

# Your 3x3 Challenge for 2003

If you don't stretch, you don't grow... so why not sign up for the 3x3 challenge? It's simple. Choose 3 new challenges in 3 areas, and work at them through 2003. Pick 3 new ways to grow from the list below... then select 3 new ways to serve, and 3 new ways to reach out. Some are easy, some are tough - but they're all worth a try. If you want to choose more than 3, that's fine too...

## 3 Ways to Grow

### Regular church attendance plus...

#### 1. Join a Growth Group

Growth Groups are the core activity of our church between Sundays. In a small group, you can build friendships, offer mutual support, discuss the bible, and pray as well as socialise and have fun. Being part of an effective growth group is the very best place to start growing. If you haven't tried it, sign up today!

#### 2. Read the Bible in One year

Don Carson's book "For the Love of God" offers a one-year reading plan with notes. Order yourself a copy from the Reformed Bookshop on 3216 4151 and use it every day.

#### 3. Use Monthly Bible Reading Notes

The Briefing Magazine offers a 20-readings per month in a bite-sized bible reading plan. Subscribe on 1800 814 360, and use them regularly.

#### 4. Read a good Christian Book

Where do you find good Christian books these days? It's important to be discerning, because there's an endless supply of unhelpful Christian literature. We'll preselect a good Christian book from Matthias Media each month for the book table. The challenge? Choose one for the year, and read it!

#### 5. Attend an Excellent Conference!

Our church supports the Queensland Youth Convention and Men's Training Event, organised by the Queensland Christian Conventions Association. These conferences have an emphasis on excellent Bible Teaching. This year, QCCA is adding a City Youth Event (August 1), and in conjunction with Clayfield Presbyterian Church, we're organising a Women's Teaching Weekend (May 16-17). Pick a conference and plan your year around it!

#### 6. Attend MPC Bible Teaching Weekends

Our Bible Teaching weekend on 18-19 October features Richard Gibson, a lecturer from Moore Theological College in Sydney. The weekend is low key, free, and all you have to do is come along. Commit yourself to being there.

#### 7. Sign up for Correspondence Course

Both Moore College and Sydney Missionary and Bible College offer excellent correspondence courses. Why not sign up for a subject? Choose this option and we'll get back to you with details it's even more fun if you work in a group!

#### 8. Improve your Christian parenting skills

Raising kids is hard work and sometimes, we need all the encouragement we can get. Work on growing in this important area by attending our "Raising Kids" Seminar on May 31.

## 3 ways to Serve

#### 1. Be on a Meal and Care Roster

When times are tough it's great to have a meal delivered. We try to offer meals to new mums, families with health crises, and others with immediate needs. The meal roster is called into action when needs arise.

#### 2. Church Cleaning Team

Cleaning the church buildings, mowing and watering of the church gardens are all ongoing tasks. That means helpers are always needed. Everyone benefits... but few volunteer to serve.

#### 3. Printing and Folding

At a church like ours there's always lots of paperwork! Printing and folding weekly bulletins, and assembling study booklets and quarterly magazines is time consuming work. It you'd love to help, we'd love to have you on-call.

#### 4. Control Room Operators

Making sure the volume levels are just right and that the right song words appear on the screen at the right time isn't as easy as it looks. Add extra jobs like burning audio cds, and it's clear this isn't a job for everyone. But it may be just right for you!

#### 5. Tech Team

Maybe you've visited the MPC website, or noticed the occasional video clips or live phone link-ups during services? They're all good ways of helping people communicate and connect. If you're a high-tech type, maybe you'd like to be involved in making it all happen, and keeping MPC at the cutting edge of useful new technologies.

#### 6. Make a deposit in the "skills bank"

Everyone has their own distinctive passions, abilities and even professional skills. Maybe there are ways you can serve that we haven't even thought of? We'll keep a list of ways you can help in our "skills bank" when a need arises, we'll call you.

#### 7. Join the prayer chain

Jan Wilson co-ordinates our prayer chain, which provides prayer support for urgent matters. Join the chain, and you'll be contacted by phone when there's a prayer point... your job is to pray, and phone the next person on the chain. Or, if you'd rather be informed of prayer points by email, we'll add you to the list.

#### 8. Be a Playgroup Helper

Playgroup began in 2002, and has been a huge success. Each week, one or two senior helpers come along to assist with set-up, keep an eye on kids, and help create the friendly atmosphere that "little kidzbiz" is famed for.

#### 9. Offer emergency transport

Every now and then, there's an opportunity to serve simply by driving your car. Maybe it's to provide a lift to church, or for a hospital or day clinic visit. It's easy, and it's a great way to help someone in a time of need.

#### 10. Be a Creche Carer

Young Mums at church love to be able to take a break from the kids and listen to the bible teaching. If you don't have kids of

more>



GROW			
SERVE			
REACH OUT			

**Yes, I'd like to be encouraged in my personal 3x3 challenge!**

**Name:**

**email:**

**ph:**

Write in your option numbers, tear off this slip and hand it in. Circle your options on the list above and keep it somewhere as a reminder.

**Extras or comments:** .....

your own to care for, why not share the load and serve on the crèche roster? NB Our Child Protection Policy requires that a Queensland Government "Suitability Card" be obtained.

Volunteer cards are free. We'll help with the application process.

### **11. Participate in Music Ministry**

If you've got musical gifts that you can use to encourage the church family, why not join the music roster? Teams are on monthly rotation. (Note that mid-week rehearsals are involved.) Tell us about your skills, and our music co-ordinators will find a place to use your talents.

### **12. Help with Morning Tea and Supper rosters**

The after-church cuppa is an important part of our time together. It's a great opportunity to mix, meet new people, and share in fellowship. If you're on the roster (organised by Geoff Cowles) you'll help with providing milk and snacks, make sure the water is hot, set up tables, serve tea and coffee... and then clean up. It's a tough job but you'll only be rostered once or twice a year.

### **13. Weekly Quick Vacuuming Roster**

Everyone loves to meet in a clean building but not quite so many are keen to keep it that way. We have lots of carpet, and that means a quick vacuum after nightchurch each Sunday. Would you like to help?

### **14. Join Kidzbiz P&C**

We're planning a Parents & Citizens Support Group for Kidzbiz. Offer your practical and moral support to our hard-working kidzbiz team. Are you interested? Let us know.

### **15. Attend Working Bees**

We've scheduled working bees for Feb 22nd and October 11th this year. They're lots of fun, and well organised but we need loads of people to keep up to date with building and grounds maintenance. (There'll be a mid-year one too!)

### **16. Ongoing Maintenance Team (Dad's Army)**

Even with our regular working bees, there are lots of small jobs to be done. We need a call-out team that can be on hand at short notice. Ideal for retired handy-men.

### **17. Door Roster**

Everyone loves to be met by a friendly face at the door as they arrive for church. The door roster involves handing out books and brochures to everyone as they arrive. That means you'll need to be both bright AND early for church.

### **18. Respite Care**

Our church community has a number of aged shut-ins who are cared for by family members. Every now and then, they'd love to have a break. Can you help as an occasional carer?

### **19. Home Gardening Help**

Some of our older members are struggling to care for their gardens. They love it when a church team turns up to offer help. Want to be a part of it?

### **20. Invite a newcomer to Sunday Lunch**

There's no better way to be welcomed into a new church than to be invited to someone's home for Sunday lunch. Why not take the plunge and put your hospitality gifts into action? Commit to trying it once, and you'll probably find you'll enjoy it so much you'll do it again.

### **21. Talk to a different person after church**

It's easy to chat to the people you already know after church each Sunday. But if everyone does that, who talks to the people who don't know anyone else? Make it your mission to watch for

opportunities to chat to people you don't already know one each week is a great target.

### **22. Other Service Ideas**

Think up your own great idea for serving - let us know on your response slip.

## **3 ways to Reach Out**

### **1. Read the book "Hospitality Evangelism" by Kel Richards**

Well known radio broadcaster Kel Richards is a committed Christian. His book Hospitality Evangelism offers a great model for sharing your faith. Choose this option to place your order for the book (\$10). (We'll order for you.)

### **2. Memorise the "Two Ways to Live" gospel outline**

There's nothing worse than having the opportunity to share your faith, and then not knowing what to say. Take the challenge of learning the simple "Two Ways to Live" outline.

### **3. Build a friendship with a workmate**

If ordinary Australians don't have Christian friends, they won't see what following Jesus looks like. Commit to building an authentic friendship with a non-Christian workmate.

### **4. Pray for opportunities to invite non-christian friends to Open Church**

This year we have two "Open Church Sundays," at which the gospel will be clearly explained. Start praying now for non-Christian friends you can bring along. David Thurston will speak at Open Church on June 29<sup>th</sup>, and Shaun Potts will speak on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. (We'll bend over backwards to make Open Church "jargon free" and non-threatening for your visitors.)

### **5. Support the Langham Partnership**

If you're looking for a new way to contribute to international ministry, John Stott's *Langham Trust* has provided theological textbooks and training to thousands of Christian leaders in the third world. It's an incredibly strategic organisation. Expand your mission concerns by taking a Langham brochure and becoming a supporter.

### **6. Keep in touch with a Missionary**

Regular emails, letters or phone calls can mean the world to a missionary serving overseas. Pick one, and show your support. Or why not visit?

### **7. Organise and deliver New Neighbour Packs**

Why not join a team that prepares and delivers "newcomer packs" with home-made biscuits, local info, and an invitation to mpc to people moving into our area?

### **8. Form a Promo-Team for Open Church Events**

Help publicise outreach events at mpc by letterbox dropping, writing articles for the local paper, and working out other ways of getting the word out.

### **9. Join a Beach Mission Team**

SU Beach Missions are an Aussie tradition. MPC members are currently part of Tweed Heads and Coffs Harbour teams... with other missions right up the Queensland coast. Why not add your support?

### **10. Other Outreach Ideas**

Come up with your own ideas for personal outreach, and note them on your response slip.