

## New Life Christian Fellowship

Disappointment describes a nation's hopes dashed by a dubious decision. Dreams of the final finished for four years.

Disillusioned describes Job. Job pleased God. Satan didn't like it, saying Job was only loyal because God protected him. God allowed Satan to test him. He put him through hell on earth. Job lost his family, possessions and home; was riddled by disease. Yet, he would not: "curse God and die".

We see the big picture; Job's friends only saw a glimpse. Their "counsel" was like salt in wounds. They did not have God's perspective but relied on their *wisdom*, offering harsh mixes of truth and misconception. All Job needed was someone to say: "I don't understand what's happening, but I'm here for you." Encouragement.

We can not expect to know it all. Are we like God? God's ways and thoughts are not like ours. Yet, we feel offended when we don't understand. Sometimes it is best to realise there is a mystery to life.

Where does that leave us; alone, in the dark? NO! Our situations are real, they hurt, but we are not alone. If I say "God is with you." it is not a blasé statement, but an attempt to encourage you.

In the depths of the pit, clinging on to hope is all we can do. God is good, God is with me, God will supply all of my needs... Hope brings light at the end of the tunnel.

Sometimes we just don't know why, but if we know God is good, we can trust and hope.

Job's friend wished God would send a heavenly negotiator to speak for Job. Little did he know God would send much more than this. God eventually restored Job, blessing him. More importantly, God sent his only Son, Jesus, to negotiate and be our advocate. Wrath for every wrong thought, word and deed was inflicted on Jesus. Jesus anticipated this saying: "Father if it is possible take this cup of suffering from me; yet not my will but yours be done."

This is Hope, our Bread of Heaven. If you feel abandoned, fearful, let down; hold on. Turn to Jesus with every little thing; he will give you his impossible peace.

The Word: Richard Hodges, Bridgend.

New Life Christian Fellowship meet at Kilgetty Community Centre, 10.45am Sundays, all welcome. Call 01834 831533 / 07827293781 if you want to talk or would like us to pray.