

# **Evangel Message**

## ***Home Groups***

Many years ago before Cliff and I were Christians, I was asked to be Godmother for my niece. When I visited the local minister to arrange this he challenged me to examine my own faith before I took on promises of faith on behalf of another.

So I tentatively began to attend church. Soon after we had a visit from a member of the local congregation who invited me to be part of a group of young mothers meeting at the church each week. "I don't think so" I said "I don't know enough." To which he replied "well you just might learn something." During the same week a friend who was a 'sometimes' church goer called in and asked me if I had been invited to the group and "why don't we go together and see what it's like."

We did and life was never the same again! I discovered a group of young mums coping with the same issues that I was, who didn't judge me for my lack of knowledge, who accepted me just as I was, who encouraged me to examine the Christian faith and who faithfully prayed for and with me. I discovered that Tony was right - I did learn something!

Home groups will be starting here next year, I encourage everyone to belong to one. Even if you know nothing, know little or know lots about Jesus, you just may learn something more!

***Nola***

### **Why What How**

Here's one of the the things that make Home Groups great: they're just the place to pray for, and make the opportunity to invite people who don't know Jesus yet.

We deliberately talk about and pray for those people we know in our lives who don't know Jesus yet. One of the Home Groups we have over here in Canning Vale meets at someone's house who loves to cook. She is the best cook, anyone would want to go to her place for dinner. And so that's what happened the other night. The Home Group prayed about who they might invite, and then invited them, and then prayed for opportunities to share about Jesus and do you know what happened?

One of the people who came said; "Tell me about your church? I think I'd like to go." So they're coming this Sunday, and have already made plans to come to Canning Vale Christmas party. Home Groups are a great place to band together, pray together and encourage each other to invite people to meet Jesus' family.

Did you know that TEAR Australia's recent research notes that more than 1 in 3 people would come to church if invited?

***Nicholas***