



Growing Families Australia — Queensland News

Reaching our state one family at a time

State Team Greeting

Well it's hard to believe that we are into the third month of 2008 already. Time is really rattling along. How are things in your family? Kids settled back into school, university and or jobs? Dust settled or have you been battling mud and rain? What are we taught in Scripture? - To praise God in all situations!! Yeah, it can be a battle, honestly, but when we do what is required (Praise Him in all situations) – the Lord will bring us through and in time we will look back and wonder why we worried!

We have mentioned before that we are here to be a resource to you all. Yeah? Well lets go to another step. There can be no greater encouragement than to meet with other like-minded families and in the future there are some wonderful opportunities coming up.

Let's talk, for a moment, about the next National Conference to be held 16th – 19th April 2009 and hosted by the NSW State Team! The location is a wonderful campsite at Stanwell Tops, which is just north of Wollongong and just south of Sydney in a National Park. Some years ago it was burnt out in a bushfire, but has been rebuilt and is an even better location to meet, grow and learn together. I have fond memories of the campsite from my younger days and do remember one night (mm not so fondly) when I sprained both ankles at a disco there. Ministry to my blue ankles was a highlight!

The other opportunity however will be a little closer to home and a bit sooner. This will be held 2nd to 4th May 2008 (Labour Day weekend) at Watson Park Convention Centre, at Dakabin – between Narangba and Kallangur north of Brisbane. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see more information.

Simply, we want to meet as many of our GFA family members as we can. Won't you join us? These are great times to take a reality check and realise, now wait for it... are you listening.... there are NO perfect families! Should I repeat, there are NO perfect families! When you come to these Family Camps you will see in stark reality, you are doing Ok! Your kids are not an embarrassment, yes you are doing OK, and coming along will reinforce that reality. Furthermore, you will most likely have some great skills to share with other parents. Sooooo..... read the notes about the camp and make a plan to come along. We would love to meet you, be blessed by you and your kids, so lets learn and be encouraged together.

See you at Dakabin!!

In Christ

Sean, GFA Qld State Team

2008 State Qld Camp

Where? Watson Park
Conv Centre

When? Labour Day w/e
2-4th May

How much?

\$115 per adult/teen

\$100 per child

What are the benefits?

Opportunity to have great fellowship with like-minded families and be inspired and built up by the sessions.

Email qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au

for registration forms and brochure.

Inside:

- 2008 Camp Forms
- Purity Paradigm
- Book Review
- The "Whining Game"
- Freebies & Specials
- Local events
- Websites to visit

What's Happening in Queensland?

(Please send your details into qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au to have your local event or course listed here)

GEMS mornings	Friday fortnight	Brisbane Southside	3807 5118 - night's please
Course - Preparation for Parenting	Friday 7th March	Brisbane Northside	3325 3787
Course - Growing Kids God's Way	Term 2 2008	Brisbane Southside	3287 7550
Course - Growing Kids God's Way	Term 2 2008	Brisbane Northside	3851 3618
State Camp 2008	2-4th May (Labour Day w/e)	Watson Park Conv Ctr	qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au

Remember to get
your payment &
registration forms
in by
**Friday 11th
April 2008**

Growing Families Queensland — Family Camp 2008

When? Friday 2nd May - Sunday 4th May
(Labour Day Weekend)

Where? **Watson Park Convention Centre**
Old Gympie Road, Dakabin Qld 4503 (approx 1hr north of Brisbane)

**What's
happening?** Ian & Lyn Williams,
NSW State Leaders are our speakers

**Sessions
include:**

- ✓ Purity - what is it, how do I encourage it in our family, tell us about resources;
- ✓ Personality & your children - enhancing your parenting skills;
- ✓ "Dads' only" and "Mums' only" sessions; hear Ian & Lyn speak
- ✓ Discussion Forum (bring your tough questions!)
- ✓ Training for Facilitators
- ✓ Family Fun night and much more!

**What will
it cost?**

- For the weekend — \$115 per adult or teen (13+) and \$100 per child (5-12yo), under 5's free!
(this includes accommodation, all meals as well as washing up!)
- Day rates are available. Please email us at qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au
- Financial assistance is available, please call Alicia on (07) 3325 3787 for confidential help

We would love for every family to come!

**What's
happening
for the
children?**

During the sessions

- ✓ Creche available for under 3's
- ✓ A kid's programme for 3-7's and 8-12's
- ✓ A teen programme will follow lunch on Saturday

Outside of sessions

- ✓ bring your bathers, there's a pool!
- ✓ Also basketball, playing fields, cricket pitch & volleyball
- ✓ have great family fun and get to know lots of other great local GFA families

What do the fees cover?

Weekend rate includes accommodation, all meals, morning & afternoon teas and supper.
A "what-to-bring" list will be forwarded when you send in your registration form.

Day rates includes ...

- * "Lunch" includes morning sessions, lunch & morning & afternoon teas
- ** "Dinner" includes everything included in lunch as well as dinner, supper & evening sessions.

Who can I

contact if I

have questions?

If you have any special needs or just a question, please don't hesitate to email us on qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au or call Alicia on (07) 3325 3787.

Interested?
Come to State Camp and attend the Purity Talks; let your kids participate in the kids program (based on age-appropriate Purity resources) and view Purity resources.

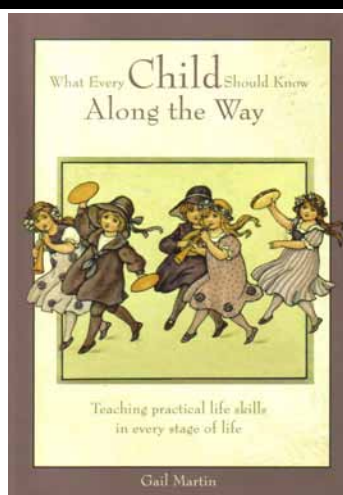
- Confused about whether to support “sex education”?
- Unsure of **when ...**
or “**how**” to teach your children about sex/purity?
- Don’t know what resources are available?

If this is your family then you may want to investigate **Purity Paradigm**.

Purity Paradigm is an Australian ministry designed to “facilitate, perpetuate and participate in a purity paradigm shift - counter to the sexual revolution”.

“Recent studies from the Barna Institute show that a persons moral foundations are usually pretty much in place by the age of 9 and that what they believe rarely changes after age 13. www.barna.org. This lends great urgency to the first decade of parenting and shows that waiting to establish attitudes about marriage till the teen years is very risky. During a parents waiting years, the world will have had plenty to say about what it presents as ‘normal, expected or healthy’ and this will have formed the moral base by default”. Taken from Purity Paradigm’s catalogue.

Heather McEwan (also editoress of “Facets” magazine) supplies excellent materials helping parents discover the history of our current sex education programs (“Does a Fish Know It’s Wet” DVD), how to approach teaching our children about biblical purity and other topics including a sensitive resource pool for parents who may be struggling with the fact that their own lives may not have had standards of purity that they would now like their children to aspire to. This ministry has materials that have excellent content and are complimentary to the Growing Families parenting materials. Contact Heather on her email rhmcewan@iprimus.com.au for her comprehensive “info-catalogue.”



Book Review - What Every Child Should Know Along The Way

by Gail Martin (ISBN 1-932740-18-X)

It is often hard to know what to expect your children to be capable of (ie *when* can they be expected to boil an egg?, load & turn on the dishwasher? replace kitchen and bathroom grout or sealant?)

While you can “look around” to see what others are doing, in today’s complex world this book will help provide a yard stick on the fundamental life skills your child should know and by when. This is an easy to read hands-on book which can be used as a reference book to guide parents on how to teach practical life skills to their children and encourage habits of Godly living.

In it you will discover::

- What to teach your children about their character, using the Bible as your source of reference.
- What to tell them about personal safety, dealing with electricity, and when to flee strangers.
- How to teach your children etiquette and concern for private property and much much more...

“...its common-sense approach to parenting makes it a “must read” for any moms and dads wishing to raise biblically responsive children...” Gary & Anne-Marie

You can order your copy via Growing Families Australia... AUD\$19.80 go to www.gfi.org.au/resources/books

Let the Children Color!



Freebie Colouring Pages for Primary Age

Download your free samples of colouring pages that support the Growing Kids principles. Topics include: first time obedience, couch time, respect for age and the “Interrupt” rule. Download here <http://www.growingkids.org/education>

Specials

Have you been to the Australian website lately?

Current specials include discounts on “Proverbs for Parenting”, audio (cassette) series of Along the Toddler Way & Along the Middle Years Way. Go to www.gfi.org.au to view.

Monthly Tip — The Whining Game

Whining is an unacceptable form of communication that becomes annoying to the listener if left unchecked. Teaching your child to ask permission cheerfully for what he/she wants or wants to do will eliminate any whining. If you have a child who whines you may like to play ‘The Whining game’.

The Game goes like this:

Place, say MM’s on table and ask them to ask for MM’s in a whiny voice. “Mum I want a MM.” Then say “No, you asked in a whiny voice”. They will probably say, “But that’s the way you told me to ask!”. Well, then say you “Ask in a nice voice, **please may I have an MM**”, then give one. This is teaching them how to ask nicely. Swap roles and do it again, pretend child is Mum and you get to ask for MM in a whiny voice. Then when they come to you in the afternoon and ask for biscuit in a whiny voice you can say “Remember the whining game we played this morning?” and give them another chance. If they choose not to ask nicely, sit them on a chair and when the stove timer goes off you can ask again. If correct they get biscuit — but if not, no biscuit. Increase time on stove timer by a minute each day until the child gets the hint. Hope this helps!!!!

Websites

Questions??

like to know more about Growing Families???

Try these websites:

www.gfi.org.au - Australian official website; information, specials, resources & ordering materials

www.gfi.org - United States official Growing Families website

www.growingkids.org - an everchanging website for the greater GFI “family”

www.ezzotruth.com - This site is not an official site of Gary and Anne Marie Ezzo or the Growing Families International (GFI) Ministry. The site administrators are Tom and Evangeline Reed.

This webpage is helpful for those looking for information about the Ezzos and their ministry materials whether you are evaluating parenting curricula for church or family, or simply curious about the ministry.

Next Newsletter ... please share!

Have you anything you’d like to share in the next newsletter?

We are looking for tips, anecdotes, questions and any other contributions we’d love to hear from you!

Contact us on qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au

Keep us up-to-date!

- Are you changing your email?
- Have a new telephone number?
- Planning to move in the next few months?

We would love to know your new details so we can keep you informed and connected with the Growing Families family! Email us on qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au

