

THE REVOJUTION

CHRIST ENTHRONED. HUMAN EXISTENCE REDEFINED.

Sunday 27th May 2018

Guest Speaker: Andrew Naylor (Australians Together)

Reconciliation

Guest speaker Andrew Naylor spoke on the topic of Reconciliation. Andrew the Church Relationships Manager at Australians Together whose work is to bring together Indigenous and non-indigenous Australians.

See Australianstogether.com.au

This morning Andrew challenged us to make room and listen to the voices of Indigenous Australians.

Reconciliation is a deep and meaningful term for us as followers of Christ. It's also a story that is playing out across the nation of Australia, and in our communities as well as in our own hearts.

- Take a moment to think about the word reconciliation.
- What does it mean to you?
- When have you seen reconciliation happen?
- When have you experienced it yourself?

Reconciliation with God

Andrew encouraged us that ultimately, reconciliation with God has to be our first priority.

Read Colossians 1:18-20. Andrew read from the Message translation:

¹⁸⁻²⁰ He was supreme in the beginning and—leading the resurrection parade—he is supreme in the end. From beginning to end he's there, towering far above everything, everyone. So spacious is he, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in him without crowding. Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms—get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of his death, his blood that poured down from the cross.

- What does this tell us about Christ's resurrection?
- Why is reconciliation needed?



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- What are some examples of brokenness you see in your community?
- Does this change your perception of reconciliation with Indigenous Australians?

Reconciliation with each other

Andrew reflected on the passage in Luke 16:19-31 – The Rich man and Lazarus.

- How does this story make you feel as you read it?
- What do you think God's message is to us now as we read this passage?

Andrew noted that the Rich man knew Lazarus' name (v27). He obviously had an awareness of who Lazarus was, but for whatever reason, busy-ness, not knowing what to do, he doesn't appear to have provided care for Lazarus.

Andrew challenged us to put aside our agenda and find time to hear the stories of people who are suffering. But also to make room for the voice of our Indigenous brothers and sisters. This is the first step of reconciliation.

Making room to hear other's stories

Andrew played a video of the story of Aunty Iris. She reflects on her childhood and the relocation of her family by the Queensland government.

You can watch it online at: <https://vimeo.com/86872697>

Watch the story together or perhaps reflect on Aunty Iris' story as a group.

Spend time in prayer for reconciliation. Pray for healing of this wound in our country's history. Pray for healthy and strong Indigenous communities. Pray for true listening between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.