

## Five Smooth Stones

We are in a David and Goliath struggle to protect Christian values in Australia. But remember how the young David *“chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd’s bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine”* (1 Samuel 17:40 NIV).



The example of David shows us that great victories are won for God by faith and using the resources that He provides. *“He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”* (1 Corinthians 15:57 NIV).

**You are invited to prayerfully consider joining the support team of David and Marilyn, either as a prayer supporter or financial supporter as they work as volunteers with the Canberra Declaration.**

## The Five-Part Declaration

The Canberra Declaration was first read out on 23 July, 2010 in Parliament House in Canberra and later on the same day outside on the lawns. The one-page 856-word declaration was written by a cross-section of Christian leaders in five parts.

1. The Preamble
2. Religious Freedom
3. Marriage and Family
4. Sanctity of Human Life
5. Conclusion

Part 1 contains the words from our Constitution *“Humbly relying on the blessings of Almighty God”*. Parts 2, 3 and 4 address three focus areas that are being *“undermined”*. Part 5 states that this declaration is *“for the future of our nation and our children”*. To date over 68,000 Australian citizens have read and signed the Canberra Declaration.

## Our Five-Fold Mission

1. Awaken,
2. Encourage,
3. Educate,
4. Equip and
5. Unify

**people to pray and make a stand for Christian values for the greater good of all Australians.**

In support of this mission, David and Marilyn write and send out fortnightly Good News Updates, write various submissions, maintain the website and coordinate a large team of volunteers. They believe that God is using their twenty-five years’ experience as missionaries at an interdenominational Bible College in Papua New Guinea in doing this work.

## The Five-Dollar Note

The Australian five-dollar note can be a source of inspiration for supporting the Canberra Declaration.



Only the five-dollar note has a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II. This acknowledges her as the Queen and titular head of Australia, thus making Australia a Christian Constitutional Monarchy. The golden wattle, our national flower, reminds us of the astounding beauty that God our Creator has bestowed on our land. On the back we see an elevation and floorplan of new Parliament House.



It was a member of the Canberra Declaration Prayer Team who used the Australian five-dollar note to show us the location of the Prayer Chapel at the top level of Parliament House in Canberra. On the note, at the bottom, is an elevation of old Parliament House which in 1927 was dedicated to the glory of God in prayer. The five-dollar note is a good reminder of the Christian foundations and heritage of Australia that we want to protect.

## Five Stars

In 1988 David joined with 50,000 Australians at the National Gathering to open new Parliament House in prayer. Even the Queen made an appearance!

The all-night prayer battle for Australia took place on the same lawns where, 22 years later, the Canberra Declaration was first read out. Through the night the five stars of the beautiful Southern



Cross arced slowly across the clear winter sky pointing to the destiny that God has for Australia.

Today the **National Day of Prayer & Fasting** takes place in the Great Hall of Parliament House and around Australia. This had its beginning in a Canberra Declaration Consultation on Prayer in Parliament House in 2011. David and Marilyn are part of the organising team of this annual event.

## Five Prayer Points

We value your prayers in our work as volunteers. Please pray for these five prayer points.

1. **Wisdom for discernment of the issues.**
2. **Anointing to write and communicate.**
3. **Strength and time to manage volunteers.**
4. **Guidance to find 'Timothies' to train up.**
5. **Grace to work 'with one accord' with others.**

Please let us know if you would like to join our **prayer team** and receive regular prayer points.

## The Five-Dollar Plan

Right from the beginning of the Canberra Declaration in 2010, the hard copy signing sheet has had these words - **"DONATE \$5"** - to help with costs.

**Would you also prayerfully consider joining our financial support team? Would you be willing to DONATE \$5?**

- \$5 a year?
- \$5 a month?
- \$5 a week?
- Another Amount?

For more details, please go to our ministry webpage [www.dmrowsome.wordpress.com/donate](http://www.dmrowsome.wordpress.com/donate) or talk to David and Marilyn personally.

On the webpage you will find more details for donating by Credit card, Direct Debit Bank Transfer or PayPal. Please note donations are not tax-deductable.

In serving the **Canberra Declaration** and the **National Day of Prayer & Fasting**, we volunteer under the umbrella of **Australian Heart Ministries**.

Thank you!

David & Marilyn Rowsome

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## An Invitation from David & Marilyn Rowsome



## Volunteers with the Canberra Declaration

