



## DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

*Guarding against Disillusion ... by Billy*

READ 1 JOHN 1: 1 - 4

- Today I would like us to consider how to guard against disillusion.
- One definition states: disappointment from discovering one's beliefs are mistaken or unrealistic.
- Disillusion can come from a sense of being let down by someone that you trusted.
- There is no question that we are prone to being unrealistic and mistaken in our expectations of those we trust.
- The problem of disillusion can lead to becoming cynical and judgmental about those who have let us down.
- Disillusion can also occur in the spiritual realm. This happens when we perceive that God has not delivered on His promise to us.
- Consider the two disciples on the road to Emmaus as a good example of disillusioned believers.
- They expressed their hope that Jesus would become their deliverer, the one to set them free from their oppressors. (*Luke 24:21*)
- What was it that restored their faith? Or to put it another way, what enabled them to guard against being disillusioned?
- It was a living encounter with Jesus Christ. (*v.32*)
- Their slowness to believe the promise of God led them to question in the first place but the clouds of gloom and despair evaporated in the sunlight of His presence.
- John reminds the church that his encounter with the living Christ of eternity was not imagined, or mystical- it was a real life meeting.
- "By using the perfect tenses, the author relates that his experience of Jesus was vivid and personal. What he had heard and seen produced a new state of affairs in which he now lives. This is no mere historical reporting of past event." (*Craig Blomberg/Klein/Hubbard*)

## WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Week 41

### Events /Notices

- ▶ **Those seeking prayer** or counsel after the service on Sunday's should join the prayer group at the rear of the meeting room.
- ▶ Tiglin graduation Saturday the 13th of October in Trinity Church commencing at 12:00 midday.
- ▶ Journey to the Potter's house with Dr Michael Ferris this Sunday 14th October @ 7pm
- ▶ Baptism is scheduled for Sunday 21st October following morning meeting
- ▶ Harvest family celebration extravaganza is on Friday 2nd November at 7.00pm

### Extra Services

*If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:*

#### ▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3-7 years old in the Crèche (as arranged).

#### ▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11)

#### ▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (Hebrews 13:2).