

Preaching Dates

Sunday 22 March 2020

Glen Cartwright (am) at Fusion to S1-S4's at Newton Mearns Baptist Church by the VOKE App -

<https://www.vokeapp.com/>

Bill Haining (am) live streaming at Peterhead Baptist Church

Stephen Ilett (am) will be providing (via email) a written sermon and prayers for Dingwall Baptist Church for the next four Sundays

Hugh Tannock (pm) reports that a prayer time will be held in homes of the congregation between 7pm and 8pm with doorstep deliveries to commence shortly.



"The Joy of Service"

By Andrew N. Swanson

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Colossians 3:12; 23

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."

Colossians is a wonderful book which provides us with a 'code of conduct' for work. As employees we are instructed (whatever you do) to serve your employers with integrity, giving an honest account of what we are paid to do. As leaders we should focus on the principles of treating colleagues with love, an action which delivers sustainable results;

- Be patient, having self-control in difficult times;
- Be kind, giving encouragement and praise;
- Be humble, thinking of yourself less;
- Be gentle, releasing the grip of holding grudges
- Be compassionate, recognising the many and varied needs of people.

Holding firm to these principles, enables reciprocal relationships to grow and develop where people positively respond to being valued, cared for and respected. Care and compassion are seen as strengths and not only have a positive impact on working relationships but also on the 'bottom line'. Empowerment through the application of these five principles maximises the wellbeing of the workplace and that of individuals. As Christians we fulfil our obligations to our employer, but more importantly to our master.

Leading with love takes courage and confidence; it can be challenging but certainly worth the effort and has the potential to transform people, teams and organisations, where God receives the glory.

Our acts of service (our work) should also bring us joy, which others should notice. It is Jesus who we are ultimately accountable and as such we should remember that, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters." This applies as much to the church as to the workplace. The five principles are also critical to the success of the church; its about intentionally creating and maintaining the right environment so that everyone who serves can deliver an encouraging and enthusiastic experience. Whatever our work we should strive for excellence.

"I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy."
Rabindranath Tagore Indian poet 1913.