

About Us

We are the longest serving active ABWE missionaries in Australia.

God has given us the opportunity to serve with ABWE since 1990, and in Australia since 1994. During this time He has blessed us with two children who know and love the Lord. They are a big asset to our lives and ministry. Over the years people have often asked "Why Australia?" Our answer includes some of the following:

- We enjoy a multi cultural ministry. We feel most at home when there is a mixture of nationalities and cultures around us.
- Church planting is very needed in Australia. Australia was started by convicts; so it never has had a majority Christian base. Add to this the fact that the fastest growing religion is "none" and opportunities are numerous. Plus, the Sydney region is growing by about 1200 migrants per week, and Australia is also strategically located and primed



Our most recent church plant, Glorious Hope Baptist Church
www.glorioushope.org.au

- to reach the nations that Americans will always struggle to reach.
- Life in Australia is good! What is not to like about the people, the climate and the way of life?
- By far the most important reason is that is where God has placed us to work through us. We have enjoyed an ongoing effective ministry over a number of years. We are committed to continuing this ministry for many years to come.



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Church planting:

It is God who builds His church, but He asks some of us to be the under-shepherds in order to make things happen. We have been privileged to be used of God in this way. He has called us, equipped us, sent us, and He has accomplished His good pleasure through us. We desire nothing more than to continue to serve Him in Australia!

Serving God in the greater Sydney area of Australia

Australian Church Planting



For more info visit us on the web:

www.abwedouglas.net

Email:

matt@abwedouglas.net

Douglas Family

The Ministry of Church Planting



Kid's camp team from our church plant

No one thing makes a church plant happen. Ultimately it is up to God, but the variety of ministries He has for us is key to "success."

We are experienced, proven, and effective church planters with a desire to see God continue His great work. He gets all the glory because it all belongs to Him in the first place. We are unworthy servants and have only done our duty, Luke 17.10.

Teamwork

Our teamwork is at several levels. We work with the Australian Fellowship of Bible-believing Churches to accomplish a ministry that is larger than we could coordinate on our own.

Just as the Apostle Paul worked with a team as he traveled the ancient world starting churches, we too work with others to see God accomplish His purposes. We work with doctrinally like-minded churches already in place, we work with quality men and women to establish them in the ministry God has for them, and we work with the individual churches to see them serve the Lord and reach the lost.

Ultimately we work with Australians and migrants to work ourselves out of a job.

Evangelism

Evangelism must be part of all church plants. We share the gospel hundreds of times a year. Two prime opportunities are:

Scripture classes in the public schools allow to impact the community with the gospel. Each week we can teach students the Word of God in their school classroom. Over the years we have seen good fruit from this ministry and families join the local church.

English as a second language is also a great opportunity to share the gospel. This ministry focuses on adult migrants. Each week we teach not only the basics of the English language, but we also use Scripture as a text book for reading and comprehension skills. Again, we have seen God build His church through this ministry.

Discipleship

Discipleship is vital to the longevity of any ministry. We are actively fulfilling this part of the Great Commission.

While evangelism is a big part of our ministry, discipleship is imperative. Much can be done through the church services, but it does not stop there. We enjoy home Bible studies, one-on-one mentoring, events, and retreats.

The same God who gave us variety in nature has given us a variety of ways to observe Him change the human heart, soul, and mind. Real joy comes from seeing God work His change in lives. Over the last few years Matt has been working with an Australian to develop an everyday Aussie language beginners book for people who have had very little or no former knowledge of Christianity.

Equipping to Serve

The real work of the ministry is for the people of the church. By equipping them to do the work of service, Ephesians 4.10, we advance the ministry exponentially.

We train men to serve as pastors. While our Bible school does a good job, it helps to have an experienced person along side to assist in both organization and the work itself. This has been part of our ministry.

In church planting the equipping makes it possible to move on and start another church plant. We have been privileged to have God minister through us in this way.



ABWE Australia's purpose statement:

To develop self propagating churches in order to foster an Australian church and missions multiplying movement.