



# Newsletter

FEBRUARY - 2022

Greetings!

## FROM PASTOR MICHAEL

As I read various articles about leadership and life, I come across articles which are fascinating. I read this and was wowed by it. It is about a rugby team in New Zealand called the All Blacks. Since 1980, they have been ranked number one in the world over 80% of the time. That means over the past 42 years, 34 of them they were number 1. That's a dynasty.

The All Blacks work off a set of principles called 15 All BLACK PRINCIPLES. I want to share the first 7, and the final 8 next month. They are simple, yet extremely powerful. Maybe these will make a difference in your life.

### 1. SWEEP THE SHEDS

(Never be too big to do the small things that need to be done)

Rugby is a team sport, and everyone needs to contribute on and off the field. All players clean the shed (the locker room) as an example of humility, which is a cardinal All Black rule.

### 2. GO FOR THE GAP

(When you are on top of your game, change your game)

If you stand still everyone will pass you by. The All Blacks are always looking for ways to test themselves. Seeking continuous learning leaves no room for complacency.

### **3. PLAY WITH PURPOSE**

(Ask Why?)

Good skills can be ineffective if you do not know what you are trying to achieve. They understand the shared goals, which unifies the team.

### **4. PASS THE BALL**

(Leaders create leaders)

In rugby the captain is just one member of the team. But successful teams have leaders throughout their ranks. Take responsibility.

### **5. CREATE A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

(Leaders are teachers)

Coaches want hungry players. Players who want to learn and develop their game, who constantly strive to improve. It does not mean it is solely the coaches responsibility. The All Blacks encourage players to share and mentor one another.

### **6. NO JERKS**

(Follow the whanau {family})

The All Blacks are very much a team first and look to add players who have the right character. Some very promising players are never asked to join the team because they do not have the right character.

### **7. EMBRACE EXPECTATIONS**

(Aim for the highest cloud)

A culture of expectations enables the asking and re-asking of fundamental questions 'how can we do better?' Taking risks in setting personal goals and team targets enables to aim higher.

The final 8 principles will come next month. For now, read these and absorb them. Challenge yourself to be the very person God has created you to be. These may be one avenue the Master uses to help you grow.

Be a blessing as you demonstrate the love and power of Christ to the world.

IMPACT PRESENTS

# Valentine's BANQUET

FEBRUARY 6, 2022

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 - DINNER SERVED AT 6:00

DONATIONS WILL GO TOWARD  
OUR SUMMER MISSION TRIP

CARRYOUT AVAILABLE - PLEASE LET THE  
CHURCH KNOW YOUR NAME AND HOW MANY  
MEALS YOU WOULD LIKE AND A YOUTH  
MEMBER WILL DELIVER THEM TO YOUR  
VEHICLE BETWEEN 6:00 AND 6:15

Please click [HERE](#) to see the event on Facebook and let us know if you're attending!



## Save the Date

### Ultrasound Dedications and Tours

Anderson (6 W 8th St.) - January 31, 9 am - 11 am

Muncie (3020 N Oakwood Ave.) - February 7, 9 am - 11 am



## COVID UPDATE

We thought by this time all of this would be gone, but covid is here to stay. As always, we want you to feel comfortable attending worship, or worshipping from home, work, or school. We are OK if you wear a mask or do not. That is a personal decision, and we appreciate the thought which goes into those decisions.

Personally, we have battled through the virus over the past few weeks, as Debbie had it and is still battling the effects of the virus. It hit her hard and seemed to pass over me. That is part of the strange randomness of the virus.

We continue to sanitize the church and keep it clean as we want you to feel comfortable when you come to the church to worship.

With that in mind, as I met with the Deacons in January, we came to an agreement that for now, we will resume using the all-in-one cups for communion. I know it is not as nice and can be messy and hard to open, but for everyone's comfort and safety, we believe this is the best decision for now. We will review this decision on a monthly basis.

## SERVICES



### Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration

2:00-4:00pm: Impact (grades 7-12)

### Tuesday

7:00pm: Ladies Zoom Bible Study  
with Debbie Deutsch

### Wednesday

6:30-7:30pm:

High Point (grades K-3)

Crew 456 (grades 4-6)

Impact (grades 7-12)

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### WRITE ALL THE WORDS

God told Jeremiah, "Write all the words which I have spoken to you in a book" (Jeremiah 30:2). God repeatedly instructed His people to write down what He told or showed them (Exodus 34:27; Deuteronomy 27:8; Jeremiah 36:2; Habakkuk 2:2).

In fact, after His people were delivered from bondage in Egypt, He had them keep a written record of the things He had done for them so that whenever they faced an intimidating enemy, they could review the records and remember God's powerful hand and loving guidance in their behalf, thus building their faith as they faced new obstacles and difficult adversaries. If it was wisdom then, the value of keeping written records for such reasons certainly has not lessened today.

Furthermore, human nature being what it is, we have a tendency to forget things we have previously heard, even if they were impactful at the time we heard them. In fact, Hebrews 2:1 reminds us, "We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away." One way to help prevent important things from drifting away is to write them down and periodically review them.

Taking to heart God's instruction in this area, many Founding Fathers kept these types of written records. For example, among John Quincy Adams' 14,000 handwritten diary pages are numerous occasions recording what God had impressed on him while he was listening to a sermon or reading a Bible passage. Another Founder with a similar practice was signer of the Declaration Benjamin Rush, who kept a journal in which he wrote down Scripture verses that particularly stood out to him during the course of his regular Bible reading.

Among the topics in his personal prayer and Bible journal, many of them related to prayer, including those on the "efficacy of prayer," "objects or prayer," "manner of prayer," "places of prayer," and "times of prayer." He also wrote down verses that struck him as being particularly applicable to "kindness to strangers," "obedience to parents rewarded," "God's particular moral government," "charity," "revealed arts and human knowledge," "remedy for anger," "governments," "atonement," "friendship," "inquiring into prophecy," "Divinity and humanity of Christ," and many others.

Benjamin Rush, just like Jeremiah, had obeyed God's command to "Write all the words which I have spoken to you in a book." This practice of keeping a written record of what God has shown or done for us is a good practice to follow today.

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