

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 6 May 2016

MONDAY 2 MAY

Good Morning All

WELCOME back to all staff and students for the beginning of Term 2. Hope everyone is well rested and ready for an important academic term.

We remember in prayer former student Henry Afakasi who passed away during the first week of the holidays, his partner Adrienne and Henry's family.

We remember prayerfully former students Chris and Lauie Sila whose mother passed away in the second week. THANK YOU to a very strong representation of former Wesley students at both occasions.

CONGRATULATIONS to Hostel Manager Bill Leach who celebrated a BIG birthday last weekend.(Every birthday is big after 70!)

CONGRATULATIONS to the Ist XV who drew against Dilworth 15 all. Nice!

THANK YOU to the group of Year 12 students who represented Wesley at the GPS Conference opening during the first week of the holidays. Awesome!

THANK YOU to our Kaumatua Ted and Mara who at 6.30 this morning said karakia and blessed the new block of classrooms

THANK YOU to Head Girl Kalolaine Ikavuka and our youngest Year 9 student Richard Manaia who both cut the ribbon at the official opening this morning.

CHANGES - the Health Centre(formerly Dispensary) has now shifted to the ground floor at Denton Hall.

Our theme for this first week is Are you ready to work hard?

As we gathered around the new classrooms for chapel this morning, there was an air of excitement, anticipation and thankfulness especially for those staff and students who will occupy the new rooms.

After blessing and giving thanks, the rooms were made ready for all to continue to work hard in the new environment which hopefully will inspire and encourage learning in a renewed way.

The quote on the week ahead for today reads ... 'If you really believe in what you're doing, work hard ... Never give up!'(Laurie Notaro)

Those moving into the new classrooms persevered with the old classrooms and as small, as cramped and as old as those rooms were no one gave up on learning and teaching and now you are welcomed into your new learning space. Use them well, utilize the rooms as best you can, enjoy them and look after them.

We are thankful for the new classrooms ... those who built them ... to the Trust Board who financed the building of them and pray that they be spaces filled with much learning and joy ... much hard work and enjoyment for everyone.

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice!

Have a blessed day

TUESDAY 3 MAY

Good Morning All

A beautiful summery autumnal day here at Wesley.

CONGRATULATIONS to a friend of Wesley- Rev Carmel Ieraci who having worked very hard will now proceed to ordination for the UK Methodist Church in July. Awesome!

Are you ready to work hard? Is our theme for the week.

The Bible reading was from 1 Samuel 17:40-50 on pages 289 and 349 in the Wesley Bibles.

The reminder of the David and Goliath story is one of encouragement.

Size doesn't matter, fight for what is right, be willing to stand up and stand out.

The 'goliaths' for youth today include things like social media, temptation, bullying, the lack of money to name but a few 'goliaths' are part of our everyday life and some are humongous and some not so, but again size doesn't matter.

We are not required to be talented or gifted or created for great things, we are already these things because we believe we are created in the image of God.

We have an inherent greatness, giftedness because of who God is, powerful beyond measure.

In the words of spiritual activist Marianne Williamson 'Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear, is that we are powerful beyond measure.

All that God asks of us is that 'we are willing' to be shown the measure of giftedness and talent with which we have been created.

Being prepared is a huge part of one's willingness and preparedness to face many a 'goliath' head on.

My Year 12 class reminded me this morning 'I can do all things through him who strengthens me .' Philippians 4:13

Have a blessed day

WEDNESDAY 4 MAY

Good Morning All

Another summery autumnal day at Wesley – we give thanks!

ARE WE READY TO WORK HARD?

The Bible reading was from Luke 5:36-40 on pages 1088 and 1268 in the Wesley Bibles.

When we look at the whole of our life, work is but just one part of the whole of our life but work is that part of our life which will help us to maximise the way we will spend the rest of our life.

If we 'work to live' the bigger picture is 'working.'

If we 'live to work' the bigger picture is experiencing life and everything it has to offer including work.

The subtle difference is the difference we can make here now at school, whereby making the choice to work hard, will determine and influence what role 'work' will play later in life. Are you going to work all your life or work for just part of your life?

Are you going to work for yourself or work for someone else?

Marianne Williamson a spiritual activist author lecturer and founder of the Peace Alliance ... wrote

'Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.

It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous?

Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. You're playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people will not feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as young people do and can. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.

It is not just in some of us; it is in everyone and as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give others permission to do the same.

As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

The Bible reading encourages us to give measure for measure and that it will be given back to us by the same measure and our greatest fear, 'that we are powerful beyond measure' ... let it be our only fear!

Have a blessed day

THURSDAY 5 MAY

Good Morning All

CONGRATULATIONS to our League Team who beat Papatoetoe 30-16 in their clash yesterday. Awesome!
THANK YOU to Prefects Lua Fukofuka and Zuriel Togatama for leading worship this morning.

ARE WE READY TO WORK HARD? Is our word for the week.

The Bible reading was from Joshua 1:5-9 on pages 216 and 256 in the Wesley Bibles.

Joshua succeeds Moses and leads the enthusiastic Israelites into the Promised land.

In seven years they defeat more than thirty enemy armies.

By the end of Joshua's time as leader the land is conquered and divided amongst the tribes fulfilling God's promise to Abraham.

In his farewell speech Joshua challenges Israel: Choose to serve yourself and you will be defeated, Choose to serve the Lord and you will conquer. "We choose to serve the Lord" the nation promises."

The 'goliaths' and 'enemies' in our lives are part and parcel of our life.

How we respond to them will dictate whether the challenges will remain a constant in our lives or we deal to them and are enabled to move on.

We cannot control life but we can control ourselves and choose to be courageous and strong.

Our choice to be so, is the choice made knowing our decision has got God's backing.

We have to make the choice first! We have to be willing! We have to be powerful beyond measure!

Have a blessed day

FRIDAY 6 MAY

Good Morning All

TGIF! And it's only Week 1.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to all our Mums this Sunday. Thank you for all that you do for us.

Go **WELL** to all our rugby teams having their first official hit out of the season tomorrow.

ARE WE READY TO WORK HARD!

The Bible reading was from Ecclesiastes 9:10-12 on pages 698 and 823 in the Wesley College Bibles.

v10 Whatever our hand finds to do, do it with all our might. When death comes there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.

Whatever we have to do ... do it as if it's the last thing we will ever do ... that is how we should approach our work with consistency and perseverance ... never give up!

V11 I have seen something else under the sun: The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant, or favour to the learned, but time and providence happen to us all.

It's not always certain or a foregone conclusion that the fastest will win.

It's not always certain that the strongest will win or that those who are wise, brilliant, learned, and favoured will always be the ones who will come out on top.

Certainties in this life are time and God's blessings

There is a time for everything and the time for work and working hard dictates when that will be ... completing an assessment ... rugby training ... duties at the dorm ... doing prep ... leading chapel.

Not everything that happens is as it seems either, and as we are reminded this morning, sometimes the race is for the slow and sure, or the battle to the not so strong like David and Goliath.

What is certain is God's favour and providence and timing.

Are we ready to work hard?

The answer lies within whose image we are created. The answer lies within us.

Quote for today:

Dreams can become a reality when we possess a vision that is characterised by the willingness to work hard, a desire for excellence and a belief in our right and our responsibility to be equal members of society.

Janet Jackson

Have a blessed day and weekend.

