

St James C of E

PARISH OF ROUNDS GREEN

Sunday 30
August
2020



Worship Songs

click on the picture, the link or the title – You Tube (you may need to skip the ads)



How Great Though Art

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLz3Xv2Hr_4



Bible reading

Matt 16: 21-end - New International Version (NIV)

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

“Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”



Bible reading – Parable of the Sower

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZEO_Ls2ERs



Worship Songs

click on the picture, the link or the title – You Tube (you may need to skip the ads)



In the Eye of the Storm

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-sx8wTnnfSc>



Thought for Today

Click here to see a video recording of Jill's thoughts

<https://stjamesroundsgreen.com/openingtimes/our-church-services/>



Thought for Today

TRINITY 12 SUNDAY 30 AUGUST 2020

By Jill Macdonald

Matt 18:21 -end

‘From that time on’.....this phrase marks a turning point.

Things had been moving along in a particular direction and now they veer off in a new direction.

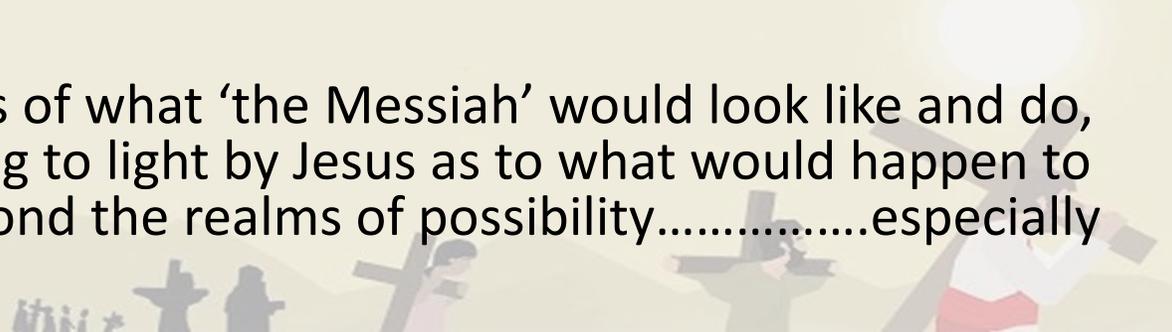
This had also happened in Matt 4: 17 where the same phrase appears ‘From that time on’.....the new direction there is Jesus’ preaching focusing on the announcement of the coming of the kingdom of heaven and the need to repent.

In our reading today the new direction, the new emphasis, the new focus, if you like, for his preaching is the revelation of his coming death and resurrection.

I feel quite sorry for the disciples really.

For us, living all these years after the event, it’s much easier to grasp that this is what had to happen to Jesus for the salvation of all people.

For the disciples, because of their preconceived ideas of what ‘the Messiah’ would look like and do, essentially be another mighty King David, this bringing to light by Jesus as to what would happen to him must have been unthinkable, unimaginable, beyond the realms of possibility.....especially as it sort of came ‘out of the blue’!



Thought for Today

2

Matt 18:21 -end

It was, in fact, the first of three times that Jesus predicted his death!

I suppose we have to imagine the looks on the disciples faces as they listened to Jesus sharing this information.

However, with Peter, fabulous Peter, not so much imagination is required as we read about his reaction to the news.

Never one to shy away from blarting out what he's thinking, verse 22 tells us that he drew Jesus aside to speak to him; the word used is rebuke. I bet the others were watching closely and trying to listen in on this 'private' conversation that Peter was having with Jesus.

What did he have to say that couldn't have been said in front of all of them?

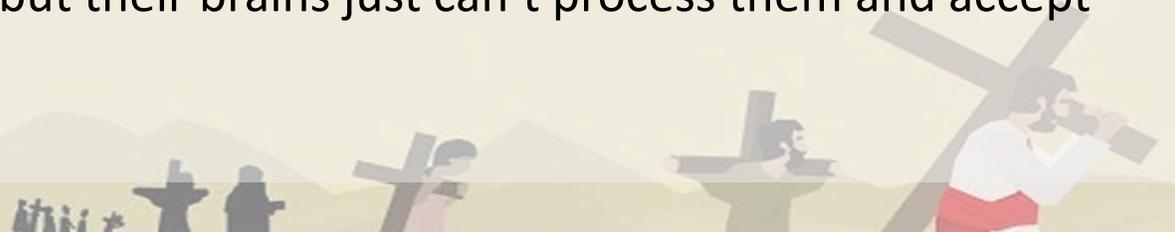
Was he trying to give the impression that he had a more intimate, special and privileged relationship with Jesus than them?

Of course, we know what Peter said.....'Never, Lord!!'

My personal view is that Peter said what he said because he just couldn't cope with such horror happening to this wonderful man: a man who, in verse 16, Peter had proclaimed to be 'the Christ, the Son of the living God'.

He heard the words Jesus was saying, but his brain just couldn't process them and accept them as being true. The words didn't register.

How many people hear the words of the Gospel of Christ, but their brains just can't process them and accept them as true?



Thought for Today

Matt 18:21 –end

Some years ago now, John's sister Velma would visit us at weekends and come along to church with us. Although she has a great personality, she is someone who has quite an empty life and I used to pray that she would hear God speaking to her when she came and find faith. When I spoke to her about it, she said that, while she heard the words, none of them registered with her: they didn't have any meaning to her at all: a bit like the seeds that fell on the path in The Parable of the Sower and Satan snatches them away before they could take root.

I wonder if this fact should influence the way we pray as we share the Gospel with people: because, yes, we must tell people the news of the Gospel, speak the words, but should those words be wrapped in a prayer of.....Lord enable them to hear, to process, to think about, to accept, to find faith in you. May the words register with their spirits and take root. Don't let Satan snatch them away before they can make an impact?

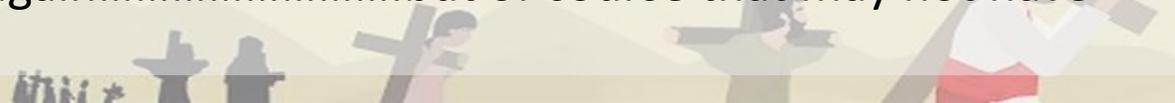
I think it's true to say that, at the time, Peter just couldn't accept what Jesus was saying, resulting in him letting Jesus know this.....and Jesus' response must have absolutely crushed him! After all, Jesus called him Satan – his friend!!

I wonder if Jesus and Peter were still 'aside', away from the others. I wonder how loudly Jesus spoke those words: 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me'

Did the other disciples hear this chastisement?

I like to think that they didn't: because even if we deserve a 'telling off', which I'm sure Peter didn't think he did, it's very humiliating and embarrassing to be reprimanded in public!

I like to think that verse 24, 'Then Jesus said to his disciples'.....means that there was a movement from being 'aside' and apart from the others to a gathering together again.....but of course that may not have been the case at all.



Thought for Today

Matt 18:21 -end

However, this should make us think carefully about how, when, and where we confront someone should the need arise.

So, what can we learn from this exchange between Peter and Jesus?

Well, there is no doubt in my mind that Peter was devoted to Jesus. He wanted the best for Jesus and because he definitely didn't think that death was the best, he was trying to protect him from going through such awfulness.

But where would we all be if Jesus had listened to Peter and not gone through the suffering of the cross and beyond?

In his desert temptations, Jesus heard a similar message from Satan himself: that he could achieve greatness without dying. Matt 4: 6 'If you are the Son of God throw yourself down for it is written 'He will command his angels concerning you and they will lift you in their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone'. (Ps 91: 11, 12)

Here he hears the same message from Peter, dressed up differently and spoken with different motives: but the temptation to avoid his God given future is still real for Jesus.



Thought for Today

Matt 18:21 -end

It may be a surprise to realise it, but great temptations can come from those who love us and seek to protect us. We need to be cautious of advice from a friend who says, 'Surely God doesn't want you to face this or that': as well as being careful not to immediately offer that exact advice to someone we love who thinks God is allowing hard circumstances to happen.

In the following verses Jesus makes it quite clear that following him will mean taking up a cross.....so, yes, there may be times when God deems it necessary for us to go through horrendous happenings.

Expanding on that is a whole other sermon.

Suffice to say that, despite Peter's 'mistake' (and we know he had others) Jesus continued to love him all the same.....as he does us!



Prayers

1

Intercessions for Trinity 12 - Sunday 30 August 2020

Lord Jesus, you shocked your disciples by making them face up to your cross, and their own.

Give to your Church, throughout all lands, the courage to imitate your sacrificial love.

Enable us, wherever we follow you, to remember and accept that at times our crosses will be heavy and difficult, and to thank you because without you supporting us we would be completely crushed.

Enable us to accept any hard truths about ourselves which you may require us to change in the light of becoming more like you.

Enable us to give our time, our money and ourselves sacrificially for the furthering of your kingdom.

May we find our true life and purpose in you.

Lord in your mercy – Hear our prayer



Prayers

2

Lord Jesus, you spoke of suffering at the hands of elders and community leaders.

Give to all who lead, in whatever capacity, an awareness of the awesome responsibility they hold. Raise up leaders in all walks of life, both within the church and in the secular society, who have compassion, integrity, wisdom, innate honesty and a passionate desire to give sacrificially for the good of all those in their care.

May we never confuse kingdoms of this world with your eternal kingdom.

Lord in Your Mercy – Hear our Prayer



Prayers

3

Lord Jesus, Peter struggled to accept the danger and purpose of your actions.

Be with all who are anxious for loved ones whose jobs place them in grave danger. Give them peace in their anxiety and enable them to be supportive.

We pray at this time for those striving to ensure law and order in troubled parts of the world, particularly in America, where careless, thoughtless and irresponsible actions by some in authority have led to riots, chaos, and further injury.

May attitudes and regimes be changed through heavenly intervention so that all people, regardless of colour or race, will be treated equally and thrive together.

Lord in Your Mercy – Hear our Prayer



Prayers

4

Lord Jesus, you are with all those who may be staring into darkness and finding life enormously difficult, whether in body, mind or spirit.

We silently name any we know who are in this situation.....

May they see the light of your love ever closer to them, bathing them in hope for the future and courage to do on.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers through our saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen



Worship Songs

click on the picture, the link or the title – You Tube (you may need to skip the ads))



In Christ Alone

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16KYvf1c2bE>



Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.



New Songs - Some we have sung a few times and others are new to us

- Living Hope <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nyOJInn5SZI>
- Who You Say I Am <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcC1Bp13n> 4
- While I Wait <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkE-gEzTYJE>
- O Praise the Name <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LqBpifDpNKc>
- Rescuer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wCfHXgJbdg>
- Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dxKLnySMbYM>
- Great Things <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4CY3nf1Mvw>
- Way Maker <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29IxnsqOkmQ>
- Come To the Table <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXXxLwxfo0U>
- Good Good Father <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ak0OoFBw3c>
- What A Beautiful Name https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUBBIddm_rM
- Do It Again https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0B_InQIITxU

If you'd like to make a song suggestion message us on the Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/stjamesroundsgreen>

Lively Uplifting Songs - to dance around the kitchen to or bop in your chair

- Alive <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEvEVALLjNQ>
- Falling Into You <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hlsthBWtxAI>
- Dance https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kkb7yf_fYDU
- This is Living <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTojDT3Ky2c>
- Real Love <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5xUI7aVsQ>
- Deep Down <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIX19TfG07U>
- Backseat Driver https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kME_Q5V82Us
- Love Broke Thru <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f42ykMcndeo>
- Move <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MX1G71WK-FA>

If you'd like to make a song suggestion message us on the Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/stjamesroundsgreen>

