



# Prayer Update

## Jan-Feb 2011

Hi friends!

I hope you're all well. We really value your prayers and support. 2011 is shaping up to be an exciting year. Here are some things to bring before the throne of grace. In Christ, and for His glory, Chris (on behalf of CoastEC)

**Scripture** - Year 7 Scripture kicks off on Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Feb at the Forster Campus! Praise God for this amazing answer to your prayers! We are really excited about the opportunity to present Christ to the students. We get to teach 5 fortnightly lessons. Ask God to empower teachers and to open up many of the students' hearts to Jesus. Please also ask for many students to transition into our high school youth group where they can grow in their faith. Ask God to also open the door to the Tuncurry campus (Chris will be meeting with the principal to discuss this soon).

**Growing numbers** - Numbers are not everything, but each number does represent a real person who Christ died for and we praise God for the opportunity to keep pointing them to Jesus as they meet with us week by week. 57 adults and 31 kids now regularly attend the CoastEC church service. Please ask God to keep gathering His People to Himself. Ask that as we grow in number we'd also grow in depth and maturity.

**Home Groups** - Last December we had 4 adult home groups (bible studies) with 28 people involved. This year we have kicked off with 7 groups and 45 people. Praise God for growing these groups and raising up more leaders (Mark, Tom, John). Ask God to equip them for this new ministry and for the groups to grow well under their care. Ask for group members to care for one another well, and for God's Spirit to open eyes & hearts and change wills in light of the truth He reveals as the Scriptures are opened each week. Pray for God to raise up more leaders so we can keep growing the groups and multiplying them when they get too big.

**Kids ministries** - Thank God for the growing number of kids attending the service with their families. Pray for Tom and Ali as they oversee Coasties (kids church) and for us to find adequate spaces for the Squidz (yrs3-5) and Squirtz (0-2). Ask God to raise up more leaders for all these ministries.

**Staff changes** – praise God for the faithful and hard work of Alicia Barnes, who has just finished her 2 year ministry apprenticeship with us. Under God, Alicia and her husband Evan laid a brilliant platform for our youth ministry. They will now both start theological education by correspondence and will continue to oversee our youth ministry. Please pray for God to continue to equip them for gospel ministry, and to provide for their needs while studying. Ruth Shooter has just started on staff overseeing our Ministries. Please pray for her to settle in well and to effectively mobilise members of CoastEC for ministry.

**1 Corinthians** - We will be studying 1 Corinthians for the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the year. Please ask God to refine our beliefs and behavior as we sit under His Word. Ask for the Spirit to bring permanent and God-honouring change wherever it needs to occur.

**Finances** - I am totally blown away by the generosity of God's people. Last year we managed to make budget thanks to the giving of many individuals and partner churches. So Thanks! It's such a tangible expression of fellowship, and a great reminder that the gospel changes lives and makes people generous. Currently we are about 30% self funded and 70% funded by external givers. Our goal is to be at least 50% self funded by the end of the year. Praise God for providing! Please pray for members of CoastEC to keep stepping up their giving. Please pray that external support would continue while we grow to be locally funded.

**Youth** - Grommets (yr5-6), Wired (yr7-10), Chicks (high school girls bible study)  
Please pray that the kids will get excited about getting into God's Word together and that a solid Christian core will continue to develop and grow. Praise God that a new leader (Beck) is joining the Youth ministry team (leading the yr 5-6 girls). Ask for God to equip Beck for this new ministry.

*"I thank my God every time I remember you...because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now"*