



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

TIME ALONE FOR GOD: THE AGELESS HABITS OF JESUS CHRIST

DAVID MATHIS (SOURCED FROM [DESIRINGGOD.ORG/ARTICLES](https://desiringgod.org/articles))

“All of humanity’s problems stem from man’s inability to sit quietly in a room alone.” —Blaise Pascal (1623–1662).

It’s a sweeping claim, but it might just be the kind of overstatement we need today to be awakened from our relentless stream of distractions and diversions.

How hauntingly true might it be, that we are unable to sit quietly? Four hundred years after Pascal, life may be as hurried and anxious as it has ever been. The competition for our attention is ruthless. We not only hear one distracting Siren call after another, but an endless cacophony of voices barrages us all at once.

And yet, long before Pascal, Jesus himself modeled for us the very kind of habits and rhythms of life we need in any age. Even as God in human flesh, he prioritized time alone with his Father. Imagine what “good” he might otherwise have done with all those hours. But he chose again and again, in perfect wisdom and love, to give his first and best moments to seeking his Father’s face. And if Jesus, even Jesus, carved out such space in the demands of his human life, shouldn’t we all the more?

We may have but glimpses of Jesus’s habits and personal spiritual practices in the Gospels, but what we do have is by no accident, and it is not scant. We know exactly what God means for us to know, in just the right detail — and we have far more about Jesus’s personal spiritual rhythms than we do about anyone else in Scripture. And the picture we have of Christ’s habits is not one that is foreign to our world and lives and experience. Rather, we find timeless and transcultural postures that can be replicated, and easily applied, by any follower of Jesus, anywhere in the world, at any time in history.

For more, visit: www.desiringgod.org/articles/time-alone-for-god

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Wollongong Women's Conference

Join us for an enriching day of faith, fellowship, and learning at the Wollongong Women's Conference, set to take place on Saturday, 25th May. From 9:30am to 3:30pm, gather at Figtree Anglican Church for an opportunity to delve into the depths of Ephesians with the insightful Grace Jones as the speaker. This event is proudly presented by The Gospel Coalition Australia - Illawarra, a day not to be missed by those looking to deepen their understanding and connection with their faith. Make sure to secure your spot by registering online by Wednesday, 15th May. Concession prices are also available.



Connect Men's Breakfast

Save the details for our next Connect Men event. Breakfast under the Figtree @ St Luke's. 25th of May. From 9am.

SAFE MINISTRY

Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help. Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945



Seniors Morning Tea

10AM THURSDAY 16TH MAY
\$10 PER PERSON
REGISTER AT THE OFFICE

Presentation about the new
Preschool In Tanzania



Raising funds for Tarime Preschool





Next week, starting the 5th of May, we ask that as Growth Groups you work together through the Discipleship Mapping Resource we have created from Jim Putman's book. There are instructions, question sheets and answer sheets to go through together. This self-assessment tool gives participants insights into their spiritual journey, helps us to understand our strength and growth areas, and discern potential pathways for further spiritual development.

6pm Growth Groups will be meeting together at the Ministry Centre to look at the tool together. We will see you all on Tuesday the 7th of May, from 7pm!

For those not in a growth group but interested, we will run sessions in the week as required. You can let a staff member know, or contact the office.

Prayer for the Dirks Family

From Figtree Anglican's Facebook post:

"On Saturday, 27th April, Levi Dirks went to be with the Lord Jesus. Levi is the eldest child of Shane and Rachel, brother to Mia and Riley, and dearly beloved brother in Christ to our wider community".

We are deeply saddened by Levi's unexpected death. Please pray for the Dirks family as they process and grieve this shocking news. Please pray for Figtree Anglican staff and for ICS students, staff and families as they support each other.

Pray for those in our church who are grieving. For those at DAC who Shane ministered to many years ago who feel connected to this loss and for those who have had ongoing, close relationship with the family over the years. We know Levi's greatest desire was to see Christ known and glorified. We thank God for his life and his passion for Jesus.

If you would like an opportunity to send in a message of condolence, you can reach out to office@daptoanglican.org.au with your message. We will compile them and send them on to the Dirks family next week.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord Jesus, you told your disciples that the harvest was ripe, but the labourers were few. So it is still today. We pray that you will call people to work in your harvest fields, gathering a harvest for eternal life. From our congregations may people hear your call to be evangelists, others to serve your church as ministers, or youth workers, others to be cross-cultural missionaries. Go before them and prepare people to hear your Gospel and to accept you as Lord and Saviour. We pray in your great name, Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for our NOMINATORS as they seek a new Senior Minister for DAC.

EXPECTANT PARENTS

Katie and Phil C.

HOSPITAL

Please continue to pray for Ross N (10am), who is in hospital on the Gold Coast. Also for Rick W (10am) who is still in hospital and waiting for further surgery. Also please continue to pray for Ray G (8am) in Rehab and is waiting to go into Piper House. Tamia McN's (10am) mum, Cathy, received good news that her tumors are shrinking. Please pray for continued healing and strength as she does further chemotherapy.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please continue to pray for our people in Residential Care Homes: Jean W, Kath H, Phyllis D, Audrey & Alan R, Gae & Allen Q, Elsie N, Barbara L, Pamela B, Gordon M, Beth W, Betty B (Piper House, Dapto); Robyn K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H, Trevor W (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Wendye C, Helen K (Farmborough Uniting, Unanderra); Cheryl T (Hammond Care, Horsley); Graham S (The Links, Wollongong).

8AM / WED 2PM

Please continue to pray for Brian L, who is very unwell and depending on oxygen 24/7. Also please continue to pray for Deb P's brother who is very unwell. And also continue to pray for Mavis B, and also for her daughter-in-law who has started Chemotherapy.

10AM

Please pray for Keith L, who had eye surgery on Wednesday; Please continue to pray for Elizabeth L as she waits for healing from her fractures; Also for James B as he continues the care for his sisters, Debbie and Sue, who both have serious health concerns. Also, continue to pray for Anne R's mother, Andy H, Ruby D, and for Andrew W.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Please continue to pray for Lynne N and her family with health problems.