

Focus on Fetteresso 17th May '09

Following a rousing rendition of “Glory and honour to you we bring”, Rev Dr Fyfe Blair showed the children that doing wrong (or sinning) separates us from God. When we ask him for forgiveness, Jesus wipes our slateboard clean.

Richard Marriott read from Acts chapter 9, from which Fyfe explained that we are a resurrection people, and Dorcas (whose name means gazelle) is a perfect example of the early resurrection church. She was well known in church, always doing good and helping the poor. She dies, and the room fills with family and church folk, passing round the clothes she had helped make. Peter arrives, and sends the others out of the room, and then commands Dorcas to rise! The first folk to meet the risen Dorcas were other widows, to whom Dorcas had herself ministered. Word spread through Joppa, and many others came to faith. We are still in the life-giving business! Our church organisations – for example the Tuesday Focus knitters, and Far and Wide – continue to do good for needy folk outside the church. We must be alive to the needs of neighbours, friends - and enemies. Mary Wood led the intercessory prayers.

Seven @ Fetteresso focussed on the latter part of Ruth chapter 2. This exemplifies the working out of God's providence in the lives of ordinary folks, with Ruth being given the opportunity to glean in very favourable circumstances. Boaz showed loving care and concern for Ruth's plight – in his own way he acted as a redeemer. We all need a circle of redeemers – our fellow Christians!