The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: Cultivating Compassion for Men.

Background to the Workshop

In recent years men have received mixed press. They have been the heroes of 9/11 and recent natural disasters but many men struggle where it matters most – at home and in their own lives.

Many women report bemusement or despair about the men in their lives – why they 'don't communicate more,' why they neglect their health, why they are so prone to alcohol and substance abuse and suicide.

Overview of the Workshop

This workshop is an opportunity for men and women to come together to hear the voices of men and reflect on men in our society.

The workshop will include input, reflection and sharing regarding:

- the predicaments men face in their day to day lives,
- the possibilities for relating to men, and
- responding effectively to men who present in challenging ways.

A brief overarching framework will be offered incorporating evolutionary psychology, social conditioning and individual differences, and several principles will be proposed for working with men.

Participants will be invited to consider how these principles might inform and enrich their relating to men.

A few key questions will guide our reflections – questions that go behind a man's behaviour to the heart of his difficulties, and questions that go behind our own reactions to men to explore the opportunities for our own learning and growth.

Songs, poems and readings will be offered to help deepen our understanding of men and our work with men. Brief stories of stereotypically good, bad and 'ugly' men will be offered as examples.

This workshop is based on an inclusive Christian spirituality whilst drawing from other traditions.

Noel Giblett works as an Individual & Relationship Counsellor and spiritual director in private practice in Shenton Park. He has been working with men and couples for nearly 30 years and is the author of several articles on men's issues, marriage and spiritual journeys. For more information, see www.noelgiblett.com.au

A workshop open to all men and women, to be held on Saturday 15th September 9.30am–3.30pm

at *Dayspring* 68 Waverley Street, Dianella

Cost \$100 (concession \$80) Payable on the day all proceeds to *Dayspring*

BYO lunch

Registration by email, by Tuesday 4th September.

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