

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 with hope, peace, joy and strength in the midst of a broken and hurting world. If you want to experience this “Real Life” you need to respond to God’s invitation sincerely as follows:

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 fully 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 the Christ to be the Lord & King of our lives.³

If you’re ready to say “Yes” to God and begin the Christian journey there’s a simple prayer you can say and God will respond to the truth of your heart and give you a new life in Jesus 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 thank you that you created me in your image for relationship with you and that you love me unconditionally. 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 a life that pleases and honours you 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 now important to stay 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. The Bible says that has terrible consequences for this life, and the life to come. While the choice will always be yours, we hope and pray you’ll reconsider God’s offer of real life and we’re always available to talk more about this.

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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BLOCKHOUSE BAY
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Real People Real Life

18 Sep 2022

A large graphic consisting of a double-bordered square. Inside the square, the words "HE IS" are written in a large, white, serif font, stacked vertically. The background of the entire slide is a sunset or sunrise scene with a single tree in the foreground.

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

We're so glad you could join us today. 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. Sunday Morning is our main gathering from 10.30 – 12.00ish; children (age 3-13) are welcome to join our *Kidz Quest* programme at 11.00 am and there's also a Creche room for babies and toddlers. Communion is offered most weeks with children joining us for the first Sunday each month. We do hope you stay to chat after the service - refreshments are provided to fuel some great conversations. 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 12-12.30 pm in the KQ hall

NEXT Stay & Pray: Today 18 September

We Prayer Walk once a month to discern what

God is doing & pray a blessing over our community. Meet @ BBCC, 10.30 - 11.30 am

NEXT Prayer Walk: TBA

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

EVENTS COMING UP

CHRISTIAN LIFE & WITNESS COURSE
Wednesday 21 September
7.00-9.30 pm | BBCC

You're invited to come deepen your own faith as you learn to share it with others. Whether you've shared the Gospel many times or are new to witnessing, this FREE, easy three-hour course will encourage you to live a life that points to Jesus Christ - and help you tell others about His love.

GLOBAL IMPACT WEEK
1-8 October 2022

Join the Alliance Churches celebrating 50 years of ministry in New Zealand!

Council AGM - Sat 1 Oct

Combined Service - Sun 2 Oct

Global Impact Nights - 4, 5 & 7 Oct

Global Impact Fundraising Dinner - Sat 8 Oct

DOWNLOAD OUR APP!

We're excited to launch our new app and it's now available to download from the App Store and Google Play!

Do you need help setting it up on your device? Or have you downloaded it already and need some help navigating the app? Feel free to talk to May Khan and she can sort it out for you!

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Shifra Ellis - 21 September
Simione Malakai - 21 September
Carin Kirkman - 22 September
Grace Sant - 22 September
Nicholas Booth - 23 September
Bruce Edmonds - 24 September

ANNIVERSARY

Joel & Hima Bagadam - TODAY 18 September
Bruce & Vicky Edmonds - 19 September
Gary & Lynda Richardson - 20 September

information

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

Our Elders work with our Pastors to provide spiritual oversight at BBCC and are available to help with pastoral care and counselling (*Nick Booth, Alistair Clark, Pervez David, Vicky Edmonds, Rao Vanaguntla & Mario Varre*).

A range of **Life Groups** operate throughout the week and we also often run a **Sunday Night series** which has a small group vibe. More information about the Life Groups is available at the Info Kiosk.

The **CAP Debt Centre** is an exciting new ministry we started last year. BBCC have partnered with Christians Against Poverty (CAP) to work with people in our community to get out – and stay out – of unmanageable debt and poverty. Contact Jo Ellis jo.ellis@capnz.org for more info.

In partnership with *Mind Health*, BBCC is happy to provide a **Counselling Service** this year. *David Perryman* is available on Thursdays from 9am – 5pm. Please contact Pastor Andrew to arrange appointments. Brochures available at Info Kiosk.

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

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 & Instagram** pages post regular updates about news and events.



We are able to offer **free guest WiFi** at church. Login details below:

Network Name: BBCC Guest **Password:** bbcc2580

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 (Media & Design Coordinator):* may@bbcc.org.nz

THIS SUNDAY	Sunday Celebration @ 10.30 am followed by Stay & Pray after the service <i>Aihua Alliance Church (Chinese) @ BBCC - 2 pm</i> <i>Arise Vietnamese Church @ BBCC - 5.30 pm</i>
MONDAY	Kindergarten: Monday - Friday (9 am - 3.30 pm)
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Zoom Prayer Meeting: 7.30 - 8.30 pm
FRIDAY	
SATURDAY	
NEXT SUNDAY	Sunday Celebration @ 10.30 am <i>Aihua Alliance Church (Chinese) @ BBCC - 2 pm</i> <i>Arise Vietnamese Church @ BBCC - 5.30 pm</i>

THIS WEEK @ BBCC