

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Our work is impossible in human strength alone. Without the Holy Spirit going before us, empowering us and drawing people, all our efforts are in vain. That's why we need prayer. Together we can make a difference in our nation.

WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO PRAY.

Our work is impossible without an army of witnesses. Those witnesses need trained evangelists to teach, encourage, support and lead them. Working together, witnesses and evangelists can make a difference in our nation.

WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO GO.

Our work is impossible without money. Without adequate finance the work simply stops. We have a vision of an army of witnesses throughout the nation supported by commissioned evangelists. By the steady giving of the people of God we can continue to develop and grow. Our nation can see and hear the gospel. Together we can make a difference in our nation.

WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO GIVE.

The Church Army In New Zealand

South Island Field Worker

The Rev Captain Richard Dyer

15 Fauchelle Ave, Richmond, Nelson, New Zealand

Phone (03) 5444322 Mobile: 021 040 1679

Email: richard@MightyMessage.com Web: www.MightyMessage.com



I can support this ministry

I will pray weekly / daily Enclosed is a special gift of \$ _____

Please send me information about.

The Certificate in Evangelism [] Other CANZ Ministries []

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Post to: Church Army in NZ, PO Box 26-209, Auckland 1030.

(SI Field Worker)



The Church Army in New Zealand
South Island Field worker

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Out and About

In my travels of the last three months I have been struck again with the concern at the "greying of the church". This is not a criticism but a reality that we live with. Wonderful people who have striven to serve their God and the Church faithfully and well, often caught up in the grief of loss of members and the absence of family.

I, like many others have thought long and hard about this issue. It seems clear that we need to deliver ourselves of the expectation that we are to convert the whole world. That is the commission Jesus gave his disciples (see Matthew 28:18-20), but they were given it to do as a community, not as individuals. Evangelism was always meant to be done in community, personal evangelism or witness is vital but not the primary method.



How then can we go forward? Here are a couple of thoughts. Firstly, look at the church you are part of and its average age and then go 5-10 years either side of that. This is your target group. It is the people in this age range that you will most easily reach and will probably constitute the bulk of the people you know and associate with. Build relationships with them. Anyone else could be an impossible dream.

Secondly, work at this with others. It has long fascinated me that the very method of evangelism that Jesus commended is the one we most like to ignore. We find it in John 17:21 (NCV) *Father, I pray that they can be one. As you are in me and I am in you, I pray that they can also be one in us. Then the world will believe that you sent me.*

This call to unity is talked about but in practice vigorously ignored. There is however plenty of evidence that when we do make some attempt at it there are positive results. When the churches in a community love that community and understand that there is "one church, many families" - that is being companions rather than competitors, there is a really positive response. *(Read more page 6)*

I believe that people are longing for something radically different and I would suggest that this could well be the difference that they are looking for.

Go well & blessings
Richard

**"Give a man
a dollar,
and you
cheer his
heart.
Give him a
dream,
and you
challenge
his heart.
Give him
Christ, and
you change
his heart..."**

**God is not
saving the
world; it is
done.
Our
business is
to get men
and women
to realize
it."**

*(Oswald
Chambers,
1874-1917)*

Learning to Listen

Communication is a basic life skill. Good communication and listening skills are necessary for going deeper in friendship.

How communication works

Using non-verbal communication. We communicate in many ways other than verbally. We communicate through our posture, voice inflection, silence, absence or lateness. The context of what is being said can also influence how it is interpreted (i.e., what's been said or done in our relationship previously.)

Learning to listen actively. Active listening is a skill that as you practice, you will understand more and do it better. It is working to understand another person's thoughts and feelings, and verbally reflecting what you understand back to them (almost always in the form of statements) to complete the communication loop. It involves reading both verbal and non-verbal communication. It is very empathetic in its nature.

Active listening is NOT parroting, paraphrasing, asking probing or even insightful questions, directing the conversation, problem solving or advice giving. Your own experience should not be read into that of the other person.

Asking Good Questions

Like Jesus, we need to learn to use questions to draw people out. *We need to learn to be bold enough to ask our friends to defend what they claim to be the truth. They will surely challenge us and we must welcome this.*

What makes a conversation work? Think through these questions for yourself and then try discussing them with others.

How do conversations proceed? Are there different levels of conversation? How do you get from one level to the next?

What characterizes a good listener? How can you tell if people are listening to you?

What is the difference between a good question and a bad question?

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bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved (Act 2:42-47, NIV)."

They shared their lives together...loving one another...caring for each other's needs.

Their sincere passion for God and compassion for people ignited transferable transformation in the lives of people in other communities and cities as well.

I wonder what it will take to really catch this vision in practice?

It is my longing that at the next opportunity for church leaders to meet that there will be many more who will come. I guess it is a question of how serious we really are about the future of the church and how willing we are to be tools in the hand of God as the church is built.

Women with Focus Weekend 2007

No More Spectators!

27-29 April

Teapot Valley Christian Camp Brightwater



A weekend for women of all ages

who want to grow in their faith and influence others to follow Jesus

Contact Kaye: kaye@mightymessage.com or phone 03 544 4322

Can I be of assistance to you?

I run seminars—see page.4

Preach and teach on a range of topics—see web site or talk with me about the specific topics that would help develop and support the teaching of your church and/or group

I run parish camps, retreats, vestry retreats, men's breakfasts etc assist a church while the vicar/minister is away or during an interregnum

Consultancy

Pastoral Supervision

Conflict and Mediation issues

One Church — Many Families

This past month I attended a "Transformations Roundtable" in Christchurch—some 20 people—mostly ministers of independent churches attended because they have a concern for reaching our communities for Christ.

We meet to pray and to hear each other's stories of being a church in a community and the struggle of being companions together with other christian faith communities.

Consider this: Christian churches within the same demographics are invited to be transformed into a relational, synergistic expression of "City-Church."

Imagine the impact that several churches would have upon a city if they came together on common ground, covenanted to work together as the Body of Christ, and concentrated energies and resources for one purpose - the advancement of the Kingdom of God. Consider the prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane,

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity

to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me (John 17:20-23, NIV)."

Brian Hathaway says of this: *This relationship between Father and Son is the example for all Christian relationships. This is the standard, it is the yardstick, anything else is second-rate. This is the model for Christian marriage and family. This is the model for relationships within and between local congregations. This is the model for home-groups, church committees, youth ministry and leadership teams. This is the example for the world-wide Body of Christ. This is the maturity that God has in store for his people (Ephesians 4:13), oneness exemplified by that between Father and Son - "that they may be one as we are one" (John 17:22).*

Every local congregation of Christians is invited to be transformed into an authentic Christian community that exemplifies the true essence of Church - the Body of Christ in truth, purpose, and mission.

This happens when Christians truly "connect" together in an interdependent, relational network of ministry and mission that captures a true representation of the 1st Century Church.

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of

Thank you for caring and praying

We are in the process of setting up a think tank in Nelson, Christchurch and hopefully Dunedin to help us work on the issues of financing Church Army in general and the South Island ministry in particular. I am deeply grateful to the response many have made to the financial resourcing of our ministry we remain in very critical position and urgently need to find ways to give us financial security. If you can help please let us know.

Above all else please make this a matter of urgent prayer



For Your Prayers

Giving thanks for:

The support that has come in for the work of CANZ and pray for us as we pray, plan and work on building a more secure financial base for this ministry. Praying that we may be wise and careful and that we will know clearly what is the right course of action to take as this critical year progresses. Thank you so much for your prayers in regards to this matter.

We thanks God for the camps and retreats over the past couple of months. The opportunities I get to talk with "not yet Christians" in my travels.

Pray for:

The calander to fill evenly through out the year

The preparation that goes into each event—that it will be thorough and that I will keep in close connection with God and what he would have said and done.

Ladies Camp at the end of April—for the preparation that goes into this and for those who will attend.

Way To Go!

"We have no right to separate ourselves from our spiritual brothers and sisters and deny them the benefit of whatever gifts we may be able to share in the building up of the whole community"

Dick Tripp

Skills for our time....

How about one of these seminars?



You Can Do This - being a friend to the friends of Jesus

A 7 hour seminar
In 6 units that will challenge and
excite you and your church.
It has helped encourage and
motivate people to live out
their faith.

Home Partnership

A seminar to encourage you in
your marriage and family life.



Other events

- *Leader's Retreats*
- *Camps*

The important questions are:

*What is God saying to you about
your church and the direction he
wants you to take?*

*How can we assist you in achieving
some aspect of this?*

Building Bridges Finding Hope

- *Radical Communities
in a Divided Age*
- *Mediation and
Conflict Resolution*
- *Building a
Relational Church*



Topics

- ◆ **Biblical foundations**--finding renewal in conflict.
- ◆ **Individual styles** of response to conflict.
- ◆ **Win-win negotiation skills.**
- ◆ **Skills to mediate** conflict between individuals.
- ◆ Tools to effectively **manage congregational conflict.**

Time

A 6 hour seminar to help develop an understanding of conflict and conflict resolution and mediation.

NB:

If we are invited to act as mediators this seminar is part of the mediation process.

Cost: \$250 (plus travel and printing.)
The size of the group is not important

**Contact Richard Dyer for more
details or to book a seminar.**

Kaye's Corner

Greetings again.

This last three months has been very exciting for my family. After returning to USA after Mark and Lisa's wedding, Peter emailed us to invite us to his wedding in September so we will be packing our bags again later in the year. Two wonderful new daughters in 9 months! Claudia and Chris also have a new daughter, Chantelle Kaye. To top that off my missing family on my father's side have reconnected through both sides making family trees. My grandfather from England was not an only child but had eight other siblings some of whom settled in Australia in search of him.

Study and work continue to keep me very busy. We are all looking forward to camp and what God wants to do this year. I was challenged today by the statement that Jesus only did what he saw his Father doing. This means that we

can ask Father what he wants to do ahead of time. We can then be ready to speak to those who he has prepared.

Last issue I said I would talk a little about what it means to live a discipling life. The foundation is relationships with people whose lives touch ours in the course of an ordinary day.



Mark Nysewander summarises the essentials in 8 easy to remember points.

Aim for a few
Be with them
Cause each other to obey
Do Jesus' works together
Enable everyone to lead
Find seekers together
Guide them to multiply
Help them succeed

Mark suggests that the best discipleship hap-

pens in small groups where we are vulnerable to each other and challenge each other to grow in holiness and be healed of any wounds we carry. We can also challenge each other to minister as Jesus did, speaking truth and being a channel of healing for others. This model involves all people with us taking turns at leading depending on the gifts needed for each situation. When we operate as a team then evangelism ceases to be a difficult word. It becomes having fun together, supporting one another and being ready to share our testimony, one to one, with those we 'play' with and watching God change lives.

Doesn't that sound like fun?

