

**Weekly Devotions
South Holburn Church
28th July 2020**

READINGS

The LORD said to Abram, "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's home, and go to a land that I am going to show you. I will give you many descendants, and they will become a great nation. I will bless you and make your name famous, so that you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you,
But I will curse those who curse you.
And through you I will bless all the nations."

When Abram was seventy-five years old, he started out from Haran, as the LORD had told him to do; and Lot went with him. Abram took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all the wealth and all the slaves they had acquired in Haran, and they started out for the land of Canaan.

Genesis 12 :1-5

Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to his word; instead, put it into practice. If you listen to the word, but do not put it into practice you are like people who look in a mirror and see themselves as they are. They take a good look at themselves and then go away and at once forget what they look like. But if you look closely into the perfect law that sets people free, and keep on paying attention to it and do not simply listen and then forget it, but put it into practice—you will be blessed by God in what you do.

James 1:22-25

"Christianity does not work in theory, it only works in practice."

Right Rev. David Lunan



**FAITH
IN ACTION**

REFLECTION

I have had the honour and pleasure of studying theology and faith for most of my adult life. Firstly, in university, and then in my life as a minister. That is something I really enjoy. But I am under no illusions that this makes me a better Christian than others – that is just not true. Over the course of my life and ministry I have had the pleasure of meeting many folk whose faith is wonderful to behold and puts me to shame.

Christianity is a “lived belief”. Christian faith grows not by knowing more but by doing more. It is as you relate your faith to the experiences of your life, to the situations and the people that you encounter, that faith grows and comes to mean more and more in your life. You can know all the facts of Christianity like an expert, but until you put faith into action, you really understand nothing.

The challenge in our readings then today is to go about putting our faith into action. That is something which is beyond none of us. We all have opportunities to be a Christian witness with our actions as well as with our words. Christian Faith lived out is about doing the everyday things we do for God. Each person we speak to, each act of welcome, each time we can offer a kindness becomes an act of faith and a declaration of God's love for someone.

Where will you practice your faith today?

PRAYER

Holy One,
God who creates.
By your action you brought all that is into being.
By your sending, Jesus acts to save us from our sins,
By your activity in our lives,
We know your love.

Remind us today that our faith is more than a set of rules,
Or a way of thinking.
Teach us again that our faith grows and blossoms through action.
Never let us be the kind of people who sit on our hands and call ourselves holy,
But rather enable us to act on our faith
To live our devotion.

Let our faith change not just who we are but what we do.

Let our daily activities bear witness to your Lord,
Let our treatment of others show forth your love,

In Jesus name we offer our prayers,
Amen

