



## Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 12 March 2023

1. What struck you most from Sunday's Sermon from Matthew's Gospel?

*Matthew 5.17 Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'*

2. How does Jesus fulfil the Law and the Prophets?

### **Please read Matthew 13.14-15; Matthew 23.37-39**

3. Why do you think the religious people, with all their religious opportunity and access to God's Word, have ended up like this?
4. Can you relate to their situation?
5. Is their situation terminal? How can it be turned around for them / for us?

### **Please read Matthew 26.59-67**

*V63 The high priest said to him, 'I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.'*

*64 'You have said so,' Jesus replied (NIV) - or, 'It is as you said,' Jesus replied (NRSV)*

*Rowan Williams, writes of Jesus' reply – "Jesus is exposing how the story of God's Messiah has become dead in their mouths and dead in their hands. The religious leaders are familiar with the language of God's Saviour, but they are rebellious against submitting to God's Son doing God's Work in God's Way."*

6. Knowledge of God's Word without obedience to God's Word is a dangerous thing. Do you agree? Why/ Why not?

*"I could not see what lesson Christ's weakness had to teach. Not yet was I humble enough to grasp the humble Jesus as my God." St Augustine, Confessions VII, 18*

### **Please read Philippians 2.12-13**

7. In what areas of life or faith are you most tempted to try to make Jesus conform to your will and way, rather than submitting to His?

### **Please read Matthew 27.57-60**

*We also read about Joseph of Arimathea in Mark's gospel - that he was a respected member of the Jewish ruling council, who was himself looking for the Kingdom of God. And in Luke's gospel - that he had not agreed with the council's plan and action towards Jesus.*

8. What inspiration and example can you take from Joseph for your discipleship?

### **Please read Matthew 26.1-2; 6-13**

9. Why was the woman's response to Jesus' revelation (in v1-2) described by Jesus as a 'beautiful thing'?
10. What can we learn from this woman to help us grow in our discipleship?