

ishah

exploring issues for Christian women

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WOMEN at WORK

WORK LIFE BALANCE:
ARE YOU YOUR OWN
WORST ENEMY?

Claire Rogers

ARTICLE SERIES:
WOMEN AT
WORK

(various authors)

SAVING THE
SABBATH

Mairi Girgis

BOOK REVIEW:
*IF YOU WANT TO
WALK ON WATER...*

Linda Fiske



Woman (Hebrew *ishah*). Woman, with man, was made in the image of God. 'Male and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27).

welcome...

Work is a powerful influence and one which significantly shapes our identity. Some see work as a curse (as the ads which tempt us to "leave work early" suggest), others as a blessing, part of God's good creation.

We tend to categorise work in many different ways: whether one is the boss or the employee; whether one has paid or unpaid work; whether work is manual or intellectual; whether work is "secular" or "ministry". We tend to value work according to how much money is earned by doing it. It can be hard to discern to what extent these divisions are biblical and helpful, and to what extent our minds and attitudes need liberating from the lies of this society.

Many dangers and temptations confront us in our attitudes towards work. We may groan over it, rather than being thankful to God for meaningful employment. We may be workaholics who value success at work above all else, and be reluctant to enjoy God's good gifts of rest and relaxation. We may fail to achieve a godly balance between work and rest, paid work and unpaid work, money and relationships.

Do we "offer our bodies to God as a living sacrifice" (Romans 12:1)? Do we serve others as though we were serving the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3: 23)? Is our main aim to glorify God and serve others, or to make lots of money and fulfil whatever criteria we or our parents or peers have for success?

In our society most of us are lucky enough to be able to choose to some extent what kind of work we do, but it seems that the tyranny of choice often makes life more complicated, difficult and painful - especially, perhaps, to those of us with children. Decisions about whether or how to combine motherhood with paid work can consume much time and emotional energy.

We hope this issue will stimulate you to think about the place work has in your life and values, to strive to seek to reflect God's priorities in this area, to thank God for his good gift of meaningful, satisfying work, and to work faithfully and humbly at the work he has given us. Your responses are welcome!

The Editors

ISSUES TO COME...

ISSUE 8:
GRIEF AND
LOSS

ISSUE 9:
PRAYER

our aims

1. To value the Bible as God's inspired Word to us and the ultimate authority on matters of faith and practice, through thinking hard about how the Bible applies to our everyday lives.
2. To encourage women to grow in godliness and maturity in Christ.
3. To equip Christian women to be creative, confident and effective in communicating the gospel.
4. To give women in a variety of roles and situations the forum to think about contemporary issues from a framework of Biblical theology and to articulate their thinking in a manner that stimulates themselves and others to live lives that are more faithful to God's Word.

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Work / Life / Balance

> *Are you your own worst enemy?*

BY CLAIRE ROGERS

Achieving work life balance is gaining currency in the "noughties" workplace. We all aspire to have it but most of us struggle to put it into practice. Why is it so hard to achieve? What do we fear if we work less? How do we judge whether we have balance? What is God's perspective – can and does He inform us?

Consider Claire, aged 32, a self-confessed workaholic, busily gaining international experience in London to put on her resume. She's working long hours and her commitment to the business is oozing out of every pore. Success is beginning to flow from the fruits of her labours! Enters Lachlan, born very early and very small - someone completely alien to her world of work. Someone very dependent, who needs her in ways that she has never been needed before.

In the process of becoming a mother, I have learnt a number of valuable lessons that have helped enormously in my struggles to achieve work life balance and maintain a strong career. Three of my key principles are explained here.

► *Does your contract really include appearance money?*

A few months after Lachlan was born, I recommenced work from home on a part time basis. Lachlan was a good sleeper and that allowed me to work about four hours a day. This was a Godsend for a career woman going stir crazy at home with a baby! Within a month, accolades for the work I was doing began to arrive from management. I was really surprised as I considered my half day's work inferior to a full day's work. This was my paradigm not my employer's - the more I worked in this way, the more success came. The valuable lesson I learnt is that output, not hours, is more important in growing and developing a career.

Our workplaces still seem to measure our commitment to work by counting the hours. Important decisions still get made late at night and meetings run late and you just have to be there. But you don't need to buy into the myth - *visible office time does not deliver career success*. How many colleagues can you think of who worked very long hours but didn't make it through that last restructure? Delivering results, demonstrating quality leadership and letting people know what you have achieved is the only route to success. These outcomes are not measured by the number of contact hours

at the office. Critique your hours to see if they are supporting good leadership practices and if not, cut back. Be creative. If you have to work late, take time elsewhere to re-energise or see more of your family. Ask your boss or colleagues if that meeting can be scheduled between 8.30am and 5.30pm. You may be surprised how many of your workmates are happy to support you in your search for work life balance. They might even enjoy the space your request creates for them. But don't wait for them to do it first – it might never happen!

► *Are you trying to achieve more than you need to?*

Recently, as part of my company's new focus on better leadership practices I had to complete a 360 degree review. This process involved a number of people, including my manager and my peers, rating leadership capabilities. My manager and I also had to complete a separate survey that rated the importance of those capabilities in my daily work. I rated a couple of key areas more highly than he did. We talked about these differences. I realised that my manager's expectations were sufficient for the business but my own work ethic would probably lead me to try to achieve at my own higher level despite knowing that my boss wasn't expecting it. Since then, I have sought to have very explicit conversations with my manager so I know what is considered a good result and what is outstanding. Then I can choose to go for the outstanding result with all that entails or choose to go for the good result. In most cases, their outstanding result is my "good" one.

You may wonder why my standards are so high – I have wondered many times too! Partly it's attributable to a personality trait but there is another factor involved. Most women in senior roles in organisations are trying to change the world, not only because they believe in the change but also to obtain recognition alongside male counterparts who seem to be acknowledged for half the effort. I have seen over and over again that much more is expected of women in leadership than men. Internally, it is very difficult not to adjust to meet that performance hurdle. We may even fall into the trap of assuming the goal is bigger than is really being set for us. It's challenging and exciting to meet both personal and business goals at work but it may be time to check whether your achievement meter is in the red zone. Like the speed campaign, can you "wipe off 5"? What is the worst that can happen if you cut your deliverables back five per cent, or extend time lines by five percent? You might find your boss doesn't even notice!

► *Who is your employment contract with?*

In the last few months, I have had to go through a difficult change at work. My role didn't change but my reporting line did and this took me out of the leadership team. This was something I found very disappointing and a significant test of my leadership ability – handling in a gracious way what was perceived by the organisation to be a "demotion". I sought out a Christian mentor with secular leadership experience and was reminded that our positions of leadership or employment are God's great provision. David's story was a real encouragement to me (See 1 Samuel 16 & 24 & 26.) He was anointed as king but had to wait a long time to see it fulfilled. He trusted God to honour His promise on a number of occasions when it would have been tempting to do otherwise. David's contract was with God, not with the people he wanted to lead.

In practice, we sign a contract with the company we work for, but our long term contract is with God. We serve and honour Him through our work and we need to trust that He will use our gifts of leadership in ways that best achieve His purposes, not ours or our employers. These changes at work have served to remind me that our employment contract is with God and that His

timing is sovereign. There is something very liberating about that. We have the freedom to seek and take work life balance if we are trusting in God for our future and not in what others think of us or that next promotion we've got our eye on.

We have biblical encouragement to seek balance in our work lives whether in management or motherhood: "a (woman) can do nothing better than to eat, drink and find satisfaction in (her) work. This too...is from the hand of God" (Ecclesiastes 2:24-25). If you remember only one thing from this article, I pray that you are able to discern whether your work paradigms interfere with the achievement of balance in your life.

Responsibility for failure often lies more at our feet than those we blame – our employers. I exhort you to lose the office time that's just for the sake of it, control your achievement meter and remember whom your contract is with! You will find work life balance that pays dividends.

■ *Claire Rogers is a General Manager at the ANZ where she runs a number of sales teams. She is married with a young son and attends St Judes, Carlton.*
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> women at work 01

My work is seductive. It draws you in. Each day is full of intellectual challenges, problems to be solved. And yet it is not theoretical or remote from the real world. You work with suffering people, attempt to find solutions to problems of pain, of premature death, and in the process build relationships, receive thanks and gratitude. You have an identity, an automatic reassurance of self worth. It is easy to let work take over, to stay a little while longer to talk to a relative, to check results, to care as you would like to be cared for.

And then you have a child. Suddenly your world is turned upside down. You can't stay late anymore, and your childless or male colleagues look disapproving as you walk out at five o'clock. Then you see someone else's baby in the corridor, and tears come to your eyes. You would like to show your child how to paint, to kick a ball, to play music, but you don't have the time.

So, how do you choose?

Work, of course, is not always rewarding. Things sometimes go wrong, the nicest people die despite your best efforts. There is an ever present fear of making mistakes, of causing harm. Patients can be angry, bitter or resentful. Research can lead to dead ends rather than recognition and success. Nor is full time parenting an idyllic existence. You can become "just one of the mums". The sixteen years of hard work it took to qualify as a specialist are now wasted. You weren't trained at domesticity - it's not what you're good at.

So what does God have to say about balancing work and family? The Old Testament woman had a defined role in society. She knew precisely what was expected of her, with little opportunity for career or lifestyle choices. We cannot use her as a role model. The Bible tells us to love and care for our husbands and children, but not how to do so. It reminds us to use our God given gifts, but not in which spheres.

I don't know what to do. I don't know how to best balance my role as a doctor, and a mother. I do know that Jesus said: "I will be with you until the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). I do know that He loves my son, my husband and my patients more than I ever possibly could. I can have confidence that He will answer my heartfelt prayers and guide my choices to conform to His will.

Sue Watson is married with a two year old and has another baby on the way. She is currently completing her final year of specialist training as a haematologist.

women at work series...

It is something of an understatement to say that work means many things to many different people. ishah asked five women at different stages in their working lives to reflect on the choices they had made, and the challenges they faced daily as they tried to negotiate work, jobs and careers. Their answers reflect the diversity of issues confronting women in the workplace. You can find the questions we asked them reprinted elsewhere in the magazine – we hope you will find them useful as a place to start your own reflection. >



> women at work 02

I've never been an ambitious person. I never had a clear idea of what I wanted to do while I was growing up. That made it hard to choose subjects at school and uni. So I came out with a general degree and thought "What will I do now?". The whole question of what job to do was a burden. A lot of people look for meaning primarily in their work. I had a sense that wouldn't satisfy - not ultimately. That was one of the reasons I think I was so receptive to the gospel. I became a Christian just before getting my first full-time job.

Becoming a Christian solved some of my issues about work. I knew I had a place in the world despite my job, that I mattered, that I was loved. And that God was going to use me for his purposes wherever I was. So I viewed my workplace as somewhere I could serve God and witness to Christ. Work could be very satisfying.

However, work was also monotonous at times. There were aspects of my work I didn't enjoy. There were times when I longed for the option NOT to work. The economic necessity of 35 years or more of full-time work seemed a dreadful prospect!

I learned to explain my contradictory feelings about work from a biblical perspective. Work is good, and God's made us to work. It can be fulfilling (Genesis 1-2; Ecclesiastes 2:2:24-26). But the Fall means that our work is now marred by boredom, difficulty, and frustration (Genesis 3; Ecclesiastes 2:17-23). The Bible also teaches that if we are able to find fulfilment and creative expression in our work then praise God! But it's not the big priority that we tend to think it is. The Bible says how you do your job, and responsibilities such as relationships and family, are what is important.

I still have a love/hate relationship with work, and envy those few people who seem to have work which is just the perfect "fit" for them. Yet God's word shows me these tensions are normal, and that God can redeem our lives and work from meaninglessness through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Anthea McCall is an Anglican Minister and works full-time at St Hilarys Kew. Before studying theology she was a high school teacher.

women at work 03

There are a whole range of issues and challenges facing working women - including the desire for mental stimulation and/or physical labour, financial security, personal success and self expression. There are also many issues associated with having children that affect most women at some stage. As a working woman however there are also less tangible challenges to grapple with, such as workplace attitudes.

My experience of working in a male-dominated environment has highlighted some of these issues for me. I am employed as a geologist by a large international petroleum company where the work environment is very professional and competitive. The oil industry is notoriously male-dominated and my workplace is no exception. While my company looks after its employees very well – it has strict policies regarding equal opportunity and very generous benefits particularly for mums – it is the attitudes in the workplace rather than company policies and opportunities which remain challenging.

Workplace attitudes are perhaps the slowest to change, particularly in large companies. As in many male-dominated industries, the "boys' club" mentality is alive and well, resulting in the intentional and unintentional exclusion of women. I also find that personality traits more generally associated with men (high self-confidence, ego and aggressiveness) are more highly recognised, appreciated and rewarded than those typically associated with women (nurturing, good communication). Of course, this is a generalisation but it is helpful to recognise the need for both personality types to compliment each other, as God designed.

While I really enjoy working with men and appreciate the many benefits of my job, I do find these attitudes and biases frustrating and difficult to change.

Eliza King has been working as a petroleum geologist for the past five years after studying BA/BSc (Hons) at the University of Melbourne. She lives in Melbourne with her husband Graham and they are involved with the church at Holy Trinity Doncaster.

> women at work 04

As a young woman working in the development/construction industry, one of the challenges I face is gaining acceptance from some male clients, colleagues and contractors. While many do not treat me any differently from my male colleagues, there are those who engage in sexism, overt political correctness or who are patronising in their dealings with me.

Patronism - "Do you know what a spanner is, dear?"

I often find it hard to discern whether people are expressing fatherly concern for a younger person or whether they are arrogantly trying to test me.

Sexism - "Show us ya, love!"

I've learnt to ignore these comments, especially when they are hollered by a labourer hanging from a building. However, there are other sexual harassment issues that cannot be ignored and need to be addressed by management.

Overt Political Correctness - "Okay Guys, oh - and Lady."

I often feel frustrated when I am purposely separated from the working team because of my gender. I do not want my requests or instructions to be dismissed due to gender stereotypes – such as being simply "decoration" or alternatively a "nagging woman". Parts of my job are confrontational, which I believe can create a culture of negative treatment and exclusion of others. I must admit that I sometimes struggle with achieving the best outcome for my employer/client without compromising principles of respect and fairness for others.

There may be a whole range of reasons for the way others treat us at work. While not excusing poor behaviour, I am challenged to recognise that each person is created in God's image. As a Christian I know that Jesus accepts me as I am, and wants me to show love and acceptance to my neighbour whether or not my neighbour is prepared to accept me.

Rebecca Johnston attends Coburg Baptist Church, and works as a landscape architect for Coome's Consulting Group.

questions for reflection...

■ What do you think the Bible has to say about work? Are there guiding principles regarding work? How have these affected your decisions regarding your working life?

■ What do you think is the difference between a Christian's attitude towards work and our culture's attitudes?

■ How have you managed transitions in your working life - such as first entry into the workforce, from paid work to motherhood, from paid work to retirement, entry into ministry or volunteer work? What have been the most difficult aspects of these transitions? What have been the most rewarding?

■ How do you think being a woman has affected your working life? What do you think are the particular issues/challenges facing women and work?

■ Do you find it difficult as a woman to maintain a good balance between work and other aspects of your life? What principles do you use to guide your decisions in this area?

> women at work 05

With two boys under three, paid work suddenly seems a distant memory. Before having children I loved working and believed I achieved a healthy balance between work and study while still having time for my husband, family and friends. I had the time and the opportunity to regularly engage with God through prayer and reading the Bible. I saw my responsibility as a Christian in the workplace to be a hard worker, committed to each task and to care for students and colleagues in practical ways. Being a school teacher often allowed me the opportunity to form close relationships with students. Many students confided in me, and I in turn prayed for them. I was also able to use part of my wage to help support our Church, missionary societies, friends and aid organisations. Perhaps I'm idealising that time, but life seemed especially structured and purposeful.

Since embarking on motherhood my days are much less organised. Some days it feels like I have little time for anything except caring. I miss seeing friends from work every day, miss the interaction with students, miss that instant feeling of satisfaction. Sometimes I even miss the whole ease of the working lifestyle. Yet, amidst the turmoil, I feel very content with life. I have never felt like I made a sacrifice in giving up work for our children. I know I will return to teaching soon, but for the moment I am enjoying sharing my experiences of life with our two boys. I feel very fortunate that I have the financial freedom and opportunity to choose not to work.

When I left work I became aware of my relationship with God changing as I became more aware of His nurturing identity. Nowadays I relate to Him more as a creator and father figure. Like many things from my old life it seems a luxury to pray but when I get the chance I love to be quiet before God. I have learnt that I am moving through another stage in my life, one which will pass far too quickly. Though I find this time difficult and demanding, I intend to savour every moment of motherhood.

Sally Hill is a former art teacher who now cares full time for her two small boys. Her family attends South West Brunswick Uniting.

Saving the Sabbath

BY MAIRI GIRGIS

Ever said "yes" to doing something when you know you should have said "no"? Have you justified adding another task to your already hectic workload because it's "ministry"? Have you seen someone taking a break and felt like they were letting the team down? Have you said to yourself, "If I don't do it, no-one will"?

Made in the Image of God

On the seventh day of creation God "rested and was refreshed" (Exodus 31:17b). We were made in the image of a perfect and all-powerful God, designed to work productively and have periods of rest. Having exerted ourselves, we long for true rest - a celebration of what has been accomplished.

It is only because we are sinful that we fail to enjoy rest, thinking of what still needs to be done, believing that we need to "keep things going". As women, we are particularly susceptible to this. We've heard it a hundred times - the story of Martha who worked too much, and Mary who learned to spend time with Jesus (Luke 10:38). Mary's rest is a wonderful ideal, yet too often we follow the path of Martha.

Rest in the Lives of Those who Love God

Failure to rest is failure to under-

stand God's control in our lives, and to trust him with the consequences of our lives. "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). We can learn much from Jesus, the Saviour of the world, who had a demanding schedule but always ensured that He took time to rest and urged His disciples to do the same. (Mark 6:31) When we don't rest we run the risk of burn-out, resentment and feeling undervalued.

Rest in itself fails to satisfy fully, but rest as a pinnacle of work does. Similarly, work in itself fails to satisfy but when combined with rest it brings great satisfaction. Laziness is always condemned (for example Proverbs 6:6-11) - the woman in Proverbs 31 certainly isn't lazy. God blesses our work (Deuteronomy 15:10; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11) or frustrates it (Hag 2:17), depending on where our hearts lie.

"He grants sleep to those He loves" (Psalm 127:2b).

The Sabbath

The Sabbath, or Lord's Day, is tailor-made by God to allow us rest. It should not be a chore, but an opportunity to be refreshed both spiritually and physically. God Himself, Creator of the world, sets aside time to enjoy His creation. Non-Christians, driven by the work ethic, fail to take this opportunity

to be reminded that we cannot live by bread alone. In ceasing from our week-day jobs, we trust that God will sustain us, and can set aside time to get to know our Creator more deeply. Except for acts of mercy, we are called to put our tools down.

Sadly, we often accept increased pay or promotion that involves Sunday work and fail to trust in God's provision. We do not realise that in so doing we are harming our spiritual lives.

"So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God; for whoever enters God's rest also ceases from his labours as God did from His" (Heb 4:9-10).

Eternal Rest

Only in death are the weary finally at rest (Job 3:17). It is fitting that death comes when our bodies are frail and our minds are wearing out. Those who have lived life are tired, only the young cannot comprehend that death could be a blessing. "We who have believed enter that rest" (Hebrews 4:3).

Heaven provides the hope of eternal rest - when we will rest in God (Revelations 14:13), trusting Him perfectly in all things. We will finally be free to worship and praise Him without the tiresome temptations Satan throws at our weary souls. Work will no longer be futile or tiring. With glorious renewed bodies, work will be done for God's glory and enjoyed (Isaiah 65:22).

Those condemned to hell will spend eternity in torment, for "they have no rest, day or night." (Revelations 14:11) A sobering thought!

some practical applications...

- > Rest without productive work fails to bring the contentment God intends. We are urged not to be lazy, but to work diligently - "work out your salvation" (Phillipians 2:12-13), "run the race with endurance" (Hebrews 12:1), "fight the good fight" (1 Timothy 6:12), "do not grow weary in well-doing" (Galatians 6:9).
- > Ask God to show you ways in which to honour the Lord's Day and make it a powerful part of your spiritual refreshment and strength.
- > Stop and prayerfully consider areas of your life which burden you.
- > Repent of areas where your failure to trust God holds you back from resting in the knowledge of His control of your life.
- > Surround yourself with people who will refresh your soul (Philemon 20).
- > PONDER: Why is "burn-out" so prevalent in the Christian world, particularly among leaders?

■ Mairi Girgis is a graduate counsellor who has surprised everyone by thriving on being a mother to her daughter, Lara! She worships at Benalla Baptist Church and has been helping develop a new short course open to all Christian women on women's ministries which will run on Wednesday evenings at Presbyterian Theological College later this year. For more information call (03) 98989384 or 98867670.

BOOK REVIEW

Ortberg, John. (2001). *If You Want to Walk on Water You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*. Zondervan, Michigan.

The title of John Ortberg's newest book is intriguing. What does it mean? Who is called to walk on water, and why? Is it possible?

When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified and cried out in fear...Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and began to sink, he cried out, "Lord save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God" (Matthew 14: 25-32).

Scripture presents stories that can affect us deeply. Jesus communicated via common images of his time - lost coins, lost sons, unproductive vines. Ortberg uses images such as "boat potatoes" to challenge the reader to connect with God's Spirit in everyday events. His writing is personal and skilful, using a narrative style that coaxes the reader into relationship. He knows that we long to connect to story, that narrative gives us the opportunity to lose our sense of self.

Ortberg uses episodes in real people's lives to explore the meaning of the above Scripture. He explores the exhilaration that comes with getting out of our comfort zones to walk towards Jesus. Ortberg also identifies the fear, panic, and sinking feelings that disrupt in our lives when doubt sets in. He urges the reader to establish a deep and personal relationship with God. He explains that a meaningful relationship with God is not based on deference and distance - he maintains that God is always near and desires us to be open and frank with him. He encourages readers to tell God how life really is, how wronged, empty and "dead" we are feeling. As he states "God does some of his best work in caves. The cave is where God resurrects dead things" (p151).

Striving to be a Christian woman in a secular world is a daily challenge. Some women are blessed with mentors and spiritual teachers to be guides through life. Others struggle with fallow periods where the pressures of work and the expectations of various communities lead to a struggle to establish a dynamic connection with scripture. Ortberg's book is a guide for people who want to know God in a more intimate way. It affirms that feelings of brokenness are a fitting point for connection with God. This book challenges us to take a risk - jump out of the boat! Trust that God will not let you drown!

Linda Fiske teaches secondary English at Scotch College, and her PhD on the experience of infertility in women is now a book called The Child Within. She attends St George's Anglican Church in East Ivanhoe.

Starting Point is a regular column that aims to encourage readers to engage with a contemporary issue in the media.

We Are What We Eat

Whether or not Steve Waugh would continue as captain of the Australian cricket team made the front page of nearly every newspaper in the country and scored lots of airtime in the electronic media.

And in one Sunday paper I read recently, a photograph of Serena Williams in a bikini took up more than one quarter of a page.

A cyclone struck the Solomon Islands and it was almost a week before the television news made any mention of it. A few thousand people were made homeless and the fresh water supply on the island was contaminated by sea water. The scale of the cyclone was greater than that of Cyclone Tracy but these facts weren't newsworthy until they had pictures.

A few days later part of Brighton Pier fell down in England after a storm. That story was on every television news bulletin I watched. Sure it was an historic structure but no one was injured, no one was homeless and you could still drink the water.

Somewhere in that story about the Miss World competition moving from Nigeria to London there was a story about a woman who was about to be stoned to death because she had fallen pregnant after being raped. But she got lost amongst all that satin and chiffon. Most of us still have no clue that people are being killed in Nigeria (and many other parts of the world) each day as a result of religious persecution.

Our media diet shapes the way we see the world. It tells us a lot about whom we value and the issues we take seriously in our society.

Maybe Serena in her bikini is a bigger story than a couple of islands in the middle of the ocean being decimated. But I just keep wondering which one makes the news in heaven.

Sue Bazzana wanted to be Jana Wendt when she was growing up. She now works for the Church Missionary Society in Victoria as its Mission Education and Development Officer, and worships at St Matthew's Anglican Church in Prahran.

