

## Truthing in Love

I don't like conflict. In fact, I prefer to avoid it whenever possible. Yet we all know that sometimes conflict can't and shouldn't be avoided. Certain conflicts can be healthy and bring about better outcomes. Some call this "creative conflict".

Here's a scenario for potential conflict. Imagine two people in love. They've been going out together and want to continue the relationship. But then one gets a fabulous job offer interstate. They feel torn. One wants the dream job, but can't bear the thought of leaving the other. The other waits anxiously for a decision – will the dream job trump the relationship?

Situations like that tend to erupt into bitter conflict if we see our options as "either / or". It's either the dream job or the relationship; it's either my way or your way; it's either we stay together or we don't. But if we drop this "either / or" thinking, it's possible to consider other alternatives. Maybe both can go interstate and pursue jobs. Maybe the dream job can be temporary? Maybe there's another dream job locally – if they do some searching? Instead of "either / or" thinking, why not strive for "and" thinking – keeping both goals paramount, pursuing the relationship and a dream job?

Ephesians 4:15 is an example of this "and" thinking. Christians are to be "speaking the truth in love" or, literally, "truthing in love". Truth and love go together. We shouldn't sacrifice truth for love or vice-versa. We shouldn't water down the Gospel to avoid conflict with our friends, neighbours – or other churches and religions, for that matter. Neither should we forget to demonstrate love even as we speak, act and live out the truths of the Gospel. Truth and love should be inseparable. We can disagree (because we're committed to truth) but we shouldn't be disagreeable (because we're committed to loving others).

The Bible is full on this kind of "and" thinking which puts two apparently contradictory elements together. Truth and love. Grace and works. Unity and diversity. Life and death (or through death). Being in the world and not of the world. Exercising our free will and submitting to God's will for us. Experiencing eternal life now and not-yet. In all this, the tension is palpable, the potential for conflict real. Our challenge is to uphold both elements – minimising neither – and search for a creative outcome which honours God through potential conflict.

Benny Tabalujan

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Welcome

We welcome you this morning and hope and pray that your time with us will be spiritually uplifting and fulfilling. We look forward to seeing you again.

### Bollywood Night Next Saturday

Come and be part of this great night next Saturday 7th August at 6.00pm at the Church Building. The funds raised will be used to help the 8 children we support in India!

If you have spoken to Chorlian, you can imagine, this has been a significant sacrifice by all who are looking after their physical and spiritual needs!

\$50 per adult and children free...includes

- Dinner (provided by Lentil as Anything)
- Bollywood dancing (taught to us for free by a community minded group of Indian women)
- and of course great fellowship

Be courageous as you invite people to come along! They will love you for it whether they can make it or not.

Please let us know how many will be coming in your party, and give your money to Sally-Kate Hooi, Jennifer Permezel or Catherine Donnelley. We need to be getting a feel for catering purposes

### Jumping Juniors

The next jumping juniors is on Saturday 21st August at the Tabalujan home at 3.30pm.

We will be having a craft or a cooking activity and a devo. Parents are welcome to stay and fellowship too.

So bring your kids (5years to grade 6) along and have FUN with us. See Pauline for more information. Thanks, Rhonda

### Church Library

Our library is about to reopen, could you please look on your shelves, peer into your cupboards and grope under your beds. If you find any of our library books please give them

to Leone Smith or Marissa Carpenter. We are currently adding over 40 new books. Thanks to all who have donated them. - Leone

### Crying Room

As part of our recent renovations we now have a fantastic space for parents to take unhappy babes & toddlers during the service - and still be able to see and hear what's going on up front. Yes, you guessed right, it's behind that big window at the back! As we are still working to fine-tune the acoustics in the auditorium, this room is a great asset to help ensure Worship can be heard by all.

### Cleaning Volunteer Needed

We're STILL looking for a family to volunteer to clean the building on 21 August. Please let Ashley or Charlotte know if you can find the time to help.

### Revive 10: Jesus love: The God way to change me and then the whole world

It's going to be another great Camp Revive this year focussing on the good things that God can do in your life which then leads to how to reach out to others with the greatest opportunity there is: knowing God. If you can't make it for the whole camp, here's the schedule for lessons if you'd like to come up for the day:

#### Saturday 25 Sept

9:30am Lesson 1

11am. Lesson 2

1:30-2pm Split Devotional-guys and girls taught separately

#### Sunday 26

9:30am Bible lesson: split class

10:15am Morning tea

10:45am Worship

If you'd like to stay for lunch, we'd love to have you. It will cost \$10 for lunch and \$15

## NEWS AND NOTES

for dinner.

We hope to see you there. Contact Peter, Nancy, Ruth and Charlotte for more details.

### People Movements

- Welcome back to John Cooper who has been in Sydney.
- Peter Randall, Damian Forbes and Amy Waugh are at a camp in Gosford.
- Ian Campbell is at a conference in the US.
- Amber Drew leaves for PNG on Wednesday.
- Sarah's mom YinYing (who was baptized here last year) is back visiting. She is staying with the Chans until mid-October.
- Benny Tabalujan is off to Perth this Wed for work and then going to Kuala Lumpur for a niece's wedding and his mother's 84th birthday. He's due back on Mon, 9 Aug.

### Prayers Please

- For our Elders and Deacons.
- For our search for a full-time worker.
- For Beth Humphris who is recovering from an appendectomy.
- For our new babies, Sam (Auld), Mackenzie (Ibbetson) and Eden (Jackel)
- For Tim Tabalujan - recovering from a dislocated shoulder.
- For Hannah's health.
- For the Sudanese congregation at Chadstone.
- For Brian and his wife Ann Humphris (Luke Humphris' parents) in your prayers. Brian is

recovering from an operation to remove a cancer.

- For Doug Morgan as he settles into Gosford.
- For Amber Drew and the team whilst they are in PNG.
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### For the Record

Contribution:

25th July 2010: \$N.A.

Attendance: English N.A. Chinese 18

### Birthdays and Anniversaries – August Birthdays

- |                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| • Luke Humphries     | 1st  |
| • Ana Cornock        | 3rd  |
| • Christine Hooi     | 6th  |
| • Penny Baldwin      | 14th |
| • Hannah Campbell    | 16th |
| • Enoch Chan         | 20th |
| • Giovanni Rodriguez | 21st |
| • Pete Randall       | 28th |
| • Swee Lan Hooi      | 29th |
| • Mely Tjandra       | 29th |

### Spiritual Birthdays

- |                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| • Johanna Lewis  | 16th |
| • Beth Humphries | 28th |
| • Swee Lan Hooi  | 1956 |

### Wedding Anniversaries

- |                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| • Debbie & Scott Carpenters | 6th  |
| • Leone & Ron Smith         | 23rd |

## PEARLY GATES



We are on the web  
[www.belmoreroadChurCh.org.au](http://www.belmoreroadChurCh.org.au)

Belmore Road Church of Christ is a God centered, Bible based family that provides a nurturing environment to share God's truth in love.

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In Jesus and through his spirit, we foster and encourage spiritual growth and understanding, offering friendship and help to those in need. We reach out to all, starting with those who are seeking the truth, people in our local community and those who we meet in our daily lives. As we have come to know God's love, we reach out and share His love with others.

**WORSHIP ROSTER AUGUST 2010**

Aug	Greeters + Assist LS	An- nounce (+Op+Cl Prayer)	Songs	Lord's Supper	Reading + Assist LS	Sp Prayer + Assist LS	Preaching (The Gospel Is For All Situations)	Sun Adults' Class (Psalms & Conflict)
01	David W John B	John C	Scott C	Steve B	Tim T	Gareth L	Benny T	Trevor B
08	David W John B	John C	Scott C	Steve B	Nick L	Roger D	Ash C	Jimmy F
15	David W John B	John C	Scott C	Francis H	Johnston S	Trevor B	Benny T	Peter R
22	David W John B	John C	Richard H	Steve B	Cedric L	Ian C	Graham W	Peter R
29	David W John B	John C	Richard H	Francis H	Tim T	Charles H	Congr. Mtg	Peter R
Mid- week	Discovery Groups — The Ephesian Letter							

**DUTY ROSTER AUGUST 2010**

	Lord's Supper	Luncheon Prep & Cleanup	Morning Tea	Mowing	Cleaning (weekend of)
<b>A U G</b>	Nicholas Lim	Ana Cornock Pauline Tab Chorlian (H)	Jackie Baldwin Peter Randall Tjing Krause	Mark I	07 - Chans 14 - Carpenters 21 - Volunteer 28 - F Hoois