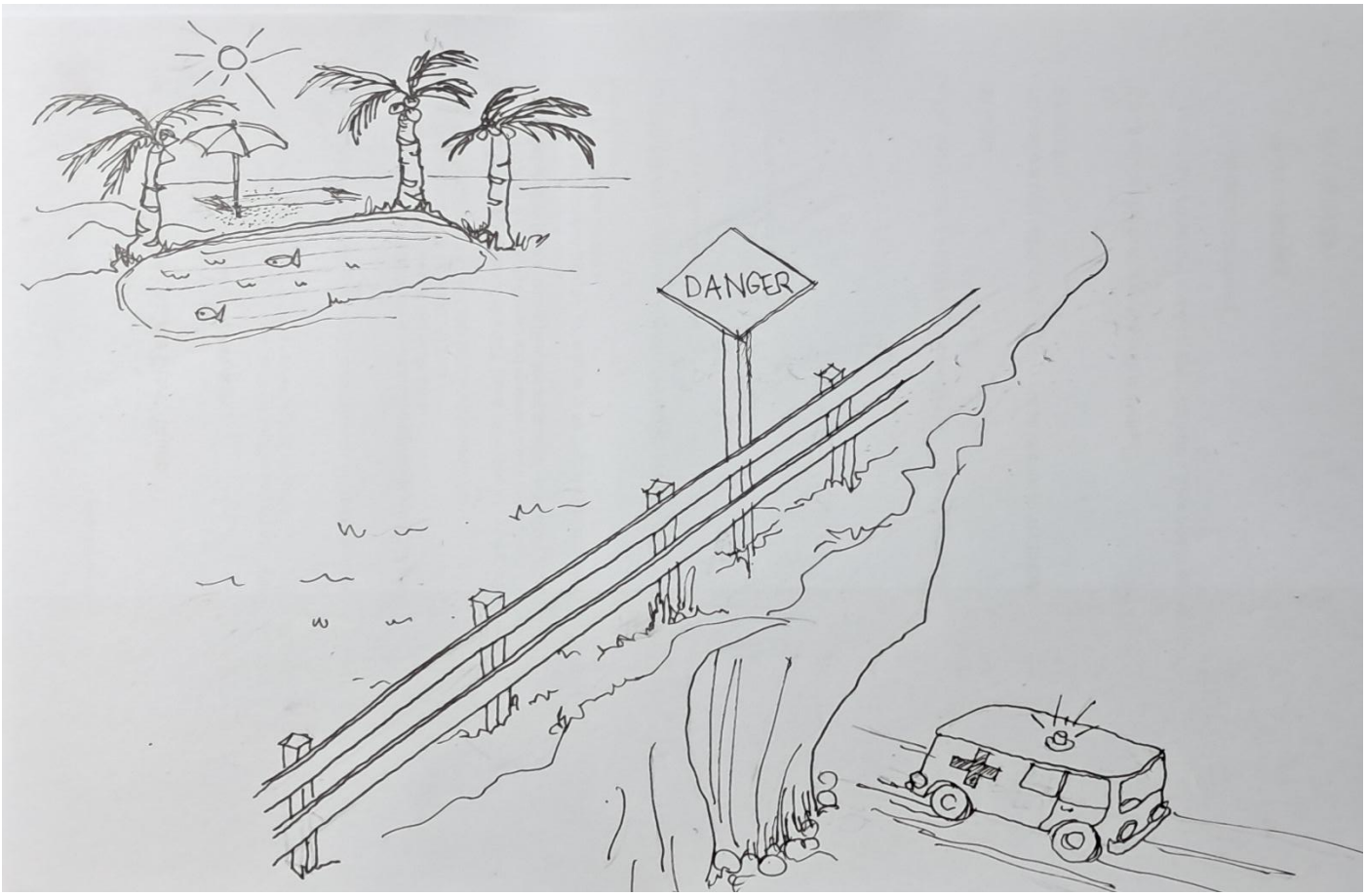
Images of Transformation Study.

1. Our vision. 'Transformed through following Christ.' What does this statement mean to members of the group?
2. Look at the cartoon below. What do we see?



3. What sort of mindset best represents the current outreach strategy of Taupo Baptist Church, do you think?

- The fence & warning sign?
- The ambulance?
- The oasis?

1. The Fence and warning sign perspective

- Discuss a time when a fence or warning sign might have saved the life of somebody in the group?

- Discuss in what ways the gospel acts as a warning sign. ***Acts 2:40. "…With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."***
- Is a fence / warning sign perspective inspiring? Is it transformative?

2. The Ambulance perspective

- Discuss a time when a first responder might have saved your life.
- Discuss the positive aspects of having an 'emergency response' perspective to community ministry.
- Discuss the negative aspects of having an 'emergency response' perspective to community ministry.

3. The Oasis Perspective

- In what ways could our church act like a spiritual oasis to people who are not yet part of our community?

- How can a Christian church best reach people who have rejected Christianity but who still respect Christian ethics and values?

'Christianity we reject, Christian values we respect!'

Several reasons re suggested as to why a Christian preschool might be effective at reaching our wider community:

1. Discipleship support for Christian parents
    - Deuteronomy 6:6-9. ***These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.***
2. Christian values and morals appeal to unbelieving parents when it comes to the training of their children.
    - Honesty
    - Traditional values
    - Manners
    - Quality education
3. Continuity with Children's Ministry
4. A natural pathway for seekers into TBC
5. Long term fruit anticipated
6. Transformative spiritually

- What does your group think of these ideas? Can you think of a more effective way to be a transforming influence that meets genuine needs in the community but also offers pathways of spiritual transformation?

- Discuss this statement. ***Our goal is not to transform Taupo, but to have a transforming influence on those with whom we interact.***