

The Venerable's Corner

Last week our theme was **Finding Favour with God**. In the gospel reading Jesus emphasises humility as a means of finding favour with God and a way to inherit eternal life. However, it depends on one's attitude. When an unimportant person arrives early for a dinner and takes the best seat at the table and then a more important or distinguished person arrives and the first guest is then asked to give up their seat, what an embarrassing situation that is for everyone, especially the person asked to move. However, if the first guest slipped into the seat that nobody would pay any attention to and then was asked to take a more distinguished seat, then that person's humility would gain them more honour! Biblical commentator William Barclay gives 2 examples of how to retain **humility**. Firstly, we can retain humility by knowing the **facts**. However much knowledge we think we know, we know very little compared to the sum total of knowledge. However much we have achieved we will have achieved very little in the end. And, however important we may believe ourselves to be; when we lose our jobs, resign from positions, retire from working life or we die, life and work goes on just the same. Secondly, we can retain humility by comparing it with the **perfect**. In other words, compare your knowledge with others. Go and see and listen to experts in different areas of knowledge and then we will realise how poor our own performances are. When you see someone who is more gifted than you, then you realise how unworthy you are. You are swept away by their awe not by jealousy or envy. Humility has a way of challenging us to know our place. It can be a painful experience because your pride and ego takes a hammering and it has no choice but to die and your self-satisfaction begins to disappear because you

start to recognise the value in others and not yourself. You are challenged to step back and re-evaluate your values and beliefs, not give them up but look at the bigger picture. The cost of love!

Money Matters

Kia ora everyone!!!

If you want to make an automatic payment or a donation, our **Westpac Bank** account details are as follows:

The Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship

Number 2 Account

BSB: **032082**

Account Number: **15-5562**

LAST WEEKS CONTRIBUTION

Church Attendance: **31+2**

Tamariki

Communicants: **19**

Our Weekly Target is \$2500.

Donations: **\$54.00**

Congregational Giving: **\$244.50**

Direct Debit: **\$280.00**

Auto Payments: **\$155.00**

Total contributions: **\$733.50**

[CHURCH COLOUR IS GREEN]

Sunday 5 Sep 2010

CHURCH OF TE WAIRUA TAPU

www.tewairuatapu.com.au



Rarangī:

He tika hoki koe, e Ihowa, he tika ano au whakaritenga. Kia rite ki tau kupu tau whakahauoranga i ahau. **Waiata 119.137,154b**

Reflection:

Fall deep into grace, Believer. Because grace destroys sin (Rom 5:20). When we are under His grace then sin has no dominion over us. Study Romans 5&6. It will bless and illumine your whole week!
AMEN





ATIRIKONA: Kaio M. Karipa
KAIKARAKIA: Moana Sukkar

HYMNS:

Opening Hymn: 44
 Gradual Hymn: 8
 Offertory Hymn: 7
 Communion: 58
 Closing Hymn: 48

SENTENCE:

You are righteous, Lord, and right are your judgements. Deal with your servant according to your steadfast love. **Psalm 119.137, 154b**

COLLECT:

God of time and space, you call us to discern your presence in the world: grant us wisdom to perceive you, grant us courage to work with you, grant us power to proclaim you, above all grant us a heart to love you; though Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and in reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

1ST READING:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Choosing God's Blessing

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I

declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

2ND READING:

Philemon 1-21

The Letter of Paul to Philemon

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon's Love and Faith

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

Paul's Plea for Onesimus

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I

am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but as more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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GOSPEL READING:

Luke 14:25-33

The Cost of being a Disciple

Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.'

This is the Gospel of Christ

Praise to Christ the Word



WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Maire Bishop 3 Sep 2001
 Wiremu Matini 2 Sep 2004
 Veronica Davis 3 Sep 2007

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ivan Maheno
 Neisha Hura
 Alison Robertson
 Kilharn Manuera
 Nancy Baker
 Tania Farr

CONGRATULATIONS RIKKA AND BRENT RIHANA

Riikka and I would like to announce our two new absolutely beautiful additions to our whanau, a baby boy 3.1kgs and baby girl 2.1kgs. Mum and babies are all doing well and are resting up nicely. Thank you everyone for your support and good wishes.

Te Wairua Tapu, congratulates Rikka and Brent and wish them and their babies all the very best for the future.

NGA KUPU TAPU I ROTO I TE REO

Classes start at 7.30am - 9.30am each Sunday Morning. Kaumatua/Kuia & Rangatahi all welcome. Haere mai! Call Wara **0406-585-575**

[Nga Kupu Tapu i Roto i Te Reo](#)

TWT CHOIR SMAC

Choir practice is every Sunday at 1pm. Call Char Roberts – **0416-135-894** for more information.

KAHUI WAHINE

Become a FAN of 'Kahui Wahine - Sydney - Church of Te Wairua Tapu' on Facebook. Search for our PAGE and then click the link to 'Become a Fan'.

[Kahui Wahine Facebook](#)

TE WAIRUA TAPU FACEBOOK

'LIKE' US ON FACEBOOK: Keep up on all the latest by joining our NEW 'Church of Te Wairua Tapu - Poihakena' page. Search on the name and then click the LIKE button. Or click on the link below

[Te Wairua Tapu Facebook](#)