

St James News: Thought for the day – Monday 6th July 2020

‘Meditation: The God of Surprises’ by Revd David Clowes – Maggie Marshall

Lord, you are a God of surprises!
We know that you inhabit eternity –
But have promised to hold us in the palm of your hand.
We know that you are infinite in wisdom, truth and love –
But you have made yourself known
In the life, death, resurrection of Christ.
We know that you are Lord of all things –
But you are still seeking to be Lord of our lives.
We know that you are love –
But in Christ you have loved us to the uttermost!

Lord, you are the God of surprises!
You come to us when we least expect it,
And you come in ways that leave us totally amazed.
When we are hurting, you come gently to hold us.
When we are alone, you come close to give us peace.
When we are at the point of breaking,
You reach out and touch us and make us whole.
When we go wrong and hurt you, those around us and
ourselves –
You speak the word of grace that says it's time to begin again.

Lord, you are the God of surprises!
As your Spirit overwhelmed those on whom he fell on that day
of Pentecost.

Come and shake us to the very core of our being!

Come and remould our lives! Come and fill us and renew us!

Lord of surprises – come touch us, hold us, change us and empower us,

That we may worship you in spirit and truth, as you have always deserved.

Come, Lord Jesus, come Amen.

I wonder how many times over the years God has surprised us. Often in places and at times when we never expected it. Often through other people, at home, at work, at church – who knows where. I used to do this with a class of children in school and it was amazing what they remembered and their depth and understanding of their faith. (it was a church school !)

Spend some time today in a place where you are comfortable and think back to the occasions when you have heard God and He has surprised you.

You might like to put on some background music and wait on the Lord, you might like to talk / pray to Him or just rest in His presence.

You can listen to the song *'Be still and know that I am God'* here

Or you may like *'Let your living water flow over me'* here

Prayer

Matthew 28: 20