

FAITH SEED NEWSLETTER

Scripture Union Fiji's Testimonials

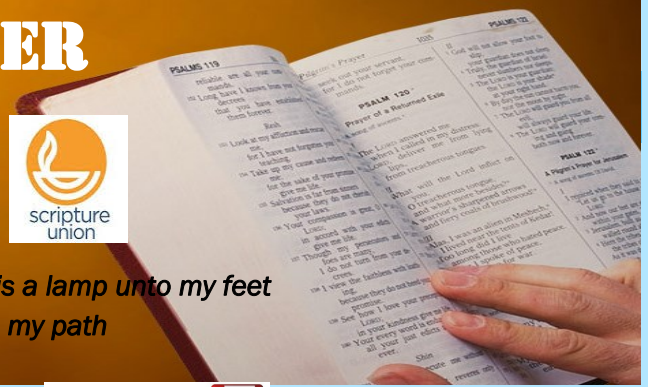
Scripture Union's Partnership Update: JANUARY 2017

Email: sufijiartnership@gmail.com

This is our Partnership Good News(letter)...



scripture union



Psalms 119: 105—Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path



CROSSING OVER TO A BLESSED 2017

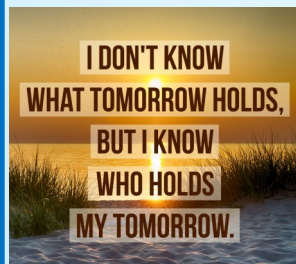


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It's a new year, and along with the festivities comes the resolutions..arhh, the good old list that we put together with the hope of a good year, an improved self and a chance to do better than last year. Well, resolutions are a great start, but if you are like most of us, the resolutions and all its great intentions often fly our the window the very next day...or maybe a week or so later.

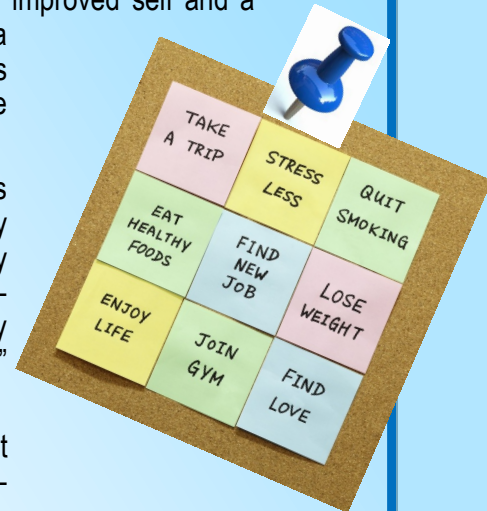
Whatever your new year resolution is, a New Year brings with it the promises and hope of starting a fresh each day and more so we are presented with another opportunity to do things differently, improve our selves, manage relationships better and a whole range of things. The beauty of a new year is in the new beginning and the "fresh start" so to speak.



While there may be also be a lot of uncertainties ahead, the perfect assurance is that in Christ, we have a hope for the days ahead. We step comfortably and boldly into the new year assured that Christ holds our today and tomorrow as surely as He created the world and me included. The great reminder in Jeremiah 1:5, "before I formed you in your mother's womb, I knew you" is most certainly the promise we can hold on to as we embark on the 2017 journey.

Carrie Ten Boom, the famous watchmaker and Christian who helped many Jews escape the Holocaust and exposed her life to death, said that we must "never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." She spoke these words with conviction as she defied the Nazi regime, because Corrie Ten Boon recognized that her only hope was not in the seen, especially the uncertainties of it all, but in God alone. Her confession of God was from her own struggles and persecutions and yet still seeing His presence through it all.

2017 is ahead of us and this is again a mission year for Scripture Union. Responding to the commands of the Lord in Matthew 28, our Great Commission is the mission field we have been serving in for the past 55 years in Fiji, our schools, our young people. Yes, this year is also Scripture Union's 55 years of service for the Lord in our beloved nation. What a feat when we reflect back on the many challenges to overcome, the literal and proverbial mountains we had to climb, valleys, rivers and seas we had to cross to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And yet, in all this, despite the financial lack, the challenges of the past and the hurts of mission, our SU Team over the years have served with passion, zeal, joy and dedication. They have seen the challenges as opportunities to keep trusting God and that is the only thing that have kept our office doors ministering and serving for the past 55 years. Many young people have come through our doors and many more have given their hearts and lives to Jesus. They have gone on to become pastors in our nation; missionaries, business people; professionals; civil servants, fathers and mothers and are now raising the next generation of champions for the Lord. It is this next generation, that Scripture Union will continue to open its doors for again this year. It is for the Lord that we continue to serve again. Your **PARTNERSHIP** both prayerful and financial allows us to do that, it allows us to keep serving in this mission field, so thank you again. Our cross over resolution at SU Fiji this year is to go to the next level of mission and service for our God.

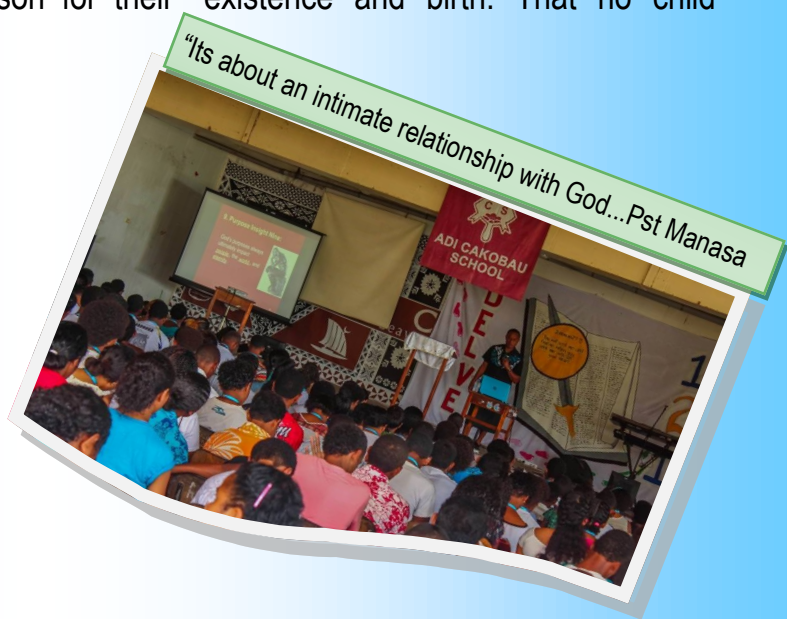
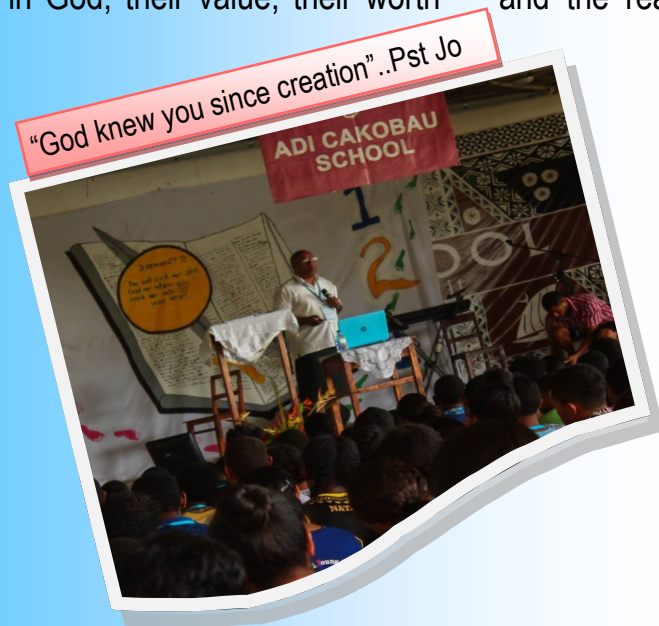


Special points of interest:

- Past Newsletters and Information of SU, visit us on <http://scriptureunionfiji.weebly.com/>
- To volunteer with SU through one of its programs, don't hesitate to talk to us.
- To be a Financial Partner with SU, see back of this newsletter

Annual Camp Editorial: DELVE 1-2-1 with God

Pastor Manasa Kolivuso and Pastor Joe Lauvanua certainly did no mince their words as they taught and shared the Word of God on the camp theme of Delve 1-2-1. Their piercing message cut straight into the heart of a personal intimate relationship with God and letting go of the vices of youth and the life of compromises that distract many people from enjoying God's best in their lives. The sessions were deep and stirred the hearts of the campers as the speakers shared passionately from the Bible touching areas such as identities, purposes, passion, sexualities, creation and intimate relationship with God. Campers were reminded that in order to truly know God, they ought to know who they are in God, their value, their worth and the reason for their existence and birth. That no child



was an accident of nature, but that we are intimately fashioned and purposed by our Creator God to be champions. The ultimate purpose of our creation, comes down to the pursuit of God as "Father or daddy God" through intimacy with Him by the study, meditation and living in obedience to the Word of God and also praying, fasting and having a hunger for God. Campers also took time in reflection to discuss and apply the Scriptures in their own lives before their groups took turns in the larger plenary to share about lessons learnt as well as its application of the Word in context.

In agreeing to the 2016 Annual SUIs camp theme, the SU young leaders in their planning felt that there was an urgency amongst their peers to not just know God and the Word but importantly to dig deeper in the Word. Delve is about going deeper and 1-2-1 is simply, a one to one relationship with the Lord. And so the camp speakers, pastors Jo and Manasa prayed for and delivered a Word that captured the theme and in turn challenged the campers about their own personal relationship with the Lord. The root of an intimate relationship with God is depended on how much time we spend with God and learning more about Him through His Word. In turn it is about pleasing God and ensuring that we continue to walk in obedience to His Word. As part of their camp packages, campers were all gifted with a Bible from the Bible Society of the South Pacific and a Daily Devotional that was funded by the kind sponsors of our ministry friends. This package was a timely one and a practical tool for campers as it would assist them in their daily devotionals and Quite time.

The 2016 Camp definitely made its mark and left an impression on all that attended both students and adults who volunteered at the camp. Delve 1-2-1 certainly did not apply only to the campers but to all who are serious about pursuing a personal and intimate relationship with God especially in 2017. There can be no substitute, no greater meaning in life, than one founded and lived in Jesus Christ.

Annual Camp pictorials: DELVE 1-2-1



Annual Camp Special Edition

Minister for Women, Children and Social Services visits the Campers

Hon Mereseini Vuniwaqa, the Minister for Women, Children and Social Services visited our SUIS campers at ACS with her ministry officials. The Minister shared about the work of her ministry and in particular highlighted the importance of child protection and the government's strategies in ensuring that the children of Fiji are better protected. In hearing about the work of Scripture Union, the minister confirmed that the government recognizes the importance of working with such ministries in their efforts to better strengthen and empower young people. In hearing about the activities for young people such as camps, the term rallies or Christian fellowship in schools, the Minister said that she was blessed to know of the outreach of SU and the work we currently do and have done in the past 50 years. The Minister then spoke to the 430 campers before hosting us to a dinner at the school dining hall. This was one of the first visits of a government minister to witness the work of Scripture Union and emphasize the importance of collaborating with government in terms of our work. In welcoming the Minister, the Chairman of Scripture Union, Sitiveni Kalou said that Scripture Union was blessed to host the Minister at this year's annual camp and hoped that this opportunity would strengthen our ongoing work with children in our nation, especially as her ministry continued its outreach in Fiji around child protection.



Hon Vuniwaqa with Ms Rokobua Naiyaga, a member of our SU Trustees.

Meet the Camp Director...

Volunteering comes in many form at Scripture Union. The Camp Director being one of them. At the ACS Camp, old girl and former SU Council member, Ms Mariana Tukana stepped into the role of coordinating the finer details of the camp as 400 students marched into camp. The camp directors and leaders are often the first people to wake up and last ones to sleep and for Ms Tukana, the joy of serving the Lord in this role was one truly to behold. Mrs Tukana was a SUIS camper with her husband in the early 90s, Mr. Usa Tukana (our SU Trustee) and now her youngest son, is also a camper. Jone Tukana their eldest, also attended all the SU camps during his years at Marist. Serving God at SU is a Tukana family tradition.



The Tukana and Teilai families

Jone Tukana their eldest, also attended all the SU camps during his years at Marist. Serving God at SU is a Tukana family tradition.

And the Assistant Directors



Nacebas



McLarens

Assistant camp directors Kini Naceba (boys) and Sera McLaren (girls) took a week off to serve the campers at the SU Annual camp. Kini married to old girl Akesa and Sera herself an old girl are also all former SUIS campers. Serving as assistant camp directors are in themselves full time calling and the assistant directors executed these roles with passion and enthusiasm. Both the Nacebas and the McLarens are also part of the SU leadership team in the western division and they have attended numerous SU camps and activities since their high school days.

ACS Old Girls support Annual Camp

The ACS OG network came in support of the Annual Camp by providing supper for the campers. These include the famous ACS *babakau* to pastries and delights which campers thoroughly enjoyed and looked forward to each evening at camp. To see the heart of the OG's as they partnered with Scripture Union in providing and helping to serve the supper was truly a blessings. ACS old girl Ms Fine Ditoka shared that the old girls including those overseas contributed towards the supper calling it a "worthwhile investment" as



OG's Ms Fine, Ms Emi and Dr ILelea (camp doctor) at ACS

they sowed into the lives of the campers. This is a first time for an old school network to partner with SU in providing weeklong meals for campers. SU is blessed to have many students come through its ministry and every year these individuals or groups come to support our ministry efforts in various ways. The presence and support of the ACS OG's at the camp including that of the principal, an old girl was indeed welcomed. SU continues to welcome the support and partnership of old scholars in its ministry efforts as we reach out more in 2017.

Annual Camp Special Edition: Talking about Purity



PURITY means
looking to GOD
for our
STANDARDS
and not the
WORLD..

Arrhhh, there goes the “P” word. At a time when the conversations around “Purity” is not that “sexy” anymore for a generation caught up in a fast changing world, we keep the topic on our “to share” list as we confront and challenge our generation whose understanding of purity is assaulted by the sex crazed world of advertisements, magazines, social media and forums that now over glamorise sex and sexuality. I am certainly not talking about the knowledge of sex, rather the understanding of the term “purity”. The BIBLE decrees verses about Purity such as Hebrews 13:4—*Keep the marriage bed pure*” and *Psalms 119:9—“How can a young man keep himself pure? By living according to your Word”* etc. These are not just heavenly statements; they are godly authorities on the subject of Purity, reminding us of the very nature of God who calls himself Holy and Pure; *1 Peter 1:16, Leviticus 20:26, Leviticus 11:44-45, Deuteronomy 23:14*. And so this is an area that we constantly keep on our discussion agenda with our young people, and we find young people are keen to hear and learn more about these subjects.

Campers at ACS, delved into this subject again during the Gender Night with Pastors Lusi and Pati Leqa sharing on the dynamics of holiness and purity and the need to raise up young men and women who will see each other in the purity of God’s Word and continue to be each other’s keepers. The boys in particular at their session learnt about being “my sister’s keeper” a principle taken from Genesis 4:9 and with hearts opened wide, invited the Lord to help



them in this act of faith. The lower hall at ACS was transformed by the presence of the Lord as the boys surrounded the girls at camp with this pledge and affirmation of respecting and honouring them as sisters. As tears of confessions and affirmation freely flowed this night, the Lord was clearly working in the lives of these campers as they took a step towards purity. It was a night of healing and restoration for the many who may have been hurt by relationship, or whom the enemy may have deceived by the lures of a ungodly relationship. The subject of Gender was about challenging the psyche and the spirit of the young men and women to recognise their divine and godly identities and to respect the boundaries that God has proclaimed in His Word. It is about calling sin for what it is and yet recognising that as Christians, we have victory over sin and death and that the standards of our relationships must reflect the victory that we have in Christ Jesus and that it be kept within the boundaries of purity.

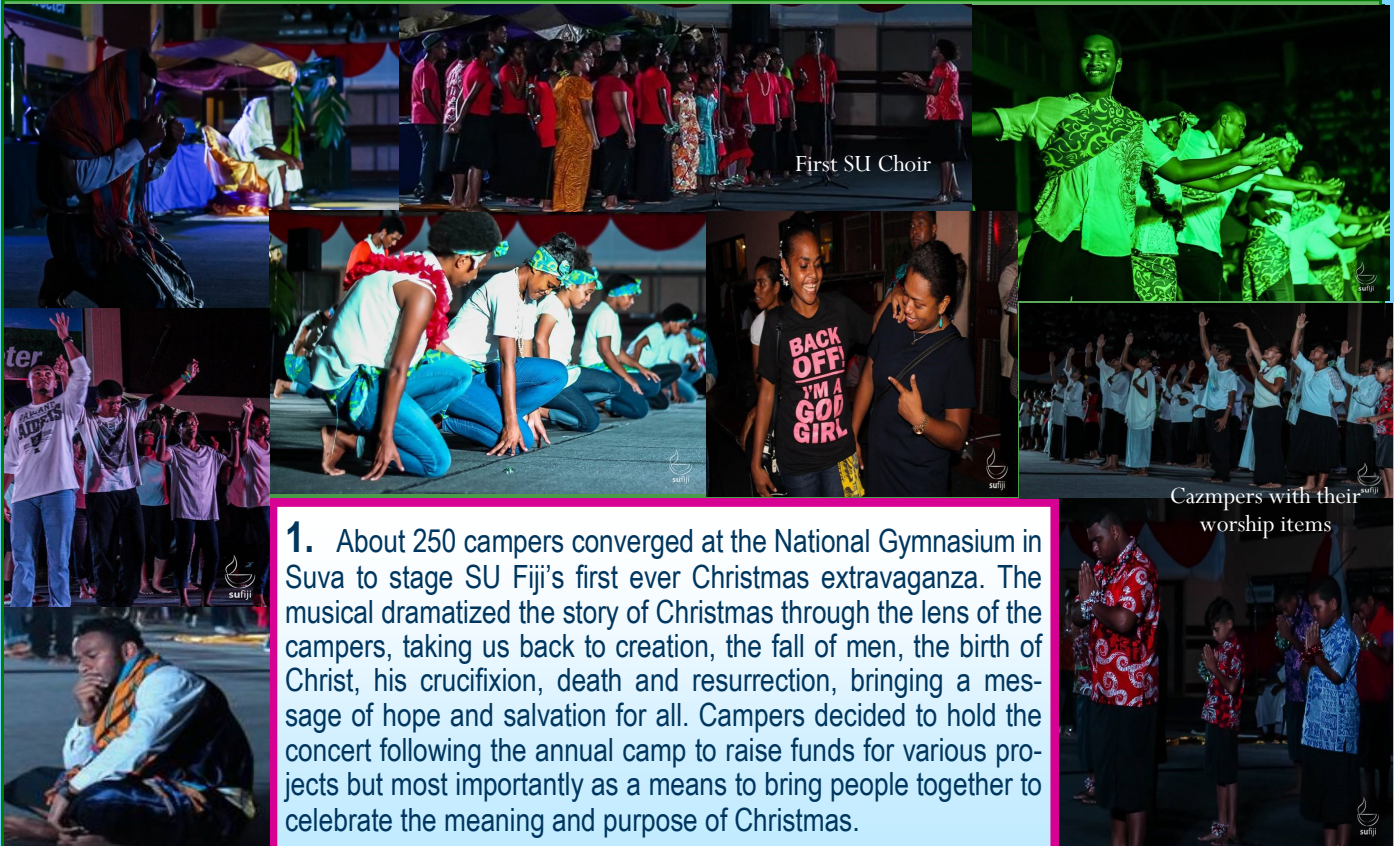
RELATIONSHIPS SHOULD DRAW YOU CLOSER TO CHRIST, NOT CLOSER TO SIN. DON'T COMPROMISE TO KEEP ANYONE, GOD IS MORE IMPORTANT.

As a ministry working with young people, we find that the opportunities to talk about purity, holiness, sex and identities are important as we shape the worldview of young people who are constantly barraged by the worldly dictates of sex, relationships and identities. It is in speaking God’s truth in love that we see more a generation of young people who are pursuing holiness and purity while bringing back GODLY standards in their relationships.





Scripture Union Christmas Production



First SU Choir

Cazmpers with their worship items

1. About 250 campers converged at the National Gymnasium in Suva to stage SU Fiji's first ever Christmas extravaganza. The musical dramatized the story of Christmas through the lens of the campers, taking us back to creation, the fall of men, the birth of Christ, his crucifixion, death and resurrection, bringing a message of hope and salvation for all. Campers decided to hold the concert following the annual camp to raise funds for various projects but most importantly as a means to bring people together to celebrate the meaning and purpose of Christmas.

2. The SU Christmas production was also an opportunity for the campers to remind the crowd that the message of Christmas is wrapped up in the simplicity of the birth of Christ, the lowliness of the manger, yet the power and authority of God made manifest through the resurrection. The birth of Christ was the manifestation of salvation; God came in the flesh and lived amongst us, pointing us the way to the Father. The SU kids, certainly had fun as they blew the crowd away with the Extravaganza...not bad for a group that only had a week to practice, but showed the power and message of Christmas in their outreach this concert night.



Volunteer Daiana does a worship solo before joined by her group



Our primary school students worshipping with Mrs Tuwere

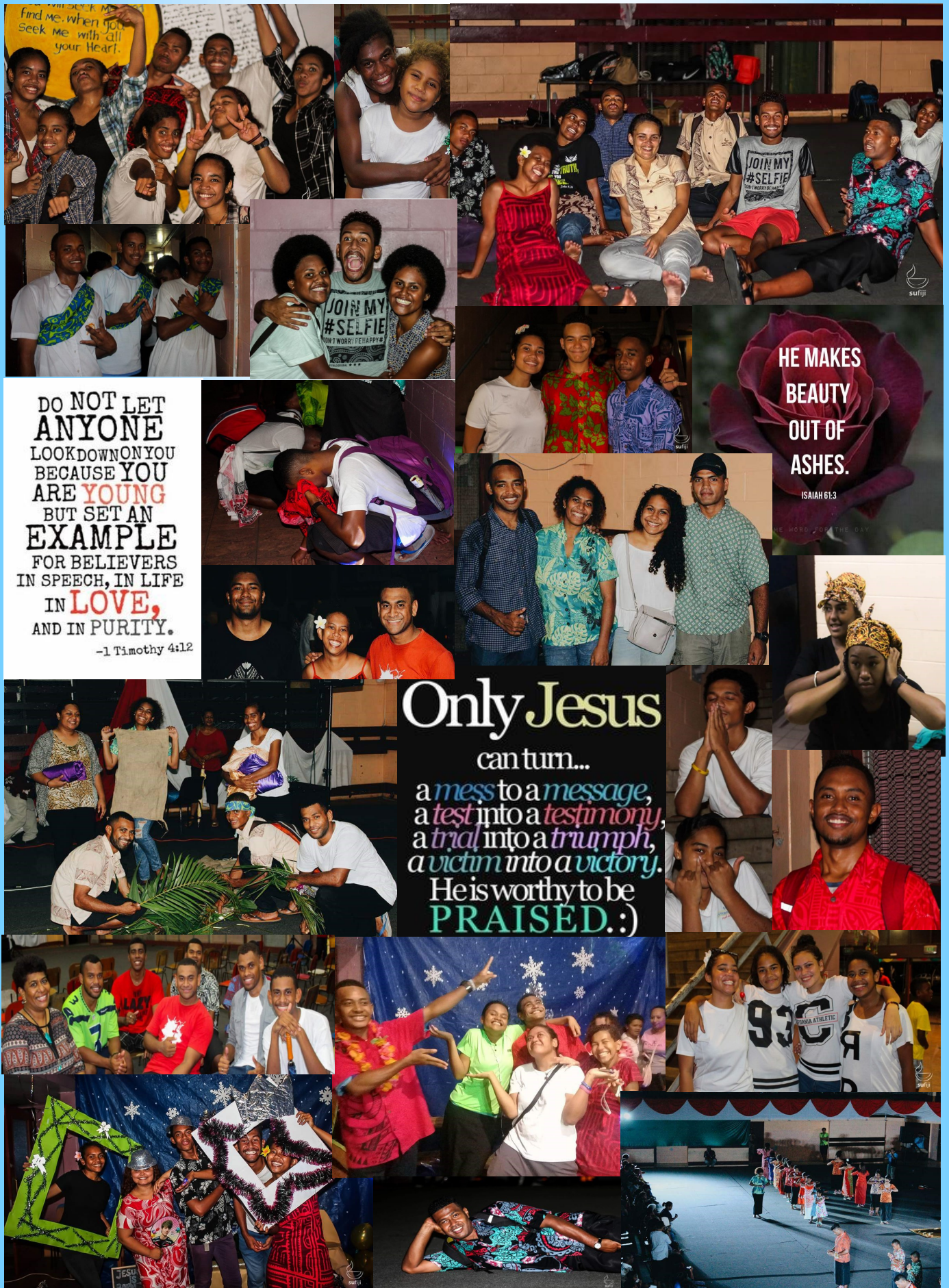


Volunteer Betty shares a timely WORD

The Secret is in the Ingredients

for those who like it Sweeter

Scripture Union celebrates Christmas



God created me—and you—to live with a single, all-embracing, all-transforming passion—namely, a passion to glorify God by enjoying and displaying his supreme excellence in all the spheres of life.” — John Piper, *Don't Waste Your Life*

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, Col 3:23

National Director's Corner

ONE YEAR ON THE JOB by

Nacanieli Tikoduadua

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One year ago today, 4th January, 2016, I began in office as the new National Director for Scripture Union Fiji. I came in not knowing what 2016 had in store for us, hopeful yet cautious and full of faith and expectations. It has been an amazing one year as the ND and I am so stoked about what the King will have us do as a team this year. However I would not have been able to successfully transition and function in the role if it weren't for the team around me. There are so many people to thank God for but I would especially like to acknowledge the Chairman, Mr. Sitiveni Kalou, Vice Chairman, Romulo Nayacalevu and the Council for SU Fiji including Ms Laurel Vaurasi, Mr. Mikaele Mudreilagi, Ms Lati Qoro, Mr Semi Momodonu, Mrs Lusi Leqa, Tu Sake Tuivanuavou, Mr. Petero Cakau, Ms Nancy Loaloa, Mrs Emi Rabukawaqa, Ms Teri Kempe. I also acknowledge the Board of Trustees,



NacaTiko's Gal
So proud of you Mr T. Stay Strong! God has never failed us.



I also want to acknowledge my pastors Daniel John and Zoe John and our church family at Victory Family Centre. You've all been amazing. Finally I would especially like to acknowledge a group of young people who have been the backbone of the ministry in this past ministry year. They carried the expectations and responsibilities of the ministry on their shoulders and they dispensed their duties with utmost excellence. Vinaka vakalevu to all our SWG's. Its been an absolute honour and privilege to serve with you all and I look forward to another great year of making Jesus famous in 2017. Vinaka vakalevu and may the Lord abundantly bless you all.



Lusi Banuve Leqa
The privilege has been ours, ND. We pray bountiful blessings upon S.U this year and in particular to your leadership.



Lati ONaova-ke Qoro
We have been blessed serving alongside you as well as under your leadership ND. May you continue to be inspired and led by the Trinity!



Sitiveni Kalou
Thank you for your service and leadership ND. May God alone be praised in our labour.

friends, families, partners and supporters of SU Fiji and to my dear sister Aunty Luisa Radaveta, vinaka vakalevu. I also acknowledge the undying support of my family, Mrs Tikoduadua and my 3 treasures. You all are my backbone. Thank you for putting up with me.



Josh Hezekiah Mataitoga
So blessed to work under your leadership sir. Looking forward again to this year. God bless you sir and thank you for your heart of service.



Mellissa Olivia
Bring it on 2017 ☺ I am beyond blessed & definitely honored serving with you Sir ☺ You are an awesome , funny , hardworking , caring Leader ☺ Thank you for your heart of service ☺



Keni Baro
It is indeed an honour and privilege sir to serve with you I look forward to again another exciting year of service



Diana Sofina
Thank you ND for a memorable 2016.. It has been a blessing working alongside you in the ministry last year and I know there are greater things in 2017.. Blessings abound and may The Holy Spirit lead us through again this year.. Thank you for your heart of service



Kiniviliame Naceba
May 2017 be a Year of Great Exploits and Miracles in your Leadership Mr.Tikoduadua.Divine Favor of God Almighty upon you and your Family for this year.Vinaka vakalevu na yalo ni vei qaravi.



Betty Tuivanuakula
Blessed definitely working with you this year sir!

Stand still" – keep the posture of an upright man, ready for action, expecting further orders, cheerfully and patiently awaiting the directing voice; and it will not be long before God shall say to you, as distinctly as Moses said it to the people of Israel, "Go forward." – Charles Spurgeon

Scripture Union volunteers' adventures



Scaling Mr Korobaba, part of the Volunteers adventure package



Even the freedom of obtaining a drivers license are celebrated. Volunteers Eramasi, Daiana and Jason after the SUIS Christmas production



Volunteers trying out their fashion skills at the SUIS An-



And the inspectors were also at camp to provide directions



Deuteronomy 15:10—Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.



Scripture Union

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Scripture Union Fiji



Scripture Union 50th Anniversary
SWG Central Tukutuku; SUIS Campers
SUIS Lautoka SWG; Western Fiji SUIS

Prayer Wall

- ◆ SUIS groups present in 70 or so schools. And pray that all schools will be open to SUIS.
- ◆ Volunteers, the Council and Trustees of SU and our work in schools
- ◆ SU movements regionally and globally.
- ◆ Pray for the Scripture Union land, that supernatural doors will open.
- ◆ Scripture Union's Ministry in 2017
- ◆ SU Office for wisdom and leadership as we expand our ministry
- ◆ The school year in 2017
- ◆ For the work of the Lord through SU and all young people of Fiji.

News Board

- The reunion for Annual Campers and friends is this Saturday 11 January. Buses depart Bayly clinic at 7am.
- SU is selling its Daily Challenge devotional at the SU office in Suva or Methodist Bookshop.
- Over 430 students attended the SUIS ACS Annual Camp.
- Bible Studies for young people have started at SU office on Wednesdays at 7pm
- The SU office will resume operations on Monday 13 January 2017.
- SU welcomes volunteers this year.

Partner with Scripture Union Fiji's vision for schools and families

The work of Scripture Union is privately funded by those who prayerfully consider giving to support our work in student ministries. Unlike the church or organisations whose funding is from established sources, SU has to rely on the good will of friends to be able to meet its financial obligations such as paying rent, bills, programs such as rallies, camps, schools visitation and a range of activities to encourage our children in schools on a monthly basis. Every year the cost of student ministry increases and so are the challenges and struggles that young people are dealing

SU is in the fore front of impacting the next generation of young people for the Lord.

with. The pressure to raise children who know God through the Bible is not complete without introducing young people to the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Saviour. This is our work as Scripture Union and despite the many financial challenges over the years, we have held onto this important part of our work by going into schools to minister and inspire young people to make right choices about their lives. This is where your faith seed will go into amongst others. It is about investing in the life of our children so that they can know Christ and make Him known. We know that our financial investment in this regard is secured in eternity.

In considering whether to partner with Scripture Union one of our current partners stated that,

"I believe that the few dollars I put into the work of SU may not be much, but I am inspired to know that this investment will change a life and that for me is an eternal investment worth making." To see lives change is a blessing. Scripture Union is in the forefront of impacting the next generation of young people for the Lord. By investing in Scripture Union's work, we are investing into the next generation of Christian leaders, pastors, civil servants, NGO workers and the nation as a whole as we challenge and raise up the next generation of champions for Jesus Christ. This investment is probably the best one can make as we partner together in this Great Commission in schools and especially so in our nation. Our partners have a choice to give a one of sum, give weekly, fortnightly or monthly. A seed varies from a widow's mite of \$10 to a family's annual pledge of \$1000. To date there are about 30 pledge partners supporting SU's ministry in Fiji and we are grateful for the sacrifices and commitments made, allowing us to strengthen our outreach and missions to schools. Thank you for your partnership and for giving to the Lord through SU Fiji.

"As base a thing as money often is, yet it can be transmuted into everlasting treasure. It can be converted into food for the hungry and clothing for the poor. It can keep a missionary actively winning lost men to the light of the gospel and thus transmute itself into heavenly values. Any temporal possession can be turned into everlasting wealth. Whatever is given to Christ is immediately touched with immortality." A Tozzer