

Thurs 14 Nov 2013

ENCOURAGING....EQUIPPING....EMPOWERING



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Castlemaine Show Art/Craft Awards; Gr 3/4 Olden Days; Yr 7/8 CERES Excursion; Grade 5/6 AFL 9s

TIPS FOR GODLY LIVING Written by Chuck Lawless (love the name!)

This blogpost was not easy to compose. Writing about Godliness is never easy, for to do so is to imply you've figured out how to walk in holiness. I make no such claim here. I struggle like everyone else to be pleasing to God in all I do. So I write these words to myself as much as to anyone else.

Charles Spurgeon is one of my favorite writers, even though his writings often challenge me deep in my heart. These words (first directed to preachers, though applicable to all Christian leaders) are especially gripping:

1. **Prioritize the Word in your personal life.**

The Bible is God's inspired Word, written by men carried along by the Holy Spirit as they wrote (2 Tim. 3:16-17, 2 Pet. 1:20-21). Through His Word, God equips you to do His work. You simply cannot live a godly life apart from knowing and following the Bible.

2. **Make prayer a part of your DNA.**

Prayerlessness is idolatry of the self—a decided danger for leaders. Pray in the morning over your calendared events for the day. Never lead a meeting without

praying. Pray quickly when you hear about needs of people you lead. Pray without ceasing throughout the day.

3. **Never outgrow accountability.**

We never reach the point to no longer need accountability to holy living. Godly leaders open their lives to somebody, realizing that how we live privately is just as important—if not more so—than what we do publicly. Find someone today who can spur you on toward godliness.



The Olivet News

4. Genuinely believe the Kingdom is larger than you. I know no leaders who state otherwise, but sometimes we live that way. God's work becomes "my church, my ministry, my glory." When we think the kingdom is about us, we set ourselves up for the fall that comes with pride. Ask God to show you when ego takes control in your life.

5. Live in urgency. More than 1.7 billion people have little or no access to the gospel. Thousands die without Christ every day. Jesus is still the only answer for sin. Spreading the gospel to the nations remains God's only plan. Understanding this urgency makes the temporary pleasure of sin pale. Live as if today really is all God gives you.

6. Guard your speech. Avoid crude jokes. Determine not to talk poorly of others. Use your words to build others up, not to tear them down. Talk more about God than about yourself. Speak the truth in love. Trust that Someone is always listening.

7. Mentor someone. When you invest yourself in another, you make yourself vulnerable to someone else's eyes. One who is mentored watches you, seeking a guide and example of Christian faith. Knowing he will be disappointed if you fall should encourage you to fight for godliness.

8. Share the gospel with non-believers. Doing evangelism is not only basic Christian obedience, but it is also a call to holiness. Faithfully and consistently share the gospel with others, and you will want to model genuine Christian faith before them.

9. Keep learning. Godliness is characterized by humility, and humble leaders never stop learning. Read the Word. Study biographies of godly leaders. Take classes with professors who walk with God. Admitting you don't know everything is a step toward godliness.

10. Be a person of integrity in all matters. Do not exaggerate statistics. Pay your bills. Take necessary steps to avoid pornography. Be honest with your family in all matters. Confess your sin. Stand before God's people with no hidden areas of disobedience.

11. Take care of yourself physically. Our evangelical trust in the promise of resurrection gives us no permission to abuse the body God has given us. The Spirit of God dwells in you, and your godliness cannot be separated from your commitment to take care of your physical body.

12. Meditate on your conversion experience. Consider deeply God's mercy and grace toward you. Remember those who shared the gospel with

you. Let your gratitude for yesterday's grace compel you toward today's obedience.

I suspect that nothing here is revolutionary—but that's the point. Godliness is simply living daily for God. Take time to examine your life today.
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CASTLEMAINE SHOW ART/CRAFT DISPLAY
Congratulations to many of our Secondary students who won prizes in the Castlemaine Show with their art and craft on the long weekend! It is very pleasing to see the standard of your work on display for the community to enjoy!

Big congratulations to several students who gained an extra mention in the prize winners including: **Jonathon Gibson** who received a Special Highly Commended for his photo of Rosalind Park,

Claire Lacey who received the prize for Most Successful Secondary Student and

Lois Brown who received a trophy and monetary prize for her coloured pencil sketch of the lions "Best Overall Exhibit". Well done to all students!

GRADE 5/6 GAMMA AFL 9s

On Friday 8 November Gamma class went to Campbell's Creek oval to experience a day out for AFL 9s. When we got there they were still setting up. The main organizer, Mr Coburn, came and spoke to all of the players to explain the rules. Then he blew the horn and we started.

We won all of our games except two, which included the third game we played and the semi finals. We did well and we all had fun. I also somehow scored a medallion, so I was pretty happy. A big thanks to all the teachers and coaches that were running it.

By D'Arcy House

**NEXT SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: PSALM 46:
verses 1 - 11 (Character Trait - Peacefulness)**

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK for the LOW LYNE MANNING and McARDLE Families.

AFL 9s FOR SECONDARY SPORT

Tomorrow afternoon students will be travelling in the bus to Campbells Creek oval for AFL 9s practice. Please be in your correct sports uniform.

WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

On Friday 22 November students will be walking to school. Some students walk every day to school, but for those who ride buses to school this will be an opportunity for them to walk part of the way. Students will be dropped at the Winters' Flat Store from 8.30am onwards in the morning and will walk accompanied by staff members to school.

NEW TEACHER ANNOUNCEMENT 2014

The Board Executive of Reachout have appointed Miss Jemima Box to the Secondary Science and ICT position for 2014. We look forward to her joining the teaching staff next year.

YEAR 9/10 MARKET DAY FOR ECONOMICS

On Thursday 28 November students from Mrs Weightman's Year 9/10 Economics class will be running a Market Day at school. Items will be on sale and Primary and Secondary students are asked to plan ahead so they may have put aside some cash to purchase items on the day.

Parents may like to offer some odd jobs around home to help students raise some pocket-money for the day.

Advertising for the day will be given by the students running the stalls and this will be done closer to the time.

GRADE 6 GRADUATION DINNER

Monday 2 December from 6pm - 8pm at Sky-Dancers Café in Harcourt. Parents of the 11 Olivet graduating students from Grade 6 Primary and moving onto their Secondary education in 2014 will join with the students and staff to celebrate this important occasion in the students' lives.

SECONDARY FORMAL DINNER

Monday 9 December at a venue to be decided.

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER

Last day of the school year for students. Both occasions are to be held at the Castlemaine Church of Christ in Blakeley Road, North Castlemaine.

PRESENTATION MORNING 11am

Presentation of Term 4 awards and certificates

Parents and family members are invited to come along to support the students.

PRESENTATION NIGHT 7pm

This is the climax of the school year for Olivet Christian College. All families are expected to attend this formal occasion where we celebrate the students' achievements and trophies are awarded.

STAFF DAY Friday 13 December. No students will be required to attend on this day.

DATES FOR NEXT YEAR 2014

Thurs January 23 & Friday 24 January

Staff return for the school year

Monday 27 January Australia Day Holiday

Tuesday 28 January

First day of school for all students

Wed 29 January and all Wed for Term 1

Prep students are not required at school

Wed Thurs and Friday 5 6 7 February

Year 7/8 Round the Bay Trip (Details to be sent out to parents shortly)

Monday 10 March Labor Day Holiday

Friday 4 April Last school day for Term 1

Families please note that there will be a 3-week vacation for students at the end of Term 1 as the third week is explained below.

Monday 21 April Easter Monday Holiday

Tuesday 22 April Curriculum Day at Olivet

Wed 23 / Thurs 24 April Two-day Victorian Christian Educators' Conference at Olivet. No students are expected at school on these days.

Friday 25 April Anzac Day Holiday

Monday 28 April First school day for Term 2