

## Reflections on the message by Jane Miller, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2010

### “A Call to Holiness”

The dictionary meanings of “holy” include “*set apart for sacred use*”. Are we prepared to give our lives completely to God?

If you don't know Jesus the first step is to recognise that you have sinned and that Jesus by dying on the cross bearing the weight of your sin died in your place. You need to acknowledge Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour. Jesus made it possible for us to know God. Those who have taken this step have a relationship with God that is greater than human friendship. He loves us deeply.

In society today we are encouraged to be independent, to look after ourselves. What we are and become is entirely by our own effort. This is in direct contradiction to the way shown in the Bible (Galatians 2:20). The crucial thing for Paul is not life or death. It is maintaining a faithful witness for Christ.

What Jesus asks is that we should give our lives completely to him in every aspect and to follow him in everything. Let Him be the potter shaping our lives of clay. This is quite a challenge. God wants your absolute dependence on him.

We have been provided with the most amazing manual for living with Jesus – the Bible. One of the best ways to get to know God is to read the Bible. Not just the bits we want to read but the whole Bible including the difficult bits. God will never ask us to do anything that contradicts his word so we can immediately check what we think God is saying to us against His Word.

God wants us to get rid of sinful practices (Philippians 1:27, Colossians 3:1-10). We need to take severe measures to conquer sin, starting with being watchful, prayerful and with self discipline. We need to examine our lives and ask the Lord to show us what is wrong. We need to be vigilant about what we take in. If your conscience is uneasy about doing something don't do it.

God wants us to become a holy people walking in His ways. We should spend a lifetime pursuing God. We also can have a close relationship with the Lord which allows us to converse in prayer. God does not want a one way conversation. He wants us to listen to what He is saying too. We can talk to God about anything, at anytime and anywhere. Unlike human friends, God is not fallible.

We also are given the Holy Spirit to dwell in us – the comforter – to help us in our pursuit of holiness. God knows our weaknesses and knew from the very beginning we would need the help of His Spirit.

God loves us. What safer place is there than to yield completely to Him. He is more capable of looking after us than anyone else including ourselves. (Romans 9:20-21) Are you prepared to allow God to change you and to pursue holiness?