



20TH SEPTEMBER 2020



TODAY:

Series: Significant Hymns and Songs

Study 1: Will You Anchor Hold – Hebrews 6:13-20

Speaker: Pastor Tony

Sunday 27th September

Series: Significant Hymns and Songs

Study 2: In Tenderness

Speaker: Pastor Tony

For viewing these services, log on to the church website -
www.ftgbc.org.au

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the presence behind the veil. Hebrews 6:19



Message From Tony

HOW IS YOUR ANCHOR?

A.C. Kearns writes: ‘Recently I heard the story of two ships that were sheltering from a storm in a bay. The storm raged all night. When dawn came, one of the ships had been wrecked on the rocky coast; in their haste amidst the storm, the crew had not dropped anchor properly. The other ship had anchored securely and was safe.

When I heard this story it reminded me of the old hymn:

Will your anchor hold, in the storms of life, when the clouds unfold, their wings of strife?

These words challenge us to consider our foundations in life; what are you anchored in? Many people say they need God – which is fine when life is treating them well. But the courage of the most ardent atheist is tried in the trials of life. Real trials which have you fearing for your very life, which cause you to re-evaluate the way you’ve led life before the crisis. Someone told me lately that an old soldier once said there were no atheists in the First World War trenches: in the reality of impending battle men sought solace from God.

There was a time when I had a crisis; I had just been diagnosed with a brain tumour. Even though I am a Christian I still found myself evaluating my life under such a crisis. Will you believe me if I tell you that after the initial shock my family and I felt at peace? The reason why can be found in the chorus of that famous hymn:

“We have an anchor that keeps the soul steadfast and sure while the billows roll: fastened to the rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Saviour’s love!”

In such a crisis the stuff of life which we humans cling to suddenly didn’t matter. The threat to our family helped us to see the futility of anchoring our lives in perishable stuff. Our family crisis has since passed – my treatment was 100% successful. But we are in no doubt that without the peace that came from being anchored in God the outcome would have been very different indeed.

What about you? How much value do you put in mere stuff?

“Will your anchor hold in the floods of death, when the waters cold chill your latest breath?”

What is your anchor fastened to and will it hold fast when a crisis strikes? You may be saying right now “there is no God!” Let me ask you then, “are you willing to take the risk of being proved wrong...when it’s too late to change your mind?” Why wait until a crisis strikes – why not call on Him now? He loves you and cares for you: Read John 3:16; Romans 10:13.’

MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame But wholly lean on Jesus' name

On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness hides His lovely face I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil

His oath, His covenant, His blood Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way He then is all my hope and stay

When He shall come with trumpet sound Oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone Faultless to stand before the throne

On Christ the solid
Rock I stand
All other ground
is sinking sand
All other ground
is sinking sand



NEEDING SOME INSPIRATION & CHEER IN YOUR DAY?

Enjoy listening to the Getty family singalongs on www.gettymusic.com

Listen to inspiring stories of God at work in lives of ordinary people on
www.realfaith.org.au

SEEN ON CHURCH SIGNS

Forecast for tomorrow:
God reigns and the Son shines.

We are not Dairy Queen,
but we do have great Sundays!

Feeling Hot?
This church is prayer-conditioned.

Sign broken, message inside.

Download your worries and get online with God.

ATM inside: Atonement, Truth, Mercy

Give Satan an inch and he'll become your ruler.

God wants full custody, not just weekend visits.

Dust on your Bible leads to dirt in your life.

Our church is like fudge: sweet with a few nuts.

Tweet others as you would like to be tweeted.

Feed your faith and your fears will starve to death.

Worry always gives a little thing a big shadow.



AMAZING FACTS

Written by Doug Batchelor

Tardigrade - Water Bears

A tiny animal less than a millimeter long can withstand the most extreme conditions on earth. This arthropod, commonly called a water bear, is probably living in your garden right now. It's proper name is a tardigrade, and many species are found all over the world from the coldest poles to the warmest jungles. This tiny beast has eight legs, two eyes, a central nervous system and piercing mouthparts that it uses to feed on the juice of plants. It is just barely visible to the naked eye.

So how tough are they? Normally they live in damp places such as mosses or lichens, but these habitants often dry out, get baked in the sun and freeze in winter. To survive these harsh seasons, the water bear pulls in it's legs, loses some water, shrivels up and transforms into a 'tun' enabling it to withstand all kinds of extremes while hibernating.

For instance, left in a bottle with dried moss for a decade, when water was added, they sprang to life. Exposed to minus 43° C, when thawed, they started up again. They survived being exposed to pressure six times greater than the deepest ocean. Exposed to radiation a thousand times more than would kill a human, they also survived. In fact, a water bear could theoretically survive a space journey without any artificial protection.

But the Bible teaches there is a creature more resilient than the water bear.

'When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.'

Isaiah 43:2

Source:

Amazing Facts

Volume 2

www.afbookstore.com

Used with permission



Bible Study, Old Testament Characters – Elijah **Knowing God's Power – 1 Kings 18:16-40**

Imagine yourself living in a country where everyone is following other gods. There are no churches, no Bibles studies, no fellowship, no Christian literature. As far as you know, you are the only Christian in the land. How would you respond?

The prophet Elijah faced enormous odds. Israel had abandoned the Lord for another god, Baal. They had rejected Elijah in favour of the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal. Yet in spite of these odds, Elijah challenges Baal and his prophets to a contest with God.

How would you or have you felt being in another country where Christianity is the minority religion and you are/were surrounded many religious idols?

Read 1 Kings 18:16-40. What does Elijah command Ahab to do (v. 19)?

Why do you think Ahab agrees to his demand for a contest?

What is Elijah's challenge to the people of Israel at Mount Carmel (vv. 20-21)?

Israel was an agrarian society dependent on rain for its survival. Baal was the god who supposedly controlled the weather. How might this help to explain why it was so difficult for the Israelites to completely abandon Baal and trust solely in God?

In what ways are you or the people around you wavering between two gods?
(For example, wavering between materialism, personal desires or ambitions and the Lord Jesus Christ)

Describe the conditions of the contest on Mount Carmel (vv. 22-26)?

What is pathetic about the frenzied activities of Baal's prophets and the taunts of Elijah (vv. 26-29)?

What do Elijah's actions indicate about his knowledge of God's reality and power (vv. 30-37)?

Summarize the dramatic outcome of the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal (vv. 38-40)?

What are the 'Mount Carmel' situations in which you face overwhelming odds today? (For example, at work, at school/Uni, in your family or neighbourhood.)

How can you, like Elijah, rely on God's power in that situation?

Questions taken from 'A Life Guide Bible Study Book' by Peter Scazzero



BUV Delegates

Being unable to meet together in August for our Annual General Church Life Meeting, we were not able to vote in BUV Delegates. The Elders and I decided to ask Frank Schlag and Russell

Davis, who were our BUV Delegates for 2019/20, if they would be prepared to continue for another 12 months. Both agreed. A BUV 'Gathering On Line' has been planned for Friday 16th October which Frank, Russell and I will log into. We will report back any major decisions. Tony



Birthdays:

18th Sept: Ashley Gillespi

22nd Sept: Bradley Davis

Special congratulations
of your 21st

Zoom Home Groups

Wednesday - 8pm

Thursday - 2pm

Both groups are using the Bible Study material which is currently being made available in the weekly news sheet.

Please contact
Pastor Tony
if you would
like to be
involved
in either of
these groups.



Pastoral Availability:

Tony will be working from his home office but can be contacted on 0406686715.

Please note: Under current restrictions Tony can only meet personally with people under special circumstances. If you have a need to meet, please contact him.



To continue worshipping the Lord with tithes and offerings you can:

Do a bank transfer into the Church bank account. Details are:

ANZ -Ferntree Gully Baptist Church

BSB: 013287

Account: 296710027

Cheques written to Ferntree Gully Baptist Church may be sent to:
Andrew Ullrich 15 Chedworth Crt Kilsyth Sth 3137



On my daily walk:

Rare sights among
all the numerous
dogs.



In just over 20 years Empart has trained and sent out thousands of indigenous workers in India to plant over 30,000 churches, start schools, vocational training centres, sanitation projects and provide help in emergencies such as the Covid-19 pandemic.



Did you know for the cost of sending one western missionary, Empart can send out 75-85 national church planters. Each can start ministry from the first day. They don't have to overcome culture shock or language barriers. (It takes 6-7 years for western missionaries to fully adapt to a new culture.) National workers don't need visas, insurance, 4 wheel drive vehicles, laptops or internet.

Learn more at: empart.org

The Lord God is not in Lock Down

Tony received this email from Vivien Cooksley and has her permission to include it in the newsletter.

'I was walking through Old Joes Reserve a few months ago when I saw a woman walking towards me, I knew instantly she had cancer, but you would not know that by her appearance, so it was the Holy Spirit prompting me. As she saw me coming she stopped and waited for me to come up to her. We chatted and I said, "Are you well?" and she blurted out, "No I have cancer." I asked if she was a Christian and she said yes and was praying to Saint Bernadette as she was the patron saint for Breast Cancer. I was stunned and knew I would not offend her, so I said, "Why don't you ask God and Jesus to heal you?" then I went on to explain about our Lord on the cross and said, "Look to the cross for your healing." Then I said, "Why don't we come in agreement that in the name of Jesus you will be healed from this cancer." She agreed, then I said praise and gave thanks. Then we went our way, saying we would catch up again.

Then I collected some healing verses for her, something on forgiveness - as this is vital to continued healing, and a list of who Jesus was, as she did not seem to know!

Weeks - months went by and last week I met (?) in the Reserve again. She came running to me and said, "I am healed, the hospital said there is no sign of the cancer and I am cancer free." She said she was astonished and so was the hospital, so I said, "Let us give praise and thanks to God & Jesus for what they have done." So we did. Her treatment was to continue for most of this year, instead it finished 2-3 weeks past mid-year approx.

Then I said to her, "Do you read your Bible?" and she said, "No." Then she said "Oh I remember where my Mother's Bible is. I can get it down". So I encouraged her to get it off the shelf and read it. I said to read one of the 4 gospels and read about the life of Jesus, the one who has given you your healing, she said she would and said she loved talking with me.

Wow what an encounter that was, I expect to see her again and will keep asking her about her journey of life and relationship with our Lord. Just wanted you to know that even in lock-down, opportunities are always ever present, but we need to be listening to and being guided by the Holy Spirit.'



Please be in prayer for the family of Mandy Grapentin: Esther, Christa, Heidi, Ralph, Frank and Bernie as they prepare some form of memorial service for their mum who died last Wednesday 16th September. This will have some complications during our current lock down period.

Continue to uphold Giovanni in prayer as he slowly recovers from the fracture in his shoulder and another fall. Pray for the people who are providing home care.

Pray for Henny Luppia who had a fall last week and is still recovering.

Continue praying for those in leadership both at Federal and State levels as they develop plans and policies to help us safely come out of the COVID-19 crisis. Pray that they will especially be mindful of those who have been significantly hit because of homelessness, loss of jobs, family crisis etc.

Please be in prayer for the lady Vivien met in the park; that she will continue to read her Bible and that the Lord God will continue to reveal His grace and love to her.

Pray for opportunities and your openness that the Lord God will give for you to minister to others during this COVID time especially.

Please pray for Adrian, a staff member of Reach Beyond who had extensive surgery last Wednesday. Pray for a complication free recovery.

Praise God for the 100 years ministry of MBI, BCV and MST and for the way the Lord has used this institution to teach, train and provide personal formation of men and women for ministry both in Australia and many locations overseas.



Pray for the current MST staff and students as they continue with lectures and classes on line. Especially uphold Tim Meyers, Executive Principal, as he leads and guides.



*Our prayers have no expiration date.
You never know when, where, or
how God will answer.*

Pray for the MISSIONS & WORKERS
we take an interest in including...

Andrea Rothweiler (Wycliffe PNG)

Ange Bakhtiari FTG Nth Primary

School chaplaincy

Andy and Cathie Staunton

(GIA Cambodia)

Mukti Wings of Hope

Reach Beyond

Helga



Pastor: Rev. Tony Burgum

Address: 27 Chirnside Dve
Chirnside Park 3116

Email: tburgum@optusnet.com.au

Phone: 0406 686 715

Elders:

Rainer Luppa - 9758 4195 (Secretary)

Andreas Ullrich - 9762 7115 (Treasurer)

Church Details:

Address: 17 Hunter Street FTG

Web: www.ftgbc.org.au

Mob: 0406 686 715

Deacons:

Frank Schlag - 8790 2550

(Property)

Jeanette Ullrich - 9762 7115

(Playgroup)

Bulletin Editor: Margaret Penford

Phone: 9762 1691

mpenford@netspace.net.au

"He who counts the stars,
and calls them by their names
is in no danger

OF FORGETTING HIS OWN CHILDREN."

...-CHARLES SPURGEON