BURNSIDE
FAMILY CHURCH

NOVEMBER 26



gaining, obtaining, attaining & straining

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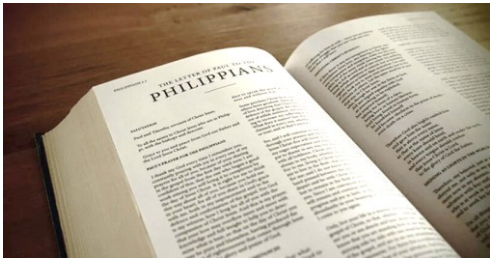
GAINING, OBTAINING, ATTAINING AND STRAINING

Brain Raynor

In 1973, shortly after I discovered that Jesus was actually alive and that my sins were forgiven, I shared my joy and my elation with my immediate family and as many of my relations as I could find. The reaction was mixed – everything from, "Oh, that's nice for you," to, "Be careful. One should never take these things too far. You don't want to become too religious, too fanatical!"

That raises a question or two. Just how far is too far? And just how far is far enough?

In Philippians 3:8-11, The Apostle Paul asserts that if we are to gain Christ and obtain the righteousness that is from God, we should follow his example and accept the death of our personal dreams and ambitions, the death of everything in our lives that puts us first and God last.



In verse 10, he seeks to impress upon his readers his earnest desire to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. At the time Paul penned this letter, he had been following Jesus for more than two decades, yet he speaks of his yearning to know Christ. After so many years of fruitful ministry, what more did he need to know? What gaps could there possibly be in his knowledge of the Saviour? According to his own testimony, he still had much to learn. And so, dare I say, do we.

He wants to know Christ and the power of His resurrection, suggesting that we should want these same things for ourselves – and why not? Surely, we could all do with more spiritual power in our lives. Then he adds, "and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death." To which the faint-hearted believer might respond, "Aah, no thanks."

After all, who, in their right mind, would want to suffer like Jesus? But Paul goes on to say that without such conformity, our own resurrection is much less certain "if I may attain..." (v. 11).

Some believers, reading this passage for the first time, might suddenly find that the Christian life, with its promises of love, joy, and peace, is now somewhat less attractive.

“But,” they may say, “Isn't my salvation based on what Christ has done, and not anything I have done?”

Yes, of course. But once we have entered “through the narrow gate” we cannot stay there, waiting for the Second Coming. Paul sets an example that he wants every believer to emulate. He does not rest on his laurels and expect that "whatever will be will be." He does not dig a moat and raise the drawbridge around the castle of his Christian life, satisfied that he has done enough. Rather, he says, “I press on.” The AV and many earlier translations rendered the Greek word dioko as "follow" or "follow after." This does not convey the richness of meaning that Paul has in mind. He is not like the armchair sports-lover who "follows" his favourite team on TV.



We, like Paul must press on, we must strain forward, we must walk the narrow path, we must lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of us. We should *“press on toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”* (v 14).



At this point, we have a choice. We can either follow Paul's example or rate him as a fanatic or borderline lunatic and decide for ourselves how much of ourselves we are willing to submit to Christ and His cause.

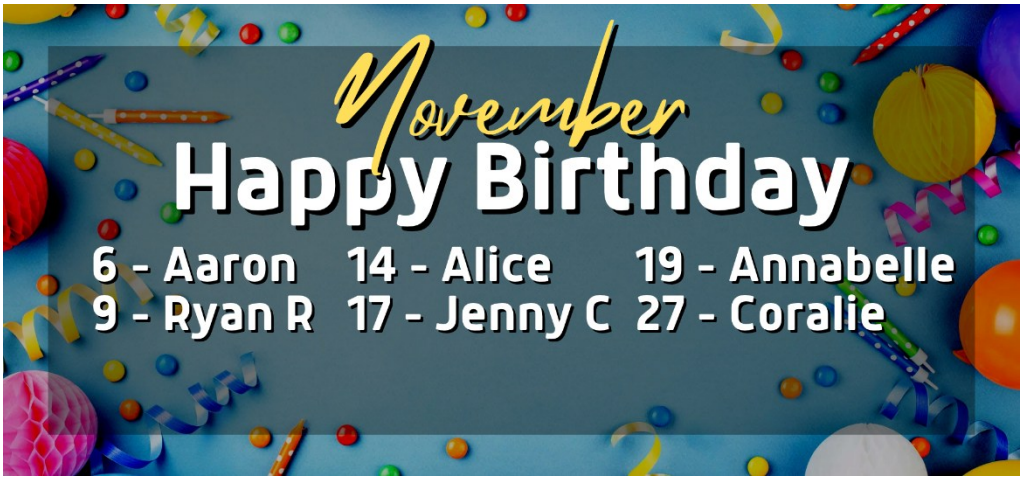
If we do not take the teaching of Paul seriously, how about the words of Jesus himself?

“He who is not with me is against me and he who does not gather with me scatters abroad.” (Matt 12:30).

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily.” (Lk 9:23).

Self-denial; daily sacrifice. These are not the actions of someone taking a mild interest in Christianity. Rather, they show a willingness to strain to obtain the prize. They demonstrate a passion, a persistence and a determination to forsake the world and its vanity, to gain that which is eternal and can never be taken away.

BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER



Celebrating birthdays is one way we can honour the gift of life God has given each of us. Happy Birthday from us!

UPCOMING DIARY DATE REMINDERS	
3RD NOV	Creative Ministries Team – System Familiarisation Session with Danny – 6:30pm
7TH NOV	BICC Prayer Breakfast @ Austral-Asian Community Church
21ST NOV	Norwood Christmas Pageant – 10am (9am arrival for all helpers and people involved)
22ND NOV	Music Practice – 12-2pm
4TH DEC	Kids Club Christmas Break-up
COMING UP IN DECEMBER…	
20TH DEC	"Promise Fulfilled" Family Christmas Carols Service
25TH DEC	Christmas Day Service




HOUSE OF DAVID
NOVEMBER SERIES
1 NOV BEN. D
8 NOV ANDREW. J
15 NOV ALF . C
22 NOV BEN. D
29 NOV JIM. D

November 2026

October '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9.30a Prayer in Auditorium 10a Worship Gathering Litle Sparks	**2** W4 7.00p Elders	**3** 9.00a Prayer 6.30p CMT System Familiarisaiton Session	**4** 10.30a Magill Estate 7.00p Flourish Connect	**5**	**6** 5:15p Kids Club 6.30p Ablaze Youth	**7** 7.30p BICC Prayer 6.30p Intercess. Prayer
8 9.30a Prayer in Auditorium 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks 5.00p Burnside Tamil Christian Fellowship	**9** W5	**10** 9.00a Prayer 10a Talking Tuesday 7.30p EnCourage Connect	**11** 7.30p Glenside Connect	**12** 10.00a Good Life Group	**13** 5:15p Kids Club 6.30p Ablaze Youth	**14** 6.30p Gospel Outreach Meeting (Tamil)
15 9.30a Prayer in Auditorium 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks	**16** W6	**17** 9.00a Prayer	**18** 7.00p Flourish Connect	**19**	**20** 5:15p Kids Club 6.30p Ablaze Youth	**21** 9/10a Norwood Christmas Pageant
22 9.30a Prayer in Auditorium 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks 12p Music Practice 5.00p Burnside Tamil Christian Fellowship	**23** W7	**24** 9.00a Prayer 10a Talking Tuesday 7.30p EnCourage Connect	**25** 7.30p Glenside Connect	**26** 10.00a Good Life Group	**27** 5:15p Kids Club 6.30p Ablaze Youth	**28**
29 9.30a Prayer in Auditorium 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks	**30** W8	**1** 9.00a Prayer	**2** 7.00p Flourish Connect	**3**	**4** 5:15p Kids Club (Christmas break-up Special) 6.30p Ablaze Youth	**5**
6 9.30a Prayer in Auditorium 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks	**7** W9 7.00p Elders	Notes				

BURNSIDE FAMILY CHURCH

NOVEMBER SUNDAY TEAM

SEE BFC.ELVANTO.COM.AU FOR ONLINE CALENDAR & ROSTERS

	Teaching Team			Kids Ministry		Music Team (see elvanto for musicians)		Service Team					Hospitality Team		
Date	Sermon	Com-munion	Chair/ Notices	Little Sparks	Helpers	Sound Desk	Media Desk	Comm Serving	Welcome	Collection	Count	Lock Up	Kitchen	Coffee Team	Comm Prep
1/11	Ben Delaney	Elizabeth Reynolds	Lily	Laura	Hugh Lyn	Jeremy	Scott	Nima Cheng Yi Brandon	Sheila Ally C	Clara Beth	Aaron Mark T	Mark H	Carol	Lily Scott	Amayah
8/11	Andrew Jenkins	Steve Chapman	Sheila	Lily	Elsa Annabelle	Joshua	Lachlan	Vicky A Tony A Michelle	Hannah Monica Sharon	Brandon	Devinder Donovan	Nick	Ally C	Nima Scott	Jenny S
15/11	Alf Chehade	Lily Nippress	Andrew	Mel	Joshua Bron	James	Sheila	Monica Aaron Leonie Jenny S	Tony A Vicky A	Annabelle Amari	Jeff James	Nev	Renee	Ben D Brandon	Amayah
22/11	Ben Delaney	Andrew Jenkins	Scott	Laura	Michelle	Joshua	Nima	Brian Tony A Vicky A Renee	Lily Scott	Amayah Beth	Sheila Lyn	Jim	Khai	Joshua Lachlan	Helene
29/11	Jim Derrington	Brian Raynor	Elizabeth	Ben D	Hugh Lyn	Joshua	Annabelle	Liz D Ally C Smita Devinder	Monica Nick	Ally T Elsa	Leonie Jenny S	Andrew	Vicky A	Hannah	Amayah

Thank you for serving the Lord, and blessing our Church family. If you need to swap with someone, please contact another person directly. A copy of the roster is up on the bulletin board. info@burnsidefamilychurch.com // www.bfc.elvanto.com.au

Ablaze

Youth Group

Term 4

Made for More

Join us Term 4 Fridays, 6:30-8:30 pm at Burnside Family Church

Contact: Lily@burnsideFamilychurch.com

November

1 ☐ 2 Pet 1:1-11 | Eze 1-3

2 ☐ 2 Pet 1:12-21 | Eze 4-8

3 ☐ 2 Pet 2:1-9 | Eze 9-12

4 ☐ 2 Pet 2:10-16 | Eze 13-15

5 ☐ 2 Pet 17-22 | Eze 16

6 ☐ 2 Pet 3:1-9 | Eze 17-19

7 ☐ 2 Pet 3:10-18 | Eze 20-21

8 ☐ 1 Jn 1:1-4 | Eze 22-23

9 ☐ 1 Jn 1:5-10 | Eze 24-26

10 ☐ 1 Jn 2:1-11 | Eze27-28

11 ☐ 1 Jn 2:12-17 | Eze 29-30

12 ☐ 1 Jn 2:18-23 | Eze 31-32

13 ☐ 1 Jn 2:24-39 | Eze 33-34

14 ☐ 1 Jn 3:1-10 | Eze 35-37

15 ☐ 1 Jn 3:11-18 | Eze 38-39

16 ☐ 1 Jn 3:19-24 | Eze 40-41

17 ☐ 1 Jn 4:1-6 | Eze 42-44

18 ☐ 1 Jn 4:7-21 | Eze 45-47

19 ☐ 1 Jn 5:1-12 | Eze 48

20 ☐ 1 Jn 5:13-21 | Dan 1-2

21 ☐ 2 Jn 1-13 | Dan 3-4

22 ☐ 3 Jn 1-14 | Dan 5-6

23 ☐ Jd 1-7 | Dan 7-8

24 ☐ Jd 8-16 | Dan 9

25 ☐ Jd 17-25 | Dan 10-12





Saturday 21st November

Every year, Burnside Family Church, and several other churches in the Eastern Suburbs of Adelaide have the opportunity of taking part in the Norwood Christmas Pageant.

The “Combined Christmas Endeavours” has a prominent section near the start of the Parade, where we have the opportunity to proclaim the Good News of Jesus’ birth to the streets of Norwood.

We always need volunteers to make this a success.

There are various ways that you can be involved on the day:

- Walking in the Parade carrying a banner or sign
- Distributing our gifts of bubbles with flags attached
- Riding on the Carol Singing truck,
- Walk with one of the nation groups in the ‘Christmas Around the World’ section

The Norwood Pageant starts at 10am, however if you are volunteering, you will need to report to the Combined Christmas Endeavours section (near the front of the Parade) to get ready and help preparations from 9:00am to 9:45am.

Volunteers, if you have any questions, call Alf on 0412 899 779

Good Life Group

When: Thursday 10-11:30am fortnightly
Coffee at 10am

Upcoming dates:

Thursday 15th October
Thursday 29th October
Thursday 12th November
Thursday 26th November
Friday 11th December

BURNSIDE FAMILY CHURCH



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

TITHES & OFFERINGS

EACH DECIDE IN YOUR HEART HOW MUCH TO GIVE. AND DON'T GIVE RELUCTANTLY OR IN RESPONSE TO PRESSURE. "FOR GOD LOVES A PERSON WHO GIVES CHEERFULLY" 2 COR 9:7

BSB - 035039 | ACC - 524397 | NAME - BFC
Ref: "Giving" or "Missions""





LEAVE A LEGACY. MAKE A PLEDGE TO:

CHURCH LEGACY FUND

A FUND TO STRENGTHEN OUR HERITAGE
OUR LOCAL FACILITY AND GLOBAL MISSION

BSB - 035039 | ACC - 524418 | NAME - BFC LEGACY
Ref: "BFC Legacy"

[A service fee of 1.45% charged by the provider]

CONTACT

ELDERSHIP TEAM

Alf Chehade	0412 899 779
Jim Derrington	0433 447 795
Neville Langman	0409 642 005
Devinder Raju	0400 795 989
Andrew Jenkins	0422 556 420

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Kids Ministry
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Music Ministry
Elizabeth Reynolds
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(08) 8333 1700



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WE'RE HIS CHURCH

...a house of prayer for all nations accomplishing more than we could dream for the brokenhearted to call on the name of Jesus [as vision]

...**sent to make a difference every day** in the name of Jesus to all generations [as mission]

10.00A SUNDAY

Starting at 10.00a, we usually finish by 11.30a. You will be greeted at the door and receive our newsletter and invited to take a seat of your choice. Our gathering begins with music with words shown on a media screen.

During the service, we share in communion which reminds us of the death and life of Christ we share. An encouraging message from the Bible follows and afterwards, everyone is invited to the Back Hall for tea and coffee.

We have a video stream into the rear Hall we call our Family Room and a recording of the service is posted online each week.