

# KZN-DRAK CHRYSALIS

# EGL

## Emanate God's Love

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## Flights 34 & 35

Well, obviously the big news of this edition has to be the upcoming flights. They are literally just around the corner! The good news is that everything is progressing beautifully and they are on track to be the most amazing set of flights ever. Our teams are full and fantastic with a really awesome spirit of unity and fellowship. The training days have been brilliant with a lot of fun had by all. The talks are top notch, really remarkable. I was blown away by how each of the talks (well, the girls' ones anyway) is linked into the other ones. Clearly they follow the theme for the

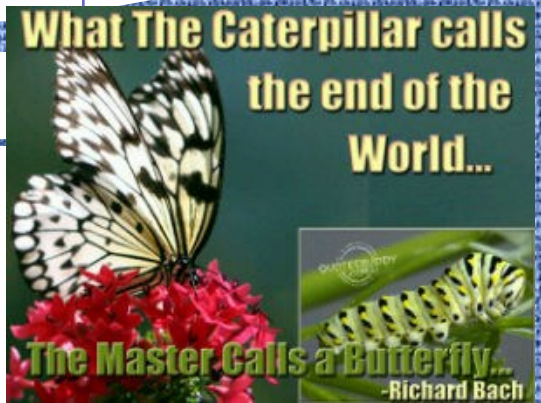
day, but its more than that. The foci and the personal bits all seem to refer back to the previous talk or the next one and tie into each other beautifully. I suppose I should not be surprised, God has it all in hand after all, it just staggers me when it happens in plain sight.

We have already filled up the girls flight - the boys are a bit slow off the mark but we are trusting they will come in time. It is so exciting to be praying for them all already, to know that God is going to reach out and touch them, and also touch each and every one of the team too. It is just such an amazing ministry.

Please remember to take a slot on the prayer roster. After all, the entire weekend relies on the

prayers and support of the community. Please also try your hardest to attend any of the services. Remember how special they were to you and how much it can mean to this new crop of caterpillars who, God willing, are about to take flight on an amazing, challenging, life-changing flight.

Above all, please will you keep everyone involved in these flights in your prayers. Remember that everyone serving in even the smallest way is part of the Chrysalis ministry!



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*God says to the human race, "Wake up! I need to tell you I love you!" - John*



With all the awful things that we tend to focus on these days we often seem to forget that people can actually be decent and really kind. I have some wonderful news. They really can be.

The community has been so generous with its donations, not only of money, but of things and of time as well. The money, I guess, is the most easy to see and count and register, and its really important, vital even. What struck me is that its not been

## A GREAT BIG THANKS

a few big amounts, its been many different sized ones that have added up to a goodly sum. Some people have used their initiative to get the money, and others have dug into their pockets generously, or because something they have heard has touched them. But no matter which way the money has come in, it has helped caterpillars and team alike. There have also been donations of essential items for

the flight - all so appreciated by everyone involved. To the kindly donors, know that it will help to touch lives and as a result we will make a difference in the world!

And you know what, giving really is its own reward, whether it be time, money or effort. And if you don't know that for yourself then try it and you'll see!

But THANK YOU so much those of you who have so generously given of yourselves to Chrysalis, our ministry.

## Talking To God

A man was taking it easy, laying on the grass and looking up at the clouds. He was identifying shapes when he decided to talk to God.

"God," he said, "how long is a million years?"

God answered, "In my frame of reference, it's about a minute."

The man asked, "God, how much is a million dollars?"

God answered, "To me, it's a penny."

The man then asked, "God, can I have a penny?"

God answered, "In a minute."



# Man's Best Friend

— mine too

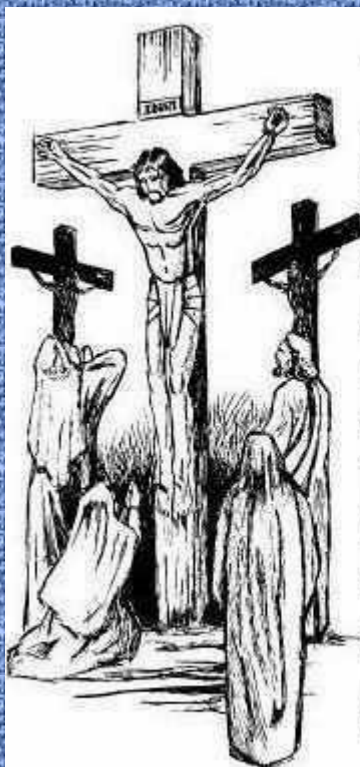
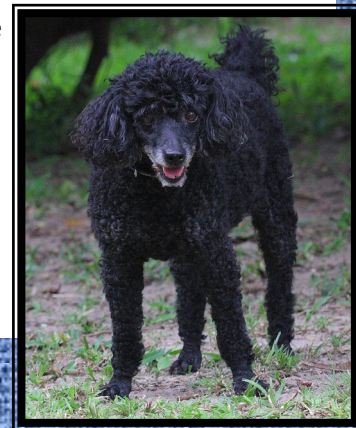
Over the years I have taken a lot of flak for my choice in dog. Yes, I have a miniature French poodle, but as I've always said, a better bush dog you could not find! She has been my constant companion and best friend for the past 12 years and today I realized that she's got old! While we grew up together and enjoyed so many great times side by side she has somehow got to near the end of her time without my noticing, while I am only a short way through mine.

When I was little, and only just brave enough to walk alone in the bush, I used to take her with me to keep me

safe, she had better ears, eyes and nose than mine, and I had all the confidence that she would tear anything threatening limb from limb! Fortunately, for both our sakes, we never did find anything overly dangerous. But I do know that she would have done her utmost to protect me!

Nowadays I still take her with me, even though the tables have turned and my eyes and ears are now the better option (nose is still useless), but I don't want her to know that! To her mind she is still protecting me, and I still know that if the situation ever arose she would still put her frail old body between me and any danger. There is a genuineness and depth to our relationship that amazes me every time I glimpse it. She loves me unconditionally, more than any person could, in spite of everything.

And I have a sneaky suspicion that God shares a lot of these amazing character traits with his reverse namesake! He is the only place I could find a more faithful and forgiving companion. When I was little in my fervent prayers I'd say: "Father, this is how much I love you" and grab my hapless pooch and squeeze her till her eyes nearly popped out! When I released her, though she never ran for her life as a wiser beast might have, she just took a great gasp of air and then wagged her tail and smiled back at me. Just like God, she never tired of my childish expression of love. So, ja, I have a poodle and I love her and she helps me love God!



## Mary Had a Little Lamb

Mary had a little lamb,  
His fleece was white as snow.  
And everywhere that Mary went,  
The Lamb was sure to go.  
He followed her to school each day,  
Twasn't even in the rule.  
He made the children laugh and play.  
To have a Lamb at school.  
And then the rules all changed one day,  
Illegal it became;  
To bring the Lamb of God to school,  
Or even speak his Name.  
Everyday got worse and worse,  
And days turned into years.  
Instead of hearing children laugh,  
We heard gun shots and tears.  
What must we do to stop the crime,  
That's in our schools today?  
Let's let the Lamb come back to school,  
And teach our kids to pray!

You might notice that our Minister's Mite section is absent. This time on purpose. While they've never complained and have always been more than willing, it just seems a lot to ask our CSD's to write a piece every time. So instead we'll just find some other little bits and pieces to pop in their place instead. If anyone stumbles over anything that appeals to you please send it through.

Our first voluntary contribution! Thanks Juan!!!



## A Good Story - Juan Venter

I recently read a story and it soon became my favourite story. It's about two friends and it goes something like this. Once upon a time there were two friends. In many ways they were very similar, except for one - their religious beliefs. The one was Christian while the other didn't believe there is a God. Every morning the Christian woke up early and prayed while the other slept in late. The Christian always tried to con-

vince his friend to pray in the morning but his response was always, "Why bother?" One day the friends decided to go for a walk in the forest. After about an hour of walking the Christian stepped on a thorn! The friend thought this amusing. They carried on walking and suddenly the other he tripped over a bag of silver. He couldn't contain himself anymore and said, "You see what I mean? You pray every day and go through so much effort yet you get a thorn. I do nothing but still I get a bag of silver!" An old man happened to be walking by and heard the commotion. He said, "Oh, don't be a fool, your friend was supposed to die today but his prayers turned death to a thorn and you were supposed to get a bag of diamonds but your lack of prayers turned it to silver!" I encourage everyone to remember the power of prayer. The thorn in your life that you may have been angry about may have been death, while that bag of silver could have been diamonds.

## Take A Stand

Its been gnawing at me recently that we, as Christians, take a hang of a lot of flak lying down. Reading the gospels it's plain to see that Jesus did not bow to pressure. Many, many people hated Him and He ended up paying the highest price, however, it took three years for His enemies to work up the courage to do something about it. In the three years it took He changed the world so that it would never be the same again, and we will never be the same because of it.

He inspired, touched and moved more people with His courage than we will ever know and as a result - well, you wouldn't be reading this and I wouldn't be writing it if it wasn't for what He did.

I highly doubt we will be called to pay such a price for living a bit more boldly, but I think maybe it'd really be

*Accepting everything means you believe in nothing! - Ryan Dobson*

worth it! It annoys me that everyone else is allowed to rip us off and make horrible jokes and say grim things about our FUNDAMENTAL Christian beliefs and we are just expected to "accept" it all meekly. I don't think so hey. I haven't found that scripture yet. Sure it says a lot about meekness and acceptance and love, but I think we

can object in a meek, accepting and loving way! and just let folk know that we do have a backbone and that Jesus really is worth standing up for. 'Cause the bottom line is that we are kinda implying that He is not worth it by not doing anything.

And you never know, maybe they are only pushing those buttons to find out if this faith we claim is real! Maybe taking a stand and not lying down would actually be the proof that they needed to see that this God we proclaim is true and that Christianity is worth it, and Jesus is REAL!

Musing over the terms I seem to use most frequently, (noticed "flak" was a popular word this edition) I realized there is a point that needs to be made clear. I often speak of "our" or "we" and I need you to know that that is ALL of us. Not the board or the teams, but the community! It is OUR ministry. It is all of our responsibility and all of our delight. And God bless us all in



## Matriarch's Musings—Di Kyle

As we all know, life is all about choices. What to wear, what to eat, where to go, who to believe, what to believe, who to be friends with, what movies to watch etc etc etc. Watching our young Labrador the other day made me realise her life was beset with choices too. Being a Labrador retriever, and a very enthusiastic one at that, you rarely see her without something in her mouth. A ball or stick, a seed pod or a potato, a piece of rope or a personal treasure. Whenever we take her to the beach I usually pick up a few pieces of driftwood as we walk along because I have learned her ways! She plays flat out with, say for instance, a piece of thick rope - collecting it whenever I throw it and bringing it back but dropping it just out of reach

time and time again - until she gets tired. Then she scoots off and buries it, wanders along like a more mature dog for a while and then starts again, looking for something else to play with. The other day I thought I would save myself the trouble of endlessly looking for new things to throw for her so I carried along my own selection. That really distressed Tana. What a dilemma! Did she chase the one I threw, did she wait for the better looking piece of wood that I was carrying, did she go and find her own? Choices choices!! I think that is a bit like our lives. We are loath to commit to things on the off chance that something better might come up in the interim and we will find ourselves in the same dilemma that Tana does. Our commitment to working as part of the Chrysalis team is huge in time, money and ourselves but

what a blessing it is for all of us. It truly is a case of the more of yourself you put in, the more you get out of it. It doesn't only apply to the Chrysalis teams, it applies to the prayer warriors of which all our Chrysalis/Emmaus family can take part - scheduled or spontaneous prayer - what greater gift can you give someone? I ask you all to pray for these upcoming flights. To pray for the caterpillars, the teams, the sponsors who have such a responsible role to play and generally to just cover Chrysalis in prayer. Make the right choice, commit yourself to living a life in God and being Jesus' hands and feet in your community - get involved in living. May God bless you all. xoxo Di

## Chrysalis rather than Kairos

I was recently chatting to a friend who is very involved with the Kairos ministry (a very similar ministry to Emmaus and Chrysalis, except it's in Prisons). We were having a great chat. He was

interested in Chrysalis so I was telling him how exciting it is to be in-

involved with. He then uttered one of the most chilling things I've heard in a while. "If you guys can get Chrysalis right, there will be no need for Kairos" - if we reach enough youth with God's love, there will be no need for a prison ministry! That is a very thought provoking statement! It has certainly inspired me to do my utmost for these upcoming flights.

But aside from that, I've been thinking about our goal as the Chrysalis ministry or movement or whatever you want to

call it. What is our mission? Well, I guess it's the obvious - touch young lives with God's amazing unconditional love, make religion real to youth. But I get the idea that that is selling it short. I think we have a right to claim a much bigger goal because I think we're already part way to achieving it. I think our goal is to Change the World, one special life at a time! And I really think we're doing just that!

**Sometimes**  
I want to ask God why He allows poverty, famine and injustice in the world when He could do something about it, but I'm afraid He might just ask me the same question

## Contact info:

Phone: 082 5606 773

E-mail: [kirstykyle@gmail.com](mailto:kirstykyle@gmail.com)

[kzndrakchrysalis.co.za](http://kzndrakchrysalis.co.za)

Please befriend us on Facebook as KZN-Drak Chrysalis.

*A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word darkness on the walls of his cell. - C.S. Lewis*

## Reg's Ruminations—Reg Alexander — WATCH YOUR WORDS

**Matthew 5:37** "But let your "Yes" be your "Yes" and your "No," "No!"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:33-42

Have you ever heard of someone getting into trouble for something they haven't said? During military combat (war), when a soldier is captured, (becomes a prisoner of war), they are instructed to give only their serial number, rank and name, when being questioned by the enemy interrogators. This does not always sit lightly with the enemy.

While in medical school, surgeons are instructed to weigh the importance of each word spoken during an operation. Can you imagine the anxiety that may strike a patient, when as the anaesthetic is given, the chief surgeon states "This doesn't seem like a good day for me"?

Depending on how a word is spoken, and with what inflection, or how it is perceived by the hearer, (considering all their unknown circumstances at that point in time), it can have either a positive or negative effect on that person.

In our families, the need is the same. Our words need to lift up (edify), not tear down those we love.

It is often wiser not to say too much, (if anything at all), during times of anger. Words, once spoken, are very difficult, (if not impossible), to take back. Some harshly spoken words continue to cause pain for many years after they have been spoken, fortunately, it can also be said, that words of love and comfort are an incredible source of strength.

Let us be very selective in the words we say today. Let us make sure that they give encouragement, hope and faith to the hearer.

Father God, help us to guard our words, remind us that our spoken and written words, need to be brief and nurturing. Amen.

Linda Dillon wrote "When you return a blessing for an insult, you will inherit a blessing!"

Fly with Christ!

## Fear

Father God, the way looks rough  
I know I have not the strength enough  
Trials fast coming and even here  
Father hold me as I shake in fear  
Though it seems I stand to face the world alone  
I know You're beside me, my Cornerstone  
I'm so glad You are with me and yet still I stress  
As I fear to trust You—my life is a mess  
And I shake and I tremble as I face the unknown  
Yet I know You are faithful as times before have shown  
But looking ahead and seeing what's to come  
My bravery flees and my courage is struck dumb  
And I'm left in a turmoil of apprehension and fear  
Until all these emotions culminate in a tear  
And as it falls down, this red, glistening pain  
Your hand reaches out and the blood makes a stain  
And as soon as it's there it vanishes away  
So I know that my anguish has no right to stay  
And I turn into arms that have held me before  
Knowing that my fears have been stilled once more.



Emanate God's Love

Special thanks this edition to Amy, Belinda, Lynn and Juan.



# Chrysalis Gathering ☺☺☺

## And Walk By Faith Concert!



*Time again to save the date for our next Chrysalis gathering friends. A time for our new butterflies to meet up with their new friends again and also time for us all to renew old friendships and start new ones. All the while singing, eating, and having fun. What more could we ask for??*

**When?** - 11am until you have to leave  
**Where?** - African Bird of Prey Sanctuary (see map)  
**What?** - Concert, Sleepover and Communion Service (PLUS!!!)

*Chrysalis t-shirts and De Colores scarves will be on sale.*

*This time we'll be having a Concert by the band Walk by Faith and a sleep over in the old barn again for anyone who's keen along with the usual communion service.*

**What to bring: FAMILY AND FRIENDS ☺**  
Name tag, song/service book, money, picnic blanket, picnic (wors rolls will be for sale)  
bedding for sleepover, mattress for sleepover



Any questions contact Di Kyle: 072 080 4609



**S**o ends another edition. So very excited about the flights and also the gathering. It's really going to be amazing. Walk by Faith are an incredible band and its just going to be so much fun. I hope it's a bit warmer than last year, but hey, it was still a blast. Hope to see you all soon at the flights and then the gathering!! God bless and keep warm and please lets keep our ministry in our prayers!! Love, Kirsty