

News From The Homefront

Latin –

As we age, we realize that our cognitive function is going down somewhat. ---Especially our short-term memory. I read that doing puzzles and learning languages helps slow down this process. Thus, I decided to learn Latin. I love it and am surprised at how many English root words come from Latin. Plus, I know that the romance languages of Spanish and French also have Latin root words. I was on a roll learning my nouns and asked Frank if he knew what the word, “nautam” means. I had been asking him various words every day. He finally looked at me and said, “I’m not interested at all in learning Latin.” Shock! Surprise! If Latin is interesting to me, how could he not be interested as well? Then I realized that we take so much for granted in life, and by nature are self-absorbed. I remembered how he has tried in the past to explain to me how he was going to fix an appliance or something and I let it go in one ear and out the other. Therefore, I will keep learning Latin and he can keep fixing things. Finis. 😊

Our New Dentist –

Since I am having to have multiple dental appointments, we are getting to know our new dentist and the staff better. It’s a joy to talk to them as they are as conservative as we are. And sure enough this past week, Frank got asked if it was him that dropped a Gospel tract/bulletin in the dentist’s mailbox. Then he told us that at one time he attended a Baptist church. Frank said that yes, he passes out tracts, but got no response. It’s kind of funny. But after my procedures are done, he always talks to us for a while as does his secretary. She knows more about USA politics than we do. We joke and say that when we need to vote in either the USA or Australia that we will come and ask her about the various candidates. She’s young and loves politics.

Getting my tooth fixed is taking a long time and I didn’t understand what still needed done. So, the dentist came to the front and got out a pad and pencil and drew us a picture of a tooth and what he still needs to do. He teased and asked if we should have tea and biscuits as we talked. 😊 We really like him even though it appears he isn’t sure what to make of these people from the USA living in Port Hedland and doing a mission work here. We tend to stand out anyway once we speak with a USA accent. We are thankful though to have found this dentist office and that the secretary wants us to drop in at any time and chat for a few minutes. We live two blocks away. The dentist said we could walk and he would open the back door to make it faster. 😊 In the end, we found out that he was spreading out my visits for two reasons. One was to make sure that no infection was left in my tooth. Then second, neither our private nor public health insurance pays for much, so he was trying to spread it all out to be able to pay for things easier. He is a kind; conscientious man and we appreciate that.

Western Australia –

Our state has been in a lockdown since the first of March. There is a billionaire that has mining interests who is suing our state government over this issue. We have been blessed in that there has only been one case of Covid-19 in Port Hedland from a fly-in and fly-out worker since all of this started. We do not know what will happen when the borders finally open. Right now, we can’t leave the country without government approval. Yet most of the other bans have been lifted within our state. We are thankful that we can have worship services at this point in time.

A friend in Christ, Cyd James