

# Devotional Blog

Sunday 21st June 2020

Unless you are from the planet Zog you will have heard of the “Black Lives Matter” movement. Since the death of George Floyd, a few weeks ago, the movement has organised many marches and demonstrations around the globe to draw attention to the racism that is around in our society.

Racism or discrimination of any kind should not be tolerated, but we all need to remind ourselves that not only do black lives matter, but every life matters. In fact, over 2,000 years ago Jesus ended the debate of which lives matter, by dying for ALL.

That includes our lives. Our lives really do matter, no matter how insignificant or unimportant we may feel, Jesus thought you and I matter so much that He suffered a torturous death because of His love for each one of us.

God, the great creator, cares for even the smallest of His creatures. In Matthew 10:29 we read that when sparrows, who are two a penny, fall to the ground, He knows all about it.

He knows the smallest details about us. According to Matthew 10:30 He knows the number of hairs on our head, which have got considerably longer during the lockdown!!

Matthew 19:19 commands us to “Love our neighbours as ourselves.” What if you don’t love ourselves, how can we possibly love our neighbour? There are some folks, who seem to love no one else, but themselves. Paul when writing to the Romans wrote these words 12:3 “Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather consider yourself with sober judgement.”

During this last week, members of Hampton Mission Partnership have been encouraged to pray for themselves. Isn’t that a bit selfish? There is a big world out there that needs our prayers. Should I really pray for myself? Well if you believe that your life matters, then you know the answer.

How many of us ask for others to pray for us when we are sick or in a difficult situation, but don’t pray for ourselves? It is not wrong to ask God to heal ourselves. During Jesus’ ministry two stories stick out of folks who sort Jesus’ healing touch for themselves.

There was “Blind Bartimaeus”, in Mark 10:46 and in Matthew 9:20 we read about a woman who had been bleeding for twelve years. In both cases they were healed. So, by all means ask others to pray for you, but this does not excuse you and I from asking to Jesus to touch us.

We all need to learn to love and respect ourselves, otherwise we are failing to live up to Jesus’ command. Remember ALL lives matter to our Heavenly Father, because He made us in His image!!

Amen

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