



GEORGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

21st October 2018

Voortrekker Hall - 56 Caledon Street, George

Sunday : Main Service 10 - 11 AM

Tuesday Bible Study : 18H30

Evangelist (George) : Danny Sullivan - Tel. 083 953 0195

Reinhold Jahnke (Co-Minister - George)

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2 Tim. 2:15

2 Tim. 3:16-17

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Two Hands Full of Toil

By - Travis Starling

In the beginning of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, Ebenezer Scrooge proved to be in a very sad state, though unbeknownst to him. Scrooge, who was a money lender, was a hard worker evidenced by the amount of hours at the office and a shrewd businessman who often times lacked compassion in his dealings with his customers. Because of his hard work and shrewd ways, he was very successful and wealthy. One might ask "why would anyone describe a successful and wealthy businessman as being in a sad state?" Scrooge would arrive home late most nights to a dark, cold, and empty house, have dinner alone, and go to sleep alone.

Ecclesiastes 4:5-8 "The fool folds his hands and eats his own flesh. Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind. Again, I saw vanity under the sun: one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, "For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?" This also is vanity and an unhappy business.

The Ecclesiastes writer in this passage first provides a spectrum that all workers fall on. On one end of the range is the sluggard who starves because he chooses to not work at all, and at the other end is the man who has too much on his plate, which leads to constant stress, late nights, and interrupted weekends. The wise writer lets the readers know where is best. "Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil." The man with

one handful of toil might not be as "successful" or financially wealthy as the one with two hands full, but that is the point. One can choose to strive after more success and riches, but at the expense of the better things in life.

The writer then provides wisdom that gets right to the heart of the Scrooge story. "One person who has no one... yet there is no end to all his toil". Throughout Scrooge's life he chose academia and business over meaningful relationships. In school growing up he would always stick to himself and study while his peers were getting together. He neglected his familial relationships because he had no time outside of work. It was never the right time to marry because his business "required" his attention and funds, so the one woman who saw the good in Scrooge left him. At none of these junctures in his life did he stop and ask "for whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?" Instead he remained laser focused on striving after the wind.

Luckily for Scrooge he had help in seeing the error of his ways, which led to better choices that would allow joy into his life. What about us? Where are we on the spectrum? For who and why do we toil? Is the amount of work we subject ourselves to getting in the way of more important aspects of life like spending time with God, family, and friends? If yes, then we too are in a sad state and need to take charge of our lives. This might mean smaller houses, fewer cars, and older clothes, but it will be more than worth it because better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil.

Thinking With a Transformed Mind

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. For I say through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith” Rom.12:1-3.

In these verses, Paul appeals to us as Christians, that we present (offer, turn over) our bodies (our lives) to God, to serve Him, since He is now our master Rom.6:16-18.

To be God’s acceptable servant, we must be alive (freed from sin and made alive spiritually in Christ Rom.6:1-11), and holy (set apart, consecrated to God) 1.Pet.1:15-16. This is not an unreasonable requirement for God to require that we let Him lead and direct our lives. After all, He is the one who provided the only sacrifice He would accept as suitable, a sacrifice not tainted by sin. This sacrifice was His only Son, who came to earth and lived a sinless life so He might be the proper sacrifice His Father would accept as atonement for our sins. In becoming this sacrifice, Jesus has enabled us to be reconciled to His Father 2.Cor.5:18-21. Through the shedding of His Son’s blood we have now been redeemed and made free from sin. Having done these things, He owns us 1.Cor.6:19-20, and has the right to expect us to be grateful enough to become His servants.

THIS WEEK 21 October 2018	DUTY ROSTER	NEXT WEEK 28 October 2018
AM		AM
Leroy	SONG LEADER	Leroy
Leroy	ANNOUNCEMENTS	Reinhold
Leroy	SCRIPTURE & PRAYER	Reinhold
Leroy & Robert	AM SERVERS	Reinhold & Walter
Walter	LORD’S SUPPER	Leroy
Danny	PREACHING	Danny
Robert	CLOSING PRAYER	Walter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lynn will be away for a few weeks; Sheree having problems with her back, Pamela having problems with her knee
Please try and maintain contact with Genevieve in Malta. Her email address is genevieve.ferreira1@yahoo.com

Title & Opening Scripture	“Joy In The World” Neh 8:10
Other Scriptures	•Psa 13:5-6 •Luk 2:8-11 •Mat 18:11 •Luk 19:10 •Mat 11:28 •1 Pet 5:7 •Phil 4:6 •Psa 32:10-11

Sunday School Teachers

21 st Oct	Tannie Stef
28 th Oct	Combined
04 th Nov	Antoinette

“Eats” Roster October 2018

	Birthday Eats
07 th October	
14 th October	
21 st October	
28 th October	

Today’s Songs

Song 1 (292)	I Am the Vine
Song 2 (345)	Love Lifted Me
Song 3 (438)	Redeemed
Song 4 (514)	Glory Land Way

Genevieve Ferreira in Malta

Estelle & Family

Sheree

Pamela

Quintin (Antoinette’s Brother)

Meghan & Stephnie

SA Bible College



Prayer Requests



Happy Anniversary!!!

Christine & Leroy

28 Oct



Sally	06 October
Dereese	06 October
Reinhold	07 October
Lindie	19 October
Gus (jnr)	20 October
Daniel	22 October
Christine	28 October
Stephnie	30 October

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