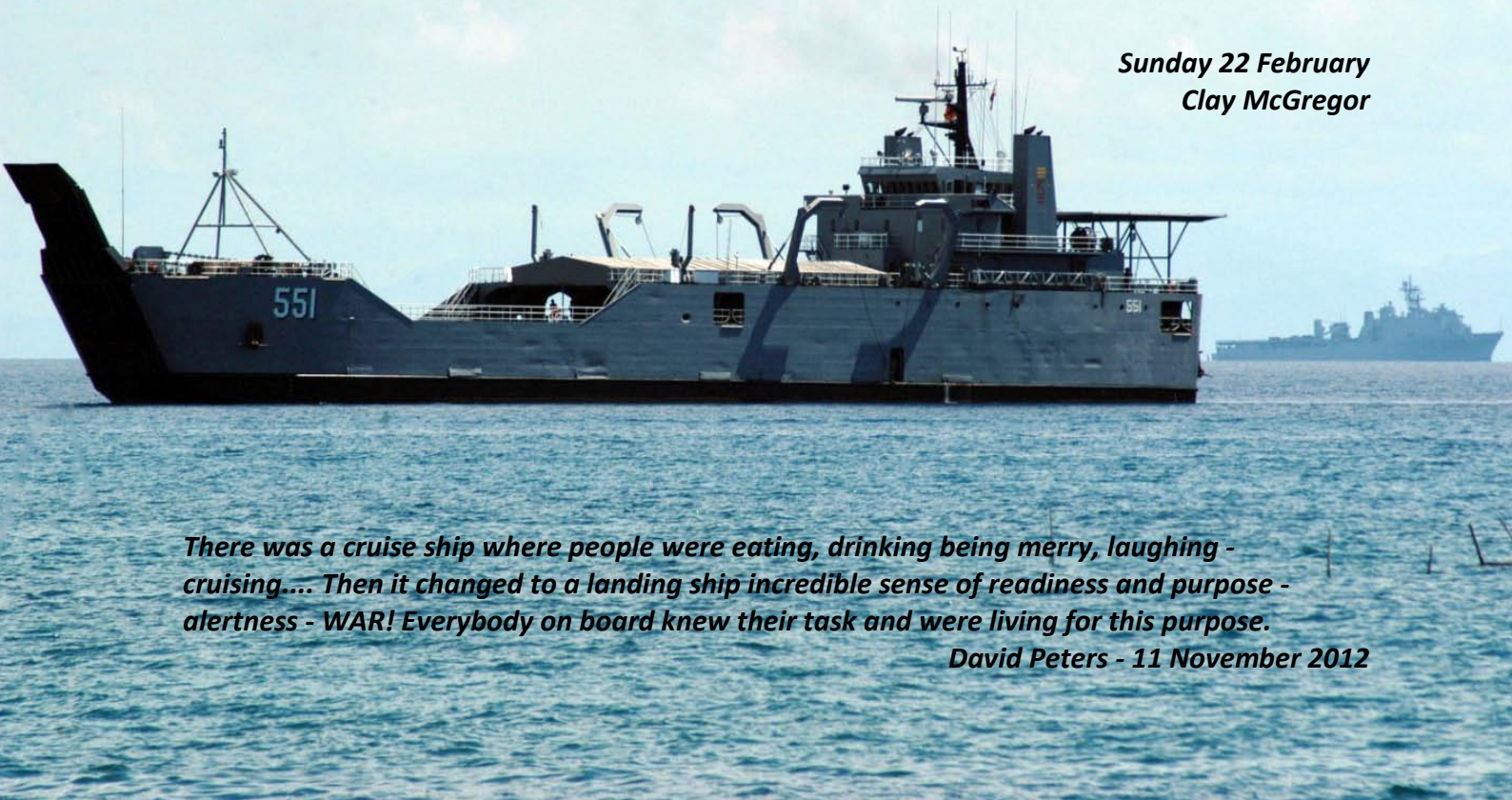


*Sunday 22 February  
Clay McGregor*



*There was a cruise ship where people were eating, drinking being merry, laughing - cruising... Then it changed to a landing ship incredible sense of readiness and purpose - alertness - WAR! Everybody on board knew their task and were living for this purpose.*

*David Peters - 11 November 2012*

### **Scriptures & Main points**

- A cruise ship carries staff and passengers, on a naval vessel everyone has an important role.
- God has given all His people spiritual gifts and an important role to play in the church (1 Corinthians 12).
- The church body grows and builds itself up in love as each member does its work (Ephesians 4:7, 11-16).
- Similar to a naval vessel, the church functions through a structure of authority.
- Authority in the church is a biblical concept, all authority comes from God (Matthew 8:5-10, 28:18-20, 2 Corinthians 10:10, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-2, Hebrews 13:7). We need to submit to the God given authority in our church family, and let them lead us as God leads them.
- Any military metaphor needs to be understood in light of Ephesians 6:12 and 2 Corinthians 10:3-5.
- The current staffing restructure is another step on our exciting wilderness journey where God is rebuilding us according to His blueprint.
- The real restructure God is leading us into is a restructure of heart, as we become more humble and submitted to Him.

### **Questions**

1. What did you hear from God in this message?
2. What are the key difference between the cruise ship and landing ship metaphors?
3. In what ways is The Rock like the cruise ship today?
4. In what ways might we want to be more like the landing ship?
5. What is your take away from this message today?

### **Prayer**

- Pray for each other, that we would support the leadership and each other as we transition into the church paradigm at The Rock.
- For the Spirit's leading on how we can get more involved and support God's work both in and out of our church community.
- ...for our staff affected by the restructure, for faith, discernment for God's leading, for His provision.

*Have a question about or thought on something in this message? Get in touch with Clay, he'd love to hear from you, [clay@therock.org.nz](mailto:clay@therock.org.nz)*