



May 2011

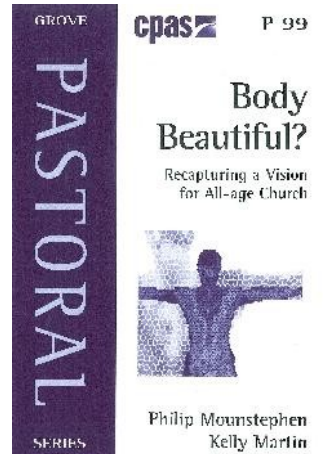
“We need to start asking 'what can we not do together?' rather than allowing the church to operate with a separatist default position.”

“There is no short cut to building all-age community but the investment pays dividends. How much blessing and wisdom will be missed if we deny ourselves the opportunity to learn from one another? How perilous could it be to never hear the message of a twenty-first century Samuel, or listen to the story of a modern-day faithful Simeon? When our children prophesy and our older people dream dreams (Joel 2:28), those things are to be shared.

We need one another because of our diversity [culturally, economically, age] and the world needs a church that knows the meaning of reconciled community. A purely pragmatic response to church decline would say that we should simply group like with like in order that some might be saved. Our contention is that the church of all ages is the clearest way to embody kingdom values of welcome and reconciliation in order that the whole world might be saved. “

The above quote and paragraphs are taken from a booklet (28 pages) *Body Beautiful? Recapturing a Vision for All-age Church* that I read in preparation for running the three all age workshops at the WAY2GO training events. The book has inspired me even more to help churches explore all age faith not as an alternative to church as we currently know it but as something that is the core of what church is.

Scripture Union was invited to have a display stand at the Presbyterian youth, children, and family ministry leaders expo. I went along to staff the display and was asked to run a workshop of my choice. I chose to run the same on I did at the WAY2GO days on all ages together. It was the most well attended workshop on the day which does not surprise me any more as many churches are now wanting to explore it further.



KGB

The Knights of the Green Bucket (KGB) once again made their appearance at the SUPAkidz Kings and Queens camp. They were joined by the knights of the red buckets too and some lovely damsels groups too.

Camp was very small with only 20 campers and 13 of them were new to SUPAkidz camps. I was group leader to six boys, The KGB, and it was great to have 6 boys to be responsible for and not a whole camp. Getting to know them as we explored who God is through the lives King David, Josiah, Jesus and Queen Esther was challenging but so rewarding. Eight children talked with leaders wanting to know more about what it means to be a follower of Jesus. one boy was quite clear that he wanted to be “on Jesus team” and sat with his leader and asked God to be a part of his life.

Thank you for being a part of the team that supports the work I do.
Blessings and peace

Andrew



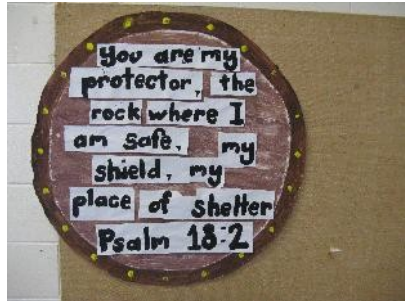
Please keep me in your prayers as I have a lot of preparation to do for various things I am involved in over the next while.

For details see my dated list of prayer items.

July 22-29 2 SUPAkidz camps
Also pray for me as I recruit leaders for two camps in July and prepare to direct our first SUPAkidz – Prison Fellowship camp in Wellington in July.

Please pray for Paul Dadd and Jennifer Koelet as they plan and direct the Auckland SUPAkidz camp in July

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Home

Gill's best friend and her son visited us from Dunedin over Easter. We spent part of that time up at Leigh where the boys had a great time swimming walking and having fun.

The boys are all a year older now. Gill, once again, made some amazing cakes for each boy's birthday party. With all three boys now playing rugby things are quite tricky on a Saturday when they each play at a different venue with their game times overlapping.

Gill also starts teaching 4 days a week which will mean some adjusting of schedules and lots of juggling.

<https://picasaweb.google.com/ramsbottomfamilynz>

Chris with his group at camp

Camp

I went to my first SUPAKidz camp with a friend. My dad was there too. We had a great time playing games, laughing and learning about God through some of the kings and a queen in the Bible. I want to work for Scripture Union when I grow up. Chris 9

Clowns



Thomas 6

As you know my dad is a bit of a clown. Well he was a 'real' clown at my sixth birthday party. I also dressed up as a clown and and so did some of my friends who came to the party.

Survivor



James 12

I celebrated turning 12 with a Survivor party. Mum made an awesome cake and home made hamburgers, including the rolls, and Dad organised some challenges for us to do. The one I liked most was seeing how long we could hold our hand in a bucket of ice water. At the end we had a tribal council and voted for a winner.

Prayer Diary

Every Friday 9:10-9:40 am

Bible in Schools year 1 class at Glendowie Presbyterian

Thursday 2 June – Starship Hospital Children's Church

3 days of Bible in Schools Assemblies

Wednesday 8 June

Rutherford Primary 9-9:30 am

Edmonton Primary 11-11:30 am

Glendene Primary 12:30-1 pm

Thursday 9 June

Western Heights 9-9:30 am

Henderson Primary 10-10:30 am

Friday 10 June

Wainui School 12:30 -1 pm

Tue 14 June

Auckland Staff Day – exploring a Bible theme with Derek Tovey.

Sat 18 June

Prayer Breakfast West Auckland

Sat 25 June

I am attending the Engage with Orange conference. Orange. "Orange synchronizes the light of the church with the love of the family."

<http://whatisorange.org/orange-strategy/>