



PASTORAL LETTER 4/11/2020



I start today with some words from the first letter of Peter:

For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution.....For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. As servants of God live as free people.....Honour everyone. Love the family of believers.

1 Peter 2: 13a, 15 -16, 17a.

During this past week we have seen evidence of people behaving very foolishly. Not realising that we need to respect one another, and as part of that respect we distance ourselves in order to keep people safe. Yet if we look at the bible and the emerging church we find words that are as relevant today as they were when they were first written. We are living in difficult times and as a result there are difficult measures in place which we need to adhere to. Each one of us will feel a loss of some sort because of what we are not allowed to do, and yet I have noticed a lot of goodwill around me as people try to do what's right.

We are free people, but that freedom gives us certain amounts of responsibility. We have a duty of care to one another, and while I am busy telephoning people to talk to them I need to know if there is anyone who would like a call from me. I'm relying on you all to let me have the names of people who you think would benefit from a telephone call.

As we go into our second week of restrictions we need to imagine Jesus' arms around us, holding us steady and always being there with us through the good and the bad. I also want us to remember in our prayers those who are doing so much to make this confusing world a safer place. From the little parts to the big ones, they are all part of the whole.

A prayer:

Heavenly Father ,

We thank you for all that you give to us. For the beauty of the change of season occurring all around us, we thank you. For the friendship offered unconditionally to us all, we thank you. For the strength that you give us by being our constant companions we thank you. Amen.

But finally, I said last week that I always want to offer a smile. Apologies to those of you who may have seen this before – it's doing the rounds at the moment. Pooh might be a bear of very little brain but sometimes.....Well see for yourself.....



Stay safe, every blessing,

Jacquie