

Thought for the Day – Thursday 21st January 2021

By Maggie Marshall

Recently I have been reading the book 'Owning God's World' by Margaret Hillyer. Margaret's foundational role in Fellowship Afloat, a unique Christian activity centre based in Tollesbury, for over 30 years as it grew from small beginnings into a thriving centre accommodating over 2000 guests a year. During lockdown they have been able to go ahead with expanding the accommodation for the future. It is used a lot by schools, churches, youth groups, Falcon ventures. I have chosen 5 of her reflections on passages in the bible that were relevant to her. I have found it to be a useful book as part of my quiet times. Margaret put the finishing touches to this book just 3 days before she died. Over the years she had witnessed and helped so many children and adults through her ministry at Fellowship Afloat.

Philippians 4: 4 – 8 It's OK , really!

Lighten up! It's OK. God knows.

You can relax. Let go. Let God.

Just let him know all about it.

It will be all right.

What a wonderful feeling

Of peace and comfort comes over us.

We just know

That Jesus is there.

He will not let us go.

He will keep us safe.

So keep your mind in gear

And think about the things that are important.

Get your priorities right

And don't be distracted.

Whatever the situation

Don't be misled.

Walk tall.

Don't grovel in the gutter.

Do the right thing, even when it hurts.

Don't let your mind be poisoned

By idle gossip, or bad language,

Look for the good things, the beautiful things in life

And in people's lives around you.

Have good things to say,

Positive things.

Be encouraging.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians

4:4 – 8

These are some of my favourite verses in the New Testament, especially verse 7 asking us to pray about everything and then the promise in verse 8 'the peace of God will guard our hearts.

So let's rejoice in the Lord during the Covid lockdown and give thanks for what he's done for us.