

PENTECOST Sharing IAN PAINTER's TOP 7.

Last Sunday Ian Painter shared via a phone about the things he had learned through his life and the recent trials.

LIFE experiences can hit us hard, and force us to ask questions about our life and faith, about our goals and purpose. To be relevant faith and experience have to mesh, to ask hard questions of each. Events in Ian's life caused him to question:

- Q. Why was I put on the earth?
- Q. What is God's plan for me/my purpose in life?

As he reflected and wrote he discovered he had 7 TOP POINTS

1. *You are not on your own – share your feelings.*
2. *List the things you are thankful for – To remind you.*
3. *Mum said: “you are living every day ... don't waste it.”*
4. *Do something for yourself every day.*
5. *Help others everyday: feels good & builds relationships.*
6. *You can't change the past, focus on what is important.*
7. *Focus on thankfulness & joy for what went well.*

Ian has been very honest about the challenges he has and is facing;... His grief, His regrets, His anger, but more importantly the things that have sustained him: his love of Jenny, children and grandchildren. Reflecting upon his life helped him discover answers to his initial questions, to find his voice and affirm that through his struggles:

“God is good, God is faithful

And the power of prayer knows no bounds.”

Q. Which of the TOP 7 did you resonate with?

Q. If you were to write your own TOP 7 what would they be?

Thanks Ian and Jenny, peace and prayers to you. Rev DJPrior

The Vines Uniting Church:
“Reaching out in God’s Love”

Our Mission:

God is calling us...

“To be a vibrant, growing community reaching out in God’s love.”

Our Core Values:

As a community of faith we recognise our dependence upon God’s Grace.

THE CENTRALITY OF CHRIST

Jesus is Lord and we will continue to try new things and to step out in faith when the Holy Spirit leads us.

BIBLE - CENTRED TEACHING

We aim to live and teach God’s Word with integrity, so that seekers discover the living Christ and believers mature in their faith and relationship with God.

ACTIVE PRAYER

Prayer is a central aspect of a living relationship with God. Believing that God hears and answers prayer is a vital part of our ministries and activities within this Church.

AUTHENTIC WORSHIP

We celebrate and declare God’s love for us in corporate worship in ways that are relevant to people’s life and faith.

DEVELOPING PEOPLE

We encourage people to discover, develop and deploy their God-given gifts within the church and everyday living in the wider community.

A WARM and CARING COMMUNITY

We are a community in which both members and newcomers find a warm welcome and genuine care. Our network of small groups and activities enable people to build deeper relationships with each other by sharing, praying, learning and loving together.

SHARING GOOD NEWS

“Reaching out in God’s love” shapes our various programs, ministries and practical service, aiming to connect with the current needs and lifestyles of the wider community.