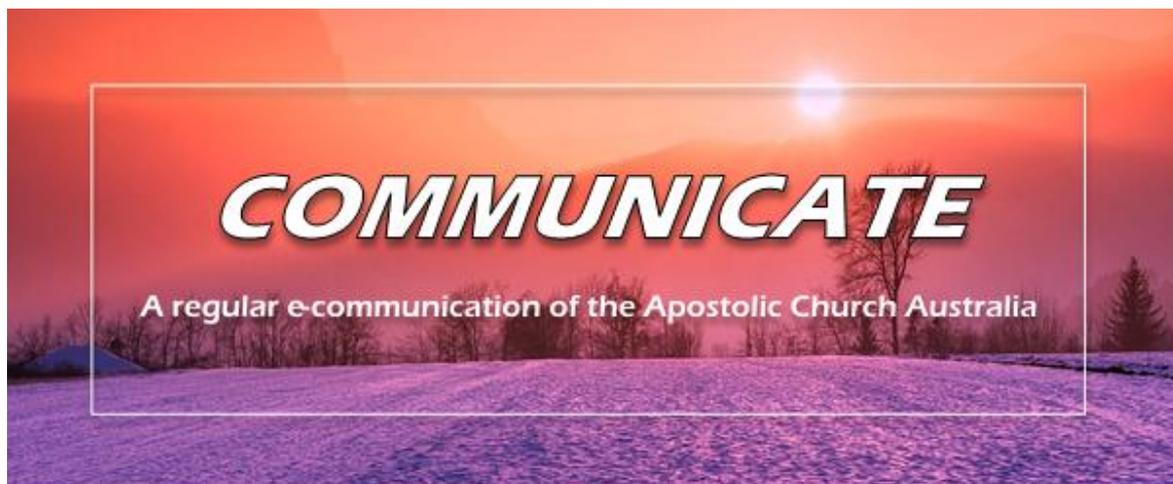


July 6, 2017



Rest: a rested field produces a bountiful harvest

'Jesus, tired...sat wearily by the well'. These words penned by John (4.6) provide an insight into a day in the life of Jesus, which was the visible expression of divinity working in and through humanity.

Jesus' ministry was intense to the extent that it contained all the elements that weary people most - people, conversations, opposition, travel. By the time he arrived in Sychar, he was 'worn out' (Petersen). The exertions of ministry had taken their toll and Jesus was tired, so much so that he rested while the disciples went to buy food.

Jesus understood the need for rest. After all, he knew that rest was more than just to rejuvenate a tired body. Having been involved in creation, he had observed God's rest after six days. He knew that rest was a principle built into creation by the Creator for the purpose of renewal, analysis, celebration and enjoyment. He knew that rest refreshes and extends longevity; he knew that lack of rest narrows our range of interest and curtails effectiveness in both the short and the long term.

Jesus understood that he is 'the rest' of all humanity. He knew that his work, soon to be completed at Calvary, would open the door to right standing with God for all. This right standing would not be based upon human works but his completed work. Like Adam, who was made of the sixth day and enjoyed his first full day in the rest of God, so mankind enters into right relationship with God on the basis of Jesus' finished work. Paul writes that salvation is of grace and 'not of works' (Eph. 2.8-9).

Leaders are usually filled with vision and a sense of urgency about fulfilling it. They sometimes fall into the trap of failing the 'rest test', thinking that everything depends on them. In reality, we receive a baton from our spiritual fathers, run for a season and pass it on to our spiritual children. In each generation, leaders build teams and share the load with others. Wise leaders build rest into the schedule for everyone. It is at least as important as any other task.

'There remains a rest for the people of God' (Heb. 4.1). Rest is no longer found in a day; it is in the Person of Jesus. And even he rested.

Tim Jack
UK National Leader

HOPE TOUR 2017

From 19th-23rd June throughout Victoria, the Apostolic Youth Ministries of Victoria combined to have great impact in the community with a schools based program on Resilience through Hope Tour. It is the third year Hope Tour has been running and it was its greatest year yet, with 19 different schools involved and 20 sessions, seeing just under 6000 students in the week. Feedback from schools has been very encouraging with reports coming back stating "it was the most engaging program" one school had ever had come through.

Through Hope Tour, young leaders of our movement are learning to think outside the four walls of their local churches and focus on people they don't yet know that need love and encouragement. They are learning what it is to represent Christ well to their communities and are learning to find ways to continue to engage them. The week finished with a combined night rally which was a real celebration of what God has done, with 44 responses to the gospel throughout the week.

Matthew 5:16

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

The schools of Victoria are fully aware that the Apostolic Church loves them and more importantly I pray that God used us to show them His love.

Charles Crisapulli
Hope Tour Director



Hope Tour 2017

Missions News - Sri Lanka

To date because of your generosity we've been able to donate nearly \$8000 for flood relief.

The Island of Sri Lanka was recently hit severely with flooding and wide spread mud slides. It has been estimated that over 500,000 people have been left homeless and in need of medical and financial assistance. The money donated will be used by our Sri Lankan churches to provide flood relief packages including clothing, school books, stationary, and dry food ration packs.

Office News

Ministry Account Reports

June Quarter Ministry Accounts are due by 7th July 2017. As this is the last report for the Financial Year, all reports must be in on time, no exceptions. This will enable us to meet our legal obligations. Please also ensure that your account is balanced to the closing balance of your account as at 30th June 2017. If you are not balanced please contact the National Office for assistance, do not submit an unbalanced report.

Apostolic Church Australia, 28/20 Enterprise Drive, BUNDOORA, 3083 Australia