



Grace upon Grace

Following

Dear Friends,

Today's gospel passage from John 10 is about identity and purpose. John is not the easiest gospel to read, but beautiful in many ways. Previous to this encounter in Jerusalem we have the well known and celebrated passage of Jesus being the Good Shepherd. Simply put the religious leaders of his day did not buy his message and certainly did not want him poaching on their coveted domain. Maybe we could say that here we have a sharp distinction between religion and faith. Clearly he is accused of making unholy claims about his identity and purpose. He is violating their religious system. Yet the passage draws us into the concept that Jesus is simply speaking about a new way of living in relationship with God. This is an encounter about relationship and promise. God chooses them, loves them and will journey with them through all of life.

It has been said that belief shapes behaviour. However, psychologists agree that behaviour shapes belief. What is your experience? If I had to choose I would probably choose the latter. As we follow, as we orientate ourselves to a growing relationship with Jesus we grow in our faith. Faith is not a static dimension of our lives, but rather a dynamic dimension. It is a dimension that calls us into a life with other people. It calls us to be concerned with life around us and invites us to care about others and the world we live in. Let us Journey with Jesus!

In the love of our Lord Jesus,
Wayne+