

PM

PROCLAIM MAGAZINE

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INSIDE THIS MONTH

JONAH CHALLENGE FEATURE
UPDATES FROM THE FIELD
EXCERPTS FROM OAC'S HISTORY

AUTUMN 2025
AUSTRALIA

THE JONAH CHALLENGE: FROM REBELLION TO SERVICE

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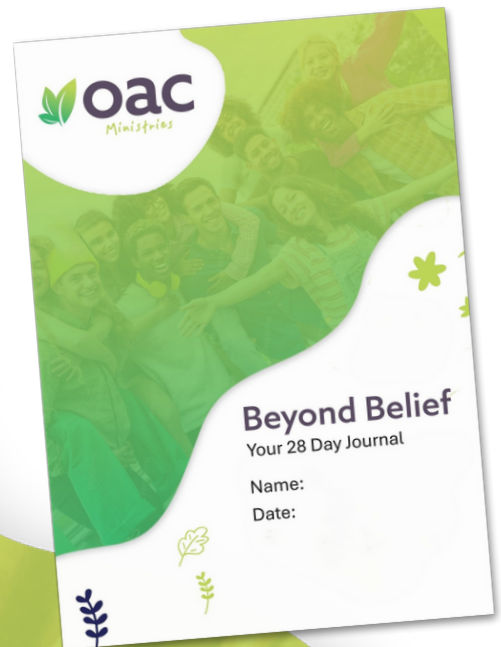
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1 EDITORIAL

Jason Potter

**2 PARTNERING WITH
OAC MINISTRIES**

*Information about how you
can support OAC evangelists*

3 FEATURE ARTICLE

*The Jonah Challenge: From
Rebellion to Service*

Jason Potter

**5 NEWS FROM THE
FIELD**

*Stories from across Australia
of OAC's Ministry*

OAC Staff Team

**12 THANKS JOEL
HERNANDEZ**

Rob Ross

13 ARTICLE

*"200 Bible Heroes" Goes
to Africa*

Shamina Rozario

14 A GOSPEL LEGACY

*OAC's use of vehicles to carry
the gospel*

15 OUR EVANGELISTS

*Biographical information
about our OAC team of
Evangelists*

16 JOIN THE TEAM

*Join OAC as a volunteer, we
have opportunities in camps,
mission teams, and street
teams all around Australia*

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Proclaim Magazine (PM) - OAC Ministries' National Magazine.

We are entering an exciting season in OAC with new ministry opportunities emerging and the opening of a whole new region of the work in NSW.

Sean Marsh and his wife Gina are relocating from Qld to WA to lead OAC's ministry there. They'll be living out of a caravan for the first couple of years, basing themselves initially in South Perth, but using their mobility to create opportunities in other parts of WA as well.

Mike Peereboom and his wife Renee, have relocated to Port Macquarie from Canberra. Mike has done a fantastic job establishing OAC's ministry in Canberra and he is now going to plant a new work in Port Macquarie, while Shamina Rozario continues the ministry in Canberra.

The regular pattern of weekly outreaches and missions continue but we also have two Worldview camps coming up in Queensland and Canberra. It's a wonderful season of growth. More details are included in the individual reports from the field.

In the middle of this year, OAC will release our newest resource, "Beyond Belief". One of the key parts of this training addresses the question, "Why do we need to be part of the mission of God?" It is a question I have often been asked in my roles as a pastor and educator. My response is threefold:

1. We are part of God's family, and what motivates Him needs to motivate us.
2. God has called us and given us the responsibility of sharing the gospel with everyone.
3. When we participate in God's mission, we are stretched and grow in our faith, character, and maturity.

This ties neatly into our theme for this PM edition: "Jonah, From Rebellion to Service." Jonah rebelled against God's call to preach the good news to Nineveh and yet was used in a mighty way to make God known.

I wonder how often people like you and me fall into the trap of rebelling against God's calling to be part of His mission, just like Jonah did. Our rebellion may not be as dramatic as Jonah's; it might even be based on what we think is reasonable, a fear of the possible consequences, or the pain we experienced through previous efforts.

However, while our salvation is assured, it comes with a responsibility, a commission and a commandment from Jesus Himself. One that the Bible doesn't give us an "out clause" on.

While it might be uncomfortable, we ask our readers to wrestle with this challenge in this edition.

May God Bless you as you seek to serve Him.

Jason Potter



BE PART OF LIVES CHANGED

Autumn, 2025

For the past 130 years, OAC Ministries has reached out to the people of Australia with the life-changing message of salvation through Jesus Christ. ***By God's grace, lives have been changed for eternity.*** While grateful for the opportunity to share the good news... there is ***still*** much to do. Australia is now one of the largest mission fields in the world.



You can be part of MORE lives being changed!

Thanks to the generosity and sacrificial giving of churches and individuals, like you, OAC Ministries is able to share the life transforming Gospel message and equip fellow Jesus followers to also share their faith with others.



Your generosity today will ensure this life changing message continues to reach more Australians yet to discover Jesus!

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Become a partner in this Gospel work with your best gift today or your regular monthly contribution and see the life-transforming message of God's grace shared with Australian's yet to discover Jesus.

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By Jason Potter

Jonah has always fascinated me. He is full of contradictions. He loves God yet refuses to follow God's directions. He runs away, yet he faces up to his responsibilities. He is filled with pride, sulks, and rebels, yet God still uses him to save a whole city. When God disciplines Jonah, he complains, and when God blesses Jonah, he complains even more!

Steve Hall, a Pastor I used to work with in Queanbeyan, preached the story of Jonah quite vividly. Steve was an excellent storyteller; his description of the fear Jonah must have felt when he was on the boat that was about to sink, and the bravery to confess it was his fault was profound. When Steve preached on Jonah, his description of what Jonah must have looked like when he was spewed out of a giant fish after three days made us all want to throw up. It is an incredible story.



But Jonah is much more than a fun kids' story or Bible history. It is a profound and transformative lesson about our relationship with God and our responsibility to introduce people to Jesus. I find Jonah's story comforting. From the beginning of the book of Jonah to the end, Jonah did almost everything wrong, yet God still used him to save an entire city of people. It makes me worry less about getting everything right before God will let me partner with Him.

The book of Jonah, written in about 800 BC, is a prophetic message to the nation of Israel first and then to us as followers of Jesus. Like the other prophets such as Hosea and Ezekiel, Jonah embodies God's prophetic message in his own life. In Jonah we find the story of Israel and their profound failure in relating to the nations around them and witnessing to the righteousness and holiness of God.

Jonah reflects Israel's decline. Like Israel, Jonah rejects God's call, hands over his wealth to foreigners, and begins a downward journey. The word "descends" (Y-R-D in Hebrew) is used three times to describe Jonah and Israel's parallel descent until Jonah is firmly asleep in the boat and on the run, in the same way that Israel is asleep to God and moving away from His calling.

The waves and storm surrounding the boat intensify, which is a parallel to the nations around Israel being stirred up against God's people. Jonah is thrown out of the boat into the waters, and Israel goes into Exile in Babylon, thrown out of the promised land and into the darkness. (In Jewish thought, the ocean was a metaphor for the unknown darkness, a place to be feared.)

A great fish swallows Jonah, and in parallel, the Babylonians swallow Israel. Jeremiah 51 even refers to Nebuchadnezzar as a sea creature who swallows Israel but preserves them, just as the great fish swallows and preserves Jonah.

After three days, Jonah is vomited up from the great fish and God again commands Jonah to go to Nineveh. This time, Jonah obeys. In a similar manner Cyrus, king of Babylon, allows Israel to rise from exile and live again in their homeland. Israel, like Jonah, can now be a light to the world.

While we take note of the parallels between Jonah and Israel, we should not neglect the fact that Jesus cites Jonah's stay in the fish as

a sign of his own death and resurrection that would result in his disciples being released to be a light to the world in a far greater way than Israel ever was.

We have established that Jonah’s descent is a prophetic statement about Israel’s exile to Babylon. What is the second part about when Jonah goes to Nineveh? Historically speaking, the next time God’s people leave Jerusalem in exile is when the early church is persecuted for their belief in Jesus as the Messiah.

As Jonah reaches out to the people of Nineveh, a major gentile city, Peter also reaches out to Caesarea in Acts 8-10, a significant gentile city named in honor of Augustus Caesar. In doing this, Peter and the early church, who embody the new Israel, partner with God in redeeming Israel’s past failures.

There is an initial contrast between Jonah and Peter that demonstrates the redemption of Israel’s past failures through the early church led by Peter.

The Ninevites evil ascends before the Lord	Cornelius’s good deeds ascend before the Lord
When he should be in prayer Jonah goes below deck and sleeps	At the hour of prayer Peter goes to the rooftop and sees the heavens opened
As Gentile sailors draw lots, the lot falls on Jonah	As Peter preaches the Holy Spirit falls on the Gentiles

Then Peter’s success and Jonah’s success resonate with each other:

Jonah is told to arise and go to Nineveh	Peter is told to arise and go to Ceaserea
God talks to Jonah about animals to teach Jonah an important lesson	God talks to Peter about animals to teach him an important lesson
After a day’s journey, Jonah preaches to a gentile audience, and multitudes are converted	After a day’s journey, Peter preaches to a Gentile audience and multitudes are converted.

Jonah represents the failure of the old Israel. The early church, the adopted sons and daughters of God, represented in Peter are called to and able to do what the Old Israel never could. The key question now is what all this means for us!

I find all this very inspiring, to know that God is willing and able to work through all my weaknesses just like he did with Jonah, and then even when I fail, He can redeem it through His larger plan. It gives me, and hopefully all of us, great confidence in our efforts when we simply bring the best we have.

Most of us do not want to rebel like Jonah, but we all experience barriers to sharing our faith. Those barriers vary from discomfort to fear, and come about from past experiences or concerns about the opinions of others.

The wonderful thing about God is He can take all those barriers and redeem them, just like He did with Israel, and he can use us despite them for His purposes and glory.

May we be like Peter rather than Jonah: willing to ascend to where God calls us rather than descend to where we think we will be safer. May we speak truth to the oppressor, love the lost and hurting, and sacrifice our interests for the sake of the people God loves.



Andrew McLauchlan (QLD)

Dōng and I talked for two hours. Dōng is from Vietnam but has lived in Australia for two years. His dad was Roman Catholic but lost his faith because of the insensitivity of the priest after his first son, who was Dōng's brother, died.

Dōng was really engaged and asked me a lot of questions. I answered these questions in ways that allowed me to also explain the gospel message at the same time. We discussed the Trinity, the gospel, geopolitics, Islam, and the evidence for Christianity.

Dōng had some experience with Roman Catholicism. He thought Christianity taught a few things that are particular only to Roman Catholicism. I explained throughout the conversation that these things are teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and how they differ from what the Bible teaches.

I also shared my testimony. Dōng said he had tried Islam, Christianity, and Buddhism, but no religion had ever worked for him. He said he was turned off by the hypocrisy of people in every religion. Every religion commands good things, but people in every religion break these commands because they are just trying to make money. Dōng indicated that



Andrew M doing outreach

he had gone through a lot of bad experiences, which have caused him to want to reject all religions, including Christianity.

One conversation was not going to make Dōng open up to Christianity. However, I was able to give him a good understanding of Christianity and the gospel. After two hours, Dōng decided he had had enough. I gave him a tract, and he left.

Sean Marsh (WA)



In the last couple of weeks, with mixed emotions I reluctantly handed back my Prison yellow ID card to the Chaplaincy Coordinator which was almost snatched out of my hand. Reflecting on the hundreds of conversations and seeing God use me repeatedly over the last ten years as a prison chaplain, I will cherish many stories and experiences for a lifetime. To pick one out is very difficult, but here goes!

I walked into a unit just like any other day and was immediately approached by a prisoner who said there was a guy who wanted to talk to me. This goes either one of two ways, and I am always prepared for both - it is either genuine or muck around. If the latter, the guy asking me is sending me over to someone who has zero interest in talking to a Chaplain.

But this day would be very different. The guy in question who wanted to see me was deeply distraught. He was due for parole in only a few days but his sister was murdered recently and he was applying for early release to go to the funeral that was only two days



Sean Marsh at the entrance of the prison

away. One of the guys asked if I would be willing to pray for him that his early release would be granted. I agreed, and then it happened. The whole unit stood up, surrounded me and this guy, and linked arms just like a football team facing off for the Haka. Well, I couldn't believe my eyes. Sixty-plus men all supporting this bloke in his time of need. What made me laugh was how the two correctional officers were freaking out as the Chaplain was engulfed in a sea of prisoners, but there was no way I was going to let this opportunity pass by. I prayed and then expressed how proud and pleased I was with them all, and how supportive they were all of their mate. I would suggest, with the guys I knew in that unit, that I could count on one hand those who would regularly engage with a chaplain, and the whole unit bowed their heads in prayer and support. Wow!

I was so impressed and got the entire unit's attention for a short period. What an experience and opportunity. I had never heard of something like this ever happening before, but God showed up at that moment and I had the whole unit shake my hand and thank me for praying for their mate in need. Praise God, for working in the darkest of places in a prison. As we finalise our time here in Qld and leave for WA, please pray that God may send me to jail in WA (but only as a missionary)!

Andrew Walkington (QLD)

On The Street:

Basileus (below) is 18 years old and was raised in the Greek Orthodox Church and he says he still practises the faith. When I initially asked him about the afterlife, he said he believed in heaven and hell and shared about his upbringing. As we talked, it was fairly clear that he had lots of understanding of church tradition, however though he'd read some of the Bible, it hadn't been for a long time, and he really didn't have a good understanding of what it says. Although he spoke of God's forgiveness, I was very concerned that there was no mention of Jesus or His finished work on the cross. I walked him through the gospel in depth and I shared how Jesus's finished work was essential to our forgiveness. I then shared that the Orthodox and Biblical positions about how we receive forgiveness were quite different. I challenged him to examine whether he had received forgiveness, and whether he was trusting in the finished work of Jesus alone, or in the rituals and traditions of the Orthodox Church. He thanked me for chatting and gratefully accepted a tract to read.



Andrew Walkington (QLD)



Noah (above) is from Thailand and was raised largely atheistic in an otherwise fairly Buddhist country. He explained to me that most people in Thailand only have Buddhism as an identity and that it doesn't really impact their day-to-day lives. He initially argued that no one can know what comes next but also shared that he had been looking into Christianity. I challenged him with a simple argument for how we know God exists and why we believe the Bible and he said that they made a lot of sense. His English was fairly limited and so even though I would have liked to carry the conversation on more, it was proving very difficult to make progress with such difficult topics. I decided instead to offer him a copy of the gospel of John to read for himself so that he can read about Jesus in his own time, and I also gave him a tract that explains the gospel very clearly. Having developed some interest to learn about the topic, I was confident that he would be able to use these to understand the gospel for himself.

Training:

One of the most strategic things that I get to do is train and equip Christian believers to share the gospel for themselves. Earlier this month, I was invited on behalf of a network of

churches to share their faith at a one-day intensive training course. The course was being run in advance of a major youth event happening in a couple of weeks' time and so they particularly wanted to equip the young adults to be able to share their faith in that context. The day was attended by around 80 trainees with an average age in the low 20s! It was so encouraging to see them get into the role plays and participate in the practise activities. At the end we had a time of Q&A and there was an endless string of questions asking about how they can share their faith more effectively in different contexts. I can reach a lot of people by going and doing evangelism, but the multiplying effective equipping of others is important. Not only will those 80 people reach more people than I connect with, but many of them were significantly younger than me and will hopefully still be sharing the gospel well after I've had to stop!



Andrew teaching evangelism at a recent training day in Brisbane. There were around 80 in attendance to learn about sharing their faith!

Catherine Walkington (QLD)

I have been unable to attend outreaches since mid-June due to ongoing health issues, so it was a joy (mixed with some trepidation!) to be able to participate again in an outreach in late March.

I paired up with Andrew M for the outreach, and we stopped a young man named Nick. It was very clear early in the conversation that Nick is highly intelligent. He is studying a master's in biomedical technology. To relax in his spare time, Nick watches YouTube videos about various religions. As a result, he is very knowledgeable about many religions, including Christianity. Yet, Nick would describe himself as an agnostic – he didn't know which religion was true, so he 'cherry picked' the parts of different religions that he liked, expressing a preference for Gnosticism. Nick shared that he regularly talks about Christianity with a Presbyterian friend of his, who seems to be consistently witnessing to him!

During our conversation, I was able to explain some concepts to Nick that he had never heard before, such as the salvation difference between Christianity (by grace) and all the other religions (by works). Nick argued that salvation by grace sounds like a 'cop-out' – you can get away with anything because Jesus has already forgiven you. In Nick's mind, there was no cost to following Jesus, no need to conform one's life to the Word or obey the commands in Scripture. I explained the Biblical concept of repentance, and how this has worked out in my own life as a result of my salvation. I was able here to share some of my own testimony, and that Jesus encourages people to count the cost of discipleship, because there is a cost.

Nick shared that he didn't like the idea of telling people to believe a particular religion



Catherine doing outreach at QUT

“just because” and that this was not good enough, particularly for teens and young adults. We agreed with him and shared how Christianity is a reasoned faith, and there is evidence for the historical reality of Biblical events and evidence in creation that there is a God. Nick shared that he had never heard this perspective before.

Eventually, I asked Nick what was the thing that kept him from repenting and trusting in Jesus. He clearly knew the Gospel, arguments for the existence of God and arguments for the divine nature of the Bible. He shared that he couldn't get his head around supernatural events, such as the resurrection of Jesus. I'd been speaking to Nick long enough that I was comfortable to tell him that I didn't think that was the real problem. I shared that I could see that he was highly intelligent, and could easily find evidence to support the Biblical accounts of the resurrection of Jesus if he wanted to. I suggested that his real objection was that if he became a Christian, someone else would be telling him how to live his life. Nick agreed, stating that he really didn't like that idea! I gave Nick a tract and a Gospel of John. It was a wonderful conversation, and I'd love to see Nick again and hear about where his research has taken him. Please pray that Nick will repent and trust in Jesus for himself.

Rob and Gayle George (SA)

March 1st, 1985, was Rob George's commencement date on staff with OAC. Yes, Rob and Gayle have served on staff in South Australia for 40 years, and before that for 13 years as volunteers.

Working alongside Alan Bailey, one of the first sketchboard children's stories that Rob ever used, was the story of Jonah. The photo (right) shows Rob telling the story at Kingston Park Caravan Park (Brighton in Adelaide's southern suburbs) in 1972. (The hair was longer and the shorts were shorter!)



Rob in 1972

Despite Jonah's attempt to run from God, in precisely the opposite direction to where God had called him to go, Jonah's change of heart and mind, as well as direction, in the belly of that great fish, is a wonderful example of repentance. We often used this story on day 4 of a 5 day program with the accompanying verse, "Turn to Me and be saved." (Isaiah 45:22)

In his 40 years on staff, Rob has had a number of roles, including as OAC International President. This has taken him all over the world working with our staff in over 30 countries.



Recent photo from a teens' camp

There was a joke in the early 70's when Rob and Gayle began as volunteers, "Join OAC and see the world!" This was because we travelled so much to country areas to share the Gospel in summer holiday programs and, indeed, throughout the year. It turned out to be no joke for Rob! What a privilege to serve the Lord in so many places for so long.

Recently Rob and Gayle were at a teens' camp near Wellington on the River Murray. Many of the 13-17 year olds at the camp came from challenging backgrounds, including foster

homes and under guardianship of the State. The theme was 'Jungle Survivor' and we spoke on the things that we need to survive this "jungle" of life. The most important thing of all is an alliance, a relationship, with God through Jesus! We do appreciate the ongoing opportunities to be of service to Him. We intend to carry on, with your vital support.

Mike Peereboom (NSW)

My family and I are leaving the ACT, and it feels bittersweet. I am sad to be walking away from the ministry opportunities that God has opened to me in Canberra. But at the same time, I am very excited about what God may have in store for the next chapter.

By the grace of God, OAC have decided that I can take my job with me when I relocate. So, I have decided to stay on staff with OAC and begin a new work up on the NSW mid-north coast after I move. Please pray with me, and for me, that I may discern the Good Shepherd's leading and that I may once again have the privilege of seeing Him do what only He can.

With the big move fast approaching I have had to thoughtfully consider what local initiatives, relationships, and outreach opportunities I can hand over to other OAC staff and local churches before I leave Canberra.

The local Dads' Group that I established is hopefully going to be adopted by a local Church and will thus create an opportunity for that congregation to care for and connect with new families in their local area. OAC will then move away from managing program logistics and play the role of training and equipping Christian dads to share the hope they have in Jesus.

Sadly I will have to let go of my voluntary university Chaplaincy role at ANU, but I am hopeful that OAC will remain meaningfully connected at the university as a consequence of my season serving and sharing on campus in collaboration with other Christian groups.

In March this year I kicked off a new initiative called SALT. SALT is a quarterly outreach and evangelism forum that creates an

opportunity for believers from all over Canberra to gather and wrestle with what it looks like to share the good news in good ways. The inaugural event was a huge success and the ACT team will continue to manage this project moving forward.

I believe that sharing the "good news in good ways" necessitates both demonstrating and declaring God's heart for humanity. Jesus desires that you and I would live and love like Him. May we live and love in such a manner that others may come to see themselves as their Heavenly Father sees them - as beloved children, worthy of belonging, and made for a relationship with Him that begins today and endures beyond this lifetime.

EVANGELISM IS NOT SO MUCH ABOUT
REMINDING PEOPLE HOW LOST THEY ARE,
BUT HOW LOVED THEY ARE.

salt.

Salt forum with Mike Peereboom as MC and the panel featuring Dan Anderson (Lachlan Macquarie Institute), Jason Potter (National Director), and Caleb Reid (Impact church).



Neil Clark (NSW)

It's the last hour on Friday afternoon at Wyee Public School. There is a scamper of feet as the children line up on the verandah outside their classroom. Inside they sit on the floor facing the front. So begins another Scripture lesson to this group of 30 primary students. Today the lesson is to discover how God has revealed Himself through nature and allow the children to see and discuss the many illustrations of the wonderful world God has made. In the lesson they will worship God through music and dance, be fascinated by the object lesson shown, and be willing to listen carefully as they study Psalm 19:1-6. The children love to pray at the end of the lesson on things that are relevant to their lives.

Scripture teaching during school time is still allowed here in NSW. On behalf of OAC, I teach Scripture in 4 schools in and around Morisset weekly. My ministry reaches over 200 children and 4 teachers weekly. Please pray that Scripture will continue to be taught in NSW and for the thousands of other scripture teachers and Christian chaplains working in both primary and secondary schools.

Robert was a student in Year 5 in Bonnell's Bay Primary School. He came from a broken home and was regarded by his classroom teacher as a disruptive influence in the class. At the beginning of last year he was reluctant to become involved in my Scripture lessons. It was through a common interest in boating that I was able to better relate to him throughout the year. Early this year my classes at Bonnell's Bay were invited to attend a special church service for youth and as a result Robert became a Christian. Now he looks forward to his Scripture lessons and has improved his attitude towards his learning.

Yeung is a student from Hong Kong who is now studying for his HSC at a high school in the Hills District of Sydney. His parents expect him to achieve high results in this exam and expect him to go on and study medicine at Sydney University. He is presently living with his grandparents and they have begun taking him to church. He confesses to me that Christianity is all new to him and is interested in learning more. Coming to church, he claims, is the only break he has from his studies and he is beginning to enjoy spending time with his new friends.



Kids at a one of the schools where Neil teaches

Shamina Rozario (ACT)

Recently I've spoken at a school to help promote the Worldview Canberra camp coming up in October. I helped facilitate the Salt Forum with Mike Peereboom and am working on another book titled *100 Testimonies*. It is a resource that shares the testimonies of 100 Australians and their journeys to Jesus Christ. It will be used as an evangelism resource and gift for those wondering 'Why Jesus?' If you wish to contribute your testimony for publication in this book, please reach out! shamina.rozario@oac.org.au

Stephanie Jordan (QLD)

As my internship comes to an end mid-year, I have been reflecting on the past two years. It has been a rollercoaster of a season, to say the least. I am deeply grateful to God for the growth I have experienced and the skills I learned. These two years, I have navigated significant life changes — studying and graduating from Bible College, living in student accommodation, moving back home to be with my family, and facing health challenges, including spinal surgery. I walked alongside my Mum through her cancer, lost her from said cancer, and grieved with my family through it all. Now, as we move to a larger property to better care for one another, I am profoundly thankful for the opportunity God gave me to return home and honour my parents. This is a gift I will always cherish.

Even amidst these challenges, I have been privileged to serve with OAC Ministries. Each season has looked different. At times, I had to step back from commitments to prioritise my family, while in other seasons I could dedicate more time to ministry. Through it all, I have learned the value of street evangelism, discovered how to use my gifts effectively for God's mission, and grown in my dependence on Him—the only one who can truly transform hearts and bring salvation. Lord willing, I plan to transition into a staff role with OAC Ministries after my internship. I am eager to build relationships with more ministry partners, establish a strong prayer network, and, ultimately, serve full-time in ministry. Additionally, I am working towards a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, which will open doors for me to contribute to future projects with OAC. I am also looking forward to attending the Worldview Camp again and embracing all the ministry opportunities that lie ahead. Through every high and low, God has been faithful. I am excited for what He has in store!



Steph doing outreach at QUT

Thanks Joel Hernandez!

By Rob Ross (NEC Board Member)

We would like to especially acknowledge and thank Joel Hernandez for his long-serving role on the National Executive Committee as OAC's Treasurer. Joel stepped down from the NEC in February after 12 faithful years of overseeing the finances, budgets and investments of OAC Ministries. Joel, a professional accountant, has been a wealth of knowledge and has done an excellent job to ensure the health of the OAC ministries. The last 9 years that I have worked with him have been a blessing to serve together and witness his humble service. In many ways the job of treasurer is very taxing (pun partially intended) and Joel has handled it excellently. I look forward to continuing to serve with Joel and Carolyn at the Belgrave Heights Conventions where they have faithfully helped with the kids' program for many years.



“200 Bible heroes” Goes to Africa

By Shamina Rozario



“200 Bible Heroes” can be ordered at:
www.encyclopaediaproject.com

Recently I met a woman from the Congo who has been forced to leave her family behind as she seeks better work in Australia to support her children. The situation in Congo is dire for Christians who have been forced to leave or face violence by the controlling regimes that operate there. Although the media was mainly silent, several alternative news sources exposed the fact that 70 Congolese people had been beheaded.

I often wonder why such barbaric atrocities occur on this planet; it's easy to blame God for this, except the opposite is the case. The Bible warns of what happens to nations who are ruled by anti-Christian types. When satanic forces govern nations, Christians are the first ones targeted, often because they support human rights and their command to follow Jesus means they cannot yield to satanic oppression when it comes after their neighbour.

After meeting with this Congolese woman I felt the desire to offer her something that could help her situation and especially her children who probably need to know God is watching over them and cares for them in the absence of their mother. I decided to post my book to them. *200 Bible Heroes* was designed for circumstances like this - it is an illustrated and textual guide to 200 Bible heroes and can

be read by people who have limited English, since the pictures are learning tools, full of symbols to help people remember which character did what. Many people outside of the West can actually relate quite closely to the plight of some of the characters, especially if they face severe persecution. I am praying to God that when this book finds its way to the Congo, it is able to evangelise youth and give them a deeper understanding of the figures in the Bible.

Here in The West, we are much safer from the dangers of persecution, however in our globalised society, often the problems facing Christians in other parts of the world impact us here. Although we sometimes can't always board a plane or visit countries ourselves like Jonah did, in our era there is always something we can do even at a distance.

I am reminded that we have a duty as Christians to spread the word where it is most needed, and that may not always be where we happen to be at the time. Although I have a heart for mission elsewhere since my parents are migrants, my work at OAC Ministries means I am dedicated to staying in Canberra in order to make the biggest impact I can. A part of that is through creating books for evangelistic purposes.

Your 'Jonah moment' may not always be visiting a different region, or getting swallowed up by a large fish and being spat out on entirely different soil. It may be found in moments where you are able to offer God's word to those who may need it. Technology, and the ability to reach others has never been more accessible. This is why Christians in safer regions, should do their best to reach those in regions where it is unsafe to preach God's word. Being present is not always practical, but we can do things like post resources to those in need to help shape their own walk with Christ.

OAC turns 133 years old this year! The ministry has seen the change of centuries twice and a world that has changed dramatically over that time. OAC has always sought to be more effective in reaching the lost. That meant a willingness to embrace new tools for ministry. The below excerpt is from 1925 when there was a discussion about the effectiveness of using automobiles to reach more people more efficiently! OAC ended up creating customised vehicles to take the gospel around. From dedicated horse drawn carts, to modified caravans and combi vans, OAC would find a way to reach the crowds!



The Campaigner

PUBLISHED BY THE OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS

WHOSE WORK IS SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY OFFERINGS FROM LOVERS OF GOD AND THEIR FELLOWS!

Vol. 2—No. 12.

SYDNEY, JULY, 1925.

Price:—Your Prayers.

CARRYING THE GOSPEL TO NEW YORK'S CROWD.



This gospel automobile, operated by the Evangelistic Committee of N.Y. City is used to reach all parts of the city. Averaging nine meetings a day, and carrying messages to more than one hundred and fifty thousand persons in the season.

The O.A.C. evangelists recognise the need for similar methods in Sydney.

We are arranging for more numerous but briefer meetings on certain days of the week, so as to reach a greater number of people

- **Rob George** Both Rob and his wife, Gayle, have been involved in evangelism ministry for decades in Australia and overseas. Before joining OAC, the Georges were high school Physical Education teachers. Rob is a staff evangelist in SA and a part of the National Leadership Team.
- **Steve Stokes**, his wife Abby, and the family live an hour north of Melbourne. Steve coordinates teams for summer missions and leads teams to the Philippines. He shares the gospel with groups of all ages.
- **Mike Peereboom** has recently relocated from Canberra to Port Macquarie to pioneer a new work for OAC. Mike is an experienced pastor, chaplain, youth worker and outdoor professional. Mike started Bible College and stepped into paid ministry at the age of 22.
- **Stephanie Jordan** is an intern evangelist with OAC Ministries with the Queensland team and also assists the national admin team.
- **Andrew McLauchlan** is a part-time evangelist with OAC, whose ministry centers around street evangelism. He graduated in 2025 with a BMin from Brisbane School of Theology.
- **Catherine Walkington** served as a missionary from 2007 to late 2009 before an extended season of being a full-time mum. She joined the Queensland team part-time in October 2021, with the kids now all at school. Catherine does street evangelism, looks after volunteers, and helps train interns.
- **Andrew Walkington** has been on staff with OAC in Queensland since April 2018. Having been saved from an atheistic upbringing, he has a deep passion for evangelism and for training others to share their faith effectively. He has served in vocational ministry since 2007, working in missions and pastoral work. Andrew is married to Catherine, and together, they have four children. Andrew is a staff evangelist and a part of the National Leadership Team.
- **Sean Marsh** joined the OAC Queensland team in October 2022. Sean is relocating to serve OAC in WA where he will restart the work in that region. Sean has been married to his wonderful wife Gina for over twenty-five years and has two adult daughters and two Rottweilers.
- **Neil Clark** is our worker in NSW. He has over 40 years of experience in ministry to the whole family. His work for OAC focuses primarily on religious instruction in schools. Neil is married, has 3 sons, and lives in Bonnells Bay NSW. He is also a pastor of a Congregational church in Sydney.
- **Shamina Rozario** is based in ACT where she divides her time between evangelism and administrative duties. She joined OAC's team after graduating from her juris doctor degree in 2023. She also works in politics to evangelise where she can support the persecuted church worldwide.

JOIN THE TEAM

Autumn, 2025

One person preaching the gospel might reach hundreds.
One person in a team preaching the gospel might reach thousands.

Imagine 2000 volunteers serving together to take the gospel to the nation!

OAC is looking to build a team of volunteers who want to become confident and competent in sharing their faith, and who are committed to investing what they have learned into other followers of Jesus.

You don't need to be a superhero!

Just an everyday Christian:

- who sees a need and is willing to have a go
- and your willing to be trained and grow in confidence
- open to joining a team to go to the streets, schools, caravan parks, conventions, retirement homes, and anywhere else where those yet to discover Jesus are.
- and you desire to faithfully speak to people about Jesus, because God does the work in people's hearts when they hear the good news.

OAC's volunteer teams aren't special because of their gifts or skills.

They're special because they love those who are yet to discover Jesus.

They're special because they are willing to share the life transforming Gospel.

You can share Jesus with those who are yet to discover Him.

To learn more about volunteering with OAC, please visit:

oac.org.au





WORLDVIEW CAMP 2025 ACT



REGISTER NOW!



<https://oac.org.au/event/worldview-act-2025/>

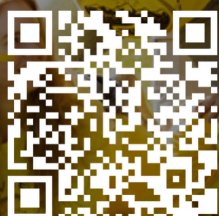
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