and see and hear clearly what God's desire and wishes were for mankind.

Out of Christ's living Bible came the New Testament to be added to the old. It is all based on Christ's teachings and the teachings of the Holy Spirit, and bringing to the people what God required of them. Now mankind had a book. God is working through the Holy Spirit in the world to have this book in every language of the world so that man will not have an excuse. We have heard though that the book itself can do nothing. It is when the Kingdom of God is preached and man presseth therein that it becomes a reality for us.

This Book of God will not be the final Bible written within the world. God, today, is writing another Bible, and there will be yet another one that will emerge in the world. This book, the Holy Bible of the Old and New Testaments, is with us today and must play a most important part within our lives. The Prophet Zechariah saw this and was shown in a vision how this must play its part in our life, and in Zechariah Chapter 4 we read:

*"And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof: And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof. So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord? Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Ze-rub'ba-bel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.*

*Who art thou O great mountain? before Ze-rub'ba-bel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it. Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, The hands of Ze-rub'ba-bel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto you. For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Ze-rub'ba-bel with those seven; they are the eyes of the Lord, which run to and fro through the whole earth. Then answered I, and said unto him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof? And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves? And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth".*

We see there the Church being lit, the fullness of the Spirit of God being shown, and the two anointed ones putting the oil into the lamps to shine the way for the Church. The two anointed ones are the Books of the Old Testament and the New Testament. They are written by the Spirit of God, and they feed into the Church that message and God's word out of this Bible into the Church, so that the seven lights, which is the fullness of the Spirit of God, can be seen clearly by all who come before the lamp.

We see that the Holy Bible as it stands today, was already prefigured and foretold, so many hundreds of years before it came into existence. That is how important it is to us. God also knows, and has shown through the Book of Revelation, that this Bible as we call it today will not stand the test of time. These two witnesses in the Book of Revelation were seen to be taken and thrown into the street. The people did not want to listen to them anymore for they played upon their lives.

They wanted to live lives that were not in accord with the words that were coming through this oil out of these books. They took up a great battle against this Bible and this Word of God; and these witnesses, meaning the words contained therein and not the books, became contaminated and were changed and made to suit the people, not to suit God, even to the extent where they were taken into the streets and thrown into the streets, and people rejoiced and danced around them that they no longer had to abide by these Words of God. What a tragedy if that Bible was lost!

But God is already planning a new Bible. He has it in the makings today. It is being made in this very building today. Christ taught, and the power of the Holy Spirit has taught us through the teachings of the Apostle Paul, that God is writing on our hearts, His Word, day by day. Each service that we come to, our hearts are open before God and His words are being written by God's Spirit on each and every one of our hearts. This is becoming once again, a living Bible, not just of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, but of the Church. Every one of us has a part to play in the preparation of this living Bible. Every one of us has to be sure that we allow those Words of God to be written as a page on our hearts.

Imagine the tragedy if we decided not to go to church for a period of time and those words that God had planned to print deeply on our hearts for the future and benefit of the Church were not written there. There would be a gap when the time came for this Bible to indeed become the final Bible in God's plan, which will happen after this Old and New Testament is put down and not considered any more as the Word of God. We come to church, we sit, we hear, and perhaps we think in our minds that we can never understand all that is being said. The Holy Spirit is writing it on our heart. We come to church and we say that the Apostle preaches too long and we go to sleep. The Holy Spirit is writing that on your hearts.

It is the obligation of those who are chosen by God to preach the Word of God, to bring

forth those words by the power of the Holy Spirit to have this Bible written within the whole world, for the Scripture shows us in the Book of Revelation, that when this rejoicing takes place for three and a half days in God's time, or three and a half period of time, the people rejoice because they have put down the Word of God; their consciences no longer apply; they have no longer this living Word of God being reminded to them; the writing of God in the stone is not there; the conscience is not there; nature has now taken on a new meaning for them – they are worshipping nature. At that time they think they have won a victory; they bring gifts to each other; they rejoice; but at that time then something happens in the world. The final Bible rises up, it is said. It comes back to life, not as books, but it comes back to life as each and every one of us. We then become the testimony of God by our actions, by our words, and by our deeds. The world receives the final Bible, which is the living Bible of God, showing by example God's commandments and God's wishes to mankind.

We are chosen to be part of that living Bible. To understand our part that we play, we now have to take the Bible that is given unto us by the Grace of God and begin to understand it more, for those words, if they do not have an understanding and wisdom attached to them, will be meaningless when we become the living Bible. The challenge for the young people is to take your Bibles, understand through the wisdom of God the message of Christ's salvation, understand the message of God's plan and His love to us, and open your hearts each and every Sunday to have it written there, and wait for the call. Practice it in our lives now, practice being that living example within the world, practice being part of this living Bible that will rise up at that time and bring about the final victory.

If we can, there is a great promise given according to the Scriptures, when this living Bible is brought into being. A voice from Heaven says – 'Come up to me and be rewarded'. What a wonderful voice it will be to

hear - 'Come and receive this reward for allowing yourself to be part of this Living Bible of the testimony of the love of God to mankind'. Amen.

### **Youth Service Cont'd 11th April 2010**

Texts: Psalm 119 verses 97-105; Psalm 119 verses 169-176.

Psalm 119 verses 97-105.

*"O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts. I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word. I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me. How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."*

#### **Deacon Warren Flor.**

In the Grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, beloved brothers and sisters, and today especially the youth. In that text word which we had read out to us we find the great love of the Almighty God, where the Psalmist was troubled and he asked the Lord God for help, and he acknowledged unto the Lord God that He granted him that wisdom and understanding, that He strengthen him above all his adversaries which were with him every day. His words that were given to him, he described them that they were sweeter than honey, and he took those words with him every day of his life. He concludes, in thankfulness to the Lord, that He allowed his feet to become as light so that as he walked it would show to him the pathway he should tread.

We look back over the past week and we acknowledge that we can tie this in with everything that has happened throughout these past days; that wisdom and understanding was granted unto us through the Apostle with his teachings, and his answers to the questions that you had all written out. We also learnt how, in our daily life, and especially the young people, of the bullying that goes on and how we can avoid these things. We also heard how we can use our Bibles, not only in our Spiritual life but also in our natural life. We can use it as Bible Trivia and have lots of fun, which each and every one of us enjoyed on that day.

We also witnessed that light and the darkness when we went to The Caves and we sat in that Cathedral. When we went in it was brilliantly lit up, but each light was slowly turned off and it became very dark, until the last candle was blown out and it was total darkness. We can acknowledge this as our daily life, and as the lights came back on we were once again able to see where we were and what we were doing. We also heard from Brother Alan how, with his traverses around the world, when he was in trouble people helped him and he always knew that they were a Christian. We can take all that which we have learnt in this past week, take it with us when we go home, and we also can allow that light to shine into the world, not only to our friends, but to each and every one whom we come in contact with so we can show unto them that the Lord God has that great love for each and every one of us.

#### **Deacon Robert Doyle.**

In the Grace and peace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, beloved brothers and sisters in faith, and especially on this day the youth. The psalmist writes that he needs the wisdom that God can give him so that he can gain understanding and he can gain the strength to overcome those things each and every day. We too in our lives need that wisdom to overcome those things in our life each and every day as well. He states in that

Psalm that his understanding is greater than ones that have gone before him. We are no different. We know that the Bible is a Bible of all ages and as we get older and learn, the Spirit reveals more to us and we are shown which way we are to go. We are shown greater understanding in our faith.

As has been previously preached, we had people come and give us talks. Those talks were of information; information by Priest Wayne and information by the policeman. We, in this day, should take that information and come to the understanding that was given to us and use wisdom to understand and to know the rights and wrongs of that information. We need to use wisdom to understand in the case of bullying, are we being a bully, have we been bullied, or have we been a bystander? We have to use our wisdom if we are a bystander to know which side we should take. Should we help the weak – the one who is being picked upon, or do we just go along with the one who is being the bully? Wisdom will guide us that we can come to the understanding and use those great words that we heard during this week, "What would Jesus do?"

We had many activities during our camp. We went to The Caves and we saw darkness and we saw light. We heard the story of how the man, Mr Olsen, went through those caves on hand and knee with a candlelight, finding which way to go, day by day, bit by bit, and how we can now go to those caves and walk along platforms, and probably not realise the amount of effort, and work, and strength, and desire that those people had back in those days.

In our own faith, was this no different to our forefathers who came to this land; the work, the effort, the desire to bring this faith to our land. Do we sometimes take that as a grain of salt and not realise the work that was done. We have to use the wisdom of God and have that desire and that strength to get that word to the people we meet each and every day. We know in this great country of ours, Australia, that the Christian faith is going down and attendance at church is getting

less. The youth of the church have to use God's wisdom to teach those around them of the love of God; to teach those around them the importance of receiving the Sacraments of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Wisdom is not something that we can just go to a corner and find. Wisdom is something we need to ask for, to listen to, to let the Holy Spirit work within us, and be thankful for the understanding we have, to be thankful for the Holy Spirit that works in our land and in our church, be thankful for the teaching of the Office of Grace that we can learn to understand about our faith and slowly as we get older, be granted wisdom.

Psalm 119 verses 169-176.

*"Let my cry come near before thee, O Lord: give me understanding according to thy word. Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word. My lips shall utter praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes. My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness. Let thine hand help me; for I have chosen thy precepts. I have longed for thy salvation, O Lord; and thy law is my delight. Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments."*

### **Deacon Neville Schneider.**

In the Grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, beloved brothers and sisters, and also particularly on this day, the youth of the church. We all assembled in the house of God on this day in unity, as one body, on the Lord's day and at the conclusion of another Youth Camp, and in this past week there is no doubt that we have gathered much understanding of God's will and His ways. We have heard of all that we have been taught and that we have learnt throughout this past week, and we have heard how the psalmist writes that we should ask the Lord for His hand for we have chosen His precepts.

There are two pathways that stand before us and we must at all times pray to the Lord that we be granted wisdom, for we can read in the Scriptures where the Apostle James writes that if any man lack wisdom he should ask and it would be given to him. We all ask that we be given wisdom that we can follow on that pathway, that pathway the Christian road that will lead us to that promise that we can enter into that place of Paradise. We were given many warnings throughout this past week of the dangers that are in the world today; through modern technology, through the internet, through cyber space, the dangers of bullying, the dangers of identity fraud. As young members of the church who are most involved with this modern technology, we must at all times be trusting and allow the understanding that is given unto us through the wisdom of God to be ever mindful to be careful of those things that Satan places before us.

We know and the Scripture teaches us that Satan will come as a wolf in sheep's clothing. We must at all times be conscious and aware of the dangers that exist and be not led astray, but as the sheep, follow the master, for the master is calling to come unto him all ye and follow Him. As we have sung in the hymn, the Lord will never forsake us but be ye strong at all times in the Lord.

### **Deacon Eric Galletly.**

In the Grace and peace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, beloved brothers and sisters, and especially on this day to our youthful members. The theme for our Youth Camp this year was 'Seeking Wisdom'. We had to ask how we learn to seek this wisdom so we searched the Bible. Firstly we learnt how to reference our Bible and then how to search for things in that Bible to gain answers.

The psalmist, in the text given to us, said that through the supplication of prayer and through those things that come past our lips, we have to be pretty sure of ourselves that when we ask for something we do not ask for

things which we cannot control in our life, for the Almighty God already knows what is written on our heart and what things we need. When we look back and we look forwards at what is written and what comes out of our mouths, we see that today we explain bringing praises unto the Almighty God that He would be very pleased and very happy, and when we go about in the communities showing that love, and that support, and that help in our communities, the Lord God also is very, very happy.

But when we go about in our natural life and we degrade ourselves by speaking vulgar language, displaying unkind acts to people that might have an affliction or who are a little bit worse off than us, and the like, then the Almighty God is not happy. Satan is happy. He is sitting there doing cartwheels every time that we do something wrong. From today when we go back out into the natural world, let us think very carefully first of what comes out of our mouths and what actions that we take, for when we do the good deeds we are confessing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our Lord and Saviour said that when we confess of Him to other people then He will confess of us to His Father. What a glorious thing to keep in the back of our minds, for we know that if we do good things then our Lord Jesus is very happy with us and He will take these blessings which we have gained and place them at the footstool before our Loving Father, which also brings that righteousness that we have to build up while we are here on earth.

From this message today, we know how to use our Bibles, we know how to look things up, and we have been told that the only hindrance to us not reading the Bible is ourselves. We have also been told that we should learn something new every day in our life and that if we haven't learnt something new in our life, then before we go to bed, open up our Bible and read. The stories might be old but they are ever new.

## **Evangelist Owen Bramer.**

In the Grace and peace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, beloved in the Lord, and particularly the youth. Today is the culmination of the gathering of the Youth Camp for 2010, we have all entered into the sanctified house of God on this the Sabbath day. The theme for this year's Youth Camp was 'Seeking Wisdom'. We have heard from previous preaching, preaching on the Book of Psalms, how we must seek that wisdom within our lives, obeying the commandments of God, seeking and following the teachings left for us by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as an example to us in our lives.

As the youth of the church you must go out into the world. You are the front line. In the church you are basically the new generation to come through. Many of us who go back a generation can place ourselves where you are sitting today and think of how we were in our generation. We cannot contemplate things that are before us and that we must face in your lives. Many of those things we have heard through the guest speakers at the Youth Camp over the previous week and the warnings that were given.

A previous Apostle once taught, "How can we learn to swim if we do not go into the water?" As a church, we are in the world but we must not be of the world. We must go out into the world each day of our lives to earn a living and to go to school, and we seek that worldly wisdom to gain those blessings of God in our natural lives as God helps those who help themselves. Peace, the real peace in our life, comes through obeying the commandments of God and emulating the walks of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We will also find in the Book of Psalms 119 verse 165: "*Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them*". Each and every one of the youth, and each and every one of us, we are all individuals. God has created us in that way. No two people in the world are created the same. Being individuals in God's sight created that way makes us very precious; each and every one

of us is a precious jewel in God's sight, a pearl of great price.

We have heard in the Book of Psalms how we must follow that light of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and walk in that light. Many of us and many of the youth are given blessings and gifts within our lives. Each and every one of us has a special gift given from God. Many of us do not even recognise our gifts. Something profound may happen within our life, the light comes on, and we acknowledge what our gift is. The gift may be our nature, a kind word to a brother or sister. The only time that we ever look down upon our fellow man or our brother or sister is when we bend down to help them up.

As we leave this Youth Camp for 2010 and pray that we take that wisdom that we have gained in having access to the Apostle through the questions and answers, and coming into the Divine Service on this Sabbath Day and seeking those blessings of God. In the preaching that we have already heard, the Lord grants us those blessings each and every day of our life and it is up to us to avail ourselves of those blessings. We cannot gain peace, as youth, travelling through life and following the ways of the world. Peace comes in the commandments of God and following His will through the Sacraments left for us by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

As we walk and come in contact with our friends in the work places, we should not be ashamed to say to them, "I go to church on a Sunday; I am a Christian from the denomination of the Apostolic Church and follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ". We should not be ashamed to testify of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Many of us have fun poked at us but we should not be offended at this. We know that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ suffered these things also in His life. Let us leave this Youth Camp, take that wisdom we have gained with us and use it to prepare our soul's salvation for the return of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.