



BIBLE REFLECTIONS

1 COR 13 JOHN 1 JOHN 15

NUNGALINYA COLLEGE

Acknowledgements

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are advised that these resources may contain the voices and images of people who have died.

March 2020 Yurranydjil Dhurrkay Filming and sound by Michelle Cook.

March 2021 Filming and sound by Samuel Wumulul and Eunice Dempsey from Miliŋimbi. Studying Certificate II Music, Media and Discipleship

March 2022 Filming and sound by Gwen Wanambirr (Miliŋimbi) and Michelle Cook, with extra photos and videos provided by Robert Gaykamaŋu, Michelle Cook, Warwick Vincent and Nungalinya Archives.

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Djesuy Nhuna Nhāŋala: Roberts' vocals recorded by Alan and Lucy Rogers. Dancing filmed by Grant Thomson, Dino Kundair, Richard Minor from Cert II Music, Media and Discipleship 2022:1, and Michelle Cook and Steve Miles, Nungalinya staff.

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Transforming © Mandy Mangurra 2021

Creation Story © Lorraine Granites 2021

Oceans Deep © Joanne Baker 2021

Jesus the Living Water © Troy Mardigan 2021

Creation Story © Kirsty Burgu 2020

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Prints of some artwork are available for sale from Nungalinya College

Nungalinya College acts as a Third Party Vendor for the Artists. 30% of sales goes to Nungalinya College for purchase of art supplies and provision of facilities for the Art students. 70% of the sales go directly to each Artist.

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Introduction

These Bible reflections come to you from Nungalinya College (www.nungalinya.edu.au). The College is formally supported by the Anglican, Uniting and Catholic churches of the Northern Territory and is located in Casuarina, a northern suburb of Darwin.

Since 1974, Nungalinya College has been equipping men and women of Australian First People's groups for leadership roles in churches and communities. Our training programs explore the Christian faith contextually through courses in Foundation Studies, Bible Overview, Media, Music and Discipleship, Art, Christian Ministry and Theology, and Bible Translation.

In the reflections, we hear different Nungalinya College leaders share on the theme of 'Dwelling in love' informed by group bible studies on 1 Corinthians 13 and John 15. To prepare for sharing we did group bible studies focusing on the context of 1 Corinthians 13 and St Paul's reflections on the sharing of the Lord's Supper. We also did group bible studies on John 15 reflecting on the context of 'I am the vine, you are the branches'. We washed each others' feet and thought about the connection between serving and being connected to Jesus. One reflection, 'Speaking in love', by Yurranydjil Dhurrkay, was recorded for the UCA Queensland Synod Bible study on Ephesians 4:15-16.

How to use these reflections

One way to engage with each reflection is to note the following:

- What connects with you?
- What do you have more questions about?
- What surprises you?
- and what actions are you called to?

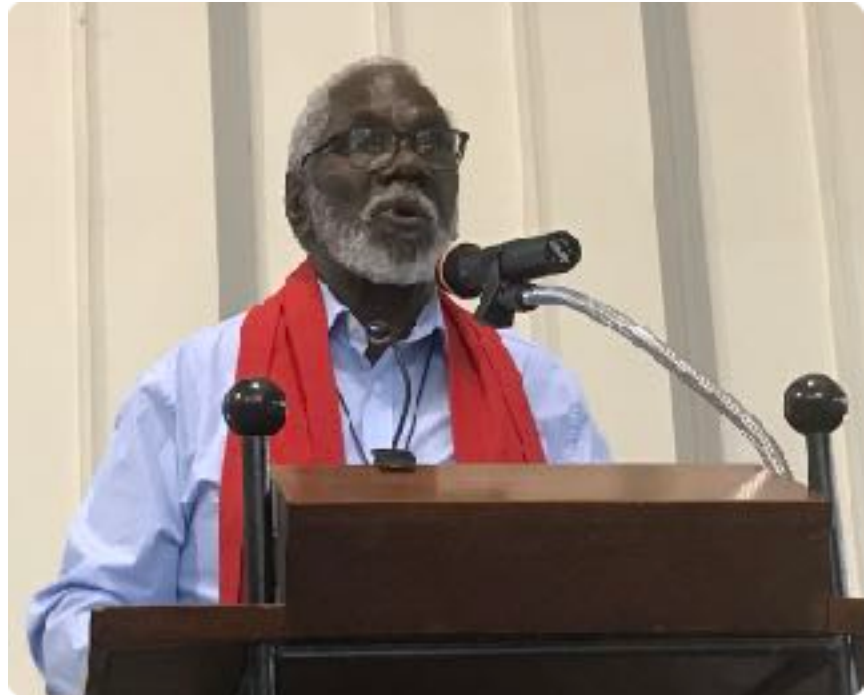
This approach is based on the Swedish Bible Study Method and is regularly used at Nungalinya College.

For further questions for each reflection see below

2021 Reflections 1 Corinthians 13

Knowing the Context

Rev Deacon Maratja Dhamarrandji is a leader of the Northern Regional Council of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress. He is a former chair of the Nungalinga Board and is currently participating in language workshops at Nungalinga. In these workshops, people from different language groups do bible study together and then record reflections in their own language. He was ordained in 2017 and graduated from Nungalinga with Certificate 4 in Christian Ministry and Theology in 2014. He is an accomplished bible



translator, having been part of the team that produced the Djambarrpuyŋu Bible, launched in 2008. For more on Maratja's story go to the Nungalinga College youtube channel for his testimony, his song and his reflections on a passage from Mark. He is the author, with Jione Havea, of "Receive, Touch, Feel, and Give Raypirri." In Indigenous Australia and the Unfinished Business of Theology: Cross-cultural Engagement, edited by Jione Havea, 9-15. New York: Palgrave, 2014 and two other 2022 publications with Jione Havea.

In this reflection Rev Dhamarrandji shares with us about the Yolŋu way of knowing. He shares something of himself and his journey and then pays respect to different parts of his family. He gives us a glimpse of the *Gurrutu* (kinship) and *Mälk* (subsection or skin name) systems. He is introducing us to one of Australian First Peoples' views of the world where the whole creation exists in a complex set of relationships.

When you reflect on your own relationship with the whole creation what stands out to you? Is the view of the world shared by Rev Dhamarrandji similar to yours? What do you think this view can teach you?

Marlene Boko is currently studying Certificate 4 in Christian Ministry and Theology. She is from Aputula (Finke). Marlene shares with us some of the context of 1 Corinthians 13.

When have you most recently heard 1 Corinthians 13 used as a basis for preaching? Thinking about the larger context of the Scripture what other points might you add to the context given to us by Marlene?

Leading in Love

Wängarr Dhamarrandji is a teacher at Nungalinya College in the Certificate II Music, Media and Discipleship course. She is also doing Certificate 4 in Christian Ministry and Theology. She is from Galiwin'ku (Elcho Island). She is a bible translator and evangelist. Here she shares with us in Djambarrpuṇu about the importance of leading in love. To hear more from Wangarr go to the Nungalinya website and find her story <https://www.nungalinya.edu.au/Pages/Category/case-studies>



Wängarr shares about the importance of learning from creation to learn more about God's love. How could learning from creation help keep you in God's love in your leadership roles?

Painting in Love

Troy Mardigan from Nauiyu (Daly River) is a graduate of Certificate 2 in Art and is also studying a Certificate 3 in Christian Ministry and Theology. He shares with us his painting of reconciliation Easter Message using the image of the lily bulb.



What images do you have of what reconciliation looks like?



Painting in Love

Uncle Jo Cuttabut is the weekday host at Nungalinya College. This means he is the after-hours go-to person for people staying on site. In 2022 he became one of the art teachers at Nungalinya. He is a gifted artist and has started his Doctorate in Theology with NAAITS - Whitley College partnership. While we were doing the group bible studies Jo's granddaughter was born.



Take some time to look at Jo's painting. What stands out to you?



Acting in Love

Joanne Baker is from Milinjimbi and is studying Certificate II in Art and Faith at Nungalinga College. She shares with us how she tries to make God's love real in her community.



Maurice Karui is from Wadeye (Port Keats). He is studying Certificate II in Music, Media and Discipleship at Nungalinga. He is a key leader in his local community. In this reflection, Maurice shares about his own ministry at home.



How do you make God's love real in your community? What stops you from sharing God's love with others? What helps you?

Speaking in Love

Yurranydjil Dhurrkay is a Wangurri woman from Galiwin'ku (Elcho Island). She is an accomplished linguist, having been part of the Djambarrpuyŋu translation team, as well as translating the bible into her own language, Wangurri. She is currently the Northern Regional Council of Congress Educator for Arnhem Land. With her husband Djawut, she is the author of an article in the 2020 Australian Journal of Mission Studies on "'Turtle Hunting': A lesson in bible translation partnerships, roles, rights and responsibilities". She is a Diploma of Translating graduate from Nungalinga College. To hear more from Yurranydjil go to the Nungalinga College youtube channel.



In this reflection, Yurranydjil shares about speaking the truth in love so that we can grow strong together. Sometimes we can speak the truth but forget the love. How could Yurranydjil's focus on being in the love of Christ help you to both listen to truth as well as speak truth?

2022 Reflections

Creating in Love

The art works that introduce us to John 1 are from the Nungalinya Garden of Eden project.
www.nungalinya.edu.au/garden-of-eden.

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Creation Mural Class of 2021



Genesis 1 Creation Story Lorraine Granites Yuendumu



Creating in Love

Day 2 Oceans Deep Joanne Baker Milinjimbi



Day 7 Jesus the Living Water Troy Mardigan Nauyiu (Daly River)



Guest Speaker: Kirsty Burgu



Kirsty Burgu is a Ngarinyin Worrorra woman and was born and lives at Mowanjum Community. She is the Uniting Church Pastor at Mowanjum. She was recently featured on ABC Compass 'God is a Wandjina'

Kirsty is as intensely engaged with the traditional culture of her people as she is with Christianity. She deftly portrays the stories and philosophy of these two worlds within her work, where she regularly depicts the first two Wandjina Idjair the father (God) and Wodjin the son (Jesus).

Kirsty is a Director of both Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation and Mowanjum Aboriginal Corporation, and in the past has served on Mowanjum Artists Spirit of the Wandjinia Aboriginal Corporation. Further to her community and cultural responsibilities Kirsty is an active artist at Mowanjum Art and Culture Centre. If this is not enough, she is illustrating a childrens' book for publishing house Magabala Books Broome WA.

In 2021, Kirsty was a Finalist in the prestigious Blake Prize at the Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre Liverpool NSW. 86 artists were shortlisted from 1,200 submitted entries internationally, so an outstanding acknowledgement for this artist. (Adapted from <https://mowanjumarts.com/portfolio/kirsty-burgu>)

Creation Story, 2020 Blake Prize Shortlist



Ochre on canvas

Idjair (father) on the left, and Wodjin (son) on the right are the first two Wandjina. Wandjina are sacred ancestral beings who created the land and brought law, culture and language, and still to this day control the elements, the flora and fauna, and humans.

The emu represents the Milky Way (Wallungunda), and the kangaroo is the carrier of law and also represents my clan. They can both be seen in the Milky Way on cold wintery nights.

Idjair told two Ungud snakes that lived in the earth's core to come to the surface and slither around to make the land, rivers and water ways. The earth was still but the motion of the snakes moving in opposite direction made the earth begin to turn.

At the bottom are four Wandjina: three males represent the language groups ¹from the West Kimberley of Western Australia. Left to right is Namarali (Worrorra), Rimidjmarra (Wunambal) and Wanalirri (Ngarinyin). The fourth figure is Jilinya, mother of all people.

Two owl-lets sit on the shoulders of Idjair and Wodjin, and represent the moieties (or marriage system) which are Wodoi and Jungkun. A Jungkun man can only marry a Wodoi woman, and vice versa.

From 66th Blake Prize Exhibition Catalogue accessed 21/4/22 casulapowerhouse.com

John 15: 5, 9-17

The Bible reading is brought to us by participants in the Nungalinga Language Workshops. For more information on these languages go to the [Aboriginal Bibles](https://aboriginalbibles.org.au) website.

<https://aboriginalbibles.org.au>

John 15:5	Lotte Robertson Williams	Warlpiri*	Papunya
John 15:9	Milminydjarrk Garrawurra	Djambarrpuynu*	Milinjimbi/Langarra
John 15:10	Alanga Ngambe	Murinh Patha*	Wadeye
John 15:11	Edwin Rami	Wubuy*	Numbulwar
John 15:12	Rodney Malbunka	Western Arranta*	Ntaria (Hermannsburg)
John 15:13	Carolyn Windy	Pitjantjatjarra*	APY Lands
John 15:14	Miriam Numamurdirdi	Kriol#	Urapunga
John 15:15	Rosemary Jinmauliya	Burrarra*	Maningrida
John 15:16-17	Eddie Robertson	Plain English#	Yuendumu

* © Bible Society Australia # © Wycliffe Australia

The washing of the feet introduces us to the context of John 15, part of Jesus' farewell discourse. Jesus washes the disciples' feet, Judas leaves and Jesus gives his final teaching to his disciples before his arrest.



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Growing in love



Mandy Mangurra is a teacher at Nungalinya, an Anglican Church leader, and a burgeoning artist. Here she shares her reflection on her painting Transforming.

"The seeds fall to the ground and begin to grow in the ground. Those new plants are dependent on the environment they are growing in.

God gives everything those plants need to grow in that place. This is like us - we need to be in our community. We need to share his love with our own people. We need to be transforming our own community and helping them to grow."

What are the seeds that God is trying to nurture in your journey of faith? How might you partner with God to grow these seeds and dwell in God's love?



Gemma Alange Ngambe is a leader in the Catholic Church and is based in Wadeye. She is a Certificate 3 in Christian Ministry and Theology graduate and is starting her Certificate 4 in 2022. She is a former chair of the Nungalinya Board.

I am a teacher at Our Lady of Sacred Heart Catholic School in Wadeye

We are here for a purpose. We are here because God made us.

I will tell one special story about a tree growing up with lots of branches. A tree is God and the branches are us and the seeds and flowers are our children. And the tree, the branches, the seeds are all God's message and the flowers is where we spread the good news.

It is like a particular tree that we know is good for fruit that we eat in a certain season.

The message of God gives us strength to follow Jesus - just like when we eat the fruit from this particular tree.

When we hear the good news from God that is like the fruit that we eat is good and when we see a poisonous tree with fruit we don't eat that poisonous fruit.

In listening to good news there are times when we need to prepare ourselves knowing that one day we will face God. We need to see and listen always to the word of God and pray and continue our daily lives listening to God's words.

The good tree represents our God. Listen and eat the good fruit.

When we walk out bush there are lots of good trees with good fruits and not so good trees with poisonous fruit.

God gives the message to Jesus and Jesus spreads the good news to his friends and friends spread the good news to the people and the people share it with us.

And these are the things our old people and our parents have taught us - just like spreading the good news - We are taught these are the fruits that we eat. Just like we are taught in many different ways the stories of the Bible. For example, we hear from the priest and so many other people and churches about the good news.

So in your own life you think about yourself as a tree growing or use other images to think about your faith. So the tree, the branch, the flowers - the flowers blossom. They are beautiful, their smell, their taste is God's word that we all listen to and pray to be faithful in God's ways.



Resting in love

Robert Maliwalnawuy Gaykamaṇu and Milminydjarrk Helen Garrawurra are church leaders at Miliṇimbi, in North East Arnhem Land. In 2021 they graduated with Certificate 4 in Christian Ministry and Theology at Nungalinya. They are very active members of their local congregation, encouraging and supporting the pastors, Peter Rripinganan and Melissa Yimayima. They love singing and dancing and share with us a little of their stories, a reflection on being joined to Jesus, the vine, and then a song "Djesuy nhuna nhäṇala". The song speaks to them of being always held in God's love.



DJESUY NHUNA NHÄṆGALA - JESUS KNOWS AND SEES YOU

© Robert Maliwalnawuy Gaykamaṇu, Bobby Gaykamaṇu and Peter Walarri

Trans. Mätjarra Garrawurra Used with Permission

Djesuy nhuna nhäṇala
Yaka dhe dhu dharrpanmirri,
bili ṇayi nhuna nhäṇala
Bili Bäpanydja ḷakaranhamina
Ṇarranydja dhuwala larrunhamirri
yaka dhe dhu dharrpanmirri

Jesus knows and Jesus sees
He's always there don't hide away
He's always there and looking out for you.
Our Father knows, our Father cares
He's always there don't hide away
He's always there and watching over you

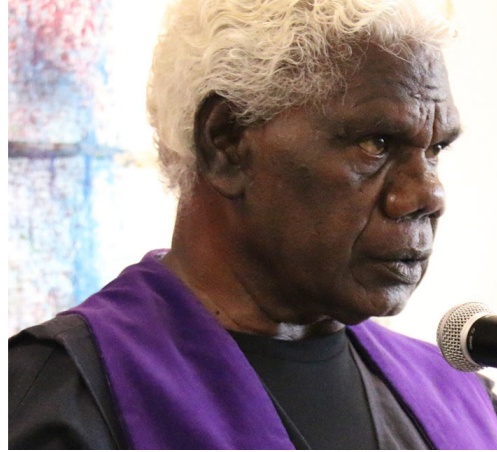
Garray Djesuy 2x
Garray Djesuy 2x
ṇäthili nhuna nhäṇala

You are Lord, You are Lord
Jesus you're our living Lord.
You are there always watching over us.

Nhaku dhe ḍiltji-gurrupanmina
Dhärrana dhe wothina dhe
Yuwalktja dhe dhukarr moṇala.
Bili Bäpanydja ḷakaranhamina
Ṇarranydja dhuwala ḷarrunhamirri
yaka dhe dhu barrarirri.

Why did you turn away?
Why did you lose your way?
Our Father's there and looking out for you.

Our Father knows, our Father cares,
He's always there don't hide away,
He's always there and watching over you.



Nungalinga College
Empowering Indigenous Christians

