

KZN-DRAK CHRYSALIS

EGL

Emanate God's Love

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34 & 35

"What can I say, and what can I do, but offer this heart, oh God, completely to You."

Those are the words that come to mind thinking about Flights 34 and 35. Being engulfed in Christian action, to see God at work in lives around you, through earthen vessels such as ourselves, and to realize that He is working in your own life as well. To watch people put themselves aside and care solely for someone else, and to be one of a group of people so lost in a moment of worship that nothing else matters. That, friends, is moving stuff, and that is what these flights were all about.

Chatting to some of the people afterwards, the point that has been mentioned over and over again, is how we were "undignified" for God. It makes you realize that in this day and age, when everyone is so busy checking each other out and watching and pointing fingers, in an age when we are all so aware of ourselves and how we come across or how we're being seen, to actually just let it all go, and really not care, to put yourself completely and utterly into deeply worshiping Something so much bigger than yourself, wow, that's heady stuff!

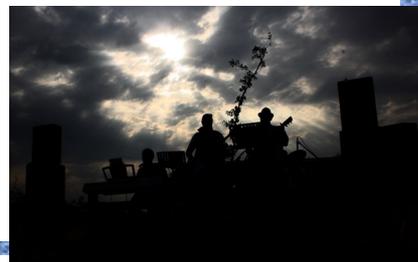
Through the fellowship, sharing, caring and fun lives were deeply changed. I was so wrapped up trying to make it special for everyone else that I did not think at the time that I was being much affected, but when I sat back and checked on Sunday night I found to my surprise that once again I was profoundly changed. When God moves He moves mightily. Even if it is only in one small life, the ripple effects are beyond our comprehension and that is what happened. Some ripple effects were put in motion that I just get so excited thinking about. The

world will never be the same again, because of 70 guys and girls willing to let God touch them, and so many team and community members willing to let God use them as He saw fit! Words can't describe it, because each person experienced it differently, but overall, God is faithful and He just proves that again and again.

In the calm moments, in between the passion and excitement and hilarity, you get a sense that this could be what the Kingdom of God is all about. You realize that the Joy of the Lord really is your strength because even though by the end you're bone weary, you feel you have the strength to take on the world. You just know that God is with you.

That feeling of being exactly where God wants you to be, doing what you're meant to be doing, even if that means just sitting listening to a talk, is enough to make you fall on your knees in wonder of the God we serve. It just feels right and though everything around us may still be falling apart, you know that it's falling to a pattern so that it can be rebuilt as God sees fit.

These flights inspired me so deeply, and made me genuinely feel those opening words. Not because anything spectacular happened, but just because God is so spectacular, and we got a glimpse of Him. I think the challenge is to find the place in the "real world" where we can offer that glimpse to other people. Not in our own strength, never in our own strength, in full submission to God, because that's where the joy abounds, in serving the Lord.



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down to the dam and a card game or two. We rolled into bed somewhere around 2am. Next morning was bacon and egg rolls followed by a stunning morning service on the arena.

So, ja, we were all a bit disappointed to look around and not see that many faces, but the bottom line is you're only going to get out what you put in, and for those of us that made the effort we were really blessed. For those that couldn't, we missed you, and for those that didn't, your loss! See you next time!

And on that note, next time might be quite soon so watch this space!

GATHERING

A lot seems to have transpired since the last newsletter, I have to tell you about the gathering as well! To my mind, it was a great success. I have to admit to being bitterly disappointed at the turn out, after all the effort folk had gone to and all the enthusiasm that was shown at closing, I did expect a lot more folk. As it was it was people from the outlying areas of the community that made the effort rather than PMB and DBN and that I found disheartening. But, that being said, we did have over 120 folk coming and going and it was a fantastic day. The service was very beautiful sitting in the arena appreciating creation while listening to His word being taught. Lunch was great and then Walk by Faith put on an outstanding show for us. A beautiful combinations of the old faithful favourites, the totally undignified but great fun ones and then a few really special songs of their own. Standing there playing their hearts out for God's glory with the sun breaking through the clouds behind, it was indeed an amazing show. Then the faint hearted and cowardly bolted for home in dribs and drabs leaving us, made of sterner stuff, to spend the night. We went for a great stroll through the bush in the late afternoon, followed by supper and then a big bonfire, marsh mallows and a lot of giggles. Also a moonlight foray

LESSON FROM AN OLD GEYSER (THE WATER HEATING KIND)

Recently our geyser had the indecency to go on the blink. For a few days you did not know whether or not you would have a hot shower or a cold shower and I discovered an option even worse, a luke-warm shower! You feel the water before stripping off and it feels like its going to heat up so you jump in and get soaked trusting that it will get warmer and it never goes beyond that dismal just off cold, but not close to hot! It is one of the most disappointing experiences! One evening I jumped in and got my hair wet only to spend the rest of a miserable shower contemplating the injustice of the situation, however, in the midst of feeling so sorry for myself, I remembered that scripture where Jesus talks about hating lukewarm Christianity!

That is a serious charge, and the more you look around the more we all seem to

be increasingly guilty of it! I usually try my best to find a cheerful angle on something or end off on a positive note, but I'm not even going to bother trying this time, cause we don't deserve to feel good about ourselves! You think of what the old Christians and even what many believers today do for God, and then you think of most of us who feel good about ourselves going to church some Sundays if we feel like it, then complaining if the message goes on longer than an hour! And if sport happens to overlap with something then we're sure God will understand, after all, its an important match. The bottom line is—IT IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH. God is certainly a God of grace but He said Himself the road is narrow and few will enter the kingdom of God. Eternal life seems like a lot to gamble with on the chance that He didn't mean what He promised in so many words!

I don't know what it means for your every day

life, I don't even know what it means for my everyday life, but I do know that we need to stop being so apathetic and accepting. Sure, we are called to be accepting, but I think that saying goes for acceptance as well as love, "Accept the sinner, not the sin." We let way too much slide on the premise of being accepting. And we ignore and therefore condone way too much, in an effort to not seem too strict or whatever word you choose to excuse yourself.

"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm, I am about to spit you out of My mouth. Revelations 3:15"

Without Dreams;
we reach nothing.
Without Love; we
feel nothing. And
without God; we
are nothing.

Matriarch's Musings

Who would have thought that we would be sending out a **post** flight newsletter already. Where has the time gone?

The weekend was amazing with 70 new butterflies joining the Chrysalis family. It is so heartwarming to think back on our closing service and all the butterflies' testimonies - so many said that they were going back into their communities to "shine for Jesus". I have a mental image of our heavenly Father smiling broadly as more and more little patches of KZN brighten up!! Isn't it a lovely thought?



Our gathering was great with the Walk by Faith band playing some awesome music. Well done, Marius, and your merry men and lady!! Many, many thanks for all your time and effort on the 4th. We loved it. The weather was kind and we were able to sit in the glorious sunshine and let the music wash over us.

God's Presence was tangible at our two communion services officiated at by Nigel, Warren and Amanda. We were able to have them sitting in the arena at the Bird of Prey Sanctuary overlooking the Valley of 1000 Hills. Kirby, Gillian, Lorna and Marius accompanied us singing praise and worship songs - I, for one, felt truly blessed.

The sleepover was memorable - cards, bonfire, camp fire games (they really stretched my old grey cells), a walk in the dark to the dam, giggles, fellowship and fun. Thanks to everyone who helped to make it the special weekend it was.

Now for some good news - Craig Wells has accepted the position of community lay director for 2013. I have thoroughly enjoyed my term of office, so it is with a certain amount of sadness that I hand over but I couldn't hand over to a better man. Craig is energetic, enthusiastic and has a heart for Chrysalis as big as himself. We also have some enthusiastic new faces joining us on the board who will be introduced to you after the AGM in November. So with new drive and energy Chrysalis is set to go forward in leaps and bounds.

Greg Conolly and I will be the Lay Directors for Flights # 36 and # 37 in 2013. I'm beginning to get excited already. We have decided on a single day's team formation followed by a weekend so as to lessen the time and fuel costs for team. We've already received team applications for next year so please get your application forms off the website and submit them as soon as possible. We are trying to keep the costs down as much as we can but haven't decided on the either the dates of the training or the cost of the flight. The dates for the flights will be the 4th - 7th July 2013 and Wykeham Collegiate have kindly diarized those dates for us again.

As our community grows ever larger we should have more and more folk available to draw from for ideas, contacts, sponsors - in fact everything that makes Chrysalis Chrysalis. Please step up to the plate and give of yourselves to this wonderful, empowering ministry to glorify God. God bless and keep you all warm and safe.

Much love, Di xo



Something that we can't afford to overlook is gratitude! So many people put so much effort into the flights, and while it is all done for a good cause and no thanks is expected because it is all done for God, it is still nice. The flights would never have succeeded without the generosity of everyone who had anything to do with it, from donations of money and supplies, to time spent making agape gifts and food - they were all integral parts of the weekend and were vital in making it the success it was. The turn out for candlelight and closing, wow you guys were brilliant. It's a bit nerve racking when you walk out, knowing what's to come and wondering if maybe this time there will be no one, but "we" did

us proud! And people were so, so touched. It was lovely. The closing was also a spectacular sight. I thought my heart might burst walking into the room to resounding "Shine Jesus Shine!" Forgive my sentimentality, but I get a little tearful just thinking of it. I think you'll all agree that service was its own reward, wow, those were some amazing testimonies!

Then the gathering. The biggest thanks goes to The African Bird of Prey Sanctuary for letting us use their facilities free of charge. It really is the most stunning setting and worked perfectly. A generous donation was given by the community for their work, though, so thank you to everyone who contributed to that. Its just so wonderful when everything works out, no

one asks for anything, but the right money changes hands, and folk are blessed for giving and receiving all around. It is a very special thing.

So thanks everyone for everything, I know there is stuff I haven't mentioned, but I could never cover everything and this is just a general thanks, you know what you did, and we appreciate it because it all worked out for the glory of God! And that's what matters!



Seven days without God makes one weak!

Light of the World or dark cloud of the shopping center

On the morning of the gathering I was having a bit of a trying day! I had been tasked with buying 12 dozen hamburger rolls and a further 12 dozen hot dog rolls and had planned on buying them from the a certain shop. I had to change my plans at the last minute and go to another and of course they did not have nearly enough! I then had to go to still another

shop and buy the remaining ones and in the process I got a lecture from the first lady about ordering next time and a hairy eyeball from all the customers whose rolls I was taking and from all the other ones who were impatiently waiting for the dear ladies to pack them in their own time! So by the time I got to the till at the second shop I was in a less than gracious frame of mind. Stress doesn't become me at the best of times and after a harrowing shopping ordeal my body language was four letter words! Then I caught a glimpse of myself in a window, proudly wearing my Chrysalis shirt, FAITH, HOPE, LOVE and a big cross

emblazoned across my back! It felt like someone had poured a jug of ice water down my back! The light of the world and here I was being a black cloud while the little cashier smiled so sympathetically from under the dot on her forehead indicating her being a Hindu.

Suddenly the cross around my neck felt like it weighed a ton and I felt so very, very guilty! You never know who is watching you.

If you feel like you're always being watched, its only because you are! We can't afford to let Jesus down!

As long as there is SOMEONE in the sky to protect me , There is NO ONE on earth who could break me.



We're not doing God any favours by loving Him!

Ramifications – (big word, big concept)

Following on from the above message, I have a little story to relate. As some of you know, my BBM status and picture is my little field of influence. I have no idea how many of my contacts read them and frankly I don't really care because I usually am writing it for a select few people. But a few days ago I got a bit of a wake up call.

Most of my contacts are friends who know me well enough to know where my messages are coming from or what they're about, but I have a few contacts who are simply acquaintances from various times and places. I

I was having a really grim day, and this is usually reflected by my status. Fortunately I had chosen to put up a quote from C. S. Lewis about the dangers of love rather than a scathing, pointed little jibe that was my other option. In the midst of my self pity and misery my little "liggie" flashed, indicating I "had a bite" so I checked my phone. To my absolute surprise it was from one of those acquaintances. He was being open and friendly and saying that he saw I went to church and wanting to chat a bit about it. It snapped me temporarily out of my self absorption and I had an engaging little chat with a

really nice guy who is just coming back to church after a long time. It was such a great feeling being able to just give him that little bit of friendly affirmation and encouragement. It has also broken the ice and if ever he wants to he knows where I stand and the conversation is open for any further chats. If I had chosen my other option that would never have happened. Sadly, I think I must become way less selfish with my statuses and also bear in mind who might be reading it and how they may be reading it. Everything we do has ramifications, but not all of them are bad! — though, sadly and clearly, pointed messages aimed at Mom go out the window !!

Testimonies from flights

34 and 35



My experience of Chrysalis: before Chrysalis I thought I knew what God's love was, wow was I wrong!! I had no idea at all!! The weekend was filled with God's love! And the revelation I got about God's love is just amazing! I just want to go out there and really love! Love others, everyone! And serve the way that Jesus did! Because sometimes, we are the only part of Jesus other people see! Fly with Christ! :)

Monique Viljoen 19 years old

Wow... where do I begin...My weekend on Chrysalis has been thee most indescribable yet incredible weekend ever! I did not realize how distant I had become from God and how much I actually needed Him. As a young person, facing life's disappointments, I felt that I was all I needed to survive. I distanced myself from friends and family and God because I was afraid of been disappointed! I now realize how much God loves me and no matter who I am or what I do, God will never leave my side! He's always in our hearts just waiting for us to open our hearts and surrender them to Him. It hasn't been easy but hey who said that good things in life are easy getting and keeping???? I'm ready to face any obstacle that may lie ahead of me because I know its God working in my life! With Christ on my side and a beautiful family that I have gained on Chrysalis I know and believe that I'm going to make it:)... God is now the pilot of my plane:)) – Jenay Jassen

What can I say except, WOW.

What an amazing gift to have experienced the love shared on our flight. To see how the team served with all they had, holding nothing back, absolutely fantastic. Growing as a community amongst our tables was epic. The "behind the scenes" organizing, the time it took, and how much people gave of themselves was touching to say the least. Each speaker spoke right to me, like God knew exactly what I needed to hear. The food was first class, totally "more-ish" and the worship was out of this world. To sing and dance and go crazy for the Lord was super cool.

The ceremonies that took place touched a soft spot in my heart. The candle light service, receiving the cross before the closing ceremony, and the closing itself were breath taking.

THANK YOU. The fire of Christ has been reignited within me.

Fly with Christ.

Jason Frewin

My Chrysalis experience was an amazing one. I feel that I grew so much in my walk with Christ. I feel that my confidence in myself and in the Christ has grown a huge amount. The amount of love that one feels is none like any other and truly mind blowing. The unity that you experience amongst Christians is also incredible to see and experience. This was truly an amazing, mind blowing experience for me that words are not enough to describe it. It was certainly an experience that will be treasured and not easily forgotten. Fly with Christ.

Tanya Volker flight 35:)

In all my years of being a Christian I have never experienced anything like this. The love I experienced was unconditional to the point that even people who don't even know me were wishing me luck for the weekend. unfortunately I expected that because I changed, the world around me had changed as well so it took me a while to adjust but i did just fine. I learnt lots of valuable things on the weekend, things I will never forget and right now I am trying to apply my tripod. By Nokwanda Mbonane

My name is Carolyn Purdon, but many also know me as Callie. I was a caterpillar on Flight 35, and now I'm "free to be me" –free to be a butterfly in Christ. "Free to be me" was our aptly chosen flight song, and a song that we all warmed up to very quickly. My experience on Chrysalis was definitely one where I felt I could get real with God and with others. I really appreciated the honesty, openness and love that speakers, leaders and those on the journey shared. So much love was felt that entire weekend. Love in all forms, from hugs and tears that were shared, prayers from all over the world, *Agape Gifts* and the incredibly special letters that we received on our last day of Chrysalis. The attention to detail that was expressed in so many different ways was also an act of love that we experienced. I feel that this weekend was a God turning-point for me. I have come away from the weekend feeling refreshed, as well as challenged. I am ready to continue in sharing God's love with others.



Being a seventeen year old girl... I'm nervous excited and yes.. a little scared too! I have no idea what to expect of this "Chrysalis" weekend.. FIGHT?? SAY WHAT? The weeks prior to my flight I was so excited but with exams and everything in between kinda forgot to spiritually and emotionally prepare myself... (wow.. that sounded like I was about to join a cult or something) ha-ha.. I receive my name tag (with my sister completing her flight already, I have been psyching myself out for the day I get my very own) and so thee most amazing weekend with Christ kicks off. I have always been a Christian, Believed in God.. but I was taught to do so from my family, my parents and my two older sisters... and I never really understood what it all was about... BUT...

The three days I spent, with the most amazing group of girls and inspirational Christian women I have every met, changed my entire life... I got to really KNOW God in a entirely new light.. and I will remember this weekend forever... Being a teenager in this society can be a bit tough.. but with all the talks and inspirational words, hugs and TRUE love of the Lord and my new SISTERS in Christ.. it makes it a bit easier... Fly with Christ Lien:)



Thanks everyone for sharing so honestly and profoundly. I have to admit, the testimonies that people gave at the closing ceremony gave me goosebumps! And reading these just reaffirms what an amazing God we serve and how willing He is to touch us if we will only let Him! Bottom line, God is good, ALL THE TIME and all the time GOD IS GOOD!

JUST KEEP BURNING FOR JESUS GUYS!!

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Eat, Pray, Love — Reg Alexander

Joel 2:26 - "You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the Lord your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed."

The prophet Joel says: "You will have plenty to eat, until you are full and you will praise the name of the Lord your God . . ." This is a direct paraphrase of Deuteronomy 8:10, which states: "When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you." In both places, the message is that earth's bounty is a blessing from God and we should recognize that with gratefulness.

However, the *Torah* worries that instead of being grateful, we will become forgetful. Just two verses later we read, "Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God . . ." (Deuteronomy 8:12–14).

How ironic! Just when we should be the most thankful, we are the least grateful. Instead of encouraging us to thank God, our many blessings lead us away from Him. It seems that when we are hungry and needy, we naturally turn toward God. But once He has satisfied our needs, we no longer need Him.

Tears in my Eyes

Does it still count as brave if I have tears in my eyes
And if my voice trembles when I speak against their lies
When every fibre in my being is saying "get away"
Is it just stupidity to listen to the Whisper saying "stay"
If I listen to opinion the answer's a resounding yes
But If I listen to the Whisper, it says "there's more to this mess
I see more courage in your tears child, because I see your pain
And the tremble in your voice just proves your faith again
You stand all the braver because you stand despite the tear
And your voice rings all the louder when you speak even through your fear
You have the greatest courage, the courage to know that alone you're not enough
And your testimony's truest when you trust in Me though times are rough
I love you the most child then you have tears in your eyes
Because it means you trust in Me no matter what anybody tries
I know the fear that grips your heart and the thoughts that fill your head
But I will never fail you, just like your shaking voice has always said."

Saints become saints by somehow hanging on to the stubborn conviction that things are not as they appear, and that the unseen world is as solid and trustworthy as the visible world around them.

—Phillip Yancey

The saying goes, "you should remember who butters your bread," but the *Torah* teaches us that man's nature is to forget who gave him his bread in the first place.

This is why the *Torah* encourages us to make blessings not just before we eat, but after we are satisfied as well. Deuteronomy 8:10 is the source for the Jewish practice of reciting a grace after meals. In doing so, we combat our human nature to forget who satisfied our needs once they are taken care of. We take extra care to remember that our satisfaction in all areas of our lives – is a direct blessing from God.

If the Scripture's encouragement is not enough to convince us to thank God once we are satisfied, then history should be. The prophets remind us repeatedly that every time the children of Israel took their blessings for granted, they lost them. Every time they forgot about God, He appeared to forget about them.

We can understand Joel's verse this way: "You will have plenty to eat . . . and you will praise the name of the Lord . . ." Then, because you paused to say thank you, "never again will my people be shamed." When we are thankful for our blessings, we become worthy of keeping them.

Don't wait until your blessings are gone to appreciate them. We live in a time of unprecedented abundance. We dare not squander the opportunity to be grateful.



So ends another edition. Time just seems to fly like you can't believe!

A few days ago a friend of mine was lamenting about it being the end times as he looked sadly into the bottom of his empty coffee pot. Somehow the great injustice of it being finished had stirred deep sentiments in his breast. I had to smile at the situation, but it was a sad smile cause I knew behind the humour, he spoke from a saddened heart. There is just so much suffering in the world around us it often feels like more than we can bear. More than we should bear anyway! And I guess I agree, but there is just one thing that makes me pause, Jesus' words, "In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world!" That alone is a promise worth holding on to. When the pawpaw hits the fan and it feels like you can't go on, cling to that. And remember Yancey's words too - "God deserves trust, even when it looks like the world is caving in." Love and God bless, Kirst