



19 OCTOBER 2025

Welcome to worship this morning,
we hope you enjoy being with us.

A special welcome to Boyette
Zapata who is going to share about
his ministry in sharing the gospel in
our local schools.

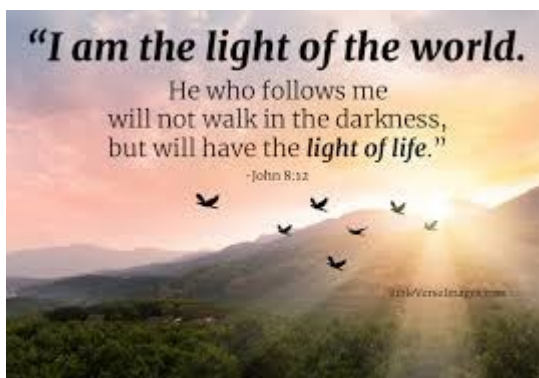
Lectionary Readings

This week 19 October, 2025

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5
Luke 18:1-8

Next week 26 October, 2025

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

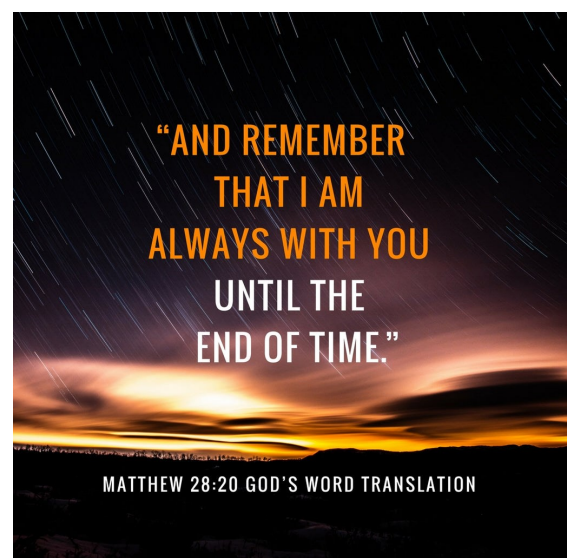


Supporting SRE

There are a number of ways you can
support the ministry of Special
Religious Education in Schools (SRE).

You can subscribe to the monthly
prayer email:
www.subscribepage.com/hccsre

You could also donate to BSB 062202
Account 10291242 or
www.paypal.me/HCMFSRE,
donations can be tax-deductible,
email them on
sre@cumberlandchurches.org.au for
details.





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Theological Reflection Part 1.

As followers of Jesus we reflect theologically all the time. Theological reflection means we think about our faith and how that impacts on our lives, on everyday decisions, on our perspectives, and our actions. Before I go on to give you an example of theological reflection here are some definitions 1. "the purpose of theological reflection is to arrive at an appropriate response to a specific situation" 2. "theological reflection is the integration of belief and action" it is "the intersection of what one believes and how one lives out that belief" 3. "Theological reflection is about transformation – in our thinking and in our perceiving – in our being and in our doing."

Definitions are useful but I offer you a real life example of theological reflection that occurred while I was away in Tasmania. Shane and I and our two friends stayed in Freycinet for two nights and on the last day we boarded a five hour round trip cruise to Wineglass Bay (despite the howling winds and terrible weather forecast). We booked the upstairs luxury deck, which included a gourmet lunch and an 'all you can drink' alcohol tea and coffee package.

Things weren't too rocky initially and a middle aged man across from us was the first to pipe up and order a champagne (at nine in the morning). No judgement, we were all on holidays, however I did become concerned when this man, his wife and his mother continued to drink constantly throughout the morning. The man became even louder, but remained friendly, and jovial. He was having a great time and despite the rocky seas he, at one point sat on the balustrade of the top deck. A crew member asked him to step down just in time. Five minutes later the group he was outside with were buffeted by a massive wave. Two of the party fell over onto the deck and that was when the fun ended. The man's mother became seasick and he spent the return trip holding her sick bag in one hand and her head up in the other as we were all tossed about in our seats by the motion of the ocean.

Our friends were sitting opposite us on the other side of the top deck but they too had witnessed the events of the morning. "I would have laughed if that idiot had fallen off of the deck into the ocean", one of them remarked. "I took an instant dislike to him from the start and it would have served that joker right", he added. This friend of ours is a loving husband and father, an upright law abiding citizen, a little bit surly but in general a great guy, he is also a confirmed atheist.

I had sympathy for the drunk man and I would have been traumatised if he had fallen into the cold, wild ocean. I had a very different reaction to my friend. Why? It's not because I am a nice person, it's not because I am soft hearted, it's because of my faith in Jesus Christ. I will unpack that in more depth in next week's Grapevine, stay tuned!