

May 3, 2020

Want to connect with your church family?

Call Ps Jeff McGregor for a chat 0415 614 781

Call someone from your church family and brighten their day

Church services are online; <u>www.livingwatersloxton</u> and don't forget to check out Ps Jeff's blog!!

Check out Living Waters on Facebook

Chat or video call on messenger

KYB is going 'live'; join us on messenger. Call Cynthia for details 0455 900 142

> Join Think Tank bible study via Zoom, contact Heather for more info: 0432 419 778

Join in the Zooffee chat with the church ladies: for more details on the next 'coffee date', call Chioma, 0437 384 309

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control

Pastor Sonny Pillay's farewell service DVD is now available to borrow from the church library. If you would like a personal copy, there is a LIMITED number available.

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Please contact Karina to secure your copy 0413 238 219



Call Beth on 0498 557 939 to arrange a private time to meet at the library



Visit our website for past and upcoming services, Ps. Jeff's blogs, bible study tools and much more





NO CHURCH SERVICE FOR THE TIME BEING?

What does this mean for our church family? Can you still see / hear/ get access to Sunday sermons?

The short answer is ... YES!

An online platform is available.. We are using a streaming service to send out the sermons electronically.

The sermon is available on Living Waters website and on Facebook.

For those of you who do not have access to Facebook or the internet we are able to record the sermons on CD.

If you would a copy, contact Karina by email or mobile to arrange a CD to be posted or home delivered.

admin@livingwatersloxton.com.au 0413 238 219

PRAYER POINTS

Psalm 118:28 You are my God and I will exalt You.

Our Church family - Through the church service we are watching each Sunday in our homes via the 'net, may this give us a feeling of unity with each other.

Praise and thank God for Ps. Jeff, our Elders and Deacons . Pray they will be led by the Holy Spirit as they prepare the service for each Sunday and as they make decisions for our Church.

Father, in the Name of Jesus, let Your anointing flow bring healing and deliverance for perfect healing for Brian and Peter's cancer cells and also for Sue Crossing's eyesight.

Pray Mary in Bogota, Matt, Rebekah and their children in Georgia will be protected from COVID-19 and pray for protection for all of those in their ministries.

Pray for our Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, the government– federal and state. Pray for wisdom at this time. Source- Gary Webb

For the protection from the spread of this virus and for God's healing hand on those already infected. Source-Gary Webb

Australia - Give thanks to God for the way the disease is being brought under control in Australia, for our leaders who are leading us through the pandemic and to the healthcare workers who are ministering to the sick and dying. Source - Australian Prayer Network

Persecuted Church - Christians in Iran, Pakistan, Egypt, Eritrea and beyond are unlikely to be treated if infected with COVID –19. In Pakistan, unclean 'infidels' cant get hospital treatment. Pray anyone affected will receive medical treatment.

If you have any prayer requests please contact Ann Sheffield 0488 598 730 or Ps. Jeff McGregor 0415 614 781





It's easy at times to make a mountain out of a molehill, to lose sight of what's really important. Sometimes it's a case of too much to do and not enough time, others it's due to the enormity of what lays ahead, fear and anxiety kick in. At other times it due to procrastination. In this time that we are in it can be due to COVID-19, but whatever the cause, it's so easy to lose sight and lose our perspective.

As believers we need to have a kingdom perspective, look toward Christ and salvation in Him. Our hope lies not in the things of this world, but in Christ. To help us keep things in perspective it is interesting to note that before they died, Muhammad said 'I don't know the purpose of life'. Buddha said to his followers 'seek for the truth'. Confucius said 'I am not the way'. Jesus is the only one who rose from the dead. The other three are still in their grave.

I think that gives us perspective. The goal is not to be anything except what God has called you to. You are a child of God, bought by the blood of Christ shed for, and because of, your sin. The perspective that Christ wants you to have is that of His Kingdom. You are citizens of heaven! You have been commissioned by God the Father through Jesus to tell of His kingdom. You don't have to be a missionary, unless God calls you for that. You don't have to be an evangelist, unless God calls you for that, but you are called to tell what you have seen and heard, to proclaim that Christ died and rose again, and through Him salvation is offered to all who would believe in Him.

Think back to a time before you knew Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Who was the one that told you? It may have been many people or one person, many times. I remember back in Christchurch when I was at Christchurch Polytechnic there was a guy who I became friends with who was a Christian. He showed his faith by actions rather than words, but the few words that he spoke didn't fall away. I have an aunt and uncle who are believers who were praying for me, even though I didn't know it, and finally I had a friend I knew from school who gave His life to Jesus. It was ultimately through His witness that I came to Christ. Each person played a part. Who are the ones that played a part in your life? You have been given the greatest gift of all, and are commissioned by God to share it. Our perspective is that of His kingdom.

Let us, as His people, not let things cloud our perspective, let's not lose sight of it. It gets hard; life tries to get in the way. The enemy will try to thwart your attempts, but if we keep Christ and His kingdom in perspective, we can and will overcome. The enemy is a defeated foe, he has no hold over us, we are in Christ, set free from the enemy's bondage, and we have victory in Christ! So believer, what is your perspective today? That of Christ and His kingdom, or have you lost sight? I leave you with the words of James:

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

In Christ our Redeemer, Ps Jeff

Published online April 24, 2020

ps Jeff's Biog

Do you have the answer?

I remember years ago in my first year of Bible College I was introduced to Apologetics. The lecturer (Dr Bob Robinson) made the joke that apologetics is the study of being sorry for being a Christian. You could hear the groans in the room. He then went on to explain what Apologetics was and its history. That first class made me look again at 1 Peter 3:15 'But in your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.'

Apologetics is being able to 'defend' our faith, or to put it simply, give an answer to those who ask you about your faith. So what does the above scripture tell us? It mentions 5 things 1- Honour Christ, 2- Be prepared, 3- What are the reasons 4- Hope 5- Gentleness and respect. I will go over these points and give a basic and brief outline of how we talk about our faith. It is important that we know what we believe and why. If we don't know what or why, then how can we tell others of Christ and His salvation? We are called to be ambassadors of His Kingdom, not pew warmers of His church.

1- Honour Christ. The very first words of this verse are to 'honour Christ the Lord as Holy.' We need to realise that Christ is Holy; we serve a holy God, holy means to be set apart. We are also holy because He is holy (1 Peter 1:15-16), we have been set apart, Set apart to be His ambassadors; we have been given a commission to tell others about Him. **Take away point for you; You are set apart and commissioned as an ambassador**.

2- Be prepared. We get prepared to go to the shops; we grab the bags, we get the list, grab the car keys and off we go. We don't get to the shops and then think about what we need, we figured that out beforehand. It's the same here. Prepare yourself so that you know what you believe and why. So does that mean you need to go to seminary for 3-5 years and get a degree in theology? No; it means every day you spend time with Him, reading His word, in prayer and in praise. This is how we get prepared. God wants to spend time with us and talk with us and empower us. We cannot do this on our own. I've tried and I failed. If we spend time with Him, He will prepare us, we become accustomed to His voice, we get to know His word. It requires time and effort but it is well worth it. We get to sit down with Jesus, just like Martha. **Take away point for you; Spend time with God every day, this is how we get prepared.**

3- What are the reasons? We are given joy, but what are the reasons for this joy? Do we even look joyful? We can get so used to the joy of our salvation that it becomes so commonplace in our lives that the smile fades and the 'meh' face goes back on. We need to let the joy of the Lord shine through. So what are the reasons for this joy? This is where the 'prep' you did beforehand comes in. Through the 'prep', you discovered in the word the reason for your joy, and knowing His voice He will give you the words to speak. The greatest reason for our joy is the fact that we have eternal life, that Jesus who was dead is now alive. We have been 'saved'. Your testimony here is part of the reason, talk about who you were and what you were like and tell then what Christ did in your life to make you a new creation. **Take away point for you; let His joy shine and your testimony be a tool.**



4- Hope. In this world right now hope is in short supply. Even before the pandemic, hope was not common. But we have hope, hope that Christ is coming again, His *parousia* is near (parousia is Greek for the second coming) That is our Hope, what we can cling to in times of trouble. We have an assurance of our salvation, John 5:24 'Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.' We have assurance that He is coming again, Acts 1:9-11 'And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." This is our hope, there are many other promises from God that give us hope. Search the word to find them and hold on to them as precious gems from Him to you. Take away point for you; His promises are what we place our hope in.

5- Gentleness and respect. In telling others about our faith it can sometimes get heated and start to turn into an argument. We are not to argue with others. We can debate, but that is not the same as having an argument with someone. We are told to be gentle and respectful to those who ask. We are not to 'bible bash' them, but with love, care, respect, and listening to His voice, tell them about Jesus. If they ask something we don't know the answer to let them know that you will look it up and find out for them. This shows two things: 1. You are not a 'know it all' and 2. You are willing to actually engage in conversation. This can lead to you having a second conversation about Jesus. We are here to plant, water and reap. Sometimes we plant, sometimes we water and sometimes we reap. All we need to do is tell them about Jesus and God by His Holy Spirit does the rest. **Take away point for you; be gentle and respectful, and listen to Him as you speak.**

I know that this is brief, but I hope this helps you all as you ask the Lord to give you people to speak to about your faith. Be the apologist and ambassador that Christ has commissioned you to be.

In Christ our Redeemer, Ps Jeff

Published online April 29, 2020

Hi parents, care givers and kids!

Just a follow up to everyone re our Easter colouring competition.



Please encourage your children who received the Easter pack to do their very best colouring of the *He Is Risen* poster and either scan and email to <u>admin@livingwatersloxton.com.au</u> (Or call Heather Webb on 0414942880 for collection by May 24.)

Ultimately we would like to display the originals in the church by Pentecost, Sunday, May 31. Winners will be announced in our service – whether that be together at the church building – or online!

There will be some good prizes to win,

So make sure your kids get them done, and submitted!



Living Waters' leadership is still very active even though we are not meeting in the church

Board meetings are held first Wednesday of each month (via Zoom at the moment)

Some things we are working on at the moment:

- Replacement of the car park rear fence
- New signage at the front of the car park
- Appointment of an auditor for AGMs
- COVID restrictions and compliance and what that means for LWCC
- Online services

Want to know something?

We're here to help. We encourage you to call a deacon or elder if you have a personal or church matter you wish to discuss

Stay connected!

Be sure to like our Facebook Page



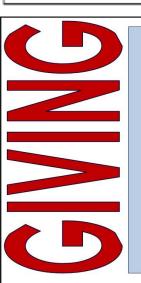
Living Waters office and library will be closed during COVID-19 restrictions.

Karina will be working from home. If you require assistance on a church or personal matter, please contact Ps Jeff by email ; pastorjeff@livingwatersloxton.com.au or call 0415 614 781. Karina can be contacted by email; admin@livingwatersloxton.com.au or call 0413 238 219

The office is unmanned. Please do not call the office number.



Wondering how you can continue to give your tithes & offerings at this time? You can contribute online.(see details below) OR to make alternate arrangements, Contact treasurer Geoff Haddon on 0402 207 331 for more details



Internet tithes and offerings Bank SA BSB: 105 059

BSB: 105 059 A/c # 245 024 540

Mary Hutton

BSB: 105 059 A/C # 038 450 340

Prayer meeting Every month

First Friday of each month

from 730 pm (via Zoom) Contact Richard Wood - 0438 847 718 for more details on login and password details

Join in a time of praising and seeking God All welcome



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