



TEMCARE NEWSLETTER: May 2020

A WORLD IN CRISIS



Well, 2020 has so far been a challenging year. Commencing with heatwaves and massive bushfires, the nation then experienced floods and finally the Coronavirus. Many people have reflected on how these experiences have been the worst they have known in living history, whilst others have placed them in the context of; past world wars, the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic, and the 'Great Depression' of the early 1930's.



Whatever your perspective, 2020 has clearly been complex and difficult for many individuals, families, churches, Christian agencies, and businesses. During this period, some have questioned the existence of God and/or His mercy and grace in the face of their despair.

For others however, they have found that our Heavenly Father has been where He has always been; namely, with them despite how they have felt. Many have also come to a stronger understanding of Paul's declaration in 2 Corinthians 12:9, where he reflects on words spoken to him by Jesus.



TEMCARE'S RESPONSE IN THE MIDST OF THIS CRISIS

Another aspect to this crisis has been the response of people towards others. Whilst we were rightly shocked and appalled at the early 'hoarding' behaviour of some and the greed it

revealed, more recent events have demonstrated the genuine care that people can have for others.

Recently, our Facebook page displayed the following message:

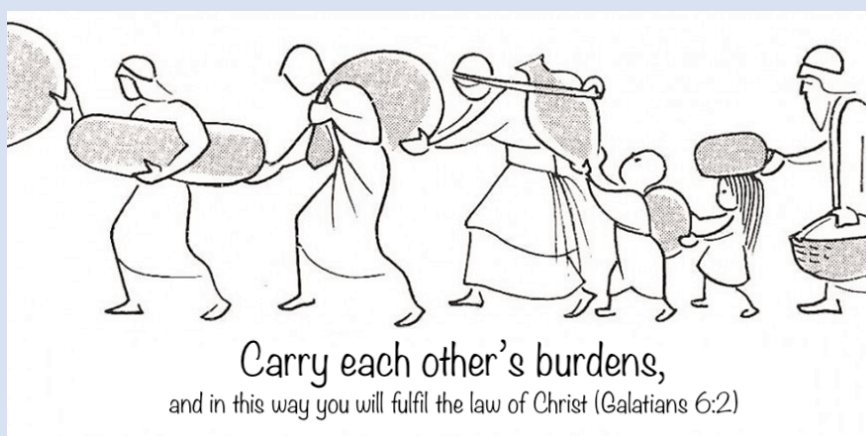
“~ Carry Each Other's Burdens ~

What a crazy time in history it is. A time where some are feeling incredible loss and isolation, while others are finding a new sense of rest in their life.

And while fear has tried to be the loudest voice, it has been beautiful to see the way people have responded in selflessness to other's needs.

It won't make front page news, but we know there are innumerable untold stories of people who have decided to "help carry another's burden". Sometimes this has taken the form of an anonymous bank transferral, an unexpected bag of food at the door, or perhaps a much-needed telephone conversation. God sees it all and smiles! What a joy it is to live in community that looks out for each other. Let's keep it up 😊

*Also, if you, or someone you know, is struggling during this time then give us a call on 9877 7729 and we will try our best to assist. Your life is important.”



Throughout this crisis Temcare has attempted to be a ‘burden carrier’ for the many families and individuals whom we serve. Although restricted by the COVID-19 social distancing requirements, staff have nevertheless been very creative and faithful in trying to maintain contact with clients and volunteers, whilst also seeking to directly support as many of our clients in appropriate and practical ways.

Our families have experienced heightened levels of personal and familial stress that have tested their capacity to adequately function. The support they have received from staff has assisted many to see ‘God’s light’ at the end of their dark personal tunnels.



We have also been enormously encouraged by the support provided by you, our incredibly faithful and generous supporters during these times. For example, in response to the request for funds to support a ‘fresh food’ program for our

clients, people donated just over \$6,000. We are in the process of using these funds to purchase and deliver ‘fresh food’ hampers every fortnight to clients in need. We also continue to regularly distribute general food hampers provided by members of Belmore Road Church of Christ. A recent donation of 20 Mother’s Day hampers from one of our supporters enabled us to bless some of our mothers.



Some of our staff recently reported on the responses from mothers who received ‘fresh food’ hampers, along with some other items donated by our financial supporters. Here are some of their comments:

“Hey Nev, a good news story for you. Yesterday as part of our massive delivery coordination of gifts, hampers etc. I gave one of the mother's day gifts to a mum whose daughter is part of the MATES program. She was the one who thanked us for taking her daughter on camp saying that she felt like she had her old daughter back again. Anyway I left the gift on her doorstep and she has never received anything from our program before. I told her she's a fantastic mother and does an amazing job. Last night I received a text from her thanking

us so much for the surprise. She was so grateful and moved that she cried tears of joy. She was really blown away that we thought of her.”

“M was so grateful for the groceries and said that you wouldn’t believe how much she appreciated this. She’s missed fresh fruit and has been surviving on frozen veggies, which she said isn’t too nice. When she saw the fresh milk she was even more excited and said that she was actually needing milk. She said it was so helpful and she wanted to thank us all for thinking of her and [her daughter].”

“D was really excited by the devotional book.”

“Worker dropped over a Mother’s day gift and devotional book. M said they were coping fine with having to be at home. They’ve done a lot of cooking so she jokingly said the only problem was they would get quite big if this didn’t end soon. She seemed to be in good spirits. M gave the gift to her son, because she’d told him he could give it to her on Mother’s Day.”

“Worker dropped a fresh food hamper over. D answered the door and was incredibly thankful for the food. She kept saying how much they appreciated it. Two of her children who came to the door were really excited by the bag of fresh food too.”

TEMCARE’S NEEDS DURING 2020/2021



The new financial year will be very challenging for us at Temcare. Due to the current economic circumstances, one of our major financial supporters will not be able to provide its usual funding for Temcare's ministries until the economy improves and social distancing restrictions are eased. It will also mean that the previous co-matching arrangement for any donation made to Temcare will not be available in the new financial year. We are therefore looking to our Heavenly Father to financially provide our needs through His people.



Thank you for your support during this challenging time. We know that you all pray for Temcare's ministry, and in many cases are also able to financially support us. Please continue to pray that:

- Staff will be healthy and remain committed to being Jesus' hands and feet to those in need.**

- Our families and individuals will come through this crisis relatively intact.
- Our Heavenly Father will use what we do to genuinely assist our clients and that they will come to understand more of His grace.

Also, if you are able and would like to financially support Temcare's ministry, you can do so by providing a donation either via our online website donation option, or alternately, through a direct deposit. The relevant details are:

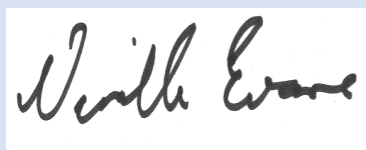
Bank: ANZ
BSB: 013328
ACC: 484168802

As always, donations over \$2 to Temcare are tax deductible and will be issued with a receipt upon request.

As I personally reflect on 2020 thus far, I am encouraged by the words of Jesus in John 10:27-30, where He declares:

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one.”

My Heavenly Father and my Saviour are bigger than this crisis. Despite how I feel, I know that I am safe and secure because I am in their hands. So, be encouraged.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neville Evans". The script is cursive and fluid.

Neville Evans

Temcare Manager

The words "God bless you" are written in a colorful, bubbly, 3D-style font. "God" is in blue and yellow, "bless" is in blue and yellow, and "you" is in pink and blue.