

Jesus calls us to be disciples

Our mission is to grow in/as disciples. But what does that mean?

Through faith in Jesus I am a believer, child of God, Christian, servant, saint and disciple. These are all words used in the Scriptures to describe believers. All have their place and show a different angle of the diamond.

The Gospels and Acts use the term "disciples". The original disciples were the ones who followed Jesus and listened to his teaching. In the gospels, sometimes the term refers to the twelve (most of whom became Apostles) and sometimes the greater crowd of devotees. Acts 6:1 shows that "the disciples" were never meant to be a static group or just contemporaries of Jesus. The number of disciples increased or multiplied.

The Greek word comes from the word "Mathetes" which means, "the mental effort to think something through" (Strong's Concordance). It is where we get the word "Mathematics" from. Out of context it does not necessarily refer to any spiritual reality. It would have been used in an everyday sense. Out of all the terms this is the one that requires our active participation in using our minds to understand Jesus' teaching and aligning our lives as adherents of that teaching.

It involves teaching and learning, as Jesus told the disciples to make disciples of all nations by teaching them to obey everything he had commanded. (Matthew 28:19-20).

The term "disciples" saves us from passive mental ascent or nominalism (ever heard of a nominal disciple?), and hyper-spiritualism (where the work of the mind is minimalised). We are to love the Lord with our heart, soul and *mind* (Matthew 23:37 Emphasis added). It also saves us from isolation or becoming "solo Christians". We devote ourselves to Jesus' teachings as received and transmitted by the prophets and disciples. Other believers are agents in this teaching. Together, we ensure that no-one misses the grace of God (Hebrews 12:15) as we disciple (and are disciplined by) one another by speaking the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15).



Pastor

Commissioning Service for Geoff, Robyn, Tim, Amy and Ben

CMS has introduced their Advocate initiative. This provides their missionaries with a local link from each of their supporting churches. Advocates keep their Church informed through regular information updates from their CMS missionaries and also keep the missionaries informed regarding what is happening in their Church.

The CAC Advocates for Geoff, Robyn and their children are Darryl and Robin Beitsch, who, together with Julie Hohne and Audrey Redhead, attended the service at Earlwood Anglican Church. Advocates from 7 supporting Churches prayed for Geoff, Robyn, Tim, Amy and Ben. An encouraging talk was given by Rev. Chris Moroney from 2 Timothy 4: 1-5

Message - preach the Word

Against - there will be many who are apathetic and antagonistic

Love the people, as God loves us

Teach the truth and don't be swayed

Always keep going, do the work of an evangelist

Robyn and the children will be returning to Malta on Sunday 23rd in time for the children to commence school. Geoff will hopefully fly back to Malta on October 10 which is 8 weeks after the operation. The surgeon has advised that if there are complications they mainly happen in the first 8 weeks. So **please pray** that there will be no complications so Robyn and the children and then Geoff can leave on time.

PRAYER @ CAC



Thank you, Father for:

- Your presence in our lives
- Generously giving us your blessings when we ask in faith
- Healing
- Answers to prayer in your time

Please pray for:

- **Our reliance on the Lord** and to remember that God is in control **in all circumstances**
- **Our church family**, particularly
 - Sue Dawkins
 - John and Nancy Dossan
 - Julie Hohne
 - Judy Telfer
 - Barbara Strivener
 - those who are ill or injured
 - those who are grieving the loss of loved ones
 - those who are broken

• Geoff, Robyn and their family

- **Bishop Ivan Lee** for recovery
- **HSC students** and their families as they prepare for final exams
- Good **soaking rain** that will break the ongoing drought across all rural areas of NSW.

• The **farmers and their families** to persevere in such hardship and that appropriate support systems will reach them.

• **Barraba** mission October 1st to 5th. This will be our final Barraba mission trip.

From Anne Doyle

Thank you for your prayers last week when I was unexpectedly in hospital. God made His presence felt all the time. I was reminded of following text and found it particularly encouraging as I prayed for His help. I thank the Lord for my recovery.



Philippians 4 : 6

'Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.'

Church Sign Board



THE ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING ARE:

ACC NAME:
Cherrybrook Anglican Church

BANK:
Commonwealth Bank of Australia

BSB: 062 401

ACC NUMBER: 1030 0904



23 September 2018

9.30am

The Passover lamb

Dan Butler

Mark 14 : 12 – 26

6.30pm

The new creation

Gav Poole

Revelation 21 : 1 – 22 : 5

30 September 2018

9.30am

JOSHUA – Be strong and courageous

Gav Poole

Joshua 1 : 1 – 18

6.30pm

The final testimony

Gav Poole

Revelation 22 : 6 – 21

Diary Dates

Thursday 27 Sept – Parish Council Meeting

1 – 5 Oct – Barraba Mission