

## **Robby Keen from Jenga visits us.**

On Sunday, we had the pleasure of welcoming Robby Keen from Jenga. If you haven't had a chance to listen to his message yet, I'd really encourage you to do so. Robby was quite prophetic and his message echoed much of what we've already been hearing. It felt like a confirmation of what God has been stirring in our midst.

### **What Robby is seeing in the wider Church**

Because of Robby's role, he regularly travels across the UK, the US, and Australia, as well as throughout Uganda. Since Jenga is non-denominational, he gets a unique perspective on what the Holy Spirit is doing across different churches and nations. Here are a few of the key things he's noticing:

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#### **1. We're in a time of accelerated change**

Between the aftermath of COVID-19, Brexit in the UK, the war in Ukraine, the situation in Israel, and Donald Trump's presidency, we're living in rapidly changing times. It's tempting to long for things to go back to how they used to be—but that's not how God works. He's always doing something new.

This is especially challenging for the Western Church. Robby observed that we can often become too comfortable and distracted. "We're like sheepdogs lying on a rug in front of the fire," he said. "Why would we want to move? But we *need* to, in order to be ready for what God is going to do."

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#### **2. Preparation**

Robby believes we're in a season of preparation—something that resonates with many of the words we've already received. For example, at our last combined prayer night on 23 February, Lena Johnston shared:

"God IS going to bring a new move of His Spirit. He will do it regardless of how we respond—but He wants to include you. Will you give Him your 'yes'? Is there anything that would hinder your yes?" (Esther 4:14)

Robby noted that those churches that are preparing are focusing on the same things. They were:

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##### **1. Mission**

Mission isn't just something that happens overseas—it's right on our doorstep. Robby encouraged us to consider where we're being sent:

- Within our families
- In our workplaces
- In our streets

He shared how both he, his mum, and his stepdad came to faith through Alpha. Then he told us about his best friend who one week said, “No” to coming to Alpha, but who on the following week was asked to Hillsong London. He went and was invited to Alpha. He said “yes” this time and ended up giving his life to Jesus and is now a pastor.

We often come up with reasons not to invite others:

“That’s not me.”

“I don’t know enough Scripture.”

“I’ve asked before”

“I wouldn’t know what to say.”

“They’re closed off.”

Robby shared a story about a man he met in peak hour in London. Everyone was avoiding him, and Robby was also on a tight schedule but he stopped to ask if he was okay. Within minutes, that man gave his life to Jesus.

He reflected, “All it took was for me to stop and say, ‘How can I help?’”

**Questions to reflect on:**

- Where is the Spirit leading you on mission?
  - Who are you be praying for?
  - Who could you ask to Alpha?
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## **2. Unity**

Unity is key—within our local church and across the broader Body of Christ. Why is it so important? Robby quoted Leviticus 26:8:

*“Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall chase ten thousand.”*

Unity is one of our church’s three key focuses. We’re already seeing signs of growing unity:

- Young adults stepping into mission
- Tim King’s work with local pastors
- Youth ministries across the Bellarine collaborating
- The three Sundays and two weeks of prayer and fasting in February, with combined worship nights
- Shared support of David and Lil Barnett's Bible translation work for First Nations people, and the APY Lands mission trip

True unity comes from being aligned with God—through the Son and by the power of the Holy Spirit—so we can live from the love of our Heavenly Father.

**Reflection questions:**

- Are there areas where God is calling you into deeper unity with Him?
  - Is there someone you need to be reconciled with?
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### Practical Unity

One very practical way to foster unity is through clear and positive communication. We aim to keep you informed via our E-News, Facebook, Sunday services and life groups. Reading the E-News and staying up to date is one simple way you can help maintain unity by knowing what's going on. This helps us to pray and work together.

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### 3. Welcoming the Holy Spirit

Robby reminded us of Moses in Exodus 33:12–13. As Moses prepared to lead Israel into Canaan, he said to God: *"You've been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but You haven't let me know who You will send with me..."* And God responded: *"My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."*

We need the Holy Spirit more than ever. We're to actively seek His **presence**. Robby shared three examples:

- The **Lakeland Revival** in 2008: Most healings and deliverances happened during workplace meetings where people simply sought God's presence.
- **Philippians 3:12–13**: Paul reminds us that we haven't arrived—we keep pressing forward, seeking more of Christ. We should be content in Christ but never be content with our level of maturity in him.
- **Matthew 14:28**: Jesus calls Peter to walk on water in a storm. Robby said, *"It's safer to be on the water with Jesus than in the boat without Him."*

**James 4:8** encourages us: *"Humble yourselves, draw near to God, and He will draw near to you."*

#### Reflection question:

- Is there an area of your life you need to humble yourself to draw near to God?
  - What would stepping out of the boat look like for you?
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### Stepping Out

We've got some great opportunities to step out and draw near to God:

- **Prayer and Fasting** – 22–27 April, ending with worship and prayer at The Wave
  - **24 Hours of Prayer** for Alpha and church unity – 25–26 April
  - **St Leonards Church Plant** – Our next service is 13 April. Join us Tuesdays from 3–4pm at the Catholic Church foyer to pray into this vision.
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### Serving

There are many areas in our church family where we need strengthening. Is the Holy Spirit prompting you to get involved?

- **Morning duties (Communion prep, welcoming, morning tea)**: Fiona – 0422 376 397, fhorne84@gmail.com
- **Kids Church helpers**: Holly – 0475 916 130, holly.woodburgess@hotmail.com
- **Media team (sound & AV)**: See Griff
- **Youth mentoring**: Michael Curtis – 0430 353 706, michael@churchbythebay.com
- **Cleaning team**: Fiona – 0422 376 397, fhorne84@gmail.com

- **Worship team (musicians & singers):** Renee – 0431 670 673, reneeagudelo@gmail.com  
Catherine – 0418 310 967, cattaylor84@hotmail.com
  - **Alpha cooking, group facilitation:** Theo McCoy – 0421 129 223, mccoys.theo@gmail.com
  - **Prayer intercession:** Jo Chandra – 0402 308 428, jochandra3@gmail.com
  - **Pastoral care:** Greg & Jen Illingworth – greg\_jen08@bigpond.com  
Greg – 0414 396 877, Jen – 0422 921 939
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### **In Conclusion**

There's so much more I could share about how Robby's message aligns with what we've already been hearing—but for now, I'll leave you with this. The Holy Spirit continues to urge the Church, **Get ready!**

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