
Newsletter

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adelphicare.org

God-centred care
for everyone



In this issue...



One of the most frequently asked questions of me as a pastoral carer is, ‘Why?’ Why is John suffering such debilitating pain in hospital? Why has Mary died so young when she has left behind two children and an unemployed husband? Why is Brother David, now at the age of 93, suffering from advanced dementia, when he was such an active and vibrant member of our ecclesia? Why has Sister Amanda had another miscarriage? Why does little Billy, at the age of 4, have cancer?

My usual, immediate answer is “I don’t know”. I have no idea why these ‘events’ take place in an individual’s life. I have some Scriptural reasons why, in general, these events take place but, at a time when such questions are often asked, it is not usually appropriate to launch into a theological explanation. And, very rarely does the person asking the question expect a definitive and immediate answer. I usually further respond that “I am so sorry that this is happening. Can I help you in some way - perhaps by praying with you that you and your loved one might be comforted by the loving hand of our Lord?” This will often provide an opportunity for the caring person to express their feelings which can, in itself, help them through their concern for their loved one.

What are some of the Scriptural explanations for what is happening in illness, suffering and death? And what can I do to help? ([Read more...](#))

<https://www.adelphicare.org/documents/101-why.pdf>

Pastoral Visitor Program (PVP)

First groups almost finished

The first offering of the Program commenced early in June and in mid-July, three groups of participants have

just about finished their seven video Workshops via the Microsoft Teams app. They have come from Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane. The two hour workshops have been held either during the day (a group from Maranatha in Brisbane) or early evening – very early in Perth (5 pm)!

At this stage, we do not know when the next set of workshops will commence but, if you let us know your interest we will contact you with further information. If you wish, the whole Program can be completed online – except for two personal, individual video discussions. Please check out the details and express your interest.

<https://www.adelphicare.org/visitor/index.html>

“How do I help someone ... “

The next essay (on supporting others during marriage) is now available on the site.

<https://www.adelphicare.org/HDIHS/015H.marriage-support.html>

Carer’s Corner

Simple care

A Sunday morning is often the only time some members (and children and young people) in our ecclesias have an opportunity to meet with other people of our faith during a week. How do we help them? Our help can be very simple – do we say “Hello!”? We can initiate this. Simple? Yes. Do we do it? Not always. We all know it is just not possible for us to have an extended conversation before or after our Sunday meetings. But a warm, sincere greeting to everyone we see, and including those we do not always see each Sunday, can make a real difference to the brotherly and sisterly contact each week. **It shows we care** and that we can make an effort to pay them some attention. **After all, are we not wanting to spend eternity with them?** We can be so insensitive sometimes when we walk straight past someone without a glance, or seem too busy to engage in conversation. How many people have we hurt by not acknowledging that this was the first meeting they had attended after a major illness? “...**have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.**” 1 Peter 1:22

(Please note - you may need to cut and paste the addresses into a browser to access the documents.)