

[Stokieshazer's Fair Trade in Football Campaign

Latest gadgets, new fashions, instant access, fast food - change. Should believers be ridged in our ways, adapt to the times or cling to old traditions? Living in a constantly changing culture, how does faith fit?

Some of The Church likes following old traditions in our culture, some feel this is outdated. Other believers introduce culturally relevant, fresh expressions of faith. Which is correct?

Jesus commissions believers to: "Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." (Mathew 28:19-20 The Message) This still stands.

If ridged mentalities say: "it has always happened this way, we will not change!" we may miss opportunities. However, if we are obsessed with seeking the latest new way, we may miss what God is saying to us too.

What should we do?

We can start to move on with our thinking, whilst still falling in line with God's planning. God's Word, The Bible, is the culture of the Kingdom of God, and that is what we should be interested in. This is often alien to the World's thinking, it means that we think and live as prompted by God's Spirit.

We can not predict how God will work. God's ways are not our ways. We think one way is best, God may have other ideas. God knows the big picture and has plans to bring hope and a good future. We may need to disregard our own understanding and thoughts about situations, and trust in God.

Jesus engaged with everyone. He looked for people who were lost. Their faith, gender or ethnic group did not stop him, no matter what the religious leader's said or did. He was frowned on for hanging around with "sinners", broke cultural traditions and touched "unclean" people.

Jesus is The Way. The ultimate "new thing" is the cross where Jesus died to make a way for us to be God's children.

Now it is up to us to be open to God's leading. God uses us where we are. We need to be flexible, approachable, loving everyone and listening for God's guidance. We should always study God's Word and never compromise God's values as we live in the World.

In our changing World you can always: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Due to Iron Man Wales there will be no meeting this Sunday.
New Life Christian Fellowship usually meet at Kilgetty Community Centre,
10.45am Sundays, all welcome.

If you want to talk or would like us to pray for you call: 01834 831533 - 07827293781.