



Service this week 9th May 2021...

Our service this week will be led by Doris Doonan, and her sermon via YouTube will be on the 'Three Images of Faith', with the Bible reading from Mark 4: 21-34.

News...

Please pray for our lovely Janet Groves, who was taken into hospital this week after a bad fall, which broke her femur. She has had an operation and is recovering in hospital.

Preparations are being made for our return to Sunday morning church services, and emails will be coming out soon with details!

Don't forget that Ishmael will be visiting us on the afternoon of the 10th of July for a Praise concert! The format this takes will be dependent on regulations at the time.



A Message from our Minister...

The passage we are looking at from Mark's gospel this week is all about faith. 'Faith' is one of those words that we use all the time, but I wonder if we ever stop and think about its meaning, and about how we use it and apply it to ourselves. What is faith? The dictionary defines it like this...

1. Complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
2. Strong belief in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual conviction rather than proof.

I think we would want to say that our faith encompasses both these things. A complete trust in someone; God / Jesus, and strong spiritual beliefs in the doctrines of Christianity, regardless of proof. But what does all this actually mean for us in real life?

On a scale of 1-10, where would you place yourself in how much you trust God? Pick a number. Now take time to consider your health, the issues of the world, family struggles, world poverty, earthquakes, coronavirus, the death of people you love, the rise of Cancers / Diseases / Alzheimers etc. After thinking about all these would you still choose the same number? What about picking a number between 1-10 to define your level of beliefs in the doctrines of the church? Do you question the creation, the virgin birth, the resurrection, the ascension, the second coming; and what about things like baptism, justification, salvation, or sacrifice? Do you still end up with the same number? This can be a healthy exercise for us, not to make us feel guilty or inadequate in any way, but to make us think about what it means to say that we have faith. Faith in who? Faith based on what? Let's get out of the habit of saying words like this without thinking about them, and instead use words like 'faith', with a real depth of meaning and understanding. May our amazing God help us all, to have true heartfelt faith, in all its richness.

Service next week 16th May 2021...

Our service next week will be led by Rev. Steve, and his sermon via YouTube will be on the 'Jesus Calms a Storm', with the Bible reading from Mark 4: 35 - 41.

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