



ACC Prayer Diary

October 2013

Greetings all, prayer points of October.

- Please pray for ACC in Tasmania: for Keaton and Bronwyn Miles, for Walter Abetz as he begins retirement; for Rev. Sugirthara Devadosan as he prepares to move to Canada at the end of this year to take up a new ministry. Please pray for Deva and his family as they make moving arrangements. Pray also for Geoff O'Meara and his wife as they care for their son Deane.
- Please pray for the general meeting of the ACC-SA Movement to be held on Friday 11th, 7.30pm at Glenunga UC. The SA Movement is also in need of a Convenor and a small group of leaders.
- The National Council will hold its next teleconference at 10am EST on Monday 28th. Pray for the Council as it deals with matters arising from our Conference at Paradise Point. Please also pray for those newly appointed to positions on the Council: Rev. Shane Kammerman as Chair, Peter Bentley as National Director, Rev. Rod James as Secretary, and Rev. Ian Weeks as a member of the Council.
- Pray for the distribution, use and impact of the newly released DVD Study, "Marriage—the profound mystery".
- Pray for the current consultation process being conducted by the Assembly on marriage, that there will be a strong expression of biblical marriage in the feed-back. Pray also for the ACC Task Group on marriage as it continues its work.
- Thank-you for your faithfulness in prayer.

"Suffering, the marks the church and its implication for the mission of the church".

2 Timothy 1: 6 "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.... join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God".

Hall, D. in his book The Cross in our context points out that there is more in the NT about the suffering of the church than there is about any other single theme or issue regarding the church. Martin Luther insisted that among the marks of the church, there is only really one that is indispensable, that is, if it were to be taken away it would automatically call into question any claims made by the church, including its unity, holiness, apostolicity and catholicity, and that is the suffering of the church.

The church is precisely the community of suffering because its eyes are open and attentive to the sufferings that exist in the world. If, on the one hand the church is not attentive to the sufferings that are in the world, or if it simply watches others walk past the sufferings of others as in the parable of the Good Samaritan, then the church's life must be called into account. That is, "if the church does not see this suffering and if, seeing it, it does not take the burden of it upon itself, then its whole life must be called into question" (Hall p. 153).

Grace and peace – Hedley Fihaki