

Bread for the Journey June 2023

Jesus' 3-D Travel Guide

The following passage - perhaps most met in Anglican funeral services - was set for one of the Sunday readings in Easter season this year. It has much to say to the living, opening up wide vistas in which to live and move and have our being:

[Jesus said] "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." (John 14:1-7) Reflect on 'the way' Jesus has led you in the last week; Smooth? Rocky? Easy? Hard? Cross-shaped? Spirit-filled? What? What does this say to you about your present pilgrimage?

The direction of travel is via the cross and the resurrection. How is this being shown in your life, the life of your church?

Jesus says 'I am the truth'. What unshakeable truth about God-in-Jesus grips you now? How has it shaped you?

What of 'the life' of Jesus are you trying intentionally to live now?Put all your thoughts together into a prayer, talking to Jesus as one friend to another, with an untroubled heart.

You might like to conclude by praying this prayer of St. Thomas More:

Thank you dear Jesus, for all that you have given me, all that you have taken away from me, and all that you have left me.

If you would like to speak confidentially about your life-in-God do contact one of the Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf's, Spiritual Directors Group:

Maggie Le-Roy, Retreats Facilitator - retreats@cypgulf.org Rev Gill Nisbet, Associate Priest, Abu Dhabi - gillnisbet@standrewauh.org Rev Roy Shaw, UK based for Cyprus - revroyshaw@protonmail.com Sue Riddell, UK based for the Gulf - sueriddell49@gmail.com