

Happenings

WHOSE TRUTH IS TRUE?

Words are powerful.

When I was 8 my teacher said to me, **"When you grow up, you will never be anything but a garbage collector."**

When I was 8 my dad left our home and decided his alcohol was more important than his children. You can just imagine the messages I received from those statements.

What do impacting events such as these and other significant life events, say to all those who experience them: the feeling of being unwanted, unloved, and for some, such as myself, the embarrassment of comparing our family to others. The hurt stayed with me for a long time, and it eventually led to a belief- **"I'm worthless"**.

I know I am not the only person who has held a negative belief about myself. In fact, many of you reading this either know someone that believes something negative about themselves or you yourself believe (or have believed) your "negative truth". Here are some of the regular lies that our children, our young people, and adults battle with daily.

*I'm no good. I'm useless. I'm bad at school. I'm ugly. I can't do it. I'm too... fill-in-the-blank).
Life is not worth livingthese thoughts can bombard our minds.*

Negative thoughts often come from life events, words spoken or various social media platforms which inform young minds (and older too!) of the latest trends which they "should" follow.

"BE CAREFUL HOW YOU THINK; YOUR LIFE IS SHAPED BY YOUR THOUGHTS." (PROVERBS 4:23 GNT).

In a world where there are so many different truths demanding our attention and validation, it is essential that young people are grounded in the unchangeable truth declared in God's Word.

GOD'S TRUTH IS POWERFUL. IT BRINGS LIFE. IT HAS BEEN AND WILL ALWAYS BE.

This Truth is available to all who seek it in the person of Jesus Christ. Even though our society tells us that it is narrow-minded to believe in the ultimate truth, there is much evidence that says we should run after it with all our hearts.

"YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE." (JOHN 8:32 NIV).

I am so thankful that as a 14-year-old boy I received the Truth (Jesus) and through my attending Camp Raglan, Jesus began to help me unravel the lies that I had believed. I can testify of this truth to others who come to us broken; His truth has set me free indeed! I am a loved, forgiven child of God with a lifelong purpose of loving and serving Him.

I trust you will be encouraged as you see all that the Lord has been doing through CBM both here in NZ and internationally. The world may have come to a screeching halt in the past two years, but the needs of those we minister to have not. Enjoy our latest "Happenings"...The Lord is moving!

Mike

Mike Buckley, CBM Director





SURVIVAL 22: WHOSE TRUTH IS TRUE?

That was the theme of the July Survival Camp for 11-15-year-olds.

Survival 22 was wet! Mud, mud, and MORE glorious mud! However, the smiles and laughter said it all! We had an amazing time with all the activities, rain, hail or shine as well as spiritually. God did a beautiful, deep work in the kid's hearts. The **'Whose truth is true'** theme was right in line with what young people are needing to hear.



Our workshops covered:

WHY COOL IS A BAD COMPASS; GOD'S TRUTH ABOUT YOU
WHY WE BELIEVE WHAT WE BELIEVE; AND
CHOICES WE MAKE IN LIGHT OF HIS TRUTH.



Derogatory words either spoken or put on social media can cripple a young person's life, so each camper went home with a keyring to pick up when they feel low, full of brightly coloured cards telling them the truth of what God says about them – a wonderful antidote to what anyone else may say.

In the main sessions, we taught about the life of Nehemiah. He was overwhelmed by the news of the destruction the enemies of Israel had done to his country and family. He believed God wanted to use him in the restoration of the walls of protection around Jerusalem.

On the sixth evening while we spent time worshipping and quietly listening to God, 25 young people, who were in camp for the first time, surrendered their lives to Jesus. Many other campers were seen writing their prayers to God for their family and friends, just as we read Nehemiah did in his four months of preparation.



AOTEAROA CULTURAL &
VOLUNTEER EXCHANGE

We welcome once again our Volunteers from Germany. We partner with a group called ACVE. ACVE is the New Zealand partner of the ICYE Federation, which stands for International Cultural Youth Exchange. ICYE is one of the most long-standing, personal, and flexible youth exchange programmes in the world. We have had these young people serving alongside us as volunteers for some years. It has been life-changing!

**A GIGANTIC
THANK YOU**
to BURGER BURGER who have
kindly sponsored the prizes
for our Survival Camps.
Thanks so much guys!
Please support by visiting
their
stores.

Thank
You!

STAFF HAPPENINGS



Let me introduce **Leopold Bosky (left)** and **Noah Freiwald (right)** They arrived at camp in August this year and are quickly settling into camp life. We are so glad they are part of our team and the Camp Raglan family. Welcome aboard guys!



Michael Trollove (left) grew up in the Raglan area and is helping us on staff while the season is in full swing. We are so blessed to have Michael on the team helping with the hosting and the catering.

THE RAGLAN TEAM



International NEWS



India

CBM teams in Mumbai, South India, and the North East have just finished their summer training courses (in blazing heat) where fresh inspiration was given to teachers who often have very little encouragement in their ministry.



Our Singapore directors were delighted to join the North East team for training.

Here is some encouraging feedback from the training

"I LIKED THE STATEMENT CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IS NOT ABOUT ENTERTAINMENT, IT'S SERIOUS MINISTRY."

"I THOUGHT THAT CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WAS ONLY ABOUT ACTION SONGS AND BIBLE STORIES, BUT HERE I LEARNT THAT IT SHOULD BE ABOUT EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP."

"WE SHOULD FAST AND PRAY FOR CHILDREN. THIS IS SOMETHING WE MISS IN MINISTRY."

CAMP NEWS: Online, and thankfully 'live', summer camps have been greatly blessed by the Lord. please view at this link <https://youtu.be/VTz3ZzmKMPo> to get a feel of the depth of ministry taking place, as **98 children** experienced the presence of the Lord for themselves.

News from Veronica in Hyderabad

Things have been hectic, but I praise and thank God for His strength and grace! The VBS season has gone very well. Morning by morning new mercies we see.

News from Rodney

Greetings from Mumbai. I am back in Mumbai after conducting a very fruitful Teacher Training course in Patna, Bihar. (See photo above) One of the cities in our **7 city training tour**. The 2-day training saw 55 participants coming from more than 10 churches, some even travelled more than 100km to attend the training. Of the 55 participants, 30 were taking training for the first time. Some of the active evangelical churches sent their teachers for the training. All the participants were keen learners, took notes and asked lots of questions. They were so keen we sold out all the curriculum.

David from Siliguri, North India, was a graduate of our International Course in NZ back in 2014. He joined me to help in the training.



It was such a blessing working alongside him once again. Through this training we now have a couple of openings in East India, and we are in discussion. Please agree and pray it will come to pass. These are new mission fields in tribal areas. **We will need to raise \$1500** to support these trainings as this is a very low socio-economic group with little resources to pay for the costs of training. Please pray with and for us.



News from Francis in Bangladesh



Francis Kisor, who trained with us in 2020, conducts teacher training regularly. During one of his training meetings, a powerful move of the Lord was present. Here is his account:



While I was demonstrating the 'Jesus understands' lesson (from Life Changers curriculum), I noticed a pin drop in silence in that classroom. The Lord began to speak to the hearts of about 25 participants in a beautiful way, and they began to weep silently; I could also hear a slow whistling throughout the room. When I called for prayer at the end of my teaching, almost everyone was sobbing. I realized the presence of God's Spirit in a very remarkable way. The Lord's Spirit began to heal the wounds of nearly everyone's heart.

left Francis and his wife, Nayomi



At the end of the prayer, I invited them to share what happened during the prayer.

One participant shared:

"I lost my father when I was a child. He was savagely murdered, and I was deprived of my father's love. I have never forgiven those who have deprived me of my father's love. Today I feel that pain again but thank Jesus that he also felt losing his father, and he understands my pain. Today I gave my old pain to Jesus and found new comfort and strength; I forgive those enemies." He added: 'I think many children need this material.'

I thank God for the LIFE Changers curriculum; I am thankful to the Father and CBM that I was able to translate the curriculum into our language and make it available to the churches in our country. Thank you, CBM, for allowing us it to change many lives in Bangladesh.



Upcoming India Training

A small team from CBMNZ will be conducting an interdenominational training course in Dimapur, Nagaland in November this year. The Nagaland Christian

community is known to send many missionaries to reach children throughout India and Asia.

This training, we trust, will be a launching pad for future partnerships with different mission organizations. People from many churches will be in attendance. After nearly 3 years we will be having an India staff retreat. We are looking forward to spending some valuable time with each other in person. Your prayers would be appreciated!



BOOKSHOP NEWS



WE HAVE SOME EXCITING NEW PRODUCTS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We have a brand new range of **8 story Flipbooks** that give some structure and teaching for the nursery/creche children during mat time.

GREAT
resources
FOR
0-4 YEAR OLDS!



We have playdough mats, simple meal grace posters and a variety of printable resources that will add to your preschool programs.



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"These stories are great: visually appealing for kids, easy for team members to use and great conversation starters."

-Julia Reynolds, Children's Director, Church Unlimited

**CBM INSTORE
Clearance
SALE**

****NOVEMBER 1** MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**LOADS OF RESOURCES BEING CLEARED FROM THE BOOKSHOP.
CLEARANCE SALE IS INSTORE-ONLY. SEE YOU THERE!!**

TRAINING

Covid restrictions have meant that as a training team, 'normal' has had to look a bit different. We realized that we had a wonderful opportunity to refocus and restructure. Lockdown didn't mean we were shut down!

We began with changing some of our NZ training to an online format. Of course, nothing replaces face-to-face teaching but we saw there was value in the online teaching. One of our first online sessions took place with a local Auckland church. Changing to an online format meant they were able to invite some of their international branches to join in. Instead of the original small local group, our teaching reached about 150 teachers in NZ and the Philippines! All without leaving our own homes!

Encouraged by this success and seeing the huge possibilities for future online training, we went on to develop some pre-recorded teaching sessions. Primarily this was for use with a large church in Nigeria, but we plan to use these pre-recorded sessions again.



The CBM office was converted into a recording studio for a few days. It was such a blessing to have our board chairman, Denis Delaney, use his recording and editing skills to give us good quality recording. With the teaching portions already recorded, we were able to speak 'live' to the participants between sessions. We are now planning our next online event with them. **About 350 teachers zoomed in to the training from various locations across Nigeria.**



Feedback quote from Dr. Mike Okonkwo (Presiding Bishop) *"Your time and invaluable input are deeply appreciated and we know that this time out with our children's teachers will go a long way in impacting these young lives that the Lord has committed to our care."*

Lyn took up the invitation to conduct zoom training in Ministry to Young Children with Bangladesh churches. Francis Kisor (CBM international student 2020) had the vision to give this training and had been praying for it from the time he returned to Bangladesh. He was so blessed we were able to use technology to fulfil his dream.



"I recognize the value and importance of the CBM curriculum after training with you. I sincerely hope and pray that the churches in Bangladesh will use it to raise a powerful generation. We found this training so helpful and relevant. Thank you so much CBM for making it possible." ~Francis Kisor



Praise God that in the second half of the year we were able to hold our training days 'live' at the CBM HQ. We really appreciated the luxury of face-to-face training again. In August and September, we found ourselves playing 'catch-up' from covid restrictions with 6 out of 8 consecutive weekends having a training course! This included our two specialist days as well as the basic training course. Donna taught on ministering to children with special needs in the **"Special to God"** seminar and Lyn was blessed to be able to have her daughter, Naomi, on board teaching in the **'Ministry to Young Children'** seminar. Both seminars received such positive feedback from those who attended and they were very appreciative of the opportunity to gain new skills. We have also been able to resume training for individual churches. It is wonderful to see some children's ministry teams asking for teaching in areas of specific need.

TOP LEFT: Participant trying on a calming bodyglove in the STG seminar

LEFT: Participants practicing with puppets at the MTYC seminar

PRAYER & PRAISE

PRAISE GOD FOR:
New opportunities for online training both here in NZ and internationally.

PRAY WITH US FOR:
Rodney and his team as they continue to implement the 7 City Training Tour in West India

Dates
for your

*DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

FIRST THINGS FIRST	25 FEB
MINISTRY TO YOUNG CHILDREN	29 APRIL
HOW-TO	20 MAY
SPECIAL TO GOD	17 JUNE
TOOL TIME	29 JULY
MASTER STORYTELLING	2 SEPT
*INTERNATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOL 3 JAN-3 MAY 2024	

2023



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