

## Reflection #8 - Moving In



So we have finally moved into our new home! The old house is nearly all cleaned up and emptied out of the left over junk. A multitude of boxes in the Rectory have been emptied but there are still a good number left. However, we will slowly work through those boxes, although sometimes, inevitably, there will be some boxes left hanging around for weeks, months, sometimes even years!

This process of unpacking those last few boxes is important to help us feel established and at home in our new house, but it is so easy to be distracted from it - *"Well the hard bit is done, those little bits can wait a while surely?"*

As I thought about this over the past week it struck me that our own Christians journeys can be like that too.

The hard work happens at the beginning, firstly in Jesus' death and resurrection, but also as we first believe and accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour in our lives. At this latter point we often see some immediate things that we need to get sorted out in our lives, some boxes to be emptied if you like. I think it is only as these "spiritual boxes" get emptied that we can truly settle in to our new spiritual home.

Of course, as with a physical house move we find that there are some lingering boxes containing things that we just don't quite know what to do with, perhaps they are memories of the past that we are just not ready to let go of. Perhaps, as we stare into these boxes the things just look so messy inside that we don't know where to start with it all, and can't see a way through. Yet we are called to persevere in our faith, drawing nearer to God as we gradually unpack those spiritual boxes. And as we do so we can experience the full healing and power of the cross, trusting in Him who is faithful.

Hebrews 10:19-23 tells us...

**19** Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, **20** by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Though lockdown is starting to slowly ease, during this time we have had, and still do have, a wonderful opportunity to start unpacking some of those spiritual boxes that hold back the fullness of God in our lives - so take this time to keep persevering in your faith, and get that unpacking done!

### Prayer

Heavenly Father,  
Thank you that in your death and resurrection  
You have done the hard work of my salvation.  
But help me to continue to persevere in my faith,  
So that those things that stop me being closer to you can be removed  
And my faith can flourish.  
In your name I pray Jesus.

**Amen**