

Next Week's Bible Talks

8:30am Bexley

Phil Colgan on "A New Heart"
(Jeremiah 30-31)

9:00am Carlton

Kevin Stepniewski on "A New Heart"
(Jeremiah 30-31)

10:30am Carlton

Phil Colgan on "A New Heart"
(Jeremiah 30-31)

10:30am Bexley North

Kevin Stepniewski on "A New Heart"
(Jeremiah 30-31)

4.30pm Bexley North

Phil Colgan on "A New Heart"
(Jeremiah 30-31)

6.30pm Church

Phil Colgan on "A New Heart"
(Jeremiah 30-31)

Events

Prayer Meetings

First Saturday of every month, 8am
Email office@snac.org.au for location.

English for Life

Every Friday during school terms,
9:30-11:30am at St James

'Introduction to the Bible' PTC course

Sunday afternoons
4:45-6:00pm at St James

Contact Us

General Enquiries

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Carmel Vincent (Admin)

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Sunday Locations

8:30am Bexley (Contact Jason)

Corner of Albyn St & Dunmore St, Bexley

9:00am Carlton (Contact Kevin)

St James' Carlton, entry via Percival St

10:30am Carlton (Contact Phil)

Carlton Public School, entry via Cameron St

10:30am Bexley North (Contact Jason)

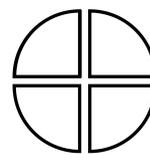
Holy Trinity, entry via Carrisbrook Ave

4:30pm Bexley North (Contact Jason)

Holy Trinity, entry via Carrisbrook Ave

6.30pm Church (Contact Troy)

Carlton Public School, entry via Cameron St



St George North
Anglican Church

Glorifying God by
Proclaiming Jesus | Growing Disciples | Serving Together

Weekly SNAC

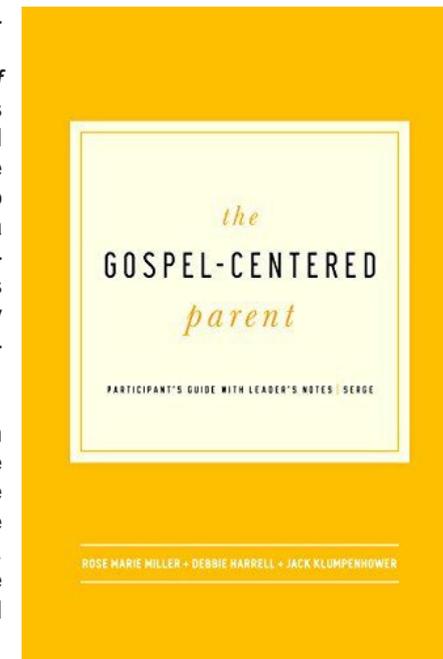
Edition 693

5 November 2017

The Gospel-Centered parent

Ephesians 6:4 challenges parents and particularly Dads: *"don't stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord"*. This was one of many encouragements and challenges during our Ephesians series and one I hoped all parents would take to heart. One of the applications I suggested when we came to that particular passage was for parents to pick a Christian parenting book they haven't read before and provide a book review for all the parents of our church to read. My article for our Weekly SNAC today is in part me taking up my own challenge!

As I browsed the offerings available for Christian parenting I noticed many parenting books. Some I had read before and many seemed little more than worldly wisdom, but then I came across "the Gospel-centered parent" (New Growth Press). As the name suggests this book starts with the Gospel and works through how the gospel should shape our approach to parenting.



This book is a book of 'gospel parenting principles' rather than a 'how-to guide for parenting' – which is why it is something I can recommend to all Christian parents with kids still at home. Having said that, this book is most useful to couples expecting a child (to shape your thinking before you get into the trenches); to those coming out of 'baby-land' (who after a long period of exhaustion are now asking questions about how to discipline and shape this little human being); and to those who are ready to reform and sharpen what they are doing now as parents.

Rather than be a diatribe on parenting, 'the Gospel-centered parent' comes with 10 parenting lessons drawn from scriptural principles. The format requires interaction with scripture and personal reflection. This makes it ideal for parents to use as a guide for discussion and planning. Amongst the lessons are topics such as "trusting God to build your family", "discipline by faith not frustration", "walking with your family through suffering" and "perseverance and hope".

For some parents this book will be hard work because it requires you to do the work of going back to the Bible and thinking about how the bible applies to your parenting situation.

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For other parents this book will be an affirmation of the way they already think but perhaps haven't yet put into action. I wouldn't describe this as the best book on Christian parenting but I think most parents in our church would find it helpful, accessible and a great opportunity to stop and think about whether we are obeying Ephesians 6:4.

The book ends with a conclusion summarising 15 reasons to train your children in the Gospel of Grace. You'll have to buy the book to see them all but suffice to say – Christians who parent by rules and laws without the Grace of the Gospel will fail to model the gospel to their children. However, parents who love the Lord first and humbly seek to walk in his way are better able to model repentance and faith in Jesus and are well placed to train their children in the same.

Jason Veitch

Church Finances - Giving to September

Praise God for the generosity of his people. Our work can only happen through the generous support of our church members. Please prayerfully consider your giving so that we are able to do the things under God we have planned to do.

Giving for September	\$70,469	Offeratories YTD	\$601,069
Budgeted	<u>\$69,892</u>	Budgeted YTD	<u>\$629,032</u>
Surplus	\$ 577	Shortfall YTD	\$ 27,963

For those wishing to give electronically the church's Bank account details are:

Bank: Westpac Account Name: Parish of St George North General A/C
BSB: 032 158 Account No.: 268126

Sending the McDowells on mission

We thank God for the McDowell family who are preparing to serve as Christian missionaries in Paraguay. They are planning to be involved in evangelism, church planting and part-time GP-style medical care. Come along to one of their information sessions to hear more about their plans and how you can support them.



Details of upcoming events

Today – Visit to 8:30 Bexley, 10:30am and 4:30pm Bexley North congregations
Tuesday 7 November – 10am Ladies at Bexley North
Wednesday 8 November - 10am Primetime at Bexley
Wednesday 8 November - 7:45pm at Bexley North (for Bexley North & Carlton 10:30am Gospel Teams)

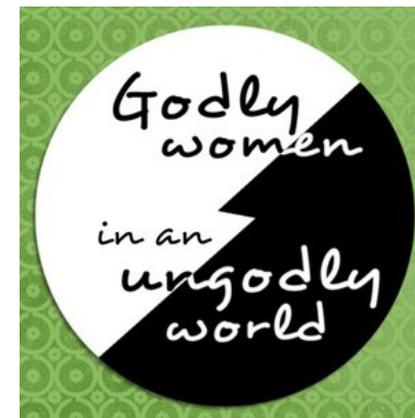
Supporting the McDowell family

To sign up for their prayer newsletter, email samuellandkatemcdowell@gmail.com

To support the McDowells financially, please head to www.snac.org.au/mcdowell - you will be redirected to the Pioneer website where you can give online.

SNAC Women 2017

Our church's annual women's conference is always a highlight in my year and is well worth the effort of juggling my other commitments to get there. I am convinced that every year it just keeps getting better! It is such an encouragement to spend the whole day gathered together with sisters in Christ from across our whole parish around God's word.



This year the teaching was focussed on how to be a godly woman in an ungodly world and it was wonderful to hear the Bible taught by some of our very own SNAC women. Victoria Colgan spoke to us first from Titus 2 and helped us see that the key to living a godly life is grasping God's grace shown to us in Christ. Avril Lonsdale then looked at how to be a godly woman in a feminist world. It was really helpful to compare and contrast feminism's diagnosis of what's wrong with our world with God's diagnosis and likewise to compare the solution offered by both feminism and God. After some delicious morning tea and a chance to both chat and shop at the bookstall we heard Heather Veitch take on the challenging topic of how to be godly in a sex-mad world. It was confronting to hear the current statistics of both men and women accessing pornography from a young age. It was clear that although there is nothing really new under the sun in terms of sin, the advancement of technology does bring new challenges to the area of sexual purity. We were encouraged to flee from sexual sin as women bought by God at the price of his Son and instead seek to glorify God with our bodies.

Excitingly in the past few years we have been able to have a mission spot focussed on a woman from within SNAC heading out in the coming year to proclaim the gospel. This year we had the chance to hear from Kate McDowell (9am) ahead of her family's deputation to Paraguay with Pioneers. It was wonderful to look up close at the work of God's grace in Kate's life so far and to join in prayer for her and her family.

Lunch was a relaxed time to enjoy some more delicious food and discuss some of what we had been learning and how it applies to our lives. I especially enjoyed catching up with and meeting new women from different congregations during this time.

There were a number of different workshops to choose from in the afternoon and I was blessed to attend Jacquie Marshall's workshop on marriage. As an older woman, Jacquie lived out the Titus 2 passage she was teaching by encouraging us younger women to be devoted to God as we love both our husbands and children. She encouraged us to reject the spirit of the age of individualism and instead live out servanthood and stay close to our husbands in every way and in particular through sexual intimacy.

I drove home refreshed in my desire to live as a godly woman in an ungodly world by the grace of God. I rejoice and give thanks to God for his faithfulness to the women of our parish in building us up year after year through the ministry of SNAC women. A big thanks to the organising committee and all who worked hard on the content and logistics of the day.

Jana Koulouris