

## MINISTERS' BLOG (Phil)

In the gospel reading today (John 2:13-22), Jesus reacts to the blatant irrelevance, irreverence and injustice of his church. Forever and a day, biblical prophets called for justice, kindness and a humble life centred in God. But the people of God throughout time struggle to remember to live this way; to live life worthy of their calling.

**When does grace become cheap? Does God's free gift of forgiveness,** ask anything at all of us in return? Would we not predict, would we not hope and pray, that the longer we have been on the journey of faith, the more transparently just and comprehensively loving we would become?

Is there ever a time when we would require of ourselves and each other, a holier life; a life that more clearly resembles Him who loved us and gave himself entirely for us?

Is there a time where on observing each other, we might have an occasion to say lovingly: do you think that what you are planning is **fair to all concerned; or, is what you're saying the most loving expression** you can offer; or, is what you are doing reflecting genuine humility rather than self-interest?

We profess to follow Jesus. Nothing short of a life that just loves all and sundry regardless, fits the bill. Personally, if you observe anything that lacks kindness and compassion in me, please tell me. And, can I do the same for you?

Prayer and Fasting Group at Church, 13th March 7.30pm



Progressive Christianity Service Wednesday 21st at 7pm  
**"What do we need from our relationship with 'God' and how do we communicate with 'God'?"**

Good quality used girls clothes that are no longer needed in your family (suitable for 11 and 4 years old) or small cash donations for purchase of clothes. Both would be gratefully received.

If you can help please see Meredith Dowdy or phone 8235 1193



## Easter services

Maundy Thursday:	7pm
Good Friday:	9.30am 6.00pm
Sunday:	9.15am Special Morning Tea 10.45am 6.00pm

When Jesus came to Golgotha, they hanged Him on a tree,  
They drove great nails through hands and feet, and made a Calvary;  
They crowned Him with a crown of thorns, red were His wounds and deep,

For those were crude and cruel days, and human flesh was cheap.

When Jesus came to Birmingham, they simply passed Him by.

They would not hurt a hair of Him, they only let Him die;

For men had grown more tender, and they would not give Him pain,

They only just passed down the street, and left Him in the rain.

Still Jesus cried, 'Forgive them, for they know not what they do, '

And still it rained the winter rain that drenched Him through and through;

The crowds went home and left the streets without a soul to see,  
And Jesus crouched against a wall, and cried for Calvary.

*(Studdert-Kennedy)*

Please Note: 9.15 am and 10.45 am worshippers

Please do not congregate in foyer area at beginning of 10.45 am service as noise is disrupting to worship.

Evening Fellowship : Wednesday 14th at 7.30 pm. Easter meeting with Rev Dr Phil Carr. New members welcome - this meeting is predominantly attended by women



## Next Week

18th March, 2012

9.15 am Worship for Today

10.45 am Family Worship

6.00 pm Young Adults

Friday 9th : 7.00 pm Youth

Wednesday 21st: Progressive Christianity

### Readings for Lent 4

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

11th March, 2012

9.15 am Worship for Today

10.45am Family Worship

6.00 pm Young Adults

Friday 9th: 7.00 pm Youth

### Readings for Lent 3

Exodus 20: 1-17

Psalms 19

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

John 2. 13-22 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.



For pastoral or administrative matters phone the Church Office on 8234 1199 as the first point of contact.

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