



"Wherever this water flows, everything will live." Ezekiel 47:9

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2016

Enjoy reading the latest news from SpiritLife Ministries. Also check out the Perspectives section which discusses reconciling pain and suffering with God's love:

As she agreed in faith with what Greta was teaching, the woman heard a sudden popping in both of her ears. On the way home, she wondered why everything sounded so loud! Realizing that God had healed the serious hearing loss from which she had suffered for many years, the woman excitedly testified to the seminar attendees the next day.

This is one of many stories of breakthroughs people have reported while attending the new Call to Arms spiritual warfare seminar in the past two months. We have conducted these at **Central Baptist, New Plymouth; Frontline Church, Kerikeri; and Hope Centre NZ, Auckland.** In each place, the Lord strengthened many, equipping them to stand firm in these troubled days. Among numerous healings, here are two more:

- After prayer, a tearful teenager later reported healing from polycystic ovary syndrome.
- The Lord healed one woman from a painful foot condition – she laid hands on herself and commanded healing as she listened to the teaching on healing. The pain completely left her.

We have also visited the following places during February and March:



Northland Pastors & Leaders

Northland – February saw us minister to around 50 Northland pastors and leaders in **Moerewa**. The challenge to these leaders was 'to do the work of an evangelist' as God wants all to be saved. Then **Kaiwaka** for a meeting where numbers were touched and healed. Pastor Tawhiri Littlejohn writes, "*Many were healed and a lady who had suffered depression for many years came to church on Sunday to share what the Lord had done.*" We

also visited the new **Church Unlimited** campus in **Whangarei** (previously Crossroads Church), which has seen exciting growth in recent months.

Coromandel Elim Church – a vibrant church ministering in a difficult area. The weekend saw many touched, refreshed and receive encouraging prophetic words. A visiting Austrian tourist was strongly impacted and tearfully told us, *"I have come thousands of kilometres just to hear this message."*

We conducted a School of the Supernatural at **Causeway Church, Mangawhai**, an amazing church that is affecting its community powerfully. Many were touched by God, healed, and a number saved. It was a pleasure to be among such hungry people.

Finally, it was a joy to minister at **The Upper Room, Auckland**. Something of an evangelistic anointing came and 10 people made commitments to the Lord. There has been an increase in this area this year. To date, we have recorded almost **70 decisions for Christ**, including a number of Maori youth who attended a meeting in Kerikeri. We remain very grateful to the Lord for all he is doing and passionately seek him for more grace and power yet!

ITINERARY FOR APRIL – JULY

April 3: Pakuranga Baptist Church, Auckland. Sunday morning service.

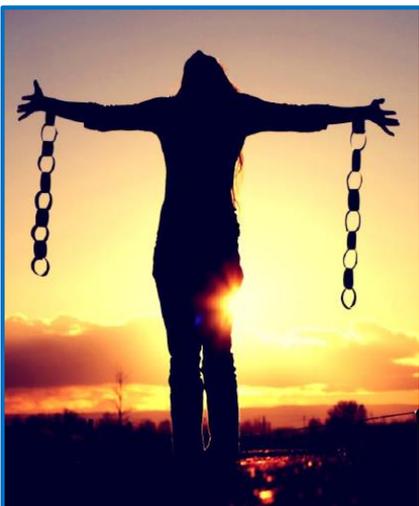
April 9-10: Calvary Assembly of God, Singapore. Leaders' meeting plus Sunday.

April – July – travelling in Europe.

July 15-17: RiverLife Church, Singapore. Leaders' meetings plus Sunday.

July 31: Church Unlimited, West & City campuses. Sunday meetings.

PERSPECTIVE



In the past thirty years, there has been much teaching and many books written on the subject of the Father heart of God. Many have understood that they are not religious slaves to some harsh divine Taskmaster, but deeply loved sons and daughters of Father God, through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. This has set them free from a lifetime of performance and striving and brought security and rest to them. But what about pain and suffering? How do we understand the Father's love when pain and suffering sweep into our lives?

1 Thessalonians 3:2b-4(NLT): *"We sent him [Timothy] to strengthen you, to encourage you in your faith, and to keep*

you from becoming disturbed by the troubles you were going through. But, of course, you know that such troubles are going to happen to us Christians. Even while we were with you, we warned you that troubles would soon come—and they did, as you well know.”

Troubles come: we live in a fallen world, people have free will, and Satan the destroyer ruins many lives. When Jesus returns he will stop this, but then time will end and salvation will cease. Therefore, God—not wanting any to perish—waits, and in our suffering we can doubt the Father’s love. The fact is God has promised to always love us, but he has never promised us a life without pain. And sometimes there are no explanations for it.



In 1986, I underwent nine months of chemotherapy for Hodgkin’s Disease, a form of lymphatic cancer. During that year, my first wife Jane, struggling with Multiple Sclerosis, started to use a wheelchair for the first time. This was hard with our three young children to care for and a growing church to pastor. Naturally, I asked, “Why?” Sometime later, I read **Psalm 119:68**: “*You are good and what you do is good.*” (written in the midst of the psalmist’s suffering).

The Holy Spirit etched something into my spirit that day. God didn’t answer my ‘Why?’ Instead, he revealed his goodness to me, and expected me to trust him. We often want an explanation before we believe that he is a good and loving Father. Now we know in part; one day we will fully understand, the Bible says. **The gap between knowing in part and knowing in full is called mystery.** And if we can handle mystery, we will know a greater intimacy with God. Every situation of pain is an invitation into the heart of the Father. **Pain doesn’t diminish the Father’s love, it magnifies it.**



Christian counsellor and author Dr. Larry Crabb has said of today’s generation, “*Feeling better has become more important than finding God. Finding God means to face all of life, both good and bad, with a spirit of trust ... You know you are finding God when you believe that God is good no matter what happens.*”

Blessings

David and Greta



Ministry Support

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Please designate: "Donation "

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Website: www.spiritlife.org.nz