

April 2020



Thank you!

Annette Cole
and Steve Yard
for revamping the
basketball pole
and backboard.

Visit our website for past and
upcoming services,
Ps. Jeff's blogs,
bible study tools and much more

WWW.



livingwatersloxtton.com.au

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The church maybe unmanned but church life continues

We acknowledge the 'unseen heroes'
working for our church and the community

Thank you Frank, for keeping the yard tidy and weeds at bay

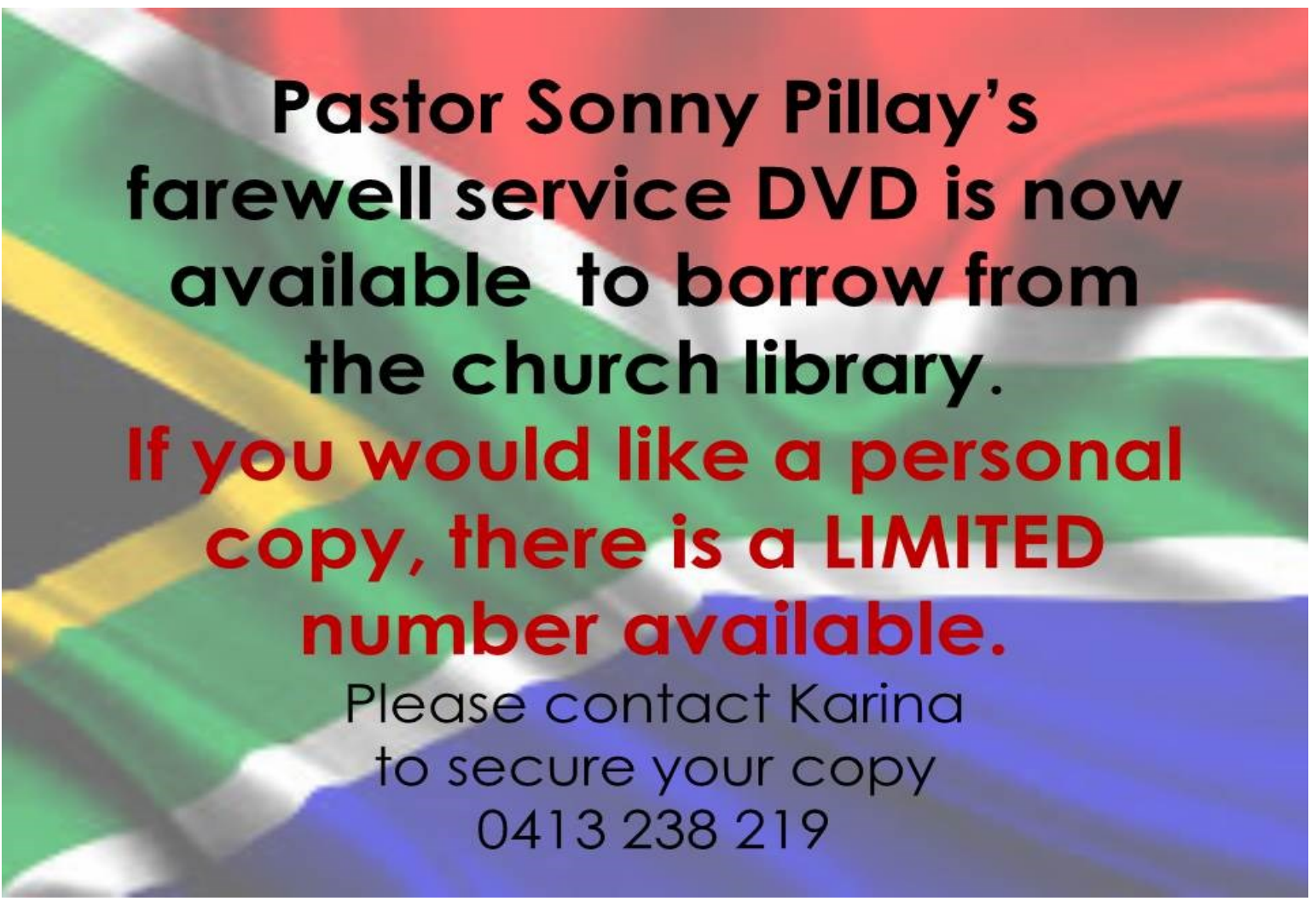
Thank you Leanne and Kathy, for delivering meals to needy families

Thank you to all those who have distributed flyers throughout Loxton

Thank you to all involved in the preparation of online church services

Thank you to those who continue to check up on our more vulnerable
church members

YOU ARE APPRECIATED



**Pastor Sonny Pillay's
farewell service DVD is now
available to borrow from
the church library.**

**If you would like a personal
copy, there is a LIMITED
number available.**

Please contact Karina
to secure your copy
0413 238 219

Ps Jeff's



In our household when we put our kids to bed, we get the kids to tell us what the various parts of the armour of God are. When we come to the belt of truth, both Abigail and Logan say this; "Make sure you have got your belt of truth on or else the pants of love will fall down and everyone will see the undies of sin." It makes us laugh and of course we know that armour does not contain the 'pants of love' or the 'undies of sin'.

Ephesians 6:10-17 talks about the armour of God and the first part of armour mentioned is the 'belt of truth'. But what is truth? Surely in our post-modern age truth is what one perceives it to be? Pilate made the statement in John 18:38 "What is truth?" Is truth subjective? Is truth what we make it? Is there more than one truth? I believe not.

If truth is subjective then there can not be truth, it's an argument that defeats itself. If truth is subjective, then we can have no laws, no rules, for if my truth is my truth. Therefore, I can do what my truth tells me. This would lead to chaos and anarchy. Truth has to be objective, based on a solid foundation, something that is unchanging.

It is interesting that in nearly every culture on the planet there are certain things deemed as 'truth'. These universal 'truths' include such things as murder is wrong, to take another persons stuff is wrong, to lie to a person in authority is wrong. Why, if truth is subjective, are these so universal? Ecclesiastes 3:9 states 'he has put eternity into man's heart' Paul said in his address at Mars hill that 'for in him we live and move and have our being' (Acts 17:28). So what does this mean? It means that God has placed a objective truth into our very D.N.A. Hebrews 10:16 says 'This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds'.

As His people we have truth, we have it placed in something objective; the reality of God, the creator and maker of all things. He is the ultimate truth. We in our former ignorance, while we understood the basic 'truths', would justify our sin by proclaiming that this is my 'truth'. Truth based on a subjective reality that changed accordingly. But God's truth does not change, it is unwavering, it is the standard by which we as His people need to live by.

So is your belt of truth on? Or are your pants falling down for all to see? Keep that belt fastened, so that when this world and the enemy assault you, you wont trip over your pants.

In Christ our redeemer Ps Jeff
published online April 7 2020

ps Jeff's

B I O G

Why are there so many translations of the Bible in English? This was a question asked of Dr James White. His answer was, 'There was no need for anymore translations into English, we have enough already'. But the fact that so many were being published was that there may be a monetary gain behind the enterprise. I agree with him somewhat but I am not as cynical as him in this respect. But the question that I have been asked and maybe you have asked yourself is, 'Which translation is best or should I use?' There is a host of information on the internet and a whole swathe of books written on this topic and I'm only giving a very basic presentation here, otherwise this would be a very long and, perhaps boring, blog. If you want to explore this further, one book I would recommend is 'How to read the Bible for all its worth', I can't remember the author, but if you Google it you will find it. Otherwise search the net and dive into the mountain of information available on this important and interesting subject.

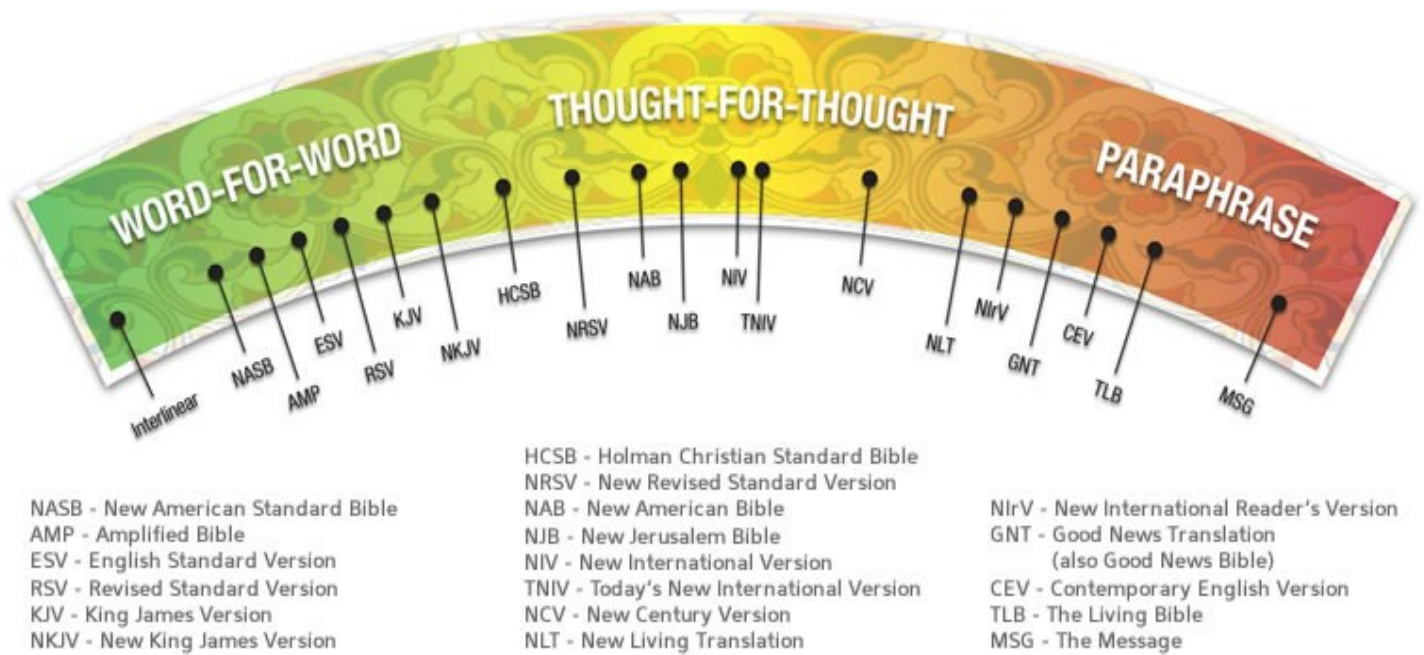
The question of 'which translation is best or which should I read?' has two considerations to it, one simple and the other complex. So let's start with the simple one first. It comes down to the style you like to read, level of reading and preference. It's always good to choose a translation that you understand. It would be like trying to read French with little or no understanding of French. You have to be able to understand what you are reading. That is the style and level of reading part of the equation. The second half is preference. Some people prefer certain versions over others. In my early days as a believer the choice that was prevalent was the NIV (This was in the 90's). There is nothing wrong with having a preference but when that becomes the ONLY version one should read it enters into the realm of 'cult'. An example of this is *KJV only-ism*. If you don't know what *KJV only-ism* is, I will give a very brief description here. *KJV only-ism* states that the KJV is the *only* inspired version of the Bible, everything else is a perversion of God's word. There are more shades of colour to it than that, but that's the basic premise of the *KJV only-ism*. A preference for a certain version of the Bible is fine, but it's good to have more than one version, it helps with understanding and can bring 'freshness' to reading the Bible.

Now we come to the more complex part of the question, that of which translation is 'best'. There is no 'best' translation. All Bible translations are done by scholars with a purpose in mind, and in academic circles this is called a 'translation scale'. The scale starts with a literal word for word translation at one end and at the other end is the paraphrase.

Within the scale certain versions will be closer to one end or the other, some try to go for a middle ground approach, taking the best of each and combining them somewhat. This is called a 'dynamic equivalent translation', or a thought-for- thought translation.

So where do certain versions fit on this scale? Please refer to the chart below.

Types of Bible Translations



I hope you can read the chart. (If not let me know and I will see if I can get you either a hard copy or email you this one and you can enlarge it.) So which translation is best? As was said previously there is no 'best' translation but here is a word of caution; it's good to use a literal translation for Bible study as it is as close as we can get to the original text into English. When we start to use a paraphrase we move away from its cultural context and may lose the original intent of the author. It is also good to have a 'thought for thought' version as well as this may make themes and ideas clearer than they would be in a literal translation. This type of version is good for reading and for memory scripture as it flows more naturally than a literal translation. Finally, a paraphrase is good to use as a devotional tool, but not so good as a Bible for study. Always have more than one translation you can go to that makes the word clear and understandable from every end of the scale. It doesn't have to cost you anything. The Bible app *Youversion* has hundreds of English versions of the Bible for you to read, and some have audio so you can listen.

In recent times people have asked me what is my opinion on the *Passion* translation. To answer that question without putting my bias here, I will say 'do some research'. If you want a very good analysis of the *Passion* version, check YouTube for Mike Winger; he gives a very good and thorough investigation into the text and the translator. His YouTube channel is called '*Bible Thinker*'.

I hope this has been of value and helpful to you as you read His word and journey with Him. If there is a topic you would like me to address or an issue you would like me to explore in these posts then leave a comment and I will attempt to answer it.

I do read the comments so please leave your thoughts and ideas below.

In Christ our redeemer Ps Jeff
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Living Waters office and library
will be closed until further notice.
Karina will be working from home.

If you require assistance
on a church matter or
of a personal nature
please contact Ps Jeff by email
pastorjeff@livingwatersloxtton.com.au

Or mobile
0415 614 781

Karina can still be contacted by email
admin@livingwatersloxtton.com.au

Or mobile
0413 238 219

The office is unmanned
please do not call the office number



NO CHURCH SERVICE FOR THE TIME BEING?

**What does this mean for our church family?
Can you still see / hear/ get access to
Sunday sermons?**

The short answer is ...**YES!**

An online platform is available.. We are using a streaming service to send out the sermons electronically.

The sermon is available on Living Waters website and on Facebook.

For those of you who do not have access to Facebook or the internet we are able to record the sermons on CD.

If you would a copy, contact Karina by email or mobile to arrange a CD to be posted or home delivered.

admin@livingwatersloxtton.com.au

0413 238 219

Offerings & missions support

Wondering how you can continue to give your tithes & offerings at this time?

You can contribute online.(see details below)

OR to make alternate arrangements,

Contact treasurer Geoff Haddon on

0402 207 331 for more details

GIVING

Internet tithes and offerings

Bank SA

BSB: 105 059

A/c # 245 024 540

Mary Hutton

BSB: 105 059

A/C # 038 450 340