

Editorial – May 2019



CRUCIBLE
THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

Dear readers,

Welcome to the first issue of *Crucible* for 2019.

Three of the articles in this issue emerge from the Australasian Academy of Homiletics conference that was held in Sydney in April 2019. Teresa Parish reports on her PhD research into the role and relationship of interpreters in preaching. Her Cauldron article, “A Homiletical Investigation of Preaching with an Interpreter,” is a tasty entrée for her book on this topic which will be released soon.

Also from the AAH conference is Andrew J. Prince’s deeply thoughtful article on preaching in a multicultural context. His article is an exemplar of Practical Theology which will stimulate many readers to reflect upon their own homiletical practice in our multicultural environment.

In the Test Tube section of this issue you will find a sermon by Marc Rader that was delivered as part of the AAH conference. Mark has thought deeply about preaching from the book of Proverbs and his sermon demonstrates the fruit of his work.

The final article in this issue is also in the Test Tube section. It is the adaptation of a Master of Arts (Ministry) project by Tina Tebbutt on the role of food in contemporary Western life and church. Tina, like Andrew Prince, also uses Practical Theology to reach some very helpful implications for church life.

This is now my fifth year as editor of *Crucible*. Over that time we have generated seven issues of the journal and revamped the website. Subscriptions continue to hover around the 300 mark and the site attracts a couple of hundred views a month. In January alone we had over 400 views. I have greatly enjoyed working with my co-editor, Dr Rob Fringer, and our reviewers, the editorial board and the contributing colleges.

But it is a labour of love. As those of you who have edited a journal know, it is an arduous activity. Rob and I find the task of recruiting peer reviewers and passing on bad news to authors a fairly demanding task. Proofing, formatting and managing the website is not fun either (well for most people).

As a result earlier this year Rob and I indicated to the editorial board and Ethos, our auspicing body, that the May 2019 issue would be the last issue of *Crucible* that we produce for the time being. Don’t panic! I don’t think this is the end of *Crucible* — merely a hiatus. There is enough money in the bank to ensure that the website will stay active and so the now hundreds of previously published articles will continue to be available. However, for the time being Rob and I would like to have a break.

So, looking forward...

If there is anyone else who would be interested in editing *Crucible*, please contact me — if approved by the editorial board, I would be very happy to show you what is involved. Otherwise, please continue to enjoy the articles that have already been published.

Thanks for your support of *Crucible*.

Ian Hussey

General Editor.