

Nov – Dec 2010

Prayer Update



Hi friends!

I've just come back from a refreshing 2 week holiday and I am pumped to get back on mission with the brothers and sisters of CoastEC. We really value your ongoing partnership with us in the spread of the gospel in this region. Here are some things to praise God for and to ask our Heavenly Father to supply according to his wisdom and power.

In Christ, and for His glory,
Chris (on behalf of CoastEC)

Prayer Points...

- **Scripture** – Praise God for answering many prayers! We have finally received the green light to start teaching scripture to year 7 students next year at the Forster campus of the Great Lakes College! Chris is now meeting with the deputy to negotiate time-tabling at the end of November. Ask for lesson times to be compatible with availability of teachers. Chris is also meeting with the Executive of the Tuncurry campus on Wed 17th Nov to present the proposal for year 7 Scripture to be held there too. (It will also get discussed at P&C on 1st Dec). Ask for an open door!
- **Weekend Away** – Praise God for a great time of fellowship together as we recently camped down at Pacific Palms. It was a great chance to hang out and enjoy God's creation and each other's company.
- **God is still graciously adding to our numbers** – We have had lots of new people attend our services lately, please pray that they find salvation in Jesus and a church home at CoastEC. There are currently 43 adults and 28 kids who regularly attend the CoastEC church service.
- **Change of service time** – On the 31st October we changed from 10am to 5pm for the summer. It was a great first week in our new time slot, with about 70 people (adults and kids) there for the service and bbq afterwards. Ask that our new time would work well for connecting with more people.
- **Jonah** – We just finished studying the book of Jonah. Please thank God for Dave Sheath (Lakes Evangelical) and Ben Molyneux (St Faiths, Narrabeen) for their servant hearts and faithful preaching while Chris was on holidays. Ask for God to seize our hearts so that we are as concerned about the nations as our great God is.
- **Parables** – We just started a new series on parables from Luke's gospel (on Nov 7). Pray for boldness to invite many newcomers to hear Jesus' words for themselves – especially over the weeks 7th, 14th and 21st November. These 3 Sundays will be evangelistic messages. Ask for soft hearts.
- **Christianity Explored** – Pray for many to attend a short course explaining the Christian faith, kicking off on Wed night 24th Nov and going through to 15th Dec. Ask for many to come to faith and enter the kingdom.
- **Training** – Pray for Chris as he identifies and trains new bible study leaders so our home groups can expand and multiply. (Training will be on Wednesday afternoons, starting 10th Nov).

- **Finances** – Praise God for the generosity of his people. Our (ambitious!) goal this year was to be 50% self-funded as a church, and 50% externally funded (from other churches and individuals). A big thanks to all who've given because we've hit our external goal! Please pray for us to keep growing in number and generosity locally so we can grow to be a church that is 100% self-funded and also generous in our giving to other church plants. I think this may take us another 3 years. Ask for wisdom for our Admin Committee as they seek to finalise our budget for 2011.
- **Staffing** – Praise God for the faithful and hard work of Alicia. She has done a great job laying a solid foundation for our youth ministry with her husband Evan. Alicia is finishing up her ministry apprenticeship with us in January, when she will start her theological education by correspondence so she can still be part of CoastEC. Pray for God to keep equipping her and Evan as they serve Jesus here. Please also ask God to keep providing the resources to train more apprentices and employ other staff to head up different areas of ministry. Ask for wisdom in recruiting the right people.
- **Youth** – Praise God that each youth group (Chicks, Grommets and Wired) is slowly building a small core group of kids. Pray that the core groups will become firmly established and the youth will impact their community for Christ. Pray also for Evan and Alicia, that God would sustain them in these ministries, and also raise up people to partner with them.
- **Kids** – Praise God that Coasties Kids Church has been growing lately (with about 14 kids each week). Thank God that more Coasties leaders are stepping up to partner in this ministry, pray that this continues. Ask God to soften the kids hearts and settle them when they look at God's Word. Pray that Tom and Ali Brittle will have wisdom as they head up this ministry.