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WEEKLY LETTER – 28 AUGUST 2022

Luke 14.1, 7-14.10-17

Verse 1 reminds us how admired Jesus was for a period of time, as he dines with, a much respected Pharisee. This is part of a consistent picture in the gospels!

For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted v.11

I sense this well known passage is not about where you sit, rather it is about your heart. If we stand tall and proud. If we lose the supple readiness to hear the divine voice within our hearts. If we lose the desire to be honestly self-reflective, then step by step, what we hold so dear will settle to the bottom and be covered in dust. For, slowly as moisture seeps into a dying tree trunk, it will slowly rot and so will we. If worldiness and lethargy creep into our souls causing your relationship with the Living God to feel tired and wearisome, then we will soon become infatuated with needing praise, honour and a seat where all can look at us. If this continues for too long, reading the bible, saying your prayers, discovering all the beauty around and within you will surely fade away, and you will look elsewhere.

Therefore, I think Jesus is not saying, 'be humble', rather focus on what your soul needs. To see God not as an awe-inspiring and demanding being, but as a personal partner. I and you. I and God. For God's love is the very core that gives your life a sense of nobleness, hope and joy.

The gospels constantly invite you to rediscover Christ, to cherish him and thereby find him as a source of eternal energy and joy, knowing you are made for eternity.

Stephen

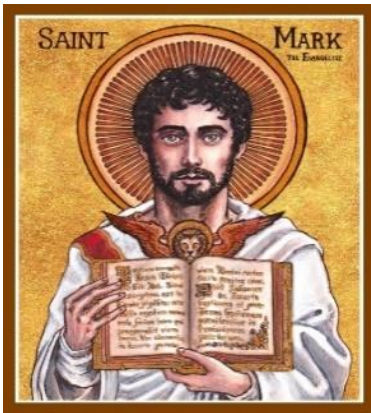
**Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom, at 10.30 am will be led by Mr Roy Morgan
Bible Reading: 1 Peter 1.3-9**

Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region – we will pray for Hall Street, Llanelli

Prayers for Every Household – Manor Road nos. 73-135

Rev Dr Noel Davies will be leading Bible Studies on Zoom in September.

LATEST NEWS FROM GALILEE AND JUDEA



Our Autumn Bible Studies will focus on Mark's Gospel, the first gospel to be written, with the theme: *Latest News from Galilee and Judea*. There will be six sessions as follows, all on Zoom, from 7.00pm until 8.30pm

September 7th:	The beginnings
September 14 th	Jesus works miracle cures
September 21st	Jesus tells his stories
September 28 th	Jesus causes controversy in Jerusalem
October 5 th	Jesus is executed in Jerusalem
October 12 th	Surprising end to Jesus' story

A booklet will be available to guide our thinking. Copies will be available when I'm leading worship on September 4th but I can also send it to you electronically if you prefer (contact me on daviesnoel08@gmail.com). I look forward to our first meeting together exploring one of the most exciting and challenging accounts of Jesus' ministry, death and resurrection.



Sunday, 2nd October 2022

**Rev Kevin Watson is coming to preach in Christ Well.
This will be part of our Church's celebration of
The United Reformed Church.**

We are planning a bring and share meal after the Service and would be grateful if members could provide savoury or sweet dishes.

There will be a list in Church next Sunday for members to sign, indicating savoury or sweet.

It will be lovely time to have a chat with Kevin and Lynne.



Me and you

(Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 2.4-13: Psalm 81.1, 10-16: Hebrews 13.1-8., 15-16: Luke 14.1-7-14)

Gracious God,
Help me to grow ever closer to you.
When I feel you prompting,
help me to open my mind
and listen for the opportunity to respond.

Sometimes I feel fearful and overwhelmed;
I doubt how I can make a difference –
but you are gentle and lead me step by step
to do what I can.

I have met many people in life
who follow the Jesus way of selfless love and care –
I give your thanks for them.
Help me to follow their example
that I may be a blessing to others,
willing to welcome, share and befriend.

God of grace,
make me truly human – as you created me to be;
free to be many best self,
held safe in your love and the knowledge that you will never, ever leave me.

Sheila Marsden

(URC Prayer Handbook 2022)