

SPIRITUAL RETREAT WEEKENDS



John Reid, lecturer in Patterns for Spiritual Formation, wrote his doctoral dissertation and project on Mid Life Male Spirituality in Australia. John is both a pastoral carer and spiritual director and in 2009 will again facilitate two-day spiritual retreats at his and wife Janice's home at Rouse Hill in North Western Sydney. Four dates are available for persons interested in setting aside some time to focus on being with God: April 3-5, June 5-7, August 7-9, and September 25-27.

The retreats will feature a balance between biblical and pastoral input and time out for individuals. Meals during the day will be provided for groups of up to twelve persons. Overnight accommodation is not included. Couples and groups from your church are welcome to come together.

Rouse Hill is green and has flourishing gardens with Caddies Creek flowing through it. There are plenty of spaces for people to sit and savour the environment or enjoy one of the many walking tracks if you wish to walk while praying. The Reid's enjoy hosting people in their home and garden and will be glad to share something of themselves with the participants who hunger and thirst for a closer walk with God.

Spiritual Retreat weekends will cost \$60 per person or \$700 for a group of 12 and includes supper Friday night, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea on both Saturday and Sunday. Friday evenings: 7.30pm for 8pm start; Saturday: 9am-5pm and Sunday: 9am - 3pm.

For bookings contact admin@morling.edu.au or phone 02 9878 0201. Further information can be found on our website: www.morling.nsw.edu.au

MOBILE COLLEGE BOOKINGS

Morling College now offers a variety of 4-session subjects taught by our Faculty at your church one night a week for four weeks or compressed into four sessions and taught over a weekend.

The total cost for each course — no matter the number present — is only \$370 (not including extra preaching)

Just choose a subject that interests you Pull together a group from church (we recommend no less than 15). Contact Morling College to arrange dates. It is wise to have a few options in mind. For rural areas we recommend a weekend session, but the month-long treatment usually works in the Sydney metro area. Due to the commitments of Faculty, we cannot guarantee the availability of every course but will do our best to accommodate you.

Theological education without committing to a full degree or diploma



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THEOLOGY

The Holy Spirit & His Work - Rev Dr Ross Clifford

The person of the Holy Spirit – is He really God & personal? Is it OK to worship the Holy Spirit? What do the Bible & our hymns etc say? We will also address the works & gifts of the Holy Spirit, including the controversial gifts.

The Resurrection - Rev Dr Ross Clifford

Here we consider how we can develop an argument for the truth of the resurrection. Then we ask what difference the resurrection makes to lives, ethics & how we view the world. We see that for the Bible the resurrection is essential for understanding forgiveness of sin, the power of God in our lives & future hope.

The Second Coming - Rev Dr Ross Clifford

This study considers the biblical material, the signs, different views about rapture/millennium. The impact the second coming makes on our discipleship & how to share the second coming are considered & contemporary issues such as reincarnation/near death experiences & the second coming are also addressed.



Who is Jesus & what has He done? - Rev David Starling

(Semester 2, 09 only) This subject explores some current opinions about Jesus Christ & his work, & compares them with the biblical teaching. What do we mean by saying “the Word was God” (John 1:1)? Why does Jesus’ death make reconciliation with God possible? And what is the importance & relevance of his resurrection & ascension? This series will deepen your understanding of these fundamental matters, as well as help equip you to share your faith with others.

The Trinity & the Christian Life - Rev David Starling (Semester 2, 09 only)

Christians say they believe in one God in three Persons, but usually don’t have much idea of what they actually understand by this, or how to talk about this Christian distinctive with others. What’s more, most Christians see the doctrine of the Trinity as largely irrelevant to everyday Christian living. This subject will show that trinitarian Christianity impacts every aspect of being God’s children in the world.

NEW TESTAMENT

Using the New Testament Theologically - Rev Dr Brian Powell

This unit will begin with teaching on how to use the New Testament appropriately in addressing theological questions within the life of the church. Then some specific issues will be addressed, with input both from the lecturer and participants. Issues can be chosen by the group, but suggested possibilities are: prayer, baptism and membership, spiritual gifts, healing, demons and exorcism, the ministry of women, sexual ethics, marriage and divorce.

1 Corinthians & Today’s Church - Rev Dr Brian Powell

In 1 Corinthians Paul addresses several issues. We shall address some of these, considering their implications for today. Possible issues include: the place of knowledge & wisdom, division & disputes in the church, sexual morality, marriage & divorce, the role of women, spiritual gifts, patterns of worship.



OLD TESTAMENT

A Man After God’s Heart - Rev Dr Phill Marshall

Many Christians think of King David as someone slew Goliath and became a famous king; but this man was no G-rated hero. This workshop gives you the opportunity to take a close look at the man after God’s own heart (1 Sam 13:14; Acts 13:22) who expanded the borders of Israel, foreshadowed the kingship of Jesus, struggled as a husband and father, man & ruler, and knew how to throw himself on the mercy of God.

EVANGELISM

Evangelism in the 21st Century - Rev Dr Michael Frost

The old event-based approach to evangelism has limited impact these days as our culture becomes increasingly post-Christian. If inviting our friends to church is the only method of evangelising our community we will have limited impact. This course looks at a biblical model for a world-focused, relationally-based approach to local church evangelism.



MISSION

Local Church and Global Mission - Rev Dr Phill Marshall

This subject looks at what mission is and means in the 21st century. One of the important issues discussed is the role of the local church in missions. Topics covered include: The role of a missionary committee; People-group adoption; Support of missionary personnel; Being “Great Commission” Christians; How to motivate people for mission.

Mission Perspectives - Rev Dr Phill Marshall

This subject covers all there is to know about mission – albeit in a condensed format. There are four perspectives studied: Biblical perspective — what does the bible say about mission? Historical perspective — what has God been doing in the past? Cultural perspective — making sense of mission in cultural contexts Strategic perspective — how can the church go about mission in a changing world?

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care - Rev Dr John Reid

This course seeks to explore the meaning of pastoral care. In so doing it consults scriptural principles & Bible images that inform pastoral care practice. The course is highly interactive. After exploring some of the basics we seek to understand the stages of the human journey & ways we can meaningfully care for men & women, boys & girls on that journey.



Introduction to Christian Spirituality - Rev Dr John Reid

This course looks at biblical patterns for spirituality. It seeks to highlight the distinctive components & disciplines of Christian spirituality dealing with subjects like Bible reading & reflection, prayer, solitude, contemplation, living simply, loyalty, obedience & accountability before God. Corporate disciplines to do with prayer, worship, confession, guidance & discernment (or a selection of these) are also studied.



DISCIPLING/MENTORING

Discipling/Mentoring - Dr Sylvia Collinson (Semester 1, 09)

Jesus’ call to his disciples was to go and “make disciples”, but how do we do that today? This unit helps explore how Jesus nurtured his disciples by both formal and informal methods. The wider New Testament will be examined to discover what happened in the early church. Evidence will be gathered as to the effectiveness of these processes, and ways of implementing them for children, youth and adults in our church today.

LEADERSHIP

Working in Teams - Rev Graham Hill

This is a workshop for church & ministry leaders, which endeavours to enhance their effectiveness in working in teams. It covers such issues as healthy team formation, establishing mutual core values, ministry descriptions, ongoing team development, healthy communication patterns & decision-making principles.



Christian Leadership & Management - Rev Graham Hill

An introduction to the principles & dynamics of Christian leadership within a church or organisational/ mission setting. The Course includes Biblical principles of leadership, defining leadership & appropriate styles for different situations & people.



ETHICS

Christian Ethics: A Biblical Framework - Rev Rod Benson

We face many complex and controversial issues as we seek to live as God’s people in the world. Often we try to deal with these issues one by one, without looking at the big picture.

This subject provides an overview of biblical ethics, discusses the authority and use of Scripture in ethical decision-making, and examines how the Bible speaks to selected ethical issues. If you wish, you can nominate the issues you’d like to discuss.

Ethics, Philosophy and the Real World - Rev Rod Benson

Are you passionate about ethical issues, but would like to explain your views more coherently? Or a friend has a different perspective, and you can’t understand why? Or you’d just like to discover what ethics is all about? This subject outlines the major philosophical frameworks that underlie our ethical convictions and decisions, and examines selected ethical issues in the light of these. If you wish, you can nominate the issues you’d like to discuss.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Effective Christian Teaching - Dr Bridget Aitchison

This course looks at what it means to be an effective Christian teacher – one who fully integrates faith with vocation to bring students to a closer relationship with Jesus regardless of your teaching context. The first part sets the foundation of what exactly a Christian worldview is, then looks at issues of nurture and discipline from a Christian perspective then finally tackles the issue of what is integrated Christian curriculum.



The Performing Arts in a Christian Context: Transformational Drama

- Dr Bridget Aitchison

The church has done well to appropriate music for worship but what about dance or drama? How well do we use the creative and performing arts to communicate faith? This course looks at how to use the arts, specifically drama, to effectively minister to others and change lives. This workshop is perfect for anyone with an interest in the arts regardless of experience level.