St James Church - Thought for the day – Saturday 9th May 2020

God chooses you

- Revd John Marshall

Maggie and I met at a Crusader camp in Dyffryn Ardudwy, North Wales, in 1972. We were working in the kitchen, Maggie as a cook and me as a subbie (subquartermaster).

It was a beautiful place with its own station, a glorious sandy beach with matching dunes, and a very good local butchers.

There were some remarkable people there, so remarkable that a number of the people eventually married each other. The tent groups were cheap and nasty varieties of jam. One of the tent officers, is currently the Bishop of Willesden; a colleague in the kitchen is now the Dean of St Paul's Cathedral.

One young man, who came from Exeter, with an enormous old Standard Triumph, was so prayerful, that when he ran out of fuel, he added water and prayed. This was surprisingly successful.

God looks on the heart, and calls people to his service. David the youngest of Jesse's sons was chosen for anointing (and would be King)

"Man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Samuel asked Jesse "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered "but he is tending the sheep."

Samuel said "Send for him, we will all sit down until he arrives."

Then the Lord said arise and anoint him for he is the one.

1 Samuel 16

During the holiday at Dyffryn – boys were given a great holiday, and the good news of Jesus was shared with them, and God was able to se so many in His service.

As we know Christ and make Him known we too share in God's service.

Bible Verse: ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. – John 14:12

Bible Chapter: 1 Samuel 16 -

https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+samuel+16&version=NIV

Song 1: I want to serve the purpose of God – you can listen to it here - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UofzLKJzu7Q

I want to serve the purpose of God In my generation
I want to serve the purpose of God While I am alive
I want to give my life For something that will last forever
Oh, I delight, I delight to do Your will

I want to build with silver and gold In my generation
I want to build with silver and gold While I am alive
I want to give my life For something that will last forever
Oh, I delight, I delight to do Your will

What is on Your heart? Show me what to do Let me know Your will And I will follow You What is on Your heart? Show me what to do Let me know Your will And I will follow You

I want to see the kingdom of God In my generation
I want to see the kingdom of God While I am alive
I want to live my life For something that will last forever
Oh, I delight, I delight to do Your will

I want to see the Lord come again In my generation
I want to see the Lord come again While I am alive
I want to give my life For something that will last forever
Oh I delight, I delight to do Your will

Song 2: I heard the voice of Jesus say – you can listen to it here - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZrIP7DI2vs

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
So weary, worn, and sad;
I found him in a resting place,
And he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water, thirsty one,
Stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me; thy morn shall rise,
And all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk
Till traveling days are done.