

Qld. for a 'healthier lifestyle'.

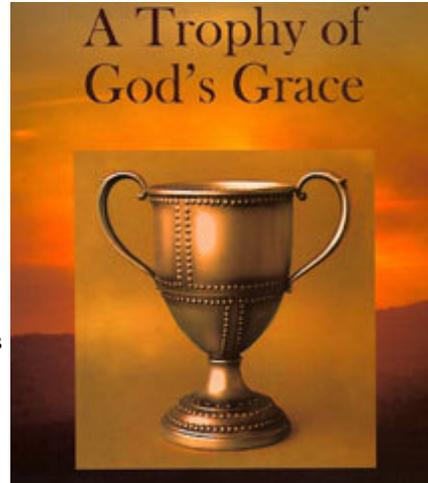
However, the warmer climate only gave me an excuse to drink more alcohol. I went back selling equipment and built a new house on 5 acres. Illness then increased. Drinking became more important than my wife, daughter or my work. I lost count of the number of times I was in and out of hospital. Worst of all was not knowing how I got there. I resigned my job again and took up full time drinking. My wife then divorced me and I lost my precious child and any finances I had left. I was now destitute, living in caravan parks and often waking up in police lock-ups. I then lost my lost car license for life, because of drink driving.

I decided that travel was the answer, but instead spent increasing time in more hospitals and more time in prisons crying out for help. I once was so desperate I stuck a fishing knife right through my arm. By this stage the hospital didn't want to know me and the police were tired of locking me up. I started sleeping out and drinking metho because it was cheap. It took three Grand Mal Seizures before I knew I was dying. I wanted to see my daughter before I died but I must have looked a terrible sight.

When I was sick I would ask God for help. When I was well I would drink again, and then get sick again. Life was a constant merry-go-round. I went to a few churches but felt looked down upon, the unclean drunken grime that I was.

In 1996 I Collapsed again with another seizure outside my caravan. However, God in His mercy had provided me with Christian neighbours who took me to hospital. These Christians were in fact running a small group for drug and alcohol addicted people. They asked me about my past Christianity and then took me to the present. The problem was that I had become spiritually 'dead'. Alcohol had become my god. I then gave my life back to the Lord Jesus Christ. I was welcomed at a local church, a loving and praying church that didn't look down on me.

At the time I write this, I have been completely sober for over 12 months, but thats not as important as having Jesus Christ as my Saviour and guide. It is only by God's grace that I am alive, certainly not by years of me trying to kill myself. Even my daughter, ex- wife, parents, police and hospital staff Australia wide are pleased. After 24 years of hell, the seed that was planted at Sunday school, through Gods grace, has kept me alive - even if only to write this testimony! I wish you God-speed on your journey through life. Thank you Jesus. Derek Mathie, Hervey Bay, Qld



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*Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.*

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## Central Mountains Baptist Church

# 13 JANUARY, 2013

**(The following is a testimony by a friend who I believe to be a 'trophy of Grace'. We have personally helped disciple this man and can testify to the miracle of God in his life. The author is penniless and suffers from poor health, with an expected short life span. .. TA Ministries, PO Box 1499, Hervey Bay, 4655, Qld. Australia).**

I came from a happy family, went to Sunday school where I believe the seed of the Gospel was planted. I had a great fear of the dark and was very shy at school. I joined the Boys Scouts which helped me somewhat and later I became a Queens Scout.

I started work as a mechanical draftsman and began drinking to give me extra confidence with work and to meet girls. During this stage I met my wife, was promoted to sales engineer, had my daughter born, and built my first house - but all depended on my drinking. After 7 years I was retrenched and the company closed. I got a new job selling hospital equipment, which involved living away in motels and being drunk every night for free. After three and a half years ill health started, with stomach ulcers and chest problems from smoking. I resigned, sold up, and moved to





# Living Delight

## The Father's Supremacy

The purpose and process of discipleship can be considered in two broad categories:

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ the Father's Supremacy, Ephesians 1: 1-5, 9

**(Genesis 1:26)** "Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.""

**(Genesis 1:1)** "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

**(Genesis 1:3)** "Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light."

**(Genesis 1:6)** "Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.""

**(Genesis 1:9)** "Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so."

**(Psalms 103:19)** "The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all."

**(Isaiah 40:21-26)** "Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? {22} It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. {23} He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless. {24} Scarcely shall they be planted, Scarcely shall they be sown, Scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, When He will also blow on them, And they will wither, And the whirlwind will take them away like stubble. {25} "To whom then will you liken Me, Or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One. {26} Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing."

**(Acts 18:9-10)** "... "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; {10} "for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city.""

**(Revelation 15:3-4)** "They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints! {4} Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested.""



**(Psalms 145:17)** "The LORD is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works."

**(Romans 11:33-36)** "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! {34} "For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?" {35} "Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?" {36} For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen."

**(Isaiah 46:9-10)** "Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, {10} Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,'"

**(Psalms 115:3)** "But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases."

**(John 15:15)** ""No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you."

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ the Father's Supremacy, Ephesians 3:8-10

**(Ephesians 3:10)** He did this so that now, through the church, the wisdom of God in all its variety might be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realm [paraphrase]

**(1 Peter 1:10-12)** "Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, {11} searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. {12} To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven; things which angels desire to look into."

