



Petrol, LPG, and GOD

Dear friend,

I'm sure you've noticed the price of petrol recently! And if you drive a car, I'm sure you've felt the "pinch" when you've gone to fill up!

The news has also been filled with stories about how the skyrocketing price of petrol is affecting the family budget.

In Germany, the Frankfurt Motor Show is now on, and hundreds of car makers are putting their latest models on show. Some models are highlighting fuel efficiency, but others pay no regard for it all, especially those in the luxury car segment.

One news reporter commented, however, that although most new cars are aiming for less consumption, their engines are still being designed for greater power output. He commented that this desire of ours for "more power" limited the fuel efficiency gains we could achieve.

This got me thinking.



Have you ever thought that perhaps our cars have got by far too much

power capability under the bonnet compared to what we really need? What if we designed cars with less power output? That would save you and me heaps of money in petrol costs!

It sounds like a good idea, doesn't it! I wonder why the car makers don't do it?

The answer, I feel, is probably because the car company would lose sales because it is easier to sell a car "with muscle" than a supposedly "wimpy" car. People like "power-grabbing" specifications! People want to be tough and "kings of the bitumen."

The nearest answer the car industry has come up with is the LPG fuel engine. When the petrol engine is converted to LPG, you lose some power capacity, but because LPG is so much cheaper, you can go a whole lot further for your dollar! Consider FORD's latest Falcon range of vehicles. The standard 6 cylinder Barra 182 engine has a maximum power output of 182kW, whereas the E-GAS version of the same engine has a maximum output of 156kW. That's not much difference, is it! In fact, a FORD Australia marketing spokesperson recently said in the Herald-Sun that the E-GAS model is one of the best kept secrets in Ford's lineup!

My dad drives a FORD on LPG, and he has absolutely no complaints when it comes to power or price per km. I drive a Holden on LPG, and I reckon

my car has heaps of power! What is more, for \$20 I can drive 280km around town, whereas a petrol car with an average of 11L/100km would pay \$40! What a difference!¹



So why don't people change to LPG? Here are some of the possible reasons:

1. An image problem: not as much power.
2. Start up cost: too much money to convert to LPG (about \$2000)
3. Less space in the boot because of the new LPG tank.
4. Safety concerns: maybe the LPG tank will explode.

You may be asking two questions by now: First, have I become an LPG sales rep for FORD, and second, what has all this got to do with God!

The simple answer to the first question is 'No!' ☺

But concerning the second question, I think there are remarkable similarities between why people do and don't "switch to God" as to why people do and don't switch to LPG!

1. People who turn to God are not worried about their external image. They don't care what people think

about them. All they know is that they need to get to heaven, even if it means "giving up some power and pleasure" on the way. On the other hand, people who are always concerned about what others will think of them, and who want to "live it up" selfishly in this life, will not turn to God.

2. People who turn to God are not worried about what it will cost them to begin with. Sure, they may lose some so-called "friends," and give up formerly "profitable" enterprises like gambling, but they know that in the long run, the ongoing savings and benefits far outweigh the initial cost. Think about it: people who choose God now, will gain heaven in eternity!
3. People who choose God are not worried that their schedule in life will be rearranged and filled with extras like going to church and times of Bible reading and prayer. In fact, they realize that by doing these things, they end up having to carry "less baggage" for the journey anyway! Their lives become simpler and less cluttered, but all the more fulfilling!
4. People who choose God are not worried about their lives falling to pieces, because the one who gives them this new life is Jesus Christ. Jesus has proved by His life on earth, His death and His

**Why not
Changeover to
God?**

(1) Assuming LPG is 40c/L and Unleaded is \$1.30/L. FORD's Barra 182 has a fuel efficiency of 11.5L/100km, and the E-GAS version 15.3L/100km, so for \$20 you could drive 140km on Unleaded, and 326km on LPG.

resurrection, that He is the Master Installer, and can be fully trusted to make your new life following God work!!

Petrol, LPG, and GOD. If you're worried about petrol prices, why not switch to LPG? And if you're starting to be concerned that your life is not the way it should be, why not turn to God? Unlike many LPG conversion places at the moment, Jesus Christ is not "fully booked out for months"; Jesus is ready to help you right now. Now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation!

Let us pray:

*Dear God,
thank you that life can change for the better.*

Thank you that Jesus is alive right now to help me become the person I need to be.

Jesus, please come into my life and make me totally new!

I need your help.

Thank you.

Amen.

Then Jesus told them this parable:
“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.”

(Luke 15:3-7, GNB)

You're invited to...

Saturday Night Live!



A great evening of live theatre, fun, and laughter, around a theme that will really get you thinking!

Suitable for
kids and adults!

Where?

**St Mark's Family Church
19 Beatty St, Reservoir.**

When?

**7pm, Saturday 24th
September**

**Highly
Recommended!!**

Kids' Church

(adults  welcome, too!)

Come along and enjoy all the **fun** as we:



sing songs

do great activities

learn more about God

play games

participate in drama

eat food



Where: Preston North East Primary School Hall

When: Sunday 18th September, 4pm - 5.30pm

(Come at 3pm to help set up!)

All children under 12 years old should be supervised by a parent / guardian / brother or sister over 16.

Invite your friends!

Peter Kutschker, Community Chaplain, East Preston / Reservoir
Phone: 8430 8574