



SWOT REPORT

BEVERLEY, Wednesday, 3 May, 2017

Travelling out to Beverley for the first Wednesday monthly meeting, I was greatly blessed to be able to take a days Annual Leave in order to be the chauffer and drive Geoff and Margaret out to Beverley, something that I haven't been able to do since starting to work again. The time passed very quickly on the drive and we found ourselves in Beverley a little early, but the door was already open and the kettle was on.

Bev and Clare were already there preparing for the meeting. There was an excellent turn out with 13 in attendance including ourselves, and a wonderful time of fellowship ensued with all sharing about what had been happening in their lives recently. Geoff had asked if I could share a small teaching/message this day and I settled on sharing a 10-minute video teaching on prayer that I had discovered online several years ago. The teaching was by Francis Chan an American pastor and writer. It was first of ten lessons based upon his best-selling book "Crazy Love" (see link address below). This lesson on prayer is entitled disconcertingly "Stop Praying". I can summarise this lesson with two points

1. Stop praying from habit or by rote for this doesn't glorify God.
2. Start praying with an accurate biblical understanding/picture of who it is you are actually praying too.

Ps Chan, drawing from John's description/vision of God in Revelation 4:2-3, taught that we need to realise the awesome reality of who it is that we are actually

speaking with when we pray. And that this reality should drastically change our focus and approach to prayer. Ps Chan concluded his lesson with this question. If you found yourself right now before the throne of God in all His splendour, glory and awesome majesty, what would you say to Him?

I followed Ps Chan's lesson and asked each one present what they would say finding themselves before Almighty God, even the Lamb upon the throne. Without lessening the importance of the moment, it would be safe to summarise everyone's thoughts as ones of thankfulness to God. I then finished up with the thought that such an understanding should inform every moment of prayer, indeed every moment of our lives as Christians. We must remember, and actually visualise if necessary – drawing upon scripture, who it is we actually serve and pray to. And let that realisation inform and transform us continually when we pray.

Link: Living Crazy Love Study Resource Session 1 – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1k1K0uQXwM>
Also check out crazylovebook.com

Brad Makin, Psalm 134 Ministries



Francis Chan is the founding pastor of Cornerstone Church in Simi Valley, CA, starting the church in 1994. In May 2010, he left Cornerstone to work directly in mission with the poor locally and internationally. His two books, *Crazy Love*, a *New York Times* Bestseller and *Forgotten God*, were immediate bestsellers hitting several national bestseller lists. Chan has given all author royalties for *Crazy Love* to the Isaiah 58 Fund. He and his wife Lisa currently live in Southern California with their four children.

Outside the Beverley Church, 3 May 2017



WICKEPIN, Wednesday, 10 May, 2017

We headed out to Wickepin on our own. Though we left Perth in a timely manner we were at least thirty minutes late meeting up with Gary Johnson who had come in from Narrogin. Gary was deep in conversation with a couple who had stopped for morning tea, not wasting any time he was ministering whilst he waited for us.

There were few vacant car parks outside the cafe. It was mid-morning and business was brisk. It was soon discovered the couple Gary was conversing with had a caravan. Within a very short time Geoff was being taken over to look at their caravan and vehicle leaving Gary and I to ruminate on all and nothing whilst we sipped on our coffee outside on the cafe pavement. We talked and talked. The traffic ebbed and flowed. By the time Geoff returned, Gary and I had covered much ground.

Gary had made progress ministering to a man who had recently relocated to Wickepin. Though the seed was planted there was much work still to be done. The man's needs are great but it is a small thing for our Lord.

With coffee time over we walked across the road and sat with the sun on our backs at a picnic table adjacent to the Albert Facey House. The breeze was brisk as we prayed for Wickepin and the district, and all the needs we had discussed in our conversation. Stopping to take a photo I forgot to take the lense off"manual" so photos were blurred so none to show you of our time in Wickepin other than one of Albert Facey House below.

What is SWOT?

The **South West Outreach Team** (SWOT) are a team of Christians who travel by car to our south-west agricultural towns once or twice a week to encourage and pray with local believers. SWOT began some six years ago when Pastor Brian Whitehurst retired from pastoring churches and was "nudged" by God to ministry in the Great Southern. SWOT's vision is to light a small fire in each of the south west towns and then to call upon the Holy Spirit to fan these flames into one large flame, engulfing the south west in the fire of revival. The vision is reflected in the Team's logo.

Ps Brian Whitehurst
SWOT Founder



Once more we discovered that time had passed so quickly in fellowship and prayer we had quite lost track of the fact it was getting late. No time, yet again, for a quick trip to Popanyinning to drop in on the Maughans. As we drove home we received a message from Gary Johnson thanking us for being a blessing to him as he had felt quite flat when he left Narrogin that morning but had returned revived. We too felt blessed because of our time of fellowship and prayer with Gary. We praised the Lord for his faithfulness, and for our dear friend, praying the Lord would establish the work of Gary's hands and that the Lord would encourage him as he continued to minister the gospel to those who did not want to hear, who did not know how great their need for Jesus.

WILLIAMS, Thursday, 18 May, 2017

Brian Lownes from the Mustard Seed Community Church joined us for the day's outreach. It was Brian's birthday. We felt honoured that he would want to spend his special day with us and to be about the Lord's work. We witnessed a dry landscape of barren paddocks as we headed southward and made comment how urgent the need for rain.



Above Brian Lownes, Margaret Pittuck, Jo Fowler and Vern Sattler

Top: Phil, Gary Johnson, Brian Lownes and Geoff Pittuck

Right: Brian and Jenny outside Popanyinning General Store



We were delighted that Jo Fowler, along with Vern Sattler, were at the church waiting to greet us when we arrived. Using the Word of God we offered up our praises and thanksgiving. Geoff brought a short message from Matthew 10.1-4 explaining that though the disciples were still very early in their training the Lord gave them authority and power to go out to their people, to cast out unclean spirits, and to heal all kinds of sickness and disease. Correspondingly, Vern spoke about John 1.43-51 People meet Jesus and they are changed. Whatever their deepest need, Jesus meets it. Then they tell others what happened.

Prayer for individual needs, the church and the district, and for salvations, concluded in a short time of fellowship. We farwelled our dear friends and headed over to Narrogin to see Gary Johnson.

NARROGIN, 18 May

Gary's outdoor fire (an old Meters stove) was revved up as we huddled around it to initially get warm. His lodger, Phil, baked us a damper from his secret recipe and fried some fresh fish Gary had been gifted. What a treat to sit in Gary's orchard in the autumn sun feasting on damper and fish. How sweet indeed the friendship and fellowship we savoured.

Gary's week had been hectic. With the significant birthday of his mother who resides in a nursing home in Narrogin, the family had converged upon him from all over the country. Gary was appreciating the quiet since their departure.

Our prayers centred on individual and district needs. Petition was made for the first nation peoples, many of whom were reverting back to their tribal beliefs despite being raised as Christians.

POPANYINNING, 18 May

How disappointed we were to learn that ironically Sam Maughan was in Narrogin. Fortunately, we found Jenny in good health and busy, as always, serving the ever frequent flow of customers into the Popanyinning General Store.

Jenny served us coffee and cake and we enjoyed a short time of fellowship. Our prayers were specifically for Sam and Jenny and their ministry to their community. Geoff managed to speak to Sam on the phone, he was returning to Popanyinning but by this time it was seriously well past 3.00pm and we needed to be heading back to Perth.

Pressing homeward, we spoke of Brian Whitehurst. We felt he would have been pleased with the day's ministry. Once more, we praised our beloved Lord for his abundant provision and blessings.

2 Cronicles 7.14

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

prayer

Please pray for revival in the land. That those who are blood-brought children of the Lord most High will be stirred in their hearts to seek the truth and to draw ever closer to the Lord Jesus - and for those who once trusted the Lord but have now wandered far away, that the Lord will speak to their heart, revive their spirit and draw them back into close fellowship with Him.

Continue to pray for :

The Lord's anointed to be appointed to the Diocese in Williams, for the wardens; wisdom, strength and direction.

Gary Johnson and his ministry in Northam.

Sam and Jenny Maughan as they minister in Popanyinning. Please pray specifically for their business and Jenny's health.

Open doors and favour to connect with the Christians in Wickepin.

The Cunderdin Christian Fellowship.

Please remember to pray for the SWOT team, for anointing with power to heal the sick, to bring captives to be free, to make the blind see, to preach the Gospel as Jesus commanded, to serve with joy and to be conduits of blessing wherever they go.

THEREFORE I SAY
TO YOU, WHATEVER
THINGS YOU ASK
WHEN YOU PRAY,
BELIEVE
YOU RECEIVE
THEM, AND YOU
WILL HAVE THEM.
MARK 11:24

The Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your womb and in the fruit of your cattle and in the fruit of your ground. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, as he took delight in your fathers, when you obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep his commandments and his statutes that are written in this Book of the Law, when you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Deuteronomy 30.9-10