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Relevant

Revealing Jesus in a
Resistant World



South Island Ministry Conference

14 & 15 May 2024

East Taieri Church



Keynote Speaker:

Mark Keown

Mark began his working life as a school teacher. He became a Christian in 1985 and went into full-time service in 1987 doing community outreach work with St Columba's Presbyterian Church in Pakuranga.

Mark went to Laidlaw College as a student in 1990, completing a BTh with first class honours. After a year in ministry at St John's Presbyterian Church, Mark completed ordination training at the Dunedin School of Ministry and served as a minister alongside his wife Emma at Greenlane Presbyterian Church from 1997-2003 and then at Mt Roskill Baptist.

In 2005 he completed his ThD, looking at a mandate for evangelism in the Pauline Epistles, and joined the Laidlaw College staff.

In 2023, Mark shifted to a new position, Director of Evangelistic Leadership. The focus of his role is the development of leaders for evangelism, apologetics, church planting, and evangelistic renewal. Mark is a singer-songwriter, guitarist, and lead-singer of the band "Already Not Yet."

Session Topics:

Refreshing Our Understanding of the Gospel and the Task

What is the Gospel and what is our task as God's people?

Reconsidering our Context, Approaches and Expectations

What is our context for sharing the gospel? What should we focus on? What are the barriers? What are the opportunities? What approaches are appropriate?

Repositioning Evangelism in the Present Life of the Church

How do we restore evangelism to the heart of the church's life? How do we create bridges for the gospel? How do we work with what we are as a church and become evangelistically focused?

Reimagining the Future Faith in NZ

How do we fulfil the Great Commission in NZ before Christ's return? What might it look like to re-christianise NZ?

Tuesday evening is set aside as a special time with good food, networking and extended worship. Feel free to invite your hosts, friends and family members along.



Drinks and nibbles from 5pm—6.30pm
Worship from 6.30pm

This year's conference will be bringing back some workshops on Tuesday afternoon, helping to address the following issues:

Remaining Faithful in Conflict

Reconciling Faith & Friendship (Navigating Disagreements Through Respect)

Relating to People with Mental Health Issues

You can choose which workshop you wish to attend on the day, after hearing a short introduction from each facilitator.

Tuesday 14th May 2024

9.00am	Registration & Morning Tea
10.00am	<p>Session 1</p> <p>Keynote Address:</p> <p>Refreshing Our Understanding of the Gospel and the Task: What is the Gospel and what is our task as God's people?</p>
12noon	Lunch
1.15pm	<p>Workshops</p> <p><i>See next page for details</i></p>
2.45pm	Afternoon Tea
3.30pm	<p>Session 2</p> <p>Keynote Address:</p> <p>Reconsidering our Context, Approaches and Expectations: What is our context for sharing the gospel? What should we focus on? What are the barriers? What are the opportunities? What approaches are appropriate?</p>
5.00pm	Networking Drinks, Nibbles (if you attend you won't need dinner afterwards)
6.30pm	Worship Evening for those who would like some extended praise and worship time

Wednesday 15th May 2024

9am	<p>Session 3</p> <p>Keynote Address:</p> <p>Repositioning Evangelism in the Present Life of the Church: How do we restore evangelism to the heart of the church's life? How do we create bridges for the gospel? How do we work with what we are as a church and become evangelistically focused?</p>
10.20am	Morning tea
11.00am	<p>Session 4</p> <p>Keynote Address:</p> <p>Reimagining the Future Faith in NZ: How do we fulfil the Great Commission in NZ before Christ's return? What might it look like to rechristianise NZ?</p>
12.45pm	Light lunch

Workshop Details:

Remaining Faithful in Conflict: (Michael Reid)

Our world is increasingly polarised and angry. Conversations can seem impossible because of entrenched positions. We can be afraid to speak because of the reactions we might get and the sense that some views are no longer acceptable. How do we talk about divisive issues in ways that build bridges and encourage thoughtfulness while remaining faithful to the teachings of Jesus?

Reconciling Faith & Friendship: Navigating Disagreements Through Respect: (Peter Dunn)

There is a gulf between the moral values of many in our society and the teachings of scripture. Are we called to say anything into that context? If so, how can we express a view that seems out-of-step with our community? And how can we do that without being seen as intolerant, judgemental and old-fashioned? How can we do that when there is disagreement even within the church? How did Jesus approach moral issues?

Relating to People with Mental Health Issues: (Paul Reet)

Mental health is a specialist area and the issues seem to be getting more complex but can our churches have a part to play? Is the gospel of Jesus Christ relevant in this area? If so, what is our contribution and how do we serve well?

Registration details:

Conference to be held at East Taieri Church, 12a Cemetery Rd, Mosgiel

Cost: \$150 for a single (or \$130 early bird)

\$240 for a double (you and your spouse) (or \$200 early bird)

Early bird registrations close on Wednesday 10th April. Registrations close Friday 3 May 2024.

To register click on link: <https://forms.gle/ofx2zknuxNSrF5jd8>

Or email your details to: manager@etchurch.co.nz, or phone 489 6308