

**MEN'S MINISTRY NEWSLETTER**  
**CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BUENA PARK**  
**EDITION 209** **FEBRUARY 2012**

The CCC launch of LIFETREE CAFÉ is coming this month and hopefully you've had the opportunity to attend one of the introductory sessions that were held in January. Pastor Doug has fully investigated this program designed by Group Publishing and is convinced it will enable people to connect with God. This experience is for both members and those outside the church.

Although I've attended one of the introductions and read the excellent overview published in the January 2012 CCC Community Communiqué (monthly newsletter), I wanted to read a little bit more about it. So of course, I went to the internet and typed in LIFETREE CAFÉ. This month I would like to share a few excerpts from my search but also encourage you to check it out more thoroughly. There are some wonderful testimonials about some sessions that have already taken place throughout the country.

A LIFETREE CAFÉ is an actual meeting place; it can be set up in a church building or even offsite. The cafes are configured with tables accommodating four people, where they can sit down for an hour and talk about topics drawn from life and faith. The topics are pre-selected by LIFETREE and are intended to be compelling across denominational lines and of interest to all walks of life. Coffee, tea, water, and snacks are available from a central table but the main entrée is "food for thought". The setting looks and feels like the kind of place you might typically meet a friend. The atmosphere encourages conversations, questions, and personal stories.

LIFETREE stories dig into the big and little things that shape our lives; family, friends, fears, materialism, finances, jobs, health, peace, and heaven just to mention a few. . . Participants can share their own stories and listen to others. As a result, people don't just hear what the Bible says about their lives; they discover the relevance of God's word and a friendship with Jesus. This venue is not intimidating to the non-church community. There is no singing, sermons, or rituals to deal with. Many folks are looking for connections and truly longing for a sense of community. It's not necessarily designed to get new church members but it is meant to be an outreach to our community.

Group Publishing aims to revive the art of communication and to help churches reach deeper into their communities with LIFETREE CAFÉ. To keep it somewhat intimate, their license agreement requires that the total audience not exceed 50 people. However, churches that attract more than 50 people can hold as many one-hour sessions per week as they like. This flexible scheduling potential is another benefit many folks will find attractive. By the way, did I mention this is a free event to all attendees?

I probably haven't adequately explained the whole LIFETREE CAFÉ thing so I encourage you to attend at least a few sessions to see if it feels right for you. There is a lot more information available so check it out.

## **BIBLE QUIZ**

Who are the four women mentioned in Jesus' genealogy in Matthew 1?

## **A LITTLE HUMOR (POINTS TO PONDER)**

How come wrong numbers are never busy?

Does killing time damage eternity?

Why is it that night falls but day breaks?

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor and dishwashing liquid mad with real lemons?

## **NEWS & EVENTS AT CCC**

The best way to keep informed about all the opportunities going on at CCC is to attend regularly, read the Bulletin, pick up the monthly calendar, check out the website, and become involved.

Junior High Winter Camp at Forest Home is Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Men's Ministry has two tremendous opportunities to fellowship together each week. There is a class on Sunday mornings at 9:00 and again on Thursday evening at 7:00. These are not repeat topics so you can come to one or both. Also, they are designed to allow you to join in at anytime. Talk to John Offringa or Ray French for additional information.

LIFETREE CAFÉ is coming this month.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

ALL OF THE MINISTRY PROGRAMS AT CCC

OUTREACH TO OUR COMMUNITY

PASTOR DOUG & THE ENTIRE STAFF

CARE MINISTRY

MINISTRIES FOR OUR YOUTH

FOR THOSE AWAITING TEST RESULTS

FOR THOSE FACING SURGERY OR GOING THROUGH THERAPY

FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

RON ANDERSON, EDITOR

(REMEMBER, THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ON THE CCC WEBSITE)

Answer to Bible Quiz: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba (Uriah's wife)