

Midweek Matters

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Take your everyday, ordinary life- your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life and place it before God as an offering." Romans 12:1 MSG

Sunday 15th November 2020- Hope does not disappoint - Mark Billage

This week God has been challenging me about the idea of intentionally pursuing him. About putting the effort in and showing up. There is a risk without a physical church service every Sunday of getting lazy. Of putting our relationship with God on hold until "this is over" and we are back to meeting together "as normal", where the buzz and activity and routine of church can re-energise and feed us once again. (This is not a judgement on you by the way, it's a confession from me). On Sunday when Mark posed the questions, "**What are our daily habits to endure?**" and "**How are we strengthening ourselves in the Lord?**" I realised afresh just how much I am responsible for keeping the habits going. It is not Pete's fault if I'm flagging. We need to go direct to the source. It is up to me to turn up to the small group (albeit online), it is up to me to read the daily devotional or have the quiet time/prayer time/bible reading time or whatever fuels my faith. I cannot let these things slip and then still expect God to show up when I ask and feel close to me. It would be like running a marathon having stopped training in week one, I wouldn't last long!



The verse that came to me as Mark was speaking was Hebrews 12:1 "**Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.**" (NIV). I like looking at different translations to see if there is a different understanding that can be taken from the words (see MWM [issue 25](#)). The NLT translates Hebrews 12:1 as "**let us run with endurance**" and the KJV "**let us run with patience**". I don't know whether perseverance, endurance or patience speaks to you, but they sound like active words to me, not qualities that are just going to happen. So this week, what are your daily habits going to be, that keep you pushing on with God through these challenging times? I'd love to hear about them.

God Bless.

Hannah (with thanks to Sally for the image)