

TRINITY 17 : MARK 9:30 - 37

Then Jesus took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them "Who ever welcomes one such child in my name, welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Jesus is quite clear on the status of children. He tells us that we need to be like little children to enter the kingdom of Heaven. So much of our human existence is lived in our thinking brain. We value academic attainment so highly. We spend our lives thinking and over thinking which results in anxiety and other less useful states of mind.

Jesus is calling us to come to him in the simplicity of a child, with eyes open wide in awe and wonder. With eyes open to the glory of the world which surrounds us. With eyes which see things as they really are rather than seeing them how we think they are.

Simplicity is a state of being which is open to God. If we can sit in the silence with our hearts open, loving God as the first commandment says "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind and all your strength" We will know His love for us, as it pours from Heaven in every moment. Open to, aware of and receiving the passionate love of God results from our loving attention waiting upon God in silence.

As we cultivate a practice of silent prayer in our lives on a daily basis we will strengthen our connection with the God of love whom we all serve and in whom the impossible becomes possible. Working as we are in our new LMA we all need to be open and listening to the inspiration of the Creator God of love as he guards and guides us through the new processes and ways of being which we have to engage with.

We are in this together, not in our own strength but in the strength, glory and peace of the Risen Living Lord. In and through prayer and the practice of loving God and neighbour we will be able to create our new LMA together for ourselves. William Blake said Imagination is Eternity. Let us all engage our imaginations and creativity in the common endeavour of working together in our new LMA.

With love to you all Diana