

The Good Shepherd Anglican Church, Edge Hill, Cairns

(9 August 2020)

A Minute from a Minister

Home

I have mentioned to you that 'home' has been talked about a lot recently. We have either been in lock-down in our homes, home-schooling, working from home, or staying at home unless it is essential. Or many have been trying to get home from another state or country and can't. Some of you might still be trying to get home even now.

I must say that I love home. I love staying in. In fact, when Lesley and I went camping before we had children, I would always pack up a day or two early just to get home. I don't really know why, I just needed/really wanted to. I feel a sense of peace and calm at home.

This is interesting because the Bible's focus has always been that this is **not** your home. There is no place on this earth that should be our permanent home. Even in Leviticus 25 (verse 23) when God gives the Israelites the Promised Land he tells them that this isn't your home; you are to live in it as strangers and foreigners. This carries through to the New Testament. 1 Peter 1 tells us to live out our lives here on earth as foreigners.

And the reason is because our home, our true home, is in heaven with Christ. Ephesians 2:6 says, "And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus."

All Christians are heading to one place: their eternal home. The problem I think we fall into, is trying to make this our home now; trying to make ourselves as comfortable as we can because we want a certain level of heaven now. We want health and happiness.

But Jesus never promised heaven now. In fact, Jesus promised hardship in this world, with hope of a new one to come.

So, as we spend a lot of time in our homes, let us remember that our true home is an eternal one with God himself. Let us live for that home, experiencing the hardships of this world knowing that we are just strangers here and our hope is in a home far greater than this one.

Chris

- † Today's Message: Living in the light
Rev. Cameron Wills
- † Today's Bible Readings: Colossians 3:12-17 and Ephesians 5:1-20
- † Online 9am service: www.tgs.org.au OR
www.facebook.com/tgsedgehill OR
www.tinyurl.com/tgscairns
- † Online help: Please contact our Church Office

Church Office: Robyn Gaunt and Avril Smuts, 9.30-3.30 Monday to Friday, 4053 2019, contactus@tgs.org.au

Financial Giving Arrangements

Electronic: Anglican Financial Services, The Good Shepherd Anglican Church, BSB: 704 901, Account Number: 000 104 90

Envelopes: Please contact our Church Office as to what to do