

Midweek Matters

Issue 17
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Take your everyday, ordinary life- your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life and place it before God as an offering." Romans 12:1 MSG

A good teacher doesn't just instruct well, communicating key ideas in ways that learners can understand and take into their own understanding. They will demonstrate to the learners the skill or the concept that is being taught. Rather than "do as I say, not as I do" the best teachers model the expectations, the behaviour and the understanding.

It can be a bit mind-boggling when you think about Jesus as God and man, at the same time, in the same body. I often wonder why Jesus even had to bother praying, if he and the Father are one, as he said. However, we read about Jesus going off on his own to pray, often. (Lk5:16) Here is Jesus modelling his own teaching; this is not just "what you should pray", but also, "this is how you should do it."

*Here's what I want you to do:
Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.
Matt 6:6 MSG*

I'm guessing Jesus had to go off on his own just to get that quality time with his Father that he needed having spent most of his time giving out; teaching, answering questions, reaching out to those that were sick. And I'm also guessing that if Jesus did it then it's something I need to do too, for that quality time with the Father.

Sunday 19th July 2020 Philip Bamber <https://www.bgb.org.uk/content/philip-bamber-nothing-fear>

In addressing the uncertainty we all face at times, especially during these times of COVID19, Philip looked at ways of addressing fear using Ps 107 as inspiration. He suggested four antidotes:

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| 1) Remember God's work in the past | <i>What can you be thankful for?</i> |
| 2) Cry out to him in your distress | <i>Be real, be honest with God about your pain</i> |
| 3) Give thanks for his goodness and love | <i>Remember the grace and mercy shown in Jesus</i> |
| 4) Hang on in there | <i>Who could you ask to walk your path with you?</i> |

Remember to pray for those who struggle with fear and, if they ask, walk patiently with them.

God Bless.

Steve & Sarah

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