St James News: Thought for the day – Wednesday 16th September 2020

When is Jesus with us? – Rev John Ohen

[(Matthew 18 v.20 NIV)](#)

One thing we have learnt from Covid – 19 is that life is uncertain. No one knows tomorrow or what tomorrow will bring. However, what we are certain about is what Jesus said that he is present with us all the time. "Where two or three are gathered in his name, there he is with them." Does it mean that he (Jesus) is not with us when we are alone?

When a family gathers together for a meal and say the grace, Jesus is there with them. Or when we say to someone in distress or sick or even in trouble can I pray for you? Jesus is there with them. Or even when we go on a journey Jesus is alongside with us if only, we call upon him to join us.

This does not mean that Jesus is not with us when we are alone, but when we gather as a church, as the body of Christ, or as believers, the promise is that Jesus is there with us. This is a very reassuring and comforting for our faith as believers of Christ Jesus. This means that whatever tragedy or turmoil we may face in life when we gather as believers, Christ is there with us. Even if we lose sight of God's presence or take it for granted Jesus is there with us. He promised that "he will be with us till the end of time" as in Matthew 28 v. 20.

Another point to note is that our God can be with us anytime and anywhere. So, no matter where we are, in the air, sea or land, our God can reach us wherever we are. This is the joy and comforting truth of our faith. This means that whatever challenge or tragedy we may face in life, when we gather with other believers, Christ is there with us.

Bible quotation: Matthew 7:7 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek and you will find, knock, and it shall be open to you. For everyone that seeketh, receiveth, and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

We are also reminded as in Matthew 28 V 20. Jesus teaching us to obey everything he has commanded. And surely, "I am with you always, to the very end of the age."