

4. FINALLY: I came across this bright thought recently.

"Try wriggling your toes at worship. There's probably not much other action going on, and in this way you can generate some on your own without offending the Pastor. If you really get bored, try to generate some applause for a particularly meaningful portion of the liturgy (if you can find one)."

That appealed to me. Does that show a poor attitude, do you think? Actually I hope that you like it also, and that you keep on enjoying the love and grace that Christ showers on us poor sinners.

John Sabel,
L.S.F. Chaplain.

JACOB'S LADDER - A NEW FOUNDATION

I'm not too sure what kind of concept people have had in the past of Jacob's Ladder Coffee Lounge. It doesn't matter. As new children of Jesus we are concerned about the present and what He would have us do in the immediate months ahead. Where we have succeeded in the past we thank God, and for the times we have failed we ask His forgiveness. It's not that we obliterate the old from our jaded memories - we have much to learn from it - but rather we look forward to what the Lord would have us do during 1974.

What's happening? What's the new vision? Well, brothers and sisters, quite a lot is happening. To the naked eye there are several immediate happenings. (Rev.) Doug Kuhl has arrived (he prefers to be thought of as an ordinary guy without a title) to take up full time (almost) work. At about the same time Doug arrived, a hole in the northern wall of the 102 Gawler Place premises revealed a nicely done-out section of large rooms right next door, which was duly offered to us and accepted! Since then amateur carpenters, painters, designers, sloggers and foremen have set to work. A pretty expensive sound system has arrived and a resource library of books, magazines, tapes and records is beginning to form. A media workshop is in the offing (actually, it's to be at the back of the new area). But that is just by the way, the real vision for the house has to do with people.

I suppose the physical environment at the place is fairly important. Kids and others shouldn't feel threatened by bright lights and gleaming cultural baggage. They need to feel at home if they want to become a part of the family - and I guess that's about the vision of the place. A family centred around Jesus and His good news to man - a loving and caring community of Christians giving out His light and being the salt of His earth to the alienated people around Adelaide. Sounds quite simple, but the implications are really heavy

.... Like involvement in the family implies being on time for tea, being prepared for the guests when they arrive. That takes a lot of dedication and preparation and other -ations ...

However, do not fear, lest ye be overcome by the magnitude of it all. There is much to be done for sure, but remember we are only the earthly vessels and the strength and power in the family comes from its Father. We believe that the Lord will give us this as we ask him when our needs arise.

Now for some practical things. O.K., a community of disciples of Jesus gather to share their faith with others. But how? Like Jesus did, so we too need to know the needs of the people we are talking and sharing with, and that involves some homework. It means being sensitive to what's going on in the lives of people around us. If we're going to have a ministry to people who are looking for an alternative life style we ought to provide that alternative. We need to meet people where they are, like Jesus did. That's a pretty radical concept to the Church today with all of its fifteenth century cultural baggage. But it's not a new thing in the Church. The end of Acts 2 provides an illustration of an alternative life style which seems to be very much in tune with the kind of thing the alternative culture people are looking at. So let's be there with them, and yet apart from them; with them in a cultural sense but apart from them in terms of a truly Christian life style.

Why? Well, just how does a non-Christian come to know that Jesus loves him, through his encounter with Jesus people? For so many people, particularly those involved in the counter culture scene, that encounter has been bad news. We have been insensitive to their integrity. Our words have been empty and meaningless because they have not seen them ring true when they look at our life style. We can't afford to be church kids doing their thing in the world - there's something smug about that. Love and concern has to be a genuine 'gut-level' thing if it comes from Christ. Anybody can sense that kind of love when they come into contact with it. There isn't a need for a great deal of words when a non-Christian comes into a community of people who share love and concern with each other because they know Christ.

But it's a mind-blowing challenge to be involved in that kind of community in a street-level situation - and it's exciting to think what the Lord might do when we get dinkum about it all.

Karl Brettig,
A.U. Graduate

KAIROS '74

This venture arose spontaneously from a consultation held in Melbourne last November and the light of Kairos '73 held last March where 2,000 young people gathered from around Australia to pray for the Nation in Canberra.

Kairos '74 is a grass roots movement seeking to provide a meeting place for Christian Young People. It will be an opportunity for mutual sharing, learning and training. Above all else it will be a combined outreach and witness with young people coming together across denominational barriers as never before in Adelaide.

A series of events is planned and details are listed on the attached poster. Emphasis is being placed not on events but rather on face-to-face contact with people in the streets through Street Drama, Music, Pottery and other crafts - booths will be set up around the city and parks. Coffee House work will feature.

Kairos '74 is an attempt to bring together Jesus People and while maintaining the aim, share together to remind Adelaide that there is a God who in Jesus is concerned for every aspect of our lives.

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