

Reflection for Trinity 17

As I write this on Thursday, the church is remembering William Tyndale. A brilliant linguist, his intention was to make the truths of the Scriptures available to ordinary people in their own languages and to produce plentiful copies at the lowest possible price.

He is credited with saying to a prominent clergyman that, 'If God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy that driveth the plough to know more of the Scriptures than thou dost.' He dealt with staunch opposition for much of his life and was finally martyred on 6th October 1536. Yet 90% of the 1611 Authorized Version of the Bible was based on his work.

I have found that my own reading of Scripture has been challenged and enhanced by reading 'How To Eat Bread' by Revd Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes. She comments that, 'Bible reading feeds the soul in a way that is widely experienced as different in quality from the nourishment we get from reading other kinds of books...nourishing in a deep soul way.'

She recommends being attentive to our own responses and emotional reactions when reading Scripture, and suggests different approaches to different styles of texts.

In what ways can reading Scripture can be described as 'eating bread'?



Revd Sarah

With thanks to the Lectionary App and Revd Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes

SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER

CRAFT HUB 10AM-12 NOON



ST THOMAS CHURCH HALL

NEXT SUNDAY 16.10.2022 Trinity 18

SERVICES: 10.30am in Church

READINGS: OT Genesis 32: 22-31
NT 2 Timothy 3: 14-17. 4: 1-5
GOSPEL Luke 18: 1-8



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St Thomas, Exeter

9th October 2022

Trinity 17

10.30am in Church

Today

10.30am Sung Eucharist.

Hymns for today

277 Jesus shall reign where're the sun,

154 Give thanks with a grateful heart.

26 Alleluia, sing to Jesus.

Wednesday 12th October

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 13th October

9.30—11am St Thomas Tot's

10.30am Knit & Natter. See notices.

Friday 14th October

9.30am Morning Prayer.

10am Staff Meeting.



Collect

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

2 Kings 5: 1-3, 7-15

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.' But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to

him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"? So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, 'Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant.'

2 Timothy 2: 8-15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself. Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

Luke 17: 11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a

loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

Post Communion

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NOTICES

For our services in Church, **mask wearing** is not now compulsory but we would still advise it while infection numbers remain high.

Knit and Natter. From now on through autumn and winter the group will meet at 19 Maple Road. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

Community Larder is receiving donations on Tuesdays from 10-11am. On Sundays there will also be an opportunity to bring donations to the 10.30 service.

House Group Fortnightly on Zoom. New people are always welcome; see Ian for zoom details.

All Souls We are compiling a new list this year. If you would like your loved ones to be remembered please add their name(s) to the list at the back of the church.

Saturday 15th October 10am—12 noon.
Craft Hub in the Hall. Time to try something new? Children must be accompanied by an adult.

