

Thought for the Day – Thursday 23rd September 2021

By Rev Kit Gunasekera

Carrying Christ's Cross?

In my daily bible readings, I am reading through the gospel of Luke. This morning's passage was Luke 23:26-34, and I was particularly struck by verse 6:

⁶ As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus.

I was struck by Simon of Cyrene being forced to carry Jesus' cross. It reminded me of Jesus teaching His disciples, that if any one would follow Him, they would need to carry their cross. We often think of the cross we carry as our own problems. The thought that struck me is, is the cross we carry, Christ's cross?

I am reminded of Paul writing in Romans 8:17 about the glory that awaits us if we share in Christ's sufferings.

What were Christ's sufferings?

One way of thinking about that is to ask, what were his concerns? Who did He focus on? What did He do?

Perhaps Luke 4:18 is helpful?

And what does it mean to do them today, in our time and context, even if we face opposition or setbacks?