



## Together in the Essential Tasks

In a recent interview, pastor and author Tim Keller recalls how, soon after the diagnosis of his pancreatic cancer last year, two words came to him while he was meditating upon the Scriptures and praying: sanctification and focus. Concerning the second, he said:

*I would say that as a man who was 69 years old, I actually was pretty unfocused because the reality is it doesn't matter whether you have cancer or not, when you're approaching 70, you should actually know the time is short . . . And so I should have been more focused, but I was tending to do whatever anybody asks me to do.*

Keller is urging those in Word ministry to choose to be occupied with the

essential "commitments." As Allan Chapple calls them in his book *Ministry Under the Microscope*. These commitments are laid down for us as a pattern in 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus among other places and include: prayer, the ministry of God's Word, loving God's people, setting a godly example, and persevering through hardships.

Each of these five commitments is conjoined to the others, and foundational in bringing about holiness (read the book of Hebrews for a long treatment). The major challenge I face, and we all face, is believing that these (biblically grounded) commitments are what we should give our time and energy to. These essential commitments are hard to focus upon all on your own.

For this reason, pastors and others who lead in Word ministry need to make training up lay leaders (elders, deacons, board members) to be people who are able to lovingly instruct and correct others from the Scriptures.

This is clearly seen in Paul's ministry as reflected in his address to the Ephesian elders in Acts 20:18-35. It is clear that this was not the first occasion he had spoken with them. If we head back into Acts 19, we read that Paul found a group of "disciples" in existence when he entered Ephesus. He instructed them in the faith of the Lord Jesus. They joined him when he went into the synagogue at Ephesus. They then learned from him as he preached and dialogued there, before departing

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Trinity's Mission Immersion Day – students learning how to evangelise to other cultures



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## Together in the Essential Tasks

Continued from cover

for the hall of Tyrannus—no doubt an enlarged group—for another two years of instruction. These disciples partnered with Paul (and his co-workers) in gospel outreach into much of Asia Minor. They were respected by Paul, for he heeds their advice not to enter a frenzied crowd of idol makers and worshippers. And here in Acts 20 the elders he trained in the pattern of ministry commitments are now those who carry the flag of the gospel in the church of Ephesus and in the work of missions, reaching further into Asia Minor.

The point is this: Paul ensured that he was not alone in his ministry or ministry commitments. Yes, he had his ministry team who went ahead or back to various places and reported back to him (Timothy, Erastus, Gaius, etc. [Acts 20:1-6]), but in each place where he planted a church, he ensured elders or lay-leaders were well-grounded in the gospel through patient teaching and modelling. As we in our social and anti/religious context look to the future of our churches, and to planting new churches, let's focus our time and energy, and the resources God has given us, on not only carrying out our essential commitments but bringing others into and alongside us in this great work for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, may I join many others and give thanks to God for the election of one of our trustees, and former Deputy Chair of Council, Kanishka Raffel, as Anglican Archbishop of Sydney. We commit him and Cailey, and that great diocese, to God and to the Word of his grace. 

With every blessing in Christ,

*Don West*

Principal

## Faithful Service



Council Chair Bruce Dodd, Sally Stark, Principal Don West


*At this year's Annual General Meeting, long-serving Council Secretary Sally Stark stepped down. We asked her for some thoughts...*

When I agreed to be Secretary to the College Council, I thought it would entail ... well, admin. I in no way anticipated the privilege it would be seeing the Council at work. As I observed godly people labouring prayerfully and humbly on all manner of issues, my affection for Trinity only grew. Thanks be to God for his wonderful generosity and kindness working in and through the College over the decades (in tiny ways and in huge ways), and how he continues that work, no matter the changes in the landscape.

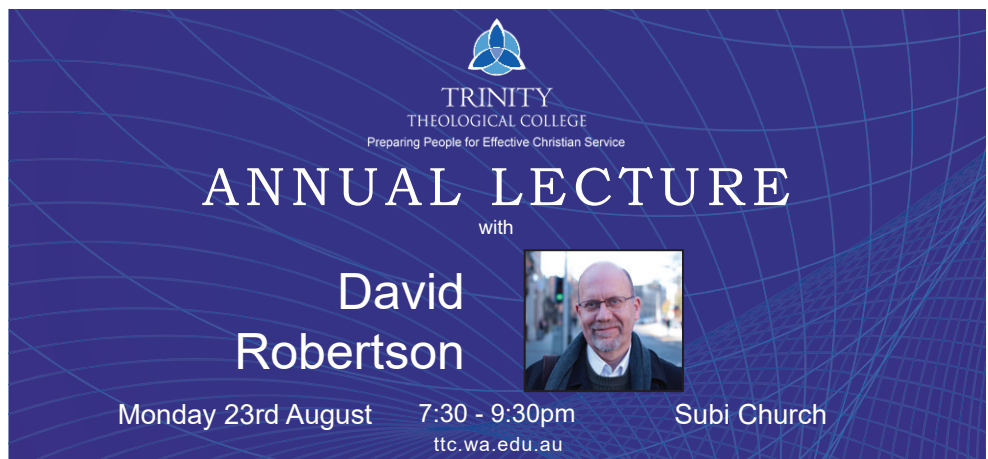
It seems to me that training gospel workers well is a pretty resource-

intensive process. The Lord has provided wise, skilled people on staff and on Council to harness and steward those resources. As College supporters, let's be praying for them as they bear this responsibility on behalf of us all to ensure Trinity does what it has set out to do, while complying with the highest standards of governance and management.

And let's keep praying for every facet of the College's ministry and operations. Let's go to the prayer breakfasts and be praying at home too. Let's be asking the Lord of the harvest who we can be encouraging to consider studying at or supporting Trinity.

Be heartened: our support is bearing fruit for Jesus' kingdom. 

*Sally Stark*




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# ANNUAL LECTURE

with

## David Robertson



Monday 23rd August 7:30 - 9:30pm  
ttc.wa.edu.au Subi Church




# Missions Training at Trinity

Perth is a multicultural city. When I walk down the street, I see people from many different cultures. As I walk, I see a man in a turban, I ask myself, why is he wearing a turban? How can I connect with this man? If my role as a follower of Jesus is to make disciples of all nations, how can I do this in a way that will connect with this man's heart?

My name is Mike Webb, I have the great honour to be the Missions Lecturer at Trinity. What a great joy it is to be able to help students connect with people of different cultures. Having started in this role during the pandemic, it meant that many of our normal mission activities like missions week – partnering with churches and para-church organisations for a week – could not go ahead. Despite our disappointment, we saw this as an opportunity to introduce students to the different communities and cultures of Perth for Missions Immersion Day.

Three different religious groups, Sikhs, Muslims and Buddhists, happily agreed for us to come and visit their places of worship and to explain to us about their religion. One week prior, students gathered together and were provided with brief instructions on how to be culturally sensitive.

This included all students scrambling to find head coverings. On the day, all of us firstly met together at a Sikh temple where we were taken up to the worship area and given a talk about the history and practices of the religion. After this, students were provided with an opportunity to ask questions, so that they could think about how they could make gospel connections. After an informative time, our hosts provided us with a tasty snack of samosas, which fit into their strong sense of hospitality. After the Sikh temple students were divided into two groups, one group visited a Mosque while the other half went to the WA Buddhist society.

After a full day, it seemed that many students went away feeling more confident in their ability to make connections, and talk about Jesus, with people from these cultures. 

*Mike Webb*

*Part-time Lecturer in Mission*

Trinity students in the Sikh Temple



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# MID Student Snapshots


Visiting the Sikh Temple gave me the impression that community is at the core of being a Sikh. There was an emphasis on avoiding conflict regarding doctrine; during the Q&A time and when engaging in conversation over morning tea, our hosts were reluctant to hold something out to be objectively true. I wondered whether this was because Sikhs value community over truth. This impression was strengthened with the emphasis on food in their meetings and their warm attitude towards us. There was [also] clearly no desire to be evangelistic in any way.

The main thing that has changed in my thinking is the approach to evangelism with Sikhs. Given the emphasis on community and the perceived desire to avoid evangelism, I can no longer assume that a Sikh's desire is to seek the truth and have doctrine-based discussion. Instead, building friendships and invitations into Christian community may be more effective.

My original perception of Muslims was that they must be deeply devoted to their faith; in order to maintain the discipline of being a Muslim in the West, they must be truly invested in the doctrines and precepts of Islam. This impression was challenged during a conversation when a man mentioned

he had recently come back to Islam because he felt it would be good for him. He didn't seem particularly invested in the truth of it but saw it as a key part of a more peaceful and successful life.

Another conversation we had with a young Muslim was mostly quite relaxed and insightful. However, when we posed questions of doctrine he started to give rehearsed answers in a defensive manner. I found this off-putting as he was engaging with us on an academic level rather than personal. Fortunately, someone in our group noticed and was quick to make clear we weren't trying to convert him but simply grow in our understanding in Islam. This highlighted for me how people, Muslim and Christian alike, can often give prepared responses and how off-putting this can be.

An obvious bridge is the Islamic belief that there is a Creator. Muslims seem to find it hard to imagine that anyone would doubt there is a Creator God. This makes getting into theological discussions a lot easier. 

*Jan Bochat*



Respectfully obeying mosque rules

I found the Sikhs at the temple to be a very devoted group, with things like the men not cutting their hair. Also, it was good to find out that it is incredibly offensive to touch a turban. Sikhs enjoy friendships and discussions on life, with a willingness to help whatever needs the local community has, as evidenced in their feeding of those who come to the temple in need.

It was useful to find out in the pre-readings that Sikhs will, however, feel betrayed in friendships if the gospel of Jesus is given to them too soon in the friendship.

So it seems that the gospel approach would be to befriend Sikhs over a long period of time, and gently bring in the gospel through living out the gospel, and listening for opportunities where they might want to know more about Jesus to avoid losses of outreach opportunity. This is not to say that we can't tell them about Jesus. We can indeed! But it requires a more considered tactical approach involving deeper relationships to enable gospel opportunities to happen.


I found the Imam and the leaders of the Mosque to be very friendly and accommodating in our visit. They were happy to show us what they do in preparation before they worship. They were reverent in the sense that they



Hearing from the Imam



felt they had to be clean before prayer, with ritual washing of their bodies.

I was somewhat surprised by the Muslims openness to engage with Christians. Of course their intention is to convert, but I see this as an opportunity to speak and show God's true Word. 


*Tom Measures*

Our visit to the Buddhist temple showed meditation as the main marker of this faith system. Meditation involves emptying one's mind and being able to let go of past events in order to arrive at the "true present". However reality or truth are not real concepts, according to our guide. It is classified as evil and must be gotten rid of when meditating. Truth is to simply be known, not revealed to us by another.

Whilst the pre-reading for this visit made Buddhism seem consistent and structured, the temple visit muddled the proverbial waters of my understanding. The reading made Buddhism appear a satisfying and simple faith which led to inner peace,

yet the temple visit made me view Buddhism as a confusing, empty and purposeless faith.

Whilst Buddhists claim to *know* truth, Jesus claims to *be* the truth, so knowing him is the true way to fullness of life. This is possibly the most helpful bridge to sharing the gospel with a Buddhist. We could also show that faith in Christ is freedom from having to save oneself through performing enough good karma. We can show how Jesus provides rest for the weary as well as giving them a larger overarching purpose, as presented in Revelation 21-22, to which all people are heading.

The task of evangelising to people of other faiths seems incredibly complex and challenging. However, the reality of the gospel promises, and the work of the Holy Spirit should motivate Christians to fulfil the great Commission. 

*Debbie Mayne*



Learning at the Buddhist temple

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## Student Profile


*Our Purpose: Preparing people for effective Christian service*

*It is only with your partnership in financial support and prayer that we can prepare men and women like Ann for Word ministry*

My name is Ann Moseley; I'm married to Ashley and we attend Southern Christian Church with our two daughters. I am currently enrolled in the Graduate Diploma of Divinity course after having had Trinity recommended to me as a College with a reputation for being able to teach people how to learn about God in a discerning manner, rather than presenting all the ideas without giving students the tools to sort out the good ideas from the not-so-good ones.

Trinity also has the structure and facilities necessary to allow me to study with two small children. Upon graduation, Ashley and I would like to work in some capacity in a church setting, possibly in Taiwan serving strategically there.

Supporting Trinity is so worthwhile because you are investing in a place and people who are giving future church leaders tools to teach sound doctrine.

Please pray that we might have some clarity in what our future ministry looks like, that I will have the diligence and capacity to complete my studies well, and that throughout the time at Trinity I will grow in grace and the knowledge of God and for wisdom to discern what ministry role/s to step into. 

*Ann Moseley*

*GradDipDiv Student*



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## Trinity Events

# Trinity Women Enrichment Day

Over 100 women gathered late March for Trinity Women Enrichment Day 2021. I'm sure I speak not only for myself when I say we were quite excited to be able to meet together after last year's cancellation of many events where we would normally joyfully catch up as Christian women. There was also a good representation from our country sisters.

TWED is for women in ministry, TTC alumni, students and staff and wives of the same.

Fiona Millar flew in from Queensland and it was touch and go whether she would be impacted by snap changes in border controls after the small outbreak over there. Thankfully we received the notes and audio for Fiona's first session which flew through the Biblical basis of forgiveness - forgiven sinners is our identity, forgiveness shapes us and our lives, and what forgiveness is and isn't. Fiona's workshop Helping Others Forgive drew introspection, tears and we reviewed some challenging case studies. The aim was to help us sit with others in their suffering. The final session with Fiona, Can't Forgive, Won't Forgive, addressed bitterness, comfort and reminded us 'forgiven people are forgiving people'. In addition, one of TTC's alumni missionaries shared about her ministry in the Middle

East. The conversation drew out how forgiveness plays out a little differently in the majority Muslim culture.

Drawing on the wonderful range of women in ministry in WA, we had the option to participate in a great range of workshops. The practical workshops included core ministry convictions, burnout, and the areas of evangelism and pastoral care. Those of us who participated in TWED 2021 extend our appreciation to the committee, their volunteers and the hardworking TTC staff. I heartily commend TWED 2022 to you. 

*Léni-Jo McMillan*

Keynote guest Fiona Millar



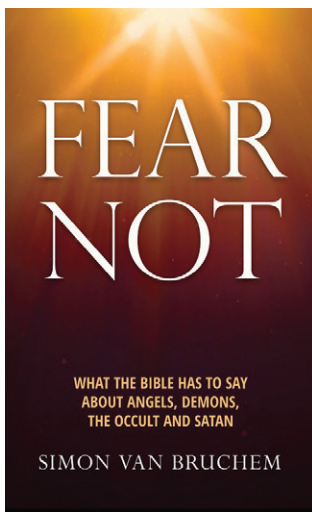
Many women in ministry came to TWED



## Fear Not

Trinity Alumn Simon van Bruchem, who is currently serving as Pastor of All Nations Presbyterian Church in Perth City and regular Trinity at Night lecturer, recently published a book entitled: "Fear Not: What the Bible has to say about angels, demons, the occult, and Satan" with a foreword by Allan Chapple.

Congratulations Simon!



In his letter to the church in Ephesus, the Apostle Paul draws a picture of the body of Christ, with each part doing its work to build the whole body to maturity. It's a beautiful picture, and a slightly daunting one for those tasked with equipping the body to that end.

At a recent Ministry Matters day, alumni and students of the College gathered over Zoom to be equipped ourselves in one practical skill to

Peter Mayrick presenting via Zoom



help us in the task: coaching. Peter Mayrick, from the Centre for Ministry Development at Moore College, Sydney, joined with us to think through the value of coaching in our ministries and to guide us through a coaching tool. By the end of the day, we were starting to get the hang of our newly learned skills in break out rooms.

While Zoom certainly has its limitations, this mode of gathering allowed us to be joined by alumni from

as far as Singapore, Karratha and Albany. We enjoyed hearing interviews with a couple of graduates, along with catching up with peers in small groups (albeit while we were meant to be on task!). I'm looking forward to part 2, coming up at the end of May: delegation. 

*Amy Stopher*  
Trinity Alumni

## Info Night


Christmas dinners are funny things: much the same things happen every time, and yet most of us remember particular ones because each also has its own flavour. It is much the same with Trinity's Info Night (minus the banquet, of course!). At every Info Night, we aim to share what makes Trinity unique—what our particular emphases are and the ways in which we achieve this through our courses and other relationships. In early May, 19 enquirers from churches across Perth came along to the latest one and

heard exactly these kind of things.

Yet this particular Info Night also had a strong flavour of the community of the College. Two current students—Maddy Rhodes and Kieran Nish—shared from what led them to Trinity to what they have experienced as students here. Both spoke of the powerful joy that our Lord has given them by being part of Trinity as they prepare for their ministries both now and in the future.

The Q&A time towards the end of the night focused on the communal

benefits of full-time, face-to-face study if possible. Current students also gave up their time and set aside other commitments for the night to bring friends from their churches along. Not only does this demonstrate that God is shaping our students into disciples of Jesus who are looking to raise up more disciples, but it also shows that our students value this kind of community in their churches as well.

Please be in prayer that God would keep bringing more people into the community at Trinity, and through their being equipped for ministry, bring more people into his heavenly community. 

*Dan Cole*  
Lecturer in New Testament




# Trinity Community

One of my favourite tasks in my role here at Trinity is putting together Trinity News. The stories I hear about what is happening in and around the College – our staff, faculty, students and Alumni, our events, etc. – all serve as a great encouragement to me as they come in; and I pray they would encourage you as well.

You'll notice a common theme in this edition of Trinity News – that of relationships and community. Don showed us how the Bible emphasises not being alone in ministry, Sally shared an insight for us into how our Council cares for the College through good governance, Mike and the students demonstrated how missions and understanding the cultures of others can help shape our evangelism, and we had articles on just some of the great events and milestones of the College in the last few months.

I'd love to say this theme was on purpose; some great feat of editorial prestidigitation on my part... but no! It is simply the fruit of a Jesus-loving, gospel-focused, kingdom-building community doing what God has asked us to do.

If you're as encouraged by these stories as I am, can I ask that you prayerfully consider how you can support our work? Our Mid-Year appeal is now running, and we would love to have you on board as we seek to train even more Christian workers. I'd also love to hear from you if you have a story to share about how being part of the Trinity community has impacted those around you for the gospel. 

Yours in Christ,

*Nathaniel Brown*

*Development & Communications Coordinator*

☎ 08 9228 9067

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## Prayer & Praise

### Give thanks for:

- Praise God for the way students and Faculty have handled the disruptions to studies due to COVID-19 measures.
- Praise God for the encouraging number who registered for the recent Information Night and Open Lecture.
- Praise God for a College that can act as a community hub for students, Alumni, and Trinity supporters being encouraged in their work for the kingdom.

### Pray for:

- Pray for students and Faculty preparing for exams and completing/marketing assignments. Pray for many men and women to enrol for study in Semester 2.
- Pray for the government as they manage the continuing Coronavirus situation and for the College leaders as they respond to these changes.
- Pray for the College's finances and the Mid-Year Appeal; for many to partner with Trinity as we raise up the next generation of ministry workers.

## 2021 DATES

07 Aug Quarterly Prayer Breakfast

23 Aug Annual Lecture with David Robinson

14 Oct Information Night

19 Oct Open Lecture

6 Nov Quarterly Prayer Breakfast



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## WILLS AND BEQUESTS

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