

JULY 12TH 2020

WALKERVILLE UNITING CHURCH

A community in Christ for all generations



LONG TERM PLANNING

Last week we ran out of time to fully explore the long-term plan that God has been working on throughout history. Paul writes about this in his letter to the Ephesians saying, "For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight." There are a whole lot of things going on in this verse. For starters Paul reveals that we were chosen by God, and not the other way around. This whole thing is initiated and worked out by God and he has been at it from "before creation." There is no plan B, for this plan has always been the plan. Therefore, everything in the Old Testament, the history of Israel, the coming of Christ in the incarnation, his death, resurrection and ascension and the ultimate second coming was all planned and put into play before the creation was even begun. The coming of Jesus in the flesh was not an emergency contingency to fix botched plans from the past. Jesus was always the plan; he is still the plan; and he will be the plan into the future.

To understand this, we must review the many times the first indications of this plan are mentioned in the scriptures. Take for instance the story of Jacob in the wilderness when he encountered God in a dream and saw angels descending and ascending on a stairway between heaven and earth (Genesis 28: 12), a sign of God at work on earth.

Scripture Readings:

- Old Testament:
Genesis 28: 10-17
- New Testament:
Ephesians 1:1-7

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

- **Youth Group** *Sunday*
12th July 5pm in Hall 2
- **Craft Group** *Tuesday*
14th July 9.30am in Hall 2
- **Bible Study**
Wednesday 15th July
10am in Hall 2
- **Prayer Group**
Wednesday 15th July
11.15am in Hall 2.

Craft
GROUP

**2nd & 4th Tuesday each
month**

9.30am gather

10am - 12 noon craft

contact Helen B for more info

LONG TERM PLANNING CONT.

He then heard the voice of God say, "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. *All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.* (Genesis 28: 13-14). Here we see Jacob being renewed in the same promise made to his grandfather (Genesis 12: 1-3). When he woke from the dream he said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven." (Genesis 28: 17). Again, we must understand this in metaphoric terms as the place where heaven and earth overlap, and the place where the plan of God is being worked out. Jesus referred to this story in the Gospel of John when he said to Nathaniel, "you will see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man. (John 1: 51). In other words, the plan revealed to Jacob is now about to be fulfilled in the 'Son of Man' - i.e. the messiah.

Paul gives more texture to the story as he describes how we would ultimately be made ready "for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ." (v5).

The long-range, plan that God has had from the beginning, that "All peoples on earth will be blessed" finds its completion in the bringing of all nations into the family of God. God wants a family, and all of history is the story of God making a way for his lost children to be restored to their true home. As the old song, "God and man at table are sat down" has it in the final verse:

*When at last this earth shall pass away,
When Jesus and his Bride are one to stay,
The feast of love is just begun that day.
God and man at table are sat down.*

Adoption into the family of God is the grand meta-story of Bible and human history. Only with this in mind can we make sense of life.

In faith

David Kowalick

COMING UP THIS MONTH

- **Craft Group - Now Tuesdays** July 14th & 28th, 9.30am for coffee. 10am start. Concluding at 12noon.
- **msg@5** - Sunday July 19th, 5pm - 6.30pm Fruit of the Spirit.
- **Gravity Fighters** - returning Tuesday 21st July 10.30am
- **Playgroup** - Thursday July 23rd, 9.30am.
- **Hiking Group** - Sunday July 26th Steub Trail, Mt Lofty Summit. 2pm Cleland Conservation Park parking lot. Contact the Prestons to RSVP

ROSTERS

Assistants for Sunday 12th July

Welcomer: M Hill

Morning Tea: Morrison

Prayer: J Wiseman

Bible Reader: F Raymond

Flowers: P Morrison

Children's Chat: S Farrant

Godly Play: K Brice & M Hobby

Stewards & Counters: P Hill & P Jackson

Sound Desk: C Brice

Assistants for Sunday 19th July

Welcomer: M Hill

Morning Tea: Farrant/Sellars

Prayer: TBA

Bible Reader: J Everett

Flowers: T Jew

Children's Chat: K Brice

Godly Play: in church

Stewards & Counters: P Hill & P Jackson

Sound Desk: TBA

KYLIE'S NEWS

What a year! There has been so much change. And things are going to continue to change for us all. It is with mixed emotions that I share with you, that I have been offered a new job at a youth centre in Salisbury, which means I will no longer be working at Walkerville Uniting Church.

I have loved the 2 years+ that I have shared in ministry with you all. Thank you so much for the overwhelming welcome, support and encouragement. It is going to be difficult to say goodbye, I care for you all deeply.

My last official day as Families Ministry Worker will be July 19th. Clint, Noah and I will still be around the place, and know that you can still be in touch with us. Know that God is good and His plans are far greater than our own.

Blessings,
Kylie



bookings essential
new families please contact the office



returning Thursday 23 July

PLAYGROUP @ WALKERVILLE

9.30am



YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
ARE INVITED



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

msg@5 Family Service

5pm to 6.30pm

SUNDAY JULY 19TH

@ Walkerville Uniting Church

CRAFT

**BIBLE
STORIES**

SCIENCE

FOOD

SONGS



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