

Be Good News

**Opening Prayer**  to be said or sung in unison

He sent me to bring the Good News to the poor,

tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more,

tell blind people that they can see,

and set the downtrodden free.

And go tell everyone the news that the kingdom of God has come,

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 **The Words of Vincent**

“What is our vocation? It is to set people hearts on fire, it is to do what the Son of God did. He set the world on fire with His love.

It is not enough for me to love God if my neighbour does not love him. I have to love my neighbour as the image of God and the object of his love, and to act in such a way that people, in their turn, will love their creator. (Coste Vol.12 p, 215)

**Words of Scripture**  Luke 12:49

I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already burning!

**Reflection**

* How can we respond to this challenge? How do we become bearers of Good News?
* Are we Good News to ourselves or are there traces of self-loathing and inferiority? Do we truly, at the centre of our being, believe we are deeply loved and forgiven by God? Only when we have received this Good News and integrated it into our daily lives will we be able to be Good News to other people.
* How can we be Good News to other people? By imitating Jesus Christ.
* Do we know Jesus well? Do we reflect on the Gospel stories? Jesus healed the sick, He forgave sinners, gave hope to the oppressed, He treated everyone with dignity and respect.
* How can we do that? By asking what the people we serve really need. Yes they need better housing, more money, employment... and many things beyond our control... but they also need… a listening ear... a smile... encouragement… someone prepared to spend time with them... someone to speak out for them.

**Concluding Prayer**

Almighty God, fill us with your love. Set our hearts on fire! Burn away all that is contrary to your will in our lives so that we may wholly follow you. Lord God help us to live as Jesus lived, to love as Jesus loved. Help us Lord to be good news to those who are in need this day. Amen.

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