

Mid-week Reflection for week commencing 18th April 2021

Alive in Christ

Romans 6 v15-23.

'The wages of sin is death' Rom. 6 v 23. They were the words on the sandwich board of the man who used to stand and shout at us on the corner of the High Street in Sheffield when I was very young. It frightened me, I couldn't understand, except in my mind if I was naughty I stood a good chance of being dead. I can't ever remember him having the rest of the verse on the back of his sandwich board 'but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.' I'm not sure my good behaviour lasted long but it put the fear of God in me at the time.

Yet a little further into Romans 8 v 15 we are reminded that God is willing to call us His children and we can address him as Abba! Father! Christ's Spirit alive in us making us one of a loving family.

We can get tied up in these passages of scripture with justification, sanctification, condemnation and righteousness and I'll throw in reconciliation. They all have their place but on one side of A4 I don't think so! God loves us as a father loves his children and as his children we are brought alive by the one who lives in us, our friend and saviour Jesus Christ.

Let us pray.

For those things we say and do wrong - we ask your forgiveness Lord. For those who we injure through our lack of thought - we ask you forgiveness Lord. For our lack of understanding; for our over enthusiasm leading to others to pick up the pieces - we ask your forgiveness Lord. As your children we know we are not always obedient; we want to do things our way; we like to know best, yet we still want your love. For You are Father of all and in you we put our trust, this day and always. **Amen**

Meditation

What words would you put on your sandwich board?
What words do you think Jesus would put on his?

*'All your commands we know are true;
your many gifts will make us new;
Into our lives your power breaks
through,
Living Lord.'* (Singing the Faith 594)

