

# Bush Disciples

## Making Disciples in the bush.

Jesus never called us to make converts, but to make disciples. Unfortunately in the past, ministry in the bush hasn't had the resources to develop disciples. It's been quicker, easier, cheaper and requires less commitment, to provide an occasional religious service or event, to give a bit of aid, or to run a one-off evangelism campaign.

Jesus wants disciples in the bush. He commanded (Matthew 28:<sup>19</sup>) **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations**. Jesus wants a people who seek Him, follow Him, learn from Him, serve Him in the bush. He wants a people who are in intimate relationship with Him – a people who share His name with others and invite others into this same path of discipleship.

An honest brochure for Discipleship will not attract the faint hearted. The way of Discipleship is not an easy path. Christ described it as “the narrow way”. It is the way of the cross, which requires the Christ follower to die to self and to live a life of commitment and cost, dedicated to their Saviour and Lord.

But Disciples of Jesus Christ continue to choose the way of discipleship for the same reason as the Disciple and Apostle Simon Peter who said, (John 6) <sup>68</sup>...“**Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**” <sup>69</sup> **We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”**

The path of Discipleship is entered into and travelled by faith. Jesus came that we may have life and have it abundantly. This full and overflowing life Jesus spoke of, is the life of the disciple. The great paradox is that we gain our life by giving it up. The disciple of Jesus Christ gains the life of Christ, not only for this present age, but life eternal for the age to come.

The life of the disciple is a life of peace, love, hope, and a life of fellowship with other disciples.

- Being a disciple of Jesus Christ is a personal and private decision, and yet it is not a private affair. It's not “all about me” – it's about Jesus, and is out-worked by loving others.
- Being His disciple isn't the same as being in a service club, but it will be a life of service
- Being a disciple of Christ can never be empty religious ceremony, but must be a life of worship, expressed both individually and together as a worshipping community.
- Disciples of Jesus gather together, not as a social club, but to experience the fellowship of the Spirit – a fellowship where relationships mature to the greatest of depth
- Being a disciple of Christ means to rest in Christ, and yet it is by no means, a life of inactivity. Disciples of Jesus are compelled by the Spirit to be shod with the shoes of readiness that comes from the Gospel of peace.
- Disciples of Christ are not saved by doing good works, but are saved to do good works.

- Although by saving us God makes us righteous, Disciples are not completed sanctified works of the masters hand this side of glory. The way of Discipleship is a life of learning from and being challenged by the Scriptures, to live the new life, which they are being saved to, which is, in many ways, completely foreign and contrary to their contemporary society.
- The way of Discipleship is to daily devote oneself to prayer and learning the Scriptures, but it is not a life cut off from the responsibilities of work, family and community.

Bush Disciples aims to grow disciples in the Bush. We are a bunch of Christians who meet together as an independent non-denominational evangelical Christian Church based in St George Queensland and working in the surrounding district.

Bush Disciples begins with the current Disciples of Jesus Christ in the bush, embracing the way of the Disciple, taking off their slippers and putting on the shoes of readiness of the Gospel of Peace.

### **What we do?**

Our most visible presence, is the gatherings we hold, where a district can come together to worship God, learn from His Word, and fellowship together.

Locations:

- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the Month - at the **St George Bush Disciples Church**, 140 Victoria Street, St George. 10am Worship & Bush Kids Sunday School during school terms.
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month – **Cecil Plains Catholic Church Hall**

But we are also very sure of the fact that disciples will not grow in knowledge and love of our Heavenly Father simply by “doing the right thing” and going to church once a month.... Bush Disciples is about encouraging the way of Discipleship, both for the individual person, and for the community of believers of the Lord Jesus Christ in their own district.

### **Who is invited?**

Jesus told a story where He said ..... ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.

That’s what we’re doing. Whether you feel you’re far from God, or near to God, the Lord calls people from all walks of life to follow Him. We would like to extend an invitation to you to come and discover the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

For more information, please contact:

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