

Welcome to Rev Darren King's Bible Study – 20 October 2024

PENTECOST 22

DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

Welcome 🙏

Opening Prayer (please pray together)

O Lord, in our trouble and need, we look to you Lord, the giver of our daily bread, saying: God of abundant grace, hear our prayer. We pray for our Church, show us what it means to be truly serving others in the name of Christ, welcoming each person as your beloved child. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Music Worship 🎵 Choose some favourite hymns

All Things Bright and Beautiful

All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

Read together Psalm 104.1-9

¹ Praise the LORD, my soul. LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendour and majesty.

² The LORD wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent

³ and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind.

⁴ He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants.

⁵ He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.

⁶ You covered it with the watery depths as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

⁷ But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight;

⁸ they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them.

⁹ You set a boundary they cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth.

Word; Job 38.1-7 The LORD Speaks

38 Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

² “Who is this that obscures my plans with words without knowledge?”

³ Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.

⁴ “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation? Tell me, if you understand.

⁵ Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
who stretched a measuring line across it?

⁶ On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—

⁷ while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?

Q 1 Have you ever wanted to have a conversation with God like Job did?

What would you say?

Q 2 Job gets to hear God's side of the story. What do you think Job was thinking when God explains how he created the Universe and everything in it? Please discuss

Word; Mark 10.35-45 The Request of James and John

³⁵ Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.”

³⁶ “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.

³⁷ They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.”

³⁸ “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

³⁹ “We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.”

⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. ⁴² Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

COMMENTARY James and John have been demonised as selfish and arrogant disciples who thought that they were deserving of the greatest honour.

Instead, they were merely doing what Jesus had said for them to do: ask for things – and they were loyally standing with Jesus as he headed towards Jerusalem.

The other disciples were angry with them – but that’s not because their motivations were any different or purer than that of James and John, but because they thought they might have been pipped at the post for the seats in glory!

Q 3 What do you understand by Jesus saying we are called to be a suffering servant?

Q 4 James and John wanted to be Jesus’ favourite, so then Jesus asked them if they were prepared to drink the cup that he would drink and make the sacrifices that he made. Do you think they understood what Jesus was asking them?

Works

How can we be more humble this week as we think of ways to make a difference in our community and Church.

Ending Prayer (please pray together)

LORD, we pray for a mind that is like the Christ. Help us understand that you do not ask for our help; you ask for ourselves. Let us be yours completely, now and forevermore, Amen.

Shalom Rev Darren King (Roots on the web, The Message)