

13th August 2023



Series: 'Healthy Church'

"It is impossible to be spiritually mature, while remaining emotionally immature." Peter Scazzero

Scripture: -

Isaiah 53.1-6.MSG.

-It Was Our Pain He Carried

Matthew 26.36-46.NIV.

-Gethsemane

2 Corinthians 4.7-12. NIV.

-Present Weakness and Resurrection Life



Message: 'Vital Signs'

-Who would have thought God's saving power would look like this? Isaiah 53.1. MSG.

Gethsemane for Jesus was a place of unprecedented stress.

The weight of the world was on Him - literally.

His shoulders were not yet bearing the Roman-made cross, but His soul surely was.

Public opinion had turned hard against Him.

His closest friends though physically close, were emotionally unavailable.

Anxiety within Jesus' body was at a fever pitch!

His pulse was racing. His heart pounding. His mind reeling.

Not only was He in the fight of His life; He was in the fight of our lives.

So great was His stress that He said, *"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death."* (Matthew 26:38)

Not only did Jesus take my place (and yours) on the cross, but He also took our place at Gethsemane.

If Calvary was the place, He bore our physical pain and suffering, Gethsemane is where He bore the psychological trauma, the emotional and spiritual stress.

Everyone will face a time in their lives where they must go through their own personal GETH-SEMINARY. I'm not talking about small issues that come up on a daily basis or talking about having a bad day or week. No, I'm talking about the very small number of times in our lives where we are on the brink of, or in the middle of a breakdown.

Where everything in our life is going wrong.

Those moments where we feel completely lost and alone.

As painful, hopeless, and dark as these moments may seem, God can use them as transformational experiences that are incredibly powerful.

Much Grace
Orrell

Bible Society AGM & August General Meeting

The Gympie Branch's Annual General Meeting is on this **Wednesday, 16th August**, 9.30am in the CE Room. The AGM will be followed by a General Meeting. Everyone is welcome. Contact Narelle Towner with any queries 0418 729 268.

Christmas Shoeboxes ~ August Collection

During August, we're asking for funds to cover the **cost of freight** (\$10 per box). Donations can be placed in an envelope labelled "Shoebox" and dropped into the offering plate/box; given directly to Helen or the office; or deposited into our bank account identified as "Shoebox". If you have any gift donations sitting at home, please bring them in by the end of August. *Thank you for your generosity.*

Fathers Day Breakfast

We're having a Fathers Day Breakfast on **Sunday 3rd September** to celebrate the wonderful men who are, or have been, amazing influencers in our lives.

We hope you can join us.



Prayer & Communion ~ 8am on Tuesdays in our Gympie Church. This is such a precious time together ...

We invite you to join us.

Praying for Each Other

If you have a prayer need or are aware of someone who does, please advise the office. We'll include the situation when we come together on a Tuesday morning and, where appropriate, will send a text message to our church family.

Church Office During September

Cherylie will be away on four weeks Annual Leave from 4th September 2023. A huge thank you to those members of our church family who have offered to share the various administration tasks. For the most part, they will do this from home, so usual office hours will not apply and the Vibe will not be published during this period. If you need to make contact, please call Keith Brown on the office mobile phone 0493 442 250.

Artwork to Auction

The organisers of the evangelical 'Freedom Music Festival' (Calico Creek) are asking for artwork to auction in the lead-up to this year's event. The funds will go towards paying the musicians. Any form of artwork, including 2D & 3D art, photography, ceramics, craft ... if you're an artist, it could be your 'seconds'; or it may be pieces that are in good condition and you no longer use or display. If you can help, please call Jeanne on 0400 260 141.

It Is Not Possible to Be Spiritually Mature

Whilst Remaining Emotionally Immature

The sad reality is that most of us will not go forward until the pain of staying where we are is unbearable.

The following list is the top ten symptoms which indicate if someone is suffering from a bad case of emotionally unhealthy spirituality:



1. *Using God to run from God.*
2. *Ignoring the emotions of anger, sadness, and fear.*
3. *Dying to the wrong things.*
4. *Denying the past's impact on the present.*
5. *Dividing our lives into 'secular' and 'sacred' compartments.*
6. *Doing 'for' God instead of being 'with' God.*
7. *Spiritualizing away conflict.*
8. *Covering over brokenness, weakness, and failure.*
9. *Living without limits.*
10. *Judging other people's spiritual journey.*

(Taken from 'Emotionally Healthy Discipleship: Moving from Shallow Christianity to Deep Transformation' by Peter Scazzero)

*"Ignoring our emotions is turning our back on reality,
listening to our emotions ushers us into reality.
And reality is where we meet God.
Emotions are the language of the soul.
They are the cry that gives the heart a voice.
However, we often turn a deaf ear -
through emotional denial, distortion, or disengagement.
In neglecting our intense emotions,
we are false to ourselves and lose a wonderful opportunity
to know God."*

Tremper Longman III

Website

Our website was inaccessible this week due to a technical glitch. The amazing IT Team at Synod has worked with the parent company to resolve the issue.

OUR AIM: Unity and Maturity in The Body of Christ

UNITY “¹As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through ³ the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”

MATURITY “¹¹So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.¹⁶From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” *Ephesians 4.1-6, 11-16 NIV*



UNITING 4570
So we can be one

About UNITING 4570

Worship

Worship Services... **Gympie:** 15 Red Hill Road - 9am + Kidz Church (school term)
Imbil: 3 Elizabeth Street - 9am

Live-streaming... Sunday messages are usually livestreamed to facebook & YouTube; look up 'Gympie Regional Uniting Church'

Church Office... P: (07) 5482 2985 M: 0493 442 250 E: cherylie@gruc.org
www.gruc.org.au F: www.facebook.com/guchurch

Office Hours... Mon & Fri 8.30am-12pm; Tue 9.30am-3pm; Thu 8.30am-3pm

Rev Orrell Battersby.. 0423 985 200 orrell@gruc.org

Pastoral Care... Please contact the office by phone or email

Contact Details

Offering & Attendance Last Sunday

Attendance: Adults 70 • Children 12 • Facebook 67 • YouTube 19
Total Week's Offering: \$2379.20 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,792.00.
Tithes & Offerings by Bank Transfer: Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101
(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)