

Devotional blog - HMP

Easter 2021- New normality

What is normal? I wonder...

Everyone has a different interpretation of this word "normal" particularly in our post-modern world where your truth is true to you. But I do have my own set of truths to express who I am.

Living in the global pandemic, it may be more effective to find out the so-called "normal" of oneself by naming what you have lost. Because when you lose it, you then realise how much you loved it in your 'normal' life and often these may be the things that we have taken for granted.

Perhaps the lyrics from a song, "Let her go" by Passenger can help us process our reflections:

"Only need the light when it's burning low;

Only miss the sun when it starts to snow;

Only hate the road when you are missing home;"

Only know we love someone when they are not around us...

So what do you need? what do you miss? what do you hate? what do you love?

This week, according to the Christian seasons, we come to the final week of Lent and we call this the Holy Week. Within these seven days, we remember the climax of Jesus' mission as the Messiah, the anointed one who comes to save, redeem, heal and love the broken and corrupted world that we are living in.

Jesus said, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13). The crucifixion that Jesus took is the manifestation of God's love to his friends who are bounded by sins and death. The truth is that the Easter story is a triumphant story to recount the glorious resurrection of Jesus who has conquered sins and death on the cross. For this reason, the history of the universe has turned to a new page, where all precious lives that are once lost or even dead, are now restored, renewed and revitalised as a new being to live with a purpose.

The power of the cross is that for every death in Christ, there is a resurrection. It is God's unstoppable power that will do this because God is love. He has redeemed what he loves and restores them for his name's sake. This is the Easter power that brings us to a new normality where love, the self-giving love of God, can flow in to renew us, and through us to restore the world with joy and hope.

In Christ and with his resurrection hope, life will never be the same again. So, in faith, may we follow Jesus to the cross, to die with him, be buried with him, and rise with him. That being so, we will discover the new normality in Christ who gives us a new commandment to live life in the fullest, i.e. to love one another as he has loved us. Amen.

Have a meaningful holy week and happy Easter,

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