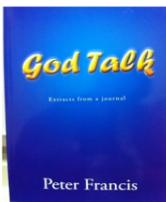


Peter Francis' Book still available through KSO



Those who have been involved with Kairos for some time, would remember Peter Francis. Peter's book 'God Talk extracts from a journal' is now available and can be ordered and prepaid for through the KSO. \$20.00 + postage \$2.10



Peter will kindly donate a percentage of the sales made through KSO to the building fund. Peter's treks in Spain have given him more time to meditate on God's word and go deeper into the understanding of Scripture which he shares with the reader. It is a book that you dip into and not necessarily read from cover to cover. Our chairman Jeff highly recommends the book 'as a good read' as does Mavis Hedrik.

Kairos Prison Ministry Australia is an interdenominational Christian ministry reaching out to incarcerated individuals, their families and those who work with them; to bring sustainable meaning and hope in the place of loneliness, isolation and despair. Building Christian Community.



In a prison in Western Australia last year an inmate came up to a member of *Kairos Ministries* with an ERV Bible in hand. Question after question poured out from this woman. **She'd been abused before becoming an offender and was in a low, desperate place.** But hope had suddenly been restored through the *Easy-to-Read Bible*. After coming to faith, she spoke of seeing a bridge of light coming from the outside world into her cell.

The Bible she'd received was provided by *Bible League* and specifically designed with prisoners in mind.

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CEO Alan Soden



Dear Fellow-workers in the amazing and transforming ministry of Kairos. Soon I hope to share in the joy of being part of a Kairos Inside for Men team on the mid-north coast. I'm really excited about the opportunity to serve in this way.

As well as ministering to the men God will bring to this course I'm also looking forward to what He will teach me. There's a sense of expectation for the course and indeed with all that's involved with my work as CEO, but there's also a strong sense of my own inadequacy.

When I think about it this feeling isn't such a bad thing. As Christian workers all of us need to be reminded that the success of our ministry is about God's complete adequacy and not our gifts and abilities. We also need to be careful that any spiritual or emotional baggage we may carry doesn't prevent us from being all that God intends.

This is our first newsletter for 2015. As the year and our Kairos work comes into full swing let's look to God for His provision. It is God through His Holy Spirit who breathes new life.

As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." Then he (Jesus) breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20: 21b & 22).

At some point in life most of us will have experienced hard physical labour. If you haven't you are missing out. Hard work in the outdoors can be very satisfying and many people would say is a natural way to ensure deep and restful sleep. Chopping wood can be great for stress relief.

One downside however, is what this sort of work can do to your hands. If your usual job is behind a desk in an office and you spend the weekend with a shovel helping your son dig footings for his house you'll probably receive some blisters for your kindness. Spend a lot of time digging with the shovel and your body will form calluses. These extra thick pads of skin are good for stopping blisters, but the downside is you will also lose some sensitivity in your hands.

When I was a young man I would sometimes watch the tradesmen in the blacksmith's shop. Their hands were so tough. They could handle hot things that I wouldn't think of picking up without leather gloves. It seemed they had an amazing tolerance for pain, but in actual fact they had lost some of the ability to touch and feel.

Sadly, this can happen to us emotionally and spiritually too. If you have been a Christian for some time you'll know what I mean. We can work so hard in our particular ministry, heartfelt in our desire to serve God, but unaware that we are becoming insensitive towards the people around us and to the leading of God's Holy Spirit.

Christian work can be so hard at times. Our behaviour towards each other is sometimes not God honouring and without even realising it we can build up a hardness of spirit as a protection mechanism. Perhaps like me you can relate to the words from a song written by Michael W. Smith and Wayne Kirkpatrick called, Breathe in Me.

I used to be so sensitive
To the light that leads to where you are
Now I've acquired these calluses
With the darkness of
A cold and jaded heart

So breathe in me
I need you now
I've never felt so dead within
So breathe in me
Maybe somehow
You can breathe new life in me again

STOP PRESS

The KPMA Board has appointed Alan Soden as CEO of KPMA for three years.

New KPMA Board Member



The Board has pleasure in announcing the appointment of Barry Brown to the KPMA Board of Directors.

Barry comes with a wealth of experience in Kairos. Also with his former career as a Consular Officer with DFAT he has a lot to offer in his service to the Lord and Kairos. We welcome Barry to the KPMA Board.

Course	Program	Contact Address	Leader
Kairos Inside & Torch			
13-14 Apr	Torch Frank Baxter 16	P O Box 6221 Gosford West NSW 2250	Rob Williams
14-17	June 27	P O Box 189 June NSW 2663	Colum McGovern
14-17	Mobilong 21	P O Box 242 Highgate SA 5063	Keith Chiveralls
20-24	Bathurst 19	P O Box 192 Orange NSW 2800	Evan Harris
21-24	Mannus 10	8 Vista Avenue Batlow NSW 2730	Ray Brown
28/4-1 May	Emu Plains 22	P O Box 407 Emu Plains NSW 2750	Peita Rienits
28/4-1 May	Fulham 16	P O Box 150 Churchill VIC 3842	Barry van Es
4-7 May	Acacia 6	P O Box 1359 Joondalup WA 6919	Noel Williams
12-15	Dillwynia 15	P O Box 3102 Rouse Hill NSW 2155	Julie Blyth
25-28	Parklea 1	P O Box 630 Stanhope Gardens 2768	Keith Lock
7-11 Sep	Goulburn 20		TBA
28-30	Adelaide Torch 1	P O Box 242 Highgate SA 5063	Andrew Battersby
Kairos Outside for Women			
17-19 Apr	Hunter 19	P O Box 221 Kotara NSW 2289	Billie Baillie
15-17 May	Adelaide 22	GPO Box 945 Adelaide SA 5001	Robyn Aitchinson
15-17	South East Qld 29	P O Box 88 Morningside QLD 4170	Lauris Lucciannino
29-31	Sydney 33	P O Box 2178 Normanhurst NSW 2076	Margaret Fuller
29-31	Melbourne 10	P O Box 1010 Mitcham North VIC 3132	Ineke de Graaf
10-12 July	North Queensland 4	P O Box 441 Tolga QLD 4882	Joan Comino
21-23 Aug	NSW North Coast	P O Box 814 Woolgoolga NSW 2456	Marty Steltman
18-20 Sept	Hunter 20	P O Box 221 Kotara NSW 2289	Margaret Mildenhall
25-27	Wide Bay Capricorn 10	16 Bayrise Drive Urangan Hervey Bay QLD 4655	Val McJannett
23-24 Oct	Adelaide 23	G P O Box 945 Adelaide SA 5001	Linda Forsyth
6-8 Nov	South East Qld 30	P O Box 88 Morningside QLD 4170	Ange Wilkinson
20-22	Riverina 9	P O Box 189 June NSW 2663	Sharon Coleman
20-22	Sydney 34	P O Box 2178 Normanhurst NSW 2076	Deni Harden
Kairos Outside for Men			
12-14 Jun	Sydney 5	P O Box 169 Hornsby NSW 1630	Geoff Mourade

Spending Christmas on the INside

Wolston # 5 was held in different circumstances to the four earlier Programs, as Management advised that a Team of up to 12 would be welcomed to spend the Week with up to 12 Residents, that is half the usual numbers. The Team took this as a challenge – to offer a successful, meaningful Program – and an opportunity – to demonstrate Kairos' adaptability, responsiveness and commitment to the Men in Green. The Team also saw this Kairos as perhaps offering an alternate model for future Kairos Programs in smaller correctional facilities.

The final Team of 11 ministered to 10 Residents for the week. The two Family Tables, Mark and John, quickly became open to the Talks, participating enthusiastically in the discussions, posters and poster parties. The Residents were keen to arrive as early as possible each morning. Men who had seldom spoken up were eager to share their insights.

Men who had seldom if ever sung out loud joined in lustily. Men who seldom received letters or heard from 'outside' were silent opening their bag of letters, many deciding to wait till later before reading and savoring them. And men who had seldom prayed joined in eagerly with 'one-liners' and Family prayer, listening carefully to the Meditations in the Chapel.

At the Closing Ceremony, many Residents spoke of feeling changed, having hope, and being less fearful of life after gaol as they knew they were not alone. One Resident told the gathering that the Week had been the best in his 16 years in gaol.

The Journey Program commences January, and with the strong encouragement of the 'Green Servants', the new Kairos Graduates were keen to become involved. It is always amazing and wondrous to see the transforming power of love work in men's lives.

Mega Link Up contribution by Deanne Chapman

The tangible love of God in Christ was very evident at the fifth Mega Linkup held on Saturday 13th December at Carlingford Baptist Church. The reunion of past inmates who participated in Kairos, team members, Kairos Outside guests and team members, was an opportunity to meet up with people we knew from another time and place and it brought great joy and mutual encouragement.

It was a wonderful afternoon, and there were many ex-inmates present, going back to Kairos in Long Bay, Silverwater, Junee, Emu Plains, Mulawa, Dillwynia, Berrima and Bathurst. Some had travelled distances from Kiama in the south to Port Macquarie in the north.

The three speakers, Angie, David and Lenore, spoke from their heart. They exemplified faith and hope, even when their circumstances may have seemed hopeless, and demonstrated trust in God's ultimate faithfulness which enabled them to move on, not locked into the past, but putting their trust in God.

Jeff Herbert (MC), introduced the new interim CEO Alan Soden, and George Drew gave the homily, bringing a message of hope and reminiscing about the early days of Kairos in Long Bay in 1996.

We lifted the roof with the words of "The power of Your Love" and "Amazing Grace" The refrain "My chains are gone, I've been set free" was particularly relevant as it applied to all who were present.

Rev. Dr Kim Miller from Newcastle prayed for the offering, inmates, officers and prison chaplains.

The concluding hymn was "We will dance on the streets that are golden." We were transported to another place and were not in a cathedral made with hands! We knew that the angels sang with us, and one day "we will stand by His side, a pure, spotless bride, and we will lift up our hands and clap for joy" throughout eternity.

KAIROS NATIONAL CONFERENCE MARK THE DATES IN YOUR DIARY

3-5 JULY 2015

OPEN TO ALL IN THE KAIROS COMMUNITY



Come and celebrate 20 years of God's blessings on Kairos at the National Conference in July, 2015. The venue will be St Mark's Residential College University of Adelaide, 46 Pennington Terrace North Adelaide South Australia.

Workshops, meeting new friends, reminiscing with long term friends, Let's CELEBRATE TOGETHER! Bring your wife, bring your husband, bring a friend.

Evelyn Lemly executive director of KPML will be among one of the special guests.

For a Registration Form to attend the National Conference contact the Kairos Support Office 02 9987 2016 or Email operations@kairos.org.au Also available from your Regional Committee Chair.

UPDATE ON OUR VISION FOR KPMA HEADQUARTERS

We continue to look for a property as a home for the ministry of Kairos. You may have seen the article in the last issue of our newsletter. The building in the photograph was sold and so the search goes on. A huge thank you to everyone who has given to support the vision of Kairos owning a property. Donations now total more than two hundred thousand dollars. This is a fantastic start and provides a real a financial foundation.



The board and its property team is prayerfully looking to the future. As Kairos grows it will require a facility that can meet its needs as a national ministry. Our active volunteer staff now exceeds 3000. We must plan to provide for a large not-for-profit organisation as we strive together to do the work God has prepared for us.

Our support office is presently located in a small rented commercial unit in Hornsby. We have put out feelers through Church denominational contacts and are exploring opportunities. In addition we have sought professional advice through architects Stanton Dahl. Regardless of whether we acquire an existing property or build something new, Kairos must meet its current and future needs. Expert help was needed and Stanton Dahl generously provided architectural services at no cost. Please continue to give to the vision as God leads. We will keep you informed of progress. Alan Soden CEO

All contributions over \$2.00 are tax deductible and a gift receipt would be issued. Electronic funds transfer or through the Kairos secure website or by credit card and cheque, would be suitable ways to donate.
BSB:032075 Account: 147046 Account Name: Kairos Prison Ministry Australia or www.kairos.org.au

Kairos Outside for Men No 5

Kairos Outside for Men No5 is under planning to be held on 12-14 June 2015 at Castlereagh Christian Conference Centre, near Penrith.

The course leader will be Geoff Mourade with Peter Benson as the Advising Leader.

If you have any information about men who have family members or close friends who are currently in gaol or have been in gaol previously, would be eligible to attend the weekend. **With their consent** please provide their contact details to komsydney@kairos.org.au or phone Greg Clarke 0412197766 or Geoff Mourade 0405593305.

The course commences at around 5.30pm on Friday 12 June and concludes around 4pm Sunday 14 June. Guests are required to stay the weekend and there is no cost to guests.

If your Regional Committee can send Agape posters to the above email address it would be really appreciated.

Please pray for the selection of the team & guests of God's choosing.

Kairos Outside for Men's Experience with the VMS Database.

Kairos Outside for Men have received the VMS Database Training and participated in the regular on line forums. Greg Tebbutt & Greg Clarke have completed the training and have found the presentation to be well presented and Jon Hale & Terry Clancy have always been very approachable and helpful in fielding questions and directing how the best use can be made of the system.

Jon and Terry are to be commended for a great job done in setting up the system & the continued support they provide.

Unlike other areas, Kairos Outside for Men has a relatively small number of contacts to manage, but it is still a fairly large task to get the information correct and maintain it correctly. The use of Groups has been helpful to Kairos Outside for Men to help categorise contacts as potential guests and team members and to indicate members who have attended the Kairos Outside for Men Reunion in February 2015. All of the team members have been loaded against positions & members talks for KOM#1-KOM#4. The positions & talks have been loaded for KOM#5 ready to attach the team members names once they are available.

Following the success of the VMS Training Go To Meeting Forums, Kairos Outside for Men have been holding their own Go To Meeting to discuss Kairos Outside for Men planning.

Thanks again for a great job Jon, Terry, Ben & Jen.

OUTREACH TO ACMENA JUVENILE JUSTICE IN GRAFTON

The Kairos Prison Ministry has been given permission to conduct a Kairos Torch program at Acmena Juvenile Justice Centre in Grafton, and are looking for committed people to be on team.

The 'Kairos Torch Program' aims to increase the sense of self-worth within young offenders with Christian based values of forgiveness, increase of self-worth, and spiritual awareness.

The Kairos Torch program has been conducted at the Frank Baxter Juvenile Justice Centre for some years, as well in South Australia and the United States, with positive results. Now there is a chance for the program to be held in Grafton Northern NSW.

If there is anyone who feels they may be interested in this Christian outreach work, contact either Peter Stace on 66888203, or plsbees@gmail.com, or Mrs Fran Legge kiwisquibit@yahoo.com.au where further details can be forwarded.