

Read Mark 8.31-38

We witness a difficult conversation when Jesus tells his followers that he must embrace rejection and suffering. Peter speaks up in protest and is strongly rebuked. Jesus then tells his disciples that being his follower means being prepared to share his fate; it is clear that this involves suffering.



How do you respond in situations of conflict or debate?

In this week's passage, Jesus talks about how following him has a cost involved. Sometimes the things we do for others cost us something in time or money or energy, but we often feel good when we do them because we see the joy we can bring to another.

This week, find some ways to do acts of kindness for others, maybe in a secret way so that they don't know it was you. Can you leave something on a friend's doorstep as a surprise? Or can you offer to help someone in a way they need.



Wesley Methodist Church

Minister: Revd. Josephine Soon 01384 821854

Link for on line worship

<https://www.valeofstour.org.uk/virtual-church/live/vosworship>

Newsletter: Sunday 28th February 2021

Weekly Hymn: - thinking of doing something for someone, this hymn from Sunday school came to mind.

1 God make my life a little light
Within the world to glow;
A little flame that burneth bright
Wherever I may go.

2 God make my life a little flower
That giveth joy to all,
Content to bloom in native bower
Although the place be small.

3 God make my life a little song
That comforteth the sad,
That helpeth others to be strong,
And makes the singer glad.

4 God make my life a little staff
Whereon the weak may rest,
That so what strength and health I have
May serve my neighbours best.

Church Contact: Margaret Kite 01384 392310

As always, Stay safe God Bless

Vale of Stour – 20th February 2021

Dear Circuit Churches

I am conscious that we are about to engage in another gradual emergence from lockdown with news of this coming whilst I will be away. In order to avoid yet another lockdown, the indications are that the government are going to take a **very cautious approach** with things changing slowly over the coming months.

The circuit leadership team fully appreciate that some churches will desire to reopen as soon as possible. Whilst we acknowledge and commend this passion to restart physical church we would like to **express our concern that we do not put anybody under any pressure to undertake duties that may put them at risk.** We are especially conscious that there still remains a substantial number of our community at risk by age who have not had their first vaccination and most have not had their second.

In the light of this I wish to give advanced notice that at this stage we will not produce a preaching plan for March other than online. Once more information is available to us we will need to ask all churches to review their risk assessments, we will need to hear what guidance is given to us from the connexion and then, as a circuit, we can assess what happens next.

So, in this context, please be patient and graceful. We fully appreciate that our second Easter in a row may not be celebrated as we would wish and what a loss that is to all of us in the cycle of our faith lives.

God bless you all.

Rev Alan Combes Superintendent

Vale of Stour Circuit