



# Te Rongopai and Matariki

## *With Lorinda Pereira*

*An info sheet to accompany the video*

Tēnā koutou - Greetings to you all

With the first ever National Matariki Public Holiday just around the corner we wanted to create a short digital narrative around Matariki and give an opportunity for one of the community leaders we support and believe in to share her perspective on what Matariki is all about. **Meet - Lorinda Pereira.**

Lorinda (Ngā Puhi) is based in Te Tai Tokerau, in the far North. She is married to John and they have nine beautiful tamariki. They run a charitable Trust called Te Ahu Whenua Navigations - teaching families, hapū and community groups on how to life off the land. Lorinda is also a prominent national Māori Christian speaker, teacher and prophetic voice. She has a powerful testimony.

We made the 4 minute video to be easily shareble in church services and in staff meetings for our 100+ faith-based charitable trusts. The video is entitled **Te Rongopai and Matariki.**

**This video covers the following questions and topics:**

- What is Matariki?
- When is Matariki?
- What is the Christian narrative about Matariki?
- And what can people do during Matariki?

**Some key kupu/Māori words used in the video:**

Hauhake	Harvest
Whenua	Land

Whānau	Family
Hāngi	Earth over/traditional way of cooking food
Kai	Food
Mātauranga	Knowledge
Hapū	Sub-Tribe
Poke	A generous offering/tithe
Hapori	Community
Pātaka	Storehouse

### **Puanga, Matariki and Names of Stars**

The sighting of Matariki marks the beginning of the Māori New Year. The celebrations and stories differ from iwi to iwi, from region to region. Some iwi (particularly in the North) see Puanga as the heralding star, others see Matariki. Puanga is known as the star – Rigel. Matariki is known as – Pelaiades.

### **Key Scripture verses**

Amos 5:8	“He who made the Pleiades (Matariki) and Orion, who turns midnight into dawn and darkens day into night, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out over the face of the land - the Lord is his name.”
Psalms 147:4	“He counts the stars and calls them all by name”
Genesis 1:14	“And God said, Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years.”
Psalms 19:1	“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.”

### **Lorinda’s Kōrero (final segment):**

“I’d encourage people to encounter the supernatural essence of Christ. The supernatural imprint of Te Kaihanga i runga i te whenua, ki te rangi (The Creator of the earth and the heavens). Matariki literally means ‘Te Mata-Ariki’ – to come face to face with the Lord, a time of deep encounters with the Lord, and say where am I at lord?, and to ask the lord, where are we heading?”

**- Lorinda Pereira.**

### **Small Group Questions:**

After sharing the video, these are potential questions that could be asked in relation to the video.

- 1) If Matariki is a season to reset and reflect on that year that was, what would you say are some of your key highlights or achievements? From June 2021 to June 2022?
- 2) If Matariki is also a time to strategic plan and prepare for the future, what are a few things you could do in the coming months to enable you and your whānau to thrive?
- 3) If Matariki is a season to encounter the Lord, what could you do to better position yourself to come face to face with God?
- 4) Matariki is a time of celebration – how are you and your whānau going to celebrate Matariki?

**Jade Hohaia** (*Raukawa/Waikato/Ngāpuhi/Ngāi Tahu*)

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