



Newsletter

September

2012

The Lord is like a father to his children,
tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

Psalm 103:13 NLT



Our vision: **“Growing a community of faith
committed to Christ and making him known”**

Linking ministering communities in East Launceston, George Town,
Hillwood, Low Head, Pipers River, Riverside & Trevallyn



From Alister

A Christians Guide to Handling Wealth

We are privileged to live in one of the wealthiest nations on planet earth; a nation that our government boasts has one of the strongest economies in the western world. While other nations struggle with huge debts and uncertain levels of economic activity, Australia, boosted by great mineral wealth, continues to prosper.

This economic wealth brings with it many responsibilities both on the national level and on the personal level. The focus of this article is at the personal level.

Is it OK for Christians to be wealthy?

How much do we need to be considered wealthy?

How should we respond to wealth?

One of the saddest stories in the New Testament is the

story of the rich young man in Mark 10:17-31.

The rich young man fell on his knees before Jesus, desperate to find out what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus reminded him of the 10 commandments which he claimed to have kept since boyhood. Jesus instructed him to sell everything he had and give the proceeds to the poor. Then he was to follow Jesus. On hearing this, his face fell and he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

The young man made his choice. He wanted a relationship with God and he wanted a guarantee of eternal life, but the price was higher than he was prepared to pay. He had to decide between God and his wealth. Sadly, he chose the latter. His wealth had become his god, because that's what mattered to him most. He went away with his wealth

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

intact, but in sadness and separated from God. He could have gone with treasure in heaven and the promise of eternal life which he sought.

In this story we see illustrated the quest for godliness versus the quest for financial gain. As the young man went away, Jesus explained how hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God. Elsewhere he taught them; No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. (Matthew 6:24) In a sense, wealth is a force that competes with God for our allegiance. We must all choose who it is we are to follow.

THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE (1Timothy 6:6-10)

In his letter to Timothy, the apostle Paul is highly critical of those who look upon godliness as a means to

financial gain, reminding them that we bring nothing into the world and we take nothing from it. Even if we work hard and successfully at accumulating wealth, on the day we die, we forfeit the lot. We start with nothing and we end with nothing. Everyone gets the same result; a big ZERO!!!

Paul continues with an astounding statement. "If we have food and clothing we will be content with that." The basic necessities of life are food and clothing. We can survive and be content with nothing more. Paul is not saying that we should live this way, he is merely pointing out that this is the bare minimum for a contented life. (6:8)

Paul reminded Timothy of those believers who had sought riches but instead had found ruin and destruction. In their eagerness for money they had wandered from their faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

*1 Timothy
6: 6 - 10 ^{NIV}*

*continued
from
previous
page*

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

They may not have realised it at the time, but they had sought to live with two masters, God and money.

WEALTH CONTROL (1Timothy 6:17-19)

In Paul's closing remarks he has some special instructions for "those who are rich in this present world". We may not think of ourselves as very rich, but it has been said that anyone who has a computer in their home is in the top 1 or 2% of the wealthiest people on the planet. In other words, we need to look at wealth on a global scale rather than a local scale.

Those who are rich are told not to put their hope in wealth which is so uncertain; wise advice indeed as we are so often hearing of those who have lost their life savings in all sorts of circumstances such as:

- ~ Poor investment strategies, scams, ill-advised risks, natural disasters, relationship breakdowns, etc.

Rather than put our hope in wealth, we are to put our hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. God wants us to enjoy all that he has given us. We don't know why he has blessed us so much, but we do know that he wants us to enjoy what we have been given, and this includes the joy of sharing his gifts with others.

Those who are wealthy are commanded: To do good, to be rich in good deeds and to be generous and willing to share. Not only are they to be generous with their possessions, but also with their time, by doing good and being rich in good deeds. In other words, they were to get their hands dirty in serving others. By doing these things they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age. They will enjoy the spoils of heaven for all eternity.

To summarise, let's look at

the 3 questions posed at the beginning of this article.

Is it OK for Christians to be wealthy?

Yes, there is nothing wrong with wealth. However, we are warned against the danger of pursuing wealth at the expense of our relationship with God.

How much do we need to be considered wealthy?

Very little. It is possible for us to be content with adequate food and adequate clothing. However, there is no suggestion that we should adjust our lifestyle to that level.

How should we respond to wealth?

We should respond with gratitude to God and with generosity of both our time and our wealth. We should be willing to share.

As we think about generosity, there is one last thing that must be said. God is a generous god. No-one can

out-give God. Why? He has given us the greatest gift of all; the gift of his one and only son Jesus Christ. Jesus gave himself and by his death on the cross paid the price for our sin so that we may take hold of the life that is truly life; eternal life with our generous heavenly father in his kingdom.

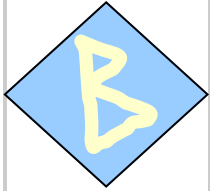
Alister Stott



Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

in this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

*1 Timothy
6: 17 - 19 NIV*



Bible Man visits Messy Church



Family Baptism at George Town

Tyeisha,
Vincent,
Hammish
& Lachlan
after their
Baptism at
George Town
on 5th August



SUPA Olympics



SUPA Club is building up numbers again after their restart this term.

The SUPA Olympics seen here included a bean bag challenge, balloon relay, and Bible verse challenge



Pictured:
Miraki, Caitlin,
Michaela, Issy,
Hammish,
Yasmin
plus Peter,
Maria, James
& Christine

Riverlinks

September 2012	
1st Sat	Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's Launceston
2nd Sun	Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's
3rd Mon	
4th Tue	<i>(each Tuesday)</i> Pat's Prayer Group – 2:00pm (6324 5111) Prayer Group – 1:00pm at St MM G/Town Home & Study Groups – 1:45pm at Igglesden's home – 7:30pm at Booth's home – 7:30pm at Pedley's home – 7:30pm Stanford's group at St Aidan's
5th Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm St Oswald's
6th Thur	
7th Fri	<i>(each Friday)</i> KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church George Town SUPA Club – 3:15pm at Flinders Hall, Port Dalrymple School George Town
8th Sat	

September 2012	
9th Sun	
10th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm
11th Tue	
12th Wed	
13th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm
14th Fri	
15th Sat	
16th Sun	Prescare Legana – 10:45am
17th Mon	
18th Tue	
19th Wed	St Oswald's Fellowship Group – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
20th Thur	mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's

The **deadline** for the October Newsletter edition is **21st September**

Calendar

September 2012	
21 st Fri	
22 nd Sat	
23 rd Sun	
24 th Mon	
25 th Tue	
26 th Wed	Effective Parenting Course – 7:00pm weekly over 8 weeks at City Baptist Church
27 th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's Soup & Savouries Lunch – 12 noon at St Mary Magdalene's, George Town Tamar Park – 1:45pm
28 th Fri	SUPA Club – 3:15pm at Flinders Hall, Port Dalrymple School George Town Youth Group – 7:30pm at St Aidan's
29 th Sat	Tasmanian Bible Forum – 10:00am at Battery Point
30 th Sun	Riverlinks Together – 10:30am at St Mary Magdalene's George Town

October and other dates 2012	
23 rd October	“Communicating Joshua” SMBC Preaching Conference at St Aidan's
31 st October - 2 nd November	Clergy Conference

Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
2 nd	10:00 am 4:30 pm	Communion Messy Church	
9 th	10:00 am	Café Church	
16 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
23 rd	10:00 am	Communion	
30 th	-	NO SERVICE	
George Town			
2 nd	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Hillwood Pipers River George Town	Communion Morning Prayer Communion
9 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Together @ 10.30
16 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion Communion
23 rd	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Communion
30 th	10:30 am	Riverlinks Together	
Riverside & Trevallyn			
2 nd	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
9 th	10:00 am 4:00 pm	Riverside Trevallyn	Praise & worship Communion
16 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
23 rd	4:00 pm	- Trevallyn	No service Evening Prayer
30 th	-	-	No services
Each Wed	10:00am	Trevallyn	Healing Service
Peace Haven			
9 th	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
16 th	10:30 am	Holy Communion	
23 rd	10:30 am	Holy Communion	

Please send articles, comments, information & photos to the Parish Office

399 West Tamar, Riverside - 6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au

Youth Group

7:30 - 9:30pm

Friday 28th September

(last Friday of each month)

at St Aidan's East Launceston

Suitable for tired and worn out students
from grade 6 through to grade 10.

Hang out, bring your friends, play games,
listen to music, jam with your instrument
and recover from a hard week @ school

call James on 0407325275

Riverlinks Together Sunday

30th September

10:30am

at St Mary Magdalene's
George Town

A shared lunch will follow
the service

*Please bring a plate of finger
food to share together*

Women's Breakfast @ St Johns

Next: *Helen Wills*
'Before & After'

Saturday 6 October

Time: 8am

@ St Johns

Parish Centre,
157 St John Street
Launceston

Cost:

faith donation

RSVP for catering
numbers to St Johns
office Ph 6331 4896; email
office@stjohns.net.au
or call Stephanie Renshaw
mob 0416 289 275

Tasmanian Bible Forums MARATHON RUNNERS:

Hebrews 12-13

with Rev Mike Ralter

Director of the Centre for Biblical Preaching in Melbourne and
former Principal of Melbourne School of Theology

Saturday 29th September 10.00am - 3.00pm
at St George's Anglican Church
30 Cromwell Street, Battery Point

\$15 (includes morning tea & lunch)

Bring your Bible and a pen

RSVP for catering by 25th September to Paul Chew:

0424 441 304 or paul.chew1@bigpond.com



\$6

Monthly Soup & Savouries Lunch

Thursday 27th September 12 noon
at St Mary Magdalene's Church
Anne Street George Town

Money raised
goes towards
Chaplaincy in
George Town
schools



SMBC
Sydney Missionary & Bible College

SMBC's School of Preaching presents:

Communicating Joshua

Tuesday 23 October 2012

Venue st aidan's church arthur street, east launceston

Cost early bird \$50.00
(payable 23 sept)
regular \$60.00
(after 23 sept & by 19 oct)

Register by contacting the
Parish office
office@riverlinks.net.au
or 6327 4742



WITH SMBC LECTURERS:
REV DR SAM CHAN
REV DR MALCOLM GILL
JENNY SALT



A Car Boot Sale

is planned for Trevallyn
in September to raise
funds for BTSF Malawi.

If you are interested in
being involved please
contact Kaye Gregory

63319723

1heart



SEPTEMBER 8 - REGISTER ONLINE
WWW.1HEART.COM.AU

1HEART CONFERENCE 2012
[SEPTEMBER 8, 2012 | WWW.1HEART.COM.AU]



Why do I fail so often? Archie Poulos

This article first appeared at www.sydneyanglicans.net

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?

Hebrews 12:7

The most widespread pastoral issue I face in church is that of assurance. Uncertainty about whether God will accept me. Uncertainty often provoked by examining my thought world or realizing how slow I am to change.

On these occasions we must work to turn the search for hope and assurance away from our performance (as that will never provide sufficient hope) to the merciful heart and action of our saviour, Jesus.

Lack of Performance

But there still remains the problem of our failure to be what we are called to be, and to act in ways that are appropriate to that calling.

The wonderful thing about God's command is that He is ever so realistic. He calls us to change, and calls us to change now, and we must take that with the upmost seriousness. But in God's great goodness the call to immediate change is coupled with the giving time to us to change. So John can say "I write this that you do not sin, but if anyone sins we have one who speaks to the Father

in our defense".

To merely bemoan that we are not what we should be often causes us to lose sight of the great work God has done, in turning our hearts to desire to serve him, to be penitent for our sins, and being willing to re-enter the fray even though it is painful.

A Matter of Time

So sometimes God, in His goodness, gives immediate release from sins. At other times he graciously gives time to change. I notice that the widely read work of Malcolm Gladwell gives data in which he says to become expert in things takes 10 000 hours of practice. So I want to say, keep practicing being godly.

I wonder whether the 10 000 rule could be just another way of speaking of habits. Good habits are good, bad habits are bad, and over time good habits will reap great gospel reward.

The good news is that failure is not final. Set your heart and energy to do well, ask God for his strengthening of you in it, and if the Lord should delay in returning He will give the time to change.

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire



*This article has
been reproduced
from Bishop John's
blog [www
.imaginarydiocese
.org](http://www.imaginarydiocese.org)*

A weekly time of early morning prayer at our local parish has been one of many blessings during this month of leave. Prayer has become a significant part of my leave. I had not planned for this but I rejoice in the Lord's unexpected and precious gift.

One aspect of this desire for prayer has been my reflection and reading in preparation for an upcoming Anglican Spirituality seminar in Burnie.

One of the seminar resources is the *'The Book of Common Praise'* (I could not find an online version) which in earlier times was bound in the one volume with *'The Book of Common Prayer'*. The words of these hymns have helped me to pray and I commend them to you.

One such hymn is James Montgomery's, 'Prayer is the soul's sincere desire'.

May the Holy Spirit nurture your life through these beautiful words:

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire
Uttered or unexpressed
The motion of a hidden fire
That trembles in the breast

Prayer is the burden of a sigh
The falling of a tear
The upward glancing of an eye
When none but God is near

Prayer is the simplest form of
speech
That infant lips can try
Prayer, the sublimest strains that
reach
The Majesty on high

Prayer is the Christian's vital breath
The Christian's native air
His watchword at the gates of death
He enters heav'n with prayer

Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice
Returning from his ways
While angels in their songs rejoice
And cry, "Behold! He prays!"

Nor prayer is made on earth alone
The Holy Spirit pleads
And Jesus at the Father's throne
For sinners intercedes

O thou by whom we come to God
The Life, the Truth, the Way
The path of prayer thyself hast trod
Lord, teach us how to pray. Amen!

*My son, do
not despise
the Lords
discipline
and do not
resent his
rebuke,
because the
Lord
disciplines
those he
loves,
as a father
the son he
delights in.*

Proverbs
3:11,12



The father of five children had won a toy at a raffle. He called his kids together to ask which one should have the present. "Who is the most obedient?" he asked. "Who never talks back to mother? Who does everything she says?" Five small voices answered in unison. "Okay, dad, you get the toy."

I like Father's Day because my kids obey me. I always tell them not to spend much on gifts, and they never do.

Show your dad you really appreciate all the things he's done. Lend him the keys to your car.

Enabler's Quarterly Activity Report for period 21st May – 16th August 2012

27 May	Weekend away with family	
3 June	Preached at East Launceston Messy Church, East L'ton	
10 June	Preached at Riverside	
17 June	Preached at Pipers River Preached at George Town	
24 June	East Launceston Led preaching workshop at Riverside	
1 July	Preached & Celebrated at Pipers River, Preached at George Town Messy Church, East L'ton	
8 July	East Launceston	
15 July	East Launceston	
22 July	Preached at East Launceston	
29 July	Preached & Celebrated at Riverside	
5 August	East Launceston Led church time at Messy Church, East Launceston	
12 Aug	Riverside	
On Annual Leave: 11 to 15 June		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Met one-to-one with numerous Team membersExtensive emailing and phone calls with Team members, James & parish officePrepared for and participated in local Team meetings with RS/TR, GT, and EL teamsPrepared for and participated in June combined LMST meetingMeetings with James OakleyWrote Winter issue of <i>Team Talk</i> for the LMST/JamesPrepared church time for August Messy Church, East LauncestonPrepared numerous sermons and PowerPoint slide shows for preaching across parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prepared for and led preaching workshop. In addition to Riverlinks preachers, this was attended by preachers from the West Tamar and Evandale-The Nile parishesMaintained contact with parish's preaching development teamProvided guidance to preachers on their yet-to-be-preached sermonsWrote numerous sermon critiques for Riverlinks preachersWrote supplementary notes on E100 sermons for preachers in George Town and East Launceston centresWrote extensive review of Messy Church, East LauncestonWrote paper for LMST on Welcoming & Integrating newcomers at churchSupervised <i>Preliminary Theological Certificate</i> exam for James OakleyWrote article for August parish newsletterWrote Enabler's Report for Annual ReportsContinued organising Sydney Missionary & Bible College's School of Preaching training day to be held at St Aidan's East Launceston, 23 OctoberPreached and celebrated at Wednesday Healing Service at TrevallynEmail correspondence with the American author of a book on discipleship I'd readSemi-regular meetings with a young St Aidan's man for disciplingSeveral meetings with male attender of Messy Church, East Launceston, for disciplingHospital pastoral visitHospitality at homeOrganised for new sign outside St David's Riverside displaying Bible text

- Met with a ministry colleague for mutual support, encouragement and prayer
- Met twice with Andy Goodacre (Team Leader, Barneys Launceston North, Imagine Project Chaplain, UTAS) to discuss ministry
- Met with Bishop Ross Nicholson
- Retreat morning
- Attended meeting with Tim Hawkins on the Children & Youth Ministry Strategy in the diocese and in Riverlinks
- Attended Enablers' training day, St John's Launceston, 28 June
- Attended Synod, 1st-2nd June
- Attended Diocesan Ministry Conference, 14 July
- Attended Residential Gathering of Rectors/Enablers with Bishop John and Paul Cavanaugh, 25-26 July
- Attended Launceston Christian Leaders' Connect breakfast at Bible House
- Attended Australian Christian Lobby (ACL) Marriage Webcast at St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Launceston
- Prepared Enabler's quarterly activity report for May-August

Reading in progress:

The Briefing

The Way of the Righteous in the Muck of Life: Psalms 1-12, by Dale Ralph Davis (2010)

You Can Change: God's Transforming Power for our sinful behaviour & negative emotions, by Tim Chester (2008) – re-reading slowly

The Church Awakening: An Urgent Call for Renewal, by Charles Swindoll (2010)

How Christianity Changed the World, Alvin Schmidt (2004)

Faith & Duty: The John Anderson Story, by Paul Gallagher (2006)

Read:

Discerning Leadership: Cooperating with the Go-Between God, by Graham Cray (2010)

One-to-One Bible Reading: a simple guide for every Christian, by David Helm (2011)

Listened to:

Talk given at Crossway Bible College, Brisbane, on the gospel and evangelism

Work on (BCA funded) Diocesan Ministry Development Officer tasks:

- ❑ Coordinating the diocesan Certificate in Theology & Ministry, including marking of assessment, ongoing revision of course Prospectus, liaising with students and with Diocese, preparation of written interview with graduate for Tasmanian Anglican magazine, preparation of graduation of two students, preparation for and promotion of Certificate at Synod, Diocesan Ministry Conference and at Tasmanian Bible Forum
- ❑ Coordinating online lectionary-based bible study resource on the diocesan website - 'Growing Disciples of Jesus' – including weekly editing and moderating of draft studies submitted by diocesan contributors
- ❑ Continued organising the St Helens Tasmanian Bible Forum. Participated in St Helens' TBF, 23 June
- ❑ Wrote new module for the 'Preaching Page', an online resource I write for the Diocese
- ❑ Met with Mark Short (BCA National Director) at our home to discuss present and future (BCA-funded) diocesan role
- ❑ Attended and spoke at BCA evening at St John's Launceston

Any father will tell you that parents spend the first 2-3 years of a daughter's life trying to teach them to talk, and the next 15 or so trying to get them to be quiet.

The man passed out in a dead faint as he came out of his front door onto the porch. Someone called 000.

When the paramedics arrived, they helped him regain consciousness and asked if he knew what caused him to faint.

"It was enough to make anybody faint," he said. "My son asked me for the keys to the garage, and instead of driving the car out, he came out with the lawn mower!"

August 2012

East Launceston

21-23 Arthur St
East Launceston
0438 378 233

George Town

3 Anne St
George Town
0439 821 038

Hillwood

Hall - Jetty Rd
Hillwood

Low Head

Low Head Rd
Low Head

Peacehaven

185 Penquite Rd
Norwood

Pipers River

School Rd
Pipers River

Riverside

399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside

Trevallyn

34 Bain Tce
Trevallyn
0409 799 419

Parish office

399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside
6327 4742
office@riverlinks.net.au

*Riverlinks Anglican Parish
Newsletter is published
monthly.*

*Opinions expressed in this
publication do not
necessarily reflect those of
the clergy or the Anglican
Church.*

**Newsletter deadline for
photos, articles, etc. is 20th
of each month unless
otherwise stated**



Above:
SUPA
Olympics

Left:
Bible Man
visits Messy
Church

Contact us:

Parish Office (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm)

6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au

Children & Young Families Ministry

6327 3482 kids_families@riverlinks.net.au

Website

www.riverlinks.net.au