

## “LIFE THROUGH THE LENS”



### IS IT A FENCE?

When these bushes on Bridge Street were young, how often did you look at the frame around them and think, “Is it a fence or a training frame?”

Many think the Bible is full of laws and fences. Made up by a God who is a spoil-sport; a kill-joy. Maybe they don't understand who God is and what he is about.

Imagine what would happen if the bougainvillea was allowed to just grow and drape all over the footpath, hurt people with its spikes until finally, the council would rip it out: but because they grow within the frame, they are cared for; watered, fertilised, a bit of pruning when needed. The result is a plant which flowers, gives joy; a place where birds can hide, nest and shelter.

If you can accept that the God of the Bible actually loves you, then what you thought were laws, become training frames for a life where caring, encouraging, supporting each other becomes the normal part of God's plan for people to live in community; in peace; in harmony.

It's interesting that when a bloke asked Jesus, which command from God is most important Jesus said, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. The second most important is similar: 'Love your neighbour as much as you love yourself.' (Matthew chapter 22 verse 37)

Live with God's love as your training frame and who knows how your love might grow.

God bless

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