

Reflection

Mark 4: 1-20

The parable of the sower and the seeds.

In these present times with us restricted by lockdown rules and by fear and uncertainty, it is a serious challenge for us as to how we can play our part in enabling the seeds of the Gospel to grow. We cannot meet people in the usual places or the usual ways. Lots of our times of interaction with other people are required to be limited. Our usual structures of groups and programmes at church are not able to happen

So this seed that is spread around, how can we do anything to help it grow?

What can we do?

1. Take whatever opportunities come our way to encourage or challenge or communicate the Gospel message.
2. Be flexible and creative. God says, "Behold I am doing a new thing" (Isaiah...). Perhaps there are some of our old ways of letting people know about Jesus that are a bit tired now...or weren't too effective anyway?
Are there online or on-the-phone or on-the -move ways that we can be reaching people?
3. Keep in touch with people we know who are maybe seedlings in terms of faith. Keep on encouraging, checking in.
4. And for our own part, keep active and keep involved. Work against the separation and isolation of lockdown. Be as "out there" as we feel safe to be. There is a real danger that we just stand still and we lose people. There is real danger that we believe that we are powerless.

So, rather than focus in what we can't do or the things we are unsure of. Let's concentrate our minds on what we can do! Let's keep focused!

Hebrews 12 :1-3:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Prayer

Lord God

We are so blessed to be loved by you.

We thank you for the amazing gift of salvation.

We thank you that you have sown the seed of faith in us.

We thank you want us to grow in faith, in love, in hope.

We pray that you would help us to keep on track with you and to help others keep on track with you.

Help us O Lord to encourage others, to help, to work with others to help us all be people of your Kingdom.

Help us to overcome distractions, to avoid temptations, to build on all that is positive!

Help us to grow in faith, in love, in hope.

We pray, in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Back to Church

We are currently working out a plan for us to return to having services in the church building. Thank you to those who have already been in touch, but it is not too late to contact me to let me know what you are feeling about coming back to church: gerard.goshawk@gmail.com; 07775465062.