



FRIENDS OF WORTELGAT

OCTOBER 2020

We welcome you to this our *Friends of Wortelgat* newsletter for October! Feel free to share it with your friends, colleagues and family!

Our theme this month is ambition which is a strong desire to do or achieve something. David Lloyd George once wrote saying; "Don't be afraid to take a big step. You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps."

What about the Christian's ambition? Well, as we know, (I spent three years studying Greek along with Biblical Hebrew 🙏) the Greek *`philotimeomai'*, to be ambitious, or, literally, to covet the honour, occurs three times in the New Testament, and is not once translated 'be ambitious' in the Authorized Version. The ambitions a true Christian should have are: To get on quietly with his own business—translated 'study' (**1 Thessalonians 4: 11**). To be well-pleasing to the Lord—translated 'labour' (**2 Corinthians 5: 9**). To preach the gospel in places where Christ is not known—translated 'strive' (**Romans 15: 20**).

I once read of a Christian minister wisely saying; "I was never of any use until I found out that God did not intend me to be a great man." Perhaps like you, as a younger man living my life running trails, ultra marathons, and spending as much time as I could climbing mountains, one of my ambitions was to climb Everest. We all have ambitions in life.

Some of the ambitions we may have in life are along the lines of the following;

1. Travel the world
2. See the family settled
3. Live to 100
4. Write a bestselling novel
5. Win the lottery
6. Be financially secure
7. Become a grandparent
8. Provide for the family
9. Learn to fly
10. Learn to play a musical instrument

What is your ambition? We discuss this in a little more depth in our devotion this month.

THE WORTELGAT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Nadia Mos – Programme Co-Ordinator



October Month! I don't know about you but I love my job, and I didn't realise how much I have missed planning camps and doing programming with kids until we had our first couple of camps this month! A Great shout out to NG Kerk Bredasdorp and Hope Town for making my day by coming to Wortelgat for some programming. Activities included Abseiling, Kayaking, Rock Climbing and some fun teambuilding activities and I am happy to hear you had a memorable experience! If you are interested in some adventure activities as mentioned above, please book because we would LOVE to have you. It costs R30 per person per hour and you may book a day visit if you are not interested in staying an entire weekend! Be blessed and have a great month till next time!

Sally Nuss – Office & Hospitality Manager



It is great to see that it is almost "business as usual" out here bar the regulations and we have had an extremely busy month! Bookings have picked up for every month and growing into the new year. Thank you so much to all the camps and groups that have been firm stalwarts over the past three years and those who, because of word-of-mouth have started to use our facilities. It looks as though Grant and I will be out here until the 15th December 2020 to hand-over our respective responsibilities. We have been chatting about responsibility for a while Grant and I. Now, the Bible expects us to take personal responsibility in all areas of life. At times, people try to avoid personal responsibility, usually through blame-shifting. Adam tried to blame Eve for his sin (**Genesis 3:12**). Cain tried to dodge responsibility (**Genesis 4:9**) and the list goes on. It has been a great reminder. If you are keen to come out and spend some time out here, please drop me a line at info@wortelgat.org.za.

Grant Nuss – General Manager



Thank you for the calls to both Sally and I in these our last few months out here – it is greatly appreciated! A number of you have stated that you want to come out personally to wish us well and, if you are able to do so, that will be great. I have had a couple of messages from people regarding this newsletter and whether it will carry on and, as I have said, it will definitely carry on with another editor. Whilst I may still edit the November issue I would like to leave you this month with something that has been laid on my heart and that is for you and I to choose to be ambitious. I read something written by George Ruff which has assisted me in my life where he says; "A person's sights should be as high as his ambitions can raise them, and everyone should try his best to hit his target." And that is it. There are many people who believe that they are ambitious, but aren't – really. They are always stuck in their own agenda's so never able to see the forest for the proverbial trees. May you choose to be really ambitious? Your choice will change lives, perhaps even your own.

Christo Mostert – Maintenance Manager



A great month with a great number of people and activity happening at Wortelgat. Whilst we have spent quite a bit of time on things such as AVR (alien vegetation removal), having controlled burns to remove the build-up of cuttings, maintaining camp-sites, and cottages and of course the list goes on, it has always been with a smile from a staff complement who are extremely well-versed in doing what is required. I am thoroughly enjoying the team-effort along with both Grant, Sally and the staff which makes everything work together smoothly. We continue to strive to do our best out here at all times and know that it is an all-encompassing role we all play, so no sooner have you got to the end of your to-do list when you have to virtually go back to the start – such is maintenance. So, if you need to get in touch with me or want to drop me a line my e-mail address is; maintenance@wortelgat.org.za. If you want to get hold of Grant (manager@wortelgat.org.za) or Sally (info@wortelgat.org.za) please do so.

TO BRING YOU UP TO DATE ...

Due to the COVID-19 virus, we have to follow the government's prescribed rules and regulations.

- Masks worn at all times.
- Social Distancing; 1.5m apart.
- Leisure travel within South Africa is allowed.
 - Accommodation for Leisure.

If you are interested and want to know more, please contact Sally on info@wortelgat.org.za.

The three Ds interact!

- **Distance:** The further away you are from someone who is infected, the less likely you are to be infected by them or to breathe in particles they have breathed out.
- **Dose:** To become infected you need to have contact with a minimum dose, which takes time and exposure to people with the virus. The longer you are exposed to an infectious person, the more people you are exposed to, and the fewer barriers (like cloth masks) between you, the more likely you are to be exposed to the virus. People who have symptoms, including mild illness, are generally more infectious – i.e. are able to produce larger doses of infected respiratory particles.
- **Dispersion:** Because smaller particles hang around in the air, the movement of air makes a really big difference. The particles disperse quickly if you are outside, particularly if there is a breeze or wind. We also know that sunlight breaks down the virus. Small, enclosed spaces with closed windows are high risk, especially when they are crowded.



#Birdwatching@Wortelgat

If you are in the Klein River area please keep your camera handy should you see any birds and/or fauna that you believe are worthy of sending into us for inclusion in the newsletter. It will be greatly appreciated. Please mail your photo/s to manager@wortelgat.org.za.



Red-Winged Starling

A slightly different sighting this month. Sally, Chelsea and I went to the Waterfront this month and while we were having breakfast this fellow above popped up on our table! A beautiful bird, in great health, and really tame. The species has also been seen out in the Overstrand area as far away as Bredasdorp.

The red-winged starling is a bird of the starling family Sturnidae native to eastern Africa from Ethiopia to the Cape in South Africa. An omnivorous, generalist species, it prefers cliffs and mountainous areas for nesting, and has moved into cities and towns due to the similarity to its original habitat.

The male of this 27–30-centimetre long starling has mainly iridescent black plumage, with chestnut flight feathers, which are particularly noticeable in flight. The female has an ash-grey head and upper breast. The juvenile resembles the male, but is less glossy than the adults, and has brown rather than dark red eyes.

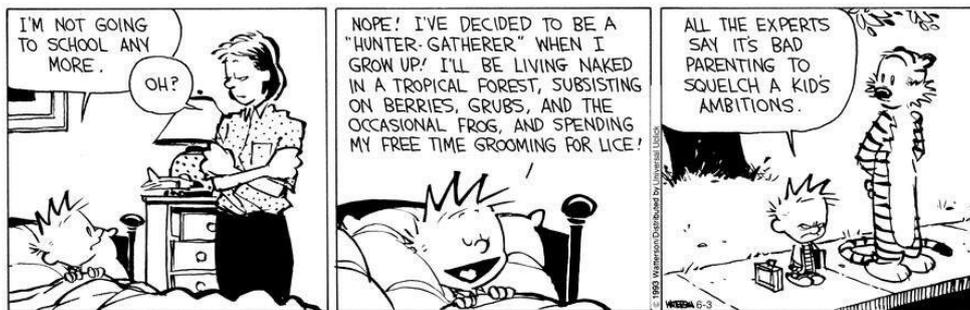
This starling may be confused with other similar starling species, such as its sister species the pale-winged starling. The difference between the two is that the red-winged has rufous primaries while the pale-winged has whitish primaries edged with orange. The pale-winged has a bright red or orange eye, while the red-winged's is dark, almost black. Only the female of the red-winged has a grey head.

Like other starlings, the red-winged starling is an omnivore, taking a wide range of seeds, berries, nectar from plants such as Aloe and *Schotia brachypetala*, and invertebrates, such as the beetle species *Pachnoda sinuata*. They may take nestlings and adults of certain bird species, such as the African palm swift. It will also scavenge on carrion and human food scrap as it was doing in the Waterfront.

Fruit species that this species may feed on include figs, such as the sycamore fig and others, marulas, date palm fruit, berries from species such as wild olive *Olea* and *Euphorbia*, and commercial fruit such as apples, grapes, citrus and others.

In rural areas, red-winged starlings are often spotted perching on livestock and game, such as cattle, klipspringers and giraffes, a trait shared by the pale-winged starling, and may take insects and ectoparasites such as ticks, much in the manner of oxpeckers.

DEVOTION: - AMBITION



Mark Twain once wrote saying; *"Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great people make you feel that you, too, can become great."*

Although you may well know this, ambition is defined as "an intense drive for success or power; a desire to achieve honour, wealth or fame." Now, to be ambitious, in the worldly sense, is essentially to be determined to have more than your neighbour. Its motto is "he/she with the most toys wins"; ambition strives to be number one. However, in the Bible, the word ambition takes on a whole new dimension: "Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands ..." (**1 Thessalonians 4:11**). Big difference.

Where the world teaches us to go all out to be the best, to have a bigger house, a fancier car, a larger pay-check than our neighbour, the Bible teaches us the opposite; "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself" (**Philippians 2:3**).

Perhaps the verse that I remember well in this context is that of **Amos 7:14** in which he says; "I am not a professional prophet, and I was never trained to be one. I am just a shepherd, and I take care of sycamore-fig trees." I would have loved being Amos' friend.

Think about him with me: Amos was a shepherd and a farmer. He didn't have a prophet's skill, a rabbi's education, or a politician's influence. He knew the ins and outs of tending sheep and pruning trees, and there is every indication that these comprised the family business. He was most definitely not a likely candidate for rebuking a nation.

So why did God choose him? Well, the same reason He chooses everyone. He picks the simple to confound the wise, He selects the weak to display His strength, and He is drawn to the willing to rebuke the stubborn. When God looks for servants, He looks for hearts. Everything else can be supplied later.

From my perspective, that should define your life more than anything else. If God me you at a dinner party, He would not ask what you do for a living or how many people are in your family. He would ask you what moves your heart, what dreams you have, and how committed you are to them. You see, He does not define us by the things we do. He defines us by our loves.

Look, we cannot know completely all the reasons why God chose Amos – how much of His choice was based on the personality and integrity of the shepherd. What we do know is that God is always focused on the things that count. He considers skills and qualifications usable, not indispensable. He is not limited by our limitations.

In closing: Have you let a sense of position or probability limit your labour in God's Kingdom? Don't. If your heart is right, He considers you much more qualified than you think. Do not measure your life by externals. If the visions and dreams He has given you are inspired by Him you have no reason not to go for them. A heart that is right with Him will always result in a life that is fruitful for Him.

Vince Havner once wrote saying that; *"The vision must be followed by the venture. It is not enough to stare up the steps. We must step up the stairs."*

Perhaps your prayer today is; "Father, I need your help to learn to slow down and tend to my own responsibilities instead of running around out of control and without purpose. Lord Jesus, please grant me not only the wisdom that I have been praying for, but also the patience and quietude that I need for that wisdom to change my heart and mind. And Holy Spirit, give me your guidance, direction, discernment, and wisdom. Amen."

PRAWN CURRY

Sally Nuss: Stand-In Catering Manager



Thank you so much for the mails regarding our Prawn Cocktail recipe last month! Some of you have asked me to put up another of Grant and my favourite dishes and that is Prawn Curry. This I do here. As per last month, remember that you can purchase 400g Cape Point Prawns which are normally around R79.99 at Checkers, and they also have an 800g pack which goes for R149.99.

Ingredients

- An 800g pack of Cape Point Large Frozen Prawn Meat.
- 1 tablespoon butter.
- 3 tablespoons oil.
- 1 onion, finely chopped.
- 4 cloves garlic, crushed.
- 3 bay leaves salt and pepper to taste.
- 1 teaspoon Cumin.
- 1 teaspoon Coriander.
- 2 teaspoons Garam Masala.
- 1 tin chopped/peeled tomatoes.
- 1 teaspoon Ginger, fresh or ground.
- 1 teaspoon Turmeric.
- 2 teaspoon chilli powder.
- Fresh Coriander – and green chillies (to taste).

Method

1. Heat butter and oil in a pot.
2. Sauté the onions, garlic, bay leaves, Cumin and Coriander, Garam Masala until onions are soft, about three minutes.
3. Add the tomatoes, Turmeric, ginger, curry leaves and chilli powder and season with salt and pepper.
4. Simmer for about 20 minutes.
5. Add prawns, stir, and let simmer for about 8 minutes.
6. Garnish with fresh coriander and desired amount of green chillies.
7. Serve with rice, roti or naan bread.



REST/REFRESH/REIGNITION

Spiritual Rejuvenation for Ministry Leaders

"Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again" (**John 4:14**). Thousands of people leave full-time Christian ministry every month. It is not because they have lost their love for Christ or their desire to serve Him but, for one reason or another, they are exhausted and simply cannot carry on. How often do you find yourselves burning the candle at both ends in our ministry? We at Wortelgat understand this and offer a facility that will bring rest, spiritual rejuvenation and draw you closer to the One who gives rest. We would love to have you join us for a weekend of spiritual refreshing. Besides a beautiful setting in which you will be able to wander around and spend time in the Word and journal, it is at a rate that will not break your budget. Drop us a line on info@wortelgat.org.za to check for availability, or contact our General Manager who, like you, in full-time pastoral ministry understands the necessity of a retreat in his ministry, life, and ultimately, for the benefit of his family. How about you?



You getting the most out of your stay at Wortelgat is of the utmost importance to us. So, what can we do for you? Perhaps create a camp? We are able to tailor-make packages for you and your group which will ensure that your needs are met. We can work programming/facilitation into your theme and teaching. With a university lecturer on-site content can be created and taught to your group. To suit your tastes meals can be prepared for you. Likewise, weddings can be officiated. The list is endless, so contact us on info@wortelgat.org.za in this regard and we will work out the packages and pricing for you.

WHAT COULD WE DO BETTER?

Our leadership team are committed to the pursuit of excellence in all we do. In order for us to succeed in this quest we need you! Whether it is a compliment for what we are doing well, or whether it is an area in which we are not performing and meeting expectations, please drop us a line on info@wortelgat.org.za. Help us continually to up our game.



Over the twenty years of our camping ministry with just over 240,000 people having spent time with us here, many of them continue to join us with their school group, church group, men's ministry, Bible College, pastoral leadership team, provincial sport teams, and the list goes on are on a journey with us to get involved in what we do to extend the Kingdom. Are you keen to get involved? During our ministry here we have seen thousands of lives restored. But with your help there is so much more we can do. Here are a few ways you can get involved in the ministry;

1. Whilst we through the year have camps for the under-privileged and want to increase those considerably this year and going forward, these can only be realised through funds donated for this to happen. If you and/or your school, church, company, or organisation would like to enable us to reach out to more children and the youth you can do this by either donating on a monthly or once-off basis. Our bank account details can be found below.
2. Become a Wortelgat Volunteer! Whatever your skills and talents, we would love you to join our team of volunteers. Whether you want to fundraise, volunteer at camps and/or events, or in your local church, you will be helping to bring God-given transformation to where it is needed most.
3. You can book a locally accredited speaker with funds going back to the ministry, who will talk about God's heart for the under-privileged, ways in which you can equip your church to respond through giving, prayer and action, and also share in the areas of biblical preaching, teaching, worship-leading, spiritual retreats and men's and women's ministries.

Please contact Grant Nuss either telephonically or by e-mail at manager@wortelgat.org.za and chat about your ideas and plans in which you could make a difference and grow the Kingdom through the Wortelgat ministry.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We would ask you to pray into our upcoming camps that those participating will learn a lot, be able to take with them a lifetime of experiences of an amazing place and people and, if they are taking programming, that they will revel in the messages and teaching in that ambit.

IN CLOSING ...

We the staff and leadership team would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of our amazing facility. Thank you too for the messages of support, prayer, encouragement, inspiration, donations and, when you are in the area, constantly bringing joy and speaking life into what we have been and are busy with this year being major restoration at points, and making good. Whilst we still have a little way to go yet, knowing that you as our friends are in our corner is invaluable. We the Wortelgat team applaud you! 🙌

FINALLY...

If you would like for us to add people to our mailing list please e-mail us on info@wortelgat.org.za, and if you would like to unsubscribe please mail us on the same address. We currently reach 452 people and more each month as the newsletter is shared! Awesome! We look forward to both seeing and hearing from you soon!

If you feel led to assist us financially in our ministry we would truly appreciate it as we honour the words of Jesus in **Matthew 28:18-20**.

Our bank account details are as follows:

Bank:	Standard Bank
Branch:	Hermanus
Branch Code:	050312
Account No.:	08 225 1126
Account Type:	Current Account
Account Holder:	Wortelgat Outreach Trust

A member of Christian Camping Southern Africa (CCSA)

Trustees: M Bridgman, R Fehrsen-Du Toit (Acting-Chairperson), HJ Hendricks, SM Hofmeyr, S Muller, D Rajh; WL Schoonbee; S. Weber