

Read - Think - Pray

Proper 26A, 31 October to 4 November, Prepared by: Angus Kelly

Monday

Psalm

Psalm 43

Think:

Often it feels like we are surrounded by enemies, deceitful marketing campaigns that promise the world but just get us into debt; colleagues vying for our positions at work. Perhaps some more grievous, personal injustice. The Psalmist calls on God to send his 'light and truth' to lead him back to a place of worship. He calls upon his soul to 'hope in God.'

Pray:

Lord we long for the day when your Kingdom comes and you put the world right. In the mean time; 'send out your light and truth; let them lead me.'
Amen

Tuesday

Old

Testament

Micah 3:5-12

Think:

Is this word from the prophet Micah a word of hope or a word of warning to you? Often we cling on to God in a superstitious way - trusting God for protection; but not doing our part for his Kingdom. The prophet foresees the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple; as nature takes over where the temple once stood because of the people's injustice.

Pray:

Pray that we would not fall into the temptation to 'sell out' to the highest bidder. Often we only 'feed' our prophets when they tell us what we want to hear. Pray that each of us would have the courage to practice justice; perhaps by paying a fair wage; or helping a charity.

Wednesday

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Think:

Paul is able to cite his own behaviour as evidence of the truth of his message. It seems he led people gently into the Kingdom of God. Are our lives evidence of the truth of God?

Pray:

Give thanks to God for those who have been an example to you in the faith. Pray, that as we grow into maturity we would be able to point to our own lives as evidence of the truth of our message.

Thursday

Gospel

Matthew 23:1-12

Think:

As we read this we probably think of a list of teachers and preachers whose walk does not match their talk. I don't think that's what Matthew intended us to do when he wrote these words.

Pray:

Lord, remind us to be servants first.

Friday

Next week's gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

Think:

'Look busy, Jesus is coming.'
This passage calls us to be prepared for a long wait - as we anticipate the coming of the kingdom of God. The need to take extra fuel; to 'pace' ourselves perhaps?

Pray:

As the weekend approaches pray for an opportunity to refuel for your day to day work for the Kingdom of God, be it at work or in ministry.