

## Jesus brings Life!

(3 versions of John 10 v10):

<sup>10</sup> A thief has only one thing in mind—he wants to steal, slaughter, and destroy. But I have come to *give you everything in abundance, more than you expect*—life in its fullness until you overflow! (Passion)

A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of. (Message)

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal, slaughter, and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (NIV)

What is God saying to us in these pandemic days? What are we discerning? How are we developing our walk within ourselves and each other?

One matter I am pondering and which could help focus my role as Moderator... is our well-being as Christ-followers...

Example – after I sold my last motorbike many years ago (a Kawasaki 900) I was called in by a motorcycle engineering shop in Dunedin. There lay my bike in many pieces on the workshop floor! The new owner was grumpy claiming I had sold him a 'lemon'. Then I heard the mechanic say that the owner had confessed that when he took a recent trip to ChristChurch he noted that a dashboard light was on most of the way – it was the oil light!

Can I ask... have you noted any lights flickering on your dashboard recently? Are you paying attention? More importantly, what action are you taking to attend to them?

P.I.E.S. – I grew up on them and still like them! Sheffield, Fairlie, Darfield.... 😊

P = Physical

How are we health-wise? Tired? Sore? Not sleeping? Had a check-up recently? Are we attending to our physical well-being?

I = Intellectual

How is our thinking? Confused? e.g. *conspiracy-thinking!*

E = Emotional

Anxious? Overwhelmed? Frustrated? Angry? e.g. a fascinating interview on Breakfast TV1 recently between host John Campbell and Psychologist Jacqui Maguire contained some really helpful advice. It was profound that Jacqui noted that Kiwis tend to express anger more readily than vulnerability! It is a cultural distinction. What we are really experiencing is *fear, anxiety* and *insecurity* but we instead express that in a secondary emotion of anger! She had great advice on how to deal with this! (see link below)

S = Spiritual

Feeling distant from God? Struggling to grow? Wondering where God is in all of this?

It's not bad to have dashboard warning lights. However, it is not helpful to keep going without paying attention to them! Sooner or later your motor will seize!

Jesus' words... look again at John 10 v10...

In the days of COVID-19 I must admit I seem to have heard more words of faith & assurance from the mouths of our political leaders, public servants and specialists than from some of our church leaders and members! *Be kind... we're a team of 5 million...we are called to care for others, especially the most vulnerable among us... we need to heed the best advice.... We will get through this.... We're in this together.... Let's help one another...*

Time to check the dashboard and take whatever steps may help and recalibrate.

It's also time to look out for and care for one another..

Link for Jacqui Maguire interview (hope it works!)

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=10158438449957719&id=337418942718&extid=G1aGgyz0uzzlqx5R](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10158438449957719&id=337418942718&extid=G1aGgyz0uzzlqx5R)