- ★ In terms of Christian service do we just do the things we like doing or do we do the things God wants us to do?
- ★ Are we really serving God or are we really serving our own selfish interests and desires?
- ★ In the Age of Individualism whose authority do we come under?

3. Sacrifice

- Every day our servicemen and women are prepared to SACRIFICE their lives.
- Jesus was prepared to SACRIFICE his live.
- What are we willing to SACRIFICE in our service to the King of Kings?
- SACRIFICE will mean operating outside of our comfort zones. Doing things that we have not done before.

4. Life

- OBEDIENCE and SACRIFICE bring forth life.
- If it wasn't for the OBEDIENCE and SACRIFICE of our servicemen and women we probably would not be sitting here today
- Their OBEDIENCE and SACRIFICE enable us to live in so much freedom
- If it wasn't for the OBEDIENCE and SACRIFICE of Jesus we would all continue to be spiritually dead unable to be in relationship with God
- Are we prepared to exercise OBEDIENCE and SACRIFICE to bring forth spiritual life to those around us?

3. Questions to consider at home

- 1. Are 'Acts of Remembrance' a good thing? Is repetitious remembering helpful? How often should we remember the death of Jesus? Is once a week too often or would once a month or year be more appropriate? What is your opinion?
- 2. Is 'Obedience' a behaviour we admire in our culture today?
- 3. As a church how good are we at modelling 'Obedience' and 'Sacrifice'? In what ways might we demonstrate 'Obedience' and 'Sacrifice'?
- 4. A friend of yours tells you that she has decided not to go to her church anymore because her vicar will not let her put flowers in church during lent? What advice would you give her?
- 5. A colleague at work tells you that he has told his friends this year that he is not giving Christmas presents but donating the money instead to his local church. Do you think this is a wise decision?

Matthew Street 10th November 2019

The Parish of Peasedown St John

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 - 'Do this in remembrance of me' Passage, Talk Notes and Questions

Please feel free to take these talk notes home with you and you may wish to find some time during this week to consider the questions below.

1. Talk Passage - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread,24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."25 In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." 26 For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

2. Talk Notes

1. Introduction

- All of us have just taken part in an 'Act of Remembrance' an annual event where we remember those who have died in war for our country.
- Paul in his letter to the Church in Corinth reminds them that they too need to perform a regular *'Act of Remembrance'*
- Paul encourages them to never forget what Jesus has done for them on the Cross just as today's 'Act of Remembrance' hopefully encourages us not to forget the lives of the few given for the many.
- Nestled within both of these 'Acts *of Remembrance*' are two forms of behaviour that bring forth life: OBEDIENCE and SACRIFICE.
 - ★ Jesus was OBEDIENT to God, our servicemen and women are OBEDIENT to the Crown.
 - ★ Jesus paid the ultimate SACRIFICE with his life, many of our servicemen and women have done the same.
 - ★ Jesus paid the ultimate price with his life so that we might have SPIRITUAL LIFE
 - ★ Many of our servicemen and women have likewise paid the ultimate price so that we, in this country are able to enjoy the benefits that democracy brings.

2. Obedience

- Obedience is a behaviour we like to see in children but as adults how seriously do we cultivate this behaviour?
- Our servicemen and women are OBEDIENT to the Crown. They are prepared to go and do what the Queen asks them. They faithfully serve the Queen and they came under her authority.
- Jesus too was OBEDIENT to the Father to the King of Kings. He was prepared to come under God's authority. He was willing to serve. To demonstrate this to his disciples at that the Last Supper he had with them he took a towel and washed their feet.
- Are we prepared to be OBEDIENT to the Father? Are we prepared to serve him? Are we prepared to come under his authority?
 - ★ Do we take God's instructions in the Bible seriously or do we just follow the instructions we like?

- ★ In terms of Christian service do we just do the things we like doing or do we do the things God wants us to do?
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