Holy Habits: Sharing Resources – week 3

Sharing my resources – what does that mean – what do I have to give up? This may be the first thing that comes to mind, especially if thinking of children playing. “You wanted your friend to come and play so share your toys”. Anyone who has watched the scene as a favourite toy has been roughly used by another child may feel sympathy.

But what are OUR resources? As a church we have a warm building with good facilities and that is shared with the community – the charges are to cover costs rather than make a profit. On the whole we don’t see great financial need within our community but our members give generously to the Archer Project, Food Bank, Christian Aid and others. Our local preachers go to other churches to lead worship.

As individuals what resources are we already sharing? Looking back over the Holy Habits, we share prayer (praying with individuals as well as for them), we share love, knowledge and experience (fellowship and Biblical teaching), we share hospitality (breaking bread - eating and drinking together), we come together to worship.

So, does that mean we have it all sorted – we just carry on as we are? Is life ever that simple?

The main resource of the church is us, the people – yes, you and me. In the early chapters of Acts we read how the people in the early church spent much of their time together, worshipping together and eating together. We are more likely to come together only once or twice a week and most of our life is spent elsewhere – and our Christian presence may be very important in those places. However, if church is to continue, we all need to participate, to become an active part of the body that Graham mentioned in week 1. We all need to actively participate in worship – it isn’t a spectator activity, the flowers that are so appreciated don’t just appear, the same with drinks after the service. Those less physically able can actively pray and phone people who may appreciate the contact. There is always space for new people to be added to the pastoral team, and our building needs people to help to care for it.

So, where do you fit? You may be an ear lobe or part of the beating heart, but know and share God’s love in whatever you do and I hope you experience joy from being part of our Father’s big family.

*Produced by Daphne Wilkins on behalf of the Bents Green Holy Habits Planning Group (Debs Barnett, Glenn Evans, Martyn Read, Graham Wassell, Daphne and John Wilkins).  You can find more information on the Circuit Holy Habits Programme on the Sheffield Methodist Circuit website and also the Sheffield Methodist Circuit Facebook page.*