

LUTHERAN MEN OF AUSTRALIA

NEWSLETTER

November 2018 — January 2019. Lutheran Men's Newsletter is the official publication of the Lutheran Men of Australia and is published four times a year. The next publication will be in February 2019. Articles and men's related news and stories always welcome.

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LUTHERAN MEN OF AUSTRALIA **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Dear Brothers in Christ

Recently Faye and I travelled with a group of Lutheran Women and some husbands to the LWA Convention held at Rosehill Gardens near Parramatta NSW. We visited a number of historical buildings and areas, a real history lesson.

We, on your behalf, had sent greetings to the LWA Convention before leaving home.

This greeting was read and as I was in attendance, I was asked to go to the microphone and introduce myself and to give a brief outline of the activities and projects of the LMA.

I believe this was a great opportunity to promote the LMA as the comment from some people there did not know LMA existed.

A number of Lutheran Men will be attending the Valedictory Service in the Australian Lutheran College Chapel on Friday November 16th. At this service we will make the presentation of the \$750 Project donation to each of the 3 men who will be Ordained into the Pastoral Ministry of the LCA on Sunday 9th December at 2-00pm at Concordia College.

Please pray for these men and their families as they commence their Parish Ministry in various areas of Australia.

Please pray that the Lord of the Church would call and encourage more men to consider the call into studying for the Pastoral ministry. We, as members of the LMA, be encouraged to support our Pastors and their families as they lead our Worship and Bible studies and support us in our walk with Jesus our Saviour.

Our annual donation of \$1000 to Trans-World Radio has recently been made and it is great to read of the exciting ministry amongst the Cambodian children as they come to know and love Jesus as their friend and Saviour. Thank you Con Schlenk and Tim Fischer for your energetic promotion and leadership in this area. God Bless you both.

As we approach the end of the year 2018, I pray we will reflect on all of the many blessings we have received from our loving and generous Heavenly Father. Pray also for the people who have been adversely affected by the drought or other weather events, and look for ways we can assist them in their time of need.

May God continue to bless you with His Love and Peace now and as you prepare to worship the Christ child again this Christmas with your families and friends.

David Pfeiffer

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FINANCES.

We have received \$5332-50 for the LMA projects so far.

LMA Bank balance 17/10/2018 is \$6447-08

LUTHERAN MEN OF VICTORIA 'LED BY GOD' CAMP 2018



Our 'Men Led By God' camp this year was held again in the beautiful area of the Victorian Grampians, Tandara Lutheran Camp Halls Gap. We had over two dozen blokes attend for the weekend from Tasmania and Victoria. Our MLG was a time to create our taste sensations.

Wolfgang Kessler put our combined sausage making skills to work, complementing God's wonderful creation AND our taste buds.



We also enjoyed home-made Pizza cooked in Pastor Mat's special Pizza oven.



All this with some good study/talk sessions from Pastor Mathew Ker.



On Saturday even over a sumptuous meal we listened to Pastor Sam from Footscray explaining how his roll of hospital chaplaincy combined Footscray ministry keeps him active and how he reaches out to people.

It was a great time for young men and a few not so young Blokes to share in a non-judgemental atmosphere.

Stay tuned for Camp 2019 details.

Eric Horneman
LMV.

TRANS WORLD RADIO

Dear Friends.

Thank you for your continuing support which is so valuable in helping to reach many children in Cambodia. 1/3 of their population of Cambodia are children. And they are so keen to receive the saving message of the Gospel.

There have been considerable developments with this ministry during the last 12 months. What's happening?

Teaching the children. That **BIG SUNDAY SCHOOL!** Yes, it's still functioning well.

- 2,000 + letters are still being received each month from children who respond after listening to the weekly Happy Children's Garden radio messages and each letter is individually replied to. (Photo. Bundles of Reply Letters ready to be sent out to the children in various Provinces).



- With these radio messages reaching all corners of Cambodia only God knows how many children are being reached with the Gospel each week. It is probably not an exaggeration to suggest that through their TWR Listener Groups and the broadcasts around 10,000 children, maybe less, but maybe more. Whichever, that's a lot of children! And the kind support that you, the Lutheran Men of Australia, provide assists this mission to reach so many children, Thank you most sincerely. A BIG Sunday school!

- The number of 'Listener Groups' (Sunday Schools) has grown to 226. (See photo).

- Figures provided by their teachers suggest an average

regular attendance of between 20 to 30 children in each group.

The way the children express a heartfelt acceptance of Jesus into their lives when they pen their replies indicates that the messages sent out by the Trans World Radio staff each week aren't just a 'fairy floss' message about a kind and loving Jesus, but **messages which tell of their need for a Saviour** who has died for them and offers a path of salvation through His atoning death and His promise to take them to heaven to join Him for eternity. Many of their replies end with a sincere "Please pray that my father and mother will also accept Jesus into their lives".

Equipping the Teachers. The 'Children's Leaders'

Yes, but with 226 TWR Listener Groups at present, and probably growing, **this** needs a lot of Children's Leaders. Then, of course, there are many more Sunday Schools/children's groups attached to village churches throughout Cambodia which aren't run by TWR. Some of their Leaders are equipped for their task/responsibilities, but many are ill equipped to teach and simply use what basic skills they may have to pass on God's saving message.

Can something be done to help these Teachers? Charia, who led the TWR Children's Ministry Department for 18 years, during last year felt God calling her to branch out from TWR to start a special ministry concentrating on helping to equip Children's Leaders by passing on the extensive knowledge she has gained during those 18 years at TWR to others. The Sponsors down here could see this urgent need and encouraged her to make this move.

Equipping the Teachers. So from the beginning of this year Charia has taken on the role of 'Equipping the Teachers'.

- She is working with Pastor Naro, the Director of Lutheran Hour Ministries, who runs a week- long Lutheran Bible School b-monthly.
- Pastor Daniel Orn of the Lutheran Church Phnom Penh City Church has arranged for Charia to lead a workshop for all the Children's Leaders in the Lutheran Church of Cambodia.
- Charia will over time be training two 'Teacher Coaches' in each Province who can then meet with other Children's Leaders in that Province and pass on skills and ideas which will better equip them to teach their children. Many of these Children's Leaders are very young. (Photo. Leaders in training session).
- She is also working with One Hope, an NGO organisation in Cambodia, with their Children's Leader training program.
- Her special project is preparing '3 Minute Videos' of Christian songs which are already being widely broadcast over Facebook and YouTube with very encouraging responses.
- Teaching children in schools for children from the slums.

Valuable help. So through her 'Equipping the Teachers' program Charia will be helping many hundreds of teachers to be better equipped to pass on the precious message of Jesus to their children. This is so valuable and necessary.

Can you help? Does all this cost extra money? Yes, it certainly does, and if any member of LMA feels he wishes to support this wonderful ministry as an individual Sponsor, spreading the Gospel to the many children of Cambodia, I would welcome a phone call on 08 8359 1965 for a chat about the exciting possibilities opening up here. Or email: conschlenk@adam.com.au.

May God's blessing remain on the ministries you are doing through your Fellowships and in all your personal lives, and use you to be a blessing to many.

Con Schlenk. October, 2018.



The Members,
Lutheran Men of Australia.

Dear friends.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of \$1000-00 to Children's Ministry in Cambodia through the Trans World Radio ministry to the children up there. They live in a predominantly Buddhist country and for them to even show an interest in the Christian faith, let alone saying outright that they want to follow Jesus, creates many difficulties including possibly rejection by family and friends.

They are, in a sense, 'little heroes for the Gospel.' They face persecutions which we need to ask ourselves whether we would be willing to do. Please include all those children in your prayers, asking God to give them the strength of faith to maintain their love for and trust in Jesus.

Your support this year is being used to print another 2,500 Good News Readers. These are the 36 page illustrated booklets in the Kmer language which tells of God's plan of salvation, prepared together with the late Pastor Noel Weiss, so it is based 100% on Lutheran theology.

To date 145,000 have been distributed to children in this Buddhist country, and the demand for more Good News Readers continues. Thank you again for your support making more booklets available for distribution.

We pray that you will find real joy in being able to share your faith in our Almighty God and Saviour with these children in this way, and may God add His blessing to all your ministries.
On behalf of the Children's Ministries Team in Cambodia,

Con Schlenk.

(Photo of Charia with Tim Fischer, a members of Bethlehem congregation who is now working with me, and myself during our meetings with Charia in July).



MESSAGES OF HOPE OUTREACH IMPACT GROWS

1 in 6 people consume alcohol at levels placing them at lifetime risk of an alcohol-related disease or injury. And alcohol is the most commonly treated drug in Australia. So how can people be free of being addicted to alcohol?

Watch Darryl's story of healing, recovery and restoration from Alcoholism at

www.messagesofhope.org.au/addiction. His inspiring story has helped many people break their addiction to alcohol and given them hope.



Your Messages of Hope continues to grow around Australia and New Zealand and reaches more than 5 million people. More radio stations in Melbourne, Sydney, and New Zealand (including playing your Messages of Hope videos on free-to-air TV in New Zealand) like your Messages of Hope. And many people are responding, including Matt;

"I feel so guilty and have no peace. I've done horrible things in the past that I regret.

How can I have peace?"

I spoke with Matt on the phone and shared with him the forgiveness that Jesus Christ gives. You could hear the joy of God's forgiveness lift his spirit and Matt was keen to connect with his local congregation.

For resources such as videos and booklets that offer hope in Jesus Christ, go to

www.messagesofhope.org.au and www.messagesofhope.org.nz

Your Messages of Hope is reaching out through **Google, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and Instagram**. Many people are responding and wanting to know more about the good news of Jesus Christ, like Weng Ken Mak;

"Happiness is partly courage to follow one's own conscience, i.e. being free from fear of pain to do good, things I am seriously struggling with on certain aspects of life."

We responded to Weng and encouraged him with the presence and joy of Jesus Christ. 1,000's of people every week are engaging with and being inspired by your Messages of Hope posts.

NEW MESSAGES OF HOPE GREETING CARDS



The past packs of greeting cards were so popular that we've sold out. So we've produced new packs of cards. There are 10 cards separated into 2 packs of 5 and each pack sells for \$5. Proceeds support your Messages of Hope. If you would like some greeting cards, go to www.lutheranmedia.org.au or call us on 1800 353 350.

HYMNS OF FAITH OF MARTIN LUTHER CD

After the successful sing-a-long concert organised by Bishop Mark Whitfield of LCANZ and the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Adelaide, a live-recording of the inspiring music of Martin Luther's favorite hymns is available on CD. The CD includes the music from the event led by the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Choir, guest singers, and accompanied by a brass quartet, violin and organ. The CDs are \$15 each and include a sing-a-long event program. Proceeds from the sale will go to support your Messages of Hope. To order call 1800 353 350 or go to www.lutheranmedia.org.au



2019 SCRIPTURE CALENDAR

"I listen to your show. I would dearly love a calendar or something that refers to Christ. I think of him this time of year very specially and I feel so lonely without him. Your assistance in this matter would be great.

Thank you so much for your input and support for people."

Brian struggles this time of year and looks forward to receiving a Lutheran Media Calendar to give him hope. Inta from WA also looks forward to receiving a calendar;

"Thank you for your calendars – I look forward to receiving them each year. The photos are beautiful and the Bible verse I try to memorise each month. I also cut out and frame my old calendar pictures/Bible verse to give to friends. So your work for Christ through Lutheran Media continues in many ways. Thank you."

Inta shares the inspiring images with her friends to give them hope in Jesus Christ too.

You can share the Lutheran Media Calendar with your family and friends. You might like to;

- Pin it up in your lounge room, kitchen or at work? The bible verses have been chosen to offer you, and the people who see the pictures, hope.
- Read a bible verse each day. The readings follow the annual Christian season.
- Order more copies to give as gifts to your neighbours, friends and family.

Order your 2019 Scripture Calendar here www.lutheranmedia.org.au/calendar or call us on 1800 353 350.

YOUR SUPPORT IS GIVING PEOPLE HOPE.

Thank you for your donations and prayers! Because of you, people like Matt, Weng and Brian are receiving hope so that they can keep going and enjoy their life and relationships.

Join with us to help many more people like them by giving a donation today.

You can give a donation at www.lutheranmedia.org.au/donate or by calling us on **1800 353 350**.

Together we are making a difference in many people's lives.

Please pray for people in need of Jesus' message of hope.

Wild Night

Birdwood shed men recently celebrated their annual "Wild Night". Over 80 people came to the annual event, open to wives and families.

Wild Night is about eating real Shed Men food, i.e. meat – wild meat. We offered nibbles of homemade metwurst, entre of rabbit and hare stew and a main course of roast camel, kangaroo, and goat. After the abundance of meat we were treated with wild apple and native current pies, all very delicious.

During the night we were entertained with "Spot Talks" where Pastor David interviewed people who had unusual stories to tell. Niel Day spoke of his career as a jockey and how he found the Somerton Beach Man on the 1st of December 1948.

(See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnPglYPQ9lY>)

A young girl, Izzy, spoke how she helped her Father restore a V8 Land Rover in a very hands on way.

Wild Night has become part of the Birdwood Shed Men culture; a great opportunity to invite friends and neighbours to the fellowship.

Birdwood Shed Men.



Halloween, a trick or a treat?

Halloween has become a major public event in the USA – part of the culture. Chocolate sales for Halloween rival Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Australia, is fast following Uncle Sam's lead, becoming more and more at home with Halloween culture. Halloween now dominates our supermarkets for those weeks before Oct 31.

Is Halloween a trick or a treat?

Of course the real Halloween is a purely pagan festival. It is a Celtic festival celebrating the end of their agricultural year, the end of summer, the end of harvest, the time when the Celtic god Samhain, the lord of death, demands sacrifices. It's the time Samhain sends evil spirits to attack unthankful people. These people try to escape the attack by disguising themselves as evil spirits. There is strong evidence of human sacrifices made at the time. The Druids would gather human sacrifices (treats) from terrified families. Interestingly, the name Halloween (Holy) comes from the Christian attempt to sanitise the celebration. The original Halloween revelers tried to incorporate the celebration of Christian resurrection and All Saints Day to combat the pagan festival. Now it seems the pagans have won the day and Halloween has a whole new meaning.

Easter has similar origins. Easter is the pagan celebration of spring, and life, and estrogen (fertility). Easter has quite successfully been taken over by Christians as our highest Christian celebration – the death and resurrection of Jesus. But the Holy in Halloween has never taken off.

Is Halloween a trick or a treat? I'm sure Christians can celebrate the commercialism of Halloween and not be harmed by the pagan overtones in any way all. In fact the fun and festivity could have a positive influence on the family. I can't say this for those who practice Wicca on this their highest day of celebration. I can't say this for the victims of human sacrifice which reportedly still happen on this day. I can't say this for the trick or treating children who are preyed upon by deviants.

Halloween, in Australia at least, carries no Christian strength, and no triumphant victory over evil – it's just chocolate and fun. But does this make it right?

The two chief tools of the devil are apathy and subtleness. While the average Aussie has no idea about Halloween they are happy to participate fully – who cares? As Christians have not succeeded in Christianising the event (apart from the name) Halloween remains neither Christian or intrinsically evil, and here lies the danger – ambivalence! Peer pressure will drive our kids to participate in Halloween. A simple trick or treat is, knowingly, or not knowingly, a participation in a pagan event. Is this what you want?

My suggestion?

Christians should be teaching their children that:

- there is a spiritual world filled with goodness from God and evil from Satan (Eph. 2:1-10);
- life with Jesus Christ has power over darkness (I John 4:4)
- Halloween will continue to blossom in Australia because of our great Aussie apathy – she'll be right! But let's at least be informed and apathetic. As Christians let's at least wrestle with the issue for at least one moment with our witch clad nagging kids before we go "trick or treating".

Pastor Dave



Naked I come to you for dress...

The Seventies, what a time to be Christian? The Seventeen Seventies that is (1770). The English Christian world was caught up in the theologies of two powerful and clever thinkers – John Calvin and John Wesley.

The Calvinists were caught up in a doctrine of divine election which when boiled down, and over simplified, says that if you are elected by God for salvation then you are bound for heaven and nothing you do will change that course. The down side of this is that if you are not elected you have no hope – some even say that the logical conclusion of this thinking is that if you are not divinely elected then you are divinely not elected, in other words God elects you to damnation.

The Wesleyan controversy was rooted in his style of Armenianism. He taught that one could be right with God by being morally perfect, with great human effort and the help of the Holy Spirit.

In the middle of this battle comes a young man, August Toplady, who could not agree with either of the theological giants and writes a hymn about his own theology, Rock of Ages. Rock of Ages named the number one Christian hymn of all time. In this hymn we hear a theology of grace.

*Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to the cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.*



From the theological storm comes a hymn of hope adopted by all Christians. It is the hope we share - salvation is through faith in Jesus alone. August Toplady was not a Lutheran, Calvinist, or a Wesleyan but one who could identify God's grace in a storm.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. Listen to a hymn of Grace these holidays – God watch over you. Pastor David.



SA LMA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Some of us would say "Where has the year gone?" Advent & Christmas is just around the corner. We can once again prepare to celebrate the greatest gift God has given us, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

John the Baptist was sent as a forerunner to prepare the way, by preaching repentance & then baptising. Our Saviour was born in humble beginnings in a stable, living a perfect life and healing both bodies & minds on this earth. Eventually to suffer & die for us to have victory over death and the power of the devil, so we can have eternal life in Him.

Recently I went to a 'shed happens' gathering at Nuriootpa. The speaker who came from Scotland, spoke of how because of family turmoil, became very angry, resentful, hateful & was hurting badly. He was tempted into crime & was involved with the Maltese Mafia. This resulted in a jail sentence. During this time he was given a Bible, which he, at that time, believed was 'rubbish' & found no peace in himself.

One day he opened the Bible which fell open to Ezekiel 3: 16-21. God forgave a man who truly repented of his evil life. This decision gave him peace that he had never experienced before. Thanks be to God for His mercy. He is now travelling here in Australia & overseas. He is challenging groups by telling his story.

Jesus is the only way to heaven. God has given the Bible for us to search the Scriptures & in them, we have eternal life. The Holy Spirit helps us to accept what we don't fully understand. We grow daily in the Word that leads us to a new life in Christ.

This reminds me of the story of the thief on the cross who spoke to the other thief, in front of Jesus.

Speaking about Jesus, the thief said "this man was truly innocent, but we deserve our punishment for what we have done". He recognised Jesus was the Son of God & continued by asking Jesus "remember me when You come into Your kingdom" Because he recognised Jesus as his Saviour & his own sinfulness, Jesus replied "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise" Luke 23: 41-43.

Jesus sees the hearts of all people, because He is the Son of God.

We ourselves live in a world of turmoil & heartache, with values being broken down in families, which brings a lot of grief, anger, jealousy & hatred.

In Jesus we have comfort & help to have peace that passes all understanding.

Thanks be to God for His great love for us.

We will be meeting at the Seminary in November. Let us pray that more God-fearing young men will be called to serve Christ as Pastors in the L.C.A.

May God's blessings be with you all as we listen, read, worship & fellowship with other believers.

Colin Schutz.

President of Lutheran Men S.A.

What's The World Coming To? *By John Seidel.*



When I was a young man my father (pictured left) was often heard to say “what’s the world coming to?” I was a young bloke and after such a comment I would often think, “don’t worry Dad it will all turn out OK’. The younger generation will sort it out. As an example, back in the early 1950s he would go to a hardware store to buy gelignite, detonators and fuse wire, to blow out tree stumps on our farm. Later a government regulation was adopted that in order to buy explosives you had to apply for a permit to purchase. Once you had the permit you only could get it from a depository at Dry Creek. Then the next problem was that you had to get a permit to transport it, this entailed the following regulation, ‘your vehicle had to display a sign front and rear reading “EXPLOSIVES”, the signs had to comply with certain dimensions set in the regulation. Then of course you had to have a regulation standard fire extinguisher aboard your vehicle. My father was heard to ask the question, “I have a knapsack, (firefighting type, not to carry school books in) would this be OK!”, and so it went on, it was just all getting too hard. In this and in many other matters it became a permit world. Permits to sink a dam or drill a water bore on your farm, multi grade vehicle licences, building permits and so on and on it went. A common phrase was heard a lot in those days, “it won’t be long and you will have to get a permit to go to the toilet”. It’s happened in a roundabout way, just ask your local builder, he can probably fill you in on all the regulations to building a toilet, get my drift? The current generation has become familiar with all of these regulations and probably would be surprised if you didn’t have to apply for a permit for most things.

Now I have what I consider to be of a mature age, six years older than my father reached, and I too am bamboozled with modern electronics and technology asking questions and commenting in a similar vein. “What’s the world coming to?” just as my father used to ask. My questions and concerns are of course on quite different subjects, a different generation, a different world, mainly relating to legislation that is contrary to Christian teachings and convictions. I too ask, “What’s the world coming to?” Australia used to be a Christian nation. Now we have reached a population of 25 million and it seems atheists are ruling the land.

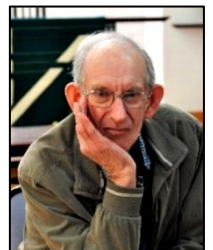
There is a list of things as long as my arm that I could name, and then some, and I’m sure you have a list as well. Abortion on demand, once was reserved for life endangered mothers. You can’t rely on politicians not to amend laws to their detriment. There is the LGBT legislation and all that this encompasses, (mind boggling) of course contrary to Christian principals.

Euthanasia is another hot topic, and if you’re not a Christian these things seem so valid. It all started in the Garden of Eden. **Satan is the chief of liars**, just as he mislead Adam and Eve in that garden; read Genesis account of creation, * Genesis chapter 1: verse 27-28, ‘*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God He created him, male and female he created them.*’

And what must God think about the rainbow flag, He put it in the sky as a promise to Noah and to every generation following that it was a promise that God would never again cause such a flood. The big question many people ask when they are faced with a disaster in their life is “why did God allow this to happen to me? Surely if He is a God of love, how could He have allowed this to happen?” Dear reader, if something terrible happens in your life, **do not blame God, it is the inherent sin that the devil himself imposed on this world.** He does not want anybody to belong to the Kingdom of Heaven, he wants to destroy your faith and to suffer with him in hell. Stay strong in the faith with Jesus the Lord and the giver of life.

Finally, again I ask, “what is the world coming to?” Frankly I don’t know, generational change happens, nothing stays the same except God’s will. God will look after His devoted children. Live in peace, and, ‘**Continue to grow in Christ.**’ Amen.

* Text used in this article come from the NIV Study Bible.



The author.
Life sure is a
problem!

Maybe Satan called a worldwide convention of demons.

In his opening address he said "we can't keep Christians from going to church. We can't keep them from reading their Bibles & knowing the truth. We can't even keep them from forming an intimate relationship with their Saviour. Once they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken. So let them go to their churches; but let's steal their time, so they don't have time to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ".

"This is what I want you to do" said the devil. "Distract them from gaining hold of their precious Lord and maintaining that vital connection throughout the day!"

"How shall we do this?" shouted the demons. "Keep them busy in the non-essentials of life and invent innumerable schemes to occupy their minds," he answered.

"Tempt them to spend, spend, spend and borrow, borrow, borrow. Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6-7 days a week, 10-12 hours a day, so they can afford their empty affluent lifestyles."

"Keep them from spending time with their children. As their families fragment, soon their homes will offer them no escape from the pressures of work!"

"Over stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still, small voice. Entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive. Keep the TV, VCR, CDs and their PCs going constantly in their homes and see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays non - biblical music constantly. Keep them using social media to be critical and nasty to people they should love. This will jam their minds and break that union with Christ."

"Fill the coffee tables with magazines and newspapers. Pound their minds with the news 24 hours a day. Invade their driving moments with bill boards. Flood their mailboxes with junk mail, mail order catalogues, sweep stakes and every kind of newsletter and promotional material offering free products, services and false hopes."

"Keep slim, beautiful models on the magazines and TV so their husbands will believe that outward beauty is what's important and they'll become dissatisfied with their wives. Keep the wives too tired to love their husbands at night and give them headaches too! If they don't give their husbands the love they need, they will begin to look elsewhere. That will fragment their families quickly."

"Even in their recreation, let them be excessive. Have them return from their recreation exhausted. Keep them too busy to go out in nature and reflect on God's creation. Send them to amusement parks, plays or movies instead. Keep them busy, busy, busy." And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk, so that they leave with troubled consciences. Crowd their lives with so many so called 'good' causes, they have no time to seek power from Jesus. Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the good of the cause." "It will work, it will work."

It was quite a plan! The demons went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get busier and more rushed, going here and there, having little time for their God or their families. Having no time to tell others about the power of Jesus to change their lives.

The question is, 'has the devil been successful in this scheme'? You be the judge.

Does 'busy' mean- B-eing
 U-nder
 S-atan's
 Y-oke?

Hedley Scholz Eudunda SA

A bit of humour

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation.

As he was about to get the anesthetic, he asked to speak to his son.

"Yes, Dad, what is it?"

"Don't be nervous, son; do your best, and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife...."