**Greetings people in Jesus name record this**

**Pastor. Stephan P Dyer – Sunday 16 March 2019**

I would like to spend some time this morning in prayer for those involved in the Muslim Community throughout New Zealand. In relation to what has happened in Christchurch yesterday …..

What has happened in Christchurch is NOT something that should happen in our Country.

We as New Zealander’s are acceptable of any people to be involved in their faith as long as it is not effecting our society in a negative manner.

As like us Christian’s, Muslims are entitled to freely worship without ridicule. If we agree with what they believe or not.

WE can have an opinion, but we certainly do not massacre innocent people.
I have to agree with Prime Minister Adern, that its a dark day for NZ.
There is no place in NZ for such unprecedented violence
let us pray for the Muslim Community in NZ……. **10/15 mins**

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**Start:**

**I had real problems in getting a word from the Lord this week for me to set up a Sermon for today Sunday.**

**The one thing He did impress on me, bigtime, was that He loves ALL people unconditionally, no matter who they are.**

**He just does NOT love some of the things we do.**

**It’s about Loving the person NOT the behavior**

As Christians we are to Love ALL,----- even our enemies.

This was one of the most important Commands that Jesus gave us.

[**Matthew 5:43-48**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Matthew/5/43)

**43**“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+5%3A43-48&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23278a)] and hate your enemy.’

**44**But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

**45**that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

**46**If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that?

**47**And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

**48**Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

[**Luke 6:27-36**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Luke/6/27)

bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

[**Matthew 7:12**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Matthew/7/12)

"In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

[**1 John 4:7**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/1-John/4/7)

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

[**Romans 12:14-21**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Romans/12/14)

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another, do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly Do not be wise in your own estimation.

[**Proverbs 25:21-22**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Proverbs/25/21)

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat, And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink, For you will heap burning coals on his head, And the LORD will reward you.

[**Exodus 23:5**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Exodus/23/5)

"If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying helpless under its load, you shall refrain from leaving it to him, you shall surely release it with him.

[**1 Corinthians 16:14**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/1-Corinthians/16/14)

Let all that you do, be done in love.

**John 13:33-35** Amplified Bible (AMP)

**33**Little children, I am with you [only] a little longer. You will look for Me and, as I told the Jews, so I tell you now, ‘Where I am going, you are not able to come.’

**34**I am giving you a new commandment, that you [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+13%3A33-35&version=AMP#fen-AMP-26665a)]love one another. Just as I have loved you, so you too are to love one another.

**35**By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love *and* unselfish concern for one another.”

Let me re- read this slowly

And listen Carefully to this ….

About the Excellence of Love

**13**If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+13%3A1-8&version=AMP#fen-AMP-28667a)]love [for others growing out of God’s love for me], then I have become only a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal [just an annoying distraction].

**2**And if I have *the gift of* prophecy [and speak a new message from God to the people], and understand all mysteries, and [possess] all knowledge; and if I have all [sufficient] faith so that I can remove mountains, but do not have love [reaching out to others], I am nothing.

**3**If I give all my possessions to feed *the poor*, and if I surrender my body [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+13%3A1-8&version=AMP#fen-AMP-28669b)]to be burned, but do not have love, it does me no good at all.

**4**Love endures with patience *and* serenity, love is kind *and* thoughtful, and is not jealous *or* envious; love does not brag and is not proud *or*arrogant.

**5**It is not rude; it is not self-seeking, it is not provoked [nor overly sensitive and easily angered]; it does not take into account a wrong *endured*.

**6**It does not rejoice at injustice, but rejoices with the truth [when right and truth prevail].

**7**Love bears all things [regardless of what comes], believes all things [looking for the best in each one], hopes all things [remaining steadfast during difficult times], endures all things [without weakening].

**8**Love never fails [it never fades nor ends]. But as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for the gift of special knowledge, it will pass away.

[**Romans 12:9-11**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Romans/12/9)

Let love be without hypocrisy Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

[**Matthew 5:8-12**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Matthew/5/8)

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called, sons of God. "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

[**Proverbs 20:22**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Proverbs/20/22)

Do not say, "I will repay evil"; Wait for the LORD, and He will save you

There are more than 24 references in the New Testament referring to the act of Love.

In the day. When Jesus was teaching this. People were still under Law. The Old Testament. An eye for an eye etc.

We are now in an era of GRACE.

That’s what these words are referring to.

So please, if you have any thoughts toward your brother or sister or anyone else, even the Muslim Community or any other community in NZ, Show love toward them, forgive them.

What did Jesus say on the cross…

[**Luke 23:33-34**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+23&version=ESV)

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said,

 “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments.

Lets think a little about this

[**Grace**](https://dailywalkdevotion.com/forgive-them/)

What Jesus has been through before he got to the cross was un-imaginable.

He had been beaten, flogged, and had a crown of thorns viscously pushed into his head.

He had bleeding whip marks on His back from his skin having been flogged by a whip, which had ripped his flesh on His back, blood pouring out of the crown wounds that pieced His head. And that not even mentioning the nails which were nailed through His wrists and feet.

He could easily hold this against these people for the rest of eternity, and no one would bat an eye.

Instead, Jesus after being nailed and hoisted on the cross, stabbed in His side and then asks his Father (God) to forgive them saying, ….please forgive them Father, as they don’t know what they are doing.

What incredible grace.

Who forgives so easily?

The simple answer is the one who saves us from our sins …. Jesus

What did He say?

**They Don’t Know What They Are Doing**

Have you ever tried to see something from the other person’s perspective? Have you tried putting yourself in their shoes?

It’s not easy, but it can be done.

Sometimes the wrong done to us has been done by someone who didn’t know they were hurting us.

Or someone has false information… heresay

We tend to put random facts and thoughts together and convict the person of a much higher crime. WE become not only Judge but Jury also.

We are sometimes way too focused on ourselves to give much thought to others.

We must forgive them in your heart. Remember…. Where is the Kingdom. (in your heart)

Pray the same prayer as Jesus:

“Father forgive them as they don’t know what they are doing.”

Lets remember what is written in the Mankind Manual (the Bible)

**Romans 12:19 NIV**

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written.

"It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

**Ask For Forgiveness**

Are you holding un-forgiveness in your heart towards someone?

Be set free from that bondage by asking God to forgive you for not forgiving them.

That’s right!

It needs to start with us.

When we withhold forgiveness from someone,

we are sinning ….. being disobedient.

Jesus looked at the Roman Soldiers who were abusing him and the thieves who were mocking him and asked his Father to forgive them. What a great example.

Remember also, to ask Our Father in Heaven for the gift of forgiveness. It is NOT a natural thing to man.

For us to be Kingdom Live’rs, we need to have a forgiving nature.

Where does all this start. In our heart and in our relationship with Jesus. Kingdom Living is all about relationship NOT religion.

**So to conclude**

So please do NOT be a Jury.

Forgive those that do things against us.

Forgive them, pray for them.

Ask that the Holy Spirit move in their lives.

Remember, no one comes to the Father lest he be drawn.

John 6:44 Amplified Bible (AMP)

**44**No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him [giving him the desire to come to Me] and I will raise him up [from the dead] on the last day.

It is our job to Pray and the Holy Spirit’s job to draw. The Church’s job to teach. Its also our job to go out unto all the world.

Remember… **we are saved to serve.**

**Let’s Pray**.

Father.

We thank you for the Country we live in.

In NZ as was taught by our Christian fore-fathers, we strive to be a peaceful nation. We pray for those that have been injured, and those that have died and for their families.

Also for those that have such a twisted view, and that You --- Holy Spirit would move in their lives, that you --- Holy Spirit would open their eyes, open their ears, open their hearts.

Father

WE are under attack.

let us not forget that our fight is NOT against flesh and blood, but against principalities, and powers in high places.

Thank you Father

that you have given us **FULL AUTHORITY**, and in this we stand against those powers that would try and divide and destroy us, in the wonderful name of JESUS - **Amen**