

Cell notes for 30 January 2011

Welcome

Have you ever done anything on impulse? How did it turn out for you?

Worship

Say together these verses from Psalm 103, with one person leading and everyone saying the verses in bold type.

¹ Praise the LORD, my soul;

all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

² **Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—**

³ **who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,**

⁴ who redeems your life from the pit

and crowns you with love and compassion,

⁵ **who satisfies your desires with good things**

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.....

⁸ The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹ **He will not always accuse, nor will he harbour his anger forever;**

¹⁰ **he does not treat us as our sins deserve**

or repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;

¹² **as far as the east is from the west,**

so far has he removed our transgressions from us. ...

²⁰ Praise the LORD, you his angels,

you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.

²¹ **Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.**

²² **Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.**

Praise the LORD, my soul!

Now spend some time thanking God for all that He has done for us, for His constant presence with us and for His never-ending mercy and grace to us.

Word

- Read Luke 2:22-40
- On reading through verses 25-27, what do we learn about the about the driving force in Simeon's life?
- How do you think the Holy Spirit communicated with him? How does he communicate with us?
- What was Simeon waiting for?
- Why do you think it was so important to him to see the Messiah for himself?
- What was his response when he saw Jesus? Can we learn anything from this to apply to our own lives?
- What was the child Jesus destined to do?
- How are we affected by this in the outworking of our everyday lives?
- What do you think Simeon meant when he said to Mary 'And a sword will pierce your own soul too'?
- Can you find anything else we can learn from this passage to apply to our own lives?

Witness

- Pray for us as a church that we will be as willing to respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit as Simeon was.
- Thank God for the appointment of a new Rector. Pray for him and his family as they prepare to move to Middlewich.
- Pray for any known to us who are sick and those who are bereaved.
- Pray for each other - ask each person to share one particular need.