

and be loved by him and have the wonderful ability of loving him.

This week invite Jesus to use you to create a disciple in his image, and to walk with them, showing them how you live with Jesus. Showing them Jesus and how they too can enjoy life with him, so their lives too are created in the image of God.

What would happen if every disciple of Jesus in Murray Bridge took on one new disciple? We'd go from 1000 to 2000, with the potential for 4000, followed by 8000. Who knows, we could go viral. Invite

Jesus this week to lead you by the Holy Spirit to become viral for him, infecting others that they too might become fertile disciples of Jesus.

Let's not let this creation go to waste; God has poured too much of himself into it. God the Father has poured his creative self into it. God the Son has poured his life into it so that we could enjoy life together. God the Holy Spirit has poured his presence into our lives so that we don't just have words but the reality of God's presence, right now.

Let us pray. Jesus thank you for making us your fertile disciples with your DNA of life within each of us. Please sow us this week in to the field of our life that we might die to ourselves and birth new life for you. May we become your personal presence in another's life this week and walk with them as your disciple leading them personally to maturity, that they too might sow their lives into others, that your kingdom grows. Amen.

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## Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am  
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' Disciples, who grow disciples, who grow disciples, who grow disciples...

# 19 June 2011 TRINITY SUNDAY Genesis 1



Today we are reminded that God has revealed himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The story of our life with God begins with Creation. Good News you're not some cosmic mistake, but the result of a very intentional decision. Good News you were created by God to share his life with him in a loving, supportive, caring relationship. As we are reminded today; "So God created human beings in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." (Gen. 1:27)

You were created in God's image because of his passionate desire to share his life with you as his friend. So we have the capacity to love and be loved, which is God's very

character. "God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." (1 John 4:19)

That's also why each of us to some degree or other has a creative streak. We're made in the Creator's image. Each time we're creative, be that in art or music, or solving a problem we're revealing God's creative nature.

And what a beautiful world we have. One theme that runs through the creation story is God's refrain; 'And it was Good'. After the sixth day we read; "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good..." (Gen. 1:31)

Part of this goodness was that God had placed within his creation the ability to

multiply. Again the bringing of life is a reflection of the creator. In creating the birds and fish God said; "Be fruitful and increase in number..." (Gen 1:22b) After creating human kind; "God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number..." (Gen 1:28) The fact that anything can reproduce is a reflection of the creator, the giver of life.

But as we, I hope, know things went horribly wrong. This is not the world as God created. Things have gone horribly wrong, so now we only get a very distorted view of God's nature through creation.

We gave up wanting to be made in God's image and sought to be made in our own image. Wanting God to

be made in our image. This twisted thinking is often expressed in phrases like; ‘I don’t believe in God’ – as if that in any way shape or form makes any difference to God. Only the arrogant would believe that what they think determines reality. But time and time again you’ll hear phrases like; it’s my body, it’s my life, and I’ll do what I believe is right for me.

ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth.” (Gen. 11:4) Here they wanted to stay together and be great in their own lunchtime.

Thank God he hasn’t left us to ourselves, but has sent Jesus to recreate us in God’s

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### We are created in God’s image: Jesus.

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The original sin was a rejection of God in favour of having me at the centre. Having life revolve around meeting my needs, my wants, my desire, shaping life to suit me.

image. Jesus is God’s literal image, being God himself, in the flesh.

Once again God comes personally, as in the first act of creation.

God made us with his hands, not by remote control, not by robots, but personally. Now in Jesus God has come once again, in person, to recreate us in his image.

In Jesus we are created in his image, we’re his

disciples. Disciples growing to be like their Master. Growing up into Jesus. And as with the first creation we are called to multiply and cover the whole world. That’s Jesus’ last words to us; “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...” (Matt. 28:19) We’re not called to make towers making

a name for ourselves, ala Babel, but to go out building Jesus’ kingdom, Jesus’ way.

And one point that comes home to me today is that Jesus’ way is being personal.

The early church community was gathered in Jerusalem, till God gave them a push and ignited multiplication. During that time they’d learnt to be Jesus’ disciples, learning how to live with Jesus, how to tell their story of Jesus and all he had done. Like seeds that are scattered in the field they all had

the DNA to produce life, to multiply.

Just last Sunday; we celebrated God again breathing his breath into his new body, the Body of Christ, giving it life. Giving it the ability to reproduce, to grow disciples of Jesus who are able to grow disciples of Jesus. The reproductive DNA is within all of Jesus’ disciples for we are part of his living body.

When the disciples were scattered in the field of the world they didn’t die out, they multiplied. It always strikes me that it’s mentioned that the only people who stayed in Jerusalem were the Apostles. The ones you’d think would be leading the charge, but no God had other ideas. In fact the spread of Jesus’ kingdom surprised the Apostles. Their role was to verify

what the Spirit was doing.

Who did Jesus scatter as seed on the field of the world? His disciples, who simply witnessed to those they lived, worked and played with about Jesus; tell his story. Telling Jesus story on earth and his story in

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### The reproductive DNA is within all of Jesus’ disciples.

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their lives. And people came to know Jesus and were adopted into his Kingdom, and discipled by the same people, so that they could go and make disciples.

Jesus didn’t use those considered to be the experts, because every disciple of Jesus has his DNA and is able to reproduce fertile disciples of Jesus.

Where doesn’t seed multiply and grow? In the silo!

Today I’m reminded that God created us to be in his image; which means we have the wonderful ability to relate to him, to share life with him. To be loved by him and to love him back. That has always been God’s passionate desire. And he has given us the same passion for him.

Only through Jesus does God reach his goal, for here he has created a

community, the Body of Christ, which can reflect his image, as they are formed by Jesus personal touch, and have the life giving Spirit breathed into them.

This week as you’re scattered in the world, invite Jesus to plant you in people’s lives. To make him personal through you, so that they too might come to share his life with him. So that they too might come to know Jesus,