

We're Better Than That!

The Australia Day / Survival Day Dilemma.

A robust debate on this subject has been growing with the years and gathering strength more recently.

Aboriginal Christians have long been praying for powerful Aboriginal voices of advocacy to be heard in this land. One such voice has very recently come to the fore in the lead up to Australia Day.

Stan Grant, a proud Wiradjuri man, with an equally strong cultural & Christian heritage on all sides of his family, has brought much encouragement to many of our Aboriginal brothers and sisters.

Stan is a Logie Award winning journalist who has worked with the ABC, SBS, Macquarie and Seven Networks and CNN in the Middle East and China, as well as Australia.

Please pray for Stan as he has suddenly been whisked into the limelight as a spokesman on Aboriginal matters of justice in this nation. He speaks with conviction, clarity and humility.

Please join our Aboriginal brothers and sisters in giving thanks for Stan's voice in our nation.

Please pray that he may also return to the deep faith of his forebears, to whom he humbly attributes the strengths that he has today.

Follow the link to hear Stan's powerful speech:

<https://www.facebook.com/ethicscentre/videos/1169>

Revive is excited to announce that in partnership with Petrina Neufeld we will be running the **5th annual Djeran Camp**: April 11th-15th @ Nanga Bush Camp in Dwellingup, WA.

Aboriginal youth aged 12-18 years come join us for this annual Christian youth camp south of Perth. Open to aboriginal youth from all over Australia to join together in unity and fun as we experience and learn about God's love and His plan for us as the First Nations people of Australia. 11- 15th April (first week of school holidays). Cost is \$100 - seriously good price. Further information from Petrina Neufeld [daughter of Cedric & Margaret Jacobs - contact on Facebook] or the Revive team at YWAM Perth 08 9328 5321.

MAF pilot, Roland VanDerVelde

Roland is a pilot with Missionary Aviation Fellowship in north-east Arnhem Land, NT since August 2014. Here are a few snippets from Roland & Sarah's latest newsletter:

Overland Outreach to Dhalingbuy Homeland



New pilot Prabhu (centre) shared his very well received testimony.

At a recent rally 40+ were baptised. Roland and others are doing further discipleship and mentoring.

Another Homeland Outreach

Carrying bibles and resources 1.5km from airstrip to Bukudal community.

At another outreach a lady who used a wheelchair because of a bad knee was healed after praying for her. She then got up and walked around the chair many times before doing several jumps. Many others were prayed for too. After a challenging message, interpreted and expanded on by our Yolngu Christian brother, James Marawili, who helps with outreaches, all of the youth came forward for prayer to follow Christ (about 20-25) – Praise the Lord!!



Contact Roland & Sarah on Facebook:
[facebook.com/ourmafjourney](https://www.facebook.com/ourmafjourney)

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Khesed News



40 Stories in 40 days

The 40 Stories are inspirational short films of Indigenous Australians who Jesus has transformed! Hear what JESUS says to us through them about our nation's transformation!

- Meet these inspiring people at www.40stories.com.au!
- Partner in praying that Australia will encounter JESUS transformation power through 40 inspirational Indigenous Christians!

"We felt Jesus wants Australia to listen to our Indigenous brothers and sisters. Their story of transformation holds keys for what Jesus will do in our nation."

"We travelled all over Australia filming people's stories of how Jesus' power had transformed their lives, families and communities."

Join in prayer for our nation and hear a video message from an Aboriginal brother or sister each day (starting on Wednesday Feb 10) for the 40 days leading up to Easter.

The 40 Days of Prayer & Fasting (10 Feb - 20 March) offer an opportunity to see a newly released short film each day - showcasing the incredible miraculous power of Jesus at work in Indigenous Australians!

Gather others in your region to pray in agreement and align yourselves in social action with what Jesus is doing in our nation.

<http://40daysofprayer.com.au/category/daily-devotions/>
40stories.com.au

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AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS TOUR OF ISRAEL
 Let us welcome you to God's country **AUGUST 5-25, 2016**



Are you an Indigenous person looking to connect with Israel?
 Experience the *people, culture, nature, and land* where Jesus walked.
 Discover its traditions, its stories and its future.

Join us on a **21-DAY CHRONOLOGICAL TOUR OF ISRAEL** led by David Stanfield.

Click here for more information and to register.
 Numbers strictly limited. Book Now!
davidstanfield.com



Australian Indigenous Tour of Israel

5-25 August 2016

Contact David Stanfield at:
davidstanfield.com/contact-david-stanfield.php

PO Box 16098
 Northpoint QLD 4350

07 4638 3890

AEF National Biennial Convention at Port Augusta January 3 - 10, 2016

- Praise God for spiritual encouragement for over a 1000 Aboriginal Christians who attended the Biennial Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship National Convention at Port Augusta. All states and many denominations were represented. Founding members of AEF such as Auntie Jean Phillips, Kurta Ron Williams, Pastor Ossie Cruse were thanked and honoured.
- AEF's national secretary Ray Minniecon told Eternity Newspaper that he believes the dramatic increase in attendance points to a desire amongst Aboriginal Christians for "something fresh and exciting that connects us all together."
- Chairman Neville Naden said he believes the growth can be attributed to a renewed effort by AEF to be about fellowship. "If you love Jesus, you're welcome to come into this space and be a part of it," he said.
- Mr Minniecon said Aboriginal Christians continue to face extreme challenges, and conferences like AEF's national meeting help to encourage and uplift many who truly need it.
- - See more at: <http://www.biblesociety.org.au/news/a-thousand-voices-gather-at-aboriginal-evangelical-fellowship-conference-sthash.XN2DZxhz.dpuf>

SURRENDER 2016 is coming up soon! March 18 19 20

@ Belgrave Heights Convention Centre

Don't miss Australia's best opportunity for Aboriginal and Non Aboriginal Christians from all regions and denominations:

- to share life together and strengthen ongoing partnerships in the Gospel
- to hear from Aboriginal Christian Leaders and
- to be led in worship by our Aboriginal brothers and sisters.

Please pray for God's Spirit to be welcome and poured out in our midst as brothers and sisters grow together in unity.

May His glory shine in our land!!

SURRENDER is a place where this is beginning to happen on a small but significant scale.

- Anne Green 0437 127 366

Our thanks to Anne Greene from Victorian Indigenous Prayer for much of the material in this issue of Khesed News.

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'Getting There' and 'Doing Things' for GOD!

Reflections of a young Perth wati-jella after another period of building relationships with Aborigines in the Kimberley

One young person who I got to spend lots of time with in Halls Creek was KJ's son, Mahal. I was so excited to see my 'brother' again, after having spent time with him in July last year and also hosting him and his mum in Perth when he was down for a medical appointment in October. We enjoyed taking walks together, having sleep-overs and going to some pretty spots outside Halls Creek. There were a few precious 'open door' moments when he shared from his heart.



I pray that Mahal's understanding of the Father and His love would begin to translate from head knowledge to an experiential heart relationship.

Another person I was blessed to meet in Halls Creek was

young mum, Tara. Our family had met Tara on our trip through the Kimberley in 2014 and she was very eager to learn from the parenting workshops we presented. Having kept in touch through Facebook, she expressed her need for some baby clothes, as she recently had her 4th baby boy. Being able to bless Tara with this gift, as well as taking time to talk with her, was a privilege, as well as being able to pray for her beautiful bonny baby boy, Taelin.

There were definitely times when I felt as though I wasn't 'getting anywhere' with building relationships, that I was just sitting around and not 'doing' anything. However, a book I was reading at the time, greatly encouraged me: "What you are doing right now is more precious to God than if you were preaching to thousands in some stadium. Usefulness to Him has nothing to do with numbers."

I was reminded of the fact that God's work often happens one day a time, one person at a time. He calls us to be faithful to the one He places in front of us.

- Jerome Birch, Perth

Jerome is studying at Tabor College, preparing for ministry with Indigenous Australians.