

VISION

Issue 72 - Apr 2022

www.fgbmfi.org.nz

From Anger To Freedom

I was a welfare kid, bumped from foster home to foster home. Other kids were cruel to me and left me angry. Anger often bubbled under the surface and erupted regularly. Because of the trauma of these early years I was insecure.

At the age of ten I was adopted into the Hay family. They cared for me but I didn't feel as if I fitted in.

My dad was a Presbyterian minister so I began going to church. I thought that because my dad was a minister I would go to heaven. At Sunday school I prayed at 11 years of age to give my life to Jesus Christ. It was all about being good, I had found religion not life.

At the age of 18 I went to a Youth for Christ rally in the Dunedin Town Hall. I responded to an invitation to accept Jesus into my life as my saviour. I wanted

to go to heaven as I had learnt my Dad could not get me there. I had to face up to my own sin. Part of me understood that, but part of me didn't. I spent the next 36 years trying to do the best I could to please God.

I learnt religious rules about do this, do that, and then God will be happy with me. This led to a life of frustration and ultimately feeling that God was a waste of time, so I ran away from him. Between 2000 and 2009 I lived a life without God to guide me and got more and more messed up. Life became

chaotic.

I discovered sex!! This led me to become a parent (at 42!) eventually and setting up home for us. The relationship didn't work and things got darker.

Parenting was hard as a single parent to the point where I hit the wall mentally and I lost custody of my son. I became very bitter and angry with God. I

became full of grief. I figured God didn't love me and I was just a pile of dog poo. Life had no purpose.

A few years ago I ended up living with some guys who really knew God. I had started attending church again in the mornings but they tried to get me to go to their church at night. They annoyed me. All I wanted to do was watch TV in the evenings, after all I had done my religious duty in the morning.

About this time my father died and I went to his funeral. On the way to the funeral, as I sat in the back seat of the car, I eavesdropped on a highly interesting conversation about God healing people and miracles taking place. God had piqued my interest, even though the people talking went to a Pentecostal church.

That evening while lying in bed God revealed to me a picture of my Dad worshipping Him in heaven.



God began to open my heart. I finally gave up fighting with my flatmates and ended up going to their church. Cynical but curious, I, after 36 years, finally encountered the real life changing power of Jesus at Labour weekend 2019.

God changed lots of things within me straight away, but anger still held me in a deep dark hole. For just over a year I seemed to get worse. It was horrible. I had given up on any thought of being free of anger.

On 28th February 2021 I was in a deep dark mess. On that Sunday night, God visited me powerfully. Mercifully in a space of about 45 minutes, Jesus, like a heavenly vacuum cleaner, took all of my awful anger. He sucked it out of me. Completely engulfed in his power and love, he broke me and undid me in a good way. He said to me powerfully, "I am breaking your heart so I can give you a new one."

Today I only occasionally have outbursts of anger, but they last minutes rather than days or weeks.

The change has affected me greatly and am a lot happier. I am opening up to allowing Jesus to deal with other areas of my life. Peace, which had eluded me all my life, is beginning to become real.

For over 50 years of my life I was under the illusion that if I tried harder, prayed harder, and read my Bible, I would be accepted by Jesus. That is a lie. Jesus paid for every sin I've ever committed. I trust that when he died on that cross, he did everything that was required to cancel out my sin. That is the truth. Jesus said it is finished, salvation paid for and I trust his work, not mine.

I have been set free from fear. I can now share my faith more confidently and am not afraid of what people will say.

If you have an issue with anger or rage, Jesus can heal you. He did it for me, he will do it for you.

Thank you Jesus.

Mike Hay, Dunedin Chapter

How did we help establish two new chapters?

What were the steps we took and what led us to it?

I'm going to explain the steps the Lord led us through and bits of our testimonies. Through doing so, my prayer is that He will move to equip you to go out and do likewise.

Step 1: Honour each person for what God sees in them, and who God sees in them, rather than as we see them. If we're not going to honour people we're not going to have new chapters.

I was led to invite Jesse Reid from Whangarei to share his testimony at our chapter. Jesse read his testimony from a piece of paper, was very nervous, hardly looked up, and often stopped to laughing at his own jokes. Now to the world this does not represent a future leader, BUT God showed me he was and gave me this question to ask him: "Do you want to be my prodigy?" He answered: "Yes". This eventually led him to re-establish and become President of the Whangarei chapter.

Step 2: Look with spiritual eyes, not with our own opinions or foresight. Because within is hidden the GEM!

Next the Lord gave me three things:

- a) Set up a committee meeting close to Whangarei and invite Jesse and anyone who felt to come;

- b) at the meeting take an offering;
- c) after the meeting, pass the offering and floor to Jesse and step back.

So we did as He asked. We arranged a meeting at Waipu to appoint a chapter committee. At the meeting we took an offering up with only 10 people present and received \$900, wow. We also discovered that the old chapter account was still operational with \$900 sitting in it.

Now we had a leader, provision and the people to take up roles. Whangarei Chapter was re-established. This chapter is now flourishing.

Step 3: Allow God to lead the way, He wants to do it. His agenda, plan and purpose, because He knows the people. Expect the unexpected and be willing to embrace change.

In 2021 I went to Dunedin for 3 days' work, which turned into a month away. I attended the South Island FGBMFI Camp in En Hakkore. The morning after camp the Lord woke me with the words "Dargaville Chapter." So I rang Jesse and shared with him, he said, 'I'll pray about it.' I said: "The word I get is we need to move on it" and Jesse said: "Faith without works is dead." I said: "yes."

About half an hour later Jesse rang me back. God had given him the name Caleb, his Vice President, who he believed would lead the Dargaville Chapter. So we set a date, booked a hall, sent out invites for an outreach in Dargaville. Remember it's about equipping the people to do the work, not doing the work yourself. Delegation is the key.

Step 4: Prayer. Intentional, directional, meditative and spending time. Hearing what He is saying and being open to move in the direction God is indicating.

Through prayer the Lord gave His agenda, which was a crazy one, 'No agenda,' but ending up being perfect.

Step 5: Move when He speaks. Do what He says.

So we had the agenda and place. That was when the hurdle/ challenge came. Two hours prior to meeting in Dargaville we were informed that the hall was double booked. It was one of those panic or faith situations. My question to the Lord was: "Here I am Lord, where to from here?"

Step 6: God will direct a moving person but be diligent and open to seek Him at every turn, curve or intersection.

God directed me via the internet to a guy who used to be part of Scouts. He organised the Scout hall to be available for us for the night.

If there is a sudden interruption in direction, seek Him as He is now directing you to something greater.

Step 7: Ask Him to direct you to the right people.

Jesse had the idea to go round to the home of the ex-President of Dargaville Chapter and invite him to the meeting. Little did we know that he would accept, come with his wife and become the VP of the future Dargaville Chapter, but God did."

We arrived at the hall in Dargaville and started with prayer and worship. I got up and shared the word the Lord gave me, "no agenda".

After dinner I invited men to share how they felt God was calling them to be a part of the new chapter. One by one they did and the Dargaville Chapter was established.

Yesterday a man shared a word about a new way and direction for Full Gospel in his area. I told him to start dreaming and let me know what he sensed, as maybe the Lord is calling him to start or be a part of a chapter in his area.

God impressed on me to share the following verses of scripture for FGBMFI in New Zealand to encourage you all in your chapters. Isaiah 43:19 (NIV) "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

I believe it relates to where the Lord is taking FGBMFI at a national, regional and chapter level.

But to truly be able to walk this way, into this new thing the Lord has for all of us, I believe we need to learn to do the following:

1. Lay down to him the old thing/ ways of the past and be willing to pick up His new thing/ ways in exchange.



Jesse Reid, President of the Whangarei Chapter and Caleb Salisbury, President of the new Dargaville Chapter at the meeting in the Scout hall.

that will come in unusual packages or different ways, people or locations.

3. See wilderness places, chapters in recess, old revivals in FGBMFI as possibilities that the Lord is about to resurrect in a new way.

4. Look for the wastelands of Aotearoa, the towns, cities and locations where the Lord has already released streams of hope. Look at planting there. Because the only thing needed for growth is His water and nourishment.

To all the chapters and members of FGBMFI here is your challenge before you!

1. What are the new things the Lord has for you this year?

A new way of doing meetings? A new location for having your meetings? Maybe another location for a chapter? Or maybe something else.

2. When He speaks, what can you do to prepare your hearts to do it, collectively or personally. What is He saying the first step of faith is, as seen in the following scripture? Hebrews 11:1

3. Start walking in His leadings no matter what He says. If things change as they did with us, acknowledge the change and ask for a new direction. Then keep walking towards the completion of His promise. Be encouraged by these scriptures, Isaiah 55:8-9 and 11

If one receives a word from Him the word contains everything in it for the journey from start to finish.

Lastly, I would like to honour Jesse Reid and his team in Whangarei and Caleb Salisbury and his team in Dargaville. I am so proud of you guys and your amazing work. Well done faithful servants!

Also I would like to honour Mahurangi Chapter committee for their support including Brian Dawson VP, Peter Adolph Treasurer, Peter Bilton Secretary, and our newest committee member Rudy Saleplu. We wouldn't be where we are without these amazing guys. Lastly, I honour my wife who has stood beside me and the wives of the committee members for their support for their husbands. We are stronger together. The word that sums us up is diversity.

Craig Patten

President Mahurangi Chapter

Te Awamutu Chapter End of Year AGM and Dinner

To finish off the year the Te Awamutu chapter met on a hot Saturday afternoon and evening at our home. We commenced with a game of golf croquet followed by an outdoor meal. There were 19 present, including six spouses of the members and three guests.

In the evening, while we held our AGM in the lounge, the ladies fellowshiped in our living room at the other end of the house.

Following the AGM Keith Wooderson washed my feet, and prayed for me as the President. It was a moving time for all of us as each washed the feet of the person on the left around the room. It was the first time for a couple of the men to have their feet washed by another person, and a few years for most of us.

Prophetic words were given and it was an emotional time for several men. It was a precious time.

Rod Bent

President Te Awamutu Chapter



Annual Conventions 2023 and 2024

With the cancellation of this year's annual convention because of covid uncertainties, the board are pleased to be able to advise that we have rebooked the Plymouth Hotel in New Plymouth as our venue for the 2023 annual convention.

The 2024 annual convention we be held in Ashburton.

FGBMFI Resources

With many of the covid restrictions easing or coming to an end, it will be easier for chapters to hold outreach meetings in the future.

We would remind you that the National Office holds a wide range of resources that are helpful for planning and running meetings.

	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
1.	Action Manual (A5)		5.00	
2.	Catchers guidelines card (A6)		0.50	
3.	Gospel according to Mark		3.00	
4.	How to prepare your salvation story (A5)		3.00	
5.	Lapel badge		5.00	
6.	Letterhead (in PDF file)		-	
7.	Members handbook (A5)		3.00	
8.	Membership form		-	
9.	Musicians guidelines card (A6)		0.50	
10.	New Believers Pack (Items 3, 12, 14, 19, 25, 26)		10.00	
11.	Note pad (FGBMFI)		1.00	
12.	Now that you have received Christ (A5)		3.00	
13.	Prayer & fasting guidelines card (A6)		0.50	
14.	Prayer ministry form		0.10	
15.	Proclamation – My identity in Christ		0.50	
16.	Reading resources list		-	
17.	Sharing your salvation story (A6)		1.00	
18.	Speakers guidelines card (A6)		0.50	
19.	Testimony tracts (single copies)		0.30	
20.	Testimony tracts (50 assorted)		15.00	
21.	The Christian Life – 12 booklet Bible study series (free as PDF)		40.00	
22.	The Happiest People on Earth – Demos Shakarian (free as PDF)		18.00	
23.	The Ultimate Dimension – Demos Shakarian (free as PDF)		5.00	
24.	The Vision Intensified – Demos Shakarian (free as PDF)		5.00	
25.	Tract "Baptism in the Holy Spirit" (A6)		1.50	
26.	Tract "Steps to Peace with God"		1.00	
27.	Welcome card - for visitors name & address (A6)		0.25	
28.	What is Christianity?		0.50	
29.	What is FGBMFI?		0.50	
30.	Writing your short story of your salvation (A6)		0.50	
TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT				