

Reflection#5 - Broken Things

I went for a bike ride on Monday afternoon. Having ridden around 29 miles, I was virtually home, when coming round a corner I put the power down...and heard a ping - I had broken a spoke. Thankfully, I was only a mile away from home and so walked home carrying my bike on my shoulder feeling somewhat disgruntled.

I managed to find some new spokes online and was able to fix my wheel - amazingly as I am not overly practical in most areas of my life! As I placed it proudly back on my bike, and crudely trued the wheel all seemed well, until I realised that I had punctured my inner tube in the process - arrrgghh!

In life we face many different types of broken things: physical items like my wheel; technical difficulties (Zoom meetings!); relationship struggles; sickness; memories of the past to name but a few, and they each present different challenges to us. Sometimes we can get them sorted out, other times - like with my wheel - we mend one thing, but cause another problem somewhere else. Alone, it is easy to feel like our life is full of broken things. These may be things that life has just thrown at us, or be situations we have had some involvement in creating. Whichever, it can be hard to try and sort these things out for ourselves.

Thankfully our God is masterful at this. As we look through the Bible we see numerous times when God has fixed broken things. In 2 Cor. 12.9, Paul reminds us that this is a good thing because it allows us to keep the focus of our lives on God. It is when we are weak, when we feel like we cannot fix things, that God comes in and shows why he is so faithful and good.

9 ...But I am with you; that is all you need. My power shows up best in weak people." Now I am glad to boast about how weak I am; I am glad to be a living demonstration of Christ's power, instead of showing off my own power and abilities. 2 Cor. 12.9

In the broken things that each of us face, I would encourage us to allow God to help fix the brokenness. Sunday is Pentecost where we are reminded afresh of God's power working through us by the Holy Spirit. Whatever you are facing this week, give it to God, knowing that he loves to mend broken things, and invite the Holy Spirit to come and help you.

Here is a link to a beautiful song called Broken Things that you might find helpful to listen too.

<https://youtu.be/jh4AVaKfPM>

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you that you love to mend broken things.

You long to see your children restored, in heart, soul, mind and strength.

I ask that you will pour your Spirit into me today that I may know your wholeness restoring the areas in my life that are broken.

And lead me to others who need to know this same restoration, that I may bring your healing and peace through the power of the Holy Spirit, to them.

In the name of Jesus I pray.

Amen

Next Sunday - Pentecost Service

There will be a special online Pentecost Service for the York churches at 6pm - Sunday 31st May. The service can be accessed through the following link:

<https://www.belfrey.org/thykingdomcomeyork>

Partnership Prayer Meetings

On Thursday 25 June and Thursday 23 July from 8-9pm we want to invite members of St Barnabas and St Paul's to unite in a prayer meeting together. We want to allow time to pray for and listen to God about our new partnership together, and in particular what he is calling us to in the York Central Development. Please put the dates in your diary for now, and more details will follow nearer the time.