

"He Gives Us More Grace" (James 4:1-10)

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"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honour." (James 4:10)

09

February

9AM David Eden

"He Gives Us More Grace" (James 4:1-10)

Thought for the Week

## CONFLICT IN THE CHURCH

A father heard a commotion in his yard and looked outside to see his daughter and several playmates in a heated quarrel. When he reprimanded her his daughter explained, "We're just playing church!" A Conservative Baptist pastor named Leslie B. Flynn, wrote a book entitled Great Church Fights. In his book he examines the most significant conflicts in the New Testament, some of which were noble and some not so noble.

He writes a chapter about the complaint of the Grecians against the Hebrews over the neglect of widows in Acts 6, another about Paul's public rebuke of Peter for open prejudice toward Gentile believers in Gal. 2, and another about the sharp disagreement between Paul and Barnabas over whether to take Mark on their second missionary journey, which caused them to split up their great ministry team. Then there were the numerous divisions in the Corinthian church—over leaders, over lawsuits, and over prejudice at the Lord's Table.

At Philippi two prominent women, Euodia and Syntyche, got into a spat which elicited an appeal from Paul for reconciliation. A love for pre-eminence led church boss Diotrephes to cast fellow believers out of the church. Greek scholar A. T. Robertson once wrote an article on Diotrephes for a Christian magazine, portraying him as one who wants to control a church according to his "own" whims.

Without referring to any particular quarrel the Apostle Paul exhorted the Philippians to "do everything without complaining and arguing," appealing to the Ephesians to "endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," pleaded with the Romans, "if it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone," and he chided the Galatians for "biting and devouring one another. The fact is some people avoid conflict at all costs, while others seem to be

The fact is some people avoid conflict at all costs, while others seem to be constantly on the lookout for a good fight. Neither approach is healthy. God wants us to be people of conviction and people of peace at the same time. But is that possible? I believe our text today can give us some significant help, but first it details the problem, namely that believers are at war with each other because they are at war with themselves because they are at war with God.

Where Do You Stand?

Prayer Points

• Praise God for the fact that we have accepted Bill Forgeard as the second se

- Praise God for the fact that we have accepted Bill Forgeard as the senior pastor, and pray for them as they prepare for ministry here at CBBC
- Pray for our ministry areas: Youth, Soccer Club, Sunday school, Home Groups, Quilters, Playgroups, Men's and Ladies groups, Mission Team
- Praise God that Ruth Sinclair is home, though she still has some ongoing heart issues

What's on?

MONDAY 5PM Walking Soccer

TUESDAY 9:30AM Playgroup

WEDNESDAY
9AM Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY
9AM Quilters/Craft

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

Birthdays

10th Pam Jones, 12th Ally
Cassidy, 13th Steve Howland,
14th Karen Berry

# COOLUM TO BILOELA FUNDRAISER

Are you interested in a long distance bike ride to Biloela to raise money to help fund annual youth exchange between country churches and ourselves? This ride is planned for September.

If this is something you would be interested in, please contact Richard Van Eck for further details.



If you would like to know more about our Home Groups, contact our coordinator Beth Pfeffer: 0449 584 284

### WHEELIE WALKER

The Zimmermann family have donated a new 'wheelie walker' to the church. This walker was bought for Inga but was never really used. It is free to whoever has need. If you, or someone you know, has need of the walker, please see Greg.

#### BETHLEHEM BARGAINS

Today after church is the long-awaited Bethlehem Bargains. So kids, grab your coins after the church service today, and you can then purchase all sorts of toys from the back of the hall where all the tables are set-up

#### WELCOME MORNING TEA

A big welcome to Bill and Kathy and the girls this morning. To celebrate Bill as being elected as our new Senior Pastor there will be a morning tea after the service to get to know Bill and Kathy. So we invite you all to join us out in the hall after the service finishes today.

