



The Weekly Jog

Volume 2, Issue 22 Jog: to nudge, to give a reminder, jog the memory

28th May 2008

“The New Plymouth Church Family Experiencing and Sharing the Transforming Power of Jesus.”

“The heart of a servant-becoming like Jesus.”

“Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many” (Mt. 20:28). “But made him self of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant...” (Phil. 2:7). With these words to serve as a springboard for our study, let’s begin . . .

The heart of a servant; yes, a servant like Jesus, is . . .

Considerate and Kind

Paul said, “We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities [scruples–NKJV] of the weak, and not to please ourselves” (Rm. 15:1). Paul is saying, we ought to help out one another. This past week has been rather a challenge for me. It’s as if Murphy’s Law discovered the Richey household and just did not want to let go. We woke up one morning to a tree lying across our fence and partially in the road. A service man who was to repair our air condition problem left us hanging once again. Emily’s van decided not to run this week. To top it off, I was forced to spend two days flat on my back suffering from a back injury. Thankfully, we had some folks looking out for us and helping us deal with our “situations”—Christians showing us how to be considerate and kind.

Encouraging and Uplifting

Our God was and is an encourager. He encouraged Abraham, Moses, David, and even the Gentiles in so much that they were ushered into the promise of salvation (Acts 9, 10, Rm. 1:16). I was encouraged recently by this story: “Toward the end of Babe Ruth’s baseball career he played for the Braves. During a game against the Reds, he made several errors. In one half innings alone, his errors led to the Reds

Scoring off five runs. They lost the game. At the end of the game the crowd booed the baseball legend. While the shouts against this man were pouring down to the field, a little boy walked out and hugged his leg. Babe picked him up, gave him a hug and sent him on the way. The crowd was silenced.” How encouraging one human being can be to another.

Our God is patient. He consoles, gives hope, and offers peace to those who have none. Here’s the challenge to you and me. Adopt these characteristics and see what they do for your life. In 1 Corinthians 16:15, Paul described an entire family that was addicted to the ministry of the saints. “I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the first-fruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)” Is your family known as a family of servants?

“For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another” (Gal. 5:13).

Notes:

- 1- Super Saturday: What a great attendance from the kids and parents. The students did a great job in presenting the story of Daniel and the lions den. Thank you all those that put forth the effort to make it a success.
- 2- Remember the FHU camp .Wanganui, Green meadows camp. \$90.00 for the full weekend.
- 3- Our FHU students leave us on Tuesday 2nd at 2pm. From new Plymouth Airport. Be there to see them off.

Education programme for the congregation:



Watch this space!!



A Mother Hen

Mildred Chester

During the years following the depression, I lived on a farm in Manchester, Tennessee. Everyone had a job on the farm. One of the fun jobs was to watch little mother hens in the spring as they went out to find new homes for the families they were about to have. If you were not raised on a farm, you may not know that when a hen wanted to start a family she would start clucking and raise her feathers somewhat. She would also start hunting for a quiet, safe place to hatch her brood of babies. The springtime was the time for such events. So, we kids had to follow her around and scout out her nest. She usually found a briar patch or brush pile and she would begin day by day laying eggs. After she had laid a nest full, she would begin her three weeks of sitting. Soon the eggs would begin to hatch and it wouldn't be long until the mother hen would bring out her family for everyone to see.

Now this was the thing about a mother hen. She could be dangerous! If you got too close to her babies she would spread out her wings and come after you. She would literally take a plug out of your skin if you got too close. She could sense danger. She had a high pitch scream that could be heard from a long distance. With the first clap of thunder, she sounded her alarm and the chicks would come running to get under her safe, outspread wings. If the rain came too quickly, some of the chicks would become frantic, get lost, or drown.

As I think of the mother hen, I remember the words of Jesus. He said to the Israelites, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets, and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!" (Matthew 23:37). Jesus called out to God's people many times. Some came to His shelter, but many chose to run away. Jesus still calls us, but we drift so far it is hard to find our way back to the safety of His loving wings.

The only solution is to be like the little chicks. Stay near Jesus, know His voice, and recognize the warnings in His word. He continually has his wings spread out, like a mother hen, to shelter us. What will we choose?

Today's Verse: "How precious is your loving-kindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of your wings." (Psalm 36:7)

Allan's Psalms Journal. (Read the psalm and mark your Bible)

Psalms .10.

The question is, "God, why do the wicked prosper?" (Verse 13). David calls upon the Lord to punish the wicked. David's cry is that, God will bring justice to the oppressed. (Hab 1)

Allan