

CHOOSING “REAL LIFE” - Saying “Yes” to God

The Bible says that God loves us, and invites us into a life-changing relationship with Him that lasts for eternity. Jesus describes this as “abundant life” and at BBCC we call this “Real Life”. Whatever we call it, this new life with God empowers us to find hope, peace, joy and strength in the midst of a broken and hurting world. If you’re ready to experience “Real Life” and say “Yes” to God’s invitation, follow these lifechanging steps.

Admit you’re not perfect. That shouldn’t be too hard, right? If we’re really honest with ourselves, we know we’ve done things that weren’t up to God’s perfect standards. The Bible calls this sin, and sin damages us, our relationships with God, and with other people. The first step towards God is to admit we’re sinners and ask for His forgiveness.

Believe in Jesus Christ. Jesus is so much more than a good teacher, wise prophet, or religious guru - He’s 100% God - and believing in Him is the only way we can have our sins forgiven and come into relationship with God. To believe in Jesus is to believe he entered our world and lived a perfect life (that we couldn’t), died on a cross for our sin (to pay our penalty), rose again from the dead (to prove his identity and authority), rules from Heaven and will one day return to judge the world.

Commit to following Jesus as Lord. Jesus is described in the Bible as the most powerful authority in existence. Saying “Yes” to God means choosing to take a new direction with our lives (we call this repentance) and living under the authority and leadership of Jesus. This takes courage and faith but we can’t experience “real life” unless Jesus is Lord of our lives.

If you’re truly ready to say “Yes” to God, say this simple prayer and God will respond to the truth of your heart and give you a new life in Christ. If you need help, or have questions, come to the front after the service and there’ll be people ready to talk with you.

Father God, I admit today that I’m a sinner and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe in Jesus Christ as my Saviour and King and I welcome into my life today. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and help me live for Your glory. Amen.

If you’ve prayed this prayer with sincerity you are a new person in Christ! It’s important now to stay connected with other Christians who will help you grow in this new relationship with God. Being part of a good church is essential to the Christian life and we’d love you to be part of our family here at BBCC.

If you choose to say “no” to God today, you need to seriously consider the consequences. Rejecting God’s offer of relationship means you’re rejecting the Creator and Sustainer of life, and the Bible says that has terrible consequences for this life, and the life to come. The choice will always be yours but we hope you’ll reconsider God’s offer of real life to you today. We’d love to talk more about this - regardless of what you believe - so feel free to contact Pastor Andrew if you want to discuss this further.

BLOCKHOUSE BAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

76 Dundale Avenue, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland
Phone: 626-6284 info@bbcc.org.nz www.bbcc.org.nz



25 August 2019

BLOCKHOUSE BAY
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Real People Real Life

"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Hebrews 13:5

The BBCC family is called to be a tangible expression of Jesus to the world, empowered by the Spirit to proclaim the Gospel, reconcile lost people back to God, and transform them into fully devoted followers of Christ.

WELCOME

Great to have you with us today and if this is your first time at BBCC - an extra special welcome! We really hope you experience God's presence and the love of His people. Primary School aged children are welcome to join our *Kidz Quest* programme at 11.00 and there's also a supervised Creche for babies and toddlers. Hot drinks & water are available after the service and we hope you stay to chat. If you want to know more about Christianity or becoming part of the BBCC whanau, please fill out a contact card at the Info Kiosk and we'll be in touch during the week.

PRAYER MINISTRY

A Prayer Team is available every Sunday. Please come to the front after the service if you need support and prayer for any need.

STAY & PRAY

Our main Prayer Meeting is held once a month after the service from 12.30 - 1.00 pm
Next Stay & Pray: Sunday 8 September

PRAYER WALKING

We Prayer Walk our community once a month to discern what God is doing and pray blessing over our community.

**Next Prayer Walk: Saturday 21 September
 10.30 - 11.30 am, meet @ BBCC**

PRAYER CHAIN

An email Prayer Chain operates regularly and is open to everyone who regularly attends BBCC. Email andrew@bbcc.org.nz to join.

PHONE PRAYER CHAIN

If you don't have access to email we are setting up a phone section for the Prayer Chain. Please contact Margaret Clark if you'd like to be included.

Our New Associate Pastor!

We're excited that Tyler Sant has accepted the call to be BBCCs new Associate Pastor; and are looking forward to Tyler, Amanda & their family arriving in March 2020, provided all goes well with the immigration process. Please continue to uphold this family in your prayers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Celebrate Father's Day with us
 Sunday 1 September @ 10.30 am**
Celebrating the Hero in all of us

**Auckland Prayer Breakfast
 Thursday 3 October, 6.45 am @ Eden Park**
 Sign up @ Info Kiosk by 8 Sept; Cost: \$35

**Youth & Young Adults
 Youth Sunday School (Yrs 7-11): Today**

Youth Hangout after Church
 Once a month our youth & young adults hang out after church. Next event - Today: 25 August

**Pinball Games Night:
 Saturday 14 September**
 Drop off/pick up @ BBCC 5 pm - 10 pm
 Please bring \$5 for the gaming;
 and money for your dinner on the way
 Let Zoe or Francis know if you're coming

Birthdays

Kevin Johnson - 23 August
 Nonnie Pryce - 30 August

Anniversaries

Rao & Esther Vanaguntla - 26 August
 Briar & Kevin Williams - 28 August

SAVE THE DATE!

CHRISTMAS AT THE BEACH: SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER

As we give today....

If you're visiting us today, please don't feel obliged to give. For regular BBCC whanau we thank you for honouring God with your finances. If you would like to start giving directly into our bank account, the number is: ASB 12-3049-0265986-00

Today's Stewardship Verse: Mark 12:41-44 (NIV)
"Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything - all she had to live on."

GENERAL INFORMATION

Here are a few more things you might like to know to get connected with our whanau. There's more information on our website, our Facebook page, and our hosts at the Info Kiosk.

Sunday Mornings is our main family gathering from 10.30 - 12.00ish. About 11.00, children (years 1 - 6) go to Kidz Quest and a supervised Crèche area is available for babies and toddlers with a video link to the service. Communion is offered most weeks with children joining us for the first Sunday each month. After the service Prayer Teams are available for anyone who needs support; and refreshments are provided to fuel some great conversations. *Today's Prayer Team is Nick, Nancy, Bruce, David & Grace (Team 2)*

A range of **Small Groups** operate throughout the week for men, women, seniors, youth, and mixed adults with more info in the bulletin and from the Kiosk. We also run a regular **Sunday Night series** which has a small group vibe. All our groups are open to join.

Blockhouse Bay Christian Kindergarten is a ministry of our church offering high quality early childhood education from *Monday to Friday*.

An **English Conversation Class** runs on *Tuesdays from 9.15 - 11.15 am* during the school term.

Our **website** (www.bbcc.org.nz) has lots more

information about the church and our **Facebook** page posts regular updates about news and events.

On *Fridays, 10 - 11 am*, during school terms, we run **mainly music**, a music and movement programme for pre-school children & their parents from our community.

Our **Youth & Young Adults** have a range of activities that are advertised in the bulletin and on their own Facebook page.

Prayer is an important part of BBCC life and our prayer ministries are listed in the bulletin.

We're part of a worldwide movement called The Christian & Missionary Alliance which has 9 churches in NZ (3 which meet at BBCC) and serves in 90 countries. In NZ we're known as the **Alliance Churches of New Zealand** and encourage unity amongst our movement and the wider Christian Church.

Our Elders (*Alistair Clark, Peter Kreutz, Dave Nuualiitia, Esther Vanaguntla & Mario Varre*) work with our Pastors to provide spiritual oversight at BBCC and are available to help with pastoral care and counselling.

Our Pastor and Church Staff can be contacted at the Church Office as follows:

- *Pastor Andrew Marshall:* Tuesday - Friday: 9.00-1.00pm - andrew@bbcc.org.nz - Mob: 027-296-8834
- *Carolyn Officer (Admin Manager):* carolyn@bbcc.org.nz - Ph: 626 6284 ext 5

THIS SUNDAY	Small Group - Dave N @ BBCC - 9.00 am Sunday Celebration - 10.30 am Aihua Alliance Church (Chinese) - 2.00 pm @ BBCC Arise Vietnamese Church - 6 pm @ BBCC
MONDAY	Kindergarten: Monday - Friday (9am - 3.30pm) Small Group - Adults @ Peter & Vera's
TUESDAY	English Class - 9.15 am
WEDNESDAY	Small Group - Young Adults @ Emily & Rebekah's - 7.30 pm Small Group - Gill's (women) @ Lynda's - 7.30 pm
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	<i>mainly music</i> - 10.00 am
SATURDAY	
NEXT SUNDAY	Small Group - Dave N @ BBCC - 9.00 am Sunday Celebration: Father's Day - 10.30 am Aihua Alliance Church (Chinese) - 2.00 pm @ BBCC Arise Vietnamese Church - 6 pm @ BBCC

THIS WEEK @ BBCC