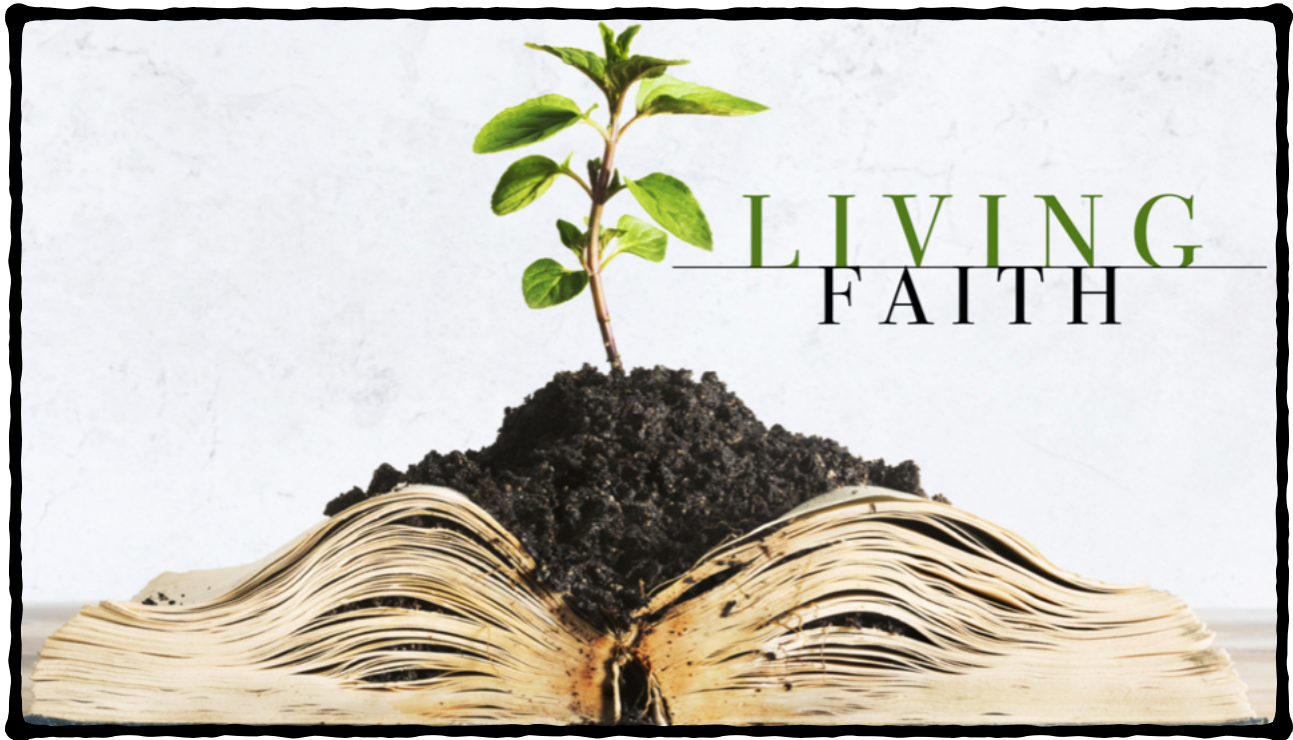

WORSHIP @ HOME



PROBLEM SOLVERS

Preparing for worship:

Christian meditation music <http://www.viewpure.com/66USuf9BaYc?start=0&end=0>

Take a few moments to be still and speak to the Lord.

The Greeting:

ALL: 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN'. Our tradition is to cross ourselves as this is said.

Opening prayer and lighting the candle:

O Blessed Lord, accept this burning candle as a sign of our faith and love for you. Make us open to your Word. Make us loyal and faithful to you, regardless of the circumstances of our lives.

ALL: Amen.

Bible Reading:

A reading from John Chapter 6 verses 5-12

When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

A message:



This is a very familiar story, but today we are not going to focus on the miracle and its meaning. Instead, we are going to look at the actions of two of his disciples. Philip and Andrew had clear parts in this story and provide different models of what to do in a crisis. There was not enough food for the people gathered. Philip would clearly have simply send them away, but Andrew steps up. He could

have so easily kept his head down. After all, Jesus' question, 'Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?', was directed at Philip and not him. However, this is not what he

chooses to do. Instead, he identifies a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish. It may not be enough, but it is a positive start!

Rather than moaning about what they did not have, his attitude was to consider what they did have. He was not blinded by the problem, but solution focused. He had found a place from which to start solving the problem. Indeed, he had the attitude Jesus was able to use to perform miracles!

A time for reflection:

How do you cope in a crisis?

How do you react?

What fish and what loaves of barley bread have you got to bring to a situation today?

Are you a problem solver?

Discuss these images and quotes as a family:



In this series, we have seen the importance of firm foundations, being steadfast in our faith and having a vision. We have also seen that vision is given clarity when we set ourselves targets, with God's Word as our compass. Now we are learning to face each day with a 'can do' solution focused attitude. We can do anything through Him who gives us strength (Philippians 4:13).

During Lockdown, our school community has been solution focused. We have found ways to teach and learn remotely, meet remotely, supported each other, strengthen our community, as well as remain Christ-centred. We have managed to invite students in all years to academic review meetings, as well as teach Year 10 lessons and Year 12 master classes in school. We have lead virtual Year 6 transition events, sports events, music concerts, and so much more. Despite the challenges, we have found ways to celebrate the achievement of our students, We have not been defeated, but forward looking. Even in the darkest of moments, we have kept focused on the light.

Closing prayer:

Dear Lord,
Help us to build up and not to break down, to be solution focused rather than simply identifying problems. In all that we do, may we keep our eyes focused on you and be purpose driven. To the glory of God and in the service of His Kingdom.

ALL: Amen.

Now in the words our Saviour taught us, we are bold to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us, now and evermore. Amen.