

Northern Aboriginal Christian Convention 2013

In the Sept school holidays, out from Mareeba, on the Cotton Family's Property the beauty of the bush and a quiet river valley, with the soft gurgling of the flowing waters of the Barron River were changed to another beauty.



Early morning devotions led by Aboriginal Christian Leaders

Aboriginal families from Doomadgee, Normanton, Mt Isa, N.T., Mareeba, S.E. Q'ld, and Northern NSW gathered for the 29th Northern Aboriginal Christian Convention. They camped 'out bush' for 4 days to listen to, and worship God, share the experiences of being God's people, and enjoy being together. From the quietness of the breaking day, to the hush of the moonlit nights the quiet of the bush enjoyed the praises of God's people as they sang, talked of the great God who created the wonders of the world, and saved people through Jesus' forgiveness to be children of God. There was an awesome hush as people prayed and listened intently to God's Word as it was explained by Kyle Slabb, a gifted Aboriginal Christian leader and Bible teacher from "Cross Flow" Ministries" in NSW.



Kyle Slab - speaker

A Convention highlight was having safe water and being able to **baptize four Christians with four very different life journeys.** Following each baptisms the canopy of heaven filled with the song "I have decided to follow Jesus – No turning back, no turning back!" Rejoice with and pray for



Effie George – in her *mid-eighties*- Normanton Aboriginal Christian Elder & faithful believer
Noreen - a 'new' Christian woman from Normanton whose life is so changed wanted to be baptized in declaration

Bradley – from Normanton, is a very gifted young musician who has wanted to be baptized some time.

3 Baptized from N'ton with Kyle Slabb & Lyle Morris



Jackie Mahoney – an old man from Lake Nash. For many years he was so opposed to God and anything about God. BUT like the Bible man Saul, the persecutor, who had a face to face encounter with God and was changed to become Paul the preacher, Jackie has had a turnabout experience of God and is now God's saved man, and with great joy declared this though his baptism. Jackie Maloney N.T. Changed by God!

A group of approx. 40 travelled from Lake Nash N.T. and Mt Isa. Christians from Lake Nash challenged the have created in their language expression by Bible dramas of people's experiences with Jesus, based on the stories in the Bible. For many of the new Christians this oral presentation is how they learn and pass on the teaching and events of the Bible. Great commitment, planning, practicing, preparing of simple costumes and backdrops and much praying goes before every presentation. The group has been asked to take the Bible Dramas to football finals, rodeos, churches and their own communities.



Answered Prayers when YWAM (Youth with a Mission) Team from the Gold Coast provided a programme for the Kids and assisted with the preparations.

Next Year 2014 is the 30th Convention. This will be celebrated on the Aboriginal cattle Station "Delta Downs" out from Normanton.