



Update & Welcome



Welcome to the May newsletter for the Library, so far this year we have had two excellent talks. Firstly, Mr Adam Lowe gave a very interesting and informative talk on small groups. Everyone who attended the talk was involved in some way in a small group; be it coordinator, leader, or participant. Feedback about the talk has been very encouraging. Small groups are a vital part of church life and ministry and we see one of the roles of the library is to help equip people in this area. The second talk was by Mr Peter Carolane who spoke about Mustard ministries in schools in Victoria. You can read a short summary about Mustard in the next column. Hearing about their progress gives great heart for the future. Please look at the calendar of events and I look forward to seeing you at the library in the future.

Dr Keith Weller
Honorary Warden

Mustard visits MHPL

On the 17th May, Peter Carolane spoke at the Matthew Hale Public Lecture on the schools ministry methods of *Mustard*. Peter is the director and founder of *Mustard Leadership Australia*- a movement of young Australians seeking to do mission in secondary schools in a way that is culturally engaging and dynamic. Peter spoke of the growing network of student lunchtime groups that meet in schools, where students share their lives together, explore the Bible and issues of faith, and actively serve their wider community. Mustard also runs a Seminar and Retreat program that aims to present the person and teaching of Jesus to the whole student body in schools. These retreats use a communication style that attempts to connect with all of the 'intelligences'. To demonstrate this, Peter showed a five minute highlight reel from the 2006 Scotch College Mission. The other major aspect of the Mustard movement Peter spoke of is the website www.mustard.org.au where the geographically dispersed movement joins together online to

share what's going on in the lunchtime groups, to report on recent seminars and to discuss issues that are going on in the world. With these three major strategies, Mustard is seeking to transform a new generation of Australian students with the new life that comes from faith in Jesus. The lecture was well attended by some key religious educationalists from Brisbane. Peter is hoping to launch Mustard in Brisbane in the near future.



Simon Camilleri from the Mustard team of performers who was performing the Biblical story of Jesus calming the storm by the Yarra river.



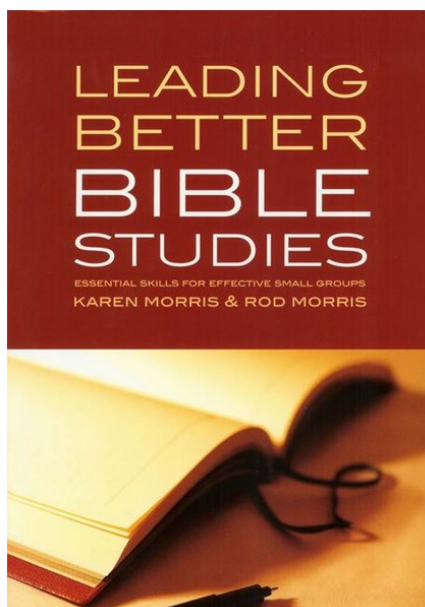
Peter Carolane

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WWW: www.mathewhalepubliclibrary.com

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

Book Review: Leading Better Bible Studies

A quick browse at any local Christian bookstore will no doubt result in the discovery of numerous titles describing how your home group program “can explode”, small groups grow, or bible studies improve in quality. Unfortunately many of the titles available fail to provide *practical* advice tailored to the Australian context or based on adult theories of learning. *Leading Better Bible Studies* by Karen and Rod Morris overcomes these common limitations in a style that is extremely accessible to a wide audience whilst being practical.



The Morris’ cover seven key aspects of Bible Study Facilitation including: being a Christian Leader, Helping people learn, learning from the Bible in groups, developing group life, helping people pray, sustaining group members, and continuing as a leader.

Real-life examples are provided throughout, as well as excellent diagrams to explain core concepts. Twenty different methods for Bible study are also discussed (all with relevant examples).

The only limitation of the book is that it does not discuss in great depth specific problems that may be experienced with individuals, however it is partially covered indirectly.

Whether you have been leading groups for sometime, are new to Bible study facilitation, or wish to provide training materials to Bible Study Leaders in your church, this book is ideal. Highly recommended.

Adam Lowe

Author: Leading Better Bible Studies
ISBN: 1-875861-35-1
Pages: 205pp
Publisher: Aquila Press 2004
RRP: \$21.95

Upcoming Events

June 12

“Law and Christianity”
with Associate Professor Peter McDermott
5.30pm at the Library

July 6

“Preaching Workshop”
with Rev’d Andrew Reid
9.30am—2.0pm at the Library

July 9

Lecture
with Rev’d Andrew Reid
7.30pm at the Library

August 14

Launch of a book about good Preaching (title to be advised)
7.30pm at the Library

11 September

“Preaching on the Gospel of Matthew”
Rev’d Dr Graham Goldsworthy
5.30pm & 7.30pm



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