

# Thought for the Week

A big help to walking with God in my trials has come from a quote often attributed to Charles Spurgeon: "I have learned to kiss the wave that throws me against the Rock of Ages." What does it mean to "kiss the wave"?

When I am suffering it feels impossible to keep my head above the water, much less kiss the wave. My tendency is to hate the wave and to run away from God. I am tempted to reject God or be angry with him, not embrace him during my trial.

Spurgeon's advice is key to suffering well. Our trials are God's means of drawing us to himself, the Rock of Ages. The wave is a vehicle transporting us to the very doorstep of God Almighty. It is not flippant advice from the prince of preachers. He is not pretending that suffering is easy and we should simply try harder to persevere. Spurgeon is not saying pain, trials, and death are good things.

Death and suffering came as a result of the fall in Genesis 3. And the prophet Isaiah encourages us to identify clearly the things that are evil: "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil" (Isaiah 5:20). We don't call disease and death good. We call them what they are: evil and wicked. Jesus didn't celebrate death, but at the tomb of Lazarus, he wept for his friend (John 11:35), even though he knew he would soon raise him from the dead.

Kissing the wave means we stop flailing our arms in panic and embrace the God who has sovereignly designed our circumstances for our good and his glory. Romans 8:28 is not just a verse for a Christian greeting card, but one to have branded on our hearts: "For those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." Pain and suffering are not good, but somehow, miraculously, God uses them for good for his people.

*By Dave Furman, 'Let Waves of Suffering Carry You to Him', DesiringGod.org*

## Would you like to listen to past sermons?

Go to [coolumbeachbaptist.com](http://coolumbeachbaptist.com) and click on "Sermons & Bulletins".  
On YouTube, search Coolum Beach Baptist Church and click on *Videos* or *Playlists*.  
Don't forget to Subscribe!

## What's on?

TUESDAY  
9:30AM Playgroup

WEDNESDAY  
9AM Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY  
9AM Quilters/Craft

FRIDAY  
9:30AM Playgroup

## BIRTHDAYS

20<sup>th</sup> – Dawn J



## Riley Wilson Cake Stall for Children's Home in Fiji

Riley is going on a school mission trip in June-July to work for a week in a Children's Home in Suva, Fiji. Today, Riley will be holding a Cake Stall after church to raise money which will go towards the Children's Home. Please ask Riley about the mission trip and consider whether you may be able to support him.

## TODAY – HOHI Greg Beech Visit

Greg Beech from Homes of Hope International will be visiting CBBC to give us an update. He will be presenting a mission spot during church, followed by a presentation and lunch (Indian curry!) after church.

## Soccer Home Games

Signup sheets are now up in the hall at church for soccer home games and we do need some additional volunteers. With parents taking over next year, this is the last season that the church will be volunteering at home games, so if you are able to come along and help once or twice at a home game this would be a great help.

## Men's Social - GOLF DAY

Saturday May 30 - Join the men of CBBC for a golf day at Noosa Hills Par 3 course, 9am. \$30 for 9 holes, club and cart hire available. See Richard for more info and to RSVP on 0452 594 854 or [rvaneckaus@gmail.com](mailto:rvaneckaus@gmail.com)

## "Understanding Islam" Event

On Monday May 18, an evening event will held on the Sunshine Coast called "*Understanding Islam and its influence in Australia*". The presenter is Sam Green, who works for the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students (AFES), and is an experienced presenter on the topic of evangelism to Muslims. Sam will equip you to use the Bible in evangelism to Muslims and better understand the influence of Islam. The free event will be held from 7:00-8:30pm at Lakeshore Community Church of Christ (1 Lakeshore Ave, North Buderim).

## Prayer Points:

- Pray for those in our extended church family who are unwell or recovering
- Pray for the process for appointing a new Assoc Pastor and Playgroup Coordinator
- Pray for Harrison, Jess and their family as they prepare for their next move to Victoria and commence a new role as Assoc Pastor at Druin Baptist Church.

