

Changing Lives

Bethesda : is a Disability Training & Support Centre, based in Honiara, Solomon Islands. Bethesda's primary purpose is to provide training and support to students with a disability.

The students are generally young adults between the ages of 18 and 35 (many with little prior schooling) and come with various disabilities such as being wheelchair bound, mental disabilities and several different physical disabilities

Residential courses run for 12months, meaning students live at the centre for the year while they are at school. The course gives the students the confidence and abilities required for them to be able to integrate and contribute in the day-to-day life of their communities. It changes their lives.



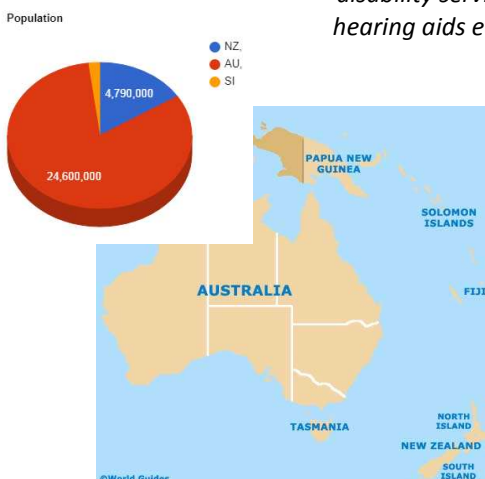
watch this promo video : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ffcf--hMXRY>

Activity:

Look in your local yellow pages or do a google search to see how many services or schools there are in your town that provide support for students with a disability.

Write your number here

Try searching : *special schools; Deaf and Blind services/ schools; disability services and support organizations; hearing aids equipment and services*



Did you know that most schools in Australia and New Zealand provide individual support for students who have a disability.

Can you guess how many disability schools or centers there are in the Solomon Islands? (Look at the size of Solomon Islands compared to the size of your town, now use the number you wrote above to help you guess)

1 2 5 10 15 30

Circle your guess

That's right. There are 2 disability schools in the Solomon Islands. One school for the deaf and the other is Bethesda. *That's why supporting Bethesda is so important!*

Bible teachings:

Look up John 9:2-7.

What question did Jesus disciples ask Him? _____

What was Jesus answer? _____

¹¹ The Lord said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord?

Exodus 4:11 (NIV)

What did we learn from our opening devotion?

Look up Psalm 139: 13-14.

Created for a purpose:

We were created:

A) *To be in a relationship with God and to glorify Him.*

B) *To reflect God. Thus we have worth and dignity.*

C) *To be in a relationship with others. To be part of a community that encourages one another and uses our God given gifts for the good of others.*

D) *To be in a relationship with creation, to be good stewards that protect and manage God's world and to receive produce from it.*

Match the above purposes with the below bible verses.

<p>Everyone who is called by My name, And whom I have created for My glory, whom I have formed, even whom I have made. Isaiah 43:7</p> <p>For God is faithful through whom you were called into Fellowship with His Son Christ Jesus." 1 Cor 1:9</p>	<p>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:5</p> <p>And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24–25</p>
<p>And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” Genesis 1:28</p> <p>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. Genesis 2:15</p>	<p>And we all, who with unveiled faces reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:18</p> <p>So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27</p>

Bethesda, helping students fulfill their purpose:

Bethesda offers a variety of courses that help give students confidence and abilities to be able to integrate and contribute in the day to day life of their community. *It changes their life.*

Think about how the below courses might help a student fulfill their created purpose. Match the course to a created purpose (there may be more than one purpose per course).

Created Purpose:

- A. *To be in a relationship with God and to glorify Him.*
- B. *To reflect God. Thus we have worth and dignity.*
- C. *To be in a relationship with others. To be part of a community that encourages one another and uses our God given gifts for the good of others.*
- D. *To be in a relationship with creation, to be good stewards that protect and manage God’s world and to receive produce from it.*

Bethesda Courses

Biblical Principles



created purpose A B C D

Cooking



created purpose A B C D

Personal health care



created purpose A B C D

Sewing



created purpose A B C D

Agricultural training



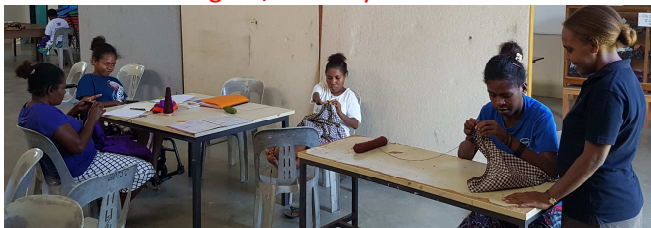
created purpose A B C D

Wood work



created purpose A B C D

English/ Literacy



created purpose A B C D

Social Interaction



created purpose A B C D

What is our special mission project?

Bethesda needs our help to raise money so they can repair the student recreation area. They would also like to build some cupboards in this special area to store their games in.



Bethesda would also love to make shaded outdoor picnic tables for the students to use during the day.

The students will be able to participate in both these projects through their wood working classes.



Remember that students live at the school for the year. It is their classroom and their home. Let's help make it more comfortable for them!

Doing

- Talk to your family and friends about what you have learnt about Bethesda. Include what you learnt about your created purpose and how you are made to reflect God.
- Pray for the students and workers at Bethesda.
- Construct one of the craft idea money boxes and help raise money for the special mission project.
- Enjoy playing some games from the ideas sheet.