



Chaplain's Notes February 2002

Hello again!

How has your month been? Hopefully better than what our Governor-General has been through! I think it must be a shocking experience to have your past dug up and your imperfect decisions publicly exposed by the media for all the world to see and judge.

Imagine if that was to happen to you! I believe many of us would be absolutely scared stiff.

Wouldn't it be great to be free from your past? Wouldn't it be great to be able to start all over again with a fresh slate, a clean conscience, and no fear of condemnation?

Good news! God says there is a way, and that makes me so excited (because I definitely need it!!). And you know, we all need it, because we have all sinned, and there is coming a day in which God is going to judge the world with justice, in which all of our secrets will be made known.

If we follow God's way, then what God has said in the Bible becomes true for us:

"I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." (Jeremiah 31:34)

That's FANTASTIC !!

The first step on the way is to repent of your sins. To repent means to:

- a) agree with God that your sins are offensive to Him (sins are actions birthed from selfishness, greed, unbelief, & pride - if you want a starting list, look at the Ten Commandments);
- b) confess your sins, telling God and the person(s) you have sinned against (where possible & appropriate), the specific sins you have committed. As the Bible says:

"If we confess our sins, God is faithful & just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoings" (1 John 1:9);

- c) correct your sins (eg. return what you have stolen, stop getting drunk, be content with your pay, break off the illicit relationship, give your excess goods to the needy, burn occult material, throw away the drugs, tell the truth, show mercy, etc).

Remember how last month I said that God wants us, wants you, to experience LOVE, LIFE, and FREEDOM ? - well, Jesus has said that unless we repent, we will perish and never experience these things.

Are you willing to take this first step? Note that I say willing. You may not feel you have the strength to do them on your own, but God is there to help you do what is right. And I am here as well. Please contact me if you'd like help in doing this, or if you would like to know more. Next month I'll continue with the next thing God wants us to do so that we can have LIFE !

God bless you abundantly,

