

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 24th NOVEMBER 2017

MONDAY, 20th NOVEMBER 2017

Good Morning All

We GIVE THANKS and remember Wesleyan Jonah Lomu who passed away two years ago.

His memory lives on in his family and friends as does his legacy to our School and the world.

Our thoughts and prayers for former student Kobe Lawson who is in Auckland Hospital. We give thanks the cancerous tumour has been removed and pray for a full recovery for Kobe.

Our prayers for current student Thor Manase who is presently at Middlemore Hospital. Get well soon.

THANK YOU to John Luteru former student and Prefect who led chapel last Friday morning.

John is one of six Luteru brothers who all attended Wesley and is now married to former Head Girl of Wesley - Stacey Cope and both them and their family are doing well.

THANK YOU to Year 12 student Semesa Saukuru who led chapel this morning.

We continue with our theme: What's in a name?

The Bible reading was from Genesis 17: 1 – 7 on pages 19 and 20 in the Wesley Bibles.

Names are really important and a crucial way of understanding not just the world around us but each other.

A person's surname speaks of history and family tradition, while our first names are more about a particular identity and personality. We may become quite attached to our name or we might wish we were called something else.

Does it really matter what our name is? Do we become what we are called or is what we are called what we are? The Bible is full of names and those names are full of meaning. The Bible may help us to see whether we determine our names or whether our names determine us. The reading from Genesis explains the names of many of the Bible's most famous characters. The song "Many sons had father Abraham" explains that the name Abraham means 'father of many'. God made a radical promise to childless, 99-year-old Abram that he would be a "father of many nations."

Changing Abram's name to Abraham embedded God's mighty promise into his very identity.

My name is Semesa Saukuru. My name speaks to my very identity. My family lineage, village and history are spoken of in that very same identity, and as the bearer of my name, I hold the promise and covenant given to me by parents and whanau. As Abraham was made the father of many, so too are we through our names, the many descendants of our ancestors. We are promised to make our way in the world in the wake of those who have gone before us and mindful always of that responsibility.

What's in a nameeverything! What's in my name? Everything that shapes me into the person I am today and will shape me into the person I will become tomorrow.

Have a blessed day.

TUESDAY, 21th NOVEMBER 2017

Good Morning All

A glorious day here at Wesley. God is good!

THANK YOU to Yr 12 Irirangi Taniere who led chapel worship yesterday.

We continue with our theme 'What's in a name.'

The Bible reading was from Exodus 3:13-15 on pages 71 and 63 in the Wesley Bibles.

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And God said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

God also said to Moses, This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."

The names God gives are sure indicators of the destiny of those who are named.

When God names Godself, the name speaks to who God is and what God intends to do.

God does not choose names for Godself at random, say for the sound or for an ancestor or to avoid embarrassing nicknames.

God chooses names for the sake of revealing things about Godself that will deepen our love for God, grow our admiration and strengthen our faith.

God gives three answers to Moses' question, "What shall I tell them your name is?"

1. In verse 14, God says, *I AM WHO I AM.*
2. In verse 14, God says, *I AM has sent me to you.*
3. In verse 15, God says, *Yahweh . . . has sent me to you . . . this is my name forever.*
4. From God's name we know God exists, there is no reality beyond God, God does not change, What's in a name ... EVERYTHING!

Have a blessed day

WEDNESDAY, 22th NOVEMBER 2017

Good Morning All

Another glorious day here at Wesley. God is good!

We continue with our theme: 'What's in a name?'

For much of the week we have spoken about the importance of one's name and the hopes and dreams associated with names given by parents and family members to their children.

Famous names and people are associated with events and happenings which have had an impact on the world that these names and people are remembered for all time. They are people who have made a difference.

They are people who have acted justly, loved mercy and walked humbly with God while attempting to enable others the same freedom. They have tried to do what is fair, what is right, what is just.

The names: Abraham Lincoln 16th President of the USA - assassinated
John Fitzgerald Kennedy 26th President - assassinated
Martin Luther King Jr Baptist minister and activist - assassinated
Robert Francis Kennedy Senator and politician – assassinated

The mere mention of these names brings to memory for many of us the injustices they tried to right and how they died as a result of their efforts to make the world a better place.

What's in a name ... Everything!

The song [Abraham * Martin and John *** Dion - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5hFMy4pTrs> was written in honour of these men.

Has anybody here seen my old friend Abraham,
Can you tell me where he's gone?
He freed a lotta people, but it seems the good die young
But I just looked around and he's gone.

Have a blessed day

THURSDAY, 23th NOVEMBER 2017

There was no Chapel message today.

FRIDAY, 24th NOVEMBER 2017

Good Morning All

TGIF! Tis a beautiful day here at Wesley. God is good!

We continue to pray for Kobe Lawson, Thor Manase and Fotu Fisi'i'ahi who are all in hospital.

A humungus THANK YOU to the Teach First group who led chapel worship this morning.

The end to Week 6 and our theme 'What's in a name?'

The Bible reading was from Genesis 32:24-30 on pages 42 and 38 in the Wesley Bibles.

When we are confronted by stuff ... conflict in our everyday life, it can cause us to wrestle with ourselves and with one another. We can run about frantically or we can just pause and pray.

I wonder which approach will be more effective? God will help us overcome what can be a wrestling time.

God will wrestle alongside us and will bless us in the process by bringing a new perspective and view.

We emerge new people, we emerge enlightened and lightened for having wrestled knowing God is with us.

When we know God's name, it is a name to be trusted.

When we wrestle with God as Jacob did in the reading and Jacob was persistent, there is no question about who is going to come off second best. There is no question that the experience will bring about some huge change. There is no question that the experience will bring about blessing. Jacob was blessed with a new name 'Israel' and a new character to go with it 'the one who struggles with God and overcomes.'

What's in a name ... Everything!

Have a blessed day