



## NewsNotes. *.Connecting . . . Faith & Life*

**Vol: 43 - No 11**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**

**THIRTYTHIRD Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Dear Friends

We have been told by the Government that our Church is to close its doors to live worship. Covid infections have been rising and our hospitals are beginning to receive serious Covid cases.

Many are blaming the government for mismanagement. Few seem to be focussing their anger at the people who are disregarding the rules and putting others at risk. During the plagues in Moses' time God used this opportunity to create change.

There is great hope for change in this country also. A vaccine is on the horizon for our people and the people of the world. This new lockdown will give the hospitals breathing space to maintain capacity. It is important when we are out and about to be focussed on maintaining our efforts to Wash our Hands – Cover our Face – Make Space between ourselves and others.

We are two weeks from Advent and six weeks to Christmas. Jesus also came into the world during troubled times. He preached a message of hope. Maybe we need to re-read the message. To help with this we are changing the format of our Wednesday Zoom meetings to Bible study. We shall be looking at the times leading up to Jesus' birth and we hope to discover the meaning of the birth & our mission for Christ.

Join us in love and hope, share with friends and above all resist the temptation to cut yourself off from the world despite to the need to isolate. Stand firm in your home and share with others the knowledge of God's desire to love you and of His love for all mankind.

Join us this Wednesday at 5pm

Meeting ID: 992 829 7354

Password: 849433

God Bless you all

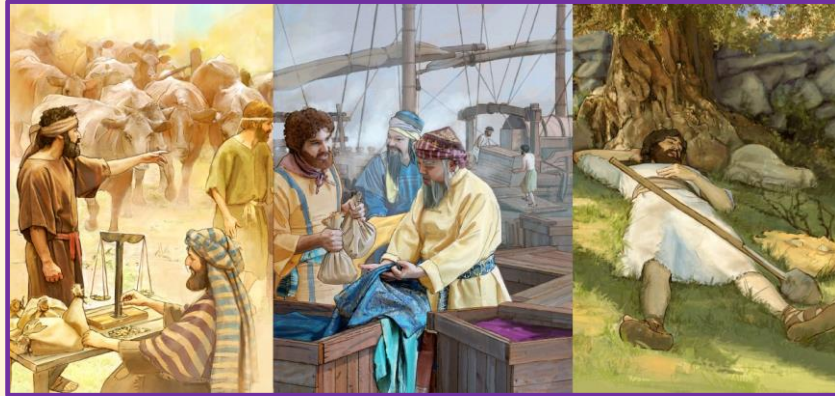
**Peter Godfrey**

# LECTIONARY REFLECTION

By Theo Hercules

*Lectionary Readings: Matthew 25: 14 -30*

## The Parable of the Talents



**In Matthew chapters twenty-four and twenty-five Jesus continued to tell his disciples about the Kingdom of Heaven and His second coming.** He used a number of parables to tell them exactly what the Kingdom of heaven was like. In this parable Jesus used many key words to drive his message home. A “man” and his “money”, and his relationship with three servants. He being their “Master”. Verse 18 “But the one who had received one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money”.

Each had received talents according to his ability. Thus the master made each responsible for the managing of a portion of his estate. The estate belonged to the master, and the servants should serve their master to the best of their ability with the talents given to them. This fact is linked to being a steward. How do we look after the master’s property. The master is looking to us to increase the value of his estate.

As believers we are given resources no matter how small to look after. We note that everyone is given at least one talent which he should use to the best of his ability. Ultimately all resources belong to God, and we will be called to give an account of how we use our talents.

We notice the fury of the master when the servant who was given one talent was called to give an account of his stewardship. His response to his master was really not good. “Master I know that you are a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed”. In the end this lazy servant was ordered to be thrown “into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth”.

When we look at developing economies around the world many of the people depend on planting crops for a livelihood. To gather where you did not sow, amounts to stealing from someone who has laboured to plant his field, only to find at harvest time someone has reaped his crop. There are almost always harsh punishment for people who reap where they did not sow in the world today.

Finally there is a reward which is waiting for the “good and faithful servant”, for he is invited into “the joy of his Master” and praised for doing well. Likewise we who toil faithfully for the master can expect to be rewarded at the end of our days and be told “well done, my good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of my kingdom.”

*Contact:*

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## PASTORAL

Tony Addo & Pastoral Leaders

Our thoughts and continued prayers are with our TaB Family and Friends during the current pandemic and the isolation, loneliness and other difficulties this has created. Pastoral contact is an ongoing part of our support. Please do not hesitate to contact us with your concerns.

### **Prayers for TaB Members & Friends**

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the many blessings seen, unseen and those that we so often take for granted in our lives. Teach us to pray with faith in your willingness to supply all our needs, that we might receive the generosity of your love and your power of healing: *We pray for all who are unwell, all those who are homebound or in residential care and for all those who have recently been bereaved.*

#### **Remembering especially:**

Elizabeth Arnold, Robert Barker, Catrina Basse, Joyce Beaumont, Barbara Biggs, Iris Branch, Frances Branch-Thomas Christina Cabrera, Dorothy Campbell, Chrissie Godfrey, Lynette Heaven, Yvonne Jordine, Rhona Knight, Beverly Watkins-Kowa, Ken Kowa, Yvonne Obeng, Elizabeth Osei, Margarete Prater, Hope Siwela, Priscilla Mbape and Elizabeth Takaedza.

#### **Our departed sister Sithabile Ncube funeral arrangement update**



Sithabile Ncube's body is to be flown back home to Zimbabwe on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to her final resting place. We thank you all for your continuous prayers. God Bless You.

**Priscilla Mbape**

### **A prayer for uncertain times**

Living, loving God,  
we praise you,  
and through times of peril we lean into you,  
for in Jesus Christ  
you have trodden paths as difficult as ours,  
revealing there a love that nothing defeats,  
a love that bears us through.  
Even as we strive to behave responsibly,  
and to care reliably,  
so we feel after you  
that in these uncertain times we might trust you are with us,  
our refuge and strength,  
and our faith, hope and love might be renewed,  
through Jesus Christ, **Amen**

Source: <https://urc.org.uk/latest-news/3384-a-prayer-for-uncertain-times>



## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**



#### **To All who have Birthdays this week.**

May God grant you overflowing joy, abundant opportunities, and a shower of blessings. Happy Birthday!



#### **To all who have Anniversaries this week.**

May your marriage continue to be blessed with love, joy and companionship all the days of your life.

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# Church News and Centre Plus

Theo Hercules

1. **Trinity at Bowes Methodist Church Sunday Services are now suspended for the next four weeks as directed by Government. We are due to be reopened on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020 providing the Government say this is possible.**

## 2. **New River Methodist Circuit - Online Church**

**On Facebook: New River Methodist Circuit OR via YouTube: <https://youtu.be/kjbhavh5r28>**

<u>Streaming Schedule for New River Methodist Circuit Online Church</u>			
Day/(s)	Time	Online Event	
Monday - Saturday	8.00 am	Thought for the Day	<i>Pre-recorded</i>
Monday - Saturday	9.00 am	Morning Prayers	<i>Live</i>
Saturday	10.30 am	Virtual Coffee Morning	<i>Live</i>
Sunday	10.30 am	Sunday Service	<i>Pre-recorded</i>

3. **Wednesday 5pm “TaB Together” Zoom Meetings** - All members are invited to participate.

**Meeting ID: 992 829 7354 Password: 849433**

4. **TaB Website & TaB Church Face Book** -Our TaB website <https://www.trinityatbowes.co.uk> and TaB Facebook: **TaB Church** are frequently being updated. Please contact Peter Godfrey with your ideas and with offers of help. **Email: [petergodfrey@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:petergodfrey@blueyonder.co.uk)**

5. **TaB Sunday School Resources**- Resources for Sunday school families can be found on our TaB home website using the following link <https://www.trinityatbowes.co.uk/sunday-school> Peter Godfrey- TaB Sunday School Superintendent is the contact for Sunday School resources  
**Email: [petergodfrey@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:petergodfrey@blueyonder.co.uk)**

6. **Trinity at Bowes Methodist Church Bank Account Details**-Should you wish make a donation by bank transfer to Trinity at Bowes Methodist Church. Our bank account details are as follows:

**Account Name: [Trinity at Bowes Methodist Church](#)**

**Account no: [92883701](#) Sort Code: [09-01-55](#)**

*Account held at the Santander Commercial Bank Please ensure you use your name as the payment reference*

## 7. **Upcoming Special Sundays/Services Dates for your Diary**

Date	Time	Event
20 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30 am	Carol Service
<b>25<sup>th</sup> December (Friday)</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Christmas Day Service</b>
27 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30 am	Sunday Christmas Service

## 8. **New River -Circuit-35/22News**

8.1) **Our Churches** – Our 9 Churches are closed during the current Lockdown. We are continuing to offer online worship on our Church Circuit Facebook Page and YouTube Channel.

8.2) **Zariel** – Zariel one of our young people in this circuit is standing to be the next Youth President of the Methodist Church. Please do remember Zariel and his family in your prayers. Our young people can vote for the next Youth President online. Parent or leader need to register each young person by 15<sup>th</sup> November.  
<https://eventsfeedback2020.typeform.com/to/IS3YiH>

8.3) **Church Online**– Our online worship will continue until 2021. We are hoping to plant a Digital Church within the Circuit. All who are interested are invited to a meeting on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Please email Rev Lunn [revmlunn@gmail.com](mailto:revmlunn@gmail.com) for more information.

If you would like news items, prayer requests and or celebrations to be included in the NewsNotes  
Please send an email to [newnotes@trinityatbowes.co.uk](mailto:newnotes@trinityatbowes.co.uk) before 10.00am every Thursday.

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