



P I C T O N Baptist Church

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right ... Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.”
Ephesians 6:1, 4



TODAY'S SERVICE

*Opening Song..... All together
God of Ages
Welcome & Notices.....Bill Pettigrew
Tithes & Offerings..... All together
*Singing..... All together
Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace)
Message.....Deo Vistar
God's Design for Parent-Child
Relationship
Ephesians 6:1-4
*Closing Song..... All together
The Same Power
Prayer & Blessing.....Deo Vistar
*Led by the Praise Team: Deo Vistar (leading), Jude Stretton (singer), Te Mara Riwaka (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

- ✦ If you have any questions or need help, please ask one of the welcomers who will be happy to help you.
- ✦ If you would like prayer after the service today, ask the people around you or come to the front and someone will pray for you.
- ✦ A crèche is available down at the foyer. The service is relayed into the room so you are able to listen to it. Please ensure the room is left tidy.
- ✦ We invite you to stay for a cup of tea after the service.

PASTORAL NOTES

Kia ora! Welcome to our worship this morning. If you are a first-time guest, I encourage you to fill out a blue visitor card and hand it to the welcomers or drop it in one of the offering bags.

Last week my wife and I watched some of the videos we took of our daughter Angela when she was little, back when we were living in Dunedin. Those were Angela's early days, when she was a newborn until she turned 2. We miss those days, days filled with cuteness. Now she's over 3 and a happy big sister for Nathan, who has turned 3 months. She's proving to be a good, caring sister.

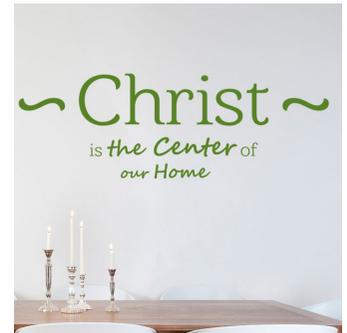
I'm sharing this story as it makes us think of family – parents, children, grandchildren, etc. We love our

family. I visited one of my neighbours this past week, and she has in her home an “ancestral wall,” full of photos of her own parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, as well as those of her late husband. She obviously loves her family, and although she lives by herself, she keeps in contact with them through social media, etc.

God loves families, too – He instituted the human family. I'm reminded of God's words in Jer 29:11 – God's plans for our families are not for our harm but for our good and flourishing. But we live in a sinful and broken world where many families relationally break down. That, however, shouldn't be the end of the story. If we invite Christ into our families, we find healing and restoration in and through Him.

The book of Ephesians is about us Christians as God's new humanity in Christ through the Spirit. Paul discusses this truth doctrinally in Eph 1-3, and practically in Eph 4-6. Paul insists on 2 things: first, we must begin to look at ourselves through the lens of our new Christian identity; second, a new identity issues in a new lifestyle. Christians are renewed and transformed people. Let me ask you: how does your life align with this?

Continuing our series on Ephesians, we come this morning to the last chapter, Eph 6, focusing on vv 1-4, where Paul discusses God's design for parent-child relationship. This complements 5:21-33 where Paul talks about God's design for husband-wife relationship.



What's God's design for parent-child relationship? First, children are to honour and obey their parents in the Lord (v. 1). Second, parents are not to provoke their children (by either too much laxity or too much strictness) to rebellion, but bring them up in God's Word (v. 4). In other words, parent-child relationship (as well as husband-wife) is to reflect the grace and love of God. How blessed is the home where parents and children – despite their real weaknesses – love each other?

Grace and peace to you all. – Deo

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PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN TURKEY

From *The Barnabas Fund 2018*
barnabasfund.org

The number of Christians in what is now Turkey has fallen from as many as 3 million to fewer than 150,000 in 100 years. Historical Armenian, Assyrian and Greek Christian communities were decimated in a genocide in the early twentieth century (at least 1.5 million Armenians and Assyrians died) and still face discrimination, including property seizures, today. Recent years have seen a rise in anti-Christian media reports – in one instance, New Testaments were displayed alongside “terrorist propaganda” confiscated by police – and anti-Christian billboards and leaflets have been reported at Christmas. There are now over 140 known Protestant fellowships at varying sizes, mostly made up of Turkish converts from Islam. However, Christians and other minorities, including thousands of Iraqi and Syrian Christian refugees who have fled to Turkey, are treated with suspicion and experience occasional attacks.

In April 2017, a referendum agreed a new constitution, giving the president – currently Recep Tayyip Erdogan – sweeping powers strikingly similar to those of the Sultan under a historical Ottoman constitution. Erdogan has openly sought to revive nationalist Ottoman sentiment, deploying the Turkish army in areas of Iraq formerly part of the Ottoman Empire and promoting Islam as central to Turkish national identity.

Although the vast majority of Turks are Muslim, modern Turkey since 1923 has a proud history of secular government. This is being gradually eroded by a programme of Islamization particularly focused on the young. A new school curriculum introduced in 2017/18 promotes Islam as synonymous with Turkish national identity, alters history and science curricula and requires all schools to have a Muslim prayer room. Since the apparent attempted coup in July 2016, there has been an ongoing crackdown on Christian activity, which has included jailing foreign nationals.

Pray for Turkish Christians who live in a climate of growing instability, particularly for those who are converts from Islam, and for Iraqi and Syrian Christian refugees who are especially singled out. Pray that Turkish believers will have the boldness to witness to

Christ, despite negative portrayal in the media and the risk of being detained in the authorities’ crackdown.

NOTICES

Dinner Collective

Today at 6pm at church. All welcome.

Volunteers Needed

- Webmaster (who will maintain our church website and Facebook page)
- Bulletin editor

Please speak with Deo if you’re interested or if you’d like to know more about these roles.

STAY CONNECTED THIS WEEK!

We have several home groups running during the week. Find out a group that may suit you and help you in your Christian walk. See schedule and contact details below.

Tuesday 10am	Home group (Bible study) at 90 Linden’s Road	Contact Deo at 573 6315
Tuesday 7pm	Home group at 5 Amelia Cres	Contact Stu at 573 7769
Tuesday 7pm	Home group at 90 Lindens Road	Contact Pene at 573 7785
Wednesday 6pm	Youth group in the Church Hall	Contact Mary at 573 5499
Thursday 7pm	Home group at Steve & Sue Dawson’s place (374 Waikawa Rd)	Contact Deo at 573 6315
Sunday 9:30am	Prayer meeting in the Children’s Ministry Room	Contact Steve Lavers at 021 0235 5728
Sunday 10am	Church Service	Contact Deo at 573 6315
Sunday 10:30am	<i>Sunday Friends</i> (Children’s Ministry)*	Contact Carol at 027 7735 263

*Except on the last Sunday of each month

Any Prayer Requests?

If you have any prayer request for the prayer chain, contact Judith Dodge at 573 9245.

ROSTERS*

Hosting

2nd Sept.....P Sarjeant & G Macdonald
9th Sept..... L Stevenson & S Lavers (Communion)
16th Sept..... S & R Henderson
23rd Sept..... B & M Pettigrew (Communion)
30th Sept..... A Woolf & L Price

Music & Sound

2nd Sept: (Deo Vistar) (leading), Jude Stretton (singer), Te Mara Riwaka (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

9th Sept: Garry Stanley (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Lynette Stanley (projector), Andy Baldwin (sound)

16th Sept: Gwenda Galbraith (leading), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Jude Stretton (singer), Te Mara Riwaka (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

23rd Sept: Allison Le Heux (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Deo Vistar (singer), Gyllian Macdonald (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

30th Sept: Garry Stanley (leading), Ana Woolf (keyboard), Jude Stretton (singer), Lynette Stanley (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

*If the date doesn’t suit please arrange a swap with others on the roster.

“TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO – BUT BE SURE YOU GO THAT WAY YOURSELF.”

– CHARLES SPURGEON