

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 4th SEPTEMBER 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, 31st AUGUST 2020

Good Morning All

A beautiful morning out here on the Farm.

WELCOME to Alert Level 2.5 everyone!

WELCOME BACK to all our Staff and Day students who have come in for the first official day after Lockdown.

Our numbers are few as the Boarders do not return until later this afternoon.

WELCOME BACK!

The Bible reading was from Proverbs 24:3-6 on page 800 in the Wesley Bibles.

v3 By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established;

v4 through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.

The feeling of déjà vu is explained by some as a brain malfunction where we think that the present is a memory or something that has already happened. This kind of brain blip isn't cause for concern unless it happens regularly. Our return after Lockdown is kind of déjà vu in that our present has happened before ... Lockdown 1 remember? While the move today to Alert Level 2.5 marks our return as a little different from the last, because it's a little closer to home, we are naturally going to be a little more anxious.

For us at school the reading reminds us again what our purpose is, what the intention of the School is.

It aligns with our School motto 'Fide Litteris Labore -By Faith By Learning By Hard work.'

Faith, wisdom, understanding and knowledge are the key cornerstones to building not only a house but our life as people.

In these Covid times these foundational living principles are the constant in our life when all else is not.

For our students returning to school our life here is the constant for them when all else is not.

They are soooo funny. On seeing their friends, they take their masks off hug each other then put their masks back on.

Our brains aren't on the blip when we think we've been here before ... we have.

Hold on to that which is our constant God's got us!

Have a blessed day.

TUESDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER 2020

Good Morning All

WELCOME BACK to the Boarders who joined us this morning.

If there is one thing we have missed during Lockdown is listening to our students sing.

CONGRATULATIONS to our School. The Principal shared that at the same time last year, our academic achievement this year even with Covid, we are tracking better. Awesome effort to students and all our Staff across the School.

CONGRATULATIONS to Yr 12 AJ Taufa the Senior winner for the Maths Week competition and Sam Vosalevu the Junior winner. Malachi and Andrew won the 'Guess how many lollies in the jar?'

Our hymn was The journey of life.

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

The lyrics of the hymn 'life can be easy can be hard as we travel life's way' speak to this Covid time.

The chorus asks us 'Will you ride, ride, ride, with the King of Kings will you follow my leader true?'

It's framed as a question which means we have a choice. Everything with God is one of personal choice.

The call to Covid has been KINDNESS, allowing our inherent gentleness to be evident to all and we 5 million strong have stood up and stood out! This has been constant.

What has also been constant is the reminder to hold on to those things which keep us grounded, which we know and have learnt and received and heard and seen and have put into practice.

A practice then signalled by the blessing of peace throughout this time and that too has been a constant.

The School was reminded of the opportunity that lies before them in this four week window left of the term. The choices we make will determine what we do with that time, what we will make of it, how we will best use it.

When all about is 'up in the air' what is not is that which keeps us constant ... our faith, our God!

Have a blessed day.

WEDNESDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER 2020

Good Morning All

Beautiful morning to kick start our day off.

CONGRATULATIONS again to our Senior School and Staff who despite the lack of school time this year are still doing the business of school work with 83% internal achievement compared to 78% at the same time last year. Awesome!

The Bible reading was from Lamentations 3: 22-27 on page 1001 in the Wesley Bibles.

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed - never spent, expended, eaten up with stuff, wasting our time on things that aren't worth wasting our time and energies on ... for God's compassion - God's kindness,

God's consideration and care never fails ... never leaves us wanting or deficient - that we always, always have what we need.

For God, we as God's people are always good enough, we're always up to the mark, we're always more than amazing, more than wonderful, more than marvellous because this is who God is and we are made of this same measure.

As long as the Lord is my portion - God is my measure, my share, that piece and example of what it means to be who we are, of how to be who we are in the world ... I will wait quietly.

When God is our portion we want for nothing and the promise is every morning we wake up and find that we are still alive ... it's time to hold on to that attitude of gratitude.

We are a strong people, a people of character and of goodness because this is what has been apportioned to us, gifted us, assigned to us, and so we have every excuse to be nothing less.

Have a blessed day.

THURSDAY, 3rd SEPTEMBER 2020

Good Morning All

An awesome start to our day on the Farm the sun is shining and blue skies in abundance. God is good.

THANK YOU to Mrs Tangi who shared the chapel message for today encouraging the School to be the creators and tellers of their own stories and to be proud of who they are.

WELCOME BACK!

The Bible reading was from 1 Peter 2: 19-25 on page 1539 in the Wesley Bibles.

v19 For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God.

v21 To this we are called, because Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example, that we should follow in his steps.

The recent death of Chadwick Boseman who played the character T'Challa in the movie Black Panther shocked and saddened not only fans of the superhero movie for the character that Chadwick played, but for the example of the man himself.

Boseman died after his struggle with cancer but in his short career and life inspired many, as a modern day superhero and example.

From humble beginnings Boseman refused to be typecast as a stereotypical black actor and many roles were refused him because of his faith in God and his belief in the right of every person to create their own stories. The story is also told of another example and role model Denzel Washington, who recognizing Boseman's potential and without Boseman knowing, paid for Boseman's university tuition.

Boseman's life and death and suffering leaves us with a commendable example of a life lived deeply conscious of God.

We are called to the same solely because and for no other reason than Jesus Christ first suffered for us and is the example that Boseman, many others and we alike should follow.

Have a blessed day.

FRIDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER 2020

There was no Chapel message today.

