

## NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

### The Penny

A penny lies on the ground; rusty, dirty, damaged, lost.

It's been used a lot, passed around, in an out of different places.

It was close to people until it was dropped, then walked over, stepped on, dug into the dirt; ignored, deemed as useless.

One day a man passes the penny, it catches his eye. As he stoops to pick it up a lady exclaims: "Oh just leave that dirty thing, it's rubbish!"

But he saw something of value in it, so he picked it up, just as it was, and put it in his pocket.

A person sits on the street, rough looking, dirty, drunk, on drugs, feeling totally hopeless.

A person feels trampled on, crushed, even by those he trusted the most.

A person is lost, afraid, alone.

A person is sick, no longer able to participate, contribute; they feel useless, hopeless, judged.

A person was once shiny, new, important, like royalty; now they are just out of date, put aside, dropped.

A person is branded different, weird, unusual, not like us, not "normal", ugly.

A person is unacceptable, hated, deemed bad – cut off, shut out – "nobody wants you near!"

A person has been used, passed around, sold, now they feel worthless.

What do we do with these people, the pennies?

Do we trample on them, ignore them, shun them as they simply do not fit, they will spoil our reputation, mess up our clean hands. Can we pick them up, make them one of us? Is it too hard, are they too different, dirty, hard work, imperfect?

Are you a penny?

I found a penny; I hold that penny up to God. It's not easy. I ask for God's strength, help and guidance. My penny is God's promise.

Don't just ignore the pennies. Jesus doesn't, he calls them to be his followers. He puts them to good use. He looks for them, longs for them, and arranges a massive party when they are found! (Luke Chapter 15)

Pick up a penny today.

<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2015%20&version=ERV>

New Life Christian Fellowship meet in Kilgetty Community Centre, 10.45am on Sundays.

Please call if you want someone to talk to or pray for you. 01834 831533 / 07788270871