

Enlightenment 21st January 2024 - God unfolding His purpose day by day

Message Points

- We need to commit ourselves to God's work in our day to day life. That does not mean we have to be perfect – “The Church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints” attributed to everyone from St Augustine to Abigail Van Buren, but based on Luke 5:31 Jesus replied “It is not those who are healthy who need a doctor but those who are sick
- We need to get the timing right. “You cannot warm the hearts of people with God's love if they have an empty stomach and cold feet” attributed to William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army.
- Finally, we need to be practical. The fruits of the Spirit are a list of things you are, how you interact with people day in and day out.

Giving all we are to God

Mark 12:30-31

The first is: Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.

The second is: Love Your neighbour as yourself

Questions

- Can you recall some incidents from the past week where you had to deliberately dedicate some action to God. Did this seem natural to do?
- Is there activity coming up in the next few days that would benefit from a deliberate focus on doing it God's way?

A Time for everything

Ecclesiastes 3: 6-7

A time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away.

A time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak

Questions

- Has there been a time in the last few days when you had to deliberately decide to speak, or not to speak.
- Is there something coming up in the next few days where you need to be mindful of what you say, or do not say?
- We are encouraged to live a life pleasing to God, and that will change over time. So we need to discern the times we need to change how we live. Do you have something coming up that may require you to change your approach to life?

Fruits of the Spirit

Galatians 5: 22-23 - “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

Questions

- Have you had something happen in the last few days where the fruits of the spirit had to be deliberately deployed in what you were doing?
- Is there something coming up in the next few days where a dose of the spirit would help you be more effective?