



## **Using Scripture Union materials and programmes**

### **Qwa Qwa Newsletter October – November – December 2021**

#### **Isaiah 9:6**

For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called “Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Of the increase of his government there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to establish it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forever more. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

“Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift.” 2 Corinthians 9:15. Praise God, what he has promised, he has done by sending Jesus, his Son, born of a woman, born under the law as the Great Redeemer of his people. Our God has done what the law could not do by sending his own Son into the world and in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, to condemn sin in flesh. Through the coming of Jesus into the world, through his sinless life, through the atoning sacrifice of that life to God as a propitiation, through his burial and resurrection and through his ascension to God’s right hand, we, by faith in his name, are set free from the sting of sin and death. Praise God for his amazing GIFT, Jesus: Praise God for the Holy Spirit who has come into the world to apply that work of redemption in Jesus to our lives and to lead us into truth.

#### **The Church.**

Praise the Lord for the His Place church who have supported us with the Sunday after service lunch project. With their help we have been able to continue with our after Sunday service lunches. This past Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December, there were over two hundred and thirty people, including one hundred and sixty children, who stayed for lunch. The cooks do a wonderful job every Sunday, they somehow cope, if there are many or few. This was a special occasion as we were handing out maize meal as well. We handed out close to two hundred and fifty

bags of 12.5 KG bags of maize meal. Next week there will be fewer people attending, but they will all get lunch.

The church is going well, with good attendances on most Sundays. Some Sunday's the numbers drop drastically. This drop in numbers is caused mainly by two things: Rain, as all of the people walk quite long distances to church and very few of them have umbrellas or rain coats. Power cuts, which are not uncommon here in South Africa, but worse in Qwa Qwa. So the people are not able to cook breakfast or wash.

The Sunday school is going well. We have well over fifty every week, except when it is raining, or the power is cut off. There will be a surprise party for the Sunday School children this coming Sunday.

On Saturday there is a barbeque for all those who have helped with the Holiday Bible Clubs, or been involved in cooking on Sundays and other leaders. Pray that this will go down well as we say thank you to all those who have helped over the past year. Pray too that we will get the catering right also that there will be no waste or rain to dampen the occasion.

### **SU Training Camp.**

In November, over a weekend, about 22 of our young leaders and 10 SU workers and volunteers from KZN enjoyed a fast moving training camp at van Reenen guest farm. Peter from SU South Coast was the trainer and what a wonderful job he did covering many topics to help us all in working with children at the Holiday Bible Clubs, in school groups, camps and Sunday Schools. He taught us different ways to help the children to pray and to learn through songs and games to come to know Jesus and to continue to follow Jesus. We thank him for his hard work and we really enjoyed his devotions with Christian songs and verses from the Bible. The trainees were given 4 questions as a follow-up to what they had learnt at the camp. The Bible was really brought to life through the many sessions we had. Most of our leaders have completed answering the questions and we will courier them to Peter when he returns from holiday in the new year.

### **Holiday Bible Club.**

In the October school holidays we were able to squeeze in a HBC at the Salvation Army field in Chris Hani Park village where many of our people stay. We had large numbers of children of all different ages divided into groups and

led by different leaders from our volunteers. The weather was good to us and we thank the Lord for many children who came to know and follow Jesus through the talks from the Bible and the memory verses. Songs and games were enjoyed by all. We also had the privilege of working with some leaders from the Salvation Army visiting from Gauteng. They handled a small part of the programme. Their main programme was in the afternoon.

Today is our second day of the current HBC at the same venue where our leaders are using what they learnt at the training camp to better be able to teach the children about Jesus. The theme is Christmas and the leaders are using Christmas hats and balloons to help get the message of God's love in giving Jesus to us, through to the children. They love learning the Bible verses and receiving sweets when they say it correctly. They also love learning the action songs the leaders are teaching them. The leaders also sing a carol to them each day to fit in with the Christmas theme. May God's Word sink into their hearts and lives forever. The numbers have been growing each day, from about one hundred and eighty on the first day to over two hundred today 15<sup>th</sup>. Pray that we will have a clear window free from rain tomorrow so we can conclude well. I love the rain, but these children need the Lord Jesus.

### **The church property.**

It seems we are in for a long wait for the transfer of the property into the church's name. We have taken the precaution of getting a PTO of the property into the church's name through the Free State Tribal Authority. This basically says that the property was sold by Stanley to the church, and the property now belongs to us. Stanley is still wanting to sell three more stands to us at a large discount. But until we see progress on the property division and the transfer we are not willing to pay anything more. Because Stanley is desperate to sell these three stands he has started pushing the Public Works Department to hurry up with the transfer. But yet we wait and pray. **Please pray with us concerning this matter.** It is difficult having the church in our garage and garden and we long for our own building where we can meet to worship and serve the Lord.

### **Future plans**

It was my desire to have a youth camp some time in December but we were not able to raise the funds, and also time was against us, so we will try for a time in the new year. We would love to have another SU Training camp to really get the message and methods of working with children to really take a hold of the young people, and that they will get a vision for children's work.

In January before schools start we are planning another HBC. I have moved around the villages since the close of school, the children have been wandering around the streets, getting up to mischief, so to give them something to do we wanted two HBC's over these holidays.

In January we will continue with our youth training on a Wednesday. I am also praying about running a study group for the thirteen to sixteen age group. Possibly on a Thursday. If I do this then I will preach less frequently and concentrate on building up the young people.

The plan is to have a camp for the ladies in March or April. Last year's ladies camp was very spiritually challenging and we would love to build on what was started then. Most of the ladies who attended are now well involved in the church.

Please pray for these events.

### **Thanks**

We give praise to God for each one of you, and pray that the Lord will continue to bless and keep you and be gracious toward you, and lift up his countenance upon you and give you his peace in each and every circumstance. Have a blessed Christmas, and a wonderfully blessed new year as you serve the Lord Jesus.

Thank you for praying for us. We cannot accomplish anything apart from the Lord and the faithful prayers of his people. Thank you too for your wonderful financial support. We praise God for each one of you. May the favour of the Lord rest upon you.

Love in Jesus

Reg and Cynthia