A Christian Community Must Reflect the Nature of God

PRAYER

Christian ministry tends to be associated with public speaking or with work and compassion. Actually both are essential. One without the other gives reason to question the relevance of our concern. But there is another ingredient, apart from which, neither the spoken word nor caring service has any power.

Calling attention to this most basic element, Clairvaux wrote to a new priest in the 12th century. "In these two commandments, that is, of precept and example, the whole of your duty rest. You, however, if you are wise, will add yet a third, namely a zeal for prayer…do the three – speech, example and prayer…but the greatest of these is prayer…for prayer brings grace and efficacy for both work and speech."

It is so easy for us to ignore this dimension of ministry, especially when under pressure of many demands. We all have the tendency to go right on with our work, assuming self-sufficiency, much like the disciples who tried in vain to heal the boy afflicted with an unclean spirit. The futility of a prayer-less ministry in that instance was pointed out by Jesus: “Nothing can drive out this kind of thing except prayer.” (Mark 9:29).

Our community needs our prayer, our nation needs our prayer. The strength of any community or nation depends of the prayers of its citizens. And of course, out of prayer come purpose, direction and confidence.

Paul states that our first priority as Christian citizens is to pray – 1st Timothy 2:1-4

“I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all of those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all men to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth.”

If we pray for those in authority we may find we have less to criticise.

If we ignore prayer we can have all sorts of plans and programs, but lack the power to operate them.

Bernard Clairvaux said, "Watch out for the dangers of an excessive activity, whatever ... the job that you hold, because many jobs often lead to the 'hardening of the heart,' as well as 'suffering of the spirit, loss of intelligence." Intelligence which I translate as wisdom from above.
Emmanuel staff attended the Christian Schools Australia Conference held in Perth at the Perth Convention Centre on the 21st and 22nd July. International speakers from Canada and England were the visiting academics who participated, encouraging us to think with Christian attitudes. Our local Australian academics also spoke on topics relating to Christian living. The conference speakers helped us to continue to think Christianly with a Biblical World View. Romans 12:2 reminds us, ‘Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.’

**SCHOOL NEW WEBSITE**

We encourage you to have a look at our new school website. It looks great! The past year has been a constant battle to keep it going properly because of contractual difficulties.

**SCHOOL SURVEY**

Thank you to the 51 families who responded to our school survey last term. Your survey results are now posted on our new website.

Emmanuel Christian Community School values your opinion because it helps us to recognize trends early before an issue becomes a problem. Informed decisions are way more useful than guesswork; knowing is much better than NOT knowing. It will help us to serve you much better. There were two issues to be addressed because of your input. One of them is your answer to the question ‘I understand the role of the school board.’ The other one is ‘I understand the privacy policy and the school applies it well.’ The school has now inserted in the Parents Handbook the ‘The role of the school board’ and the ‘Privacy Policy.’ These two items will help you to be informed.

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**I Understand the Role of the School Board**

![Survey Results Chart]

PARENT SURVEY 2014 N=51
I understand the privacy policy and the school applies it well
STAFF AWAY FOR A WHILE

PLEASE PRAY FOR LINDA AND NATALY

MRS LINDA NEAVES - YEAR 6 TEACHER
Is recovering after surgery and will be away for the next 4 weeks.

MISS NATALY VALLEJOS - MAG
Is recovering after an accident during the school holidays.

CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

Emmanuel Christian Community School staff attended this Conference on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July. The main theme was ‘The Basic of Christian Community is only that Jesus Christ died for us. What Christ has done for us.’

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German Theologian who was killed at the end of the second world war by Hitler was quoted several times as an inspiration and encouragement to our gathering. Life Together Quotes (showing 1-30 of 63) “Jesus Christ lived in the midst of his enemies. At the end all his disciples deserted him. On the Cross he was utterly alone, surrounded by evildoers and mockers. For this cause he had come, to bring peace to the enemies of God. So the Christian too, belongs not in the seclusion of a cloistered life but in the thick of foes. There is his commission, his work. The kingdom is to be in the midst of your enemies. And he who will not suffer this does not want to be of the Kingdom of Christ; he wants to be among friends, to sit among roses and lilies, not with the bad people but the devout people. O you blasphemers and betrayers of Christ! If Christ had done what you are doing who would ever have been spared?’(Luther).”

“We pray for the big things and forget to give thanks for the ordinary, small (and yet really not small) gifts.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer,
UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop is OPEN on MONDAY MORNINGS from 8.30am to 9.30am and again on TUESDAY afternoons from 3.00pm to 3.30pm.

GENERAL GENTLE REMINDERS
Please let the office know if you have a new address, telephone number, and emergency contact or if your child has a medical condition. It is essential that this vital information be logged into the school data base system, thus promoting contact and communication with each other. We endeavour to be aware of any medical condition which your child may have. If your child has developed or been diagnosed since their initial enrolment, then you should make sure that the office is aware of the circumstances.

PARENTS PLEASE: If it is necessary for you to take your child out of class during the day for an appointment or if it is necessary to take your child home before 3.15pm, you must confirm with the school office before leaving with your child. ALSO ——

ABSENTEE NOTES: PLEASE STATE CAUSE OF ABSENCE, DATE OF ABSENCE AND DATE OF NOTIFYING THE SCHOOL.

JUNIOR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR (JCE)
FRIDAY EVENINGS - a great place to come and enjoy the evening is at JCE. Children from the ages of 4 to 12 come together to enjoy a time of fellowship in a lovely Christian atmosphere. Spread the word and encourage the young people whom you know to join in from 5.30pm to 7.00pm, interacting in social activities and encouragement from the Word of God.

J C E COMMENCES NEXT FRIDAY

Let Us Pray Together . . . .
for our school, for our teachers, for our children, and for our families here at Emmanuel - and let us Praise God together for answered prayers!

Where : In the Kindergarten

Time : 8:40 - 9:30am

When : Every Friday Morning

Call - Effie Spallarossa : 0410 902 961

SCHOOL FEES - ACCOUNTS HAVE BEEN MAILED TO FAMILIES -
It would be appreciated if payment of school fees is attended to as soon as possible.
Please speak to Mr Johnson to arrange payments if you have not already paid your school fees.
BIBLE TRIVIA QUESTIONS

Each week there will be 5 questions for you to answer.

In this way you will be able to learn even more from the Word of God. Note your answers and check them the following week - in your school newsletter.

LAST WEEK OF TERM 2 - ANSWERS in RED

Of what did Potiphar’s wife falsely accuse Joseph resulting in him being thrown into prison?

Rape (Genesis 39 verses 12-20)

Which sea did the Israelites cross through to escape the Egyptians?

Red Sea (Exodus 13 verse 18)

What is “More difficult than a camel going through the eye of a needle’’?

A rich man entering the kingdom of God (Matthew 19 verse 24)

For how many years did the Israelites wander in the wilderness?

Forty years (Joshua 5 verse 6)

What does a “good tree” bring forth?

Good fruit (Matthew 7 verse 17)

THIS WEEK - QUESTIONS

Which small body part can “boast of great things’’?

______________________________________________________________

What was the name of Abraham’s first wife?

______________________________________________________________

What did God do on the seventh day, after he had finished creating everything?

______________________________________________________________

On what day did the apostles receive he Holy Spirit?

______________________________________________________________

At the Last Supper, what items of food and drink did Jesus give thanks for?

______________________________________________________________
ABSENTEE DETAILS
If students have been away from school on any day of the week, a note from the parent or the doctor must be given to the class teacher upon return to school. Please remember to note the date and day and also the cause (eg sick, holidays) for the absenteeism.

Children who arrive at school LATE or LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY should do so VIA THE SCHOOL OFFICE, where attendance records will be updated. Class Rolls are submitted electronically at 9.00am and 1.00pm daily.

AFTER SCHOOL PICK UP
Parents are reminded of the importance of informing staff if a person, other than yourself, will collect your child.
This includes families who are picked up for after-school centres. Forms are with class teacher.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL IN THIS MATTER

CAR PARK SAFETY!
Parents are reminded NOT TO DROP THEIR CHILDREN OFF OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS and allow them to walk across the car park.
Reversing cars do not see small children and it is very dangerous.
Thank you for - - RESPECTING THE SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN

TRAFFIC FLOW FOR PICK UP AT 3:15PM
Please observe the traffic rules and routes at pick up time for 2 reasons :-

*** The safety of our children!
*** To ensure good relationships with our local residents.
### IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM THREE

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### CLASS ASSEMBLIES - 2014

**TERM 3**

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### WEEKLY INFORMATION

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<td>Prayer Group 7.00am</td>
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<td>Uniform Shop 8.30 - 9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bookshop 8.30am - 3.15pm</td>
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<td>Bookshop 8.30 - 11am</td>
<td>Bookshop 8.30 - 3.00pm</td>
<td>Bookshop 5.30 - 7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Op Shop 8.30 - 2.00pm</td>
<td>Uniform Shop 3.00 - 3.30pm</td>
<td>Play Group 9.00 - 11.00am</td>
<td>Ladies Bible Study 1.00 - 3.00pm</td>
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<td>Seniors 9.30 - 11.30am</td>
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**WEEKLY INFORMATION**