

**Confident Caring: Pastoral Carers Workshop**  
**Sunday October 20th, 2019 at 2:30pm**  
**Burnside City Uniting Church: B. Callen**

**5 Biblical lessons on Confident Caring**

**1. The Parable of the growing seed**

Know the limits of what your responsibility is to care and what is Gods.

**Read out/act out: Mark 4:26-29.**

**Group Discussion**

What is this passage saying?

How does it relate to pastoral care? The main characters of the parable are a seed, a farmer and God. Who could be the pastoral contact and who is the one being cared for and what role does God have?

What in a pastoral care situation can help grow the seed, what can stop growth?

Think and share an example that illustrates this? Share any examples where you have tried to "grow the seed" yourself?

**Role play**

Scene 1:

Person A: The Pastoral Contact (good example who knows limits and trust in the saving power of Jesus).

Person B: The super needy calling and texting at 2am 4am and 8am every day.

Scenario: B calls A at 1am wanting a chat about their anxiety over a colonoscopy that is scheduled in 2 weeks time.

Role play again but with A. being a pastoral contact who knows no limits and tries to be Jesus.

**Summarise the key learnings.**

**2. Barnabas the Encourager**

Barnabas went, look, found and brought Saul to the church then spent a whole year meeting and teaching together.

**Read out/act out: Acts 11:9-26 especially verse 25**

**Group Discussion**

What is this passage saying?

How does Barnabas encourage Saul?

How does it relate to pastoral care? How can we apply the encouragement of Barnabas to pastoral care?

Think and share an example that illustrates this? Share any examples of Christian encouragement?

## **Role play**

Scene 1:

Person A: The Pastoral Contact (good example of Christian encouragement).

Person B: Someone who is new to church is filled with the spirit and would be a good Church Elder but is nervous about it.

Scenario: A encourages B to nominate for Church Council during Sunday morning tea.

Role play again but its now December and person A did not get accepted by the congregation as a new elder. A meets with B for coffee.

**Summarise the key learnings.**

### **3. Jesus heals and follows up a man born blind.**

The importance of follow up.

**Read out/act out:** John 9:1-12 then 24-34 then 35-39.

## **Group Discussion**

What is this passage saying?

How does Jesus pastorally care for the man born blind?

How does it relate to pastoral care? How important was the follow up of Jesus? Talk about when you have experienced someone following up a conversation or the impact of following others up. Discuss the balance between good, helpful follow up and being seen as nosy and interfering.

## **Role play**

Scene 1:

Person A: The Pastoral Contact (good example of Christian pastoral care).

Person B: Someone on the pastoral contact list who shared last week that they are nervous about their kids going back to school.

Scenario: Brainstorm ways in which good, healthy follow up can be made. Role play one scenario.

Brainstorm ways of taking follow up too far. Role play one of these.

**Summarise the key learnings.**

### **4. Blind Bartimaeus receives his sight**

Ask the question, never assume the obvious. Stop and listen to those that others don't want to hear.

**Read out/act out: Mark 10:46-52.**

## **Group Discussion**

What is this passage saying?

How does Jesus help/care for Bartimaeus?

How does it relate to pastoral care? Who is like Jesus? Who could be like Bartimaeus? Who could be like the crowd?

What did Jesus say and do?

Think and share examples that illustrate asking what might seem the obvious question "What do you want me to do for you?"?

### **Role play**

Scene 1:

Person A: The Pastoral Contact (a poor example: quick to act, slow to notice and listen).

Person B: Someone on the contact persons list who everyone knows recently lost a close relative but is actually concerned about a brother who doesn't know Jesus.

Scenario: B meets A at church and asks for help and prayer.

Role play again but with A being a good example of listening, Christian care and prayer.

**Summarise the key learnings.**

## **5. Role of the Holy Spirit as guide (Phillip and Ethiopian)**

Listen and be confident in the Holy Spirit.

**Read out/act out: Acts 8: 26-40**

### **Group Discussion**

What is this passage saying?

What is the role of the Holy Spirit?

How can this story relate to pastoral care?

Think and share any examples that illustrates this or examples where the Holy Spirit has helped pastoral care?

### **Role play**

Scene 1:

Person A: The Pastoral Contact (a Spirit-filled person who has recently had an image or picture of person B from their list).

Person B: Someone who has been recently struggling with guilt (feel free to make up their own vice) and feelings of being unworthy in the eyes of God.

Scenario: After receiving a vision A rings B to chat.

**Summarise the key learnings.**