

Rev Maile Molitika - Minister's Message

"Hola pee te ke hao ki he fale 'o Vave"

You may wonder what a funny topic we have, but this is one of the Tongan Proverbs, and it means - *Flee to the house of Vave so you'll be safe*. The origin of this proverb comes from a place called *Ha'avaka'otua* and this place was located in the western part of the capital of Tonga, Nuku'alofa. Vave was a great warrior and he was well known for his bravery, no one can challenge him and live. All his enemies are afraid of him. **His house is like a Lighthouse** for the people in this area. When someone is in trouble, all he does is look for Vave's house so his life can be spared. If someone was assaulted and was in danger, that person would run quickly to the house of Vave.

Once he entered Vave's house, he is saved. So the meaning of this proverb is about someone who saves people from their opponents. You have to run as quick as you can to the house of Vave, so you'll be safe and sound.

In a way, this is like a refuge for people whose life is in danger, and also people who run away from their enemy. Why using this Tongan proverb in this NeXus Journal? Well, to be honest, we all need safety. Safety first is what we hear all the time at work places and everywhere people are. This proverb is an example of a place of safety for people who seek assistance in time of trouble. It is about our physical safety. We run to this house and assure that once we enter the door, our troubles are over. No one can trouble us anymore.

Being safe in our spiritual journey, that is the utmost hope that we are looking to as followers of Christ. As people of God, we are on a journey too, and there are so many troubles and problems that we face in our journey of faith. If we are not careful in our daily walking, the devil will make us divert and be part of his gang. Ephesians 6:13 is a reminder for us. **The armour of God represents the defence we must take in our spiritual lives.** We are not fighting a physical body of flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil spirit who seeks to destroy us. If we put on God's armour, then we will win this battle. There is no need for us to run to Vave's house anymore. **The ultimate safety comes from God.** We have to put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, we may be able to stand firm.

Grace & Peace, Rev Maile

SHOCK PROOF



Port Fairy Lighthouse, Great Ocean Road, Victoria

I love lighthouses! All along our coastline they stand as silent sentinels warning coastal shipping of hazardous headlands and dangerous coastlines. Have you ever wondered why a lighthouse is built the way it is?

A lighthouse is in fact a tall, tapered cylinder, designed to withstand the savage elements of the rocky capes where they stand.

They can withstand incredibly strong winds and gales because their cylindrical shape deflects the winds around them. Seldom does one hear of a lighthouse collapsing in a storm!

They are designed to be storm proof.

In the devastation of Darwin (Christmas 1974), the houses, which were constructed during a time of stable weather, were not designed to withstand such an intense storm as Cyclone Tracey. The people of Darwin learned from bitter experience that *it's too late to build when the storm comes!* The real building must be done during the calm, peaceful days, with sufficient foresight to withstand the most severe tests of nature.

Human experience is so much like the weather: diverse, unpredictable, fickle and at times, even devastating. Yet, while one cannot predict what may befall us in the days ahead, we can design our lives so as to withstand the stresses which will most surely come upon us.

Tragically, it is only when calamity overwhelms us that we discover how inadequate our life-construction has been. We can construct buildings and skyscrapers to withstand incredible environmental stresses - fire, cyclone, earthquake - yet we have not learned how to frame our lives in such a way as to withstand the stresses of life itself.

Continued next page...

However, in a split second our active and relatively healthy lives radically changed. We had a car accident which changed everything.

It happened so suddenly, and so unexpectedly (as most road accidents are!). In a moment it was all over and quite suddenly I found myself totally dependent upon others for my very life, my basic needs; immobilised on a hospital bed in a small, remote country town. Unable to read, without radio or TV, I found myself thrown back on the only resources I had: my own inner reserve of spirituality.

Over many years (often without realising it), I had been building into my life certain spiritual disciplines of prayer, meditation and inner worship. In my immobilised state, I recalled to mind the lines of favourite hymns, prayers and scriptures which I had memorised, many from my youth. It was these which sustained me through long lonely hours, in the dead of night, when I was without any human company. I had been building, slowly but surely over the years, and when the crisis came, my inner spiritual reserve sustained me. But it is too late to ask, "Where is God?" when the storm comes!

How then can we shock-proof our lives?

**Truly, if you want an enduring structure
you must build with enduring materials**

The things which endure are those which are essentially eternal: truth, integrity, beauty, love, joy, kindness, thoughtfulness, patient listening to others, gentleness... Eternal values are everlasting! As we build these into our lives, so we are building eternity into our life relationships.

Remember, a structure is only as strong as the materials from which it is built. A strong spiritual house requires construction with lasting spiritual values. Add to this the spiritual disciplines of prayer and meditation, spiritual reflection, disciplines of forgiveness and reconciliation and you will build into your life values which can withstand the most severe onslaught.

*Take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess,
the beauty of Thy peace.*

"Dear Father, Lord of Humankind"

John Greenleaf Whittier

(1807-1892), TiS 598

Grace and Peace, Rev Graham Warne

SEVEN DAILY PRAYERS

JUNE 2023 compiled by Rev Peter Hall
Read aloud in the morning, and/or at dinner time

Day 1 This day, O Lord, may your presence enfold us within and without;
may your peace be in our hearts and in our minds;
may your joy brighten up our 'being';
may your love flow through us to touch another person's life;
may your Spirit be our guiding power
that we may know that we have walked with you this day.
In your name, Jesus, we pray, Amen.

Day 2 We wake in the morning, O Lord, from the blessing of a night's rest,
to the opportunities of the day ahead.
We pray with thankfulness in our hearts for the divine love we continue to receive.
May that love be our inspiration to everyone we meet this day
and in all we do and say.
In our work and in our relaxation may we feel your presence
that brings peace of mind and being.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Day 3 O Lord, when difficulties and trials come into our lives
may we trust you completely for guidance through these times
that, in trusting you, we do not worry about the process or the outcome.
Your ways, O Lord, are not our ways and we acknowledge that
your wisdom is greater than our wisdom and understanding.
Where we have sought to follow our own wisdom and understanding
we ask you to forgive us that we may know peace of mind.
This we pray in Jesus' Name, Amen.

The **NeXus** between our mission and our spiritual power is the gathered congregation. While God comes to us by His Spirit thus transforming us by his grace, we are drawn into precious fellowship with each other.
As a congregation gathers for worship, it is being strengthened,
then sent out again for a missional purpose.
In times such as these, this copy of **Nambour NeXus** is provided
so that you may have resources to assist you in your personal
or household worship of God, to assist you in growing your faith,
and to encourage your concern and prayers for others.

Day 4 Gracious and holy God our Father,
I thank you for the many blessings I receive from you.
I am not worthy of them or the great love you show toward me.
Often I fail to live up to the standard that your Son set before us.
Through His death on the cross we have forgiveness for our failings.
For this we give thanks and praise you.
May I this day share that love with every person I meet through word and deed
that you may be glorified. In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen.

Day 5 Unto to you, O Lord, do I lift up my heart this day,
being sincerely grateful for the opportunities that it may bring.
May all I do today be acceptable to you.
Keep me ever mindful that I am dependent
on your abundant grace and blessing.
Teach me to know that godliness with contentment is to my gain
and to live accordingly.
In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen.

Day 6 Dear Lord God, as this day opens before me may you hold centre place in it.
Life is full of uncertainties that can shake my faith and my being.
Touch me again with your love and as I feel your presence in my life
may my trust and faith in you be strengthened despite circumstances.
As we read of our Saviour's life and teaching, may the qualities of goodness
be continually strengthened and deepened in our lives.
As people see us may we be a reflection of Jesus Christ and attract others
to want to know Him. This we pray in His name, Amen.

Day 7 Dear Lord, another day has passed and its events have touched my life.
The mistakes that I have made today make me realize how much I need you.
That need is not just for a moment but continuously.
Forgive me where I may have failed you and others in different ways.
Thank you for the blessings that I have received from you
directly and through others.
Thank you that the knowledge of your love for me
will enable me to sleep peacefully and ready to serve you tomorrow.
This prayer I pray in the name of your Son, Jesus, Amen.

CHURCH EMAIL

nambouruca@gmail.com

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

[nambouruca.youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnambouruca)

WEBSITE

nambouruniting.org.au

2023 Sunday Services are available on the Nambour Uniting Church Website and youtube

The website also contains Mission Possible photos, word study, reflections, stained glass windows and more

Thanks to Don Heaton for recording our Services, and Ian Brown for our great website

WE ARE THE LIGHT AND HOPE OF JESUS

“God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.”

– 1 John 1:5

Are you a beacon of hope and light to those you encounter? The world is in desperate need of hope. **We have a LIVING HOPE within us who is JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.** Without Him, we are lost. The world is lost without Jesus, for there is no hope apart from Jesus, He is the Light of the World and the Light of our lives.

A lighthouse shines its beacon of light and hope into the darkness of night. The beacons warn of impending danger and guide vessels safely on their way.

***“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul,
firm and secure.”***

– Hebrews 6:19

Lighthouses have long been symbols of hope. They have served as key navigational aids throughout the ages. Fog may envelop coastlines... storms may rage at sea... winds may throw ships off their courses. Yet lighthouses offer hope for safe passage.

Lighthouses are often built into rocks to allow them to withstand the wind and storms and Jesus is our firm foundation. He is the Rock to whom our lives are anchored. Through Him, we resist all that the world casts against us. He calms our storms... He stills our raging seas... He quietens our fears. His Light illuminates our lives, ridding us of the darkness of sin. Jesus becomes the Hope that anchors our souls and the Light that guides our lives.

***“You are the light of the world...
Let your light shine before others.”***

– Matthew 5:14, 16

Jesus Christ is THE TRUE LIGHT. His light dispels all darkness. Jesus says we are the light of the world because of His Light shining in us. He has chosen to reflect His light through us, His followers, to an unbelieving world. If we live for Christ, we will shine out like lighthouses into the darkness.

Jesus calls us to be His Light in this world. Wherever His Light shines, there is HOPE. Through Him, we give light to those enveloped in the fog of the enemy's deceptions. We offer truth to those whose lives have been blown off course. We extend hope to those who are facing harsh storms in their lives.

“Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me.”

– Psalm 43:3

Continued next page...

As beacons to the world, we are not to hide the light and hope within us. **We are to be Christ's light-bearers**, letting His Light shine through us, pointing the way to salvation. How do we show this light and hope?

- By rejecting the evil that is in our world
- By spreading the GOOD NEWS about our loving belief in Christ
- By sharing about Jesus Christ to those in darkness
- By being strong in the conviction of our beliefs in Jesus Christ
- By disallowing sin to dim our true light and our true witness
- By allowing Jesus Christ in all areas of our lives
- By living out the Kingdom Values of God for the world to see

Our brightness flows from the life of Jesus. Others will see by this light that they may be lost in the darkness without Him. They may see the danger of drifting through life by their own light, following their own course.

They will see the salvation that only Christ can provide!

***“Honour Christ and let Him be the Lord of your life.
Always be ready to give an answer
when someone asks you about your hope.”***

– 1 Peter 3:15

God works through us to tell the world about Christ. Let us be witnesses to the world, just like a lighthouse on a stormy night. Let us send out our beacon of light and hope to a dark world. Let us unite with Jesus to guide those who are lost to safe passage. **We just may be the lighthouse in someone's storm, leading them to the only One who can save.**

Adapted from; beacon-of-hope-light-witness-as-a-lighthouse

Minister

Rev Maile Molitika 0425 378 174

Pastoral Care Ministry

Rev Graham Warne 5478 9747

Nambour Congregation Chairperson

Ian Woodward 5441 1069

Church Council Officers

Ian Woodward - Chair

Helen Staines - Secretary

Alison Hall - Treasurer

Lynn Blackwood-Troyahn

Property & Compliance

Church & Office: 5441 1135

37 Coronation Drive NAMBOUR QLD 4560

PO Box 1100, NAMBOUR, Q 4560

Office: open most Tuesdays and Thursdays

9.30AM to 2PM Jimmy 0411 314 306

DIRECT DEBIT/TRANSFER

To make your offering using

DIRECT DEBIT/TRANSFER

you will need to go to your bank or use the internet banking service.

You will need the following information:

Bank: ANZ

BSB: 014010

Account No: 286751378

Thank you all for being generous people. May your giving become the power of love in the world.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS JUNE 2023

CLICK on the 2 to 3 underlined readings for each day to access the daily verses on the Bible Gateway website for the Daily Bible readings

Thursday, June 1, 2023: [Psalm 8](#); [Job 38:1-11](#); [2 Timothy 1:8-12a](#)

Friday, June 2, 2023: [Psalm 8](#); [Job 38:12-21](#); [2 Timothy 1:12b-14](#)

Saturday, June 3, 2023: [Psalm 8](#); [Job 38:22-38](#); [John 14:15-17](#)

Sunday, June 4, 2023: [Trinity Sunday](#) [Genesis 1:1-2:4a](#); [Psalm 8](#); [2 Corinthians 13:11-13](#); [Matthew 28:16-20](#)

Monday, June 5, 2023: [Psalm 29](#); [Job 38:39-39:12](#); [1 Corinthians 12:1-3](#)

Tuesday, June 6, 2023: [Psalm 29](#); [Job 39:13-25](#); [1 Corinthians 12:4-13](#)

Wednesday, June 7, 2023: [Psalm 29](#); [Job 39:26 to 40:5](#); [John 14:25-26](#)

Thursday, June 8, 2023: [Psalm 33:1-12](#); [Genesis 13:1-18](#); [2 Peter 2:17-22](#); [Psalm 50:7-15](#); [Lamentations 1:7-11](#)

Friday, June 9, 2023: [Psalm 33:1-12](#); [Genesis 14:17-24](#); [Acts 28:1-10](#); [Psalm 50:7-15](#); [Lamentations 3:40-58](#)

Saturday, June 10, 2023: [Psalm 33:1-12](#); [Genesis 15:1-20](#); [Matthew 9:27-34](#); [Psalm 50:7-15](#); [Exodus 34:1-9](#)

Sunday, June 11, 2023: [Proper 5](#) [Genesis 12:1-9](#); [Psalm 33:1-12](#); [Hosea 5:15-6:6](#); [Psalm 50:7-15](#);
[Romans 4:13-25](#); [Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26](#)

Monday, June 12, 2023: [Psalm 119:41-48](#); [Genesis 16:1-15](#); [2 Corinthians 6:14-7:2](#); [Psalm 40:1-8](#);
[Leviticus 15:25-31](#); [22:1-9](#)

Tuesday, June 13, 2023: [Psalm 119:41-48](#); [Genesis 17:1-27](#); [Hebrews 13:1-16](#); [Psalm 40:1-8](#);
[Hosea 8:11-14](#); [10:1-2](#)

Wednesday, June 14, 2023: [Psalm 119:41-48](#); [Genesis 18:16-33](#); [Matthew 12:1-8](#); [Psalm 40:1-8](#); [Hosea 14:1-9](#)

Thursday, June 15, 2023: [Psalm 116:1-2 & 12-19](#); [Genesis 21:1-7](#); [Hebrews 3:1-6](#); [Psalm 100](#); [Exodus 4:18-23](#)

Friday, June 16, 2023: [Psalm 116:1-2 & 12-19](#); [Genesis 24:1-9](#); [Acts 7:35-43](#); [Psalm 100](#); [Exodus 4:27-31](#)

Saturday, June 17, 2023: [Psalm 116:1-2 & 12-19](#); [Genesis 24:10-52](#); [Mark 7:1-13](#); [Psalm 100](#);
[Exodus 6:28-7:13](#)

Sunday, June 18, 2023: [Proper 6](#) [Genesis 18:1-15 & 21:1-7](#); [Psalm 116:1-2 & 12-19](#); [Exodus 19:2-8a](#);
[Psalm 100](#); [Romans 5:1-8](#); [Matthew 9:35-10:8-23](#)

Monday, June 19, 2023: [Psalm 126](#); [Genesis 23:1-19](#); [1 Thessalonians 3:1-5](#); [Psalm 105:1-11 & 37-45](#);
[Joshua 1:1-11](#)

Tuesday, June 20, 2023: [Psalm 126](#); [Genesis 25:7-11](#); [2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5](#); [Psalm 105:1-11 & 37-45](#);
[1 Samuel 3:1-9](#)

Wednesday, June 21, 2023: [Psalm 126](#); [Nehemiah 9:1-8](#); [Luke 6:12-19](#); [Psalm 105:1-11 & 37-45](#);
[Proverbs 4:10-27](#)

Thursday, June 22, 2023: [Psalm 86:1-10](#); [Exodus 12:43-49](#); [Hebrews 2:5-9](#); [Psalm 69:7-10 & 16-18](#);
[Jeremiah 18:12-17](#); [Hebrews 2:5-9](#)

Friday, June 23, 2023: [Psalm 86:1-10](#); [Genesis 35:1-4](#); [Acts 5:17-26](#); [Psalm 69:7-10 & 16-18](#);
[Jeremiah 18:18-23](#)

Saturday, June 24, 2023: [Psalm 86:1-10](#); [Ezekiel 29:3-7](#); [Luke 11:53-12:3](#); [Psalm 69:7-10 & 16-18](#);
[Jeremiah 20:1-6](#)

Sunday, June 25, 2023: [Proper 7](#) [Genesis 21:8-21](#); [Psalm 86:1-10 & 16-17](#); [Jeremiah 20:7-13](#);
[Psalm 69:7-18](#); [Romans 6:1b-11](#); [Matthew 10:24-39](#)

Monday, June 26, 2023: [Psalm 86:11-17](#); [Genesis 16:1-15](#); [Revelation 2:1-7](#); [Psalm 6](#); [Micah 7:1-7](#)

Tuesday, June 27, 2023: [Psalm 86:11-17](#); [Genesis 25:12-18](#); [Revelation 2:8-11](#); [Psalm 6](#); [Jeremiah 26:1-12](#)

Wednesday, June 28, 2023: [Psalm 86:11-17](#); [Jeremiah 42:18-22](#); [Matthew 10:5-23](#); [Psalm 6](#); [Jeremiah 38:1-13](#)

Thursday, June 29, 2023: [Psalm 13](#); [Micah 7:18-20](#); [Galatians 5:2-6](#); [Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18](#); [Jeremiah 25:1-7](#)

Friday, June 30, 2023: [Psalm 13](#); [2 Chronicles 20:5-12](#); [Galatians 5:7-12](#); [Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18](#);
[Jeremiah 25:8-14](#); [Luke 17:1-4](#)