

# HopeNET



## Andrew Chan and the media

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Debate on the death penalty and Australia- Indonesian relations occupies much of the media and all because of Andrew and Myruan. However we shouldn't lose sight of the depth of meaning in all this. Which is essentially theological, not political or even an ethical issue primarily.

The driving vitality in all this is what happened to Andrew Chan after he heard the DP sentence. In his own words, it brought him to God. "ten years ago something happened , something I never believed, that there is a God and he is real".

Let's not be coy about this. Chan was irritated by people who said he faked it. The fruits of his life and his calmness in death proved his genuineness. In the last hours after bringing their co-victims to faith they worshipped and praised God. Chan had resigned peacefully if this were to be God's will for them. He simply testified that he could sleep in the nights prior because "honestly, Jesus".

In a meaning starved and hope shrivelled society we read these statements from these two at the very centre of it all and we are confronted with their joy and faith founded on the evidence of Jesus Christ. Let's make the most of this, they would wish it more than any other issue and debate.

for these testimonies to be discussed debated and openly presented would do our nation more good than any other topical debate. Whether people believe them or not.

It seems that the words 'Jesus Christ' are both explosive and intimidating in Australia today . Would that our best media writers could take up the these essential matters which is the core meaning of the Chan story. I love four things Chan said "Jesus, family, friends and football." Clearly for Chan it was in that order. We hear a lot about the last- fair enough. But let's have the courage to do more on the former. This would be the best way to honour these two beautifully repentant reprobates, now with their Lord.

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