

Reflection Wednesday 1st Week of Year 2024

One of our underlying desires is to do what God asks of us. Like Samuel, we too wish to say *“Speak Lord, your servant is listening!”* These words are easy to say and we mean to do it but, in practice, it is never easy to fulfil. Is it that we forget that Jesus never asks more of us than we are able to give? Whatever God asks of us, he will never fail to help us fulfil his request? Secondly, Jesus reminds us of the importance of prayer in following the path laid out before us. If it was important for Jesus to pray to his Father, all the more important is it for us to pray for the Father’s wisdom and guidance.

Throughout the history of medicine and health-care given to patients through the NHS, there comes a point when offering healing leads to a desire for prevention so that the illness does not keep returning. Think of the flu jab and now the covid jab! Jesus continued to heal people wherever he went of his apostolic travels but, in his preaching, he told people that the Father really wanted to prevent people from choosing evil over good. Jesus’ purpose was to bring healing to the all the people of the world not just the few people he encountered. Jesus wanted healing for everyone and was willing to sacrifice his life in order to make this possible.

No wonder that a hymn was written stating *“O God, how great thou art!”*

The patient was freshly out of anaesthesia after his operation when the surgeon said:

Surgeon: *I have bad news and good news to tell you!*

Patient: *What's the bad news?*

Surgeon: *Your disease was beyond healing; you have just a few weeks left to live!*

Patient: (sobbing) *What's the good news?*

Surgeon: *My daughter has just been admitted into Cambridge!*