

So what...

Read Isaiah 1.10-20

What appears to be the main issue between God and his people in these verses?

We live in a consumer culture where we are used to making choices for ourselves...

Who is Christian faith for?

Is your answer reflected in your Christian life?

Gandhi said,

"Oh, I don't reject your Christ. I love your Christ. It's just that so many of you Christians are so unlike your Christ."

Lohfink says,

'The truth of the Christian faith can shine only when it is intelligible through the praxis of Christians'

How do you respond to these statements?

Does the praxis of our church- how we live- make Jesus' message intelligible to the community in Croyley?

Are we still called to fulfil the commission to be the image of God (Genesis 1.26)?

What does this mean for our priorities as Christian believers?

Read John 20.21-22 and the definition of Shalom overleaf.

What would it mean for us to be committed to sharing the peace in these terms?

Read Matthew 22.34-40

Do we express our faith (cf. Gal 5.6b) in relationship with God or with the world? Can we separate these?

Read the Micah challenge words overleaf.

What do these mean for you, for the church. Pray over this...

Sunday February 3rd 2008

The Message in...



Devoted to Christ, people, mission

The main points again...

The Word became flesh **and** moved into the neighbourhood

A consumer culture faith about my choices and preferences for me
OR a faith for God and for others

Isaiah 1.10-20

The trouble with getting stuck in church...

‘The truth of the Christian faith can shine only when it is intelligible through the praxis of Christians’

- Gerhard Lohfink

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

- Genesis 1.26

A great privilege
A great responsibility

Living ‘Peace be with you!’

Shalom:

‘...covers well-being in the widest sense of the word, incorporating notions of contentment, health, prosperity, justice, unity and salvation- at individual, communal, national., international and creational levels.’

Making the sharing of the peace more than a church platitude...

Holding together the vertical and the horizontal of Christian faith

‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’

We do not build the Kingdom of God ourselves...

A travesty of the Lord’s Prayer

‘Love your neighbour as yourself’

We do not separate ourselves from the world, sit back and wait for God to do it all...

For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- Ephesians 2.10

The Micah declaration:

‘If we ignore the world we betray the word of God which sends us out to serve the world. If we ignore the word of God we have nothing to bring to the world.’

