

Marriage 101

The old adage that a good marriage takes 'work' is as hackneyed as it is true. 'Work' can mean a lot of things including some things we like and some we don't. One problem with marriage is dealing with the disappointment that comes with a relationship that started hot and has progressed to either deadly dull or, worse, incredibly frustrating. Disappointment with our partner or with ourselves is like rain on a cricket match – it ruins it for everybody including the spectators. And there are a lot of spectators in marriage. Every marriage carries with it the hopes and dreams, not just of the primary players (the couple) but the children as well and also the parents and friends of the couple.

Just as rain dampens the enthusiasm for the game and makes it hard to get going again, so disappointment dampens our enthusiasm for marriage and, let's face it, enthusiasm is vital for a long term relationship. It is so because it provides the bridge between reality and hope during those periods when the reality simply isn't living up to the hope. In a long term relationship there will be times when, because energy is required for other things such as children there is so much less available for our primary relationship. Usually, relationships are forged at times when there is a heap of energy available to invest in making them both exciting and enjoyable and so when that energy isn't there the demands of the relationship can easily outstrip the joy provided by it.

At times like these there are three things we must do:

We must remember that we are investing for the future of the game. Imagine if the New Zealand Black Caps had given up playing in that frustrating World Cup Test Cricket final a few weeks ago because of the really difficult conditions. The absolute thrill of winning would've not only been lost to them but to the whole country of cricketing fans – a win which, I assure you, we will live on for many years to come. Marriage is like this. It must endure bad weather to get the big win.

We need to buy when the price is down. Buy low to win big is the primary rule in investing and it is so in relationships as well. Endure each other when you are both at your worst in order to win big when things improve. A fault pardoned becomes a gemstone of love for the one forgiven and the riches of that stone will become joint property if you will only endure.

Play the ball not the man. When the man (or woman) is all you can see and your love is turning to hate because of it, get some help to see that the issue isn't them – it's something other than them. It might be some bad habits you've both got into. It might be some good habits you've simply not applied. It might be unrealistic life ambitions, or it could be something more physical such as a long-term illness or an addiction. Whatever it is, the ball is the key, not the woman (or man). Usually, we will need help with this – a good counsellor or a good seminar or retreat. Whatever the case – get the help and play the ball.

Richard D

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CHURCH BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER

030883 0620501-00

NEXT WEEK'S TEAM

Service Leader	Hannah T-H
Preacher	Richard D
Worship	Hannah T-H
Prayers	Olivia D
Bible Reading	Paul T
Door Greeting	Lokmans
Children's Talk	Communion
Morning Tea	Rachel & Russell E Judith F
Sound/Data	Liam H/Ruth N
Vmix/Camera	Phil D/Bronwyn B
Duty Elder	Janine K
Prayer Ministry	Robyn & John W
Welcome	Mal & Helen C
Offering	Keith & Jane P
Set up	Graham, Alex, Geoff N
Playground	Koh, Huang, Potter

LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday 4 July 2021



Welcome to worship with us this morning! If you are visiting today please help yourself to a WELCOME PACK from the back table. We'd love you to leave us a contact form so we can get back in touch. Hand this to the Service Leader, or leave on the welcome table.

Today:

Mike Summerfield 'Part of the Story'



CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT LEITH

- ♦ Sparklers (ages 0-5) today in the staff room.
- ♦ Kidztime (years 1-6) today in the Learning Centre.
- ♦ Junior Youth (years 7-10) Meet in Room 18 after 2nd set of songs
- ♦ Senior Youth (years 9-13) Tuesdays 7pm-9pm @ Leith Valley Church.



SERVICE LEADER

RICHARD D
PREACHER:
 MIKE S
WORSHIP:
 RICHARD D

DUTY ELDER:

JUDITH F



**TODAY'S
READING**

MARK 4:
35-
5:21

Today's Team

Door Greeting:	Potters	Set up Team:	Thurlows, Phil D
Prayers for Others:	Bill L	Offering Counter:	Janine K
Bible Readings:	Rachel E	Morning tea:	Kristin & Susan J Rebecca G
Sound:	Ged F	Prayer Ministry:	Don L
Data Projection:	Nathan M	Playground:	Koh, Huang, Potter
Vmix:	Phil D		
Camera:	Freya P		
Welcome:	Bronwyn M	Lock-up:	Ged F

Seeking God's Kingdom Growing Great Community

Notices

150TH CELEBRATIONS

Thanks for all the brilliant entries in the Art and Poetry Competitions. Winners for both the children's and the Open section will be announced today.



FOOD FOR THE SOUL



Meets 10-11am on Fridays, @ Leith Valley Church, 267 Malvern St. for morning tea and to make up food parcels. All welcome.

CHURCH WEBSITE

Sermons on Sundays are recorded and put on our website: www.leithvalley.org.nz

Scroll down the right hand side and look for Recent Audio Updates.

Latest Sermon only has the written sermon notes, if they are supplied.

The weekly newsletter is also on the website and attached to the Friday email.

Esther Woodfield is currently doing some much needed updating of our website - thanks Esther!

TONIGHT JULY 4 Missions Prayer Group



5pm
at Leith Valley Church.

Junior Youth FUN FRIDAY!

fortnightly event at Leith Valley Church 6-8pm \$3
Dinner provided.

Next meeting this Friday July 9
Contact: Marian 021 157 6876



Prayer by Zoom

Wednesdays 6.30am
Saturdays 8.00am



MAINLY MUSIC

Wednesdays 10am
at Leith Valley Church, 267 Malvern St.
Contact: Fran Dawson
027 456 1188



HAD A BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY?

Send details to Rachel: batesr71@gmail.com
for the power point.

Notices

KIDZTIME DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

On Sunday 11 July there will be a combined programme for Kidztime and Sparklers.

July 18 & 25th the children will stay in, with some activities provided.

HEART COUNTRY COUPLES' RETREAT

Friday evening from 7pm,
Saturday 9am - 6pm
23-24 July 2021
at Camp Tirohanga

Brochures with details are available on the admin table.



INDUCTION SERVICE Thursday, July 8th 2021

Join with Presbytery as Rev Clare Lind is inducted as minister of Word and Sacrament at Opoho Presbyterian Church, 50 Signal Hill Road, Opoho, Dunedin.

6.45pm: Presbytery meeting at the Opoho Church Lounge
7.00pm: Service of Induction
Supper will follow the service.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Knox Church,
Sunday 11th July at 7pm.
A service of remembrance for those who are no longer with us. Led by Margaret Garland. The Knox Choir will be helping to provide musical accompaniment. All welcome.



FAITH THINKING ON ZOOM

Wednesday August 18, 7-8.15pm

"It's All Greek To Me! The New Testament in Text and Translation.

Dr Katie Marcar, Theology Programme,
University of Otago.

Please register online at www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation

Email: continuing.education@otago.ac.nz

Phone: +64 3 479 9181

Cost: Free, but please register to receive the Zoom link.