

Reflection Saturday Christmas Season 2023

John tells us that *'Whoever keeps Jesus' commandments lives in God and God lives in him.'* That we become the children of God. How more special can we be?

Knowing that the commandments of God are to love God and to love our neighbour, we have a simple life plan to live by. We may not always show the kind of love of God or of our neighbour we would like at times and even fail terribly but if we generally live our lives around these commandments, we allow God to journey with us, guide us and be our light. Jesus began his ministry in one of the most out of the way places, whose people were far from being recognised as good citizens or particularly faithful to their belief. What better place to start!

It seems that he was welcomed because he showed that he believed that people would listen if shown respect and honour. They too, probably realised, that he had not written them off like the leaders of the country or the faith leaders in Jerusalem. Jesus spoke to them as people of value, people capable to good, of caring, who could be faithful and loyal, trusting and trusted. This they recognised too. Always remember that the miracles of Jesus only worked for those who genuinely believed in him.

As Saint Matthew rightly wrote:

The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned. Mtt 4:16