



Go Deeper, 19th March 2023, Mothering Sunday

Dear Miners,

I hope you enjoyed our services on Mothering Sunday. There were so many issues I wanted to go into in more depth this week, and lots of material for us all to reflect on.

- Has church ever felt like family to you, the Kin-dom of God? Would that be a good thing? Has church ever been a blessing to you in grief or hurt? Has it ever made it worse?*
- What has been your experience of, or thoughts on, forgiveness at church? Have you had moments of restoration with fellow Christians? Do you find it harder to say sorry, or to say to others that they have hurt you?
- How comfortable are you beholding other's pain, helping just by being with them? How could you get better at this?

Small questions, but big topics! Keep wrestling.

Every blessing

Rob

*If it has, especially if it was here at St Wilfrid's, I'd love to hear about that and how I can help.

Deeper Stuff

Much of the thinking on this act of Kin-dom creation comes from the lent book I am following this year; one chapter a week on Jesus' seven 'last words' from the cross. Paul Dominiak's *The Falling of Dusk* has been a blessing, and would be worth reading at any time of year.

This podcast is a great exploration of grief, the pain of love with nowhere to go. Amanda Held-Opelt is Rachel Held Evan's sister.

<https://thebiblefornormalpeople.com/episode-213-amanda-held-opelt-the-honesty-of-grief/>

Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg's work is a useful resource in structuring the work of repentance, forgiveness and making amends. I suspect we will be revisiting this.

<https://thebiblefornormalpeople.com/episode-214-rabbi-danya-ruttenberg-on-repentance-and-repair/>

For those who would rather read than listen, her Washington Post article on repentance [is here](#).