# God's Vision for Our Church

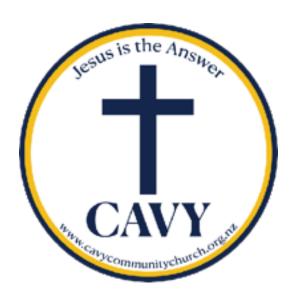
Caversham Community Church Jeff Coleman 25 April 2021



# How do continue our growth so we together reach maturity and the fulness of Messiah?

#### God's Vision for Our Church

- God's Vision for a Healthy Church
- How We Intend to Fulfill that Vision
- What We Ask from You



#### **Ephesians at a Glance**

Segments	Chapter	Theme
Wealth of the Church	1	Every Spiritual Blessing in Messiah
	2	New Individuals / New Community
	3	Revealing the Mystery of Christ
Walk of the Church	4	Unity - Gifts - Maturity - New Self
	5	Spirit-Filled Living at Home and Work
	6	Armour of God
<b>Book Theme</b>	Riches of God's Grace	
Author	Paul (imprisoned in Rome, apostle to the Gentiles, entrusted with the mystery)	
Date	AD 60-62	
Purpose	Reveal the mystery, remind the saints of their identity and walk	
Key Words	In Christ, riches, love, inheritance, walk	
Historical Context	Roman empire, Emperor Nero, Artemis, hostility to Christians, Jew-Gentile relations	

- 7 But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Messiah's gift.
- ...11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,
- 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Messiah,
- 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Messiah,
- 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.
- 15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,
- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds up in love.

## Maturity and Fulness

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## Childishness, Instability, Deceit

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- 14 so that we may no longer be *children*, tossed to and fro by the *waves* and carried about by every *wind of doctrine*, by *human cunning*, by craftiness in *deceitful schemes*.
- 15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,
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# Spiritual Gifts Working Properly

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#### **Biblical Truth**

#### Ephesians 4:7-16

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#### Growth

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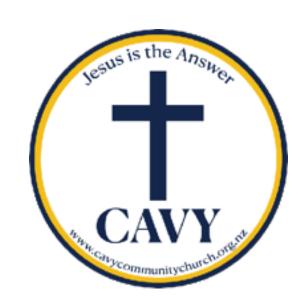
16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, where each part is working properly, makes the body *grow* so that it *builds itself up* in love.

# Biblical truth → Members equipped → Gifts working → Growth to maturity

## Evangelical

#### **Our Identity**

- A personal relationship with God.
- Being born again by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus alone.
- Spreading God's message worldwide.
- The Bible as the final authority on all matters of faith and practise.

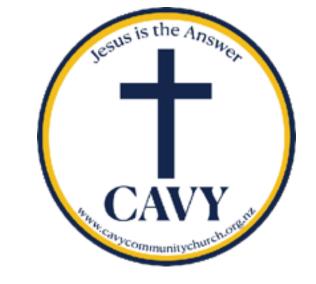


## Open Brethren Heritage

#### **Our Identity**

- Believer's baptism
- Priesthood of every believer
- Dispensationalism and support for Israel
- Eternal security without Calvinism
- Complimentarian male-female roles
- Every believer baptised by the Spirit

- Simplicity in worship
- Centrality of the Lord's supper
- Plurality of elders
- No ordained clergy
- Fellowship, not membership



# Christian Community Churches of New Zealand Our Identity

#### **OTAGO**

Caversham Community Church

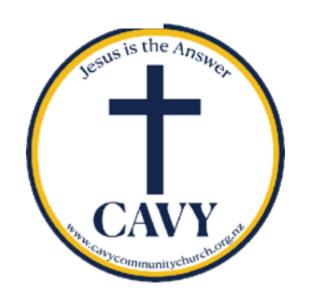
Cornerstone International Bible Church

Orwell Street Church

Riverside Chapel

#### **SOUTHLAND**

Rosedale Bible Chapel



# Christian Community Churches of New Zealand Our Identity

#### **CANTERBURY**

Bryndwr Chapel

Church Street Bible Chapel

EAUKS (Ekalesia Au Uso Kerisiano Samoa)

Glentunnel Chapel

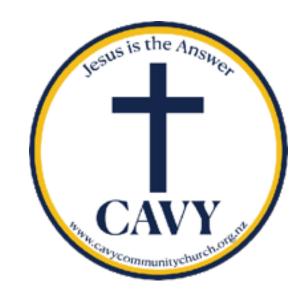
Redemption Church Christchurch

Riccarton Community Church

Rowley Avenue Bible Chapel

Rutland Street Church

Wairakei Road Bible Church



# Christian Community Churches of New Zealand Our Identity

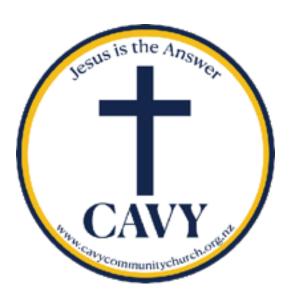
## CCCNZ EVENTS







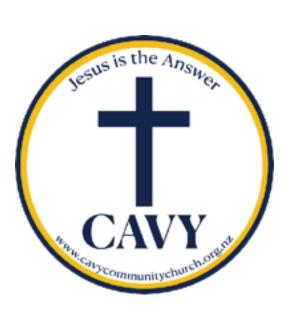




## Playfair Street Gospel Hall

#### **Our History**





# Our Vision:

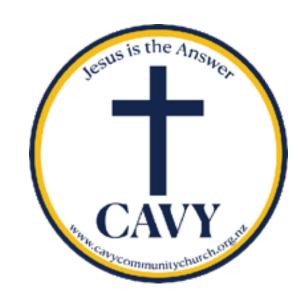
# Maturity and Fulness

# Our Strategy:

# Biblical Truth and Gifts

#### What We Ask from You

- 1. Believe in the Lord Jesus
- 2. Commit to this church
- 3. Eagerly maintain the unity of our church
- 4. Get into God's word like never before
- 5. Use your spiritual gifts to build up our church
- 6. Aim together for maturity and the fulness of Jesus



# How do continue our growth so we together reach maturity and the fulness of Messiah?

# Our Vision:

# Maturity and Fulness

# Our Strategy:

# Biblical Truth and Gifts