

Hope

Summary:

Recently our country has been described as 'Broken Britain.' When you read the headlines of the news during the last 2 weeks there have been some terrible stories breaking. Sadly the stats about our society over recent years make sad reading; increased unemployment, binge drinking, depression and abortions. A recent Joseph Rowntree report suggested that our society has 7 evils: individualism/greed, drugs and alcohol, declining values, dissolving social values, the family breakdown, poverty and failed institutions. People's lives show a desire to escape as they try drugs, sex, food and experience to try and cover the problems. In some respects you want to scream HELP!

In the midst of this the church has real and genuine HOPE. Christians are the salt and light of the world, they are different.

Do Bible contains many moral lessons showing the benefits of good behaviour and illustrating the pitfalls of bad behaviour. Jesus and the Apostles gave many examples of the right way to live.

Think The Christian life goes deeper than the veneer of how we act, it affects our values and how we think. The Bible clearly teaches much about authority, moral absolutes, valuing people, honour others and care for the downtrodden. Jesus taught that we should love one another and demonstrate this by 'washing each other's feet'

Done Ultimately The Christian brings Hope to the world because of what Christ has done for us. We have all sinned and fallen short of God's standard. We deserve punishment and trouble yet instead Jesus died in our place that we might be saved. We now have a wonderful Hope to offer.

This hope changes everything:

Today – we know God with us, we know that God is in charge and that God can do anything

Forever – Christians have an eternal hope that God will right every wrong, that He rewards those who follow Him and they we will see Him for all eternity!

Application:

1. Was there anything shared on Sunday that needs clarifying for you?
2. What did God say to you on Sunday and what are you going to do as a result?
3. What do you hope for in life?
4. Who do you trust in life?
5. If God is all powerful then why does He allow Christians to go through hard times?
6. Pray for people you know who are going through a difficult time.
7. Pray for the leaders of our Country.