



Let go, take the long view

28/3/20

This is my second mass email in a month or so. I am sure, like me, you are disappointed that we can no longer gather this Sunday (or any other day for that matter!), as the family of God to worship our Creator.

You may have received an email from the office with some recent news. So I want to really encourage you to look at our new website and share your contact details via Churchbox. There is now a link to a new All Saints YouTube channel, along with other worship materials from Lloyd and Rosemary Griffiths for tomorrow's alternative Sunday service.

So please click on (<https://www.allsaintsbh13.church>) to see and hear a short reflection on Exodus 13:17-end and a conversation between Peter Drysdale and myself about Coronavirus.

Remember you don't have to be on Twitter or Facebook to access the information on those feeds.

After having looked at the YouTube clip and read the passage in your Bible at home or online, you might like to ponder on your own, in your family or with your "virtual" Zoom homegroup(s):-

1. Taking the Long road / long view – Short-cuts can lead to long delays. When all of this has blown over, which it will in time, how will our lives alter? If you only had 24 hours to live, what would you do with it? A week? A year? 10 years? 20 years? 40 years? 60 years? etc . What will you say to people...if asked "during the Coronavirus pandemic what did you do differently?"

Where do you think God is leading you in the next period of your life? What is God encouraging you to do at this particular time? Why does God sometimes, like the Israelites, take us the long way around to get to places?

2. Look after – what is precious to us. In these times of challenge look after yourself in this time, then, if able we can care for others. Is the Good Book precious to you? What is really precious to you?

When the last major world calamity happened in 9/11, that shocked the world, the final messages to those about to die to their loved ones, were all about telling them how much they loved them. Have you told those who you look after and love, how much you love them recently?

3. The Lord is with us in the same way that he was with the Israelites in the pillar of cloud and the fire. Jesus Christ hears us and is with us now and in the future. We should remember that as Christians, we have hope in the eternal life to come. Will, during this time, those around us whether they be family, friends, neighbours, see us as positive people of hope, who care for those around us, or as just interested in ourselves. The Church has left the building for a season, let's be Christ's hands and feet, as well as salt and light in all we do and say during this time.

If you would like to join a homegroup, please let me or the Pringles know. We have Morning Prayer virtually, starting next week, via Zoom, see the website.

I hope you find these questions helpful and inspiring. Do contact me, I prefer face to face but sadly that can't be at present. So give me a call, I'm at home most of the time, on 01202 041147, or email me if you prefer.

Similarly if you want any help, of any nature during this time, please do get in touch, with myself or the Church office, we have had lots of offers to help...to do anything, within reason!

With my love, blessings and prayers for you at this time,

Charlie

Rev'd Charlie Boyle