



Library Update

Hello and welcome to the September issue of the Mathew Hale Public Library newsletter, informing you as to what is happening in the library.

We had a useful and encouraging preaching workshop with the Rev'd Adrian Lane who also spoke at the Mathew Hale Public Library Annual Dinner which was a very good evening.

Rev'd Paul Hunt from Adelaide gave a well received talk at the Library on "Great Aussie Blind Spots". You will be able to download and listen to his talk from www.mathewhalepubliclibrary.com in the near future.

In October and November we have two talks and one workshop. I encourage you to attend these events. If you know of anyone who works in youth ministry please encourage them to attend the workshop in particular as it promises to be very worthwhile. More details about these events are included in this newsletter and online.

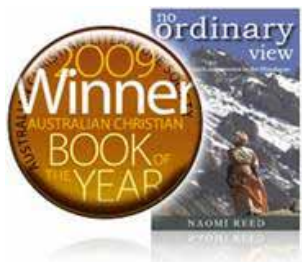


The Library has also received a copy of a book "Jesus in Africa" by Kwame Bediako. Kwame, from Ghana, is an emerging, well regarded African Theologian.

Another book which the Library has received is "The God I don't understand" by Dr Christopher Wright which deals with difficult issues of faith. You may recall that Dr Wright's book "The Mission of God" was mentioned in a previous newsletter and in this newsletter a review of that book by Jim Smith is included.

Thank you for your interest in the Mathew Hale Public Library. I look forward to your continued support and to seeing you at the events this year. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation to support the work of the Library, please use the form included on this newsletter.

With best wishes,
Dr Keith Weller
Honorary Warden

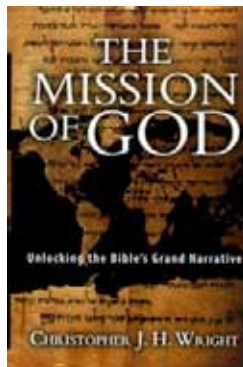


As someone who is interested in books, you will be interested to know the winner of the 2009 Australian Christian Book of the Year Award. This was won by Naomi Reed for her book "No ordinary view: A season of faith and mission in the Himalayas". It is published

by Ark House Press. Naomi is a young talented writer and the book is an interesting and easy read. For more information about the awards please go to www.spcka.org.au. The awards are coordinated by the Australian Christian Literature Society (ACLS) which is an activity of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge Australia Inc.

The Library has obtained a copy of each of the books that were short listed for the Awards. The joint second prize winning books are set out below.

Book Review: The Mission of God



As I started to write this review, I received a call and invitation to participate in an update of our Church mission statement and associated plan. How timely, for this fits with the challenge that Chris Wright throws at us in this comprehensive book. The book represents the answer to a question posed in 1998 when Chris Wright presented a thesis proposing a 'missiological framework as a hermeneutical approach to reading the

Bible'. In other words questioning what Christian view do we (usually subconsciously) bring when reading scripture? Chris Wright's answer is we should read from the viewpoint of God's mission. But what exactly is that? This book answers that question in some depth – and more.

In doing so Chris Wright critically challenges the paradigm of mission held commonly by Church and demonstrates that our view can be exceptionally limited and therefore incomplete. This means that we often have inadequate responses to what our Church mission should be! To answer the question Chris Wright opens up the integrated relationships of God – Humanity – Creation through the broad sweep biblical vistas and rightly concludes that God's Mission addresses not just gospel outreach but also social justice and environmental concern. Church needs a consciousness of these



Library: *The Blue Room, St Andrew's Church, 160 Vulture Street, South Brisbane, 4101
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Email: info@mathewhalepubliclibrary.com

www.mathewhalepubliclibrary.com

*Note that the library is currently open for advertised events, by appointment and every Tuesday from 3.00pm to 6.00pm.

aspects in order to formulate a holistic response aligned to God's mission and evidenced in the lives of God's people.

So this is a massive agenda and may seem daunting – but that does not mean we should not rise to the challenge. Initially I seemed to labour in getting into the book, but realised that this was my reaction to the paradigm shift posed in the opening chapter. This book engages and we need to be engaged to its message, for surely, God's mission should be the mission of all believers. This is not a simple, easy read but it is well worth the effort. I hope that at least one person from each Church will read this book and take its message into our Church communities – and the world.

Reviewed by: Jim Smith

Upcoming Events

Oct 13: Reverend Ken Hopper - "Developing a Parish Care Program"

Rev'd Ken Hopper has had substantial pastoral care experience both in Australia in parishes and overseas in war zones as an army chaplain in countries such as Rwanda and Timor.

He brings to this talk all his experience and hearers will benefit greatly. He is currently the rector of St Marks Anglican Church, The Gap, Brisbane, where he is developing a parish care program.

7:30pm.

Entry fee is a plastic note.

Nov 2: Reverend G Stanton - Principles and Priorities for Youth Ministry under the Word

Youth Ministry literature is full of enough models and methods and resources to give any youth minister a headache. When we look at the ancient world of the Scriptures and the contemporary world of young people, what are the non-negotiable principles for a youth ministry that will be faithful to Jesus? What are the priorities of youth ministry that will help us be most productive in the work Jesus calls us to do? Over three sessions Graham will guide a discussion and interaction together about the principles and priorities for youth ministry under the Word.

Cost: \$30.

9:30am - 2:00pm

Go to the MHPL website to download the invitation form.

Nov 2: Reverend G Stanton - Family Feud? The relationship between Youth Ministry

and the Family

In many churches today the youth ministry sits as a loose attachment to the ministry of the rest of the congregation leaving young people isolated from any meaningful relationships with adults. This separation of youth ministry from the church is a lesson we've learnt more from our culture than the Bible. In this lecture Graham will examine the nature of family responsibility in the Old and New Testaments and consider how we ought to apply these ideas to the ministries of our churches to young people in the 21st century.

Cost: Plastic note entry

Time: 7:30pm

Address: St Marks Anglican Church, Bonney Ave Clayfield

Please see www.mathewhalepubliclibrary.com for further details and events.

Support the Library The Mathew Hale Public Library relies completely on gifted financial support

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