

with others, frustrated, even depressed.

That's not Jesus desire for you; he'd rather you talked with him about it. And by talking with him, you're inviting him in, so that you're in it together.

So I invite you now to take a moment to ask Jesus into whatever is worrying or troubling you. Invite Jesus into what you feel guilty about, or the hurts you've done or have been done to you. Ask Jesus to send the Spirit to be with you. Share from the heart with Jesus, inviting him to be present.

Now take a moment to ask Jesus to share whatever he has to say to you. Ask, and be open to his prompting. Grab that first thought, impression, name, feeling, emotion, picture and go with it. Why not ask Jesus

what he's doing through this time of world crisis?

Instead of telling Jesus to stop the virus, why not ask what his plan is in letting it happen. What opportunities is he creating? Where have we been too stubborn to listen any other way? Jesus, what response do you want me to have toward this time of crisis? Who are the people you want me to care for this week?

Talk it over with Jesus; ask, then go and do, after all he's the one who loves you to death. I think we can trust him!

If you're feeling like you need prayer, invite those around you to ask Jesus what he wants to share with you. Take the first thoughts, ideas, promptings and share them with the person

who asked for prayer. Take what Jesus gives you and talk it over with him.

Jesus has given his life that we might have life with him; living life the best he knows how, in his power and authority. What a fantastic gift; God's presence with you, daily, in the person of The Spirit.

This week Ask Jesus for the Spirit; listen, live, love, for he's it together with you.

What thoughts has Jesus been giving you this week? Last week I invited you to join me on a 40 day journey, asking for words of hope, words of comfort, words of life from the bible. If you've got some to share I'd love to hear from you.

17 May 2020

EASTER—6

John 14:12-27



I invite you to grab your bible and look up John 14 verses 14-27. Ask Jesus to send the Spirit to lead you. Jot down the thoughts you're given, and then talk with Jesus about those thoughts. What are you to do, are you confused then ask for clarity, seek to hear and follow.

Last week I focused on Jesus saying; "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me." (John 14:1)

When you've been stressed out, worried, maybe even panicked I've noticed that someone simply saying: 'Don't worry' doesn't seem to help. I need more. What about you?

I invite you to reflect on that thought; does someone telling you not to worry help you?

What more might you need?

That reminds me of a story I once heard; Little Timmy was going to run in the 400metre race on sports day. He hadn't trained, the gun went off, and at first it was easy, till he ran out of puff. Those who had been training left little Timmy at the end of the field.

Someone on the sidelines was yelling, louder and louder at Timmy; 'run faster, run faster, why don't you run faster?'

To win the race did Timmy have to run faster? Of course! He knew that, he just didn't have the training to match his ambition. Yelling at Timmy to run faster; do you think that would have got him to go any faster? What would

that have done to you?

Jesus doesn't stand on the sidelines yelling at us to do better. Actually I've noticed that people simply telling me what I'm doing wrong doesn't really help; unless you want to make me depressed and feel a failure.

Jesus doesn't stand on the sidelines of your life yelling at you to do better. Each year we celebrate those great events in our human history where we're reminded that Jesus has come into our lives, one of us, our very real, flesh and blood brother. That's Christmas; Jesus jumped into life with us.

Then we celebrate Easter; Jesus giving his life so that we might be forgiven, and brought back into life

Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

with God. Jesus comes so that we might have the love, the courage, the wisdom to live life in all his fullness. Jesus doesn't run out of puff. Jesus doesn't condemn causing depression, but he breathes his life into us, empowering us to quite naturally live out his supernatural love. Jesus forgives and empowers us for life together; together with himself and Father, together with each other.

you, to comfort you, to reassure you that you are not in this alone. We're in this together. Jesus says; "You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. If you love me you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever – the Spirit

What do you need when facing life's challenges?

Does Jesus know what it feels like to be abandoned? Sure does, he's lived it. Jesus isn't on the sidelines yelling at us to tough it out, to suck it up. Jesus enters our sense of abandonment, so that we, so that you, might know the comfort of his presence. So that you might live in his presence through the Holy Spirit. You are never alone. You are never abandoned.

When you feel that way, Jesus invites

What do we need when facing life's challenges, life's troubles, when feeling alone?

of truth." (John 14:14-16)

you to ask, to ask for the Spirit. Not because he's not there, but because for whatever reason, at that point in time, I'm feeling lost and alone. Ask Jesus to send the Spirit, so that you can live in the reality of his presence. Ask Jesus, don't go it alone. Ask Jesus, that you might experience the reality of the Spirit's presence, and then live in that reality.

I'd say someone to be with me. And that person with me, having the power and the ability to make a difference.

Did you notice that Jesus invites you to ask?

Jesus doesn't want to abandon anyone. "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." (John 14;18)

Jesus must have thought the same thing for that is what he gives us; the Holy Spirit, in person. And the Holy Spirit comes in all of Jesus' power and authority, to stand with us, to live with

This reminds me of some of Jesus words spoken from the cross; "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" (Matthew 27:46)

When you heard Jesus say; "If you love me you will obey what I command," (John

14:15) what came to your mind?

I invite you to share your thoughts. Why does Jesus add these words?

At first I hear a judgemental word; do this or else. But hearing Jesus that way misses what he's saying. Jesus invites us to act because we love him. Why wouldn't I asking the one I love, because I know without a shadow of a doubt that he loves me. I'm sharing with the one I love the struggle I presently in.

The word 'command' reminds me that Jesus has the power and authority to do what he says.

I know when walking early in the morning I'm comforted to have my wife with me. But if we were attacked by someone, would she have the power and authority to do what is needed?

Jesus has the power and authority to do

what he says; that is definitely what we see in Jesus when he is crucified. In the power and authority he has from Father, Jesus defeats sin, death and the devil. Jesus doesn't abandon us, but redeems us for life with Father, together with him as brothers and sisters.

We're not alone.

In Jesus I discover peace.

You're not left to simply do your best. When I ran the 400 meters on sports day I did my best and didn't have what it took. Even if I'd have won the race would that have been the power I needed to face life's biggest challenges?

Good News, Jesus has birthed you into Father's kingdom. In Jesus you are citizens of heaven. We now get to live by his power and authority. The Spirit is with us, with you, each step of

the way. Good News, we're in this together.

I invite you to take Jesus at his word, and ask him to send the Spirit when you're facing life's challenges. Ask Jesus to comfort you with the Spirit's presence. Ask Jesus to open your heart to hear his words of comfort and direction. Ask Jesus, and then live in the reality of the Spirit's presence, as you together face whatever is causing you trouble.

Notice Jesus is there to walk with you though those difficult times, not necessarily to remove them. I know that as a person I've grown the most, not by avoiding difficulties and worries, but for having lived through them. Lived through them with Jesus, so that I've come out the other side more mature; not bitter and twisted.

In Jesus I discover peace; fullness of life with him. On my own I get grumpy, annoyed