

An Awesomesauce Hothouse

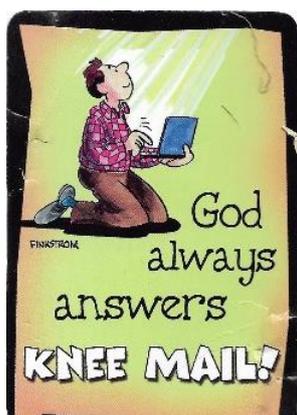
The words we speak can touch the listener in a way the nature of our message is perceived. This past year with many encounters and church needing to be on-line, I have noticed the mixed blessings on how words play a different role.

Zoom: a rapid rushing sound. Now means face to face interaction on our screens. Mixed blessing that we can “mute” sounds. But beware; the host has “power” to mute and remove us.

Unstable: lacking stability. Now used with regard to our broadband speed. Breaking in and out of sessions. Easy to miss vital points.

What does this say about God communicating to us?

Thankfully God is;



Not unstable.

Not limited to 140 characters.

His postings to Facebook and Twitter controlled.

No mute button.

Never removes us from His presence.

Awesome = inspiring

Sauce = to enhance the flavour of food.

Hothouse = Greenhouse.

2020 listings. “Smash them together” like the final game in Richard Osman’s “House of Games” programme. We now have a new sense and meaning.

Awesomesauce Hothouse

Extremely good. A busy environment rapidly developing fresh ideas.

The rapid in “Hothouse” did not sit comfortable with me. Especially as church has to be cautious. Taking small steps rather than long jumps. I began to think about what alternative word I could use. I found it when listening to a recent webinar titled “The 3 Rs;” Recovery. Rest. Re-imagine. I homed in on “Rest” and Alex Soojung-Kim Pang explanation in his sub heading of his book on this subject;

“Why you get more work done with working less.”

Alex Soojung-Kim Pang recognises being busy all the time drains us emotionally, physically and spiritually. It is more difficult to get creative. Any zest for life weighs heavy.

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. [Genesis 2]

Since rest is good enough for God, it must also be good for us.

**The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
he refreshes my soul.
He guides me along the right paths
for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.**

{Psalm 23}

Relax – Accept the security you have with God. There is no expectation we must be effortlessly doing.

Refresh - Be nourished by the Holy Spirit that restores strength.

Revive - Rested and refreshed we can emerge to develop ideas.

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Here is my description and meaning:

Being fully involved and re-imagining our expression of faith. God encouraging bold confidence. People worshipping and serving God with reverence and awe. Working together in striking communication with rigorous thinking and strong commitment. In addressing our way forward, we come together in both the variety of ideas and experiences.

An inspirational church that in rest becomes food for mission.

God

