



It's not hard to become cynical about what retailers do with the Christmas season. They wring the life out of it. Radio ads for a large toy retailer were heard in August promoting Christmas lay-bys, just as the chain stores predictably silly idea of Easter's hot cross buns being for sale on January 2nd or even earlier. Think I'm joking? Check after New Year's Day.

So by squeezing the very breath of the spirit of Christmas they will actually make the Season less special, driving down the interest, driving up the guilt to please someone by buying unnecessary items, finally ruining the very special significance of it all anyway – driving customers away.

Australians already struggle with the concept of an Aussie Christmas. We're just starting to come to grips with a sunburnt reality that we'll never have snow, reindeer or chestnuts roasting by the open fire. It'll be more like snow cones; plus a little rain, dear and a cheap toaster since the fire season is likely to be banned.

It's best and the worst of any of the annual seasons that we now cautiously enter. Only a few more weekends and Christmas is here. The potentially lonely in Logan dreading the emptiness they know will stare them down in their own lounge room, and at the other end of the tinselled scale are kids full-on with what they want for Christmas. It's the list that keeps on changing. Three times an hour. If you're lucky, that is.

My early Christmas wish in November is that the Family Store can be a place where, even as a last resort, people might come to find a beautiful gift of a friendly face and kind word – and the directions over to a church that will love them as they enter, no matter who they are.

I'm thinking that's you, right?

Stu - Family Store Manager



November 2013

Monthly Newsletter of Life Community

Trial of Faith by Oswald Chambers

If you have faith as a mustard seed . . . nothing will be impossible for you —Matthew 17:20

We have the idea that God rewards us for our faith, and it may be so in the initial stages. But we do not earn anything through faith— faith brings us into the right relationship with God and gives Him His opportunity to work. Yet God frequently has to knock the bottom out of your experience as His saint to get you in direct contact with Himself. God wants you to understand that it is a life of faith, not a life of emotional enjoyment of His blessings. The beginning of your life of faith was very narrow and intense, centered around a small amount of experience that had as much emotion as faith in it, and it was full of light and sweetness. Then God withdrew His conscious blessings to teach you to “walk by faith” (2 Corinthians 5:7). And you are worth much more to Him now than you were in your days of conscious delight with your thrilling testimony.

Mark Your Calendar

**Nov 10th
Birthday Celebrations**

**Nov 30th
Come & Worship
Retreat**

**Captivated Women's
Conference
Feb 21-23**

**Ignite
March 1st**

123 Paradise Rd Slacks Creek 4127
Ph: 3290 5200 Web: <http://salvos.org.au/lifecc/>
Lt's Ashley & Bronwyn Barkmeyer
ashley.barkmeyer@ae.salvationarmy.org Mob: 0402 781 705
Reception/ Administration 8.30-4.30
Deb Muchow: Mon– Tues– Wed Ruth Thomas: Thurs-Fri

Check the information table for any further information about these events

The trial of faith by Oswald Chambers... cont

Faith by its very nature must be tested and tried. And the real trial of faith is not that we find it difficult to trust God, but that God's character must be proven as trustworthy in our own minds. Faith being worked out into reality must experience times of unbroken isolation. Never confuse the trial of faith with the ordinary discipline of life, because a great deal of what we call the trial of faith is the inevitable result of being alive. Faith, as the Bible teaches it, is faith in God coming against everything that contradicts Him— a faith that says, "I will remain true to God's character whatever He may do." The highest and the greatest expression of faith in the whole Bible is— "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him" (Job 13:15).

Communities for Children

We are putting play on the pedestal: The Family Empowerment Team hosted the Play Cave pilot over 3 weeks in October, it was a huge project to set up and pack down every week but it was well worth the effort. Our Vision was to capture the enthusiasm for play of infants and children and build a play space that welcomed and invited children and parents/ caregivers to explore and have fun together.



The project was a huge success, many local families commented on how enjoyable the experience was and how they had been inspired to play more with their children recognising that imaginative and creative play does not have to cost a lot of money, you can use everyday items from around the house.

Come share with us at our 12th Birthday Celebrations of The Salvation Army Life Community Church

123 Paradise Road, Slacks Creek
Sunday 10th November 2013
9:15am

Please stay & share lunch with us afterwards (bring a plate of food to share)

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Romans 15:5-6

Celebrate

Men's Shed Logan

6:30 pm the third (3rd) Tuesday of every month

(starting 18/02/14)

At The Family Place Salvation Army Life Community

123 Paradise Rd Slacks Creek (cnr Meakin Rd)

Come and join us for a chat about being guys, helping each other through life. Guys sharing stories, sharing life experience in family, faith and work.

* Guest speakers * Information

* Free BBQ * Free give away's

This is for guys 13 and up. Bring a chair and a mate and have a great night.

For more info join us on Face book (Men's Shed Logan)

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