



SWOT REPORT

What is SWOT?

The South West Outreach Team (SWOT) is 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

Message from Margaret Pittuck

Dear Praying Partners,

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

Romans 12:11

More than anything else in the world today, as we witness the decline in values and morals in our society, we need the demonstration of the power of the Holy Spirit. Have you ever watched a fire burning? A fire will either spread or it will burn out. The tendency is for fire to go out. It needs to be fed and fanned. Passion works in the same way. We need to stoke it, build it. I exhort you to guard the flame within you ferociously. Protect your passion for God. When the fire of the Holy Spirit burns brightly in your life, you will be walking and living under the will of God.

Our pray for you is that you will keep the flames burning and take the fire of God's Spirit to a lost and dying world.

BEVERLEY, Wednesday, 2 May, 2018

What a joy it was to have International Evangelist Pastor Robin John and his lovely wife, Rebecca, join us for our monthly meeting in Beverley. After the heat it was refreshing to head out on a cool morning. Smoke made visibility in the forest murky but once out into the farming country the smoke was less apparent. We noted that some farmers had dry seeded whilst others were still waiting for the rains.

Arriving at the home of Glenda Ferris we were greeted with overwhelming enthusiasm by a tiny bundle of cuteness - a fur ball called "Cloe" - Glenda's new

baby. After a time of prayer and worship lead by Annie and Tim, Geoff introduced our guest speaker, Pastor Robin John who spoke to us on "Open Heaven".



BEVERLEY, Wednesday, 2 May, 2018 - Continued



We were asked for some incidences in the bible of an open heaven. The suggestions were: When Jesus was baptised (prayer opens heaven), Stephen being stoned to death. Stephen cried out to the Lord to forgive those who stoned him. Forgiveness opens heaven to see the glory of God. And the last suggestion: Jacob's ladder.

Why do we need an open heaven? Exodus 7:3-9 Delivery from oppression, to lead us to a land of milk and honey. To be delivered from our oppression.

John 1:45-41 Phillip finds Nathaniel and tells him we have found the Messiah spoken of. Nathaniel said "what good comes out of Nazareth". If we want to see an open heaven we must be a genuine believer without guile, not critical of others.

2 Corinthians 13:5 *Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?* We need to self-examine ourselves from time-to-time to determine if we are still in the faith. Job 1:8 *Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."* What a commendation from God! Here is an open heaven, Job is blameless, shuns evil and believes God. Job 42. Job forgives his friends and then sees an open heaven. Job is healed and his losses are restored. We need to pray for our enemies and then healing will come. There is a release in forgiveness.

The question to ask is: Am I lukewarm or passionate for the Lord?. Do I sincerely love God's people and serve diligently? Are my words pure or full of hypocrisy? Jeremiah 17:9-10 *The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? "I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve."* Psalm 139:3 *You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.* When Jesus was baptised - all righteousness fulfilled. Jesus prayed and heaven was opened. We need to empty ourselves so the Lord can fill us anew each day with the Holy Spirit. When filled with the Holy Spirit we are lead by the Spirit. This is an endorsement - "you are my child and I am pleased with you doing my will and work". Zephaniah 3:5 *For the LORD will*

remove his hand of judgment and will disperse the armies of your enemy. And the LORD himself, the King of Israel, will live among you! At last your troubles will be over, and you will never again fear disaster. There is an open heaven when you pray, filled by the Spirit, lead by the Spirit. If we ask the right things we will get what we ask for. Heaven opens up if we are righteous and blameless.

However, disobedience closes heaven. Deuteronomy 28:20-25 *The Lord will send on you curses, confusion and rebuke in everything you put your hand to, until you are destroyed and come to sudden ruin because of the evil you have done in forsaking him. The Lord will plague you with diseases until he has destroyed you from the land you are entering to possess. The Lord will strike you with wasting disease, with fever and inflammation, with scorching heat and drought, with blight and mildew, which will plague you until you perish. The sky over your head will be bronze, the ground beneath you iron. The Lord will turn the rain of your country into dust and powder; it will come down from the skies until you are destroyed. The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies. You will come at them from one direction but flee from them in seven, and you will become a thing of horror to all the kingdoms on earth.*

Obedience opens heaven, whereas disobedience closes heaven.

The heavens are opened when we tithe. Malachi 3:8-10 *"Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me." "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.*

Look up! Your redemption draws nigh. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.*

BEVERLEY, Wednesday, 2 May, 2018 - Continued

According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will

be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words. This is the final open heaven. Prepare in holiness and purity for the final open heaven. What joy we have that Jesus is coming again!

WILLIAMS, Thursday, 24 May

With rain yet to arrive, the countryside as we headed down to Williams via the Albany Highway was alarmingly dry. Many of the paddocks were devoid of any vegetation and because it was windy, the dust was billowing in ebbing and flowing waves across the landscape. The horizon was shrouded in a dusty veil. Despite the wind, we made good time reaching the Williams Anglican Church at the designated time of 10.00am. Jo Fowler was inside waiting for us.



How good it was to exchange warm greetings and catch up on each others news. We were finally able to pass on some tea grown from the highlands of Sri Lanka that Pastor Robin John and Rebecca had given us for Jo and Jamie Fowler.

We read Psalm 19 and Geoff gave a small sermonette from Luke 5.1-11. Although the fishermen had fished all night they had caught nothing but when Jesus told them to throw their nets again into the deep, their nets filled quickly with fish, so much so, their boats began to sink. (Blessings, pressed down, overflowing.) We have prayed, confessed the word, worked in faith, and

stood on the word but often we are discouraged because we do not see results.

Jo reminded us of persistent faith and cited Elijah's servant coming back to Elijah and reporting that this time he saw a little cloud the size of a mans hand. Elijah replied: I hear the sound of an abundance of rain.

Our disappointing season will come to an end but we must continue to be open to whatever it is that our Father would have us do. When Peter meets Jesus, Peter comes a fisher of men. We are to drop our agenda and follow Jesus.





NARROGIN, Thursday, 24 May, 2018

As we headed over to Narrogin to meet with Gary Johnson, our taste buds were salivating at the news that Gary was about to put another batch of his irresistibly delicious cheese scones into the oven.

We spent some time deliberating on local matters. A lot of people were suffering terrible illnesses and some had even died. Many businesses in the community were struggling, many shops had closed. More and more people were shopping on-line, or resorting to travelling to Perth. Nevertheless, Gary continued to be salt and light and in faith plant seeds amongst the community. Gary's friend, Allan Griffith, arrived and joined us in our fellowship and prayer time.

As always, we prayed for the fire of the Holy Spirit to ignite a flame that would travel across the south-west. As a severe weather alert had been issued for Perth with high winds expected to arrive at about 5.00pm, we

decided that on this occasion we would not be able to visit Sam and Jenny Maughan in Popanyinning. Instead, we made our departure from Narrogin at 2.00pm, taking the Wandering route back to the Albany Highway and home.

Once again, the words of Pastor Brian Whitehurst returned to us. What had we achieved? It is not known what we had achieved in our travelling to Williams and Narrogin but in Williams we had prayed that the meditation of our hearts and the words of our mouths would be acceptable to the Lord. In faith, we continue to seek the Lord's leading so that we can be conduits of Christ's love and blessing to those around us.

PRAYER POINTS

Please continue to pray for :

A great move of the Holy Spirit across the country. Pray for people to hear God's call afresh to their lives and ask that He would renew their sense of purpose and mission. Pray that they might really know that they are 'saved' and 'called' with a holy calling.

The wardens of the Anglican Church, Williams. Please pray for favour and anointing as they reach out to their community.

Please continue to pray for Gary Johnson, for his ministry to the community in Narrogin and Wickepin.

Please remember the Maughan's in Popanyinning and for their business to be sold.

The harvest, not only in the natural but in the spiritual, for rain at the most beneficial time.

Please pray for safe travels for the SWOT team; an openness to God and a transformation of our own characters. God must go before us, then we follow.