



BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

How often is it that we go to God to ask Him for His blessing! It is almost a daily thing. Bless our family. Bless our finances. Bless us with safe travels. Bless us with good health. Bless me with a car-parking spot. However, we need to pause and consider the 'why' behind our request. We can be at risk of wanting an unlimited supply of good things from God almost like a constant stream of gifts. We can also demand the open-handed approach from God to keep us 'happy' and close to Him. Scripture is full of reasons why we should expect to be blessed...**blessed** is he who is kind to the needy [Prov 14:21]... **blessed** is he who trusts in the LORD [Prov 16:20]...**blessed** are the people whose God is the LORD [Psalm 144:15]... **Blessed** is the man who always fears the LORD [Prov 28:14]... **blessed** are they who maintain justice, who constantly do what is right [Psalm 106:3] There is an unending supply.

I have a personal favourite : [Acts 20:35] *In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'* When God knows He can flow His blessings through us to those who are needy, the stream He supplies is unending. When our motive is 'blessed to be a blessing' we become the hands and feet of God to a world that is needy and the focus is not on us getting more, but rather impacting more. The more we receive, the more we can be a blessing to others.

We are financially successful - we can bless those who have nothing. We are emotionally healthy - we can guide those who are struggling. We have family around us -we can gather others into a home. We have time in excess - we can volunteer to serve others. You get the idea. We live in a time when we need to look at everything in our hands and see what God has blessed us with to use for His purposes. Surely this is what being 'light to a dark world' is all about.

Let's commit to recognising areas of blessing in our lives that God would have us share around a little...perhaps this is the way it was always intended to be.

With love in Him

Karen Wilson
Baptist Women's President WA



Karen is the WA President for Baptist women. She is currently working for Willow Creek, USA as an Executive Director for GLS Asia. She has a husband and two children (21 and 18) and has a strong desire to see people live and minister out of a place of health and passion.

All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2: 44-47





Fresh 2010



We have just had the most amazing weekend at FRESH 2010. To be part of what God did in this one-day event was an amazing privilege and many lives were changed. From early in the morning when women gathered for an arrival coffee and muffin...to the end of the day with cars and buses leaving the venue and everyone heading home...we knew that this day was touched by God.

We experienced deeply moving times of worship and were inspired by the stories of faith and hope that were shared by the speakers. We joined together to give finances to women in need in India who had been forced into prostitution because of their living conditions. Tears flowed as this offering was given. When the total amount of \$77,980 given was announced there was a shout of praise. We knew we had been part of a miracle.



Together we were able to achieve what none of us could do individually. Such is the nature of a day like this. It is a new day and God is moving in our State. Next year we will see even greater things done through us joining heart-to-heart to experience a move of God. Put the date in your diary today ... **September 17th for FRESH 2011.**



If you would like to order the messages from Fresh 2010, please send an email to info@women.baptistchurch.net.au **before Sept 24** and we will send you an order form.

"Saturday was unbelievably fabulously awesome!!!"

"What a privilege to sit with the Lord and be ministered to by His Spirit."

"Hearing your message and thinking of all the hardships of our sisters around the world I have been given the encouragement to keep going and a reality check too!"

"...individually my contribution could not have achieved anything, but collectively we are changing women's lives in India!"

"It was an amazing day. We were all truly blessed by it. "



Guest Writer

Elize Prinsloo

Trusting God

We serve an amazing, wonderful, faithful and loving God!

Our story begins 29 years ago when our intellectually disabled daughter was born. Like with any child we wanted the best for her and rejoiced in every milestone of her development.

We've learned a lot from her dedication to follow her dreams and make it reality throughout her life.

In 2009 we attended a forum about independent community living for people with disabilities. God spoke clearly to me that this was his plan for her life and I started with the application for funding.

We were so convinced that this was God's plan for her that when the funding was not granted, we decided to proceed with our plans for her independent living.

Doing it on our own was costing us more than what we could afford, but our trust in God never disappoints! His plans for us are perfect and as the past 5 months passed we saw that God's plan of not granting the funding was so much better for our daughter's independence. Because of the lack of funding we had to let her take more responsibilities and she is thriving! She loves her new independence and is the happiest she's ever been. It is just a miracle that the money is working out. How? Only God knows!

"There is no one like the God of Jeshurun, who rides on the heavens to help you and on the clouds in his majesty. The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." Deut. 26:33



Our daughter Yolande with her much loved dog, Pokkel.

Fresh 2010 highlights....

452 women
94 churches represented
11 denominations
Amazing worship
Challenging messages
14 new commitments to Christ
\$77 980 in offering to Freeset
Delegates from all over WA, NT, SA, NSW & Vic.
An overflowing table of pamper products for women being transitioned from Prison.
102 women registered for Fresh 2011