

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 24th JULY 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, 20th JULY 2020

Good Morning All

Welcome back everyone to Term 3. Pray the two week break was restful.

It's blue skies and the sun is shining. Every day a day to be giving thanks.

THANK YOU to our School and community for attending the celebration and thanksgiving service for the late Whaea Paewhenua Nathan. Thank you for all the messages of condolences from those unable to attend. It was a wonderful farewell for Whaea which the family were very thankful for.

Our chapel theme for this week is ARE WE READY?

The Bible reading was from Mark 12:35-40 on page 1282 of the Wesley Bibles.

Sometimes our lives have to be shaken up, changed and rearranged to relocate us to the place where we are meant to be.

Not sure how much more shaking up, much more changing, much more rearranging needs to happen given what has happened all ready.

It has been a shaking and a changing and a rearranging of our lives as we have never known it before, both here at home and on the global stage.

We have had to roll with it and be open to being changed, being shaken and being rearranged in ways we never thought we could be.

In all of this though, we have been reminded of those things important to our life, those things constant which whatever else is happening, the Constancy of these things keep us grounded, keep us steadfast.

We have relocated to that place where the values of family, of faith, of friends, of what we actually need in life have become all important.

Perhaps this is the reminder we have needed , all timely, all apparent, all knowing.

The Bible reading reminds us that in our being ready, that time will slip away on us if we are not ready or prepared.

In our readiness the question of when to be prepared for is the unknown, we just have to be prepared.

A classic example was being prepared to farewell Whaea Pae last term. We were ready for her service to happen from Day 1. As it was the service didn't take place until the last day of term. In terms of our being ready as a school and community, we were prepared every day. THANK YOU to all!

Term 3 is a big term for us academically ... Are we ready?

It is mid-July past the half way mark for the year ... Are we ready?

Have a blessed day.

TUESDAY, 21st JULY 2020

Good Morning All

A bit overcast here on the Farm but we're giving thanks for the new day and the endless possibilities.

ARE WE READY?

The Bible reading was from Matthew 25:1-13 on page 1214 in the Wesley Bibles.

Can you think of a time when we don't have to be ready, when we don't have to prepare, when we don't have to think ahead about stuff?

Please let me know what it is because I can't possibly think what that might be.

It's like everything we do there is an element of preparation, of getting ready, of preparedness.

The Bible reading from Matthew is The Parable of the Ten Virgins/Bridesmaids.

Clearly the five bridesmaids who thought they had it in the bag, didn't have any oil in their lamps.

They weren't prepared ... they weren't by any means ready and consequently got locked out of the wedding banquet.

The last verse of the reading says 'Keep watch stay alert be ready because we do not know the day or the hour.' The same sentiment was shared in the reading from Luke yesterday. We don't need to know when to be ready but just to be ready. It's not God's intention that we not be ready, that we not be prepared. It's not God's intention that we miss out on stuff because we aren't ready. It's God's intention that we enjoy life and experience it to the fullest, that we make the most of every endless possibility.

The only way we can experience God's intention for us is to be ready. Ready to go at any time, all the time whenever wherever.

God's got this ... and God wants for us to get this too!

Be prepared at all times for the gifts of God and be ready always for new ones. For God is ready a thousand more times to give than we are ready to receive. Are we ready?

Have a blessed day.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd JULY 2020

Good Morning All

She's a wet one everywhere today. Stay dry and warm out there.

PRAYERS and condolences to Mrs Janice Collins Evans, Dr Evans and the family as they mourn the loss of a much loved member of their family.

PRAYERS and sympathies to Mrs Christine Pereira and the family for their loss and sadness at this time.

CONGRATULATIONS to Hostel parent Mr Paul So'oula and his wife Ailaoa on becoming grandparents this week. A healthy Baby Boy!

WELCOME to new staff who have joined us Mr Philip Ma'alopa, Mr Daemon Chaney an Old Boy, Mrs Elaine Dupreez, Mrs Hepi Lopeti and Mrs Denise Leota.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Coaching staff and 1st XV Rugby team who won their games against Rotorua and Manurewa High over the last weeks.

ARE WE READY? Is our mantra for this week.

The Bible reading was from 1 Peter 3: 8-15 on pages 1540 in the Wesley Bibles.

The opening verses of the reading calls us to be like minded, to be sympathetic, to love one another, to be compassionate and to be humble.

These are huge undertakings. Huge in that we are reminded at a very personal level what our responsibilities and obligations are to others.

And in gentleness and respect we pray we portray a people who are hopeful, filled with hope, hope-filled.

The call ARE WE READY is a collective one, us together. However the reading reminds us that to get to 'collective and together' we have to deal to the 'me, myself and I' first. That there is the strongest sense of each of us being responsible for ourselves highlighted in the question AM I READY?

How do we each become ready, prepared and then be ready and prepared to contribute in meaningful ways to the 'us together' to the bigger picture.

'Only God knows' is a phrase we hear often but it's not only God who knows ... amazingly enough we're in on the knowing too.

It's this God knowing hope which we have on tap and fills us to overflowing that makes each new day worth every ounce of our living.

ARE WE READY is the reminder that every day we have stuff to do.

ARE WE READY is the reminder that God is in amongst it all ... helping us to deal to our stuff.

ARE WE READY is a question filled with hope, a hope that is filled with purpose and intention, with meaning and direction.

God's got this ... we got this ... together!

Have a blessed day.

THURSDAY, 23rd JULY 2020

Good Morning All

If there were any doubts about what season we are in ... the last few nights have been chillers. Hope everyone is keeping warm.

ARE WE READY?

The Bible reading is from 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 on page 1433 in the Wesley Bibles.

v13 Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong

v14 Do everything in love

As we ready ourselves for every new day the Word comes to us with wisdom and insight to meet us at our very need.

A check list might be ... Are we awake, what are we standing on, what is our faith in and how do we become strong?

A video clip of Denzel Washington speaking at a university graduation says 'Put God First' in everything we do.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfRVaWpWEw0>

We don't always stick with God but God certainly sticks with us.

Do what we feel passionate about ... don't be afraid to fail big, to dream big

Discipline and consistency and hard work works.

The most selfish thing we can do in this world is to help others ... this is success, this brings joy.

Aspire not only to make a living but aspire to make a difference in love.

ARE WE READY ?

FRIDAY, 24th JULY 2020

Good Morning All

WOOHOO TGIF! Awesome effort everyone end of the first week.

It's Student Led Conference Day (SLC) today and it's a real feel good buzz as we meet with and greet our parents who have come in for interviews. It is wonderful to hear our students voices leading these conferences and to hear them speak about their progress and how they feel about the School. Lots of happy parents.

GO WELL to the 1st XV who play Francis Douglas at Wesley and to all our teams playing rugby tomorrow.

ARE WE READY has been the chapel theme for us this week.

The Bible reading is from Luke 12:35-40 on page 1282

ARE WE READY? Consideration must be given over to what we are being readied for when thinking about the theme.

Our schoolwide 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' Is this what we are readying ourselves for? What does it look like?

Our Mission statement ... Having been given the opportunity to develop their spiritual, academic, social, sporting and cultural potential it is our hope that Wesley students will be well balanced individuals of integrity, sensitivity and purpose.

Is this what we are being asked to get ready for? What does it look like?

Our School Prayer ... Doing all the good we can, in all the places, at all the times, to all the people we can.

Is this what we are readying ourselves for? What does it look like?

ARE WE READY will become a matter of WE ARE READY and when we are, it will become very apparent, really easy to see because it's a readiness which begins within us, inside us and when we get our insides right then what follows on the outside, comes readily to us. The video clip yesterday reminded us to put God first. Putting God first is the inside stuff and when we get that right, the outside stuff - our actions, our words, how we treat others - it just flows we don't even have to think about it. God is good ... all the time. All the time ... God is good.

God on the inside equates with goodness on the outside ... the two are synonymous. Can't do one without the other.

WE ARE READY for endless possibilities and what it will look like will be apparent easily seen in the face so four students.

It's a good look and a look we want to keep encouraging.

Have a blessed day and weekend.

