



# Faith at Home

Growing Faith | Week 13 | 22 June 2020

## Thought for the week

### Evil Prospers When Good Men and Women Do Nothing

Written by Toby Webber - Year 11 Chaplain

In recent weeks the Black Lives Matter campaign has reminded us of some evil parts of history, and particularly of the slave trade – buying and selling human beings as slaves, and transporting them in horrendous conditions across the ocean as worse than cattle. It is hard for us to imagine now how embedded this trade was in this country. Ordinary people drank the rum and took the sugar in their tea grown by slaves. Those with money invested it in slave plantations or slave ships. Profits were used to build smart town houses or to support charities or found hospitals. Even bishops and mission societies got involved. We can't believe now how blind so many were to how wrong this is and how far it went against the fundamental teachings of the bible. But when an evil is widespread and yet largely out of sight, it takes determination to recognise there is a problem, and courage to stand up and make a difference. Thank God for those who did stand up and make a difference with the abolition of the slave trade and slavery itself.

This history reminds us that it is easy for us to ignore the evil going on around us today when it is widespread and largely out of sight. The evil of racism, of treating others worse because of the colour of their skin, their name, their culture, still goes on, often in subtle ways. It is an evil we are being challenged to face up to. I wonder what other evils will future generations look back to ours and say 'how could they have ignored this?' The destruction of habitats and the extinction of so many species is one example – easy to ignore, and the result of us all taking too greedily from the world. I wonder, too, what other generations will make of our turn away from God as if we humans had all the answers and didn't need his salvation.

The bible teaches that as individuals and as societies we fail to notice our own sins, especially when they are all too common. It's so much easier to spot someone else's or those of history! We need to allow God to open our eyes to learn from him what is right and what is wrong. To be willing to face up to what needs changing. And we need God's help to find the determination to change our own behaviour – and be part of changing the behaviour of our society. If men like William Wilberforce and Olaudah Equiano could bring about the abolition of the slave trade, what difference might you make? And how might that start right now, as we emerge out of 'lockdown' and have a God-given opportunity to do things differently?



## Sunday 7pm School Song

Why not sing this as we light our candles together!



## Teenager's Tip

### Five Things To Be Grateful For

By Elizabeth Ellison from Year 8

Helping others is a topic that regularly appears in daily life. It can also be closely linked with the topic of gratitude. When someone helps you, thank them for it. 'Thank you'. Those two words can mean so much to the person who is receiving them. You may not think about it, but those two words can brighten someone's day and make them feel good about themselves. When you help someone, think about how nice it feels to know that the other person is grateful for what you did for them. To some people it can mean more than you could ever imagine. Sometimes, the little gestures have a bigger impact than the huge ones.

At the end of each day, think of 5 things that you are grateful for. A question that you could ask yourself as well as this is 'What has gone well today?' This single question for you to think about ensures that you think positively about yourself and your life. Make sure that there is a balance in life between helping others and helping yourself. It is an amazing skill to be able to help others when they need it most, however you shouldn't take on everybody's needs and forget about yourself. There are times in life when you need to help yourself; these times are important for a healthy lifestyle.



## Poem for the Week

By Jackie Dunn - School Receptionist

I feel the last couple of weeks have been quite emotional ones with lots of other things happening amidst the Covid Pandemic e.g. the sad news about our pupils having lost those dear to them, the death of George Floyd in America leading to the mass protests both in the US and the UK, with police officers being hurt whilst trying to do their jobs.

I saw this small verse and thought the words were lovely and something we could all easily relate to:

Take time to reach out,  
Take time to care,  
Take time to encourage,  
Take time to share.

Take time to listen,  
With compassion in mind,  
And make sure you always,  
Take time to be kind.

**“God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the  
earth give way and the mountains fall  
into the heart of the sea,”**

Psalm 46: 1-2



## Song of the Week



Forgiveness

## Church Support

Here are links to some alternative services and ways to contact some of our School Chaplains or their Churches. You are not alone!

**VISION: Vision Live Stream** for 11-18s runs every Friday night from 7:30pm. Games, lockdown challenges and chance to think about God + life + faith. Find out more [here](#).

**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](#) or on their YouTube channel [here](#).

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

**Father Chris Holden:** Rishton St Peter's and St Paul's is happy for you to get in touch with him use this [email](#) and the church is now open for private prayer - 9am to 6pm daily

**Pastor Matthew Clay:** Great Harwood Christian Fellowship, find their channel [here](#).

**Rev Toby Webber:** Clayton All Saints have short family friendly times of worship at 10:45am each Sunday followed by a fuller service at 11am, and Friday Praise each Friday at 6:30pm. Night prayer daily at 9:30pm and other times as announced. Visit their [Facebook Page](#) for more info.

**Father Andy Froud:** Clitheroe St Mary Magdalene, prayers and worship online can be found [here](#).

**A Church Near You:** A website to help you find out what is going on in a Church local to you. Follow this [link](#).

Further links will be provided in future weekly bulletins.



Queens Road West  
Accrington  
Lancashire  
BB5 4AY



01254 232 992



01254 355 215



[c.pountain@st-christophers.org](mailto:c.pountain@st-christophers.org)



[www.st-christophers.org](http://www.st-christophers.org)

