

ALL POWER, AUCKLAND – A HUGE SUCCESS

Catherine Bichan



All Power Auckland, May 2009. What an event!

I must start off by saying; I attended the August seminar last year and was completely blown away! It was the adventure that would change my life. I couldn't believe how easy it was to change different areas of my life for the better. So naturally, I *had* to come back. And here I am, on the "other side", as I like to call it.

It was amazing to be part of the team that helped make the weekend go smoothly. A year ago, I could never have believed that I would be where I am now. The All Power Seminars had such a wonderful influence in my life, which made it even more enjoyable this time around.

Leo Schreven and Daniel McKibben amazed us throughout the weekend, covering five crucial areas that can improve our lives: financial, physical, spiritual, mental and emotional.

Leo was as fast paced as ever and really grabbed the audience's attention. Most had their booklets and were nodding along and fervently writing notes for themselves. And I must say, it truly is amazing to hear over 500 people yelling, "YES!" as Leo went along.

Pastor Daniel really spoke to each person in the audience. He presented in a way that you *knew* every person was relating to. His example of what white bread does in your body was priceless; a memory I will not soon forget.

And of course, in a room next to the main seminar, we had the children's seminar. They were taught the same principles as their parents, through nature, crafts, and stories. I wouldn't have believed that there were children there if I hadn't seen them come and go with my own eyes; they were so quiet. So a huge thanks to the team that kept them entertained!

In some of the break times, we set up a CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Project) stand. We had a wonderful time doing this, and had many people show an interest in improving their physical health through the programme.

To the lovely team out on the tables, collecting names, scanning tags and selling books, a big thank you! Those who took phone call after phone call of registrations, thanks so much. A great big 'thanks' to those running massages throughout. And of course,

to our security team that made sure our cars were not burdened by theft or pamphlets, thank you!!

The weekend truly was an amazing adventure. I can't *wait* for All Power to come back next year!

To view *Connect* in colour, visit our website
www.rocsda.co.nz

Statistics :-

Dates	1st - 3rd May
No. of Seminars	16
No. Registered	860
No. Attending	600
CHIP Survey	120
Massages Given	200

I know a world that is sunk in shame,
Where hearts oft faint and tire;
But I know of a Name, a precious Name,
That can set that world on fire;
It's sound is sweet, it's letters flame,
I know of a Name, a precious Name,
'Tis Jesus.

- J. Wilbur Chapman

Church Family Updates

Staying Connected & Celebrating our Fellowship

Congratulations! Stevie & Sonia

Many in our church family will remember the Tonkin family; Pete and Sherry, and their son Stevie. They were members at Royal Oak Church for many years where Pete was a deacon and sound operator and Sherry was a past editor of our church newsletter, apart from many other duties.

Stevie also grew up in our church and was a treasured member our extended family, a student at our Balmoral and Mangere schools, a Pathfinder and computer enthusiast who helped with our Powerpoints. They emigrated back to Australia some years ago.

Stevie and his partner Sonia were blessed on Tuesday 14th of April with the birth of their son Darrien O'Rion Tonkin. Mum and baby are doing well. At birth Darrien weighed 7 lb 8 oz and was 49cm long. We are so pleased for Stevie and Sonia, and of course new grandparents (grandpa) Pete and (grandma) Sherry.

We wish them all the very best of God's richest blessings, guidance and protection as they collectively raise and nurture baby Darrien.



Above (left) Very proud mum and dad, with baby Darrien; (right) Even more proud grandpa Pete. Apparently Darrien has grandpa by the 'heartstrings'.

Below (left) Three generations of Tonkin men and (right) the newest of them all.



Baby Ella Dedicated

Baby Ella was brought before our church family by her parents Kristy and Dean, to be dedicated on the 18th of April 2009. Pastor Daniel McKibben conducted the service. Many of Ella's extended family and friends came to witness and support her.



Left - Pastor Daniel reads a dedication passage while mum and dad look on. Right - A very proud grand dad (Dion Fourie) cuddles and nurses Ella in the church foyer. (taken 23rd May, a few weeks later)



A hundred years ago they said that when a black man becomes president, pigs would fly.
A hundred days after Barack Obama became president, Swine Flu.

25th April 2009 - a High Sabbath indeed



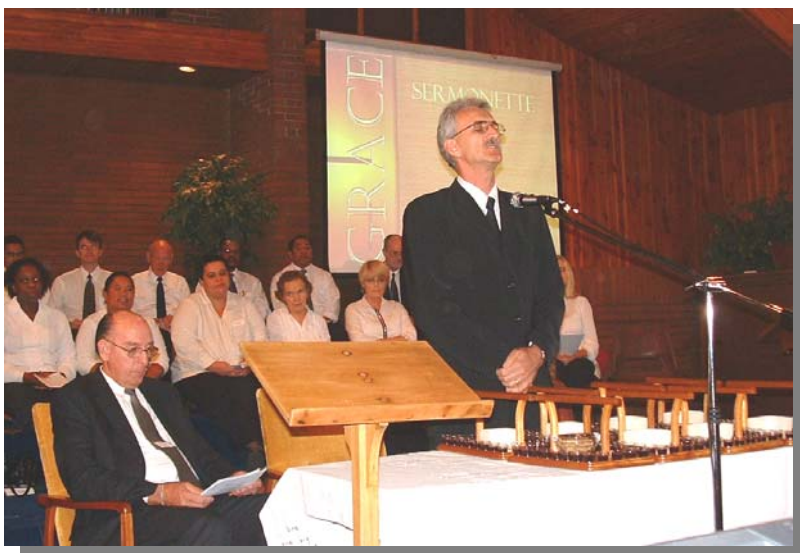
Above - Our church choir, ably led by Geoff Beissner and assisted by Roslyn Burnett, featured in our special 'high Sabbath' service, where we commemorated ANZAC memorial day and celebrated open communion.



Above - Aunty Irene retells the story of Kata Rangoso, a Solomon Islander born in 1902, whose parents were cannibals, but who was converted to Christianity. During the Second World War, Rangoso saved the lives of 27 American pilots and over 150 ANZAC seamen from ships that sunk. The Japanese finally caught him and were going to execute him, but the night before his execution, a Japanese soldier opened his cell and led him to a clearing where he was told to run away. When Rangoso turned to thank him, the soldier had vanished. An angel perhaps?



Anticlockwise from left - Angelia Reynolds delivered a lovely message in a short sermonette and later Dion Fourie led out in a lovely communion service assisted by Ross Osmond and Angelia Reynolds. Matthew and Catherine provided special trumpet music, with Matthew playing solo, the last few bars of the 'Last Post' to open the ANZAC memorial and communion service. All in all, a lovely day of memorials and commemorations, firstly of Christ's sacrifice for us, and second the sacrifice of our countrymen for the freedom of others, including us. This service combined solemnity, reverence and joy in one wonderful whole.



Adventurers Rally Day

by Diane Fraser

On Sabbath, 16 May, our new Adventurer Club attended the Northern Conference Adventurer Rally day, held at the Auckland Seventh-day Adventist High School (ASDAH). We joined hundreds of other Adventurers, gathered mainly from around Auckland, but with some clubs having travelled from as far away as Tauranga and Tokoroa.

We were blessed with a beautiful, sunny day, despite the weather forecast, so we didn't mind the short wait out in the car park before marching into the auditorium, one club at a time.

The day was spent learning about Jonah and all about whales, so by the end of the day each of the participants had earned their Whale Award. We heard and acted out the story of Jonah; collectively drew and coloured in a gigantic chalk whale in the courtyard of the school; and learned many facts and figures about whales.

The children all enjoyed themselves enormously, and are looking forward to next year's Rally Day. The parents and teachers went home for a well earned rest.

Right - The story of Jonah and the whale came alive for our young Adventurers when they learnt more about whales and completed their Whale Honour.



Above - Our new Adventurers Club and their parents, leaders and counsellors wait patiently outside in the sunshine, waiting for their formal march into the ASDAH gym for their Rally Day programs.



YOUTUBE

In this age of technology, we sometimes can't show on the printed page the powerful messages we would love for you to enjoy. For instance, try visiting the following link on the internet and listening to perhaps the most powerful rendition of Amazing Grace that has ever been recorded.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HfGytXRpfho>



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CAUGHT ON CAMERA AT ALL POWER



Critical to the success of All Power was the involvement of our young people, like Brendan Krissensen (above) at the door, and Ben Reynolds (below) on the sound desk. Many of our young women also volunteered and helped make the seminars a success.

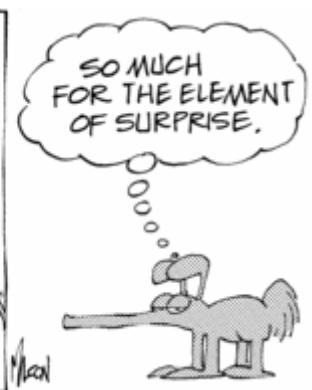
And while the parents enjoyed All Power, the children enjoyed their own programs with Seymour and Angelaia.



Above - Ranada, attending All Power, enjoying a back and neck massage from our own Jill Davidson



Above left - Belinda and Veronica enjoying their colouring in activity, while (above right) Lily and Jeanette (partly obscured) engage the children in arts and crafts during All Power.



THOUGHTS ON LOVE

Iain Ogilvie

Music is such a wonderful medium. It can pass on to the listener so much more than just the lyrics or the meaning of the song. Music carries emotion, and emotion in its raw state. It influences you whether you are consciously listening to the lyrics or not. Good music reaches the heart of the matter and the heart of the listener. A song that "got me" the other day was one that I had always enjoyed but for some reason I gained a new perspective on it. The lyrics are below, but of course mean so much more with the music. I hope you can hear it somewhere, Mark Knopfler, lead singer for the group Dire Straits, has always written superb lyrics and has an undisputed talent in his guitar playing. It is from his Golden Heart CD

Nobody's got the gun,
Nobody's trying to get the drop on anyone,
Nobody's standing out on main street,
With the sun blazing down,
Saying "There's only room for one of us in this here town",
Nobody's got the be the number one,
Nobody's got the gun.

She may not understand,
And she may want you eating from her hand,
If she's got you in a corner,
And you can smell the smoke and flame,
You reach for your revolver,
To do the same,
You'll blow your love away forever,
number one,
Nobody's got the gun.

You may think love is hard enough,
You may never get to rehearse,
And you can do without this stuff,
Making everything worse.

She's just the same as you,
She needs your love just like you want her to,
You can't go playing poker,

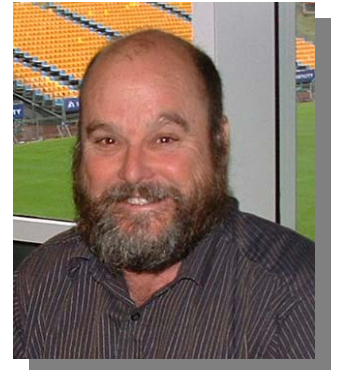
With a pistol in your sleeve,
You can't make somebody love you,
By threatening to leave,
If you want a love forever, number one,
Nobody's got the gun

The song is about relationships between men and woman, but I believe applies equally to all interactions. This got me thinking about love and emotions and how easily we are affected by them. We are driven and taken over by them if they are left unchecked. The above song is fundamentally about self and the Satan-planted need to protect and uplift self and gain revenge. When we feel attacked our first reaction is generally to counter attack. After all, the best form of defence is attack, isn't it? In doing so we place self above all else, close the door to love and fall hard.

The Ten Commandments are, on face value, a set of precepts or just rules to the cursory reader. Their obedience however is a requirement. In first 39 books of the Bible (Incidentally, the Bible is a whole book and as such I believe it is wrong to split it in two and call the parts "old" and "new", as this implies that the old somehow has no value or no longer applies), the penalties for disobeying the Decalogue are severe, so our adherence to them should be taken very seriously. With the arrival of 'The Christ' these are further illuminated to reveal that the 'spirit' of the law is more convicting of sin or loveless-ness, than the 'letter' of the law. Even Paul states that he has proudly kept the law in word but then claims that he is a wretched sinner.

So what is The Law? Is it more than just a set of rules to live by? What does it define? What is it designed to do?

In a Sabbath discussion group recently we were asked to describe what love is. None of us could come up with a satisfactory answer and we were saved from



embarrassment by the bell, literally. Love is such a hard word to describe. It is a verb so it is an action. So why do we so often think of love as a feeling? Do feelings have any part in love? Has so called 'modern culture', demoted love in relationships to just a feeling, or worse still, to mere sex? I would put it to you that The Law describes what love is not. The Law then, by its exclusions and commands, defines what love is. It is not a list of don'ts per se, but a definition of love. It defines how we are to run all relationships, with God, parents and others. It shows us how we are to love. This is dramatically enlarged by Jesus' expansion of The Law to include governing our very thoughts. So to love then requires a conscious decision that is demonstrated with actions and is not feelings

As we think, we will eventually do. The Jesus-expanded Law of Love measures then how much we actually love. Our actions may be pure but what is going on in the head? Self so often takes command here. "What a wretched man I am" declares Paul. Does this then define love, how we view God, our fellow Man, Creation and ourselves in our thoughts, in our inner most being, if you like?

Adam's second answer to God after the fall was to attack God for his gift of a woman and the woman herself. "The woman you put here with me, she gave me some fruit from the tree and I ate it. Eve did likewise, "The serpent deceived me and I ate". How often we pull our "revolvers".

Love is never armed. Nobody's got the gun.

Children Who View Adult-targeted TV May Become Sexually Active Earlier In Life

ScienceDaily (May 4, 2009) — Early onset of sexual activity among teens may relate to the amount of adult content children were exposed to during their childhood, according to a new study released by Children's Hospital Boston. Based on a longitudinal study tracking children from age six to eighteen, researchers found that the younger children are exposed to content intended for adults in television and movies, the earlier they become sexually active during adolescence.

"Television and movies are among the leading sources of information about sex and relationships for adolescents," says Hernan Delgado, MD, fellow in the Division of Adolescent/Young Adult Medicine at Children's Hospital Boston and lead author of the study. "Our research shows that their sexual attitudes and expectations are influenced much earlier in life."

The study consisted of 754 participants, 365 males and 389 females, who were tracked during two stages in life: first during childhood, and again five years later when their ages ranged from 12 to 18-years-old. At each stage, the television programs and movies viewed, and the amount of time spent watching them over a sample weekday and weekend day were logged. The program titles were used to determine what content was intended for adults. The participants' onset of sexual activity was then tracked during the second stage.

According to the findings, when the youngest children in the sample--ages 6 to 8-years-old--were exposed to adult-targeted television and movies, they were more likely

to have sex earlier when compared with those who watched less adult-targeted content. The study found that for every hour the youngest group of children watched adult-targeted content over the two sample days, their chances of having sex during early adolescence increased by 33 percent. Meanwhile, the reverse was not found to be true--that is, becoming sexually active in adolescence did not subsequently increase youth's viewing of adult-targeted television and movies.

"Adult entertainment often deals with issues and challenges that adults face, including the complexities of sexual relationships. Children have neither the life experience nor the brain development to fully differentiate between a reality they are moving toward and a fiction meant solely to entertain," adds David Bickham, PhD, staff scientist in the Center on Media and Child Health and co-author of the study. "Children learn from media, and when they watch media with sexual references and innuendos, our research suggests they are more likely to engage in sexual activity earlier in life."

The researchers encourage

parents to follow current American Academy of Pediatrics viewing guidelines such as no television in the bedroom, no more than 1 to 2 hours of screen time a day, and to co-view television programs and have an open dialogue about its content with your children. They also suggest that--while the results demonstrate a longitudinal relationship--more research needs to be done to understand how media influences children's growing awareness of human relationships and sexual behavior.

"Adolescent sexual behaviors may be influenced at a younger age, but this is just one area we studied," adds Dr. Delgado. "We showed how adult media impacts children into adolescence, yet there are a number of other themes in adult television shows and movies, like violence and language, whose influence also needs to be tracked from childhood to adolescence."

The findings are being presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies meetings on May 4 in Baltimore.

The study was funded by support by grants from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Center on Media and Child Health.



Ever wonder about the abbreviation A.S.A.P? The common meaning is, As Soon As Possible. Generally we think of it in terms of even more hurry and stress in our lives. Maybe if we think of this abbreviation in a different manner, we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way.

There's work to do, deadlines to meet;
 You've got no time to spare,
 But as you hurry and scurry-
 ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

In the midst of family chaos,
 'Quality time' is rare.
 Do your best; let God do the rest-
 ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER.

It may seem like your worries
 Are more than you can bear.
 Slow down and take a breather-
 ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

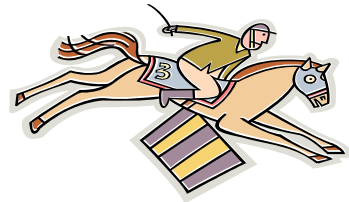
God knows how stressful life is;
 He wants to ease our cares,
 And He'll respond to all your needs
 A.S.A.P. - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER.



Lord, Keep Me BUSy

a senior's prayer

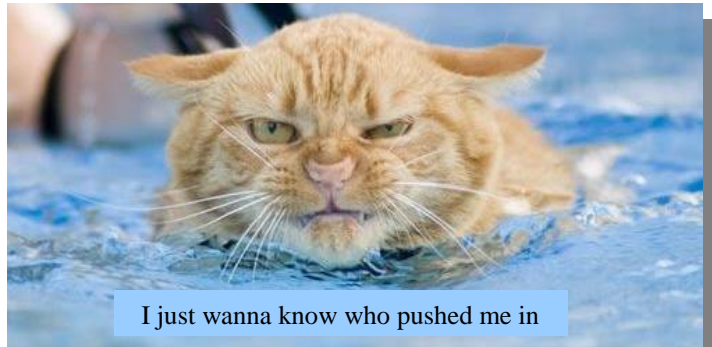
Lord keep me working, keep me fit,
 At windows I don't want to sit,
 Watching my fellow hurrying by,
 Let me stay busy till I die -
 Grant me the strength and breath and will,
 Thy plan for me to fulfil,
 A need to serve, a task to do.
 Let me each morning rise anew,
 Eager and glad that I can bear,
 My portion of the morning's care.
 Lord, I don't want to sit about,
 Broken and tired and all worn out,
 Afraid of wind and rain and cold -
 Let me stay busy when I am old.
 Although I walk at a slower pace,
 Still let me meet life face to face;
 This is my prayer as time goes by,
 Lord, keep me busy till I die.



pitchas wit a message



Smile - and leave them wondering what you're up to



I just wanna know who pushed me in



Just leave me alone



Latest medical discovery on the cause of male baldness

ACTUAL HUMOROUS CHURCH SIGNS THAT GRAB ATTENTION

Adam blamed Eve
Eve blamed the snake
and the snake didn't
have a leg to stand on

THERE ARE SOME
QUESTIONS THAT
CAN'T BE
ANSWERED BY
Google

Christ Church
(United Reformed)
Down in the mouth?
Come in for a
faith lift.
Find out more about us at www.ccpw.org.uk
or meet us here on Sunday

AS you pass this little church,
be sure to plan a visit,
so when at last
you're carried in,
God won't ask "Who is it?"

ALL SERVICES ARE
DIFFERENT, WE LEAVE
THE REPEATS TO TV
WITH THANKS TO 'OFFICIAL' STATIONERS HIGH RD.

HAPPY EASTER to our Christian Friends
HAPPY PASSOVER to our Jewish Friends
To our atheist Friends...
Good Luck

SPEAK WELL OF
YOUR ENEMIES.
AFTER ALL,
YOU MADE THEM

Can't Sleep?
Don't Count Sheep
Talk to
the Shepherd!

ALMOST 2000 YEARS OLD
AND STILL UNDER
THE MAKER'S GUARANTEE

God
You're
Great!

LET US
HELP YOU STUDY
FOR YOUR
FINAL EXAMS

THE MEEK...
shall inherit the earth
IF IT'S ALRIGHT WITH YOU

GOD IS PERFECT...
ONLY MAN
MAKES MISTEAKS

WE ARE THE
SOUL Agents
IN THIS AREA!

HOW HAPPY I HAVE BEEN!



A minister passing through his church in the middle of the day, decided to pause by the altar and see who had come to pray.

Just then the back door opened, a man came down the aisle, The minister frowned as he saw the man hadn't shaved in a while.

His shirt was kinda shabby and his coat was worn and frayed, the man knelt, he bowed his head, then rose and walked away.

In the days that followed, each noon time came this chap, each time he knelt just for a moment, a lunch pail in his lap.

Well, the minister's suspicions grew, with robbery a main fear.

He decided to stop the man and ask him, 'What are you doing here?'

The old man said he worked down the road. Lunch was half an hour.

Lunchtime was his prayer time, for finding strength and power.

'I stay only moments, see, because the factory is so far away;
As I kneel here talking to the Lord, This is kinda what I say:

'I JUST CAME AGAIN TO TELL YOU, LORD, HOW HAPPY I HAVE BEEN,
SINCE WE FOUND EACH OTHERS FRIENDSHIP AND YOU TOOK AWAY MY SIN.
DON'T KNOW MUCH OF HOW TO PRAY, BUT I THINK ABOUT YOU EVERYDAY.
SO, JESUS, THIS IS JIM CHECKING IN TODAY.'

The minister feeling foolish, told Jim, that that was fine.
He told the man he was welcome to come and pray any time.
Time to go, Jim smiled, said 'Thanks.' He hurried to the door.
The minister knelt at the altar; he'd never done it before.

His cold heart melted, warmed with love, and met with Jesus there.
As the tears flowed, in his heart, he repeated old Jim's prayer:

'I JUST CAME AGAIN TO TELL YOU, LORD, HOW HAPPY I HAVE BEEN,
SINCE WE FOUND EACH OTHERS FRIENDSHIP AND YOU TOOK AWAY MY SIN.
I DON'T KNOW MUCH OF HOW TO PRAY, BUT I THINK ABOUT YOU EVERYDAY.
SO, JESUS, THIS IS ME CHECKING IN TODAY.'

Past noon one day, the minister noticed that old Jim hadn't come.
As more days passed without Jim, he began to worry some.
At the factory, he asked about him, learning he was ill.
The hospital staff was worried, but he'd given them a thrill.

The week that Jim was with them, brought changes in the ward.
His smiles, a joy contagious, changed people, were his reward.
The head nurse couldn't understand why Jim was so glad,
when no flowers, calls or cards came, not a visitor he had.

The minister stayed by his bed, he voiced the nurse's concern:
No friends came to show they cared. He had nowhere to turn.
Looking surprised, old Jim spoke up and with a winsome smile;
'The nurse is wrong, she couldn't know, that he's in here all the while
Everyday at noon He's here, a dear friend of mine, you see.
He sits right down, takes my hand, leans over and says to me:

'I JUST CAME AGAIN TO TELL YOU, JIM, HOW HAPPY I HAVE BEEN,
SINCE WE FOUND THIS FRIENDSHIP, AND I TOOK AWAY YOUR SIN....
ALWAYS LOVE TO HEAR YOU PRAY, I THINK ABOUT YOU EACH DAY,
AND SO JIM, THIS IS JESUS CHECKING IN TODAY.'

On Getting Old

My memory's not as sharp as it used to be.
Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

Dog Wisdom

These are best viewed in colour. Check them out on our website - www.rocsda.co.nz



If your dog is fat, you aren't getting enough exercise -
Unknown



A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself. - Josh Billings



The average dog is a nicer person than the average person. - Andy Rooney

Where is Technology Taking Us? Here are a few samples



Above - looking more like transparent cigarette lighters, these new generation of touch-screen mobile phones brings a certain class to any teenagers ensemble. The coloured fluid inside moves around and presumably is luminescent when the lights go out so the numbers and screen are visible. For all intents and purposes, it is probably no more useful than a standard mobile, but it would differentiate someone who might want to be different, at least until they become commonplace.

Right Top - Looking like an every day tools chest, this cabinet opens up to reveal a fully resourced, fully functional sewing table and work station. Ideal for the new age of micro apartment living, which we might all have to get used to when the world's population doubles. Of course this could just as easily be a computer desk with desktop or laptop computer, keyboard and mouse, and a reasonable amount of file spaces for those all important papers - in an otherwise paperless office.



Right Bottom - Then of course if your apartment is too small to have separate ablution facilities, you could always hide your 'appliances' as shown in this novel idea. A somewhat interesting approach and one that we're not sure would catch on, but hey, 'from small acorns do large oak trees grow'. Perhaps we'll become so accustomed to such ideas, they won't be so novel in future. Who would have imagined 20 years ago, we would take microwave technology for granted?



Right - This cool 'fountain-basin' design has features that only show up in the dark. The round concentric disk over which the water flows, glow red when the water is hot and blue when it's cold. In the daylight, I guess one would use the old fashioned way of testing the water temperature, that is by touching the side of the fountain.



I've learned...
- That being kind is more important than being right.
I've learned...
- That you should never say no to a gift from a child.
Andy Rooney

POINT OF VIEW

Mark Ryan

The recent shooting tragedy in Napier this month (May) once again raised awareness of increasing violence in our community.

In a discussion I had with a work colleague about the shootings, this while the siege was happening, he expressed his view, quite passionately, that the police should attack Jan Molenaar's house and end the stand-off. My colleague's ideal response to the violence - was more violence. For my part, I thought that the police were doing the right thing. While there was no immediate threat to others, they should just wait him out.

My colleague then became quite critical of the police and our society generally. He said our society has become weak, too politically correct and too easy on criminals. He was most critical of the police and the justice system, saying they were incompetent and inept.

This made me stop and think. Is he right? Are we too soft and tolerant of the violence in our society? Should we insist that our police and judiciary impose harsher penalties and longer prison terms? Maybe we should even consider corporal punishment? Why not? It might deter the worst offenders; cause them to think again perhaps? Then I thought again.

Perhaps we are too critical of those who are trying to protect and defend us? Perhaps we are seeing the police and the judiciary, and for that matter the emergency services and health system, in the wrong light? They're the ones charged with the responsibility to care for our community, to protect us and to keep order. Yet they are often the ones most criticised and attacked even as they do their jobs.

I watched a little of Police 10-7, the TV program that reviews recent crimes and asks for the public's help in solving them. Pictured in one incident was the apprehension of a drunk driver. In his drunken state, the driver verbally abused the policemen and showed utter contempt, even to the point of threatening violence. To anyone watching, the driver acted as though he was hard-done-by; as though he were the victim in the situation.

This seemed so aberrant and wrong to me, and yet I've come to realise it is increasingly the reaction of more and more such offenders. Their contempt for the law and society is so complete, they believe they should be allowed to operate outside the law with impunity. Then I wondered; what if the whole of society held this view? What would happen to these people if everyone else treated them as they wanted to treat society. I concluded the only reason they succeed in their childish contemptuous behaviour, is because society was ordered and just. Without that order and the due process of law, they could not misbehave as they do. Vigilante justice would take over and society would be anarchic.

We could not function as a community. We would - all of us - be looking out only for 'number one', ourselves. We would be suspicious of everyone else and fearful that others would execute summary vigilante justice on us. In a way, this would establish its own form

of order, but one where only the powerful, strong and rich would rule. That's not a society I would like to live in, yet these kinds of societies exist today in third world countries, and also in some of the world's cities.

Instead of criticising our police and judiciary, we should be supporting them, and be grateful they're there. Instead of tolerating the idiotic antics of the fools and criminals, we should be placing the blame for our society's ills firmly at their feet, and at the feet of those who would profit from the sale of drugs, alcohol and other excesses. Sometimes we treat God the same way we treat our police and judiciary. We view God as the one causing our problems instead the one getting us out of trouble. All the while, the ones causing our problems - that is Satan primarily, and us secondarily - escape the blame, and sometimes even the immediate consequence.

The odd thing about it is, God sees it that way too. **He** accepts the blame for our sinful predicament, and **He** is prepared to accept our ultimate punishment as well! That's like our society saying, "You've committed the crime, Mr Criminal, but we 'the society', will accept your punishment." It wouldn't happen in this world, yet God deliberately entrenches this principle in **His** kingdom.

What a God we serve! What a wonderful, just, graceful, merciful and loving God we serve!

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For "Connect" in colour, download from our website www.rocsda.co.nz

DON'T OPEN THAT DOOR

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.

- GENESIS 4:6-7 MSG