

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 7th FEBRUARY 2020

by: Rev Ali'itasi Aoina-Salesa - Superintending Chaplain

O le ala i le pule ma le manuia, o le tautua.
The path to leadership and success, is service.

MONDAY, 3rd FEBRUARY 2020

Good Morning All

A beautiful summer's day on the Farm this morning.

GREETINGS to Everyone of our Wesley Family here and abroad. A belated Happy New Year to you all.

THANK YOU to our Wesley Family and Community who supported our Service of Beginnings last Friday.

It was a wonderful occasion led in worship by the President Rev Setaita Taumoepeau Veikune and Vice President Ms Nicola Teague Grundy of the Methodist Church of New Zealand - Te Hahi Weteriana o Aotearoa.

The challenge by the President in her address from Micah 6:8

'And what does the Lord require of us' served to focus us for the new year.

WELCOME to all our new staff and students who have joined us this year.

CONGRATULATIONS to the 2020 Prefects who received their badges at the Service of Beginnings.

Senior Prefect: Viliami Ngaluafe Head Boy: Siosua Tu'uta Head Girl: Lovey Rewa

Beatrice Smythe Vai Aholelei Samsara Faitala

Harry Toaisi Sepeti Kailea Anthony Gayner

Eliejar Kiole Penitusi Hafoka Kimi Folaumoeloa

Nusi Mafi Jope Ratu

CONGRATULATIONS to all our Staff and Student leaders who will lead the new Student Leadership initiative focussed on Service.

Our School wide theme for this year is:

'O le ala i le pule ma le manuia, o le tautua.'

The path to leadership and success is service.

WELCOME to Week 2 of Term 1. Our theme for this week is 'OUR WHY!'

The Bible Reading was 1 Corinthians 13:4-9 on page 1428 of the Wesley Bibles.

OUR WHY is simply encapsulated in our SPECIAL CHARACTER statement which says:

We are CHRISTIAN in practice

We are METHODIST in ethos

We are ACCEPTED for who we are

We are CALLED to be God's people to do God's Work

We BELONG to the Wesley College Family and the wider Family of God.

When we look for intention and purpose as a school, this is it ... OUR WHY!

Senior Prefect Vili reminded us this morning 'Speak with intention, act with intention, walk with intention!'

Wherever we are, whatever we do, the call to be intentional is inherent in our way of being as humanity, as God's people.

God's intention in creating us and the world was that we would live life to the fullest and be happy.

God's intention for us is very clear and evident right from the outset ... to be God's people, to be the best people we can be.

We can be intentional in our workplaces and it may be as simple as saying 'everything that comes from out of my mouth today will reflect me, will reflect MY WHY ... will reflect my faith, will reflect who I am ... will reflect where I come from.' Speak with intention.

When we understand OUR WHY and that it is a habit worth practicing and holding onto, it will become second nature to us.

The reading calls us to honour every person we encounter and to make every encounter honourable ... that every person we meet leaves us better for having been with us. A missed opportunity is exactly that ... a missed opportunity.

OUR WHY is as John Wesley wrote ... 'a plain truth for a plain people.'

Have a blessed day.

TUESDAY, 4th FEBRUARY 2020

Good Morning All

Overcast skies but giving thanks for the new day. God is good ...

SWIMMING SPORTS will be held tomorrow at the Jubilee

We continue with our theme OUR WHY - Our Special Character!

The Bible reading was from Philippians 4:4-9 on page 1468 in the Wesley Bibles.

Our Special Character is our raison d'être, the most important reason for our existence as a school.

It provides for us a very intentional way of being, gives us purpose, direction and guidance.

We are Christian in practice - very simply at the core of our faith are the two Greatest Commandments – Love God and Love our neighbour!

We are Methodist in ethos - is a philosophy, living principles which has its beginnings with John and Charles Wesley.

The Methodist movement began at Oxford University where the Wesley brothers led a group who ordered their lives methodically around regular prayer, study of the scriptures, weekly communion as well as visiting the sick, poor and imprisoned.

Other students mocked the group calling them 'Methodist.' This mocking signalled that these 'Methodists' were different!

It is this difference - the 'Methodist ethos' that finds its expression in the Special Character of our School and the desire for this to be lived out every day. It serves as a way of being which has at its very core the Two Greatest Commandments.

The challenge is how to translate this into making 'a difference' in the lives of our young people ... together making it real, relatable, relevant, practical, simple. A plain truth ...

We are Accepted for who we are - recognises we are all different and diverse in nature and makeup here at Wesley.

It is this difference which makes us special and unique. God, through our Special Character and values demands that we respect one another, look after each other, care for and show compassion. As individuals we are all gifts and gifted, together as a school and community we are privileged to observe and wonder at God's handiwork in then bringing us all together. The capacity to realise our potential in understanding God's gifting is the realisation we all have the capacity to be Christ-like. A plain truth ...

Have a blessed day.

WEDNESDAY, 5th FEBRUARY 2020

There was no Chapel message today.

THURSDAY, 6th FEBRUARY 2020

Waitangi Day.

FRIDAY, 7th FEBRUARY 2020

Good Morning All

A beautiful summer's morning on the Farm. God is good!

Our prayers and thoughts for Mrs Raos whose father is dying.

Our prayers and thoughts for Yr 10 student Rakai Tafiti whose Grandfather passed away this week.

Our prayers and thoughts for Ms Vaike whose mother is unwell.

We pray for our staff, students, family and community who are grieving. God's peace be with us.

THANK YOU to all our Houses for a wonderful day had at the School Swimming Sports on Wednesday.

TGIF! End of the week and our theme ... OUR WHY!

The Bible reading was from 2 Peter 1 :5-11 on page 1544 in the Wesley Bible.

Yesterday we celebrated along with the nation Waitangi Day and the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in 1840. Our country's founding document is the first ever treaty signed between coloniser and tangata whenua. It is the first time that the Crown back in the day, acknowledged that tangata whenua were the indigenous of this land and with the intent to facilitate good relations, together signed the Treaty ... OUR WHY as a nation.

Our School's founding document is our Special Character ... OUR WHY ... our School was established in 1844. 175 years later our Special Character continues to be the guiding life principles whereby we seek to do justice, whereby we seek to practice compassion, whereby we seek to walk humbly with God. If, as the reading from I Peter reminds us, '...we make every effort ...' then '... we confirm our election and calling' as people of character, as people who are faithful, as people who walk and talk and act with intention and are purpose driven. When we do, we fulfil the call God makes on every human being to live to their full potential, to be the best version of ourselves we can be.

Our 'founding documents' speak to new beginnings, a new creation, something formational in bringing about a creative way of living together that is life giving for all people. OUR WHY is our intent and we are resolved and determined to make every effort to confirm our calling. This is OUR WHY... what is YOUR WHY?

Have a blessed day and weekend.