

Subject: Daily Prayer 2nd July 2020
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Good morning

Who would have thought when I started this on 15th March that I would have still been doing it now. Thank you God for faith, patience and trust.....

Let us be still for a few moments and quiet our minds before we begin.....

Dear Father,
You call your children
to walk in the light of Christ.
Free us from darkness
and keep us in the radiance of Your truth.
In Jesus name we pray.
Amen.

Matthew 9: 1-8

And after getting into a boat he crossed the water and came to his own town.

Jesus Heals a Paralytic

And just then some people were carrying a paralysed man lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.' Then some of the scribes said to themselves, 'This man is blaspheming.' But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, 'Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, "Your sins are forgiven", or to say, "Stand up and walk"? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'—he then said to the paralytic—'Stand up, take your bed and go to your home.' And he stood up and went to his home. When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

Reflection

This piece of the Gospel is quoted so many times 'Out of context'. I remember my grandfather saying to me many times 'pick up thy bed and walk' meaning get on and do the job, carry your own materials etc etc. In actual fact if you refer back to the Gospel Jesus actually says 'Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.' You may ask yourself what sins the man had performed for Jesus to say this? The forgiveness of sins which Jesus pronounces on the part of God to the paralytic refers to the bond between sickness, failure and sin. For the Jews, a person's illness was considered a punishment because of sins

committed. The physical illness was always considered a consequence of their own or their parents moral evil or sin. Jesus restores the man to a 'condition of salvation' freeing him from illness as well as from sin. Jesus also knew that many of the onlookers were thinking that he had no right to speak in this way - they didn't believe in who he was and just wanted to criticise him for whatever he did. They were judging!

Daily, we need to be mindful of our own inner voice and our tendency to judge and criticize others as well as ourselves! When we are careful of our thoughts and criticisms, we have the opportunity to step back, change our minds, and stop our judgment or criticism. If we do this consciously for a period of time, we may come to realize that we are not judging others as frequently as we had been. And who knows: we may find that we are more peaceful and more at ease.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen

Gracious God,
You accept all who come too you, and you offer your love and peace.
Help us to live at peace with one another and not to exclude people from our care and attention. In Jesus name we pray. AMEN

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

Blessings and love
Until tomorrow
Vicky x