

Reformed Congregations of New Zealand in Carterton



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A warm welcome to our time of worship!

"And ye shall be witnesses unto Me" Acts 1:8

In order to learn how to fulfil your duty as a witness for Christ, look at His example. He is always witnessing - by the well of Samaria or in the Temple of Jerusalem; by the lake of Gennesaret or on the mountain brow. He is witnessing night and day. His mighty prayers are as vocal to God as His daily services. He witnesses under all circumstances. Scribes and Pharisees cannot shut His mouth; even before Pilate He witnesses the truth. He witnesses clearly and distinctly, and there is no mistake in Him.

Christian, make your life a clear testimony. Let your heart's love for God and man be visible to all. You do not need to say "I am true;" be true. Do not boast of integrity but be upright. Your testimony will be such that men cannot help seeing it. Never, for fear of feeble man, restrain your witness. "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand" (Ecclesiastes 11:6). Witness for the Saviour in season and out of season. If you endure suffering of any kind for Christ's sake and the gospel's, do not be discouraged. Rather, rejoice in the honour conferred upon you, that you are counted worthy to suffer for your Lord. Your sufferings, losses, and persecutions will make you a platform for which you shall witness for Christ Jesus more vigorously and with greater power.

Study your great Example and be filled with His Spirit. Remember that you need much teaching, much prayer, much grace, and much humility if your witnessing is to be to your Master's glory.

Charles Spurgeon

From The Deacons

The Deacons would like to dedicate next week's special collection to Trinity Theological Institute.

"New Zealand urgently needs men who are both biblically grounded and have a pastoral heart for souls to effectively lead the local church.

Trinity's primary focus is to serve Christ by teaching its students biblical and experiential pastoral ministry to passionately live, preach, and teach the Word of God. Our commitment at Trinity is to strengthen the men whom God is setting apart to enter pastoral ministry and mission work to be anchored in sound, historical, and reformed theology."

Warmly recommended.

Prayer / Thanksgiving / Requests

- Please keep Jessica and her family in your prayers as she has another round of blood tests this week, and a meeting with her oncologist to discuss the next steps in treatment.

Notices

- Psalter for the children: 325:2
- This Sunday:
 - Elder led services
 - Fellowship after the morning service
- Wednesday 10 June:
 - Ladies Bible study at Ruth's place, dinner at 6pm and Bible study at 7.30pm
 - Prayer fellowship in the Little Haven, 7.30pm

Invitation

You are invited to our engagement party on Saturday 13 June. Church will be open from 2-5pm for a casual afternoon and light refreshments.

David and Meg

Future Dates, Lord willing

17 June, 1 July	Leadership Course
Wednesday 24 June	Topic on Covenant Theology
Friday 3 July	Youth Progressive Dinner
Saturday 4 July	Annual Choir Performance

Children's Corner

Who am I?

I am living in a very unhappy time in the history of Israel. We had wandered away from the things of God. Very few people worshipped the Lord, and most were happy enough to go along with the new idols: Baal and Ashtaroth. It broke my heart to see it happening and I wondered how long it would be before God did something about it. Perhaps He was just going to leave us completely. Thankfully He didn't. Not that it was easy to do what He told me. I was to go and deliver a message to the king. I was to tell him that the Lord was not going to send any more rain or dew upon the land. That sort of message would be difficult even if the king was easier to deal with. He was a very wicked man, and his wife was even worse. She hated me. I could see it in her eyes, but the Lord gave me the strength to deliver His message. I don't know if they believed me or not, but they soon found out that it was all true.

How did I survive during the drought? Well, it's an amazing story. First of all, the Lord directed me to a stream. So, I had water to drink. Twice a day (and I know you will find this astonishing, I still do when I think of it), ravens would arrive with food. Yes, ravens who like to eat everything. They came to me with bread and meat in their beak. Really amazing.

The Lord was so good for me. He knew where I was.

Today the Lord is still the same. He knows you. Trust Him with all your worries and problems. He cares!

After that I spent some time in the Land of Sidon with the widow and her son. Oh, the Lord performed a miracle there! What a miracle when that boy lived again.

He then sent me back with another message for the king. We were to gather on Mount Carmel. They were all there, the prophets of Baal: hundreds of them sneering and snarling. The test was for us to prepare an altar, and the true God would send fire from heaven. They went first but it didn't go well with them. They pleaded and they danced. They cut themselves with knives; it was a horrible sight but, of course, Baal couldn't hear them or help them. And I know what you think now: of course, he couldn't because he is not real. And that is true.

Then it was my turn and after the altar was built, I had it all soaked through with barrels of water. I prayed then and the Lord answered. The fire came down and licked up the water and the wood and the stones and the altar. The crowd cried out: "The LORD, He is the God; the LORD, He is the God." And then He sent the rain.

Strangely enough it was then that I got frightened. I heard the queen's threats, and I ran away but again the Lord cared for me and led me to Horeb, that wonderful mountain where Moses received the Ten Commandments. I was

there and I saw His power and heard Him speak. There in Arabia He gave me a new work to do and told me about the man who would continue this work when I am gone. I knew that my work in this world was nearly done.

We are at the river Jordan now, my young friend and I. I am not sure what is about to happen, but I know that my body and soul are safe in the hands of the Lord.

You know who I am, don't you? And if you go to the Old Testament and the Books of 1st and 2nd Kings you can read about these things there.

Questions about me:

1. Which king of Israel did I warn about an immense drought?

Jehu
Omri
Ahab
Ahaziah

2. What was the widow of Zarephath gathering when I first met her?

Hay
Eggs
Water
Wood

3. How many times did I stretch myself over the widow's dead son before he was revived?

One
Two
Three
Four

4. Where did Obadiah hide one hundred prophets of the Lord from Jezebel?

Palace dungeons
Caves
Tents in the forest
House of the prophets

5. What did I instruct Obadiah to go and tell Ahab?

There would be a famine in Samaria
The King of Aram's army was advancing
To pull down the statues of Baal

That I was found

6. How many prophets of Baal were called to Mt Carmel for our sacrificial challenge?

400

450

500

550

7. After I mocked the prophets of Baal, what other ritual did the prophets try to gain Baal's attention?

Danced around the altar

Cut themselves with knives

Sang hymns

Beat their chests with sticks

8. Why did I choose 12 stones to build this altar?

One for each gate of the temple

That's all he could find

The number of years Ahab had reigned

One for each tribe of Israel

9. What did my servant see from Mt Carmel on the seventh time he looked out to sea?

A cloud

An angel

An island

A boat

10. How did I return to Jezreel from Mt Carmel?

In a chariot

In a whirlwind

I ran

On a donkey

11. After the prophets of Baal were killed, to where did I run to escape the death threat from Jezebel?

Hebron

Megiddo

Shiloh

Beersheba

12. Who awoke me for food as he slept in the desert wanting to die?

Moses

Ravens

An angel

Elisha

13. Do you know the name of the man who became prophet after me?

Elisha.

Amos

Nahum

Obediah

14. Look in the Bible for the book James. Go to chapter 5. What did James write about me?

That I was a fast runner.

That I made an altar on mount Carmel.

That I was a man like very body else and that I prayed.

That I could stop the rain.

15. I was one of 2 people in the Bible who didn't die. Can you name the other?

Aaron

Joshua

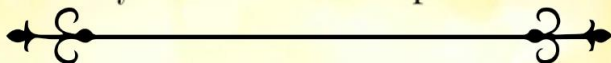
Moses

John the Baptist.



Crescendo Choir

invites you to our annual performance



Join us on **Saturday, July 4** at **7.30pm** at the
Reformed Congregation of Carterton
Refreshments afterwards.

Or listen online at
rcnz.org/listen

We would love to see you there!