

These notes are designed to be used by small groups on Zoom, by members of a family or by a couple of friends on the telephone. They are based on our Sunday sermons and are designed to help us all think through the issues raised about “God in my Everything”. You will get the most out of them if you have heard the sermon first.

Sermon Date: Sunday 30th May 2021. David Long

Bible Passage

Romans 8: 12 - 17

Theme & Introduction

On Trinity Sunday, we looked at the unity of the Trinity, and how the church mirrors and participates in that unity. We also looked at our identity in Christ as children chosen and adopted by God.

Questions

- 1 How would you describe yourself in three words or phrases?
How important are those descriptions of yourself compared to being a Christian?
- 2 In John 17, Jesus prays for the unity of God’s people.
Yet there are so many different churches and denominations.
What things can we do as individual Christians to bring about unity?
- 3 ‘Unity must be according to God’s holy word, or else it would be better war than peace.’
[Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester 1535 – 39]
Do you agree? What are the essential foundations, the non-negotiables, for unity between Christians?
- 4 Jesus prayed to the Father as *Abba*, ‘Dearest Father’ (Mark 14: 36). There is no record in all Jewish literature of anyone else praying like this. The Christian church adopted the idea of praying to *Abba*. See Romans 8: 15 and Galatians 4: 6.
What do you think are the privileges of being able to pray to *Abba*? And what could be the dangers?
- 5 In Romans 8: 1, Paul takes us into the law court as he describes what salvation means. ‘There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.’
The New Testament uses many other pictures to describe salvation. How many can you come up with as a group?