

SERMON NOTES Sunday 29 September

sunnysidechurch

Bible passages: Genesis 28.10-17; John 1.47-end

Introduction

- Michaelmas Day – festival of St Michael and All Angels a good day to give thanks for what God has done at Sunnyside and look at what he is calling us to next
- Reflections on Nick Gore's sermon (8th September)

1. Extent of God's love for us

- Jacob's dream reminds us God wants relationship with us
- Our identity as individuals and a church needs to be rooted and informed by the enormity of God's love for us

2. God inviting us on new adventures with him

- Jacob's life transformed by encounter with God and journey to Haram
- Gift Day is good but God inviting us to a new and deeper understanding of mission

3. God promises us fruit as we sow through love, action and financially where he asks us

- God wanted to bless Jacob and others through him
- God calling us to sow in relationships, discipleship and mission so he can bless us and others through us
- These three areas and fruit are at heart of prayer in Philippians 1.9-11

Conclusion

We are not alone as we venture out for God is with us and we can DePenD on him (Genesis 28.15)

Some questions for discussion

1. What are you thankful for about Sunnyside Church?
2. Read Genesis 28.10-17. What strikes you about the story?
3. God loves us to the cross and back. How easy to you find it easy to accept the enormity of God's love for you?
4. How have you been changed by the adventures God has taken you on? How have they impacted on your faith?
5. What is your understanding of mission? How might we deepen and broaden our understanding of mission as individuals and a church?
6. How might God be calling you to sow in the three areas of relationships, discipleship and mission? How might he be calling us to sow in these areas as a church?
7. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through these passages? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

'I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

Genesis 28.15

Why not spend some time giving thanks to God for his love for you and ask him to prepare the ground so that the seed we sow might bear good fruit?

Revd Rebecca Fardell