

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

The Bible says that God created us and loves us, and invites us into a life-changing relationship with Him. This new life with God empowers us to hope, peace, joy and strength in the midst of a broken and hurting world. If you're ready to become a Christian and experience “Real Life” you can 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 relationship with God, and with other people. The first step towards a relationship with God is to admit we're sinners (we call this “confessing our sins”) and ask for His forgiveness.¹

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 to have our sins forgiven and come into relationship with God. To believe in Jesus is to believe he's God and that he entered our world and lived a perfect life (that we couldn't); died on a cross to pay for our sin (to take our penalty), rose again from the dead (to prove his identity, power and authority), rules from Heaven; and will one day return to judge and rule the world.²

Commit to following Jesus as Lord & King. Jesus is described in the Bible as the most powerful authority in existence. Saying “Yes” to God means taking a 180° direction change (we call this “repentance”) and living under the leadership of Jesus. This takes courage and faith but we can't experience “real life” until we let go of control, and allow Jesus to be the Lord & King of our lives.³

If you're 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 and pray 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 you into my life today. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and help me to live for Your glory. Amen.

If you've prayed this prayer with sincerity you're now a Christian, born again into the family of God! The Bible says your decision to become a Christian has caused the angels in heaven to celebrate!⁴

It's important now to get connected with other Christians who will help you grow in this new relationship with God 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.

¹ Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23

² John 1:1-18; John 3:16-18; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Matthew 25:31-32

³ 1 John 1:9

⁴ Luke 15:10

BLOCKHOUSE BAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Phone: 626 6284 info@bbcc.org.nz www.bbcc.org.nz



this is

my story

this is

my song

8 Aug 2021

TESTIMONY MONTH

BLOCKHOUSE BAY
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Real People Real Life

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 am and there's also a Creche room for babies and toddlers. Kidz Quest person in charge today is *Emily Silby* and Creche supervisor is *Golda Praise*. We do hope you stay to chat after the service, over a cuppa. 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.

We hold a weekly Prayer Meeting on Zoom, every **Thursday, 7.30 - 8.30 pm**. Please contact the church office for an invitational link to join us.

Sign up for our email **Prayer Chain** to receive prayer requests/updates, and to pray and uplift one another. If you'd like to be a part of this, talk to Carolyn or Pastor Andrew. To send a prayer request email prayerchain@bbcc.org.nz

Our main Prayer Meeting is held once a month after the service from 12.30 - 1 pm in the KQ hall

NEXT Stay & Pray: Today 8 Aug @ 12.30 pm

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

**NEXT Prayer Walk: Sat 21 Aug
Meet @ BBCC, 10.30 - 11.30 am**

HEALTH & WELLNESS REMINDER

If you are sick, please stay at home until you recover. Practice good hygiene by covering coughs/sneezes into your elbow, use hand sanitisers available on our premises and wash your hands regularly.

Sign in either by using the QR code posters at our entrances, or on the Contact Tracing Form at the Info Kiosk.

LEPROSY MISSION DONATIONS

For those people who have Leprosy Mission boxes please bring them in for Lois Chambers during August.

EVENTS COMING UP

**GLOBAL IMPACT WEEK
18-25 September**

Alliance Council AGM

Sat 18 Sep | 9.30 am - 12pm | BBCC

Alliance Churches Combined Service

Sun 19 Sep | 10.30am | Chinese Alliance CC

Global Impact Night:

Rethinking our Lives: David Platt

Tue 21 Sep | 7.30-9pm | West Harbour Church

Global Impact Night:

Rethinking Mission: Andrew Scott

Wed 22 Sep | 7.30-9pm | BBCC

Global Impact Night:

Rethinking Church: Francis Chan

Fri 24 Sep | 7.30-9pm | Chinese Alliance CC

Global Fusion Missions Fundraising Dinner

Sat 25 Sep | 6.30-10 pm | BBCC

Birthdays

Esther Vanaguntla - 8 August
Bonnie Kirkman - 9 August
Shally Williams - 10 August
Margaret Clark - 12 August
Carolyn Officer - 12 August
Susan Yadala—13 August

Anniversaries

Please let us know if you're celebrating your anniversary this week!

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. Here's the number if you would like to give directly into our account: 12-3049-0265986-00

GENERAL INFORMATION

Here are a few more things you might like to know about our whanau.

Sunday Morning is our main gathering from 10.30 - 12.00ish with a programme for children (3-13) and a supervised Crèche for under 3s, 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 Andrew, Gill and Alistair.*

A range of **Small Groups** operate throughout the week and we also run a regular **Sunday Night series** which has a small group vibe.

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

Prayer is a priority at BBCC with lots of ways to participate.

Our Elders work with our Pastors to provide spiritual oversight at BBCC and are available to help with pastoral care and counselling (*Alistair Clark, Norysca D'Souza, Vicky Edmonds, Peter Kreutz & Mario Varre*).

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. Locally we're known as the **Alliance Churches of New Zealand**.

Our **website** www.bbcc.org.nz has lots more info about the church and our **Facebook** page posts regular updates about news and events.

Our Pastors and Church Staff are all part time and can be contacted as follows:

- *Rev Andrew Marshall:* andrew@bbcc.org.nz - Mob: 027 296 8834
- *Pastor Tyler Sant:* Currently based in the USA - tyler@bbcc.org.nz
To connect on WhatsApp: Tyler: 1-315-506-2855 Amanda 1-201-400-3299
- *Carolyn Officer (Admin Manager):* carolyn@bbcc.org.nz - Ph: 626 6284 ext 5
- *May Khan (Marketing Assistant):* mayukhan@hotmail.com

THIS SUNDAY	Sunday Celebration @ 10.30 am followed by Stay & Pray - 12.30 pm <i>Aihua Alliance Church (Chinese) - 2 pm @ BBCC</i> <i>Arise Vietnamese Church - 5.30 pm @ BBCC</i> Sexuality and the Bible course - 7 pm @ BBCC
MONDAY	Kindergarten: Monday - Friday (9 am - 3.30 pm)
TUESDAY	Small Group - Adults (Andrew & Fiona) @ Scott & Carin's - 7.30 pm
WEDNESDAY	Small Group - Isaac's @ Kenneth & Norysca's - 7.30 pm
THURSDAY	Zoom Prayer Meeting: 7.30 - 8.30 pm
FRIDAY	
SATURDAY	
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THIS WEEK @ BBCC