



## The Heart of Leadership

The media is awash with conversation about leadership. This year Australia and the USA will go to the polls, so we are being treated to analyses of who will make the best leader. But it's not only the media that is drenched in leadership issues. Leadership has become a hot topic in the Christian world. Seminars, books, and conferences about leadership abound.

But what, according to the New Testament, makes an effective Christian leader? This is a pressing question given the recent fall of several prominent leaders in the evangelical world. It's fascinating to see what the Bible doesn't say about the traits of Christian leaders. Surprisingly, Scripture says nothing about a leader's personality (whether they're

entertaining, cool, funny, electrifying, outgoing, or quiet). This is remarkable given the contemporary focus on the leader's personality. When a local church looks for a new pastor, very often personality is what rises to the top of wants. Think of the various tests that reveal one's personality type. Now that's not to say that these have no place. It's not that personality is irrelevant. But personality is not at the heart of what makes an effective church leader.

The New Testament reveals particular skills needed for the church leader. The first is the ability to teach the apostolic deposit found in Scripture and refute error (1 Tim. 3:27; 2 Tim. 2:2). A leader must have word gifts. Secondly, the church leader must be able to lead people. But it is a particular kind of

leadership. It's likened to parenting a family (1 Tim. 3:5) rather than being an efficient CEO or military general. But these two skills are not enough.

*The training of Christian leaders must include transformation of the heart. The formation of a good heart is best done in the context of real life relationships under God's Word. This understanding of leadership training drives Trinity.*

The New Testament's main focus on the qualifications of a church leader is character (1 Tim. 3:2-7; Titus 1:6-8). 1 Tim. 2:2-7 mentions 15 traits of a church leader and 12 are about character. Personality is about how we come across, but character is about who we are. Scripture is supremely concerned with a leader's heart. There has been a shift in Western culture

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Trinity student Sean Kao with the kids of St Mark's Anglican School during Mission Week 2016

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# The Heart of Leadership

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over the last century. The language of character has been largely replaced by the language of personality. Perhaps it's because we are a highly visual culture now.

When Paul summoned the Ephesian elders to speak to them for the last time, his first command was not "preach the word" or "manage people" or "watch the flock". It was "Keep watch over yourselves" (Acts 20:28). The leader must doggedly examine their own heart. This is because in Scripture the heart is the control centre of a human being (Prov. 4:23). The heart is the inner engine that drives our outer actions. When the heart goes bad, it affects all we do. As Jesus said: "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit" (Luke 6:43-44). Whilst we may be able to cover up a bad heart for a while, it must eventually display itself. And our heart is particularly exposed by our words. Jesus did say: "For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of" (Luke 6:45).

Why is a godly heart so crucial for a Christian leader? It's because leadership centres on the ministry of God's Word (Eph. 4:11). Scripture is both taught by words and modelled by life (1 Tim. 4:16). A leader with a bad heart will produce unhelpful words (like slander, gossip, and flattery) as

well as life that jars with the Bible. The Christian leader's lifestyle can't help but be their most powerful sermon illustration, whether for good or ill. A bad heart will sabotage a leader's work and so put people's salvation in jeopardy. Paul says to Timothy:

*Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. (1 Timothy 4:16)*

Therefore, if the greatest prerequisite for Christian leadership is a godly heart, then this must be a priority when training future leaders. Studying theology cannot be the acquisition of information only. The training of Christian leaders must include transformation of the heart. And this cannot be effectively achieved through courses over the internet. The formation of a good heart is best done in the context of real life relationships under God's Word (Heb. 3:12-13). It best works in a Christian community with visible godly role-models (1 Tim. 4:12).

This understanding of leadership training drives Trinity. Our goal at Trinity is not to see people simply graduate with a degree. It is for people to grow in love for the Lord Jesus Christ himself from their heart. For the heart that loves Jesus above all else makes the effective Christian leader. 🌿

*Marty Foord*  
Acting Principal

# New Staff and New Roles

This year we have welcomed two new staff members to the team:

Sheri Johnston joined us as the new Registrar's Assistant in March this year and she is very excited to be part of the team. She and her husband, Ben, moved to Perth from the USA in 2012. Ben is currently the Senior Pastor at Subiaco Church of Christ. Sheri has worked in children's ministry for over 25 years. She holds a degree in Finance and has held various positions in accounting during her career.



Gemma Kendell, Eleanor Lyons and Sheri Johnston

Our Registrar's Office now has a complete new look and we are very happy to announce that Eleanor Lyons stepped into the position of Academic Registrar in March this year. Eleanor has been with us for the past year as Registrar's Assistant.

Gemma Kendell joined Miriam Ward at our Reception desk in January this year. Gemma currently attends and serves at North Coast Unichurch. She is also heavily involved with the Christian Union at ECU where she is studying Nursing and Midwifery. Gemma is excited to see how God continues to grow and change people through His Word here at Trinity. 🌿

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From 13 – 20 March this year 26 of our students went out to connect with the community and to spread the Gospel in three different locations: Dongara, Kallaroo and the Murdoch University Campus. This forms part of their Certificate of Ministry which is compulsory for all full-time students, and highly recommended for part-time students.

## Dongara

The Anglican Church of Dongara-Mingenew hosted one of the 2016 College missions. It was a privilege to partner with the people there in the common work of the gospel, and to be exposed to the challenges, opportunities, struggles, and blessings of ministry in a country area.

One of those blessings, we soon came to realise, is that of good and generous cooks—oh how we were fed for the week!

Mission ran from the Sunday to the Sunday. On the first Sunday we participated in church services at both Dongara and Mingeneu, and on the second Sunday in Dongara only. We had the privilege to preach and give testimonies of Jesus' work in our lives.

During the week we were able to be involved in the regular life of the church.

We participated in pastoral visits, Bible studies, youth group, and the monthly men's breakfast. A particular highlight was teaching Scripture lessons in the primary schools and an Easter presentation at the high school. The openness and questions of the students was simply amazing, and we thank God for the obvious gospel opportunity that

we had. Some high school students even said that now that they knew what Easter was actually about, it made sense that we would want to come and tell them about Jesus and what he had done! That really is an answer to prayer.

Being new to town, the minister of the church, David Mitchell, utilised us to door-knock around town with a survey on different days during the week. Rather than assume what the local people think,

his aim was to survey the thoughts and reflections of people on church, life in general, and the local community. While a scary prospect, we were able to gather

a number of honest, helpful, and genuinely thoughtful responses.

Throughout the week David took time in explaining what he does and why, as well as what he is thinking through and planning. This was a real highlight of



Grad Dip students having fun while painting the church in Dongara

mission as it helped us understand the context of the church in a rural area, with its unique gospel opportunities and challenges.

On the Saturday night we helped with a community concert in the park. Tenielle Fowler, accompanied by her husband Dan, sang a number of songs. There was a good turnout of people who got to hear, among other things, David Mitchell singing "Let it Go" from Frozen!

It was great to be involved in College mission for a week and we look back on our time with thankfulness. Reverend David's farewell on the back page of the church's handout is fitting to conclude this reflection:

"It's the last day that the mission team is here with us but it is not the last day of the mission. That day will not come until Jesus returns and brings all his people to live with Him. Until then we, with all the help we can get, will continue to make new disciples of Christ and grow together in love and service of God. We'll keep on the task of knowing Christ and making Him known."

Amen, and thank you once again to the church in Dongara for the week you allowed us to participate in. 

*David Kummerow*

*on behalf of the Dongara Mission Week team*



The Dongara Mission team helping with a community concert in the park

# Kallaroo

This was my third 'mission week' while studying at Trinity and in some ways it was the hardest. Hopefully I know more about the Bible and have a firmer grasp of the gospel now than I did in first year, but guess what, the kids in the school yard play by their own rules.



Fltr: Jordan Musilun, Clare Deeves, Joel Sharp, Josh Van der Kooij, Ash Moseley, Dave Driver and Katherine Ollis (front) with the children at St Mark's

Mission in Kallaroo had both the difficulties and in some cases discouragements as well as the genuine hope there is in evangelism. This enormous hope gives us the encouragement to keep going.

We took two teams to Kallaroo to spend a week between St Mark's Anglican School and Kallaroo Anglican Church. At the church we joined in with small groups, lead Bible studies, gave testimonies, and served at an outreach event. This all turned out to be refreshing and a deep reminder of the fellowship we have in the gospel.

*The ministry at St Mark's is one to give thanks for, and to bring before God often, with the request that many young hearts be softened, opened, and claimed by God.*

I'm sure our fellowship was effective for growing in love for one another - not only among the Trinity team, but also between Trinity and Kallaroo. We shared, ate, prayed, sang, played table tennis (this was a Trinity mission after all!), and engaged the Scriptures together.

The imprint that our time with Kallaroo Anglican left on me was that ministry is difficult and not at all that flashy, but God is preparing his people for himself and it is a

wonderful and glorious thing to be a part of. Gordon Killow, shepherd of Kallaroo, told us that God's ever-active grace and imperturbable sovereignty are where his confidence lies, and these truths are valid on the ground in the lives of Kallaroo Christians. Praise God.

Our time at St Mark's was full of opportunity and surprise. We ran a primary school chapel, armed with a puppet show and preached at the secondary school chapel. Many conversations with students took place, talking about Jesus and their thoughts regarding Him. We also gave talks on common questions such as suffering, science and God, the resurrection and so on.

I've come away from this experience convicted that children can smell fear. I've also come away convicted that many of them don't know nearly enough about Jesus and the gospel - right here in our own backyard - and many have good questions about the Christian life that we can answer.

When a handful of kids say things like "I really understood something... I want to go away and find out more about Jesus" it really means something. Seeing apathy toward God firsthand is just as much a reminder of grace as seeing positivity toward Him. All we can do is expectantly scatter seed.

Ministry at St Mark's isn't pretty, but it is necessary, and it was an absolute blessing. The chaplaincy team at St Mark's loves Jesus and they love these kids. And during these crucial years the kids have the opportunity every day to hear the gospel and turn to God for Life and peace.

We can truly give thanks for the ministry at St Mark's. It is one to bring before God often, with the request that many young hearts be softened, opened, and claimed by God. 

*Dan Conway*  
3rd Year: Bachelor of Theology student

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# Reaching Out Murdoch University Campus



## Our Purpose: Preparing people for effective Christian service

*Your partnership in financial support and prayer helps us prepare men and women like these for Word ministry.*

Michael worked as a civil engineer before coming to Trinity to complete his theological training. His time here at Trinity was enriching—much more than he expected.



"The contribution of the teaching and non-teaching staff at Trinity, together with the community of students, and also the library facilities and resources have been most valuable. The teaching staff are truly passionate in their teaching. It is truly a blessing to have Trinity here in Perth!"

"I appreciate my time at Trinity where some of my foundation of theology was formed. Trinity has helped me to think and reflect theologically, and has given me the skills and resources for serving in Word ministry, especially with preaching and teaching the Word of God in the Bible."

"Coming to ministry there are so many small and big things to take care of, such as the church services, prayer meetings, Bible studies, programs and activities, people, meetings, reporting etc. And the priority and the urgency of the Word of God can so easily be left behind, or be put off as secondary importance. Thankfully, Trinity prepares and trains pastors and preachers, and the ministers of the Word for this main thing! (1 Tim 4:13-16)".

*Michael Ting*

*Pastor: Hope Methodist Church*

*Assistant Pastor: Immanuel Methodist Church*

*Graduate: Master of Divinity and Certificate of Ministry (2016)*

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Our mission trip to Murdoch University was all about talking: we wanted to have good discussions with students and get them thinking about the Gospel. Our team joined with the work of the Murdoch Christian Union. Our theme for the week was "happiness". So we took to the campus hoping to generate discussion about it and the Gospel.

With plenty of encouragement from the Murdoch Christian Union, we spent most of the week just chatting to students in the public spaces of the campus between their classes. We had prepared a survey that gave us plenty of conversation starters. Murdoch University provided an amazing space to get talking with students particularly in and around the central "Bush Court" where we enjoyed sunshine, soft grass, deck chairs, and even bean bags!

We anticipated some resistance or at the very least great disinterest. However, we were stunned at how keen the students were to talk! We had very few knock-backs. Conversations often went past the half-hour mark, and some went past the hour. It wasn't simply a matter of students having nothing better to do. The discussions were thoughtful and deep, and the students were usually very open. I think it would be fair to say that we gained as much out of the experience as the students did, if not more so!

The other surprising discovery was that we encountered very few people who were negative towards God, or identified as atheists (about 10%). Around half of the interviewees were in some way conscious of God. About

40% had a Roman Catholic background, whether through schooling, home life, or church attendance. Approximately 15% of people indicated they were Christians and 10% were Muslims. So, having expected a mission to secular people with negative views about God, we were surprised by almost

the opposite. The students were more than happy to discuss God. This made it easy to get into good conversations. Getting to the gospel flowed naturally more often than not. In fact, some of the students openly asked us what we believed. Does it get any easier than that? That first minute of the encounter was the biggest challenge. It took courage to start the conversation.

With Easter looming at the time of Mission Week, we were able to talk about "happiness" and relate it to one particular event celebrated at Easter: Christ's death. This was exciting because many unbelievers only see Christ's death as a sad incident.

*"While we had probably all expected a mission to a secular crowd with negative views towards God, we were totally surprised by the reality we found."*



Rod Manton on the Murdoch campus, armed with the survey as a conversation starter

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# Ministry Matters

## Fine-tuning your Preaching Conference



Acting Principal Marty Foord (left) introducing Christopher Ash

On 21-22 March just over 100 pastors and ministers from various churches and denominations came together at Trinity House to listen to Christopher Ash's teaching on how to fine-tune your preaching.

Christopher Ash is currently Writer in Residence at Tyndale House in Cambridge. For the last decade he was the Director of the Proclamation Trust's Cornhill Training Course in London – a two-year training course for those preparing to be preachers. As a former

*"This was a refreshing conference where those who attended were given solid teaching from the Word by Christopher Ash. He also had wise and practical advice 'from the trenches' of pastoral ministry."*

*Mark Vivian*

*Westminster Presbyterian Church Bull Creek*

pastor and church-planter, Christopher has experienced the pressure, joys, and struggles of preaching. He is also the author of about 10 books.

Christopher's pastoral heart was evident throughout the conference and in his first session on the character and motivations of the preacher. He continued to explain the value of consecutive expository preaching and the importance of having a theme sentence and an aim sentence for your message.

Giving attendees time to work through some verses themselves, gave them a refreshed vision and the opportunity to put into practice the practical suggestions they received. An added bonus of the Conference was the opportunity to network with pastors from all over Perth and beyond. Christopher finished by preaching from Psalm 16, reminding us that looking to Jesus will give far greater satisfaction than any of the world's distractions.

It was a blessing to see so many ministers from various congregations having fellowship together and encouraging each other for Kingdom work. 

*Trinity News*

# Trinity Women Enrichment Day 2016

On Saturday 30 April almost 80 women from around WA gathered together for the Trinity Women Enrichment Day 2016. It is an annual gathering aimed at encouraging women in Word ministry, and better equipping them to serve in their varied ministry roles.

Visiting from Canberra, speaker Michelle Philp opened up John's gospel for us. She urged us to personally consider John's purpose for writing it: "...that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). To help see how John persuades us, Michelle suggested asking yourself these questions as you read John:

*What are Jesus' WORDS?*

*What are Jesus' ACTIONS?*

*What are others' REACTIONS?*

With his words, Jesus claims to be the good shepherd who will lay down his

life for his sheep. With his actions, he willingly submits to arrest and trial and eventual execution. The reactions of others are divided – those who listen and believe and those who do not. So John leaves the obvious question hanging; what is my reaction to Jesus? We were encouraged to consider the evidence of Jesus' words and actions and be convinced that Jesus is the way to eternal life.

Rowena McMicking and Jill McAlpine were interviewed about their work in high school Bible teaching and church planting. We learnt about their struggles and were encouraged by their honesty, continued trust in God, and commitment to sharing the gospel.

Michelle Philp's workshop on her women's training program "T2" was very well attended. It stimulated much discussion on how to train women in our churches given the huge variation in individual situations and stages of life.

We look forward to hearing of Michelle's continuing development of T2 and pray for much growth as a result of it.

Susan Shiner's "Let's Talk about Sex" workshop was also popular, highlighting that this topic is often neglected in our conversations. It is not neglected in God's Word however, and so were we encouraged to share God's view of sex and marriage in his eternal plan. Toni Ollis' workshop workshops equipped participants in leading Bibles studies and Eryn-May Wicks talked about children's ministry. By means of a panel discussion participants with family commitments were encouraged on how to strike a balance in ministry.

All in all we were treated once again to encouragement from God's Word, useful training and shared wisdom from women in ministry, as well as invaluable fellowship with like-minded women. 

*Alexia Horton*

*Graduate Diploma of Divinity student*

## Murdoch University

Continued from page 5

Jordan Thyer spoke at the main Thursday meeting for the Murdoch Christian Union. He talked about Jesus' understanding of happiness in the Beattitudes of Matthew 5. Jordan used human logic and philosophy to expose our determined resistance to God's simple desire to bless us. Rod Manton gave his testimony before the talk, making it obvious that only God can save sinners. Between the testimony and the talk, this one hour event had quite an impact on those who came.

Please give thanks to God for the Murdoch Christian Union team and the ongoing work that they do on this campus, and also for the friendly Murdoch students and their willingness to engage in deep conversations without notice. Please pray for those who indicated unhappiness in their life, and for those who knew that their happiness wasn't lasting. Pray that God would draw them to himself and bless them with the riches of His grace. 

*Jason Coughran*

*1st Year: Master of Divinity student*



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# It Takes a Team

*It takes a group of workers on the ground to keep one pilot in the sky. It takes a team of helpers to keep a Formula One driver on the track. And it takes a band of generous believers to help a student train at theological college.*

**R**aising up Christian workers is a team effort, where many people play different roles. Our students often give up careers (sometimes at great cost) to come and study full time at Trinity. And this can't happen without team help, particularly those who give financially.

We thank God for the \$155,374 we have received to date (mid-April).

Taking pledges into account, **we need a total of \$514,912** in donations for the remainder of the 2016 calendar year to help cover the cost of training students for Word ministry. This amount is comprised of \$410,827 for the General Fund, \$39,750 for the Library Fund and \$64,335 for the Building Fund.

Please consider prayerfully if you can contribute to Trinity's work of training future Christian workers.

If you'd like to help, feel free to contact us or use the form provided on page 6 to make your donation now.

**Thank you for your continued prayers and support.**  
**We truly value your help.** 

*Ilse Lorenzen*

*Development Coordinator*

Ph. 08 9228 9067

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Preparing People for Effective Christian Service



## Prayer & Praise

### Give thanks for:

- Mission Week hosts, opportunities to share the Gospel and experience gained by students
- Privilege to learn from various speakers at Trinity events
- Our wider Trinity Community and all our valued supporters and volunteers

### Pray for:

- Good health for students and staff during the winter months
- Students preparing for and writing exams
- Graduates and their transition into the workforce – that they will persevere in teaching God's Word
- Continued financial and prayer support

Please email [reception@ttc.wa.edu.au](mailto:reception@ttc.wa.edu.au) or call 08 9228 9067 for monthly prayer notes