

BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CONVENTION VISION & VALUES STATEMENT

Our Purpose

The Belgrave Heights Convention exists To inspire and equip Christians to love and live for Christ in this world.

Our Vision

The spiritual renewal of God's people for His mission in the world.

God's purpose is to bring his blessing to all the nations of the world (Gen12:2,3). That promise of blessing, which touches every aspect of human life, is fulfilled through the life, death, resurrection, ascension and future return of Christ.

All of the people of God are called to participate in His missionary purposes, wherever He may place them. The central vision of the Belgrave Heights Convention is to partner with the local church to see the people of God equipped, encouraged and refreshed to fulfil that calling, directed and guided by God's Word in the power of His Spirit, for the glory of his Son, Jesus Christ.

There are five fundamental priorities which shape all we do: Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Hearing God's Word, Becoming like God's Son, Serving God's mission, and Partnering and fellowship in mission and ministry.

Our Mission

To develop spiritually mature Christians, whose faith and practice is anchored in the Bible, through the teaching and practical application of God's Word.

Our Priorities

 There are five fundamental priorities which shape all we do:

1. **Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.** We proclaim the everlasting gospel of Christ, our Saviour, His atoning death in our place, His mighty resurrection, and His return as Saviour of His people and judge of the world. We call on all to repent and trust in Him for salvation and eternal life.
2. **Hearing God's Word.** The Scriptures are the foundation for the church's life, growth and mission, and we are committed to preach and teach God's Word in a way which is faithful to Scripture and relevant to Christians of all ages and backgrounds.
3. **Becoming like God's Son.** We encourage Christians to live godly lives in the power of the Spirit, to grow in Christ-likeness and to live under His Lordship in every area of life. This is God's will for His people in every culture and generation.
4. **Serving God's Mission.** The authentic response to God's Word is obedience to His mission, and the inevitable result of Christ-likeness is sacrificial service. We seek to

encourage committed discipleship in family life, work and society, and energetic engagement in the cause of world mission.

5. **Partnering and Fellowship in Ministry and Mission.** We welcome all who love the Lord Jesus Christ and are committed to evangelical and Biblical faith and practice. We enjoy partnership with many churches, ministries and mission agencies who share our Biblical and evangelistic convictions and priorities.

Our Values

Belgrave Heights Convention is committed to the deepening of the spiritual life in individuals and church communities through the careful exposition and practical application of Scripture to daily life:

Lordship of Christ To encourage submission to the Lordship of Christ in all areas of personal and corporate living

Transformation by Word and Spirit To encourage active obedience to God's Word through a dependency upon the indwelling and fullness of the Holy Spirit for life-transformation and effective living

Evangelism and Mission To provoke a strong commitment to evangelism and mission in Australia and worldwide

Discipleship To stimulate the discipling and training of people of all ages in godliness, service and sacrificial living, equipping them to participate in the mission of God in every area of life

Unity To provide a practical demonstration of evangelical unity across denominations and across generations.

Our Practice

Belgrave Heights Convention seeks to model practical Christian living in all areas of life.

Gift of Life. To defend, protect, and value all human life. We believe that human beings are created male and female by God in His image. Therefore, every person, from conception to natural death, possesses inherent dignity and immeasurable worth—including preborn children, elderly individuals, those with special needs and others marginalised by society (Psalm 139:13–14a).

Marriage and Family. To model and teach Christian marriage as biblically defined in a lifelong commitment between a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, and to encourage people of all ages to express biblical values in sexuality and family life (Matthew 19:4–6).

Working Together. To model Christ-like relationships of honesty, generosity, respect and integrity in all areas of our work together. We want our relationships to be governed by fundamental Biblical imperatives (2 Timothy 3:16,17).

Our witness. As a matter of Christian integrity and consistency, all aspects of our work and all of our relationships must reflect gospel values, so that our witness to Jesus Christ is commended, not compromised (Colossians 1:9–14).

Our Unity.

Belgrave Heights Convention, with the Keswick movement worldwide, has adopted a key Pauline statement to describe its gospel inclusivity: “for you are all one in Christ Jesus” (Gal 3:28). The Convention works with evangelical believers from a wide variety of church backgrounds, share a commitment to the essential truths of the Christian faith as set out in our statement of belief.

All who speak on behalf of Belgrave Heights Convention are asked to display sensitivity and generosity of spirit on the wide range of issues where evangelicals, in good conscience, hold a variety of opinions. Founded on our unity in Christ and our shared understanding of evangelical truth, we expect those who minister among us to expound scripture with clarity and faithfulness, but respectfully ask them not to use the Convention platform to campaign for particular positions on secondary issues. Recognising that Scripture allows for legitimate differences on some matters (Romans 14:1 – 15:13), we lay these aside for the purposes of our ministry together.

Our Ministry.

Belgrave Heights Convention: the events BHC regularly hosts major Conventions at the Belgrave Heights Convention property. Each year, Conventions provide Bible teaching with practical application across generations and denominations, and a challenging call to serve Christ in the world. They cater for children of all ages and there is a strong youth and young adult program. The Conventions take place in the beautiful surroundings of the Dandenong ranges—a perfect setting for rest, recreation, refreshment, and spiritual renewal.

Belgrave Heights Convention and Keswick: the movement The Keswick Convention originated in the town of Keswick in the “Lakes District” of England in 1875. It has been the inspiration for the establishment of other similar Conventions around the world, including Belgrave Heights Convention. We have had links with Keswick since the start of our own Convention in 1918. We continue to enjoy fellowship with other Keswick Conventions around the world.