

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. (Matt.5:14)

In **1 Samuel** chapter 30 the great king David, king of Israel, goes to battle against the Amalekites. Some of his men stayed behind with the supplies while the rest went into battle, won the fight, and took everything the Amalekites had. When they returned in victory and with the reward, David declared to all his men, "*The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down into battle. All shall share alike.*" (1 Sam. 30:24). And so it is in ministry and missions today. Not everyone can go; some must go and some must stay. But all share in the reward and fruit of that ministry. So, to all who send and support us here; you all share equally with us in the rewards of what God is doing in Durban.

➤ **Ministry Update:**

It has been a busy couple of months and the Lord has continued to open doors for us.

- **Sunday Morning Service** – Our morning meeting is still the same. Teaching through Genesis has been very enjoyable, and Mitch is doing well on worship.
- **Wednesday Evening Service** – This meeting is also still the same and is a bigger group than Sunday. We are still doing the 'Understanding the Bible' course and this has been enjoyed by all.
- **School Ministry** – I have just finished with the High School this week as I teach the Grade 12's and they go off on study leave and exams from next week. I have also done the school assembly again and this has been a wonderful opportunity as you get to speak to the whole school at once. The Primary School ministry, 'Soul Survivor', is going well and the young kids are such a joy, I am really getting to know them now.



➤ **Other Ministry:**

- **Ministers Fraternal Meeting** – This month I presented a teaching on the 'Emerging Church' to the ministers fraternal. We watched a teaching from the Calvary Chapel Senior Pastors Conference and I got permission to copy them all the DVD as a resource. I also gave them all 'Blue Letter Bible' CD resources.
- **Baptist Church Men's Breakfast** – I was invited to speak to the Baptist Church Men's Breakfast last Saturday morning. It was a wonderful morning, great fellowship and great food, but it really made me miss the men's breakfasts we have in Cape Town.
- **New Ministry:**
- **Township Ministry** – The nearest township to us in the Valley is a very big area called Molweni. I met with a non-denominational independent church in this area and was invited to speak at their Thursday evening Bible study. It was a wonderful



opportunity and I had a great time. It is a Zulu church and I was blessed by the work they are doing and how they love the Lord. It was a very new experience to speak through an interpreter but I got used to it. I have committed to go every week and will help with teaching. The church is also involved in other community work, such as helping AIDS orphans, and I hope to also get involved with these in the future as our relationship develops. On our way home from the last meeting I was told that the man I was standing next to during worship was once the most feared man in Molweni. Charles and his brother were notorious criminals and no one would go near them. The brothers are orphans and when his brother died, Charles went into a severe state of depression and rage. Emmanuel, the Pastor of the church, went and visited Charles, despite everyone telling him not to dare go near him, but Charles gave his life to the Lord and has radically changed. All I could see was a man who loved Jesus with a great passion!! What a blessing to see lives so incredibly changed by the Lord.

- **Surf Ministry** – I have started a surf ministry again but this time more to my original plan. I have arranged the ministry through the High School and take a group of kids every Friday afternoon after school. The school is very pleased and the kids just love it, many have never surfed before so I am teaching them from scratch.

➤ **Other News**

**New Website:** We launched our own website early last month. The address is [www.calvarychapel1000hills.co.za](http://www.calvarychapel1000hills.co.za). Please check it out and let us know what you think. We have two new email addresses if you would like to use them, they are; [shaun@calvarychapel1000hills](mailto:shaun@calvarychapel1000hills) and [gail@calvarychapel1000hills](mailto:gail@calvarychapel1000hills), we also still use the current address. We are also now on 'Skype' so you can also contact us anytime this way, just search by my name.

**Moving House:** We are moving again, but this time just down the road. The house we are in was suddenly sold so we had to quickly look for a new place. We could not find a house in Crestholme but the Lord has blessed us with a lovely house in Forrest Hills, which is still in Waterfall. We will start moving on the 31 October, the day after we get back from Cape Town.

**Calvary Chapel Africa Conference:** We are all flying to Cape Town on Monday the 20 October and going straight to the conference. Tom, a good friend who fellowships with us, will also be with us. We will be in Cape Town until Thursday the 30 October and can't wait to see so many dear friends and family. We are having a braai at Tich and Jenny on the Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October after church; all our friends in Cape Town are invited so please join us if you can as we would love to see you.



Thank you for your love and support. Please join us in prayer for all these things. Yours in Christ – the Strauss clan.

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## ➤ On the Home Front

Hello all, it has been a very long month for us all here in Durban as so much has transpired since our last newsletter. Unexpectedly we have been asked to move. We jumped into action and contacted all the agents in search of a new house. Only one

agent came back to us with some hope, the others still have nothing to offer us on their books! It is situated right in the middle (on the same road!) as the two schools Shaun does his outreach at. Isn't our Lord so good? So he can now walk to his meetings in the future, ha. Spring is all around as is the pollen, ha. We are all doing so well although some struggling with sinus and the boys both caught a virus that lasted a few days consecutively. We were blessed with some visitors as always. Andre'

came and spent an evening with us while he was in Durban at one of his Doctors conferences. Our little guys had him all "Buzzed" as they know Henry is also an active Buzz fan too. DeBeer, Ridri and their "Oh so gorgeous" little family also blessed us with a night over

during a well deserved holiday they had here in sunny Natal. The fellowship was straight from the Lord. Some other rather scary news is that both our puppies (well, two years old) Labradors got bitten by a night adder (the fourth one we have sited in two months) and we had to rush them off to the vet. It was touch and go but after two days on all sorts of drips and medication they are home and we are so very thankful they are well.. and hopefully a bit wiser. Jude

has finally found out how much fun he can have on the PC and getting him off is another whole story. He has discovered Seth's old Jumpstart program. Seth is reading so well and just loves it. He reads all day long and Jude is gracious enough to listen to "The Cat in the Hat" or "Green eggs and Ham" over and over again from his big brother. Paige "danced" her Final Grade dance exam last Wednesday and although we don't have the results yet, she feels it went very well. She has become good friends with her exam partner Tennessee. Mitchel is currently completing Grade 10 and we are looking into his final years of school to complete his education. He also joins Shaun on Friday afternoons with the surf ministry running through the Waterfall College. The next step for all the children now is ordering

their curriculum for next year. We will need Matric for Mitchel, Paige's last year of buying as we will then use Mitchel's previous curriculums for her, and Grade 2 for Seth. Jude is also covered from Seth's previous curriculums. Please join us in prayer for financial support in this regard. Thank you all for your love, care and prayers. Much love and God Bless, Gail xxx

