**Churches-In-Homes   Weeks Beginning 03/07/2022**

1. **Group hosting on Sunday, July 10: Kenny's & Joyce/Amanda’s**
2. **Please remember to give time for testimonies.**
3. **Night Vigil: Important notice about a change in night vigil zoom link from July 8:**

From Friday July 8, the zoom link for all prayer meetings (night vigil, prayer and fasting, etc.) will be:

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3199695478?pwd=bUpXZW5VakxDMzlmNGlLR3d2Q0FDQT09

Meeting ID: 319 969 5478

Passcode: prayers

**Church YouTube channel**

If you subscribe to King’s Church St Paul’s Cray YouTube channel, with the option to receive notifications, you will be alerted when a new resource is uploaded.

The link below will take you to the Church YouTube channel.

<https://bit.ly/2BjG1Je>

If you do not have a google account, you will need to find out how you may still subscribe. There are videos that explain how you may do so. Click on the link below to see an example.

<https://youtu.be/wuoCvxnFnlA>

**Course:**  The Good Shepherd

**Title:** He comforts me

**Main texts:** John 10:11-16 & Psalm 23

**Focus for this week:** Psalm 23:4b – “…your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”

The staff and the rod were symbols of authority and responsibility.

The rod was used by ancient shepherds to protect their sheep from wild animals. It was a weapon to fight off attacking enemies that wanted to harm the flock, not for beating up the sheep. The shepherd took on the responsibility for fighting off attackers. The sheep did not have to fight for themselves.

Our Good Shepherd is fighting for us, so like David we are comforted. **Romans 8:31-39**

The staff was used to guide and correct wandering sheep to keep them on the right and safe paths. God’s correction and discipline prove his love and our belonging, and so brings comfort.

**Hebrews 12:4-6**

The staff is also generally seen as a symbol of authority and power.

There is no greater power and authority than the one that our Good Shepherd, our Lord and Saviour Jesus has. **Matthew 18:18-20**

**Practical application:**

* **Be sure that you are in Christ.**
* **Live your life by the help of the Holy Spirit – obeying Christ.**
* **Tell others.**