

This week, each weekday will reflect on a verse of a poem I wrote a few years ago.

This poem is a meditation, inspired by the Apostle Paul's letter to the [Philippians 4: 6](#): "Don't worry about anything, instead pray about everything and tell God your needs"....

Verse 4 for Friday 1st May

**It's all so perplexing. Am I in the right place?
Can I hear your voice calling? Am I running the race?**

**Come walk with me, in the crowd, down the town,
where the noise of the people and music can drown
your confidence, peace, your trust and your faith,
where temptations distract you, from seeing my face.
Take a seat in the Centre, on the steps, in the store.**

**We can talk in the street, in the midst of it all!
We don't need a mountain to climb, to be free.
I'm here, close inside, one to one, you and me.**



The current lockdown has accentuated many of the dilemmas. Questions which weren't questions have in a few weeks turned life upside down and no one knows the answers. Should you move? Should you change jobs? What about the children, the grandchildren? Can you support them? What about the other parent, step parent, son or daughter? Questions like these are all 'on hold' and we don't know when the 'economy' or anything else will get moving.

The picture above of a busy street is in stark contrast to that of the empty steps of the town....suggesting what some of our towns are looking like now.

Maybe you've tried to guide others or yourself, but somehow things have not seemingly gone well....all so perplexing.

It's hard to find a biblical character who hasn't had times when clearly life has gone in the wrong direction: The story of King David **and Bathsheba** reminds us of how great men who are called by God are still humans and struggle with temptation and sin.

Read the story of David in: 2 Samuel chapters 11 & 12:

When Saul died, David became king. He was 30 years old. After he had been king for some years, one night from the rooftop of his palace, he saw a beautiful woman. David found out that her name was Bath-sheba and that she was married to a soldier named Uriah. David had Bath-sheba come to his palace. They had sexual relations, and she became pregnant. David tried to hide what he had done. He told his general to put Uriah on the front lines of the battle and then to retreat from behind him. Uriah was killed.

But Jehovah saw all the bad things that had happened. What would he do? Jehovah sent the prophet Nathan to David. Nathan said: 'A rich man had many sheep, and a poor man had only one small lamb that he loved very much. The rich man took the poor man's only lamb.' David was angry and said: 'That rich man deserves to die!' Nathan then told David: 'You are that rich man!' David was heartbroken, and he admitted to Nathan: 'I have sinned against Jehovah.' This sin brought a lot of trouble on David and his family. Jehovah punished David but allowed him to live, because he was honest and humble.



The one covering over his transgressions will not succeed, but whoever confesses and abandons them, will be shown mercy.”—[Proverbs 28:13](#)

**Come Holy Spirit, Spirit of Love, Spirit of Discipline,
In the silence come to us and bring us your peace.**

**Rest in us that we may be tranquil and still;
speak to us as each heart needs to hear.**

Reveal to us things hidden and things longed for.

Rejoice in us that we may praise and be glad.

Pray in us that we may be at one with you and with each other.

Refresh and renew us from your living springs of water.

Dwell in us now and always.....

**God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at my end, and at my departing. Amen.**