

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 10th MARCH 2017

MONDAY, 6th MARCH 2017

Good Morning All

It's a warm but overcast day here at Wesley. We give thanks for the new day.

Our prayerful thoughts continue for Mr Eason and the Eason Family.

Our prayers for teacher Miss Manoa whose Uncle her mother's brother has passed away.

We also up hold Year 9 Adam Naismith who has travelled to Samoa for his grandmother's funeral.

In our prayers too we remember students Jacob and Dawson Popata whose Nan has passed away.

Our theme for this week is FAMILY.

The Bible reading was 1 Corinthians 13:4-13 on pages 1249 and 1428 in the Wesley Bibles.

FAMILY is important - the FAMILIES we come from and the strong sense of FAMILY and belonging we have to this place our school and our community.

What strengthens and helps us to feel that sense of FAMILY is the love we have for our school and one another.

The late Mrs Paula Eason's relationship to the School spanned many years. Both her sons were former students but she also taught students who coming from other parts of the Pacific struggled with the English language. Our emphases on inclusiveness, FAMILY and education were values Mrs Eason admired.

Many former students would say that this is the strongest value they left Wesley with, being FAMILY and that the friends they made while at school are still their friends today ... life-long friendships.

The love that God asks us to show is that love which keeps FAMILY together - patience, kindness, humility, perseverance and a sense of humour. Love isn't happy when others are sad or hurt or scared.

Love protects, is always trustworthy and hopeful.

When we love and are FAMILY in the ways God loves us, then we are respectful and responsible towards one another, anywhere and everywhere around our school and beyond.

The most recent example of FAMILY was demonstrated here on Saturday when we gathered to farewell Mr Eason's mother.

Thank you to all students current and past, staff present and former who were here to support the Eason family. Our presence added to the celebration of a life well lived and a memory for the Eason FAMILY which they will always remember.

Thank you ... Thank you ... Thank you.

Love + respect = FAMILY!

TUESDAY, 7th MARCH 2017

Good Morning All

It's another cloudy but warm day here at Wesley. We give thanks to God for the new day.

Thank you to Year 13 Prefect Thomas Manase for leading chapel this morning.

Thank you too to Year 13 Sione Hafoka for leading the Bible reading and Year 13 Prefect Pasilio Kaufononga for his prayer.

We continue with the theme of FAMILY for this week.

The Bible reading was from Proverbs 15:20 on pages 667 and 789 in the Wesley Bibles.

v20 A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish man despises his mother.

FAMILY is about loving one another.

FAMILY is about treating everyone the same.

FAMILY is about picking your brother or sister up when they need picking up.

We then watched a Youtube video entitled 'The Speechless Love; which tells the story of a deaf and mute father's love for his daughter. Very moving!

Have a blessed day

WEDNESDAY, 8th MARCH 2017

Good Morning All

It's a wild, wet and windy one here today. We give thanks for the new day.

WELCOME to the Methodist Women's Fellowship who are with us this morning celebrating not only International Women's Day but their District gathering and Holy Communion. It's always a pleasure to host and have you join us.

Safe travels to Miss Manoa and family as they travel to Tonga to farewell her Uncle who passed away this week.

We continue with our theme of FAMILY.

The Bible reading was from Proverbs 3:1-12 on page 561 and 773 in the Wesley Bibles.

As a father Solomon offers his son advice. He encourages him to not only remember the advice but to strive to have a deeper understanding of what his advice means. Solomon wills Wisdom should enter his son's heart, that Wisdom should guide his son's thoughts, that Wisdom should control his son's emotions and desires.

Love and trust should always be with us.

When we show love and trust everyone will know what kind of attitude we have when they see our behaviour. We cannot write 'love and trust' on our hearts but love and trust should direct the whole of our life ... should direct our thoughts, plans and attitudes, should always be in our hearts and minds, as not just an idea but that part of our lives which guides our every decision.

Solomon's fatherly advice reminds us that Wisdom brings health, because wisdom teaches us safe actions. Wisdom brings wealth, because the wise person is careful. True health and wealth is in our relationship with God. This is what parents do for their children, for their families, they offer wise advice in the hope that the love and trust they have in God, in themselves and in their children, will bring blessing.

Have a blessed day

THURSDAY, 9th MARCH 2017

Good Afternoon All

Tis overcast but no rain. Our thoughts and prayers for those throughout our country who are having to deal with the aftermath of the rain and flooding.

Thank you to Year 12 Nela Taufu who for the first time on the piano accompanied the School singing in chapel.

We continue with the theme of FAMILY.

The Bible readings were:

Exodus 20:12 'Honour your father and mother so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.'

Mark 12:30-31 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'

The Fifth Commandment is the first commandment that relates to people. The first four are about God but the next six are directed toward others. The fifth commandment is the only commandment with a promise – the promise of a long life for the children who honour their father and their mother. The call to honour our parents doesn't come with conditions - God simply says to honour them. There isn't a time limit either to honouring our parents for even in their death we are asked to be honourable.

The Two Greatest Commandments to love God and our neighbour doesn't come with conditions either. The call is to love unconditionally as God loves us. It's a big ask and sometimes an even bigger task. Perhaps this is why God commands it of us, because God understands how hard it is to love simply for love's sake or because God first loved us. When we understand what is being commanded of us we will honour God, honour our parents, our parents will be honourable, we will honour ourselves and others.

Have a blessed day



FRIDAY, 10th MARCH 2017

Good Morning All

Me thinks the sun is out, tis somewhat overcast and windy but warm. We give thanks for each new day and the end of Week 6.

Those students who last year were successful in achieving endorsements for NCEA were acknowledged again this morning in chapel and presented with badges.

Our theme for the week has been FAMILY.

The Bible reading was Psalm 127 on pages 636 and 756 in the Wesley Bibles.

When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant, I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years. - Mark Twain.

A little girl asked her Mother, "Where do humans come from?" Mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve, they had children and that's who we all descend from." A few days later the girl asked her Dad the same question.

Her Dad answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys from which people evolved."

The confused girl returned to her mother and said, "How is it possible that you told me people were created by God, and Dad said people evolved from monkeys?" Mother answered, "Well, dear, it's very simple: I told you about my side of the family, and your father told you about his."

Sometimes being part of a family can be an exercise in getting the balance just right and sometimes it takes time and a few times to get it right.

Sometimes the things we do with our students simply doesn't work, sometimes we have to try and try and try again.

Sometimes we have to just sit back and see what happens, put it out there and just let it happen.

The thing is with FAMILY no matter how we do it or how many times we do it, whether the outcome is good or bad, our place within the FAMILY doesn't change, if anything our place and sense of belonging is made stronger because in our hanging in there, we've learnt what FAMILY is about and how being FAMILY does change us, challenge us and bring us joy.

The Psalmist reminds us that when we do stuff on our own and without God, it's like a job half done, incomplete.

We miss out on realising the full potential that comes from seeing something to its end but also miss out on realising our full potential in the process.

We are reminded too that our children are a blessing to our FAMILIES and the responsibility that comes with that.

When God isn't a part of the FAMILY equation, we may miss out on realising the full potential of the gift God has gifted us with.

Have a blessed day and weekend!

