



THE VINES UNITING CHURCH

#1 Saturday Edition - The Grape



Church in your pyjamas!

AIM: The *Saturday Edition* is to provide you with an extra resources to assist in your reflection of the Sunday Service and add to your connection with others.

Communication is like the giant trees that intertwine their roots to maintain rigidity. Our communication links us also and makes us stronger to withstand hardship.

Q. WHAT have you BEEN UP TO?

Why not KEEP a JOURNAL to write down your reflections.

You could even write about a **Post War recipe**... or some other food story involving the famous "Lard Sandwich." (You could send in a funny story to Colleen via email.)

A Life Story from DJP:

Returning home from Morphett Vale High school, I was in yr 10, seated up the back of the bus with an English friend. Richard pulled out his Lard sandwich he hadn't eaten from lunch and threw it down the bus. I roared with laughter and in the space of closing and opening my eyes I was covered in lard sandwich and food as everyone started a food war. That will teach me for sitting in the back of the bus in line with the aisle.



Mum never asked me about the stains, maybe she thought I was a messy eater?

Q. What about you, what do you remember?

SERMON WORKSHEET: 29 Mar 20. WK#6 "Working for Peace."

THIS YEAR HAS HAD SO MANY FIRSTS

- First time in 100 yrs Army reserve called out
- First time Australia has been ravaged by bushfires nationally
- First time in 100 years Aust borders locked down
- First time in 100 years State borders locked down
- First time in 100 years since the Post World War 1 *Great Depression*.

Q. What stories shaped your family life growing up?

Q. Was there a favourite saying or approach?

Most people under 40 will not have experienced this level of wide spread chaos, sorry, *Losing Grand Final's does not really count!!* .

READ Philippians Chapter 4, Verses 1 & 4-7.

(Check contents page in front of your Bible for page no.)

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Easier said that done. However remember Paul was in a Roman Goal writing about not being anxious and having the peace of God. He was facing the death sentence because of his faith, how could he talk about PEACE????

Previous times of hardship can teach us things about God, self and other. Here are some questions for your personal reflection and journaling

Q. "In previous times of hardship what has kept you going?"

Q. "What did you learn about God, self and others?"

Q. "How has your prayer life grown or shrunk during these times?"

Presence in Isolation

Psalm 27:4-5 The Message

⁴*I'm asking God for one thing, only one thing:
To live with him in his house my whole life long.
I'll contemplate his beauty; I'll study at his feet.*

⁵*That's the only quiet, secure place in a noisy world,
The perfect getaway, far from the buzz of traffic.*

These are challenging times. Exceedingly so. I have never seen anything like this before – a crisis in our midst requiring us to isolate ourselves from one another. We've been accustomed to getting together on a regular basis, primarily Sundays, but at other times also across each week, providing physical contact and presence to each other. But at this time, we're not able to do that.

According to Paul, we all belong to each other (Romans 12:5) and as such, we have a oneness and a connection with each other that cannot be broken even when we are in isolation from one another.

The psalmist describes a house that was separate from his physical body; Paul describes our physical bodies as the 'house,' the place in which God dwells (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19-20; 2 Corinthians 6:16).

So, for me, the invitation is to connect with that Presence that is within me. And in some ways, I don't think there has ever been a better time for us to do that, to spend some time each day listening for and to One who dwells in the house that is my body. So how do we do that? How do we connect with our inner selves and the God who is Present within?

Perhaps another invitation is to simply be still (Psalm 46:10). Find a quiet place to be still for 10 or 15 minutes ... to read a couple of times and think about the Bible passages noted above and dare to dream, trust, accept, that God is with us in a very personal and intimate way.

And regardless of our circumstances and isolation, God says to us all, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6; Hebrews 13:5)

Blessings, David Mc

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WHAT ABOUT A NAME FOR THIS SATURDAY EDITION??

The Grape?

The Weekender?

"Rumour on the Grapevine..?"

Weekend Bunch?

Grapes of Wrath?

The Vine?

Why not let Colleen and myself know some of your creative ideas for this Saturday Edition. Perhaps you could also share some of the positives of staying home!

If this edition takes off we may even need an EDITOR!!!!

Remember:

***"Phone a Friend and Choose Life"
'Cos you can't catch the virus over the phone!***