

"God Gives Us The Ark. When We Deserve The Flood" (Genesis 7:1-8:22)

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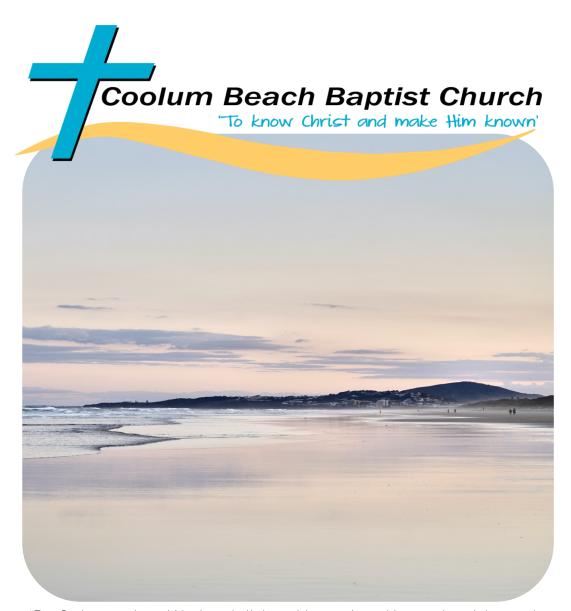
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"But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and livestock with him in the boat. He sent a wind to blow across the earth, and the floodwaters began to recede." (Genesis 8:1)

9AM Pastor John

"God Gives Us The Ark, When We Deserve The Flood" (Genesis 7:1-8:22) Thought for the Welk

# THE LAMBS VERSES THE WOLVES

"Now go and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves." (Luke 10:3)

In the world of professional sport, clubs will always choose names that command respect – names that are ferocious, aggressive and intimidating. Names like Bulldogs, Lions, Tigers, Sharks, Eagles, Dragons and Panthers. Imagine if a sports team was named the Possums or the Kittens. Such a name would probably only generate pity and laughter from their opposition. In Luke 10 we read how Jesus selected a team of 72 disciples to go out and start sharing the gospel. Instead of calling them the 'Jerusalem Jaguars' or the 'Gospel Giants' He commissioned them as the "Lambs" and their opponents were going to be the "Wolves." In our thinking, such a match up could only result in a mauling and an obvious victory to the wolves. You would expect that the lambs would come home battered and bruised. But instead of encountering defeat and discouragement, they experienced power and victory. As a result, they joyfully proclaimed, "Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name!" (vs17).

The secret in the Lamb's remarkable victory over the Wolves is found in Jesus' words "I am sending you." The secret for effective ministry is not found in the extraordinary ability of those who are sent, but rather in the sovereignty and power of the One who sends. As the Lambs of Christ, they were neither helpless or poor. Jesus is the one who gave the 72 lambs the "authority over all the power of the enemy", so that they could walk among the wolves, snakes and scorpions (more scary opponents) and crush them (vs19). It is the same for us today. Jesus is in charge of the harvest and the one to whom we should pray (vs10). He will train us, equip us, quide us and strengthen us as we take the field and serve Him. As His lambs, Jesus challenges us to be dependent on Him for our security, provision and victory. What then is the role of the lambs - the role of all believers who have been called and sent by Jesus? It is firstly to be willing to go into action against all odds, no matter what it may cost us. Secondly it is to proclaim the gospel and let people know about Jesus and His kingdom. Thirdly, it is to pray for reinforcements and encourage others to go out and join them. Lastly it is to persevere, trusting always in the power, promises and will of Christ who sent us. That's the only way for the Lambs to defeat the Wolves. It's the same game plan that Jesus gives us today. We are the CBBC Lambs and He has called us to go, to proclaim, to pray and to persevere. May each of us strive to be obedient to that call.

God bless, Pastor John.

• Thanks for our emergency services workers – ambulance, fire, police, SES. Pray for courage, protection and discernment as they do their duty.

- For our elders David, Phil, John and Greg for strength, courage, vision, unity and strong walk with the Lord.
- For Colin Lituri (recovering from his shoulder operation) and Uli Hosang (suffering with migraine headaches).
- Give thanks to God for His unfailing love, grace and righteous laws.
- Praise God because He is "faithful and just". he answers our prayers, He provides for our every need and He protects and keeps us.

What's on?

MONDAY 5PM Walking Soccer

TUESDAY 9:30AM Playgroup

WEDNESDAY
9AM Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY
9AM Quilters

FRIDAY 9:30AM Playgroup 4PM Kids Ignite & Youth



If you would like to know more about our Home Groups, contact Pastor John 0408 402 476

BIRTHDAYS: 4th Terry Elford

# SOCCER HOME GAME

Our second game is on this Saturday so if you are available pleased check out the volunteer sheet on the wall in the 'gallery'. Our third home game is not until the 25th May, so don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to get up early, while it is still warm.

## SPS CUT OFF

Forms for our Secret Prayer Sisters will need to be back **Sunday 24th March**. Please hand them to either Crain or Jess. Mor forms available in the hall

#### **FASTER WEEKEND SERVICES**

Our Good Friday service will be held at 8am and our Easter Sunday service at the normal time of 9am

## CRECHE HELPERS WANTED

We are in need or more volunteers to be on our Creche roster. We can get up to 6 toddlers and you will always be with another adult. Ideally, if we can get enough volunteers, you'll only need to be rostered twice a quarter. If you can help please see Anneli or Lisa.

# PRAYER UPDATE FROM THE BRADLEYS (JARED, VERENA & NOAH)

"I want to thank you for your prayers! After 3 weeks of sickness, I feel almost back to normal. In the last few weeks I have had two rounds of Vitamin C infusions which really boosted my immune system. We are really grateful that we are in country where we have access to good healthcare. Please pray for Germany, as there is a lot of social unrest. Constant bus, train, and farmer strikes along with the rise of antisemitism is testing the patience of us all. Pray also for my language learning as it is vert difficult to find a vacancy in language classes at the moment."