



Faith at Home

Growing Faith | Week 1 | 30 March 2020

Teenager's Tip

Be patient (Galatians 5:22)!

It can be hard being around your family all the time and so it can really help if you are patient in how you are with each other.

Being patient with yourself is also important if you're struggling to do some of the work that is being set. If you feel yourself getting impatient take a break, do something different if you can...running around the house or garden a few times can help, and of course asking God to help you!

One thing you can do with your family to think about this more is to play a game where you have to stand up with your eyes closed and try and guess when a minute is up...when you think it is you sit down. The person closest to guessing a minute accurately wins. It's really hard waiting (a minute seems to last forever!) and not being distracted by others.

Year 7 Pupil

Thought for the week

Identity, acceptance and approval

At this time of year, as we prepare for Easter, we often think of Jesus in the wilderness and the majestic way in which he overcame temptation and stayed close to God. Not unrelated to this is the event that took place immediately before the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness: His Baptism.

As Jesus came up out of the water, He heard God say 3 things to him, which could not be more relevant today:

1. "You are my Son." (Identity).
2. "Whom I love." (Acceptance).
3. "In you I am well pleased." (Approval).

It's worth noting that at this point Jesus is right at the front end of His ministry. He hasn't even said anything significant yet, much less worked any miracles to build himself any sort of public profile. Yet Jesus has a rock-solid assurance of whom He is in God. He is God's Son, deeply loved and approved of by His Father in heaven. Jesus doesn't need anything else. He has all the affirmation He requires from the only source that matters: God Himself.

At this time, many people's identities have been shaken to the core. Workers who found acceptance in the approval of work colleagues and bosses have lost jobs. Pupils, whose identities were wrapped up in success in their school subjects, or the approval of their classmates (for good or bad reasons) suddenly find themselves with no school. Young and old alike, who find identity in being good at sport, have suddenly found all the gyms and sports clubs closed. The list is endless.

Down through the centuries, that same voice of God speaks to every one of us too:

1. "You are my child."
2. "I know you completely and love you unconditionally for who you are, not what you do."
3. "I think you're brilliant!"

If we can get this today, and I mean really get this, like Jesus, we will become unstoppable. You are a human being, not a human doing! Concentrate on your being, on who you are becoming! So often, we work at the wrong end of the equation and think the answer is to do more, when God is calling us to become more.

May we collectively pray for as swift an end to this epidemic as possible, and for all those who are suffering directly or indirectly as a result. And may we each individually be reminded of who we are in God as we choose to rest in His presence and spend time with the one who accepts us and loves us just as we are. We don't need to earn His approval. His love has already sent His Son to the Cross on our behalf. As we move into Holy week, may we stay focused on that Cross and the Resurrection life that it made possible for all of us, if we will only reach out and take hold of it.



Palm Sunday



Sunday 7pm School Song

Why not sing this as we light our candles together!



Lent



Song of the Week



Living Hope

In a time when hope seems to be in short supply, why not spend time reflecting on this song which reminds us where true hope can be found?

**“Have I not commanded you?
Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid; do not be
discouraged, for the Lord your
God will be with you wherever
you go.”**

Joshua 1:9

Poem for the Week

Chosen and written by one of our extended Chaplaincy team:

Risen Jesus come to meet us
As we seek to walk Your Way,
Set our hearts on fire for You
Remind us what the Scriptures say
Empty duty, dead traditions,
selfish mindsets, please forgive
By Your love revive, renew us,
Jesus make these dry bones live.

When discouragement bears on us
and we trudge Emmaus Road
Burdens heavy,
Minds are weary -
Apathy entombs our souls
Stir us into recognition
Fill us with the joy of grace
Transform, inspire, break bread with us
Open our eyes to see your face.

Lead us onward, Risen Jesus
Our eternal Power Source
Be our Route Map, Destination
Fill our hearts, through our veins course
Travelling onward, reaching outward
Remind us of what we're called to
Set our eyes upon Your Kingdom
Live our lives to worship You.

Charlotte Rumble

Church Support

In this season of Lent, we are still able to connect to each other and with church. Here are links to some alternative services and ways to contact some of our School Chaplains or their Churches. You are not alone!

Revd Ian Enticott: Accrington St. James and St. Paul, find their YouTube Channel [here](#)

Revd Hugh Scriven: Huncoat St. John's and Augustine's is happy to send news, some written prayers and Bible reflections each week to anyone upon request. Please email him [here](#)

Revd Mark Pickett: Clitheroe St. James, Virtual Prayer Space and weekly online services can be found [here](#)

Further links will be provided in future weekly bulletins.



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