

Christ Church Freemantle

Sunday 9th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

When writing about the future of Christ Church, William, quite rightly, reminded us all that "Mission" is an important element of what Christian faith communities should be about. On a personal level, I have a real problem with practicing mission on my own Christian journey. In my 60 years of trying to be a Christian, I have never, to the best of my knowledge, been responsible for helping anyone to faith.

It is not that I am reluctant to let others know that I have a Christian faith and that it is an important part of who and what I am. If someone asked me to help in growing their own faith, I would like to think that I would respond in appropriate way and helpful ways, starting from where they are, rather than where I think they should be. The difficulty comes if I am asked to go into the highways and byways to seek for lost sheep. I have a deep reluctance to trespass on other people's personal "space."



What I do know is that many churches have successfully used programmes such as the Alpha course and that there is a great deal of helpful literature in Christian bookshops that can give people helpful stepping stones in exploring their own spirituality from a Christian perspective.

I have always felt proud of how we meet and greet people who come in through our door at Christ Church and the willingness of many to sit down and have coffee with people after the morning service (in more normal times).

Perhaps what I am trying to say is that yes, "Mission" should be central to what we do, but that we might need to share thoughts and ideas about what a mission shaped Christ Church, Freemantle should look and feel like.

Steve Scott