



# PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

## 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021



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*Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you." John 14:27*

### A Drop in the Ocean

Sometimes if a person is describing something that is insignificant, unnoticeable, irrelevant, not important, won't make a difference, or nothing in comparison with something else, they may use the phrase, "It's only a drop in the ocean" to describe what they are talking about. Yet, when you stop and think about it, each and every vast and mighty ocean is made up of uncountable single drops of water. Each small drop is essential and important in determining just how deep that particular ocean is.

Perhaps even today, the descriptions above may describe exactly how many of us feel about ourselves sometimes, or worse still, most of the time. We may have never felt truly valued for who we are. We may be the one who often gets overlooked or rejected in favour of others, the one who is not chosen or invited to join in with what others are doing. This leads to feelings of deep hurt and rejection.

For instance, we may have achieved a goal, yet no one notices, offers congratulations, or says "well done". Perhaps, despite our best efforts, what we have achieved is still not good enough to please a parent, or some other relative, friend, or employer. All of these things can leave us feeling like damaged goods at the bottom of the pile, alone, forgotten, and uncared for.

Having been deeply wounded and rejected, it is so easy to fall into the trap of believing this is how God sees us too, and that's why it is important to really believe and understand just how much God values us for who we are and not for what we do.

There are many wonderful scripture verses we can take to heart, things that God says in His word which are totally true about you and about me:

Jeremiah 31:3 I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving kindness.

Zephaniah 3:17 The Lord your God is with you. He is mighty to save; He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, he will rejoice over you with singing.

Hebrews 13:5 Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

*Matthew 10: 31 So don't be afraid you are worth more than many sparrows.*

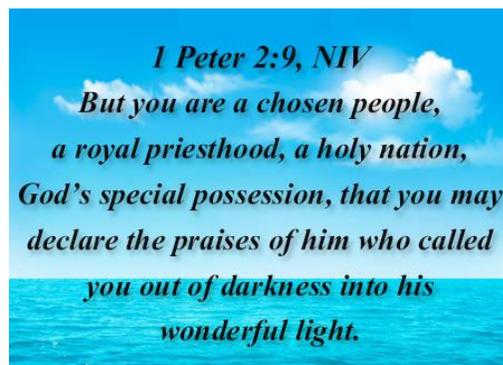
Isaiah 43: 1 Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name: you are mine.

Isaiah 49: 15-16 Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget you, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**There are many more wonderful verses in God's word that clearly tell of His unending love for each and every one of us.**

- Judith Whitehead | [Seeds of the Kingdom](#)



Lectionary Readings for Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June;

Samuel 17: (1a,4-11, 19-23), 32-49

A giant named Goliath threatens the tribes of Israel until a young man steps forward to challenge him, a young man named David.

2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 Paul defends his apostleship to the Corinthians, urging them to "accept the grace of God"

Mark 4: 35-41; One evening, while Jesus and his disciples are crossing the sea together, there is a great storm, and they are in fear.

Jesus comes to them. stills the storm, and asks, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"

Theme; There are many things about life that cause us to be in fear - serious illness, death, defeat, disappointments, and national crisis, to mention a few. Jesus is the one who ministers to our fears, overcomes our fears, and enables us to live with hope and confidence, despite our fears. Yet sometimes the living, truthful one who is Jesus the Christ causes us to fear. He comes to us, commands us, leads us into the storm and that produces fear. There can be, in this life, two kinds of fear, and Jesus is with us in both fears.

This Sunday at St Andrew's Rakaia, Rev John will be reflecting on 2 Samuel 12; 7-14 and 1 Kings 3; 6 9. Solomon's Wisdom. When given a chance to have anything in the world, Solomon asked for wisdom-a discerning heart- in order to lead well and to make right decisions We can ask God for the same.

### Finance & Property Committee

**Due to Gill's pending retirement**, Governance Council is calling for expressions of interest in filling the position of Treasurer of the Plains Parish. Please contact Graeme Mangin, Convenor of Property and Finance, phone 3028150 for further details.

### St. John's Methven

Friday 25<sup>h</sup> June

St Johns Brick Club 3:15-5:00 pm on Fridays after school during the term '**Exploring God with Lego**'. Contact Jayne 0274678105

### St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

10:30 am | Rakaia Fit Kids | Welcome to all pre-school children. A time for friendships, fun & support.

1:00 pm | Steady As You Go | Balance, strengthening and gentle exercises for senior folk's health and well-being..

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October | Plants 4 U @ Rakaia | Now is the time to divide those hostas and other perennials. (once the ground has dried out) Please pot up.

### Contacts for the Parish

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## Sunday Services

20 <sup>th</sup> June	9:30 am 10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia   Communion St. John's Methven	Rev. John Titlow Rev. Neville Burns
27 <sup>th</sup> June	9:30 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Trinity Mayfield St. John's Methven	Rev. Neville Burns Pastor Paul Eden Worship Team
4 <sup>th</sup> July	10:30 am	St. John's Methven   Parish Service	Rev. John Titlow

## Prayer

Father God, sometimes I fail to truly grasp just how much You love me and see me as Your precious, chosen child. I believe the lies of the enemy far too often. Please forgive me and help me to hold on in faith to the truth of Your word. Amen.

- Judith Whitehead | [Seeds of the Kingdom](#)