

Free Youth Leader Training Seminars Plus Free Discipleship Curriculum for 10,000 NSW Children

16 November 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

The controversy surrounding recent press reports on the NSW 'Proud School's' pilot program in some high schools would have come to the attention of many church leaders.

The *Proud Schools' Steering Committee* minutes extract published in the Daily Telegraph of 17th October 2012¹ states that "While the pilot targets high schools there is also a need to address homophobia and transphobia at the primary school level before children reach high school."

This controversy coupled with the quickening trend in society to promote the secular worldview as the only valid view, is of concern to an increasing number of Christian parents with young school aged children.

Our response is to offer the local church in NSW, absolutely free discipleship training resources² to help 9 to 14 year old children to better understand their Christian faith and to encourage them to model their lives on the life of Daniel.

The **Dare to be a Daniel** discipleship course challenges children with topics such as:

- Dare To Be **DIFFERENT** - children get a glimpse of what God can do using a young person who is surrendered to Him and determined to follow His ways rather than the world's ways.
- Dare To Be **DISCIPLINED** – children will see how the powerful impact Daniel had on his world, even as a youth, was the result of his personal relationship with God.

¹ <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/sydney-news/being-straight-no-longer-normal-students- taught/story-e6freuzi-1226497360980>

² Total 10,000 student manuals and 1,000 leader's guides available for free distribution to NSW churches

- Dare To Be **DISCERNING** – Children will learn how Daniel's friends—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—had already gained success and influence but they weren't willing to compromise their commitment just to preserve their position. With their lives on the line, they refused to cave in to pressures from people and society. As a result, they had the kind of impact on their world that many of us only dream about.
- Dare To Be His **DISCIPLE** - Following Christ and influencing others for Him requires an authentic, active faith expressed through self-sacrifice, humble service, and uncompromising character. By considering Daniel's behaviour in the face of life-threatening opposition, children will see how godly boldness and selfless humility can work together to powerfully point people to Christ.
- Dare To Be a **WITNESS** - Children will review some key principles from the entire course to help them to share their faith in Jesus Christ.

We recently held a Dare to be a Daniel course for 60 children.

- A 12 year old girl said this afterwards *"For a long time, I have been bullied at school and it's been really hard on me. I met new friends at the Dare to Be a Daniel camp who will stand with me by praying for me. I have also learned that, like Daniel, I can be a fearless Christian, knowing that God is always on my side"*
- A mother of another child who completed the course wrote *"This is really a great tool of discipleship; to empower our children to be bold in their faith"*
- The mother of a boy who completed the course wrote that her son said *"I want all of us to go to church, Daddy"* when asked what he wanted to do on the first Sunday after completing the course. The mother added that *"When Sunday came, (boy's name) was up and ready, in fact he had prepared breakfast and woke everyone in the house. With breakfast made there was no way we could say 'no' "*

You are invited to a **free half day seminar** to learn more about the **Dare to Be a Daniel** discipleship program and to be trained on how to teach it.

Student work books and leader's guides will be offered free of charge to NSW churches who commit to running Dare to Be a Daniel classes within 12 months of the seminar. We have only 10,000 student work books and 1,000 leaders' guides for free distribution. This offer is conditional on church leadership completing our free training seminar on how to teach Dare to Be a Daniel discipleship material and is subject to churches providing an accurate count of the number of children enrolled for the program.

We are able to offer the student work books and leader's manuals free of charge due to the generous support of the Bible League and other donors who are sponsoring the printing costs of our material.

Seminars are scheduled for the following cities and regional centres:

Orange	Tuesday 29 January 2013	6pm to 9 pm
Dubbo	Wednesday 30 January 2013	6pm to 9pm
Tamworth	Thursday 31 January 2013	6pm to 9 pm
Port Macquarie	Saturday 2 February 2013	7am to 10 am
Newcastle	Saturday 2 February 2013	4pm to 7pm
Wollongong	Tuesday 5 February 2013	6pm to 9pm
Queanbeyan	Wednesday 6 February 2013	6pm to 9pm
Wagga Wagga	Thursday 7 February 2013	6pm to 9pm
Parramatta	Saturday 9 February 2013	9am to 12pm
Sydney CBD	Saturday 9 February 2013	2pm to 5pm

Addresses will be communicated once registrations are completed.

Yours in Christ



Jorge Rodrigues

Executive director Australia/New Zealand

Dare to Be a Daniel Seminar Registration Form

Cut and mail this coupon to Billy Graham Evangelistic Association PO Box 346 Penrith NSW 2751
or register online at www.billygraham.org.au

Church name and physical address:

_____ Post code _____

Church denomination _____

Leaders attending seminar:

Name _____ Position in church _____

Mobile _____ email _____

Name _____ Position in church _____

Mobile _____ email _____

Name _____ Position in church _____

Mobile _____ email _____

Name _____ Position in church _____

Mobile _____ email _____

Seminar you wish to attend (see above list) _____